



THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



OFFENSE: TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

A front row seat to the **beauty** of the ***Set Ablaze*** process

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

PAGE 12-13

Redeeming our time with our family

FAMILY PRAYER

PAGE 17

Virtuous friendships **support healthy marriages**

MARRIAGE MATTERS

PAGE 18-19

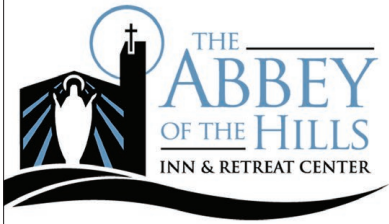
Mother/Daughter Retreat

Aug. 7-8, 2024

Celebrate your time together as mother and daughter (ages 8-18) while experiencing the little ways we can love God and others.

Registration is required
Visit abbeyofthehills.com to register

There is no cost for the event. Free will offering would be gratefully accepted but not necessary.



More info at:
abbeyofthehills.com



GET YOUR TICKETS!

FAITH AND BUSINESS CONFERENCE 2024

SUNDAY INTO MONDAY



JOHN STIEGELMEIER



JASON HERON



ADAM COX



LYNNE DEVITT



NEIL FULTON

AUGUST 15, 2024 | SIOUX FALLS CONVENTION CENTER
FAITHANDBUSINESSCONFERENCE.COM

MUSTARD SEED

Catholic Store

Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location:

3709 S. Grange Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Just West of Costco

605-271-4055

Stucco Repair

Masonry Cleaning

Brick Repair

Stone Repair

Caulk Replacement

Structural Concrete Repair



Experts in
Exterior Building Repair

800-835-3700

www.midcontinental.com

Mortar Joint Repair

Plaster Repair

Clear Water Repellents

Waterproof Coatings

Painting



WHEN YOU SHOP

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift
You help those in need

Thank you for all your continuing support of St. Vincent de Paul

431 N. Cliff Avenue • Sioux Falls, SD

605-335-5823

Open Monday - Saturday | 9am - 5pm

All donations are tax deductible.

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

JULY

- 6 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 9 Discipleship Camp, Broom Tree Youth and Family Camp
- 12 Discipleship Camp, Broom Tree Youth and Family Camp
- 13 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 14 11:00 Mass at Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart Pastorate (Mitchell) festival and jubilee celebrations
- 16-21 National Eucharistic Congress, Indianapolis
- 24 Clergy Picnic, Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 25 11:00 Priest Council, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 27 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 30 - Aug. 2 JPPII Vocations Camp, The Abbey of the Hills

*Broadcast on Keloland TV or livestream via sfcatholic.org

OFFICIALS

The Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood has decreed the following changes to clergy assignments effective May 30, 2024:

Deacon Philip Carlson to deacon of St. Thomas Aquinas, Madison, St. Agatha, Howard, and St. William of Vercelli, Ramona

Deacon David Halter to deacon of Risen Savior, Brandon, and St. Rose of Lima, Garretson

Deacon Edward Mitzel to deacon of Sacred Heart, Aberdeen, St. Mary, Aberdeen, St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center, Aberdeen, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Groton, St. Joseph, Turton, and Sacred Heart, Westport

Deacon Bradley Wiemann to deacon of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Elkton, Pius XII Newman Center, Brookings, St. Thomas More, Brookings, St. John the Evangelist, Arlington, St. Francis de Sales, Estelline, and St. Paul, White

and effective August 1, 2024, has appointed:

Very Reverend Gregory Tschakert as Judge and Defender of the Bond of the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mr. Thad Pals
Chancellor

Inside July 2024

6 SET ABLAZE

8 COVER STORY

12 MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

A front row seat to the beauty of the Set Ablaze process

14 ANSWERING THE CALL

Getting to know Father Jim Bream

16 DOES THE CHURCH HAVE AN ANSWER?

What is 'The New Atheism'?

17 FAMILY PRAYER

Redeeming our time with our family



18 MARRIAGE MATTERS

Virtuous friendships support healthy marriages

23 DIOCESAN EVENTS

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

July 2024
Volume 81, Number 7

Publisher

Most Rev. Donald E. DeGrood

Editor

Renae Kranz

Managing Editor

Casey Bassett

Theological Editor

Dr. Chris Burgwald

Social Media

Brianna Wingen

Subscriptions

\$24 per year, or as part of each family's CFSA contribution.

Cover image: Public Domain: *The Mocking of Christ* by Anthony van Dyck.



President/Chief Executive Officer
Elizabeth Martin Solsburg

Art Director
Patrick Dally

Graphic Designer
Hannah O'Farrell

Postmaster

Send address changes to:
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714
Correspondence should be addressed to:
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714
Phone: 605-334-9861
Email: cbassett@sfcatholic.org
Anniversaries and copy deadline for the September edition is July 19; advertising is July 24.

The Bishop's Bulletin

(ISSN 0193-5089) is published monthly by the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714. Periodicals Postage Paid at Sioux Falls, SD, and additional mailing offices.



Don't let **'we believe'** become **'I believe'**

Every Sunday at Mass, we profess our faith by saying the Nicene Creed. Its origins date back to the First Council of Nicaea in 325 when Church leaders summarized God's revealed eternal truths as found in Sacred Scripture (the Old and New Testaments) and Sacred Tradition. Jesus, as God, fulfilled the revelations of the Old Testament. He instituted the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, the Catholic Church, to pass on the fullness of revealed truths, and he called disciples to never deviate from them.

How blessed we are as Catholics to have the full deposit of revealed truths preserved and passed on to us! May our weekly profession of the Nicene Creed, beginning with "I believe...", be what "we believe...", which is God's

revealed truths. As bishop I have the responsibility of teaching Catholics on matters of faith and morals. It is both a great privilege and daunting responsibility, especially if there are serious violations of faith and morals being promoted by Catholics.

If any baptized Catholic's personal "I believe..." is something other than what "We believe..." that is, God's revealed truths, we sin against God and bring spiritual harm upon ourselves, others and the Catholic Church. Essentially we are saying to God, what "I believe," that is, my personal willful choice, is superior to what you, God, have revealed to us.

May we not be deceived by erroneous thinking, ignorance, the devil or others and choose to reject God's revealed truths and will like Adam and Eve did. They wanted to be independent of God's perfect will for them and the common good of humanity. They wanted to be god and decide for themselves what was right and wrong. Their disobedience to God's divine plan for human flourishing caused serious spiritual hardship for them and us.

Such serious ongoing spiritual hardship is rampant today in our world, country, state, families and even churches. Every time a baptized Catholic makes a personal choice of “I believe,” which is contrary to what “We believe” (God’s revealed truths and will), it adds to the spiritual harm of souls and the Church.

Serious spiritual and moral harm occurred when the disobedient and willful “I believe” in abortion was effectively legalized throughout our country in 1973. This was a defining moment when many individuals and civil leaders chose to no longer live as one nation under God’s authority by following the Divine Law of loving God and neighbor. The ravages of abortion to our country and state have brought serious spiritual, emotional, physical and moral harm upon us.

More than 64 million innocent babies have been killed in our country since abortion was civilly legalized. More moral harm is being promoted within our state of South Dakota by some residents and others outside our state. They are advocating for the serious morally sinful state constitutional amendment of abortion. This is especially spiritually harmful when those who call themselves Catholic choose or promote abortion and violate God’s commandments of “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... [and] your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).

We are all called to examine our consciences for the ways that we have sinned against others, rejoicing in God’s boundless mercy and knowing that He is always ready and willing to forgive even the gravest of evils. Therefore, as Catholics and all people of good will, let it be known:

- That any baptized Catholic who cooperates, in any way whether directly or indirectly, implicitly or explicitly with the inherently and intrinsically evil act of abortion is spiritually responsible for their own degree of cooperation in a grievous offense against God, others and the common good.
- That any baptized Catholic who, with full knowledge and full consent, advocates or cooperates with the serious (grave) sin of abortion is spiritually responsible for the sin they commit. Any and all cooperation with the serious sin of abortion should be brought to the Sacrament of Confession. It is spiritually imperative that cooperation with abortion be renounced and confessed, with a firm resolve to never cooperate again. Without renunciation of the grave sin of abortion, one brings

spiritual condemnation upon oneself and remains at risk of eternal damnation because of the violation of the Divine Law of “You shall not kill” (Exodus 20:13) and the greatest of all the commandments as Jesus taught us: “You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).

- That baptized Catholics in the Diocese of Sioux Falls are asked to follow God’s Divine Law by respecting and promoting the wellbeing of every human life from the moment of conception until natural death. Knowing that the human intellect is able, even apart from divine revelation, to recognize the evil of abortion, we ask that all people of good will join us in this effort.
- Catholics who promote and support abortion in public discourse or among their personal acquaintances are a cause of scandal and are teaching others to sin. This support is entirely contrary to the Catholic faith and should be confronted as such. Persons who persist in cooperating with and/or promoting the sin of abortion ought not present themselves for reception of Holy Communion in the Diocese of Sioux Falls until they go to Confession, renounce the sin, receive sacramental absolution, firmly resolve to not commit that sin again and do their penance.
- That every baptized Catholic in the Diocese of Sioux Falls who has authority over others, as parents, educators, medical professionals, legislators, civil leaders, religious leaders, etc., are asked to actively practice their “I believe” in full accord with God’s revealed truths in what “We believe” in God’s one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I humbly and fervently ask this for the spiritual well being of one’s own soul, the good of others, the common good, and the good of the Church.
- Every baptized Catholic is asked to pray diligently, and actively promote what is true, good and beautiful in the inherent goodness and value of every human life.
- Every baptized Catholic is asked through their words and actions to never bring spiritual harm and scandal to themselves and others.
- Every baptized Catholic is asked to take action through prayer, promoting the inherent dignity of every person at home and others, especially those in roles of authority who enact laws and govern people.

Pope Francis has described the Church as a “hospital for sinners.” Thanks be to God that in the Church we can encounter the loving mercy of our Lord, who desires the salvation of all.

Set Ablaze: Pastorate names

Over the past six months, pastors in the diocese have been holding town halls, meeting with Pastorate Planning Committees and working on their pastorate proposals for the upcoming year (July 1-June 30). One of their tasks was to name their pastorate, much like a parish would be named. On these two pages, we've included each pastorate with their new name, their parishes and the clergy who serve them. Priests with a star by their name will begin serving that pastorate as of July 2. You can visit the *Set Ablaze* website at setablazesf.org to see the full pastorate map, along with many other resources. Please continue to pray the *Set Ablaze* prayer also found on the website.

PASTORATES

Pastorate of the Visitation (1):

St. Augustine (Bowdle), St. Joseph (Eureka), St. Michael (Herreid), Holy Cross (Ipswich), Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Leola), St. Joseph (Mobridge), St. Thomas Apostle (Roscoe), St. Anthony (Selby)

- Pastor: Father Michael Griffin
- Parochial Vicars: Father Mark Axtmann, Father Timothy Cone

Holy Rosary Pastorate (2):

Sacred Heart (Gettysburg), St. Anthony of Padua (Hoven), St. Pius X (Onida), SS. Peter and Paul (Pierre)

- Pastor: Father Joseph Holzhauser
- Parochial Vicar: Father Brian Simon

Pastorate of the Transfiguration (3):

St. Thomas the Apostle (Faulkton), St. Mary (Highmore), All Saints (Mellette), St. Ann (Miller), St. Liborius (Polo), St. Bernard (Redfield)

- Pastor: Father John Short
- Parochial Vicar: Monsignor Charles Mangan*

Blessed Sacrament Pastorate (4):

Sacred Heart (Aberdeen), St. Mary (Aberdeen), St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center (NSU), St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Groton), St. Joseph (Turton), Sacred Heart (Westport)

- Pastor: Father Jordan Samson
- Parochial Vicar/Judicial Vicar: Father Gregory Tschakert
- Parochial Vicars: Father Jeffrey Schulte, Father Mitchell McLaughlin

Our Lady of the Snows Pastorate (5):

St. John de Britto (Britton), Sacred Heart (Eden), St. Joseph (Grenville), St. John the Baptist (Rosholt), St. Kateri Tekakwitha

(Sisseton), St. Peter (Sisseton), Immaculate Conception (Waubay), Christ the King (Webster)

- Pastor: Father Ken Lulf
- Parochial Vicar: Father Doug Binsfeld

Ave Maria Pastorate (6):

St. Mary (Bryant), St. Michael (Clark), Blessed Sacrament (Florence), St. Henry (Henry), Holy Rosary (Kranzburg), Holy Name of Jesus (Watertown), Immaculate Conception (Watertown)

- Pastor: Father Shaun Haggerty
- Parochial Vicars: Father John Fischer, Father Christopher Hughes

Holy Family Pastorate (7):

St. Charles (Big Stone City), St. Mary (Clear Lake), St. Lawrence (Milbank), Annunciation (Revillo)

- Pastor: Father Brian Eckrich
- Parochial Vicar: Father David Garza

Pastorate 8 (new name coming soon):

St. John the Evangelist (Arlington), Pius XII Newman Center (SDSU), St. Thomas More (Brookings), Our Lady of Good Counsel (Elkton), St. Francis de Sales (Estelline), St. Paul (White)

- Pastor: Father Thomas Fitzpatrick
- Parochial Vicar: Father David Stevens
- Parochial Vicar/Priest Director Newman Center: Father Patrick Grode

Queen of Peace Pastorate (9):

St. Peter (Colman), St. Mary (Dell Rapids), SS. Simon and Jude (Flandreau), St. Joseph the Workman (Huntimer)

- Pastor: Father Shane Stevens
- Parochial Vicar: Father Scott Miller

Holy Family Pastorate (10):

St. Agatha (Howard), St. Thomas Aquinas (Madison), St. William of Vercelli (Ramona)

- Pastor: Father Anthony Urban
- Parochial Vicar: Father Chester Murtha

Christ the Light of Nations Pastorate (11):

St. Thomas Aquinas (De Smet), Holy Trinity (Huron), St. Joseph (Wessington Springs), St. Wilfrid (Woonsocket)

- Pastor: Father Larry Regynski
- Parochial Vicar: Father Terry Weber

Our Lady of Grace Pastorate (12):

St. James (Chamberlain), St. Margaret (Kimball), St. John (Plankinton), St. Mary (Stickney), St. Peter (White Lake)

- Pastor: Father Richard Fox
- Parochial Vicar: Father Randy Phillips

Holy Apostles Pastorate (13):

St. Paul the Apostle (Armour), Assumption (Dante), SS. Peter and Paul (Dimock), St. Ann (Geddes), St. Mark (Lake Andes), St. Paul (Marty), Sacred Heart (Parkston), St. Peter the Apostle (Platte), St. John the Baptist (Wagner)

- Pastor: Father Thomas Clement
- Parochial Vicars: Father Jim Friedrich, Father Gary DeRouchev

St. Martin of Tours Pastorate (14):

St. Boniface (Idylwilde), St. John the Baptist (Lesterville), St. George (Scotland), St. Vincent de Paul (Springfield), St. Wenceslaus (Tabor), St. Leo the Great (Tyndall), Sacred Heart (Yankton), St. Benedict (Yankton)

- Pastor: Father Thomas Anderson
- Parochial Vicars: Father Robert Lacey, Father Darin Schmidt, Father Thi Pham, SCJ

Pastorate of the Holy Angels (15):

St. Teresa of Avila (Beresford), Good Shepherd (Centerville), St. Teresa of Calcutta (Dakota Dunes), St. Joseph (Elk Point), St. Peter (Jefferson), St. Agnes

(Vermillion), St. Thomas More Newman Center (USD), St. Patrick (Wakonda)

- Pastor: Father Terence Anderson
- Parochial Vicars: Father David Roehrich, Father Kevin Doyle
- Parochial Vicar/Priest Director Newman Center: Father John Rutten

St. Mary Magdalen Pastorale (16):
 St. Mary of Mercy (Alexandria), St. Stephen (Bridgewater), St. Martin (Emery), Church of Epiphany (Epiphany), St. Ann (Humboldt), St. Patrick (Montrose), St. Mary (Salem)

- Pastor: Father Melvin Kuhn
- Parochial Vicar: Father William Hamak

PASTORATES – SIOUX FALLS VICINITY

St. Francis of Assisi Pastorale (17):
 St. Magdalen (Lennox), St. Christina (Parker), St. Katharine Drexel (Sioux Falls), St. Nicholas (Tea)

- Pastor/Vicar General: Father Andrew Dickinson
- Parochial Vicars: Father Tyler Mattson, Father Nicholas Haiar

Pastorale of the Holy Cross (18):
 Risen Savior (Brandon), St. Rose of Lima (Garretson)

- Pastor/Vicar General: Father Andrew Young
- Parochial Vicar/Chaplain Sanford Hospital: Father Kevin O’Dell

Our Lady of Victory Pastorale (19):
 St. George (Hartford), St. Michael (Sioux Falls), Prison Ministry

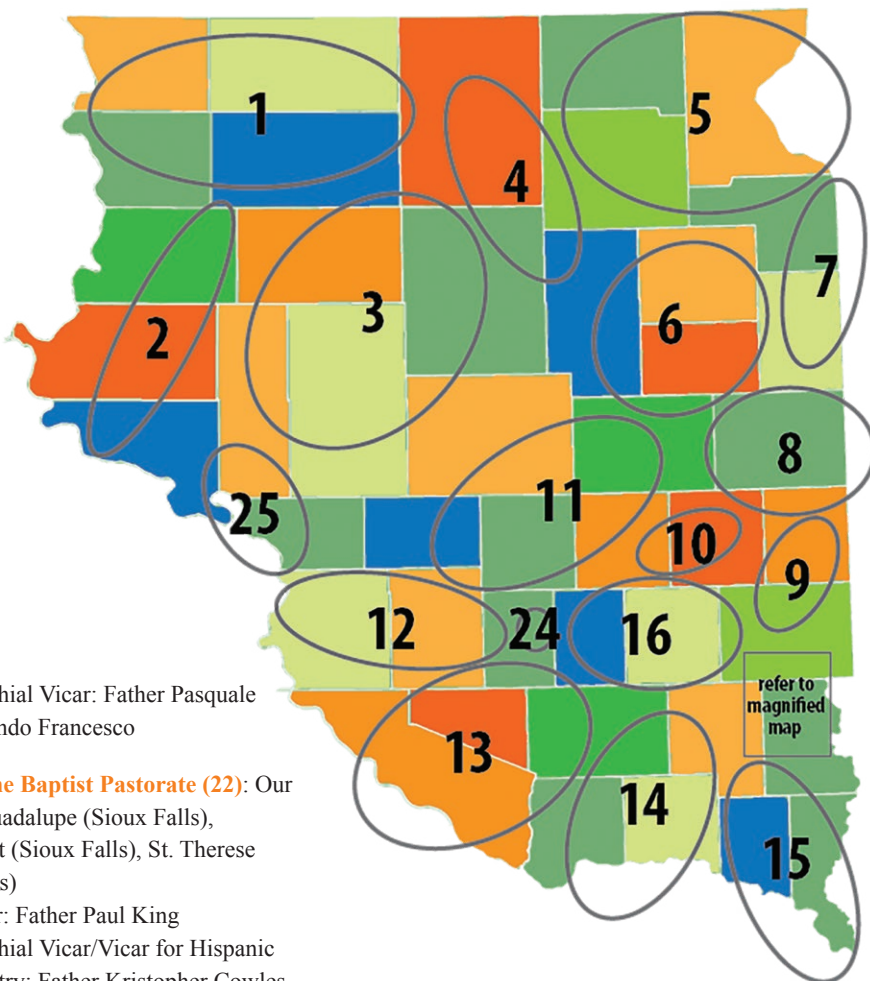
- Pastor: Father Thomas Hartman
- Parochial Vicars: Father John Helmueller*, Father Andrew Thuringer

Divine Mercy Pastorale (20):
 St. John Paul II (Harrisburg), Christ the King (Sioux Falls), St. Mary (Sioux Falls)

- Pastor: Father Paul Rutten
- Parochial Vicars: Father Mark Lichter, Father Jacob Doty

Pastorale of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph (21): Cathedral of Saint Joseph and St. Josephine Bakita Community (Sioux Falls)

- Rector: Father James Morgan



- Parochial Vicar: Father Pasquale Armando Francesco

St. John the Baptist Pastorale (22): Our Lady of Guadalupe (Sioux Falls), St. Lambert (Sioux Falls), St. Therese (Sioux Falls)

- Pastor: Father Paul King
- Parochial Vicar/Vicar for Hispanic Ministry: Father Kristopher Cowles
- Parochial Vicar: Father Jerome Ranek

Good Shepherd Pastorale (23):
 St. Dominic (Canton), Holy Spirit (Sioux Falls)

- Pastor/Vicar for Clergy: Father James Mason
- Parochial Vicars: Father Steven Jones, Father Zachary Schaeftbauer

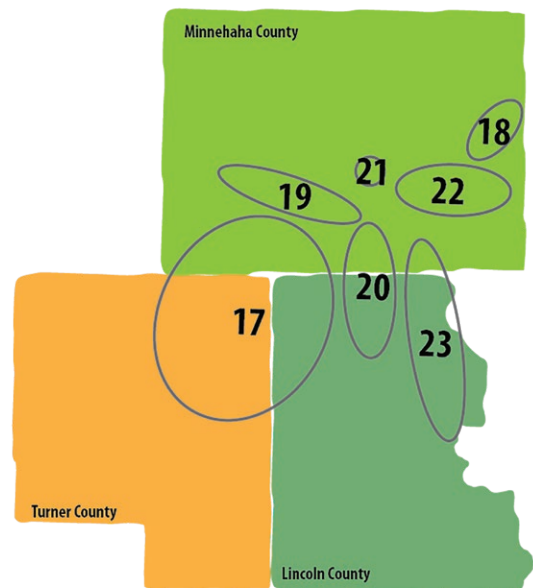
PASTORATES – RELIGIOUS ORDERS

Sacred Heart Pastorale (24):
 Holy Family (Mitchell), Holy Spirit (Mitchell)

- Pastor: Father Cesar Valencia, PES
- Parochial Vicar: Father Yamato Icochea, PES

Pastorale 25: St. Catherine (Big Bend), St. Joseph (Fort Thompson), Immaculate Conception (Stephan)

- Pastor: Father Christianus Hendrik, SCJ
- Parochial Vicar: Father Jean-Claude Mbassi, SCJ





Public Domain: The Mocking of Christ by Anthony van Dyck.

OFFENSE: TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

By Laurie Stiegelmeier

“Some people take offense like it’s a limited time offer.”

This quote by Tim Fargo seems to summarize much of society today. Negative reviews over trivial matters, criticism of beliefs, personal attacks and false accusations spread through media and gossip. Those same behaviors erode the foundations of personal relationships, work environments, businesses and even the Church.

We’ve all witnessed or experienced its destruction. Or maybe we’ve caused it.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

“Being offended usually originates because of pride,” Father Jerome Ranek, parochial vicar of St. John the Baptist Pastorate, says. “We think we are better or greater than we are and should not be slighted, spoken down to, accused or cursed. Pride can cause us to take ourselves way too seriously, unable to laugh off some of what might be unfounded accusations, comments or jibes.”

Lois Heron, a parishioner of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, explains the cause of being offended as not knowing our identity and allowing the culture to tell us who we are. For her, the parable of the two houses in Matthew 7:24-27 brings clarity to what is happening to humanity. In it, Jesus says that everyone who listens to his words and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. Despite rain, floods and winds, it did not collapse. But those who do not act on his words are like fools who build on sand; their house collapses and is completely ruined.

Lois quoted Father Malachy Napier, CFR, who said, “‘Our Father who art in heaven’ establishes our identity as his beloved child, and from that

every good thing flows (such as security in one's identity). God's fidelity as Father is the rock that grounds our peace, even when the world around us seems to be standing on its head."

Continuing, Lois says, "When we draw our identity from the lies of postmodernity (agnostic and atheist worldviews), we are building our identity on sand. Therefore, we have no secure foundation. The fallout from this is allowing cultural ideas, causes and rights to define us. We are left trying to hang on to shifting sand, always on the alert to anyone who upsets our understanding of ourselves. The ego-god we serve lives and dies by self-centered ideologies that easily collapse!"

Father Ranek sees a new "tribalism" as a modern phenomenon. "Any critique of a certain point of view draws condemnation from all those who hold to that point of view,

even to the point of 'canceling the offender' who dares to question their action or position. By refusing to engage in honest discussion and refusing to consider any other viewpoint, one gets locked into a particular 'tribe.'" He says that clinging to the approval of a tribe can stunt spiritual and social growth.

"Postmodernity moves God to the margins, influencing us in more ways than we can imagine or have time to consider," Lois says. Explaining the harm that being easily offended frequently does, she refers again to the parable of the two houses. "We collapse as a people and as a society. We've seen this throughout history, but it seems our pace is running headlong into the complete ruin Jesus speaks of in the parable."

BEING OFFENDED

While the dictionary offers a wide range of definitions for the word

"offend," from disagreeable and annoyed to angry, Father Ranek says that the closer one's feelings of being offended verge on anger, the more they become a fault or sin. He reminds us that taking offense—and the underlying need to be right that leads to blaming others—has been part of fallen human nature from the beginning.

"The earliest example is Adam and Eve; Adam blamed Eve, and in a way, even God for giving her to him so that she tempted him to eat the forbidden fruit," Father Ranek says. "Eve turns the blame on the serpent, but even more stark is the offense Cain takes when God receives Abel's sacrifice but not his. He becomes so angry that he kills his brother."

Emotional response helps Lois define what it means to be offended. She says that we are *grieved* by moral offenses of injustice and lack of respect for life and God's created

Faith guides your life, why not your financial decisions?

By entrusting the Knights of Columbus with your financial future, you are not merely making a decision for the benefit of your family – you are partnering with an organization that has worked to preserve life, protected the family, and defended the Catholic faith for more than 140 years.

Thank you for your business and continued support. Contact your agent to learn more.



Jon Beebe
General Agent
605-882-8689
jon.beebe@kofc.org



Phil Carlson
Assistant General Agent
605-695-4793
philip.carlson@kofc.org



Cole Heisey
Field Agent
605-740-0273
cole.heisey@kofc.org



Thomas Bechen
Field Agent
605-770-9798
thomas.bechen@kofc.org



Adam Werkmeister
Field Agent
605-999-0743
adam.werkmeister@kofc.org



Matt Weller
Field Agent
605-450-6066
matthew.weller@kofc.org



Mark Di Santo
Field Agent
605-391-5694
mark.disanto@kofc.org



Arom Burgueno
Field Agent
605-409-9724
arom.burgueno@kofc.org

LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES



Knights of Columbus ("KofC") offers life insurance, annuities, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance products. For costs, terms, conditions and complete details regarding these products, please contact your agent directly or call KofC at 1-800-380-9995. Products may vary by state. Insurance solutions are available to eligible KofC members in the U.S. and Canada. Knights of Columbus is located at: 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.



order. We are more likely to feel *hurt* or *insulted* by a personal offense. “Offense over the law of God being maligned or disregarded and offense over a careless word spoken are entirely different.”

While individual offenses may include moral issues, they are most often personal.

“There are legitimate offenses in relationships that need to be carefully confronted,” Lois says. “On the other hand, we are a people of unbridled hedonism who are innately self-deferent, which can cause us to be blind to our faults while magnifying other’s faults and turning slights into offenses and grievances.”

A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

Lois says that our lives depend on God’s created order, which includes humanity’s role in upholding the natural and moral law; our existence

depends on staying true to that order and defending it personally and publicly.

“There is a sense of duty to the Lord that comes along with that,” Lois says, “and learning to take an appropriate stand requires something Jesus told his disciples in Matthew 10:16: ‘Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves.’ We get into trouble when we stand on soapboxes confronting others without listening to them and dialoguing with them.”

Rather, she suggests asking “How did you come to that conclusion?” and “May I share with you how I came to my conclusions?” to encourage discussion.

“Take no personal offense,” Father Ranek says. “Be offended by injustices to others; be offended by sin, which offends God, and respond

to it with loving correction. God does not find the sinner offensive, but the sin, which makes the sinner less human, less like God, less loving than he or she could be.”

He added that one of the most difficult works of mercy to perform is admonishing the sinner. “It is better to call to virtue. We do that for others through loving them with the love and mercy of Christ and helping them recognize the goodness and love they are called to in Christ,” Father Ranek says.

Continuing, Father Ranek says being offended can help point to areas in our lives where we still need to grow in love by patient endurance. If we have done nothing to deserve an offense, we must realize the offender may have some wound that was triggered by something we did or said. Being aware that persons with emotional trauma from abandonment, rejection, guilt and shame become

especially sensitive to those issues can help us to love and forgive them more easily.

“It can work the other way as well, when our deep-seated wounds are touched by what another may say or do with no malice towards us whatever,” he said. “In this case, a solution will only be found when we are able to forgive those who wounded us, when we are able to bring the wounds to Jesus for healing.”

TIMELESS WISDOM

Lois advises that the timeless wisdom of Sacred Scripture helps answer the question of offense. To her the Wisdom books of the Old Testament are the manual for learning human behavior. Of the 71 references to foolish behavior and choices in Proverbs, Lois said Chapter 26, verse 4 is particularly worth memorizing: “Do not answer fools according to their folly, lest you too become like them.”

“In opposing others, there is a fine line between being right and being a fool,” she said.

In Sacred Scripture, we also learn who Christ is and what pleases and offends him. “In all things, following Jesus’ example is our goal. We need to conform to Christ before we take up with someone we disagree with,” Lois said.



Lois Heron is a parishioner at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

She suggests daily meditation on the Gospels and New Testament letters to learn Jesus’ ways, adding that there is only one recorded “outburst” from Jesus. “It is noteworthy that the desecration of the temple and the worship of God were at stake,” Lois noted.

St. John’s insight into Jesus’ cleansing of the Temple in 2:24, “But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all,” has become a rule for Lois’ life. “And the Holy Spirit reminds me of it regularly when I start to expect approval and acceptance from others. We really set others up to fail when we hold them to our impossible standards. If Jesus wouldn’t do it, why would we?”

“As Christians, we should find it hard to be offended personally. We have the example of Jesus, who did not take offense at the bad things said to him or the cruel things done to him. He submitted humbly like a lamb going to the slaughter,” Father Ranek said, citing Jesus’ advice to take the lowest place, rejoice when you are dishonored in his name, and turn the other cheek. And, he says that treating every person with respect will help us avoid causing offense.

THE VALUE OF HUMILITY

Since pride is at the root of being easily offended, humility and dying to self is the rock foundation of virtue. Father Ranek said holding onto an image of self that one can’t let go of causes defensiveness if challenged. “The image of Christ is all we need. The more we grow into his image, the less ‘self-conscious’ we will be.

“We need to work against that vice that claims special privilege or insists on our own rights above others. Start with humility, the key for holiness,” Father Ranek continued. “Jesus is the perfect example. Falsely accused, he



Father Jerome Ranek is Parochial Vicar of St. John the Baptist Pastorate.

doesn’t react defensively. He accepts humiliation and punishment he didn’t deserve while being associated with criminals whose crimes did deserve death. Second, cultivate patience. Love is patient and kind; the humble person can be patient with the faults of others and doesn’t react to insults or being shunned, dismissed or overlooked.”

Despite the erosion of virtue in society, Lois reminds us that we are a messianic people, not apocalyptic, and there is always hope that our culture can avoid the total collapse from the parable of the two houses.

“It depends on our cooperation with the Holy Spirit,” Lois says. “As followers of Christ, we can reverse the trajectory, one person at a time. When we begin to conform to Christ’s ways and means, we influence those in our corner of the world.”

We take offense for free, but the cost to individuals and society is high. Only humbly leaving a personal offense is truly free. And, it actually pays in virtue, the foundation of goodness for all.

Laurie Stiegelmeier is active in faith formation for all ages at St. John de Britto Church, Britton/ Our Lady of the Snows Pastorate. Above career and volunteer work, being a mother and grandmother is the most important and rewarding “job” she’s ever held.



By Marcus Ashlock

Leading others through change can often be difficult for a myriad of reasons, but fear of the unknown is sometimes the hardest to accept. Whether the change is personal or organizational, it will always be emotional, and the familiar can sound like a siren’s song to keep us rooted in the perceived safety of the here and now.

In the Book of Exodus, Moses attempted to lead his people to the Promised Land, out of bondage and into a place of peace through God’s promise to the Israelites. No matter the rewards, it took 40 years for the old and familiar ways to die out before the new could be accepted enough to pass through the wilderness. Today, as it was then, we lack trust in God’s plan for our lives. We fight change; we harden our hearts.

While change (the event) and our emotional response to the change, called a transition period, can be filled with many emotions ranging from uncertainty to excitement, not everyone experiences the transition equally. For people who like and seek change, the transition period may be quick and almost uneventful, while others may never fully accept the new ways or cannot let go of the past.

No matter the situation, visionary leaders who allow their people to voice their concerns, ask as many questions as needed, and give them a voice are the leaders who manage change with wisdom and care. This process was easily seen these past two years as the Diocese of Sioux Falls engaged its congregation through a potentially difficult effort in the structural and pastoral planning process, *Set Ablaze*.

The goal of *Set Ablaze* is to discern how to best align the gifts of our priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful, along with our resources (human, physical and financial), so that we might see a resurgence of vibrant parishes, reenergized priests and leaders, and Catholics set ablaze with the love of God.

One milestone of the process was the town halls facilitated in many pastorates throughout the diocese. Trained facilitators were sent forth to assist each pastorate by engaging the voice of the people, hearing their concerns and thoughts regarding the future and the needed change.

“Sometimes people would almost be shocked because that’s not what a diocese usually does; they usually just send you an email telling people, ‘We’re rolling out a new program,’” facilitator Shane VanDiest said. “I think that’s part of the success; Bishop DeGrood didn’t make it a one-size-fits-all approach. He has empowered each pastorate to make these decisions on their own and to trust the people on the ground. Not all bishops think that way; not all bishops have that vision for subsidiary needs.”

Shane was a part of the two-person facilitator team for



I think that’s part of the success; Bishop DeGrood didn’t make it a one-size-fits-all approach. He has empowered each pastorate to make these decisions on their own and to trust the people on the ground. Not all bishops think that way; not all bishops have that vision for subsidiary needs.”

-Shane VanDiest

Queen of Peace Pastorate—St. Mary (Dell Rapids), St. Peter (Colman), St. Joseph the Workman (Huntimer) and SS. Simon and Jude (Flandreau). Each team met with the pastor and members of each parish chosen by him in each pastorate to determine the type of town hall schedule. In Queen of Peace Pastorate, that committee decided on a two-location town hall model, where two of the four parishes combined for one town hall. According to Shane, some parishes had a town hall for each parish in the pastorate.

“The beauty of this was that each pastorate had a lot of freedom to run the town halls and to organize them in the way that they saw best fit,” Shane said. “These pastors, these people on the ground, know their parish.”

The facilitators purposefully did not facilitate a town hall in their home parish. The bishop’s leadership team wanted an unbiased facilitator with no ties to the conversation, allowing the pastors to be part of the conversation and be with their congregation.

“I am a parishioner at Holy Spirit Parish in Sioux Falls, but the pastorate I was assigned to was in Dell Rapids and Coleman, number nine; I was chosen to go there because I have no ties to them,” Shane said. “Father Stevens got to be a part of that parish family. He got to advocate for his parishioners and be invested in his people, and I sort of play the role of speaking on behalf of the diocese.”

According to Shane, the facilitators were told to expect some push back and to prepare themselves to be ready in case of hurt feelings that sometimes occur during pastoral planning. People are fearful of possible closings and sudden changes. But Shane’s experience was the opposite.

“I was surprised with how receptive people were to Father Stevens and to myself; I found a lot of people excited to be together and to talk about their parishes and what they loved about it,” Shane said. “There would be a lot of questions that were still unanswered, but I was amazed at how strong the community was and how positive people were about this process going forward, about their parishes, about what they had built and about what they wanted to continue building. I was really braced for taking a lot of heat having to put out fires; what I found was quite the opposite.”

Shane heard many stories of how this new pastorate model could open up creativity and new ways to reach each parishioner. He said Bishop Degrood set the diocese on this path of pastoral planning in a proactive way to facilitate growth in areas of the church.

“The pastorate model is going to unlock some of these

priestly gifts as well, which is a great hope,” Shane said. “For example, Father Jacob Doty at Christ the King and St. Mary is great with young families and he’s great in the school with the kids. Father Paul Rutten has given him a lot of freedom to do those things by taking on more of the administrative duties. I’m really excited in the next five to 10 years to see those priestly gifts come to the forefront.”

Shane feels particularly blessed to have been asked to assist in this process for the diocese—an event that will shape the future of the diocese for years to come, and an effort that came from the leadership and vision of Bishop DeGrood and his desire for all his flock to become missionary disciples.

“The best experience for me as a facilitator, if you had to summarize my biggest takeaway, was getting a front row seat to people sharing their hearts and what they love about the Catholic Church and their parish,” Shane said. “That’s very encouraging.”

Dr. Marcus Ashlock is a former professor of agricultural communications and journalism, and former owner/editor/publisher of a weekly newspaper. A freelance writer in his spare time, he is a member of Christ the King Parish in Sioux Falls and a periodic host on Real Presence Live for Real Presence Radio.

THE LOURDES CENTER PRESENTS

PRAYING AMIDST GRIEF

Guest Speaker: Fr. Cimpl

This beautiful evening will include a presentation on how to find Jesus in grief and guidance on how to pray in the darkest moments. There will be space for prayer, reflection and discussion.

July 16, 2024

6:00pm-8:00pm

Mater Ecclesiae Monastery
707 W. 4th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Please RSVP

tlc@sfcatholic.org or call 605-988-3775

sfcatholic.org/bishopsbulletin



THE LOURDES CENTER



GETTING TO KNOW FATHER JIM BREAM

Recently, Renae Kranz sat down with Father Jim Bream on an episode of Catholic Views to get a peek into the life of a long-time priest of our diocese. Father Bream was ordained on May 24, 1964, and is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a priest.

Tell us a little bit about your family and where you grew up.

I'm a Sioux Falls person. My folks farmed on the west side of Sioux Falls, and that's where I was raised. I graduated from country grade school and later from Cathedral High School here in Sioux Falls.

How many brothers and sisters?

There were six of us born; one sister died as an infant. My two sisters and their husbands and one sister-in-law have also died; my two brothers are still alive.

You mentioned you didn't always know you were going to be a priest. So how did it come about that you decided to go to seminary?

I avoided it; I did. I stuttered badly when I was a high school kid here in Sioux Falls and later on after that, too. The thought of having to say something in front of everybody was terrifying. I did everything I could to forget about it, but the idea wouldn't quit, wouldn't leave me. So then I just said, "Well, okay. I'm going to go to seminary, but I will quit." I had no intention of finishing.

You obviously went all the way through seminary. What happened? Why did you stay?

It's not because I thought the seminary was that great, because I didn't. I guess I just felt I needed to be here. I think that's all part of the process. In fact, I looked to religious life before that, in a community, the Christian Brothers. But I thought, no, that wouldn't work for me. So I thought, well, I'll go to the seminary, but I will quit.

So God must have been tapping you on the shoulder somehow.

I'm a sensitive person. I was always careful about farm animals and people. I have a sensitive character, and so the call to the priesthood was there, and I wanted it to leave, but the call wouldn't leave.

How did you resolve the stuttering? Because you clearly don't stutter now.

I will if I'm not careful. I know how to cover it up. Early on, I had to learn. My first few years as a priest, I had a terrible headache every Sunday afternoon because I had so much worry about standing in front of people. But one learns to avoid certain words. You learn how to speak more clearly, more carefully.

You've been a priest for many years, can you tell us some of the parishes you were at?

As a young priest, I was in Holy Family in Mitchell. And then, I served in Tyndall a couple of years and also in Canton, Bryant and Willow Lake. But most of my years were at Sioux Falls (St. Therese), Yankton (Sacred Heart) and Watertown (Immaculate Conception).

There were a few things that especially stood out to you during your time. You mentioned that there was a strike at Morrell's. Can you tell us about that and what you were able to do?

Well, the management of Morrell's wanted to break the union. The union, of course, was opposed to that. My parish was St. Therese in Sioux Falls, all laboring people. And so, I stood up for them and led a couple of their rallies. My name was all over the paper for that summer. A very tense time, but I felt like I should support and, of course, the Church supports the labor union. I stood up for the laboring people but, of course, the company won out. They broke the union.

Another thing that you mentioned was that, when you left a parish, people said a certain thing to you a lot of the time.

When I left a couple of places, one of the big things that people often told me was that we will miss your presiding and preaching. I appreciated that because I really worked hard on how to preside, how to preach. Basically, how to pray in public.

I'm just realizing now that you had a stutter that you had to overcome, and yet, everybody loved you because of your preaching, the thing you were most afraid of. That's a miracle right there!

That's why I worked so hard. That's one of the ways to overcome stuttering. I had to carefully prepare how I was going to say something, because if I didn't prepare then I might stutter in the next sentence. I couldn't do that.

You were obviously very understandable for people, very clear in your preaching. I suspect you have a real heart for preaching.

Yes, I really like it. When I finally get the homily prepared, I really enjoy it. I love that more than anything. People say, "Well, nobody pays attention to what you say." But that's not true! That's not true, because people recognize if you are prepared and then they listen. If people are not listening, it's often because they recognize a lack of preparation.

What was the most challenging thing as a priest?

One of the things that bothers me the most is called clericalism. It's a process whereby clergy assume, for whatever reason, they have a special place. Maybe because of their training or whatever. In other words, they believe they are entitled to wear special clothes, to have a title and a special place. I don't have to eat the first potato at a funeral lunch. I don't have to go first; I can eat last. Somebody has to be last. It's a very dangerous thing to buy into clericalism, to think you're above people. I know there's a special place for the priest, but wearing special clothes, having a special place or using a title does not justify any superiority.

If a young man came to you and said "Father Bream, I'm thinking about going to the seminary." What would you say? How would you advise that young man?

It can be great, if you let it. I've had chances for travel that I would have never had otherwise. I used to take in refugees from different parts of the world to live in my house. I always thought that was a plus because I found out about a bigger world. So, if you let the priesthood lead you to the bigger world, great. But if you're going to try and keep limiting the priesthood to your concept of what it should be, always and only, I think it's kind of not a very good life.

How can the people of the diocese help you as a retired priest?

Just be themselves. That lets me be more myself.



LEARN MORE

To hear the full interview, visit <https://www.sfcatholic.org/fr-jim-brems-call-to-the-priesthood-catholic-views>, or scan the QR code.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JIM BREAM

Thank you! Thank you!

This year, 2024, I am celebrating my 60th anniversary as a priest of the Sioux Falls diocese. Of course, many people and many events come to mind, but I am especially mindful of the many, many people who have helped me to grow up as a person and have helped me to be a better priest. These are people and events one cannot learn or read about in a textbook. They are experienced in the daily life of a parish, which I have done for all 60 years. Consequently, I am inviting the people of our diocese to a Mass of Thanksgiving on Aug. 11, at 2 p.m. at St. Therese Parish, Sioux Falls. This Mass will be followed from 3-5 p.m. by refreshments and story-telling about events of these last 60 years. That afternoon is meant to be casual and fun for all. One's invitation for the afternoon of Aug. 11 is through the Bishop's Bulletin; please do not wait for a further invite. What you are reading is your invitation! No gifts, please. Any gifts received will go to refugee resettlement agencies and to Catholic schools in our diocese. Please come Aug. 11. It will be my "thank you" for helping me.

Fr. Robert Spitzer *is coming to Sioux Falls!*

FREE breakfast and presentation by one of the most brilliant minds in the Catholic Church today

Saturday, August 10, 2024

Holy Spirit Catholic Church Gym
3601 E Dudley Ln, Sioux Falls, SD

- **FREE Brunch at 9am**
- **Talk begins at 9:30am**

Meet the popular author and host of EWTN's "Spitzer's Universe"!

Register today at
HealingtheCulture.org/SpitzerSF

SPONSORED BY:

**HEALING
THE CULTURE**



Catholic Diocese
of Sioux Falls



What is ‘The New Atheism’?

Q *More and more people I know seem to be questioning God’s existence. There even seems to be a growth in the number of people who don’t even believe in God. Can you help me understand this and how I can respond?*

A This is an important question, as it addresses a real cultural trend, so we’re going to take this month and the next few months to address it.

It’s certainly the case that there have always been people who deny the existence of the supernatural, even within Judeo-Christian cultures and civilizations. Over the past 20 years, though, we’ve seen this view become a kind of cultural phenomenon.

In the mid-to-late 2000s, there were several books promoting atheism, or perhaps more precisely, books attacking religion and religious belief, if not religious believers as a group. Some of them sold millions of copies and generated all sorts of discussion, to the point that this phenomenon earned itself a name: “The New Atheism” (TNA). And while TNA has subsided as a cultural phenomenon, we continue to see growth in the number of people who either deny or at least question the reality of God’s existence.

Before we look at what TNA is and how to reply to it, it’s worth asking this question: why bother? Sensation sells, and in a country where the vast majority of people at least believe in God, it’s natural to expect that a small troop of belligerent atheists—as we’ll see, these atheists are particularly belligerent—and their books will get people’s attention. But there are lots of fads out there, including religious fads, so why bother focusing attention on TNA?

When it comes down to it, TNA is worth addressing simply because of the attention it has gotten, plain and simple. If this were an insignificant blip on the fad screen, it wouldn’t be worth addressing. But these writers and their books continue to get attention, and like it or not, we need to reply to them. Why? Because while they haven’t won large numbers of converts to TNA, they are attacking our faith—loudly. And even if people aren’t becoming atheists, they are nonetheless listening, as seen in part by the growth in the “nones” (those who have no formal religion).

So, what is TNA? What differentiates this form of atheism from other forms of atheism? A few things come to mind.

First, TNA isn’t as focused on philosophical argumentation as other atheisms. These other atheisms often sought to

provide rigorous philosophical arguments both in defense of their own perspectives and in critique of opposing perspectives. That’s not as much the case with TNA. While there is some attempt at philosophical argumentation, it generally isn’t the focus of the efforts of the new atheists, and frankly, they don’t do it very well at all—but more on that later.

For that matter, the most famous TNAs aren’t philosophers in the formal sense themselves, which is another thing that distinguishes them from other atheists. TNA seems to have a smaller percentage of trained philosophers among their numbers than do other forms of atheism.

TNA also seems more focused on going on the offensive than on playing defense. TNAs prefer to focus their attention on what they perceive as wrong and/or evil about religion rather than on what is right about atheism. Their arguments are more against religion than they are in favor of atheism.

And that leads us to another distinguishing characteristic of TNA: its polemical tone. TNAs have a very aggressive, often arrogant tone. It’s hard to read any TNA literature and not conclude that they think religious believers are stupid and/or mindless, or at least that religion as such is stupid, mindless and evil.

Relatedly, TNA differentiates itself from other brands of atheism in that it sees absolutely nothing good about religion or religious belief whatsoever. As far as TNAs are concerned, the world would be a far better place without religion. Just look at the title of Christopher Hitchens’ contribution to this fad: “God is not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything.” No doubt about where he stands on the matter, is there?

Or take the title of the book “The God Delusion,” by perhaps the most well-known proponent of TNA, biologist Richard Dawkins. What do you suppose he thinks about the notion of religious belief?

Next month we’ll look at a final characteristic of TNA and begin to look at how we can respond to it.

Be sure to check out the additional resources at sfcatholic.org/answer.

If you have a question you need an answer to, email rkranz@sfcatholic.org.

Chris Burgwald holds a doctorate in theology and is the director of discipleship formation for the Diocese of Sioux Falls.



AdobeStock by Lumbros Kazan

Redeeming our time with our family

By Lois Heron

We've been examining how we receive love from others through five love languages and how we can reflect God's love for our children in the way we love them with their love language. Let's consider *quality time* and how to speak love to our children and grandchildren this month.

When we think of God's love for us, he is always present, listening and responding. We become an extension of his love as we do the same for our children. Isn't that a beautiful truth? And when we connect our time and conversation to him, our children learn to understand him as a benevolent and faithful God.

Quality time is the one love language that every human responds to; it crosses the language barrier, so to speak. We crave undivided attention from those we cherish, but we live in a culture that suffers from attention deficit! Protecting the environment of our home life requires much more discipline than just a few decades ago; focused parental attention is essential. Time is the commodity we all have to learn to use well because there are no do-overs with it. The Holy Spirit will come alongside us and train us to be emotionally and spiritually present to our children; all we need to do is ask.

Gary Chapman, author of the book on this topic, writes, "The most important factor in quality time is not the event itself but that you are doing something together, being together." How can we improve our family's daily cadence and optimize time as love for our children? Purposefully doing life together can redeem what might be wasted time. Running errands together without the interruption of technology is a great place to start. Consider beginning your errands by inviting God to accompany you with the traveler's prayer from Psalm 121 when you leave.

"Lord, preserve our going out and coming in from this time forth and forever. Preserve our life and get us to our destination and back home safely." (Ps 121:8)

Keep a jar of conversation starters on slips of paper and allow your child to choose the question to get the car conversation going as you leave the driveway. One question can lead each of you on a path of discovery about the Lord and each other. The internet is your friend for ideas for

incorporating the Lord in conversations. Search "spiritual questions to get your kids thinking about God." Your undivided attention and questions about God are a double-hitter for nurturing holy children.

We can quickly become victims of the *urgent* rather than protectors of what is *essential*. Whatever appears urgent to us (a text, a news thread, an online conversation) is not crucial in light of eternity. Make a family policy that all cell phones, technology and current reading material are silenced and put away in a bin for a determined length of *family only* time each day.

Plan your weeks together by first writing down the most important activities: Mass, CCD and family only time. When your children observe what is important to you, it communicates that life's priorities are the Lord and the family.

Doing nothing special together is quality time! Walks together after the school day, hanging out in the same room, sorting laundry together, eating together, and cleaning up the kitchen are all opportunities for uninterrupted intentional conversation. As you work together, asking each other what the day's highlights and lowlights were gives insight into your children's emotions. A natural segue would be to express our feelings to the Lord. *Jesus, thank you for [the highlight]; it made me happy. Or, I had a lousy day, Jesus. Would you help me feel better?* Our children will learn intimacy with God when we include him in our quality time.

If your family takes photos of family life, consider assembling a yearly photobook (Shutterfly and Snapfish are easy to use). Have a specific time each month when you look at the photos together, sharing memories of that photo as you work together on that month's layout.

Working on homework at the same table each evening provides an atmosphere of cooperation as older children might join you in helping younger children. A simple prayer before study heightens the effect of your quality time around the table. *Lord, give us peace of mind as we complete our homework. Give us insight that we might understand what we are studying, and help us to remember it. ~Amen* (Adapted Salesian prayer).

Take pilgrimages together, pray novenas together, pray the Rosary together. When we choose quality time with the Lord, he will abundantly bless our lives for generations to come.

Lois Heron is a parishioner at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls. She is a retired educator and a writer.

Virtuous friendships support *healthy marriages*

By Katie Eskro

For John and Ann Henkhaus, members of St. Mary Parish in Sioux Falls, developing strong and healthy friendships as a married couple hasn't happened without desire and work. Growing up, Ann's parents always had a "faith group" of friends wherever they lived. Ann says, "It was important to [my mom and dad] to find a group of people to connect with who shared their values and faith. They wanted to learn, pray and play together."

In John and Ann's married life, they found themselves wanting this same type of group. John was nervous about starting or joining a Bible study, but the couple knew they wanted to form intentional relationships with other married couples. "We did want a group of people that we could talk about bigger, more important topics than what is talked about at a cocktail party, like sports and the weather," Ann says.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

In John Cuddeback's book "True Friendship: Where Virtue Becomes Happiness," he discusses the Aristotelian ideas of friendship. He finds in Aristotle's writing a very Christian idea of friendship, in that, the truest form of friendship is a friendship between virtuous, i.e., holy, people.

"Full friendship is that relationship of mutual goodwill that is based on the virtue, or true goodness, of two persons," Cuddeback writes. Cuddeback defines Aristotle's three types of friendships as friendships of pleasure, friendships of utility, and friendships of virtue. While friendships of pleasure and utility are necessary and good in everyone's lives, they are not the friendships that lead us to fulfilling relationships and happiness. Only friendships of virtue—two or more people growing with one another toward holiness and toward God—lead to a deeper bond and relationship with one another.

This desire for virtuous, Christian friendship is what set the stage in the hearts of John and Ann to invite couples to start a faith group with them. "We had a yearning to have relationships with others that were deeper and stronger, where we felt safe to share things about our children, our faith, our struggles and our triumphs," Ann says.

In the busyness of life, several years passed before the time felt right for John and Ann to act on this desire. On a chaperoning trip to New York City for the O'Gorman choir, Ann got to know another chaperone, Teresa Schoenfelder, through some deep, late night talks as they shared a room. Ann mentioned her and John's desire to start a group, and Teresa thought she and her husband, Brad, might be interested. After returning home, the couples had supper the following week where they discussed the idea and chose other couples to invite, and their faith group was born.

The couples did not all know each other in the beginning, and though this made it a bit difficult at first, it didn't take long for each couple to know that this group was a safe place. Ann says that at their very first meeting, when discussing Christmas memories, one of the couples shared about a miscarriage they had experienced, and the husband teared up in sharing his memory.

"I think that was a moment we all knew that this group was going to be a safe place to share what is on our hearts and be supported by the group," Ann says. "Though some of us started as strangers, we have become great friends who trust each other."

LIVING LIFE TOGETHER

The group is not just serious faith talk. "It also has a wee bit to do with having a few drinks and having social interactions at the beginning of the meetings," John says. These elements are important, because it creates a

Bell tower and St. Mary Parish, Sioux Falls. Photo by Sammie Schofield



welcoming and fun atmosphere to just be together, and John thinks this makes it easier to commit to going every month.

In Cuddeback's book, he, too, stresses the relationship between virtuous friendship and just having fun and enjoying time with one another. "Although Aristotle distinguishes between pleasant friendship, useful friendship, and virtuous friendship, he is careful to point out that virtuous friendships have all these qualities: pleasure, usefulness, and the virtuous good."

And for Ann, she has noticed how this group has begun to weave itself into her everyday joys and sorrows of life.

"I think all of us have been surprised at how much this group has come to mean to each of us," she says. "We have supported each other through many issues with our children, sickness and death of several family members, and sharing our lives through the highs and the lows."

It has also impacted the couple's children, as they live out these intentional friendships with each other. "Our children have seen us talking about and sharing about this group and I think they have realized how important it has become to us as well," Ann says. "It is great modeling for them to find good people in whom to share and trust their lives."



John and Ann Henkhaus

LEADING TO HEAVEN

These types of friendships are a gift in and of themselves, but according to Cuddeback, these friendships also help us in our spiritual lives. "An understanding of human friendship enhances our understanding of friendship with God. [E]ven more pressing, human friendship is the natural preparation for entering friendship with God," he says.

"I see God more everyday in each and every person I meet because I have gotten to know the hearts of these good people," Ann says.

Even though it's not always easy, forming intentional and virtuous friendships as individuals and as married couples is something worth working for. It doesn't always come easily, but as the Henkhaus' story shows, God will meet the desire for holy friendship in his timing.

"If you feel a nudge to go deeper, share more of yourself, learn more from others and develop a stronger relationship with God, your spouse and others, listen to that voice," Ann says. "It just may be the Holy Spirit asking you to try something new."

Katie Eskro is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Aberdeen, where she works as coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. She has a degree in journalism and is pursuing a master's degree in philosophy.



Group photo

ANNIVERSARIES

BRANDON

Gary and Sue Pekas, 50th anniversary, July 27, Risen Savior Parish.

CHAMBERLAIN

Terry and Sharron Casey, 65th anniversary, June 13, St. James Parish.

PIERRE Dennis and Lois Ries, 50th anniversary, July 20, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.

SCOTLAND

Ken and Mary Travnicek, 50th anniversary, June 7, St. George Parish.

WATERTOWN

Brad and Christi Mack, 25th anniversary, July 10, Immaculate Conception Parish.

YANKTON

John and Jean Vavra, 60th anniversary, June 6, St. Benedict Parish.



For pictures, go to sfcatholic.org/bishopsbulletin or scan the QR code to visit our website.

Anniversary Submission Guidelines

We accept anniversary submissions for the following anniversary years: 25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and 75. We include them in the issue of the month of the anniversary or the following month's issue. Submissions received for later issues will not be included. Photos will only be included in the sfcatholic.org website edition. Send a color photo, your anniversary information and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by July 19 for inclusion in the September 2024 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Or email to:
bwingen@sfcatholic.org.

Sister Jane Frances Garcia dies at 98



Sister Jane Frances Garcia, 98, a Benedictine sister of the Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, died May 15, 2024. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 22 in the Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel. Burial was at the monastery cemetery.

Beatriz Eusebia Garcia was born Oct. 29, 1925, to Candido and Theresa (Garcia) Garcia on a ranch near Farisita, Colorado. She was the second of six children born to this union along with six older half-sisters from her father's first marriage and three older half-brothers from her mother's first marriage. Both her parents had been widowed in their previous marriages.

Beatriz attended country school in Farisita. She attended high school for two years before making the journey

to Yankton at age 15 to enter the aspirancy and attend Mount Marty High School. She made her first profession in 1944 and her final profession in 1947. In 1959, she was consecrated as a virgin and became a part of the new foundation of Mother of God Monastery.

She spent two years as a missionary in Guatemala. She also received training as a nurse in Colorado Springs. She worked in outreach to the poor, public health and religious education in various places in Colorado before moving back to Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton. Upon returning to South Dakota, Sister Jane Frances did pastoral ministry in Sioux Falls and participated in parish life at the Beresford and Centerville parishes.

Sister Jane Frances is survived by her Benedictine community, sister-in-law Angie Garcia, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, six half-sisters, three half-brothers, her sisters Scholastica, Linda and infant sister Marie Therese and her brothers Ralph and Frank.



Calendar of Events

Visit www.ogknights.org for more information.

TUESDAY • AUGUST 27



Join us for the 21st annual Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools Foundation Sporting Clays Shoot! Teams compete on the world-class Hunters Pointe Shooting Complex in beautiful, natural surroundings. We invite you to enjoy a day of camaraderie with friends while sharpening your hunting techniques before the season opener. Participation is limited, so register today!

SATURDAY • AUGUST 31

The Bob Burns Dakota Bowl is the largest high school bowl game in South Dakota, raising more than \$140,000 annually for all eight of Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools! It brings together the Sioux Falls community to showcase our talented high school athletes and to celebrate football. Families enjoy all-day tailgates, football and cheerleading camps for kids, fireworks, airplane flyovers and even skydivers!



MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 23



The O'Gorman Golf Classic is an all-inclusive, four-person scramble in the afternoon hosted by the O'Gorman Booster Club. A fundraising event to get your friends or co-workers together to enjoy a round of golf while supporting O'Gorman Athletic Programs. We invite everyone to participate!

Father Paul Josten loses battle with pancreatic cancer



Father Paul T. Josten, 64, of Miller, died May 24, 2024, at the home of his brother, Tom, where he had been receiving home hospice care for pancreatic cancer.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 5 at St. Ann Catholic Church, Miller. Bishop Donald DeGrood was the

celebrant. Burial was at St. Ann Cemetery.

Paul Thomas Josten was born on Dec. 20, 1959, in Sioux Falls. He was the sixth child of Frank and Irene (Huebner) Josten. He attended grade school at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph and graduated from O’Gorman High School in 1978. Upon graduation from high school, he attended St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota, for two years. From there, he went to Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, Minnesota, graduating in 1983. Upon graduating, he attended Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and graduated with a master’s in theology in 1987.

On May 17, 1986, Paul was ordained a transitional deacon at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph and spent the summer at Sacred Heart Parish in Yankton. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 29, 1987, by Bishop Paul V. Dudley at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. Following his ordination, he was assigned to Holy Family Parish in Mitchell as associate pastor and served there from 1987-1989. He also served as associate pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Yankton. Bishop Dudley next appointed him pastor of St. Dominic Parish in Canton and St. Edward Parish in Worthing. From there, he went on to serve as the pastor of the parishes in Bowdle, Roscoe, Hosmer; Platte and Geddes; Parkston; St. Benedict Parish in Yankton; Howard, Ramona, Epiphany; Miller and Highmore. At the time of his passing, he was serving as the parochial vicar of the Pastorate of the Transfiguration, serving the parishes in Miller, Highmore, Polo, Redfield, Mellette and Faulkton.

Father Josten is survived by his siblings, Stephen, Omaha, Nebraska; Carol (Russell) Husman, Omaha, Nebraska; Michael (Joye), Bozeman, Montana; Jeffrey (Anita) Gower, Missouri; Thomas (DeeDee), Sioux Falls; Amy (Richard) Barnett, Sioux Falls; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and -nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Irene, and by a brother, David, and David’s wife, Patricia.

UPCOMING RETREATS

SILENT RETREATS

Men’s Silent Retreats
September 19-22
November 21-24

Women’s Silent Retreats
July 25-28
October 3-6
November 7-10

SPECIAL RETREATS

Healing Retreats
October 11-13, 2024
Undone: A Healing Retreat
-Directed by Father Scott Traynor

Couples Retreat
November 15-17, 2024
-Directed by Jim & Meg Beckman with Father Scott Traynor

DAY OF RECOLLECTION
Broom Tree Days of Recollection begin at 10 a.m. and consist of conferences, time for Adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. Because lunch is also served, we ask that you please register. A prayerful donation is requested.
July 23, 2024
Eucharist in Daily Life
-Directed by Joshua Burks with Father Andrew Dickinson

August 13, 2024
August Saints: the Big Deal in Holiness
-Directed by Father Bob Lacey

September 10, 2024
Our Guardian Angels: God’s Gift
-Directed by Dr. Teri Kemmer

123 Saint Raphael Circle, Irene, SD 57037
605-263-1040 | broomtree@sfcatholic.org

REGISTER FOR RETREATS ONLINE broom-tree.org

Yahweh Shalom 47th Annual Summer Conference
Eucharist The Body of Christ

SATURDAY AUGUST 3
St Benedict Catholic Church
Yankton SD 9:30 AM - 9:00 PM

Conference Speaker
Barbara Heil
"From His Heart Ministries"

To Register call 605-940-4101
For more Information and the schedule: www.yahwehshalomyankton.com

Sponsored by Yahweh Shalom Prayer Group & St Benedict Catholic Church

LISTEN WHILE YOU WORK OR ON THE GO (AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD)

PODCASTS
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS

Discover a wide variety of Catholic podcasts, produced and available through the Communications Office of the Diocese.

sfcatholic.org/radio-podcasts

Popular annual events support local mission of the Church

Taste the Goodness and the Bishop’s Cup return this August and offer a chance for people to support vital needs in the community and diocese. Taste the Goodness will be held Aug. 3 and support the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. The Bishop’s Cup will be held Aug. 19 and supports Broom Tree Retreat Center in Irene.



Taste the Goodness - Saturday, Aug. 3

Held outdoors in downtown Sioux Falls, Taste the Goodness features food,

beer, wine, bourbon, games, auctions and much more. Every year, the night proves to be a magical experience with friends and family gathering to enjoy a fun night and support those in the community who are most in need.

“On behalf of the Bishop Dudley House Board of Directors, staff and guests, we could not be more grateful to be the recipient of the funds from Taste the Goodness,” said Madeline Shields, executive director of the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. “This event not only raises much needed financial support, it creates a wonderful opportunity for our staff and guests to work alongside volunteers from the community to provide an evening full of fun, food and fellowship. Thanks to the hard work of the Catholic Community Foundation, Bishop Dudley House is able to open its doors a little wider to welcome in our most vulnerable citizens.”

The entrance fee is \$55, which includes unlimited food, beverages and games. Some games may require an additional fee. Advanced purchase tickets are \$49. All attendees must be at least 21.

For more information or to purchase tickets, go to ccfesd.org/events/taste-the-goodness.



The Bishop’s Cup - Monday, Aug. 19

The competition heats up on the greens as teams go head-to-head in the ultimate local golf tournament. Two popular formats return for

golfers participating in the event:

The Bishop’s Scramble: This format is a four-person scramble with prizes awarded to the top two teams in each flight. A crystal-cup traveling trophy will be awarded to the team with the lowest net score.

The Bishop’s Challenge: In a four-person team, each golfer will play their own ball with the two best balls scored hole by hole. A crystal-cup traveling trophy will be awarded to the team with the lowest net score.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities are available for both events. To find out more or to register, go to ccfesd.org or call 605-988-3765.



THANK YOU!

The Catholic Community Foundation and the Bishop's Fishing Tournament committee would like to thank you for your generosity and support of **seminarian formation and education** for the Diocese of Sioux Falls!



PRESENTING SPONSORS | DONORS



Avera



BIG STONE
Therapies, Inc.

BJ & BRANDEI SCHAEFBAUER

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
SIOUX FALLS

Wade & Cindy VanDover

DIAMOND SPONSORS | DONORS



Sacred Heart Parish
Aberdeen

Sacred Heart Parish
Westport

St. Lawrence Parish
Milbank

St. Mary Parish
Aberdeen

St. Nicholas Parish
Tea

PLATINUM SPONSORS | DONORS

Galen and Ann Jordre | Pierre

Knights of Columbus #1720 | Milbank

St. Charles Parish | Big Stone City

GOLD SPONSORS | DONORS

Backdoor BBQ – Greg Thomas | Milbank

Christ the King Parish | Webster

Tim & Patty Czmowski-Cheese World | Sioux Falls

Fred & Joan DeRouchev | Mitchell

Jeff & Kristi Forsting | Columbia

Alex Heim | Wood

Mark & Meredith Junker | Big Stone City

Knights of Columbus | Watertown

Roger & Marcia Liebig | Gettysburg

Jim & Ann Mehlhaff | Pierre

Midwest Liquid Feed | Wood

Alan & Esme Pratt | Big Stone City

Mike & Lonnie Rausch | Big Stone City

Mike Rouda | Pierre

Stu & Karen Schreurs | Milbank

St. Michael & St. George Parishes | Sioux Falls/Hartford

Brad & Shelly Schipper | Sioux Falls

Patrick & Colleen Thompson | Pierre

Kenneth & Elaine VanDover | Westport

Larry & Joyce Vetch | Onaka

Travis & Tami Vetch | Moberg

Donald & Peggy Zilverberg | Holabird

SILVER SPONSORS | DONORS

Don & Gloria Beaner Family Memorial

Mark & Laura Beaner & Family | Humboldt

Tim & Sara Beaner | Sioux Falls

Fr. Doug Binsfield | Webster

Noel & Teresa Chicoine | Pierre

Christian Mothers Confraternity of St. Joseph | Eureka

Shawn & Julie Cleary | Sioux Falls

Kevin & Jan Feterl | Sioux Falls

Steve & Kari Gales | Watertown

Bill & Diane Hartman | Milbank

Immaculate Conception Parish | Waubay

Paul Jackson | Big Stone City

Kevin & Teri Jaspers | Madison

Rich & Cindy Korman | Sioux Falls

Frank & Stacy Moy | Pierre

Mike Oakland | Pierre

Jay & Jean Peterson | Pierre

Donald & Joan Reiffenberger | Big Stone City

Sacred Heart Parish | Eden

Rich Schluter | Ortonville

Lee & Donna Schoenbeck | Watertown

Serra Club | Watertown

Douglas & Diane Stormo | Watertown

St. Anthony Parish | Selby

St. Joseph Parish | Eureka

Dcn. Paul & Julie Treinen | Ortonville

Paul & Nancy Whitney | Big Stone City

BRONZE SPONSORS | DONORS

Ave Maria Pastorate | Watertown

Jon & Kalisha Beebe | Watertown

Denice Evers | Springfield, MN

Knights of Columbus #7433 | Clear Lake

Knights of Columbus Maher Council | Mitchell

Charles & Joyce Nedved | Kimball

Tom & Linda Penisten | Sioux Falls

Trail Motel | Gettysburg

Shane & Amy Vetch | Freeman

Ferdinand & Susan Zirbel | Ortle

(As of June 10, 2024)

Recitation of the Rosary

Fridays – The Rosary is recited for the faithful departed on all Fridays of the month at 10 a.m. in St. Michael Cemetery in Sioux Falls. Each Friday, the Rosary is offered for a different intention. Meet at the cemetery office parking lot for those who would like to walk.

Thank-you party

Aug. 11 – Father Jim Bream is hosting a thank-you celebration to honor the people who have helped him grow as a person and priest throughout his 60 years of service to our diocese. He will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving on Aug. 11 at 2 p.m. at St. Therese Parish, Sioux Falls. A reception will follow with refreshments and storytelling from 3-5 p.m. All are welcome, no RSVP is required.

Faith and Business Conference

Aug. 15 – The Faith and Business Conference is for anyone seeking to integrate faith into the workplace. Former SDSU head football coach John Stiegelmeier will speak on how his faith was crucial to the type of coach he was and the program SDSU football became. The conference will be held at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Purchase tickets at faithandbusinessconference.com.

Pray at Planned Parenthood with the Jericho Wall group Tuesdays

– Jericho Wall has returned to Planned Parenthood on 41st Street to pray the Rosary. Please join us every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in praying a special Rosary for the unborn, their moms and this nation. All are welcome.

Help for parents who have lost a newborn or pre-born child

– If you’ve lost a child due to miscarriage, still birth or shortly after birth, the Angel Lee Cronen Memorial Fund is available to assist you in dealing with your loss by helping you secure a proper burial for your child. Most parents don’t

know what to do when faced with this situation and are often unable to pay for the services involved. This fund exists to help during this difficult time. For more information, contact Deacon Bill Radio at 605-336-7390 or dcnwilliamradio@sfcatholic.org.

Sacred Heart Monastery

July 5 – Online *Lectio Divina* at 10 a.m., Fridays, July 5, 12, 19 and 26. Meet online for *Lectio Divina*, a time for praying with the Gospel of the following Sunday. To register any time, contact group leader Sr. Doris Oberembt OSB at doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org. Include your email address.

July 20 – Contemplative Mornings – Saturday, from 9-11:15 a.m. Contact Sr. Doris at 605-668-6022 or doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org. yanktonbenedictines.org/contemplative.

Spiritual Enrichment Program – Join a dialogue group to meet online eight times from September to April, 2024-2025. Each Zoom meeting includes shared *Lectio Divina*, a brief presentation and facilitated dialogue to ponder insights and deepen one’s relationship with God. You may register for online sessions only or choose to include a two-night retreat with spiritual direction. Contact us for further information or to register: yanktonbenedictines.org/sep; BenedictinePeaceCtr@YanktonBenedictines.org; 605-668-6292.

Silent Personal Retreats – Contact us to reserve space in monastic silence for your personal retreat. You may choose to retreat privately or meet with a director. Contact us at yanktonbenedictines.org/silent-personal-retreats or 605-668-6292.

Spiritual Direction – Meet with a companion-guide to reflect on your experience of God in your life. One-to-one meetings are typically

scheduled monthly; meet in person or online. BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org or 605-668-6292.

The Lourdes Center

Praying Amidst Grief

July 16 – The Lourdes Center presents Praying Amidst Grief, an evening devoted to finding Jesus in grief and guidance on how to pray in the darkest moments. Father Charles Cimpl will be the guest speaker for the evening, which will also include time for prayer, reflection and discussion. The event will be held at Mater Ecclesiae Monastery, 707 W. 4th St., Sioux Falls, from 6-8 p.m. RSVP for the event by contacting tlc@sfcatholic.org or calling 605-988-3775.

Mater Ecclesiae Monastery

Public Eucharistic Adoration:

All are welcome for eucharistic adoration and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the monastery chapel. Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Daily Holy Mass:

Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.

Prayer Requests:

It is our pleasure to support you in prayer. Please contact us with your requests.

Phone: 605-336-2374

Website:

www.perpetualadorationsisters.org

Gift Shop:

We invite you to visit our religious gift shop at the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery just behind the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Is the Lord calling you to support our mission?

Please visit our website, www.perpetualadorationsisters.org, for more information.



SUNDAY TV MASS

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS

Join us for The Sunday TV Mass, from the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls, SD



Sunday Mornings on KELOLAND TV
10:00 am CT - 9:00 am MT
or online at sfatholic.org/tvmass



@SFdiocese
SUBSCRIBE TO OUR CHANNEL



THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
523 N. Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714

10TH ANNUAL *Taste the Goodness*

SATURDAY
AUGUST 3

5:00 - 9:00 PM

OUTDOORS DOWNTOWN SIOUX FALLS
212 E 11TH ST

UNLIMITED TASTINGS • FOOD • CRAFT BEER • WINE
BOURBON • SODA • SILENT AUCTION • GAMES
ACTIVITIES • MUSIC & MORE!

BENEFITTING



LEARN MORE
& REGISTER:

CCFESD.ORG
(605) 988-3765



PRODUCED BY



Must be 21+ to attend.
ID will be checked at the gate.



MONDAY
AUGUST 19

Minnehaha Country Club

The Country Club of
Sioux Falls

CHALLENGE OR
SCRAMBLE
TOURNAMENT

**MORNING
ROUND**

7:30 AM
SHOTGUN START

**AFTERNOON
ROUND**

12:30 PM
SHOTGUN START



LEARN MORE & REGISTER:
(605) 988-3765
CCFESD.ORG

BENEFITTING



PRODUCED BY

