

Corporal Works of Mercy Opportunities:

Annual Prison Christmas Sack Program

The SD Prison Chaplains Assoc. is once again asking for donations for those incarcerated. Christmas is a very difficult and lonely time for inmates and this small gesture lets them know they are not forgotten. For some it is the only gift they will receive. Please join us in this beautiful act of charity and Corporal Work of Mercy “visit the imprisoned”. Donations can be sent by November 30th to SD Prison Chaplains Assoc., Christmas Sacks, 601 W 57th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Please write ‘Christmas Sacks’ in the memo line if writing a check. You can also give electronically by visiting <https://www.convergeheartland.org/donate> and choose SDPCA Christmas Sacks, or use the QR code. Any questions ~ feel free to email Mo Irvine at prisonministry@sfcatholic.org



Human Services Center Christmas Gift Drive

Christmas is a time of joy and celebration. However, money of our patients are far from their families and the comfort of home during this season. Because of this, we strive to make this time of year enjoyable and as stress-free as possible, but we need your help to make that happen. Each year we organize Christmas Gift Drive, with a personalized gift bag for all our patients. Through your generous donations, whether in the form of a gift or monetary donation, we are able to bring joy to our patients. All donations can be dropped at the Human Services Center 3515 Broadway Ave., Yankton, SD 57078. Monetary Donations can be mailed to: Human Services Center, Attn: Activities Center, PO Box 7600, Yankton, SD 57078. Checks payable to ‘HSC Patient Benefit Fund’. If possible, we would like to receive all donations by December 5th.

Gift items: Shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants of all sizes, XL & XXL flannel shirts, gloves, hats, pajamas, socks, slippers, lotion, body spray, hairbrushes, chapstick, playing cards & board games, fidget and sensory items, stationary, art kits, activity books, candy bars, individual sized snack crackers, chips, pudding, decaffeinated pop, sugar-free sweets.

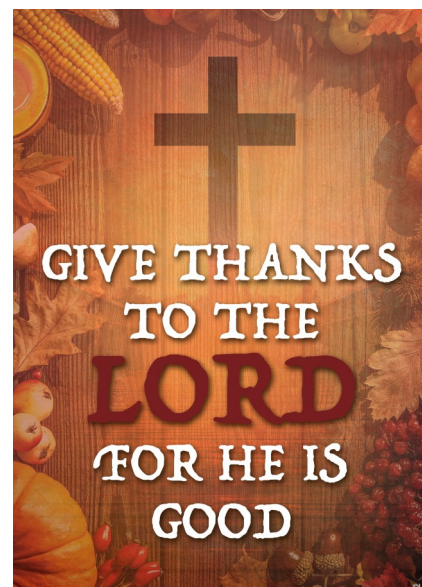
*NOTE: We apologize but HSC cannot accept glass bottles, mirrors, or anything with peanuts or caffeine per our hospital policies. *ALL items must be purchased new.*

A Gratitude Examen

Gratitude is one of the greatest spiritual practices. It opens our minds, calms our hearts, and rids bitterness of its power. The “examen” is a spiritual practice to reflect on how we have responded to God’s work in our lives. This Thanksgiving, consider your own reasons for thankfulness!

What **G**ifts have You given me?
How have I **R**eceived love from others?
How is grace at work in **A**spects of my life story?
Do I **T**rust You to continue to bless me?
Where have I **m**issed Your movements?
Have I used my **T**alents at the service of other?
Do I see a purpose for my life **U**nderway?
How can I have the **D**iscipline to thank You daily?
Help me give **E**verything back to You!

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GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Not long ago, I was called to a hospital to anoint a woman in her early 80s. She was dying, and visibly in pain. But what struck me most wasn’t her suffering — it was the atmosphere in the room. She had eight children and 30 foster kids, and many of them were gathered around her. You’d expect sorrow, fear, maybe even despair. But the room was filled with something else entirely — a quiet strength, a kind of sweetness. It was as if she was suffering not just with them, but for them. And they, in love, were suffering for her. The pain was real. But so was the peace. I didn’t want to run. I felt as if I was in a little paradise, beeping machines and all. I think of that moment when I hear today’s Gospel. Jesus, hanging on the cross, doesn’t look like a king. But one of the crucified, dying men beside him sees through the suffering and says, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23:42). That word — remember — literally means to make someone a member again. He’s asking to be joined to Christ, to become part of his Body. And Jesus says, “Today you will be with me in paradise.” He doesn’t say, “I’ll take your suffering away.” He says, “You will be with me.” That’s the strange power of Christ the King. He doesn’t rule by avoiding suffering. He reigns by entering into it, and transforming it with love. What are you suffering right now in your life? Likely you want it to stop. But if we are willing to suffer with him — paradise begins even today.

— Father John Muir

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Sacred Heart, Sts. Peter & Paul, & St Paul the Apostle Advent Baby Shower

Our Churches will once again be collecting baby items through the Advent season. If you would like to donate any baby items, a designated crib will be set up in the entrance of our churches during Advent. Items donated will first go to anyone in need in our communities, the remaining items will go to the local hospital or to the Kateri Center in Marty. Thank you for considering helping those in need this Holiday season!

Items Needed: Clothing of all sizes(0-24mo—youth XL | sleepers/pajamas, onesies, outfits), socks, blankets, burb cloths, coats, hats, mittens, boots, wipes, diapers, baby lotion & shampoo, bottles, bibs, pacifiers, teething toys & other small toys ***Please no used items or décor.**

NOTICE, NOTICE, NOTICE, NOTICE

Catholic Daughters will be having a bake sale following 9am Mass on Sunday, December 14th!! There will be candies, breads, cookies and lots of other yummys! They will be packaged in a variety of sizes and priced so if you want a small package of fudge but a dozen cookies or a half dozen rolls you can purchase the size package that works for you!! We are doing this in place of the cookies trays we have done the last few years. There will be no early sales so please stop in the parish hall after Mass on Dec 14th to make your purchase. We will be there until 12 noon.



****CDA will also be offering donuts, etc., coffee and fellowship after Mass that day too!!**



CDA LADIES!! We need you to share your amazing baking and cooking talents to supply our bake sale on Sunday, Dec 14th. We are doing this in place of cookie trays. You can make your favorites and please package some in small quantities and some larger quantities. Examples: 6 pieces of fudge on a paper plate in a quart sized ziplock bag and 12 pieces on a larger container with plastic wrap or gallon ziplock bag, a pan with 4 caramel rolls and then a bigger one with 6 or 12, bags of caramels some with 6 some with 12, cookies some 6 some 12, bars some 6 some 12 ... you can make whatever you want cookies, breads, bars, candy, etc. Please let Diane Sandhoff know if you will be bringing something and she will tell you what time on Saturday to bring your items. If you need her number let me know. Thanks Tina 605-505-0290

Sacred Heart contribution envelopes for the 2026 year have been set out in the main entrance of Sacred Heart. If you do not see your name and would like contribution envelopes, please contact the office.



SH & SsPP Fruit Basket Donations



Sacred Heart & Sts. Peter & Paul teens will be delivering fruit baskets to our parishioners who experienced the loss of an immediate loved one, celebrated a baptism, celebrated a wedding, or joined our parish family. If you would like to donate fruit for this, please have your fruit to the Sacred Heart kitchen by Monday, Dec 15th. Baskets will be delivered during religion hours Dec 17th.

Fruit needed: apples, oranges, bananas & grapes. Other items: hard candies, crackers, chocolates

Congratulations to Commander, Vilas Kurtenbach, for receiving the Quilt of Valor from the Ethan American Legion Post 261. Your many volunteer hours, past & present, towards our communities, parish, & country do not go un-noticed. Thank you!