

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Readings for September 14, 2025  
*Philippians 2:6-11 / John 6:43-49*

Following is a word search based on the Second and Gospel readings for the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Cycle C. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

FORM OF GOD  
EMPTIED  
CROSS  
EARTH  
LORD  
RAISE  
BY GOD

EQUALITY  
OBEDIENT  
EXALTED HIM  
TONGUE  
GLORY  
LAST DAY  
BREAD

GRASPED  
DEATH  
HEAVEN  
JESUS  
CAN COME  
TAUGHT  
DESERT

GOD TEACHES

E D E P S A R G L O R Y  
D E A E M P T I E D T A  
O E X E K L O R D I N D  
G J A A R A N A L K E T  
F X E T L B G A N A I S  
O E P S H T U B N A D A  
M M H O U Q E Q Y B E L  
R O T R E S E D H G B W  
O C T S T A U G H T O K  
F N I L Y A C H O I H D  
E A R T H E A V E N M Q  
R C R O S S L I L Y O J

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CHURCH SUPPORT		
Sacred Heart	Sts. Peter & Paul	St. Paul the Apostle
Envelopes \$4972.00	Envelopes \$2981.00	Envelopes \$1315.00
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Cemetery \$100.00	Donation \$60.00	
	CFSA \$500.00	

LITURGICAL MINISTRY — Sept. 20th & 21st		
Sts Peter & Paul	Sacred Heart	St Paul the Apostle
<u>EM</u> : Kim McCann & Diane Kummer	<u>EM</u> : Collin & Chris Newton	<u>EM</u> : Sister Maribeth
<u>Lector</u> : Beth Kroll	<u>Lector</u> : Lisa Sprecher	<u>Lector</u> : Tammy Sparks
<u>Servers</u> : Juliette Beyer, Braxty Raymond, Jake Kroll	<u>Servers</u> : Kyen Culbert, Layton & Liam Horstman, Brexten Overby	<u>Servers</u> : Andrew, Cady, Tia & Tayla
<u>Ushers</u> : Glen Kummer, Dan Boehmer, Porter Neugebauer	<u>Ushers</u> : Chad & Dana Jodozi	<u>Ushers</u> : Bill Harrington, Daniel Harrington, Dan Harrington, Casey Carda
<u>Gift Carriers</u> : Glen & Dee Kummer	<u>Gift Carriers</u> : Chad & Dana Jodozi	<u>Gift Carriers</u> : Michael & Jodi Schrank
<u>Video</u> : Pat & Kim McCann	<u>Video</u> : Quayden & Krey Culbert	<u>Greeters</u> : Volunteers
<u>Rosary</u> : Pat & Kim McCann		<u>Counters</u> : Allison L & Tammy S

Vote for Parkston to get a #LevittMusicSeries grant! If we’re one of the 50 finalists, we could receive \$84,000 in matching funds from the @levittfoundation to bring a free, outdoor music series here for the next three years! Vote via text by typing PARKSTON to 877-409-5525 or online at [levitt.org/vote](#) by September 15th and help us become a finalist!


(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE  
The Cross is Not Negotiable By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman  
“Holiness isn’t for wimps,” Mother Angelica famously said. “And the cross isn’t negotiable, sweetheart — it’s a requirement.” I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is tough, and to do it you have to make a decision to be tough, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation. But in light of today’s readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit. Holiness is for wimps, because the cross isn’t negotiable. When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses’ staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, he invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption. Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn’t do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn’t right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We’re wimps; that’s what we do. But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be. And none of it is negotiable. ©LPi

**Diocesan & Community Happenings:**  
**31st Annual Bishop’s Charity Hunt**—Monday & Tuesday, Sept 15-16 at the Horseshoe K Ranch, Kimball, SD. This isn’t just a hunt; it’s a memorable outing with lodging, meals, a trap shoot, pheasant hunting & cleaning, and fellowship. You’ll connect with fellow hunters, attend daily Mass, and interact with priests and Newman Center Directors from our diocese. All proceeds directly benefit the New Catholic Campus Ministry in our diocese. For more info & to register, visit [www.ccfesd.org](#) or call 605-988-3701.  
**SD Right to Life Convention**—September 26 & 27 at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pierre. Great food, youth breakout session, adoption panel, special music, pregnancy center panel, basket row, and 30+ exhibitors. Register at [www.SDRighttoLife.org](#), call 605-220-8678, or email [Dale.SDRTL@gmail.com](#)  
**Sioux Falls Life Chain:** Sunday, October 5th from 2-3pm on the north sidewalk of W. 41st, between S. Sertoma Ave & S. Western Ave. Signs will be provided.


Parkston/Dimock/Armour Community Bulletin

September 14, 2025 — Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time


Parochial Vicar: Fr. Gary DeRouchey | SH Office: 605-928-3676  
frgaryderouchey@sfcatholic.org | Cell: 605-222-2034  
Hospital Chaplain: Deacon Barry Wagner | Cell: 605-770-9990



Sacred Heart  
409 W. Main St.  
PO Box 460  
Parkston, SD 57366



Sts. Peter & Paul  
146 W. 1st St.  
Dimock, SD 57331




St. Paul the Apostle  
204 1st St  
Armour, SD 57313

SH Secretary/Bookkeeper: Bailee Mogck | Office: 605-928-3676  
parkston@holypostlessd.org | Office Hours: Mon/Wed/Fri 8am-4pm  
**SH DRE: OPEN POSITION! Contact the office if interested!**

SsPP Bookkeeper: Debbie Neugebauer | Cell: 605-770-1183  
dimock@holypostlessd.org  
SsPP DRE: Bridget Weber | Cell: 605-520-2743  
bridgetzirbel@hotmail.com

SPA Secretary: Jami Werkmeister | Cell: 605-770-5045  
parkston@holypostlessd.org | stpaul@unitelsd.com  
SPA DRE: Jim & Jami Werkmeister | Cell: 605-770-5045



Welcome to Holy Apostles Pastorate!

Connect with all 9 parishes within Holy Apostles Pastorate by visiting [holypostlessd.org](#). Here you will find Mass times, bulletins, a calendar of events, faith formation info, & more!  
Watch FORMED for free! Members throughout our pastorate are invited to sign up for FORMED under [St Peter the Apostle Church](#), [Platte](#) or [Sacred Heart Parish](#), Parkston.

Holy Apostles Pastor: Fr. Tom Clement | Platte Rectory: 605-337-3710 | frthomasclement@sfcatholic.org  
Director of Discipleship & Evangelization: Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff | Cell: 605-760-5295  
mwentzlaff@yanktonbenedictines.org  
Facilities Manager: Marty Royston | Cell: 605-770-2595 | facilities@holypostlessd.org  
Business Manager: Bailee Mogck | parkston@holypostlessd.org  
Administrative Assistant/Communications: JoNell DeHaan | office@holypostlessd.org

**Weekend Masses:**  
Saturday: 5pm (Dimock)  
Sunday: 9am (Parkston)  
11am (Armour)  
**Weekday Masses:**  
Tuesday: 5:30pm (Dimock)  
Wednesday: 8:30am (Parkston)  
11:30am (Armour)  
Thursday: 8:30am (Dimock)  
10am (Corsica-Nursing Home)  
Friday: 8:30am (Parkston)  
Saturday: 10am (Parkston-Bormann Manor)  
**Confessions:**  
Wednesday: 12-1pm (Armour)  
Friday: 12pm-12:45pm (Parkston)  
Saturday: 4pm-4:45pm (Dimock)  
Sunday: 8am-8:45am (Parkston)  
**Adoration:**  
Wednesday: 12pm-1pm (Armour)  
Friday: 9am-1pm (Parkston)

Welcome All New or Returning Parishioners!

If you are looking to become a Catholic or make the journey back home and need assistance with any of the Sacraments, please contact Fr Gary DeRouchey or Bailee in the office at 605-928-3676 to set up an appointment.

Sacraments

Baptism: Contact the pastor to schedule class and baptismal date.



Marriage: Contact the pastor at least six months before the proposed wedding date to begin marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick: If you are sick, in the hospital or are having a procedure, contact the pastor for anointing.

Connect with Us!

Find our bulletins online at [holypostlessd.org](#)  
Connect with us on Facebook at [Parkston and Dimock Catholic Community, Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Dimock, & St. Paul Apostle Church of Armour, South Dakota](#)  
Watch 5pm Saturday Mass on Santel Channel 916 & 9am Sunday Mass on Santel Channel 910 or stream Sunday Mass on YouTube [@sacredheartparkston](#)

SH Hall Rental: Parish Office, 928-3676  
SsPP Hall Rental: Kevin Murtha, 605-677-8666  
Parkston KC Hall Rental: Mike Thury, (H) 928-3562, (C)605-770-6440  
Sacred Heart Cemetery, Parkston & St. Mary’s Cemetery, Rural Parkston: Gregg Wagner, 605-505-0323, Rita Wagner, 605-770-0556  
Cathedral Cemetery, Tripp: Lynn Schoenfelder, 605-505-0178



DeRouchey’s Delight

Dear Faith Family,

This coming week, we are invited to observe Ember Days; however, how many of us know what Ember Days are? To assist, I found the following article on Ember Days from Maurisa Mayerle.

What are Ember Days?

Ember Days are commemorated four times a year over three days (Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday) and mark the changing of the four seasons. They are observed the weeks following the celebrations of:  
Saint Lucy’s Day for winter  
1st Sunday of Lent for spring  
Pentecost for summer  
The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross for fall

Holy Mother Church originally established Ember Days for us to focus upon God in His marvelous creation: giving Him thanks for the abundance He provides and asking His blessing upon the earth as we sow and reap in due season.

“To follow Ember Days is one of the most beautiful traditions of Holy Church. In the breadth of Tradition the cosmic calendar, that is the calendar of the earth that is independent from any kind of human observance, meets the liturgical calendar, the celebration of the mysteries of heaven in the midst of our life on earth.”

Historically Ember Days were utilized for priestly ordinations and 1st Holy Communions. Practices such as praying for priests, the holy souls in Purgatory, and almsgiving were especially encouraged. Because of their association with the seasons of the year, each set of Ember Days is devoted to giving thanks and asking God’s blessing upon some agricultural aspect of the season which is paired with a particular spiritual aspect:

- Winter for the olive harvest and in anticipation of the blessing of the holy oils used in anointing of the sick
- Spring for the flower harvest and in remembrance of our baptism
- Summer for the wheat harvest and in honor of the Holy Eucharist
- Fall for the grape harvest and in honor of the Most Precious Blood

How does one observe them? As a family, one can begin by adding Ember Day observances to their spiritual practices. Typically, one would fast and partially abstain as an offering of penance and with the intention of giving thanks to God for His providence in creation. Ember Wednesday and Ember Saturday one would observe the usual prescribed disciplinary fast of the church of two small meals and one larger meal, abstaining from meat except at the main meal. On Ember Friday both the fast and full abstinence are the rule.

“ . . . Ember Days no longer oblige one to fast and abstain. However, liturgical renewal and a deeper appreciation of the holy days of the Christian year result in a renewed appreciation as to why our ancestors spoke of a ‘fast before a feast’. There may be no great, imposed, universal fast before any feast any more, but . . . the devout will find great Christian joy in the feasts of the liturgical calendar if they freely bind themselves, for their own motives and their own spirit of piety to prepare for each Church festival by a day of particular self-denial, penitential prayer, and fasting.” — Father Christopher Gray’s homily

These days of prayer, fasting, and partial abstinence are purely voluntary but such a wonderful and fruitful discipline. In just a few days the Fall Ember Days will be upon us. I encourage you to join with your family in observing this beneficial tradition: fasting and praying for the good of the Church and giving thanks to God for the bounty He has provided us.

As I have driven around our parish area looking at the crops and gardens, I think we have so much to be thankful for to God for the bountiful harvest that He has provided. Additionally, we should be grateful for the beautiful gift of life in our children in our parishes. May we have a safe harvest.

In honor of Ember Days, I will extend a special blessing for harvest at the Friday 8:30am Mass on September 19<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart.

Calendar....  
There will be the commissioning of all trained Eucharistic Ministers and the blessing of all lectors during the weekend masses on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Those who attended training and are not able to be at the commissioning will still obtain their commission.

Our brown baggin’ Bible study at noon on Thursday is stollin’ through the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome to join.

Let Us Pray...

Please keep these individuals in your prayers at this time:

Quila Walz, Kathy Behrend, Marlene Buchholz, Jason Buchholz, Albin Brech, Don Fergen, Doug Bormann, Rosemarie Hafner, Tara Ziebart, Jan Eggers, John Reif, Jo Kirk, Ronda & Larry Wilson, Missy Jorgenson, Geneva Berg, Dave Weber Family, Brady Plucker, Ron Neugebauer, John Gilman, Steve Krsnak, Louie Ludwig, Mary Feiner, Mary Jane Zwinger, Mary Newcomer, Parker Holbeck, Marley Whitaker, Sherman Hilfiker, Scott Nice, Pat Boehmer, Dave Brech, Londa Krull Peters, Loren Schmidt, Sara (Kurtenbach) Sutton, Patty Viereck, Ron Dufek, Josie Trebil, Jill DeJong, Mary Reiff, Mike & Denise Royston, Dylan Ernster, Pat Tapp, Elaine Neugebauer, Alora Marsh, Mary Foley

If you would like to schedule a Mass for a loved one or add yourself or someone in your family to the prayer list, please contact your parish office. A stipend of \$10 for the scheduling of a Mass is appreciated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sacred Heart

SH Altar Society Band 2 will serve next funeral.  
Please check the kitchen for your missing bowls and pans! We appreciate your tasty donations, but do not have the room to store the containers. With the renovation coming up, any bowls or pans not picked up will be donated or thrown.  
Holy Cross/St. Mary’s Catholic United Financial is collecting items for the teachers at Parkston Elementary to use in their classrooms. There will be a box in the back of Sacred Heart and in the hall until Sept. 28th. Items being collected: any school supplies, hats, gloves and sweatpants etc. Thank you for helping us collect these items! Any questions, please contact Rose Walz.  
Coffee & Rolls after 8:30am Mass on Friday, Sept. 19th! All are welcome!  
SH Altar Society Meeting is Monday, Sept. 15th at 6pm in the big classroom in the education wing.

Sts. Peter & Paul

LOOKING AHEAD: The SsPP Altar Society Meal & Silent Auction is scheduled for Sat., Nov. 15th after Mass. The Altar Society is looking for donation items/baskets for the silent auction. Homemade crafts/baked goods were a hit last year! If you would like to donate, please contact Bev Weber at 605-770-1532 or Pat Sudbeck at 605-770-8863.

St. Paul the Apostle

Thank you for the many prayers and support. Baby Alora is improving, but still has a ways to go. God has been so good to us and we are so grateful. With love, Jonah & Jazman Marsh

Ladies, our SHE program will begin on Monday, Sept. 15th at Sacred Heart. Fellowship begins at 6pm with large group starting at 6:30pm and small group discussion to follow. The night concludes at 7:30pm. We invite any ladies back who were with us this spring, along with anyone new! We would love for you to join us. If you have any questions, please reach out to Dana Neugebauer.

Sacred Heart Religious Education News

- Religion times: 1st-4th grades from 5:30-6:45pm, 5th-12th grades from 7-8:15pm
- We are still searching for a 4th grade teacher! Teachers are provided with a teacher’s manual for our curriculum to assist them with their weekly lessons. Additional resources are available in the online portal. Different activities can be planned and approved throughout the year. If the Lord is calling you to serve or if you have any questions about teaching, please reach out to Bailee.
- Sacred Heart is also searching for a Director of Religious Ed to work alongside Father Gary to guide our teachers and youth through a successful year! If you are interested in the DRE position, would like to teach, or would like to be put on the substitute list, contact Fr. Gary or Bailee!



Tuesday, Sept 16th  
5:30pm(SsPP) - Monica Westhoff †  
Wednesday, Sept 17th  
8:30am(SH) - Theresa Sedlacek  
11:30am(SPA) - Shirley Reensch †  
Thursday, Sept 18th  
8:30am(SsPP) - Alvin & Adela Hohn †  
10:00(CNH) - Merle & LaVone Lofgren †  
Friday, Sept 19th  
8:30am(SH) - Fran & Celine Fergen †  
Saturday, Sept 20th  
10:00am(BM) - Brady Plucker  
5:00pm(SsPP) - Clarence & Marce Tiede †  
Sunday, Sept 21st  
9:00am(SH)-Norbert & MaryAnn Sommer†  
11:00am(SPA) - SPA, SH, & SsPP Parishioners

TMIY meets weekly on Monday mornings at 6am at Sacred Heart & on Wednesday evenings at 6:40pm the KC Hall. Any man, Catholic or non-Catholic looking to deepen their faith, is welcome to attend.

Holy Cross/St. Mary’s Catholic United Financial Council  
CCD Breakfast Fundraiser  
Time: 10 am – 12:00 pm  
Date: Sunday, Sept 21st, 2025  
FREE WILL DONATION  
French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Smokies, Fruit, Bars and Beverages  
Sacred Heart Parish Hall  
Main St., Parkston, SD  
Matching Funds by Catholic United Financial  
Sales Representative Jay Fritzscheimer (605)-999-2705 jfritzscheimer@catholicunited.org Catholic United Financial A Trusted Financial Life Brand