

• 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER •

MY LORD AND MY GOD!

GOSPEL MEDITATION: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.'" (John 20:27)

In my early 20s, I volunteered at a parish youth group. I witnessed teens encountering Jesus with a fresh, romantic wonder that reminded me of my own teenage conversion. But something had changed in me. I was quietly jaded and cynical. When teens shared stories of encountering Christ, I'd want to sarcastically murmur, "Well, good for you." I had grown suspicious of the zeal I once knew.

Then we brought the group on a pilgrimage. I was standing in an old church in France, ignoring a long-winded tour guide. I found myself before a crucifix. In that moment, I heard something, not audibly, but unmistakably in my heart: "I came to be your friend... and you wish to be my enemy? Why do you stand far from me? I suffer gladly for you. I was pierced for you. Why do you run from me?" My heart opened. I saw how cold and cynical I had become. But Jesus had not given up on me. He had returned, and his mercy broke through.

So I can relate to the scoffing — and transformation — of Thomas when the Risen Jesus presents his wounds for inspection. Thomas is not simply doubting; he is guarded, suspicious, even cynical. But Jesus comes to him. No lecture. Just understanding and mercy. He invites Thomas to touch his wounds. This burns away his cynicism like the morning mist.

Divine Mercy Challenge: This week, rejoice with someone who is newly alive in faith. If your own heart has grown skeptical or tired, ask Jesus to help you. He will.

— Father John Muir

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April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter

Holy Apostles Pastorate

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Bailee Mogck, Business Manager
parkston@holypostlessd.org

JoNell DeHaan,
Administrative Assistant/Communications
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St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
107 High Avenue SW (PO BOX 637), Wagner

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Catholic Church
416 Haines Street, Dante

St. Paul Catholic Church
102 Church DR (PO Box 266), Marty

**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 information & more!**

**Check out Holy Apostles Pastorate on
Facebook and Instagram!**



St. John's Parish Contact Information

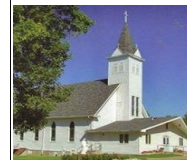
Rectory/Basement Kitchen 384-5518
CCD Center 384-5157
Bulletin:
Theresa Koupal 481-1565
dkoupal@hcinet.net
Prayer Chain:
Dorothy Holzbauer 491-2699
Parish Website: [https://
stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.weebly.com/](https://stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.weebly.com/)



St. Paul Parish Contact Information:

*Catholic Mission
of the
Yankton Sioux People*

St. Sylvester Convent 384-3305
Sister Miriam 384-3234
Prayer Chain
Alice Cournoyer 491-2453
Kateri Circle/Judy Pena 469-5755
Life/Rhonda Kuhlman 384-4257
Faith Formation
Cathy Kreeger 384-3234
Amy Doom 469-5797



Assumption Parish Contact Information:

Rectory 384-5518
Church/CCD Center 384-5155
Bulletin:
Danielle Krcil 491-2202
daniellekrcil@gmail.com
Prayer Chain:
Cindy Krcil 384-3585
Marilee Krcil 286-3907

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Speaking of our risen Lord, the First Letter of John (1:3) says, "What we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you..." Our faith rests, in part, on the credibility of others who pass it on and may even give their life for it. If we ourselves are living lives of integrity, genuineness and self-giving, it may be easier to recognize that there are others who also are such. And thus rest assured that there are voices in which we can place great trust. Our Lord offers many other 'signs' from the marvel of the works of his hands to the little details in life that we realize are more than just mere coincidence. How sweet indeed to my palate, Lord, is all the good that you show me!

I've been going every other year to the priest conference put on by Scott Hahn and colleagues; I'm gone to it this week Mon-Thurs near Austin, TX. We rejoice with five First Communicants at Marty today; next Sunday with both Wagner and Dante youth. In the Anointing of the Sick following Dante's Mass and at Wagner's Mercy Hour today (and after Marty Mass next Sunday), we receive the grace of God our healer where health has been significantly threatened or harmed. Like gentle spring rains, Lord of life, fill us with your gifts!

Fr. Jim


CRADLE CATHOLICS CLASS
Wednesday, April 15
6:00 p.m.
St. John's Church Basement

PRAYING AMIDST GRIEF
With Father James Mason
This beautiful evening, featuring Father James Mason, will include presentations on how to find Jesus in grief and guidance on how to pray in the darkest moments. There will be space for prayerful reflection along with piano accompaniment. Please join us on Wednesday, July 15, starting at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, 1501 W 26th Street, Sioux Falls. Register to ensure enough materials are created for each participant. There is no cost to attend, however, a free-will donation will gladly be accepted. For more information, please call 605-988-3775 or visit <https://thelourdescenter.com/events/praying-amidst-grief-w-father-james-mason>



CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Friday, April 17
1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's
Saturday, April 18
4:30 p.m. - St. John's
Sunday, April 19
8:15 a.m. - Assumption



HAPPY ORDINATION DAY

UPCOMING EVENTS
Transitional Diaconate Ordination
May 28
11 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls
Priestly Ordination
May 29
11 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls



May God bless these young people of St. Paul's parish, Marty, as they receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 12. May God also bless their parents and their faith formation teacher, Cathy Kreeger, for guiding these young people on their faith journey!

- Emsley Kuhlman,
Daughter of Jeff & Rhonda Kuhlman
- Mackson Kuhlman,
Son of Jason Kuhlman & Lindsey Nedved
- Sahveya Kuhlman,
Daughter of Jeff & Rhonda Kuhlman
- Skya Tuttle,
Daughter of Jordan Tuttle & Laken Nedved



Please keep the following in your thoughts & prayers: Mary Hurd, Brenda George, Joe Nedved, Keith Kuca, Sylvia Beeson, Waylon Koupal (infant son of Tyler & Tayleigh Koupal), Eleanor Andersh, Joe Morrison. Contact Theresa Koupal if you would like a name added to (or taken off) the list. Names of those on the list are also added to the daily Rosary intention list at St. John's.

THIS WEEK ON FORMED: APRIL 12

- ◆ Divine Mercy Chaplet: Franciscan Friars of the Renewal
- ◆ Pope John Paul II
- ◆ Divine Mercy with Father Michael Gaitley




MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	April 13	Easter Weekday/ St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr	NO MASS
Tuesday	April 14	Easter Weekday	NO MASS
Wednesday	April 15	Easter Weekday	NO MASS
Thursday	April 16	Easter Weekday	NO MASS
Friday	April 17	Easter Weekday	10:00 a.m. - GSC 1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's	Janis Nedved † Dorothy Paulis †
Saturday	April 18	Vigil of the Third Sunday of Easter	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Larry Geaghan †
Sunday	April 19	Third Sunday of Easter	9:00 a.m. - Assumption 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Alan Giles † Michael Hanan

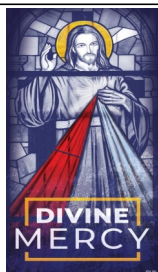
FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!

The local food pantries are in need of donations of non-perishable food items as well as personal care items (body wash, shampoo, laundry detergent). Parishioners of all parishes are asked to leave their donations in the containers in the entryways of their churches. The ROCS Community 15Closet is also in need of children's and men's clothes. Clothes can be dropped off at the Community Closet. Thank you, in advance, for your generous donations to this worthy cause!



DAYS OF RECOLLECTION AT BROOM TREE
April 14 - Directed by Father Kristopher Cowles
"Apparitions of Mary: Her Impact, Then and Now"
May 5 - Directed by Father Nick Haiar
"Lectio Divina: Hearing God's Voice in the Scriptures"

Beginning at 10am and ending at 3pm, these day-long retreats consist of two conferences and Mass as well as built in time for Adoration and an opportunity for Confession. Lunch is provided. The value of these retreats is \$50/person. We invite retreatants to prayerfully make a donation in response to graces received.



**DIVINE MERCY SERVICE/
ANOIDNTING OF THE SICK**
Sunday, April 12
3:00 p.m.
St. John's



DIVINE MERCY BLESSING

Dear Jesus,
May your mercy flow over us, filling our gaps and healing our wounds. Open our hearts more deeply with knowledge of your love for us, understanding of the depth of your passion, and trust in your never-ending mercy. Amen.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

"Serve the Lord with gladness"

- Psalm 100

Saturday, April 18
5:30 p.m. -
St. John's

Sunday, April 19
9:00 a.m. -
Assumption

Sunday, April 19
11:00 a.m. -
St. Paul's

EM	Mieke Slaba/ Jim Thornton	Danielle Krcil	Alice
Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Matt Slaba	Danielle Krcil	Cathy/ Sr. Miriam/ Sr. Pat
Altar Servers	Jessica Barnett/ Cooper Slaba/ Aveleigh Slaba	Trent Uchytil/ Josiah Krcil/ Lane Koupal	Ridge/ Bladen
Music	Kim Soukup	Pam Roth	
Ushers	Gene Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Jim Eggers	Greg Krcil/ Ross Beeson	Bennett/ Bain
Greeters	Jeff & Julie Doom		Judy
Gift Bearers	First Communicants	First Communicants	Chris & Karen D.
Rosary	Ray & Bonnie Soukup		
Sacristan	Jim Thornton		
Collection Counters	Karen Kuhlman/ Fran Kocer	Greg Krcil/ Ross Beeson	Dave/ Jason



Please keep the following young people from our three parishes in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare to be confirmed on Sunday, April 26, at St. John's.



St. Paul's, Marty

Teacher: Amy Doom

Bennett Kuhlman, Son of Jeff & Rhonda Kuhlman
Braxton Nedved, Daughter of Jordan Tuttle & Laken Nedved
Eli Marshall, Son of Riley & Amy Reiff
Emma Kreeger, Daughter of Chad & Cathy Kreeger
Leo Mendoza, Son of Cecilia Mendoza
Ryann Langdeaux, Daughter of George & Tana Langdeaux

St. John's, Wagner

Teacher: Jamie Soukup

Jessica Barnett, Daughter of Judy & the Late Jerry Barnett
Brianna Fuchs, Daughter of Curt & Sherri Fuchs
Hannah Holzbauer, Daughter of John & Stacy Holzbauer
Paxton Kuhlman, Son of Paul & Jessica Kuhlman
Ravyn Medricky, Daughter of Mike & Miranda Medricky
Taya Stone, Daughter of Tim & Tammy Stone

Assumption, Dante

Teacher: Mike Beeson

Radek Kotab, Son of David & Ericka Kotab
Kadon Mixon, Son of Shawn & Penny Mixon
Easton Sees, Son of Joe & Janelle Sees
Dashel Smejkal, Son of Shawn & Donna Smejkal
Katherine Swier, Daughter of Scott & Theresa Swier

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

High School Seniors: The deadline for submitting applications for the Knights of Columbus Scholarship is May 1. Seniors are asked to contact Theresa Koupal or Jamie Soukup to have a copy of the scholarship application emailed to them. Completed applications must be emailed to Jamie Soukup by May 1.

ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION

Amount Needed Each Week	\$2750.00
Holy Thursday	\$1471.00
Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$ 458.00
Easter Vigil	\$1205.00
Children's Collection	\$ 3.00
Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amounts were also received:	
Steubenville Registrations	\$1800.00
Votive Candle Offerings	\$ 67.00
Rice Bowls *	\$ 427.00
*Does not include coins from the Rice Bowls. Coins will be counted by CSB and reported in next weekend's bulletin.	

ALTAR SOCIETY: HELP NEEDED!

Helpers will be needed to assist with serving and cleaning up after the First Communion meal on Saturday, April 18. Our parish is hosting Confirmation for the parishes in our pastorate on Sunday, April 26. Altar Society will need people to provide cookies and bars for the reception after the Confirmation Mass. Help will also be needed to serve/clean up. Contact Lynne Doom, 491-5966, if you can help!
Parishioners are invited to join the First Communicants and their families for supper in the church basement following the First Communion Mass!

ST. JOHN'S CFSA UPDATE

Donations/Pledges Received: \$34,242(112.3%)
Goal Exceeded By: \$3,742
Level of Parish Participation: 32.4%
The \$3742 remains in the parish (as will additional donations received) without being counted/considered as parish income. Thank you to those who have already submitted your pledges and donations! If you have not already donated, your donation will increase our level of participation as well as the amount to remain in the parish.



Please keep the following young people in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for to receive their First Holy Communion next week:



St. John's, Wagner - Saturday, April 18

Teachers: Judy Barnett, Matt & Mieke Slaba

- Slider Davies,
- Son of Josh & Jennifer Davies
- Kenna Hanan,
- Daughter of Mick & Kara Hanan
- Owen Kuhlman,
- Son of Chase & Erin Kuhlman
- Chloe Payer,
- Daughter of Clay & Traci Payer
- Maci Soukup,
- Daughter of Ryan Soukup & Taylor Fischer
- Lalena Turner,
- Daughter of
- Daughter of Russell Turner, Jr.
- Jentry Wiechmann,
- Son of Josh & Lindsey Wiechmann
- Assumption, Dante - Sunday, April 19**
- Teacher: Danielle Krcil
- Kolt LaVern Koupal,
- Son of Derek & Kristi Koupal
- Naomi Josephine Krcil,
- Daughter of Andrew & Andrea Krcil
- Grace Uchytill,
- Daughter of Adam & Julie Uchytill



ASSUMPTION PARISH DANTE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, April 12
Following 9:00 a.m. Mass
Assumption CCD Center
Serving Tyndall Bakery rolls, coffee and juice. Free will donation. All are welcome!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/ FIRST HOLY COMMUNION LUNCH

Assumption Parish Dante will be celebrating First Holy Communion at our 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 19th, 2026. The parish is welcome to join us for lunch following and celebrate this special day.

WAGNER COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, April 14
Noon to 5:30 p.m.
Wagner Fire Hall

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant to our young people the generosity necessary to follow Your call and the courage to overcome all obstacles to their vocation in life. Give their parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. Let Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young people and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.

Please pray for our priests and for an increase in vocations!

The Body & Blood of Christ





Happy Birthday to these parishioners who will celebrate birthdays this week:

April 13: Jarred Niehus (SJ); April 14: Susan Fuchs (SJ); April 15: Theodore Fennema (A), Donna Stastny (SJ), Pam Kocer (SJ); April 16: Sheridan Smejkal; April 17: Juliann Tolsma (A), Brett Kuca, Norma Soulek (SJ); April 18: Josie Rezac (A); April 19: Camden Roth (A), Mick Hanan (SJ), Connor Hanan (SJ).

Also, Happy Birthday to any St. Paul's parishioners who celebrate birthdays this week!



Happy Anniversary to these couples who will celebrate wedding anniversaries this week:

April 14: Allen & Linda Kocmich (A); April 17: Jim & Mary Lukkes (A).

Also, Happy Anniversary to any St. Paul's parishioners who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week!

Readings for the Week of April 12, 2026

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31
 Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
 Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/1 Pt 1:17-21/
 Lk 24:13-35

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DAYS OF RECOLLECTION AT ABBEY OF THE HILLS

April 14 - Directed by Father Michael Petersen
 "The Spirit of Reverence in the Rule of Saint Benedict"
 May 12 - Directed by Father Andrew Thuringer
 "An Open Heart, the Prerequisite for Prayer"
 June 9 - Directed by Deacon Mike McKeown
 "Learning to Live in the Divine Will"
 July 14 - TBD
 August 11 - Directed by Dr. Michael Moran
 "Who Is the Man of the Shroud of Turin?"
 September 8 - TBD

PRAYER FOR EASTER

Blessed be God who has triumphed over the grave!
 Our Lord is victorious! Alleluia, alleluia! May the joy of Easter fill every part of our lives! Amen.

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**LOOKING AHEAD
Monday, April 12**

NO MASS
 Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's
Tuesday, April 13

NO MASS
 Book Study at 4:00 p.m. at St. John's
 Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's

Wednesday, April 15

NO MASS
 Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's
 Student Night at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's
 First Communion Rehearsal at 6:45 p.m. at Assumption

Thursday, April 16

NO MASS
 Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's

Friday, March April 17

Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Good Samaritan Center
 Confessions at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's
 Mass at 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's
 Adoration at 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's
 Benediction at 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's
 Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's

Saturday, April 18

Confessions at 4:30 p.m. at St. John's
 Daily Rosary at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's
 Mass at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's/First Communion Reception Following

Sunday, April 19

Confessions at 8:15 a.m. at Assumption
 Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Assumption/First Communion Lunch Following
 Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's/Anointing of the Sick Following



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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Question:

Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?

Answer:

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

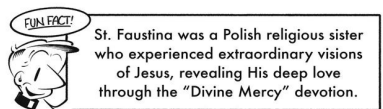
Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young women, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come."

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"Which saint would most likely join Jesus for afternoon tea?"



"St. Faus-TEA-na."



St. Faustina was a Polish religious sister who experienced extraordinary visions of Jesus, revealing His deep love through the "Divine Mercy" devotion.

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