

GOSPEL MEDITATION: 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

During my baseball career, my best coach often said, "You shouldn't be worried if I yell at you. Be worried if I don't. If I stop pushing you, it means I don't think you have any more potential." He demanded a lot, and I knew it meant he saw that I could be something special on the baseball field.

Jesus says some demanding words to us this week. "Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth?" he asks, "No, tell you, but rather division" (Luke 12:51). He wants you and me—in fact, all the earth—to participate in the luminous glory of God. That's why he speaks of himself as a divine arsonist. Divine fire is like a good coach: it demands the removal of all that obstructs the achievement of the lofty goal.

How is your life demanding right now? That inconvenient family situation, the unfair boss at work, the kids who reject their parents' wishes, the nagging health issue? Maybe things would be more peaceful devoid of these seemingly arbitrary difficulties. But for us who believe in the one who comes to set the earth of fire, we should be much more worried if he stops demanding so much from us. In fact, let's thank him for it. He sees how glorious we can become.

— Father John Muir

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*Holy
Apostles*

August 17, 2025
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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
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Prayer Chain:
Dorothy Holzbauer 491-2699
Parish Website: <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
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Cathy Kreeger 384-3234
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Assumption Parish **Contact Information:**

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Church/CCD Center 384-5155
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Cindy Krcil 384-3585
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Dear Parishioners and Friends,

"How I wish it were already blazing!" The so very sudden death of my brother-in-law from ALS or the demands, frustrations and problems of our world are an occasion and invitation for us to look to the Lord and more fervently pray for the coming of the Kingdom. "We're called to be saints - don't miss the opportunity," I think is how Mother Angelica used to say it. Our readings this weekend show the persecution of Jeremiah, a pep-talk in the second reading, and Jesus' painful awareness that faithfulness to

him would be a matter that would even divide families. With burning devotion and faith, let us be united in choosing always God as #1.

I was unable to come to Dante's Harvest Fest; I prayed all went well. In Marty the steeple repair is underway (or more like 80' up!). Wagner Altar Society meets on Tuesday at 5:30. In all parishes, we'll have a special 'student/backpack blessing' at the end of all the Masses next weekend.

Peace,
Fr. Jim

THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Question:

Why do we have a feast for the Queenship of Mary?

Answer:

For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn't rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence. We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king's mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary's guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is "full of grace" and "blessed" in "all ages" because of the reign of her Son.

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MERCY HOUR

Sunday, August 24
3:00 p.m.
St. John's
Catholic Church



Heartfelt sympathies to the family & friends of Michael Koch, brother-in-law of Fr. Jim. Michael died on Tuesday, August 12, after a recent diagnosis of ALS. His funeral Mass was prayed on Friday, August 15, at St. Michael Catholic Church in Sioux City, with burial in Memorial Park Cemetery.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 20

4:15 p.m. - St. John's

Friday, August 22

1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's

Saturday, August 23

4:30 p.m. - St. John's

Sunday, August 24

8:15 a.m. - Assumption

3:00 p.m. - St. John's

(Mercy Hour)

THIS WEEK ON FORMED: AUGUST 17

- ♦ Saint Bernard of Clairvaux: Catholic Saints
- ♦ The Queen Mother /Lectio: Mary/ Episode 4
- ♦ Mary, Queen of Heaven: Brother Francis

Please keep the following in your thoughts & prayers: Mary Hurd, Rick Hurd, Brenda George, Joe Nedved, Keith Kuca, Sylvia Beeson, Jay Swatek. Contact Theresa Koupal if you would like a name added to the list. Names of those on the list are also added to the daily Rosary intention list at St. John's.



ST. PIUS X

St. Pius X (1835 – 1914), born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, was from the Austrian Empire in what is now modern-day Veneto, Italy. He was the 257th Pope and served from 1903 until his death in 1914. St. Pius X's love for the Eucharist was evident from a young age and he carried this devotion throughout his life. As Pope, he emphasized the importance of fostering a personal relationship with Jesus through the Sacrament, advocating for its accessibility to all Catholics, regardless of social status. One of St. Pius X's most significant contributions to the Church was the role he played in lowering the age of eligibility for First Communion.

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MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	August 18	Monday of the 20 th Week in Ordinary Time	NO MASS
Tuesday	August 19	Tuesday of the 20 th Week in Ordinary Time/ Saint John Eudes, Priest	NO MASS
Wednesday	August 20	Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Bonnie Novak †
Thursday	August 21	Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope	8:30 a.m. - St. John's	Jerry Barnett †
Friday	August 22	Memorial of the Queenship of Mary	1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's	Dorothy Paulis †
Saturday	August 23	Saturday of the 20 th Week in Ordinary Time/ St. Rose of Lima, Virgin/Blessed Virgin Mary	9:00 a.m. - Marty Convent	Margie Pavin †
		Vigil of the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Jeanne Soulek †
Sunday	August 24	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Joe H. & Agnes Krcil †
			11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Jack Kuhlman †

HELD: GRIEF THROUGH GRACE

This eight-week grief series will begin Tuesday, Sept. 9, from 6-8 p.m. at the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in Sioux Falls. The series will blend education and faith surrounding the loss of a loved one through death. Each session will allow for small group discussion according to your particular loss (loss of a child, spouse, parent, sibling). Registration is required. Free-will donations accepted. Register online at thelourdescenter.com or call (605) 988-3775 for more information

31ST ANNUAL BISHOP'S CHARITY HUNT

Monday & Tuesday, September 15-16

Horseshoe K Lodge, Kimball

The event includes guided hunt with transportation, breakfasts & dinners on Sunday & Monday, on Monday & Tuesday, social on Sunday & Monday with open bar/unlimited heavy appetizers, one (1) night lodging, trap shoot, lunch in the field, bird cleaning, Mass with Bishop DeGrood.. To register or become a sponsor, please visit <https://ccfesd.org/events/bishops-charity-hunt/> Proceeds benefit Newman Catholic Campus Ministry in our Diocese.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!


Our 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 Closet 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!


RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION

The 54th Annual South Dakota Right to Life convention will be held September 26-27 at Faith Evangelical Lutheran church in Pierre. There is also a youth event on Saturday, September 27 for middle school and high school students. Register at sdrighttolife.org.


BROOM TREE DAYS OF RECOLLECTION

August 19 – "Mary: the Embodiment of God's Tenderness," directed by Fr. Nick Haiar; September 16 – "Devotion to the Holy Face," directed by Dr. Teri Kemmer; October 14 – "Pro Sanctity: Holiness in Everyday Life," directed by Jackie Sempek; November 11 – TBD, directed by Dr. Chris Burgwald; December 9 – TBD, directed by Fr. Tom Anderson.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE				LOOKING AHEAD Monday, August 18		
<div><div>"Serve the Lord with gladness"</div><div>- Psalm 102</div></div>	Saturday, August 23 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, August 24 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, August 24 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	NO MASS Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Tuesday, August 19		
	EM	Gene Niehus/ Barb Johannsen	Volunteer	Alice	NO MASS Daily Rosary at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's Altar Society Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Wednesday, August 20	
	Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Kim Soukup	Julie Uchtyl	Tana/ Sr. Miriam/ Georgia	Adoration & Confessions at 4:15 PM at St. John's Mass at 5:00 PM at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following Thursday, August 21	
	Altar Servers	Hannah Holzbauer/ Luke Holzbauer/ Rachel Holzbauer/ Jacob Holzbauer/ Jordyn Kirwan	Ethan Blaha/ Logan Blaha	Nariah/ Tegan	Morning Prayer at 8:10 a.m. at St. John's Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following Friday, August 22	
	Music	Halie Kirwan/ Kara Hanan	Emily Walloch		Mass at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Adoration & Confessions at 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Benediction at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's Benediction at 4:45 p.m. at St. Paul's Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Saturday, August 23	
	Ushers	Jim Eggers/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Dean Abdouch	Matt Hill/ Jaxton Hill	Riley/ Jeff	Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Marty Convent 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 Sunday, August 24	
	Greeters	Dorothy Holzbauer		Mary Jo	Confessions at 8:15 AM at Assumption Mass at 9:00 AM at Assumption Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Mercy Hour (with Adoration & Confessions) at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's	
	Gift Bearers	Jamie & Charlene Soukup Family	Charles Roth Family	Jason, Lindsey, & Family		
	Rosary	Ray & Bonnie Soukup				
	Sacristan	Ray Soukup				
Collection Counters	Paul Eggers/ Karol Kniffen	Charles Roth/ Adam Uchtyl	Sr. Miriam/ Emma			
				<div></div> STUDENT BACKPACK BLESSINGS After Masses on Saturday, August 23 & Sunday, August 24		
				WITH PRAISE & THANKSGIVING We thank the Lord for Bishop DeGrood's return to good health and for his return to the Diocese and his duties as our Bishop! Thank you to Bishop Kettler who served as Apostolic Administrator during Bishop DeGrood's absence. We rejoice in the goodness of God!		

ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00 August 9 \$2335.00 <i>Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amount was also received:</i> Earmarked Donation \$ 50.00	ST. PAUL'S MY PARISH APP St. Paul's parishioners who have smart phones or tablets are encouraged to use the My Parish app, which comes to parishioners FREE. To download the app, simply text App to 55321. This will give you access to Mass changes, faith formation updates, and the ministry assignment list. Please pick up the cards that contain download information - the cards can be picked up in the church entryway.	<div><div></div><div>NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL EXPERIENCE</div><div>The Notre Dame Football Experience offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for fans of Notre Dame Football to travel to South Bend, Indiana, and attend a Notre Dame Football game in person. There are two chances to win—each offering an incredible experience! Both packages are nearly identical and include: Round-trip flights on a private jet for four guests Four game tickets with seats on or near the 50-yard line Exclusive tailgating at the stadium A private guided tour of the Notre Dame campus All meals and beverages provided throughout the day The drawing will be held on September 11 (you do not need to be present to win). A similar package will be auctioned off. To purchase a raffle ticket or learn more about the auction, call 605-988-3701 or visit www.ccfesd.org. Proceeds benefit the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House.</div></div>
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<div><div>FAMILY FUN DAY</div><div>SAVE THE DATE!! St. John's Family Fun Day Sunday, September 28 St. John's Catholic Church Food - Games - Music - Fun! Watch bulletins for more information!</div></div>	<div><div>Happy Birthday to these Assumption parishioners who will celebrate birthdays this week: August 20: Ashley Koupal, Sarah Koupal, Tanner Krcil, Beau Tolsma; August 23: Julie Powers, Jennifer Leibel; August 24: Jim Nedved, Christi Frank.</div><div><div>Happy Anniversary to these Assumption couples who will celebrate birthdays this week: August 18: Adam & Julie Uchtyl; August 20: Tyler & McKayla Krcil, Roger & Jessica Cihak; August 22: Keith & Cindy Kuca; August 23: Lavern & Marcella Rezac.</div><div><div>DANTE HARVEST FESTIVAL The Harvest Festival chairpersons would like to extend a very sincere "Thank You" to all of the parishioners and non-parishioners for their donations, hard work, and dedication. Thanks to all of you, the Annual Harvest Festival was another great success!! Steven & Taylor Koupal Angela Deurmier</div></div></div></div>
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<div><div></div><div>TEACHERS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Teachers and volunteers needed to help with the CCD program at Assumption Parish. Contact Norma Beeson 605-491-2961 for details.</div></div>	<div><div>29TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL SAVE THE DATE! DECEMBER 18-21, 2025 CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH 521 N DULUTH AVENUE SIOUX FALLS, SD</div></div>
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ST. ROSE OF LIMA

Born Isabel Flores de Olivia in April 1586 in Lima, Peru to Spanish colonists, Saint Rose of Lima took the name Rose at her confirmation in 1597. Legend holds that she received this nickname as an infant because a servant saw her face transformed into a rose.

Even as a child Saint Rose was dedicated to Christ. Growing up she made many secret penances. And when she was old enough to be married, deterred suitors by cutting off her hair and rubbing pepper on face to make it blister. She took a vow of chastity even though her parents wished her to marry. She fasted many times a week and permanently abstained from meat.

Eventually her parents gave in and allowed her to join the Third Order of St. Dominic, although she was not permitted to live in a convent. Saint Rose undertook severe penances, allowing herself only two hours of sleep a night in order to have more time to pray, wearing a heavy silver crown with spikes on the inside imitating Christ's crown of thorns, and even burning her own hands. However, she also cared for the sick and hungry, and sold her beautiful embroidery and fine lace, as well as flowers she grew to help raise funds for the poor.

She died at the age of 31 on August 24, 1617. Pope Clement X canonized her in 1671, she was the first saint of the New World, born in the Americas. Saint Rose of Lima is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines (and the Wagner - Dante Catholic Daughter Court).

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SAVE THE DATE: ABBEY ANNUAL FALL BANQUET

October 29

Coach John Stiegelmeier (Coach Stig), the winningest head coach at SDSU is the Keynote Speaker for the evening. For more information regarding purchasing tickets and sponsorships, visit [ABBAY FALL BANQUET | The Abbey](https://abbeyofthehills.networkforgood.com/events/89779-women-s-healing-retreat-just-as-i-am), or, call Margaret 605-398-9200. You can also email margaretartz@abbeyofthehills.org.

WOMEN'S HEALING RETREAT: JUST AS I AM

Join the Lourdes Center Staff at the Abbey for a healing retreat for women September 5-7. All women 18 years and older are invited to encounter God's love, at the beautiful Abbey of the Hills. Registration is open now. Cost is a suggested donation of \$315; however, no one will be turned away for inability to pay. To register, visit <https://abbeyofthehills.networkforgood.com/events/89779-women-s-healing-retreat-just-as-i-am> or for more information call 605-398-9200.

WEEKLY READINGS: WEEK OF AUGUST 17

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53
Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS A STEWARD'S GROWING PAINS

Have you ever written a check or seen the charge on the credit card machine that had far too many zeros on it for your comfort?

The brakes finally give up on the car you were hoping to nurse through the season. The water heater dies on the coldest week of the year. A medical procedure wasn't totally covered by insurance. We've all been here in this place, being asked to part with a not-so-small sum of money for a not-so-fun reason.

It's a little easier to bear when you're forking over dollar signs for a fun vacation or even a worthy cause like your child's education. But when it's something you weren't expecting, something negative, that uneasiness in the pit of your stomach can quickly become despair.

The next time this happens to you, embrace it. Celebrate it. Wrap your arms around it and welcome it as a growing pain.

We are often asked, in life, to give more than we wish. Our loved ones demand greater patience than we think we have. Our prayer life is stalling, and we feel God isn't holding up His end of the communication bargain. The daily grind seems to be grinding us down. We feel that uneasiness in the pit of our stomach, just as we do when we part with money we thought belonged solely to us.

That place of uncertainty propels us in life, in stewardship, in relationship. All forward motion comes from that feeling. Put out your hands and let yourself be thrust into the pit — He will stoop to take you out from the mud. Spread your arms on your cross — joy is waiting for you.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE: THE FIRE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

This past week I have been reading a biography of St. Francis of Assisi. I admit I didn't know much about Francis going into the book, but I always had this image of him as a hippie — an easygoing nature-lover who sang about peace and let animals climb on him.

I'm not sure where that caricature of Francis came from, but since I've been reading this book I've come to see that it's not true at all. He was a lover of nature, yes. A poet who sang of God's peace, yes. And I'm sure he let a few animals climb on him from time to time (he did live in a hut in the woods).

But St. Francis of Assisi wasn't the lost fourth member of Peter, Paul and Mary. He was a man on fire. He was a man burning.

Francis walked around barefoot and slept on the ground. He abandoned a life of wealth to embrace the material poverty that Christ experienced. He embarrassed his family and they disowned him. When his father would encounter Francis in the streets of Assisi, he would curse him.

Sometimes we get this idea that Christianity is a comfortable, cozy thing. We give our lives to Christ, and we expect to feel instantly satisfied, happy, safe and warm. But the saints knew better.

The saints knew that Christ had not come to wrap us in a warm blanket. Christ has come to set us on fire. And though fire is often seen as a sign of death and destruction, it is also the precursor of new life.

Think of a field of native plants and how it benefits so richly from a controlled burn — an action that clears away detritus and releases nutrients back into the soil.

If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes?

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PLEASE NOTE!

The Wagner-Dante Catholic Daughters will serve the Fellowship Meal at the Methodist Church on Thursday, August 28. Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!



Catholic Daughters
of the Americas®