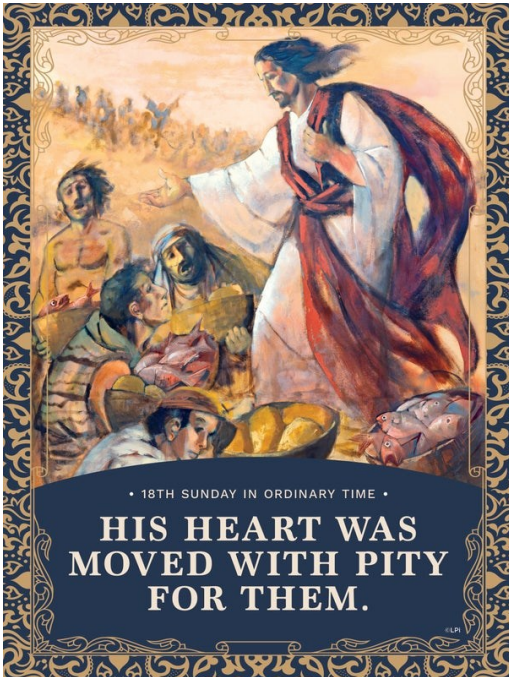




GOSPEL MEDITATION: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In his song, "Lose Yourself," the artist Eminem raps, "the mood all changed."

We all know that moment when the mood changes, when life turns from lighthearted to deadly serious. That happens in today's Gospel. Jesus has just heard that John the Baptist, his cousin, forerunner, and friend, has been murdered. As Matthew tells us, "When Jesus heard of it, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself." Until now, he had been teaching in parables and healing quietly. But John's death signals a new phase. The shadow of the Cross begins to fall. Evil shows its teeth.

And how does Jesus respond? Not with rage or despair. He goes to a lonely place to go into deep communion with his Father. From that silence comes action. He feeds the multitude. Out of grief comes generosity. Out of sorrow, life.

This is the rhythm of every disciple's life. When tragedy or violence breaks our hearts, we face a choice. We can react, or we can retreat into prayer — like and with Christ. This is the hidden place where pain becomes compassion and compassion becomes self-gift.

Lord Jesus, when life intensifies, draw me into Your quiet strength. In that hidden place with You and the Father, turn my heartbreak into the bread of love for the world. Amen.

- Father John Muir

©LPi



August 2, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Apostles Pastorate

Fr. Thomas Clement, Pastor
605-337-3710
Email Address:
frthomasclement@sfcatholic.org

Fr. Jim Friedrich, Parochial Vicar
384-5518 or 605-933-9042
Email Address:
frjimfriedrich@sfcatholic.org
Parish Office: 384-5518
Email Address:
wagner@holypostlessd.org

Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff, OSB
Director of Discipleship & Evangelization
605-760-5295
mwentzlaff@yanktonbenedictines.org

Marty Royston, Facilities Manager
facilities@holypostlessd.org/605-770-2595

Bailee Mogck, Business Manager
parkston@holypostlessd.org

JoNell DeHaan,
Administrative Assistant/Communications
office@holypostlessd.org

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/>



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,

We warmly welcome back Fr. Clement this weekend; Dante specially welcomes Fr. Paul Sykora celebrating 50 years of priesthood! May the witness of 50 years proclaim the answer to St. Paul's question today: "What will separate us from the love of God?" Not anguish or distress, not famine or peril, not death or life - no creature can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Only our own free will choosing sin can shut the door to God's love. The lives of the saints who gave their lives rather than sin can inspire us!

At Wagner's children's collection children will meet Mr. Mac & Cheese, putting their donation in his mouth! I'm asking all Dante members to nominate a new council member on the legal-size sheet in the entry and return it by Aug 9 or 16. Marty Faith Formation is

looking forward to an opening Mass next Wed. Aug. 12th. I will be taking in an AI presentation by the Diocese this Tuesday, Aug 4th, the feast of St. John Vianney, patron of rural pastors; I ask his prayers for this. God's blessings on Michael & Keely (Bares) Zylstra.

Fr. Jim



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, Miko Kotab,

Konnor Deurmier, Dustin Scheuffele, Roger Cuka, Jennifer Wiley. 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: AUGUST 2

- ◆ The Transfiguration: Sacred Art
- ◆ The Curé of Ars: St. John Vianney
- ◆ Saint Alphonsus Liguori: Catholic Saints

Remember that you can watch FORMED for FREE! Visit www.formed.org to sign in or set up an account or download the FORMED app on your smart phone or tablet.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 5
4:15 p.m. - St. John's
Friday, August 7
1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's
Saturday, August 8
4:30 p.m. - St. John's
Sunday, August 9
8:15 a.m. - Assumption

**CRADLE
CATHOLICS CLASS**
Wednesday, August 19
6:00 p.m.
St. John's Church
Basement

**WELCOME,
FATHER TOM
& FATHER PAUL!**

MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	August 3	Monday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Tuesday	August 4	Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest	5:30 p.m. - Assumption	Dorothy Dixon †
Wednesday	August 5	Wednesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time/ The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	For Our Country
Thursday	August 6	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord	10:00 a.m. - GSC	Lisa Durham †
Friday	August 7	Friday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time/ Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs/ Saint Cajetan, Priest/First Friday Mass	1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's	OSBS Relatives & Friends †
Saturday	August 8	Vigil of the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Bonnie Novak †
Sunday	August 9	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00 a.m. - Assumption 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Wesley & Elsie Kocer † Dorothy Paulis †



SAFE ENVIRONMENT RENEWAL TIME

On July 1, 2026, all members of the diocese who are required to be compliant with the Safe Environment Policy (all clergy, religious, employees, as well as those whose ministry serves minors or vulnerable adults) are required to renew their compliance. Click the link below to login to CMG Connect and renew your compliance. For all those who periodically minister (like religious education catechists or Catholic school staff), they must be compliant BEFORE they are in ministry or are active in their employment. Login to CMG Connect and renew your compliance - <https://siouxfalls.cmgconnect.org>. If you need help completing your Safe Environment compliance, contact your local safe environment coordinator.

BROOM TREE DAYS OF RECOLLECTION August 25

The Penitent Lifestyle
Directed by Archbishop Gullickson
September 22
TBD, Directed by Father Jim Mason
October 13

Gratitude: The Gift that Keeps on Giving
Directed by Father Joe Vogel

These day-long retreats run from 10 am to 3 pm and include two conferences, Mass, built-in time for Adoration, and an opportunity for Confession. Lunch is provided. The value of these retreats is \$50/person.

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!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

Tuesday, August 4
7:00 p.m.
St. John's Church
Basement

CDA BINGO AT WAGNER GSC

Thursday, August 20
3:00 p.m.

GSC Dining Room

Members of our parishes are invited to assist the Catholic Daughters with BINGO at the Wagner Good Samaritan Center (helping residents watch their cards, handing out prizes). Any and all help would be appreciated - by the Catholic Daughters and by the nursing home residents!

33RD ANNUAL BISHOP'S CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, August 17, 2026

Minnehaha Country Club - and - The Country Club of Sioux Falls
The Bishop's Cup is the longest-running Bishop's Charity event for our diocese. Established in 1994, this event is held in August of each year on the two most pristine courses in the region: The Country Club of Sioux Falls and Minnehaha Country Club. Proceeds from this event benefit Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center, located near Irene, SD. For more information, visit <https://ccfsd.org/events/bishops-cup/>

MINISTRY SCHEDULE				LOOKING AHEAD Monday, August 3	
"Serve the Lord with gladness" — Psalm 100:2	Saturday, August 8 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, August 9 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, August 9 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	NO MASS Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's	
EM	Judy Barnett/ Barb Johannsen	Pam Roth	Karen	Tuesday, August 4 Mass at 5:30 p.m. at Assumption Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Knights of Columbus Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's	
Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Buzz Durham	Pam Roth	Georgia/ Sr. Miriam/ Sr. Pat	Wednesday, August 5 Adoration & Confessions at 4:15 p.m. at St. John's Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following	
Altar Servers	Jessica Barnett/ Cooper Slaba/ Avieleigh Slaba	Ethan Blaha/ Logan Blaha	Emma/ Sahveya	Thursday, August 6 Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Wagner Good Samaritan Center/ Daily Rosary Following	
Music	Lisa Cihak	Micky Hollmann		Friday, August 7 Confessions at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Mass at 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Adoration from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Cemetery	
Ushers	Gene Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Jim Eggers	Matt Hill/ Jaxton Hill	Jason/ Ridge	Saturday, August 8 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	
Greeters	Dorothy Holzbauer		Mary Jo	Sunday, August 9 Confessions at 8:15 a.m. at Assumption Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Assumption Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Dante Harvest Festival at 4:00 p.m. at Assumption (Serving from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m./Downtown Games 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)	
Gift Bearers	Jenni Soukup Family	Matt Hill Family	Ryan, Abby, & Family	 UPCOMING EVENTS AT ABBEY OF THE HILLS Presentation on Baby Brian (By Father David Axtmann) August 24 - 6:00 p.m. September Day of Recollection (By Fariba Roughead) September 8 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Native American Culture Day September 29 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Native American Cultural Dinner - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) For more information or to register for any of these events, please visit https://www.abbeyofthehills.org/calendar-events	
Rosary	Don & Theresa Koupal				
Sacristan	Ray Soukup				
Collection Counters	Paul Eggers/ Karol Kniffen	Karen Peters/ Josie Rezac	Dave/ Ray		

ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION
Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00
July 25 \$1525.00
Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amount was also received:
Children's Collection \$ 25.00



AUGUST POTLUCK SUPPER
Saturday, August 1
6:30 p.m.
(After 5:30 p.m. Mass)
St. John's Church Basement

Everyone is invited to join us after Mass to enjoy great food and fellowship - we hope to see you there!



FALL BOOK STUDY AT ST. JOHN'S: SECRETS OF THE SACRED HEART
Cost of this 12-week study will be \$10 per person (to cover the cost of the book). The study will begin sometime after Labor Day. Contact Theresa Koupal if you are interested or want more information - and let her know what day and time works for you so we can firm up details about this study.

ST. JOHN'S ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING
Tuesday, August 18
5:30 p.m.
St. John's Church Basement

We will be discussing the fellowship feast and Family Fun Day scheduled for Sunday, September 27. Each band should be represented by at least two members - particularly the May, June, July and August bands, who will be heading up the planning for this year's Family Fun Day!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FIELD MASS/ POTLUCK SUPPER POSTPONED!

Because of expected high temperatures on Sunday, August 2, the Knights of Columbus have decided to postpone the field Mass/potluck supper. The KC's will discuss alternate dates at their meeting on August 4. Please watch future bulletins, Facebook, and the My Parish app for more information!



WAGNER COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE
Fire Hall
Tuesday, August 11
12:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Sponsored by
Wagner Community Memorial Hospital



Regular blood donation helps stimulate the production of new blood cells.

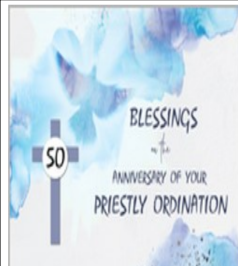
APPOINTMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED

TEXT Lifeserve to 515.815.7242 | CALL 800.287.4903
VISIT lifeservebloodcenter.org

LifeServe
YOUR BLOOD. YOUR HOSPITAL. YOUR NEIGHBORS.



HARVEST FESTIVAL
DANTE HARVEST FESTIVAL
Sunday, August 9
Donations of vegetables and empty Cool Whip containers are needed for the Harvest Festival on August 9. Anyone who will be unable to work is asked to contact Amya Soukup 605-770-8168 or Kristi Koupal 605-491-1128!



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION
Come Help Father Paul Sykora celebrate his 50th Anniversary on August 2nd, 2026 after 9AM Mass in Dante. Serving rolls & cake. Everyone WELCOME.

19TH ANNUAL CANCER WALK/ FREE WILL SUPPER/BASKET AUCTION
Saturday, August 8
Wagner Lake
7:30 p.m.

EAST RIVER TEC
August 7 - 9, Watertown

East River TEC #1 - Calling all teens (ages 16+) and young adults! Join the revival of TEC in the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls. Registration is NOW OPEN for East River TEC #1! The registration fee of \$85 covers all retreat expenses, including materials, lodging at Ace Maria Catholic School and meals. Go to EastRiverTEC.com/event-details/east-river-tec-1 to register.



Birthdays

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

August 3: Clay Payer (SJ), Josh Cimpr (A), Radek Kotab (A), Frank Krcil (A); August 4: Kyle Koupal (SJ), Laura Soukup (A); August 5: Rita Krcil (A), Brock Mathis (SJ); August 7: Jackson Woods (SJ); August 8: Dawson Lensing (SJ), Brad Roth (A); August 9: Paige McNinch (A).

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:

August 3: Steve & Pam Donelan (SJ); August 6: Steven & Tricia Holzbauer (SJ), Dustin & Maggie Honomichl (SJ); August 7: Charles & Vicki Roth (A); August 9: David & Erika Kotab (A).

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 2, 2026

Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Hb 1:12-2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

THE MIRACLES WE DON'T SEE

"Why aren't there miracles anymore?"

I've heard people say this more than once. Usually, it is someone who is a believer in Christ but not a Catholic, because Catholics understand that miracles happen at every Mass, to say nothing of the other miracles the Church recognizes. But even some Catholics often find themselves wondering why it's been so long since God gave us a good show. A good sundance in the sky. A good, flashy reason to believe.

I don't know what it looked like when the loaves and the fishes were multiplied. I believe it happened, and I have envisioned it often, but I just can't picture it. Did everyone blink, and there was a giant pile of food? Did they just keep finding more? Was it all the same kind of bread, or did Jesus mix it up?

I think the Gospel is deliberately vague on this to test the patience of pathologically nosy people like myself. It's not important what it looked like. If those details mattered, they would be spelled out in Scripture.

How often we find ourselves unsatisfied with the answers God has for us.

I wonder if that's what Christ was thinking when he savored those last few minutes of solitude on the boat, where he had gone to be alone after

hearing the crushing news of his cousin's execution. Was he imagining the crowds gathering on shore? Was he contemplating their enormous expectations for God — for him! — and anticipating their disappointment when every wish could not be granted?

Maybe. But that's not what the Scripture says.

"His heart was moved with pity," we are told. I think of him looking at them all, so weary and uncertain and hungry. Pity — this is what he felt. Not resentment, exhaustion or frustration. Pity. And his precious heart was moved.

What a miracle. No details, no explanation. No dancing sun. But what a miracle.

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Dante HARVEST FESTIVAL

AUGUST 9TH 2026

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish CCD Center
Dante, South Dakota

SERVING FOOD FROM 4PM-7PM

ADULTS: \$15
CHILDREN (12 & UNDER): \$6

Serving broasted chicken meal with
homemade kolaches, rollicky, salads, &
pies

DOWNTOWN GAMES
5PM-9PM
RAFFLE, BINGO & OTHER
GAMES FOR ALL AGES



ST. JOHN'S FAMILY FUN DAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Mark your calendars and save the date for St. John's annual Family Fun Day on Sunday, September 27! Members of the May (food), June (set up/take down), July (games), and August (raffle) bands have begun their meetings in preparation for the day. If you are a member of the May, June, July, or August Bands, expect to hear from your chairmen - Jan Holzbauer (May), Bonnie Soukup (June), Lisa Cihak (July), and Lori Kokes (August). We hope you can all join us for a fun-filled day of a free will family-friendly meal, games, and raffle. Watch future bulletins for more information!