



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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GOSPEL MEDITATION: 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis. Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope's fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.

Jesus says this week to us: "When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table" (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.

Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We'll be pleasantly surprised when we do

— Father John Muir
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August 31, 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Apostles Pastorate

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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

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by visiting holypostlessd.org.
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faith formation information & more!

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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:

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Church/CCD Center 384-5155
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Prayer Chain:
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Marilee Krcil 286-3907

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

"What is too sublime for you, seek not, into things beyond your strength search not." Primarily from what I heard from one newscaster on Catholic radio, I wondered about Pope Francis' actions regarding the Latin Mass and the Catholic Church in China. I was able to leave it at that, continuing my prayers for the Pope. The Lord isn't asking me to make policy on these things, far less to think I'm in a

position to judge. Concentrating on doing the very best I can with what is on my plate deserves my energies. It is far more wholesome for us to focus on the miracle before us at each Mass: "You have drawn near Mount Zion...the heavenly Jerusalem, countless angels..., the firstborn enrolled in heaven, to God the judge of all..., the just made perfect (by purgatory?)..., the sprinkled Blood..." - today's second reading.

On our plate this week is Special

Confirmation Class #4 6:45pm Wed at Dante (and at Wagner the next Wed), First Friday Mass at 1pm at Marty, First Saturday Mass 9am at Dante, the monthly parish potluck at Wagner on Sat. night and Fr. Clement at all the Masses next weekend. Asking God's blessings on our families this Labor Day weekend, we praise God for blessings over this past summer.

Peace,
Fr. Jim

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 3

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

Friday, September 5

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

Saturday, September 6

8:30 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. - Assumption

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

Sunday, September 7

8:15 a.m. - Assumption

CATHOLIC TEACHING ON LABOR

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: *Rerum Novarum* (1891) by Leo XIII, *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) by Pius XI, *Laborem Exercens* (1981), and *Centesimus Annus* (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline. Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person." Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

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The **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults** (OCIA) is a year-long process of prayer, learning, and reflection designed for those seeking to become Catholic, those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, and for those simply exploring the Catholic faith. It is open to all adults ages 18+. Contact Fr. Tom, Fr. Jim, Fr. Gary or Sr. Maribeth if interested. See their contact information on the front page of the bulletin!

THIS WEEK ON FORMED: AUGUST 31

- ♦ *Mother Teresa: No Greater Love*
- ♦ *Pope Saint Gregory the Great: Catholic Saints*
- ♦ *Mother Teresa*

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

Tuesday, September 2
7:00 p.m.

St. John's Church Basement

MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	September 1	Monday of the 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Frank & Rose Kocer †
Tuesday	September 2	Tuesday of the 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - Assumption	Ernie Kocer †
Wednesday	September 3	Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Jack Kuhlman †
Thursday	September 4	Thursday of the 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time	8:30 a.m. - St. John's	Lisa Durham †
Friday	September 5	Friday of the 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time/ First Friday Mass	1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's	Oblate Sisters' Relatives & Friends
Saturday	September 6	Saturday of the 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time/BVM/ First Saturday Mass	9:00 a.m. - Assumption	John & Leona Podzimek †
		Vigil of the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Jon Doom †
Sunday	September 7	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Charlie & Mary Cimpl †
			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. Registration is required. Free-will donations accepted.

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!

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Religious education classes will begin soon! 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. Log in to CMG Connect and renew your compliance: <https://siouxfalls.cmgconnect.org/> If you are currently employed or in ministry, your due date for completion is July 31, 2025. 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 capacity. Please note that sacristans are now required by the Diocese to complete the necessary Safe Environment training/background check.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTER MONDAY MINGLE

Monday, September 8
6:30 p.m.

St. John's Church Basement

The evening will start with a short meeting. Desserts and coffee/drinks will be served after the meeting for those who would like to stay for fellowship. Musical entertainment will be provided by Kara Hana. Bring a friend & check it out!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE				LOOKING AHEAD	
<p>"Serve the Lord with gladness" - Psalm 100</p>	Saturday, September 6 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, September 7 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, September 7 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Monday, September 1 Evening Prayer at 4:40 p.m. at St. John's Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following	
	EM	Judy Barnett/ Jim Thornton	Danielle Krcil	Alice	Tuesday, September 2 Evening Prayer at 5:10 p.m. at Assumption 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	Danielle Krcil	Emma/ Sr. Miriam/ Sr. Pat	Wednesday, September 3 Adoration & Confessions at 4:15 p.m. at St. John's Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following Confirmation Class #4 at 6:45 p.m. at Assumption
	Altar Servers	Jessica Barnett/ McKinley Podzimek/ Skyler Kocer	Frank Krcil/ John Krcil	Bladen/ Ridge	Thursday, September 4 Morning Prayer at 8:10 a.m. at St. John's Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following
	Music	Guitar Choir	Pam Roth		Friday, September 5 First Friday 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. Paul's Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's
	Ushers	Jim Eggers/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Dean Abdouch	Greg Krcil/ Tom Krcil	Jeff/ Bain	Saturday, September 6 Confessions at 8:30 a.m. at Assumption First Saturday Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Assumption/Adoration & Confessions Following 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/Potluck Supper Following
	Greeters	Theresa Koupal		Mary Jo	Sunday, September 7 Confessions at 8:15 AM at Assumption Mass at 9:00 AM at Assumption Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's
	Gift Bearers	Lynn & Kim Soukup	Greg Krcil Family	Andrea & Family/Clarissa	
	Rosary	Ray & Bonnie Soukup			
	Sacristan	Jim Thornton			
Collection Counters	Becky Brunsing/ Cletus Wiechmann	Greg Krcil/ Derek Koupal	Sr. Miriam/ Emma	CATHOLIC TRIVIA: JUST FOR FUN Question: Which grotto located in France is visited by millions of pilgrims every year? Answer: Lourdes. ©LPi	
ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00 August 23 \$1151.00 Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amount was also received: July EFT/Online Donations \$ 920.00				ST. GREGORY THE GREAT Often called the father of the medieval papacy and Apostle of the English, Saint Gregory (540-604) became Pope in 590. He is known for his reform of the liturgy, the consolidation of papal power, and the conversion of England. ©LPi	
SEPTEMBER POTLUCK SUPPER Saturday, September 6 6:30 p.m. (After 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. John's) St. John's Church Basement Please join us for great food and fellowship!				Happy Birthday to these Assumption parishioners who will celebrate birthdays this week: September 2: Sandra Brandt, Dan Kafka, Michelle Olson; September 3: Leo Kocer, Waylon Koupal; September 5: Kayla Krcil; September 6: Larry Beeson, Parker Cihak; September 7: Alice Kafka, Landon Mudder.	
 <p>With her parents and the St. John the Baptist parish family, we welcome, through the waters of Baptism, Koree Belle Brunsing. Koree is the daughter of Dylan and Keely Brunsing and was baptized at St. John's on Saturday, August 23. We rejoice in welcoming Koree to the family of God!</p>				 <p>Heartfelt sympathies to the family & friends of Patricia A. Buus. Patricia died on Wednesday, August 20. in Yankton. Funeral services for Patricia (Patty) will be held at a later date.</p>	
St. John's parishioners are encouraged to text App to 55321 to download the My Parish App on their phones or tablets.. The download for this very useful app is FREE thanks to the subscription funded by St. John's Altar Society.				 TEACHERS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Teachers and volunteers needed to help with the CCD program at Assumption Parish. Contact Norma Beeson 605-491-2961 for details.	
 <p>St. John's Family Fun Day Sunday, September 28 St. John's Catholic Church Food - Games - Music - Fun! Please pick up your letters in the church entryway or watch the mail for your letters.</p>				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.	
PRAYER FOR HUMILITY Dear God, Mold my heart after Yours. Help me to see myself as You see me: surrounded by Your love. Help me to see others as You see them as well. Give me knowledge of your ways, today and always. Amen. ©LPi					

DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED IMAGO DIVINA

Imago divina (Latin for "divine image") is an extension of the ancient practice of lectio divina ("divine reading"). Imago divina is, in a sense, praying with one's eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God.

Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. "Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God," said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing imago divina, just like with lectio divina, the faithful "read" (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly.

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22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



OUR FALL LIVE DRIVE IS HERE!

Join us September 9-11, from 7 AM to 7 PM each day, for *Real Stories, Real People, and Real Faith* on your local Catholic radio station. Support Real Presence Radio by tuning in at **91.3 / 94.5 FM** and by calling **877-795-0122**.

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH FALL SUPPER/BAKE SALE/ RAFFLE

Scotland
Sunday, September 7
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Featuring broasted chicken,
baked ham, cheesy potatoes,
green beans, salads, homemade
buns, pies, beverages.

Adults: \$15
Children, 3 to 10: \$7
Children under 3: Free



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE: WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Moms have a lot of jobs, and it's usually the case that none of them pay very well.

My work as a chef? Zero compensation, and my clientele are very rarely pleased with my efforts. My role as a teacher, a maid, a chauffeur, a therapist — same deal. Ironically, these jobs consume so much of my time that I am constricted in my work as a writer — the only sphere where I do actually garner any earnings.

It is so easy to grumble about all of this, and I do it all the time. Because despite the fact that I know better, I expect repayment for my good deeds. Deep in my soul, I expect it.

That's a huge problem.

In my defense, I don't think this is a very uncommon thing. I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. We want our day to go smoothly. We expect these things as a matter of course; we feel entitled to them, and we become grumpy when we are denied them. I worked so hard. I gave so much. What was it all even for?

But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

When you hold a banquet, Jesus said, invite those who cannot return the favor. Give not just without the expectation of repayment, but without the possibility of it.

Think about that for a minute. What does that even look like — no possibility of payment?

I know what that looks like in my own life. It's giving more to the literal poor, yes, but it's also giving more — and more happily, more lovingly — when I cook and clean and drive and write and console. It's not lamenting that no one appreciates me — it's actually hoping no one does.

It's learning to love the lowest place at the table. Because in the lowest place, we are closest to God.

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PRAYER FOR HUMILITY

Dear God,
Mold my heart after Yours. Help me to see myself as You see me: surrounded by Your love. Help me to see others as You see them as well. Give me knowledge of your ways, today and always. Amen.

©LPi



— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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WEEKLY READINGS: WEEK OF AUGUST 31

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-3

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS HUMILITY & STEWARDSHIP

Some people have "the rich relation" in their family tree. Aunt Cindy, who is always traveling somewhere new and exciting. Cousin Richard and his lake house. Your sister and brother-in-law who buy a new car every year.

Ofentimes these relatives take great happiness in sharing their wealth. You can usually count on an exotic gift from Aunt Cindy's latest adventure or an invitation to go out on Richard's pontoon boat at the end of the summer.

Yet sometimes, that person wants something in return. Not money, of course, but something else. Attention. Flattery. Gratitude. Cindy wants you to ask her where she got the priceless artifact in Istanbul, so she can talk about the many antiquities dealers she visited. Richard wants you to ask about his new boat, so he can talk about how well business has been this year. Maybe the person just wants to know you like the gift or that the experience offered is pleasing to you.

This is a natural inclination that we all possess. There is nothing wrong with wanting to be the person people count on. There is nothing wrong with wanting to offer worthy gifts. There is nothing wrong with hoping that maybe, just a little, we might be appreciated.

What matters is the spirit we carry within our hearts when we do it. What matters is our destination as we approach that proverbial table. Are we headed for the place of honor, expecting it to be waiting for us? Or are we making our way to the lowest place, simply thankful to be invited to the meal?