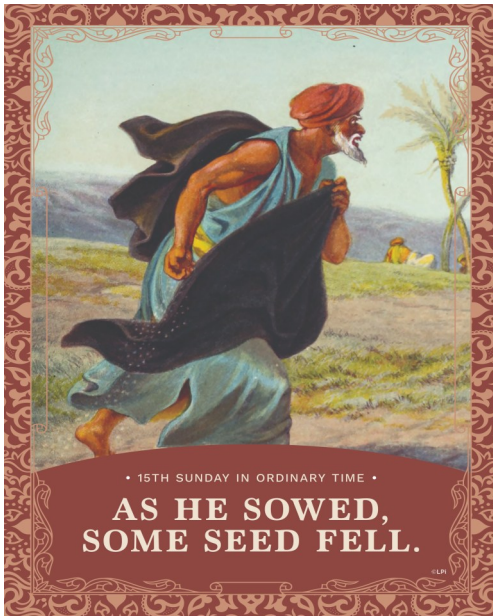




GOSPEL MEDITATION: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. "The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it." By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed "understand the Word." Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

- Father John Muir

©LPI



July 12, 2026
Fifteenth 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,

"Knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you," Jesus speaks to us. I think of mysteries we wrestle with daily from the "why" of diseases and wars to the very personal level of what is holding Joe Doe back from coming to Mass. Let us hear the Word that, seeing and knowing all, calls out to us - perhaps just revealing to us what our next step forward needs to be. And reminding us of the eternal destiny that is intended for us!

Fr. Jim

We've set a date for the annual 'field Mass' followed by a meal and activities by the Knights: Sun Aug 2 at 4pm Mass at the Marian shrine (south east corner of St. John the Baptist parish grounds). The Saturday 5:30pm will be as usual the night before. I'm looking forward to two full days on the Iowa farm this week - I may



have saw dust in my hair when I get back! I believe one parishioner can make it to the area Right to Life meeting this Mon at 7:30pm at Dakota Christian School; see me for more info. We've had growing numbers of parishioners come to the 10am Good Sam Mass on Thursdays; its good to see the CDofA Bingo resuming there at 3pm this Thursday. Blessings on keeping Christ and the Mass in summer days, and letting me know to whom the Sacraments, or even just a friendly visit, could be a grace.



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. 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: JULY 12

- ◆ Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: God's Princesses
 - ◆ Saint Bonaventure: Catholic Saints
 - ◆ What Catholics Believe about Mary: Immaculate Conception, Virginity
- 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, July 15
4:15 p.m. - St. John's
Friday, July 17
1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's
Saturday, July 18
4:30 p.m. - St. John's
Sunday, July 19
8:15 a.m. - Assumption

CRADLE CATHOLICS CLASS
Wednesday, July 22
6:00 p.m.
St. John's Church
Basement

MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	July 13	Monday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time/ Saint Henry	NO MASS	
Tuesday	July 14	Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin	NO MASS	
Wednesday	July 15	Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Lisa Durham †
Thursday	July 16	Thursday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time/ Our Lady of Mount Carmel	10:00 a.m. - GSC	Jean Eggers Dilger †
Friday	July 17	Friday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's	Francis Doom †
Saturday	July 18	Vigil of the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Bonnie Novak †
Sunday	July 19	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00 a.m. - Assumption 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Living & Deceased of FCCLA Bill & Gladys Slaba †



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING/RENEWAL
July 12
10:00 a.m.
(After 9:00 a.m. Mass at Assumption)



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!



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.



CDA BINGO AT WAGNER GSC
Thursday, July 16
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!

JULY: 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.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE			
"Serve the Lord with gladness" — Psalm 100:2	Saturday, July 19 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, July 19 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, July 19 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's
EM	Mieke Slaba/ Gene Niehus	Joe Sees	Tana
Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Ted Slaba	Joe Sees	Georgia/ Amy/ Sr. Pat
Altar Servers	Jessica Barnett/ Cooper Slaba/ Avieleigh Slaba	Easton Sees/ Hudson Sees	Nariah/ Sahveya
Music	Kara Hanan	Marilee Krcil	
Ushers	Gene Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Jim Eggers	Don Krcil/ Volunteer	Dave L./ Riley
Greeters	Lynn & Kim Soukup		Judy
Gift Bearers	Jay & Kim Kafka Family	Joe Sees Family	Riley, Amy, & Family
Rosary	Ray & Bonnie Soukup		
Sacristan	Don Koupal		
Collection Counters	Becky Brunsing/ Jim Eggers	Lynn Stather/ Josie Rezac	Judy/ Ramona

LOOKING AHEAD Monday, July 13

NO MASS
Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's
Tuesday, July 14

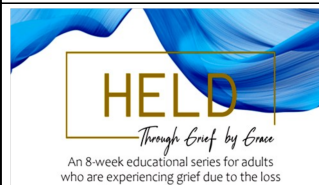
NO MASS
Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's
Wednesday, July 15
Adoration & Confessions at 4:15 p.m. at St. John's
Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following
Thursday, July 16
Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Wagner Good Samaritan Center/
Daily Rosary Following
CDA Bingo at 3:00 p.m. at GSC Dining Room

Friday, July 17
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
Saturday, July 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
Sunday, July 19
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



HELD: THROUGH GRIEF BY GRACE



This eight-week grief series will begin Tuesday, Oct. 6 (new start date) 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 and can be completed online at www.thelourdescenter.com. There is no cost to attend, however, free-will donations will gladly be accepted. For more information, please call 605-988 3775 or email tlc@thelourdescenter.com. Healing happens here!

ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION

Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00
July 4 \$2006.70
Children's Collection \$ 21.00
Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amount was also received:
Votive Candle Offerings \$ 72.00
A \$1000 CFSA payment (for an earlier pledge) was also received.

JULY POTLUCK

Saturday, July 11
6:30 p.m. (After 5:30 p.m. Mass)
St. John's Church Basement
Everyone is invited to join us and enjoy great food and fellowship!

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!

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY FUN DAY COMMITTEE MEETING

All members of the May, June, July, and August Bands of the Altar Society are asked to attend the meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, in St. John's church basement to assist with planning this year's Family Fun Day on Sunday, September 27.

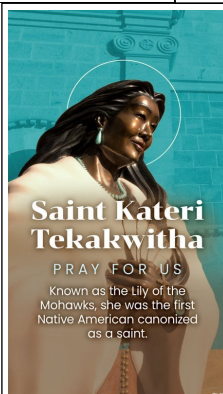
TAKE
NOTE

KATERI MASS & POTLUCK

Mass at 11:30 AM at
Randall Creek
Recreation Area at
Shelter RC2

Sunday, July 12

Meat, drinks and utensils will be provided. All are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share at the potluck following Mass.



12TH ANNUAL TASTE THE GOODNESS SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026 5:00 - 9:00 PM

DOWNTOWN SIOUX FALLS
AVERA TECH BUILDING | 212 E 11TH ST
For more information, visit <https://ccfesd.org/events/taste-the-goodness/>

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://ccfesd.org/events/bishops-cup/>

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!



BIRTHDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, July 12
After 9:00 a.m. Mass at Assumption
There will be a free breakfast at the CCD Center in Dante to help Dorothy Andersh celebrate her 90th birthday. All are welcome.

Happy 90th Birthday, Dorothy!

HIS GLOBAL LOVE RETREAT & HEALINGMASS

August 7 - 8
St. Benedict Parish in Yankton is hosting His Global Love Retreat and healing Mass August 7-8. The retreat will include a Rosary at 6:15 p.m. followed by praise and worship at 6:30 p.m. on August 7. Saturday, August 8 the conference will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 4 p.m. with keynote speaker Father Kevin Joyce speaking about the "Zeal of a Warrior." Free will offering, lunch is on your own, and no registration required.



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

July 13: Chuck Eitemiller (SJ), Maci Soukup (SJ); July 14: Judy Krcil (A), Fran Podzimek (SJ), Marlene Stone (A); July 15: James Beeson (A), Ryan Beeson (A), Jennifer Davies (SJ), Kami Soukup (SJ); July 16: Kainen Blaha (A), Frederick Cotton (SJ), Mildred Krcil (A), Linda Luke (A), Quinn McNinch (A); July 17: Tracy Blaha (A), Karie Gundrum (SJ), Lynn Stather (A); July 18: Brody Krcil (A), Ron Koupal (SJ), Mike Medricky (SJ), Sarah Lensing (SJ), William Swier (A); July 19: Colby Krcil (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:

July 19: Tim & Trica Krcil (A), Joe & Joni Soukup (SJ).

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 12, 2026

Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mt 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

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**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC -
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY
MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**THE GARDENER &
THE SOIL**

I began writing this piece by googling "how do you make soil fertile?" which should tell you everything you need to know about my own abilities as a gardener.

I remember seeing a packet of seeds in the store one summer as a child and convincing my mother to buy them. They were delphiniums, which bloom into a beautiful cone shape if you know what you're doing. Alas, I didn't. I chose for my

garden a particularly dry spot of earth right next to my backyard playset, scattered the seeds, congratulated myself, and went on my merry way. I returned occasionally to water the area, but only when I remembered to.

Nothing grew, not even a little sprout. I was more than heartbroken — my faith was shaken. I had planted these seeds! I had watered them! (A little.) There was sunlight! All my childhood books and rhymes said this was all you needed. Was it all a lie?

Of course it wasn't a lie. Seeds need soil, sunlight, water, and oxygen — good soil, adequate sunlight for whatever the plant is, and consistent water.

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -
RECOGNIZE GOD
IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

WHAT'S PLANTED IN YOUR HEART?

Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things but, after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity. It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, then the word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to living a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called to plant them wisely and prudently. Oftentimes it is not enough to simply give away what we have. We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used one's gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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So what seeds need more than anything is a gardener. (At least, delphiniums do.)

When I hear the parable of the rich soil and the rocky ground in the Gospel of Matthew, I often miss the point. I think Jesus is trying to give me a message about how I should be. "Be better." That's what I think he's telling me.

I forget that I am only the soil. I cannot enrich myself; all my efforts to do so will come to nothing. What he is telling me is to ask the gardener: "Make me what I need to be."

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15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

