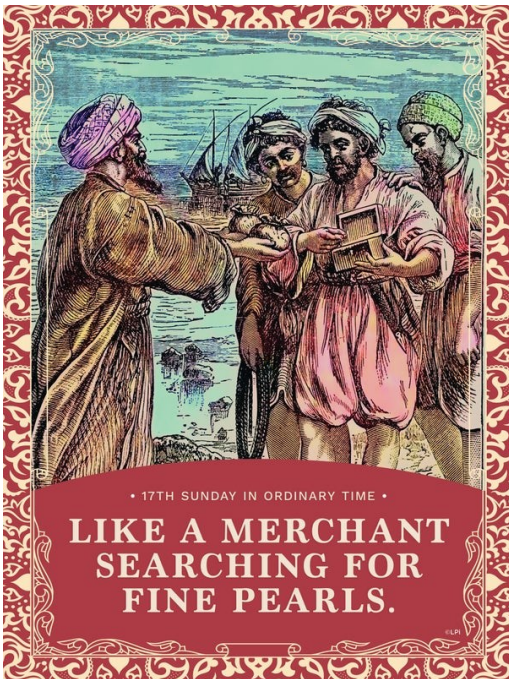




GOSPEL MEDITATION: SEVENTEETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field." He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God's own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church's doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God's love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us.

- Father John Muir

©LPi



July 26, 2026
Seventeenth 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,

"Do you understand all these things?" Jesus asks today. Then Jesus commends this, just as he had commended the understanding of the scribe in Mk 12:34: "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And Solomon in the first reading was given a greatest understanding. Yet Solomon's story is tragic; in the end he didn't use his understanding but gave his body to pleasure and his heart to many wives. We pray to know God's will and to do it!

Fr. Clement will be at the Masses next weekend. Fr. Doug Klein will be my guest the night before and witness the marriage in Dante (3pm Sat.) of Keely Bares and Michael Zylstra. Because of the Sat. wedding, we'll have the First Saturday Mass and Adoration IN WAGNER - not in Dante. Also note on the bulletin schedule the special weekend

'Field Mass' next Sunday afternoon at 4pm followed by supper sponsored by the KofCs. The Mass will be in the shade of the Marian shrine (SE corner of St. John's church grounds). We should have someone getting acquainted with cleaning the church and hall at Dante with Jane Blaha intending to retire from this after the Harvest Fest.

Peace,
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: JULY 26

- ◆ The Violinist: Stories of Solanus Casey
- ◆ Ignatius of Loyola
- ◆ 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, July 29

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

Friday, July 31

1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's

Saturday, August 1

8:30 a.m. - St. John's

9:30 a.m. - At. John's

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

Sunday, August 2

8:15 a.m. - Assumption

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	July 27	Monday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 p.m. - Grey Eagle Apts.	Kateri Members' Families
Tuesday	July 28	Tuesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time/	5:30 p.m. - Assumption	Dorothy Dixon †
Wednesday	July 29	Memorial of Sants Mary, Martha & Lazarus	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Bob Soukup †
Thursday	July 30	Thursday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time/ Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	10:00 a.m. - GSC	Lisa Durham †
Friday	July 31	Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's	Michael Hanan †
Saturday	August 1	Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of the Church/First Saturday Mas	9:00 a.m. - St. John's	Marlene Skorpik †
		Wedding of Keely Bares & Michael Zylstra	3:00 p.m. - Assumption	
		Vigil of the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Jerry Barnett †
Sunday	August 2	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Elaine Cihak †
			11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	For the People
		KC Field Mass	4:00 p.m. - St. John's Marian Shrine	Special Intention



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.

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!

BLESSING FOR OUR PARISHES

Dear God,
Pour Your blessing upon our parishes, in need of Your renewal and inspiration. Prune the places that need pruning, and pour fresh grace and courage into our midst. Help us to find You and, with great joy, follow You wholeheartedly. Amen.

©LP

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**"Serve the Lord
with gladness"**
— Psalm 100:2

	Saturday, August 1 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, August 2 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, August 2 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's
EM	Don Koupal/ Sandy Seiner	Volunteer	Alice
Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Ted Slaba	Daniel Soukup	Cathy/ Amy/ Georgia
Altar Servers	Hannah, Luke, Rachel, & Jacob Holzbauer	Vera Beeson/ Vivian Beeson	Ridge/ Mackson
Music	Kim Soukup	Emily Walloch	
Ushers	Gene Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Jim Eggers	Ross Beeson/ Steven Koupal	Bain Bennett
Greeters	Barb Johannsen		Judy
Gift Bearers	Matt & Mieke Slaba Family	Ross Beeson Family	Miles, Keva & Family
Rosary	Ray & Bonnie Soukup		
Sacristan	Don Koupal		
Collection Counters	Paul Eggers/ Cletus Wiechmann	Ross Beeson/ Steven Koupal	Jason/ Sr. Miriam

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, July 27

Daily Rosary at 4:30 p.m. at Grey Eagle Apartments
Mass at 5:00 p.m. at Grey Eagle Apartments

Tuesday, July 28

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

Wednesday, July 29

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 30

Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Wagner Good Samaritan Center/
Daily Rosary Following

Friday, July 31

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, August 1

Confessions at 8:30 a.m. at St. John's
First Saturday Mass at 9:00 a.m. at St. John's
Adoration & Confessions at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's
Wedding of Keely Bares & Michael Zylstra at 3:00 p.m. at Assumption
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

Sunday, August 2

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
KC Field Mass at 4:00 p.m. at St. John's Marian Shrine/Potluck Supper Following



ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION

Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00
July 18 \$1834.00
Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amounts were also received:
Earmarked Donation \$ 75.00
Mass Stipends \$ 20.00



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

Sunday, August 2
4:00 p.m.
Marian Garden at St. John's

*The KC's will be providing
fish, burgers, & brats.
Please bring a side dish,
salad or dessert to share!*

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/](https://ccfesd.org/events/taste-the-goodness/)

33RD ANNUAL BISHOP'S CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

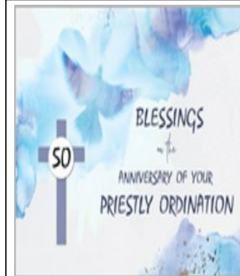
Monday, August 17, 2026
Minnehaha Country Club - and - The Country
Club of Sioux Falls
The Bishop's Cup is the longest-running Bish-
op's Charity event for our diocese. Established
in 1994, this event is held in August of each year
on the two most pristine courses in the region:
The Country Club of Sioux 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!



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 WEL-
COME.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the ladies who served my birthday
fellowship breakfast. To my family for providing
the rolls and to all who came to enjoy the rolls and
offer well wishes. Thank you, God, for the bless-
ings of 90 years of life!

- Dorothy Andersh -

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: Who is considered the founding father
of the Catholic Church in Ireland?

Answer: St. Patrick

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Birthdays

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

July 27: Jane Blaha (SJ), Sayde Soukup (SJ), Sarah Swier (A); July 28: Robbin Cuka (A), Judy Ishmael (SJ); July 29: John Carda (A), Ron Kafka (SJ), Skyler Kocer (SJ); July 31: Barb Johannsen (SJ), Kellen Hanan (SJ); July 31: Terry Beeson (A), Kahle Hill (A); August 1: Kelly Cimpl (A), Jenna Krcil (A), Ken Lhotak (SJ), Andrew Soukup (A), Joe Soukup (SJ), Jay Kokes (SJ), Charlene Soukup (SJ); August 2: Sam Blaha (A), Emma 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:

July 28: Stacey & Julie Powers (A); August 1: Walter & Donna Ishmael (SJ), Doug & Mary Koupal (A).

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 26, 2026

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-2

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

CHOOSING HEAVEN

My children often ask me questions about Heaven. What does Heaven look like? Is there nighttime in Heaven? Do you get hungry in Heaven? Are there oceans in Heaven? Will we feel bored in Heaven?

My answer is almost always the same: "I can't tell you for sure." I guess I didn't realize how little we actually know about Heaven until I had kids who were obsessed with hearing the details.

But accepting human ignorance is liberating in a way, because it allows me to see clearly — and cling wholeheartedly to — the three things I do know for sure: Heaven is where God is, and Hell is where He isn't, and it's completely my decision where I want to be.

The choice, you see, is everything.

We need to pay attention to how Jesus describes the kingdom of Heaven in his parables. It is, he tells us, a treasure — but a treasure buried in a field owned by someone else. It is a beautiful pearl — and a very expensive pearl. It is a bountiful yield — one which must be carefully, even painstakingly sifted through.

It's so easy to imagine the delight of the man who finds the treasure, who encounters the pearl, who hauls the bursting net aboard, just as it is easy to call ourselves followers of Christ, to hang a Rosary from our windshield and go to Mass.

It's less easy, and a great deal more uncomfortable, to contemplate what comes next: the sacrifice, the commitment, the perseverance through uncertainty.

Heaven is an incredible stroke of luck — one that requires a good deal of follow-through. We can never earn it, but we must choose it. Again and again and again, we must choose it.

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Save THE Date!

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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!

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

"What is St. Peter's favorite kind of music?"



THE FAITHFUL KUNNIES

"Rock!"



Jesus renamed Simon to "Peter," a name that means "Rock." Biblically, name changes mark a significant moment in a life of faith.

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