

**GOSPEL MEDITATION: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

In my family, we can hardly speak about orphans without tears. My father was adopted as a baby. He frequently told us stories of how his parents welcomed him not just into their home but into their hearts. It was never merely a relocation or a legal transaction. It was the joy of being chosen, of receiving a family, a name, and a place where he belonged forever. Even in his later years, recalling that gift still moves him to tears of tender gratitude.

That is the kind of tenderness behind Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." (John 14:18) He is going away, but not abandoning us. Instead, he sends us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit — his own Spirit, shared with the Father — who dwells in us. Through the Spirit, Christ is present in us, and we are present in him. His Spirit gives us a home and a family.

We deepen this knowledge in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the daily life of the Church. The Spirit is the bond of belonging, the power that makes us God's sons and daughters, not spiritual orphans. And this is not a one-time event. There is always a deeper outpouring of the Spirit available to us, a fresh appropriation of the promise that we are never abandoned.

If only we could be as grateful as my dad is for his adoption, realizing that we have been adopted by God Himself. In Christ, we are never left as orphans.

— Father John Muir

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**May 10, 2026  
Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Holy Apostles Pastorate**

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

**Fr. Jim Friedrich, Parochial Vicar**  
384-5518 or 605-933-9042  
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Parish Office: 384-5518  
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**Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff, OSB**  
**Director of Discipleship & Evangelization**  
605-760-5295  
mwentzlaff@yanktonbenedictines.org

**Marty Royston, Facilities Manager**  
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**Bailee Mogck, Business Manager**  
parkston@holypostlessd.org

**JoNeil 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](http://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,

"I pray for them." I ponder Jesus' words: what does it mean if Jesus (God) prays to God? But Jesus remains, also, fully human. In the Letter to the Hebrews it says Jesus lives forever to intercede for us at the right hand of the Father. I savor these words as I ponder them...

Blessed Mothers' Day to all of our mothers! Thank you, KofCs for the appreciation breakfast after Dante's Mass! We ask Mother Mary's intercession during May and on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima with Mass this Wed. at the Fatima Shrine

(east of Wagner) at 5:15pm; if you are able, stay a while for Adoration following Mass, including the Litany of St. Isidore, patron of farmers whose feast is Friday. We'll close with 6:30pm Benediction. I'll mention again the 36" door free for the taking in Dante's storage garage. And the deadline of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> for a new hire when Jane Blaha retires from cleaning at Dante. Also, the three-year terms are expiring for those helping distribute Holy Communion: we need to renew and also seek new persons so please see me.

Thank you!  
Fr. Jim

**CRADLE CATHOLICS CLASS**

Wednesday, May 20  
6:00 p.m.  
St. John's Church Basement



*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.*

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.

**ABBEY OF THE HILLS RAFFLE**

A generous Abbey donor is matching every gift, dollar for dollar, up to \$30,000 in support of the Abbey's Capital Campaign and Gift of Peace! That means your gift goes twice as far! To help bring the campaign to completion and move forward with air conditioning in the auditorium and critical repairs to the roof, windows, and front entrance, the Abbey is offering a limited raffle. Only 500 tickets are available at \$100 each, or \$1,000 for a book of ten. If all tickets are sold, prizes include: \$5,000 cash; A four-day, three-night Black Hills cabin stay for up to eight guests' \$300 cash; Plus, bonus drawings for 4 Minnesota Vikings home game tickets - game to be determined; 4 level-one tickets to a 2026 - 2027 Timberwolves home game - game to be determined. Purchase tickets at <https://abbeyofthehills.networkforgood.com/events/100735-20226-capital-campaign-raffle-drawing?>



**Please note that Mass on Wednesday, May 13, will be at 5:15 p.m., at the Fatima Shrine followed by Adoration at 5:45 p.m. and Benediction at 6:15 p.m.**

Bring your lawn chairs!

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

**Friday, May 15**  
1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's  
**Saturday, May 16**  
4:30 p.m. - St. John's  
**Sunday, May 17**  
8:15 a.m. - Assumption

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Transitional Diaconate Ordination  
May 28  
11 a.m.

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls  
Priestly Ordination  
May 29  
11 a.m.

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls  
*Please pray for those to be ordained and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life!*

**THIS WEEK ON FORMED: MAY 10**

- ◆ St. Damien of Molokai: Catholic Saints
- ◆ The Sanctuary Youth Series
- ◆ The Sanctuary Course for Catholics: Trailer

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	May 11	Easter Weekday	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Kyle Seiner †
Tuesday	May 12	Easter Weekday/ Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs/ Saint Pancras, Martyr	5:30 p.m. - Assumption	Dorothy Dixon †
Wednesday	May 13	Easter Weekday/ Our Lady of Fatima	5:15 p.m. - Fatima Shrine	Bonnie Novak †
Thursday	May 14	Feast of Saint Mathias, Apostle	10:00 a.m. - GSC 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sr. Carol Baumert, OSB † Clara Kafka †
Friday	May 15	Easter Weekday/ Saint Isidore	1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's	Dorothy Paulis †
Saturday	May 16	Vigil of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Jean Eggers Dilger †
Sunday	May 17	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	9:00 a.m. - Assumption 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Tim., Don & Elaine Cihak † Graduates (Ryann & Kalea)

**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 MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**

Sunday, May 10  
After 9:00 a.m. Mass  
at Assumption  
Assumption CCD Center  
Sponsored by Wagner-Dante  
Knights of Columbus

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS MEETING**

Thursday, May 14  
6:30 p.m.

St. John's Church Basement

*The Rosary will be prayed at 5:00 p.m., followed by Mass at 5:30 p.m. A light supper will be served before the meeting. We will be preparing May Baskets for shut-ins - please come help with this worthy project!*

May Lunch Committee: Sandy Seiner, Chairman; Rita Kocer; Marlene Stone; Pam Kocer; Kathy Kokesch; Carol Slaba; Fran Podzimek; Dorothy Andersh.



**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

<b>"Serve the Lord with gladness"</b> <small>- Psalm 100</small>	<b>Saturday, May 16</b> 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	<b>Sunday, May 17</b> 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	<b>Sunday, May 17</b> 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's
<b>EM</b>	Bonnie Soukup/ Don Koupal	Volunteer	Alice
<b>Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions</b>	Matt Slaba	Donna Smejkal	Georgia/ Amy/ Sr. Pat
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Hannah/Luke/ Rachel/Jacob Holzbauer	Ethan Blaha/ Logan Blaha	Nariah/ Tegan
<b>Music</b>	Lisa Cihak	Pam Roth	
<b>Ushers</b>	Gene Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Paul Eggers/ Lynn Soukup/ Jim Eggers	Matt Hill/ Jaxton Hill	Bennett/ Bain
<b>Greeters</b>	Fran Podzimek		Mary Jo
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Matt & Mieke Slaba Family	Matt Hill Family	Ryann & Kalea
<b>Rosary</b>	Don & Theresa Koupal		
<b>Sacristan</b>	Don Koupal		
<b>Collection Counters</b>	Jim Eggers/ Mary Kuhlman	Donna Smejkal/ Lynn Stather	Dave/ Ramona



May God bless these young people as they prepare for their high school graduation and embark on their future endeavors. They will be honored at Mass on May 17 (Marty).

**St. Paul's, Marty - Sunday, May 17**  
Kalea Kuhlman,  
Daughter of Jeff & Rhonda Kuhlman  
Ryann Langdeaux,  
Daughter of George & Tana Langdeaux

**"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."**  
- Jeremiah 29: 11 -

**BISHOP'S FISHING TOURNAMENT**  
JUNE 1 BIG STONE CITY | JUNE 8 PIERRE  
Bass & Walleye Tournament  
Meet Our Seminarians  
Mass with Bishop DeGroot  
Social & Kid's Activities  
Outdoor Prime Rib Dinner  
Silent Auction & Cash Raffles  
Knights of Columbus Challenge  
Benefiting Seminarian Education & Formation  
**REGISTER:** 605.988.3701



**BLESSING FOR MOTHER'S DAY**

Dear Lord,  
Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing. For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow. For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love. For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort. For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation. Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story. Amen.

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**ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION**  
Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00  
May 2 \$1689.25  
**Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amounts were also received:**  
March EFT/Online Donations \$ 824.00  
Home Missions \$ 100.00



**THANK YOU!**  
Thank you to the Altar Society Band 2 and Band 3 ladies that helped the CCD serve the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Lunch and Graduation Sunday Brunch. Your time and generosity were greatly appreciated.

**ST. JOHN'S ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 19  
5:30 p.m.  
St. John's Church Basement  
Each Altar Society band should be represented by at least two members! Chairmen, please contact the members of your band to encourage them to attend.

**FIAT DINNER**  
Who: Young Women Seeking God's Call  
What: Mass, Dinner, and Talks with Bishop DeGroot and Religious Orders

- PES Sisters
- Adoration Sisters
- CTK Sisters
- Sisters of Mary Morning Star

When: Sunday May 17th, 4-8pm  
Where: Mater Ecclesiae Monastery, 506 N Summit Ave, Sioux Falls  
RSVP: [sfwomensdiscernment.org](http://sfwomensdiscernment.org)

**REMEMBER THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS**  
All are welcome to attend a holy hour in honor of the Holy Face of Jesus at the Carmelite Monastery in Alexandria (221 5th Street) at 3:15 p.m. The holy hour will begin with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by the Rosary, reading from the Manual of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face, the chaplet, and other prayers to the Holy Face and Benediction. This Holy Face holy hour will take place on the fourth Sunday of every month, unless otherwise noted. For those who may have missed the Holy Face relic visiting the Carmel last November, the oldest known relic to have touched Veronica's veil in Rome will be returning July 14-16, during a triduum in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Save the dates and may His Face shine upon you!

**THANK YOU!**  
Thank you to Mardell (Mardi) Schroeder for the beautiful flowers in front of the altar for Mother's Day weekend! The flowers were donated in honor of all mothers, living & deceased! Happy Mother's Day!

**REMINDER: UNCLAIMED PANS & BOWLS**  
Please check the table in the church basement for unclaimed pans and bowls that have been left after funeral dinners and/or parish potlucks! Bowls and pans that remain unclaimed will be put to use in the basement kitchen or donated to the Community Closet.

**CFSA UPDATE**  
With the receipt of two more pledges/donations, we have exceeded our parish goal by \$5,537! The excess remains in the parish. The two new donations bring our number of donations up to 73. We have had 4 fewer pledges/donations than we had last year.

**CAMP SYDNEY 2026**  
Registration is NOW OPEN. The Lourdes Center is once again excited to offer a grief camp for youth (to include their parents/guardians) this summer at Broom Tree Family Camp, beginning at 6 p.m. June 5 until 11 a.m. June 7. This three-day camp includes fun activities, discussion and support for both kids and adults. The grief camp is offered free of charge, however, free-will donations will gladly be accepted. Registration is required and can be completed online at [www.thelourdescenter.com](http://www.thelourdescenter.com). For more information, please call 605-988-3775. Space is limited, so now is the time to register.



# Birthdays

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

May 11: Collins Kafka (A), Lisa Cihak (SJ); May 12: Mark Tolsma (A), John Holzbauer (SJ); May 14: David Kotab (A); May 15: Ross Beeson (A), Slaten Podzimek (SJ); May 16: Irene Kocmich (A), Lydia Krcil (A), Konnor Deurmier (A), Alice Krier (SJ), Casey Payer (SJ), Stacy Holzbauer (SJ), Ava Podzimek (SJ).

*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:**

May 17: Terry & Vicki Koupal (A)

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

## SPRINKLING RITE, EXPLAINED

The rite of sprinkling, also called the Asperges rite, describes the act of sprinkling the congregation with holy water, an action which recalls the new life we received in the waters of our baptism.

If this rite is performed during Mass, it takes the place of the penitential act.

The sprinkling rite usually takes place on Sundays during the Easter season but is permitted on any Sunday. When it is completed, the congregation sings the Gloria.

The name "asperges" comes from the first line of Psalm 51, a penitential psalm that begins with the words "Have mercy on me." In the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, the Asperges rite is done before each principal Mass, except on Palm Sunday.

The tool used by the priest to sprinkle the congregation is called the aspergillum, and the bucket containing the water is called the aspersorium.

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## LOOKING AHEAD

### Monday, May 11

Evening Prayer at 4:40 p.m. at St. John's  
Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following

### Tuesday, May 12

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, May 13

Daily Rosary at 4:45 p.m. at Fatima Shrine  
Mass at 5:15 p.m. at Fatima Shrine/Followed by Adoration at 5:45 p.m. and Benediction at 6:15 p.m.

### Thursday, May 14

Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Good Samaritan Center/Daily Rosary Following  
Rosary at 5:00 p.m. at St. John's  
Mass at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's  
Catholic Daughter Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's (Light supper to be served before meeting)

### Friday, May 15

Confessions at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's  
Mass at 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's  
Adoration at 2:00 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

### Saturday, May 16

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, May 17

Confessions at 8:15 a.m. at Assumption  
Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Assumption  
Graduation Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's

## Readings for the Week of May 10, 2026

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16 and 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148: 1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

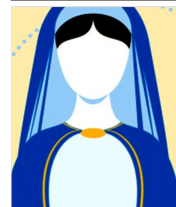
Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47: 2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

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**ABANDON YOURSELF TO THE VIRGIN MARY.**

*She will take care of you.*

- PADRE PIO

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

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### THE CHRIST YOU SEE

"What if you are the only version of Christ someone sees today?" a friend once asked me.

My blood ran cold. Jeez, I thought. That would be...really unfortunate.

The world cannot accept the Holy Spirit, Christ tells us, because the world cannot see and know the Holy Spirit (John 14:17). But the world can see us. The world can know us. In this way, we accomplish the Great Commission: we go forth, and we make disciples of all nations. In all that we are and all that we do, we offer an explanation for our hope (1 Peter 3:15).

We face a unique situation, 2,000 years after the Resurrection, because our mission field is full of people who have already heard about Christ.

And they have zero interest, thanks-and-please-get-off-my-porch.

This Christ they've seen? He puts himself first. He's suspicious of other people. He's not interested in mixing with the wrong crowd. He's been known to lie, to abuse trust, to protect himself.

Here's the problem: they haven't seen Christ at all. They've only seen Christians.

It's easy to blame the obvious culprits: the priest consumed in public scandal, the parish trustee who stole from the coffers. But these are only larger versions of the same failure of which I am guilty each time I shiver at the thought of someone associating my behavior, my words, and my

attitude with my Savior.

I am not Christ. I am nowhere close. But I am fortunate enough to be a member of his Body.

We all fail, of course. Every apostle, every saint, every bishop, every priest, every man and woman in the pews: we are all broken. We are all in need of redemption. When we accept that redemption, however, we also accept responsibility. Because now, we become what the world sees of Christ.

Am I ready to be the only version of Christ someone sees today?

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