



This Sunday is the Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross! The Call to gaze upon the Cross of Christ for healing. One of the parishes that I served in is named Holy Cross Parish, and on the front of the church, craved in stone, was a large crucifix for anyone who drove by the opportunity to gaze upon the cross. Fr. Demetrius Dumm, OSB writes: “The goodness of God means that he wishes to share his eternal life with us. Of course, this is our own most earnest wish. However, this cannot happen unless we believe in Jesus and embrace the message that he gives us. It is crucial that we understand what believing in Jesus means. It does not mean simply to believe that he existed or that he worked miracles and preached eloquently in Galilee...Rather, to believe in Christ means that we accept, not only the facts about his life and death and resurrection, but also the significance of these facts for our own lives. In other words, we must come to understand we need to be committed to the same *unselfish love* that we see in Jesus and that found its most perfect expression in his dying for us on the cross (A Mystical Portrait of Jesus).  
God is Good, Live in that Goodness -- Fr. Tom





**WHY DO WE DO THAT?**  
**Daily Prayer Versus Mass?**

I have a friend who says she doesn’t need to attend Mass because she prays to God every day. What are your thoughts on this justification?


If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by “one Lord, one faith, one Baptism.” It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God’s life.  
Coming to Mass is not really for God’s sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer and good works are strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?

**DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED!**  
**Litany**

A litany is an ancient form of prayer incorporating repetitive refrains (often “hear our prayer” or “pray for us”). Litanies are used in a variety of liturgical settings and in both private and public acts of devotion. The basis of the word “litany” comes from the Greek word for “supplication” or “petition.” In a litany, the leader will make an appeal or a statement and the congregation will make the response. Litanies can also be said by one person acting as both the leader and the respondent.  
Many litanies have been written, including litanies to the Holy Name of Jesus, the Sacred Heart, the Most Precious Blood, litanies appealing to the intercession of various saints, and litanies to the Blessed Mother under her different titles. There are also litanies composed for the attainment of graces and virtues, including the Litany of Humility and the Litany of Trust.

**LIVE THE LITURGY**

God did not send his son into the world to condemn it. The cross is not a symbol of judgment — the cross is what mercy looks like when it is lived out. How will we bring the cross into our lives this week? How will we live the mercy which has saved us?




**CATHOLIC TRIVIA:**  
What is the time limit that cardinals have to elect a new pope?

**BENEATH THE SURFACE**  
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman  
**The Cross is Not Negotiable**

When the unfaithful of the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses’ staff. To heal us, God invites us to look upon the cross.


**Readings for the week of September 14, 2025**  
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17  
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35  
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50  
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15  
Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

“What does the tiger say to his friends before they go hunting for food?”



“Let us prey.”


**FUN FACT!**  
The Bible tells us to pray in every circumstance; don’t forget that God is always here, listening, and loving!



**St. Ann Parish**  
**Secretary:** Jackie Slaba  
**Cell:** 605-680-1944  
**Email:**[office.stanngeddes@sfcatholic.org](mailto:office.stanngeddes@sfcatholic.org)

**CFSA Goal of \$13,500 has been met!**  
**Reg Support \$1141**  
**Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – 6 PM**

Lector: Jackie Slaba  
EM: Mary Beth Kok, Sandy DuFrain  
Servers: Max & Ty Masur, Berklee Mills



**St. Peter the Apostle Parish**  
**Secretary:** JoNell DeHaan  
**Cell:** 605-680-0870  
**Email:** [office@holypostlessd.org](mailto:office@holypostlessd.org)

**Online Giving:** <https://onrealm.org/SaintPeterApost/Give>


**CFSA Collected \$14,510 \$21,000 Need: \$6490**  
**Reg Support \$1571.12 Online \$410**  
**Sunday, September 21–9:00am**

Lector: Mark H.  
Servers: Karsin & Eden K., Vivian F.  
EMs: Jennifer F., Susan H  
Ushers: Josh & Christina K.  
Counters: Teresa N., Todd L.

**St. Peter’s Turkey Dinner and Bazaar**  
Sunday, October 5 from 11-1:30 with Bingo and coffee from 10:15-11 and 12:15-1:30. Parishioners 5th grade & up are asked to help to make this social event & fundraiser a success. If you can not work your shift, please trade or find a sub. Please pick up your raffle tickets.

The Funeral service for Frank Larsen will be on Thursday, September 18 at 11 AM.

Devin Backes and Cassandra Cole will be united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 20th.



**St. Mark Parish**  
**Secretary:** JoNell DeHaan  
**Cell:** 605-680-0870  
**Email:** [office@holypostlessd.org](mailto:office@holypostlessd.org)

**CFSA Collected \$7610/\$11,500 Need: \$3890**  
**Reg Support \$788.18**  
**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> - 11 AM**

Lector: Alec Weber  
EM: Margaret Reiser  
Servers: Addisyn Deurmier, Suttyn Bergin, & Keelan Bergin  
Counters: Sierra Weber & Margaret Reiser  
Custodians/Ushers/Collection: Steve & Margaret Reiser  
Grounds: Josh Kaczor  
**Church Cleaning for September: Rachel K& Jenna L**

**Annual Fall Dinner is October 12 from 4-7 PM**  
**The worker and donation list is posted on Facebook and [holypostlessd.org](https://www.facebook.com/holypostlessd.org)**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
Thank You to all who volunteered to Teach in the CCD program this year! Fr. Tom

**Magnify at the Mount REBOOT with Chris Stefanick**  
Wednesday October 22, 2025 from 7-9 PM at Mt Marty University Cimpl Arena in Yankton. We will need a commitment from parents for 10-12th grade youth asap. It would be an awesome event for parents to attend with their children.

**OCIA**  
The course is designed for non-Catholics interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. For more information contact Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff, **Cell phone:** 605-760-5295 or **Email:** [mwentzlaff@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:mwentzlaff@yanktonbenedictines.org) You can also contact Fr. Tom. Classes will begin shortly.

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP—It still take a village to make things happen.**  
If we are going to “disrupt the decline” in our Catholic communities, we have to embrace some changes.  
With this in mind and previous input from the pastorate council, the Holy Apostles leadership team was tasked at our training this week to come up with a theme for our pastorate that we could accomplish in the next 3-9 months.  
We decided that our goal would be to **“Carry the Light to those in darkness.”**  
In order to do this, people need to know what is needed. The [holypostlessd.org](https://www.holypostlessd.org) website is a tool to do this.

Several groups have been created that allow people to RSVP, accept an assignment or sign up for one. Many people have already received an email for an upcoming event or ministry. It is important to note that if you are not able to accept an assignment, that you find a replacement. Going to **My Groups** under Pastorate Ministries will let you see the other people in that group. Another feature that will be added is an **Opportunities Finder** which will have tasks to choose from that need to be done in the parish.

The **About Me** button found on each parish sends you to a **Menu** that you have to login to see the information. You will need to create a login. Once you are logged in you will see a directory of the parishioners in the parish, your contributions, and your household data. It allows you to update information and add new family members. People who have had problems with creating a login have been those who share an email, cell phone, have not registered or have not updated their contact information with the office. Be patient as we work through this process.