



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? ... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:28, 33

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GOSPEL MEDITATION: 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven — his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— Father John Muir
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September 7, 2025
23rd 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

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
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Danielle Krcil 491-2202
daniellekrcil@gmail.com
Prayer Chain:
Cindy Krcil 384-3585
Marilee Krcil 286-3907

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It has been raining off and on this Wed. morning as I write; how good this didn't come on Labor Day! I just scheduled an eye check-up appointment; yesterday I had a request for scheduling Mass intentions. We look and plan ahead so often; Jesus calls us in our planning to renounce all for God as number one. Indeed,

at the end of life, that is all we will have: the Lord. How blessed we are if both now and then our eyes are fixed on the Lord: "You are my all!"

Welcome, Fr. Clement, this weekend! Between an early Monday Mass and the regular Wednesday schedule, I'm to be at a "Leadership Training" at Broomtree. Our special confirma-

tion class #4 is this Wed. at Wagner at 6:30pm.

Blessings on your week!
Fr. Jim




CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Wednesday, September 10
 4:15 p.m. - St. John's
Friday, September 12
 1:30 p.m. - St. Paul's
Saturday, September 13
 4:30 p.m. - St. John's
Sunday, September 14
 8:15 a.m. - Assumption




A GOD WHO KNOCKS

This four-week healing series explores God's power to heal and restore. The series includes presentations, reflection and discussion. Sessions will be held every Tuesday night from 6-8 p.m. starting Nov. 4 at The Lourdes Center in Sioux Falls. Registration is required, which opens Sept. 2 online at thelourdescenter.com or by calling 605-988-3775. Free-will donations will gladly be accepted.

HE IS STABLE

The Lourdes Center is honored to host the holiday grief program "He is Stable: A Night for Grieving Hearts to Find Rest in His Peace" on Dec. 2 at St. Therese Catholic Church in Sioux Falls and again on Dec. 9 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Watertown. The evening, which begins at 6:30 p.m., will include presentations from individuals who have experienced grief along with a beautiful candle-lighting ceremony. Christmas goodies and warm apple cider to follow. Children are welcome! Registration is required, which opens Oct. 1 online at thelourdescenter.com or by calling 605-988-3775. Free-will donations will gladly be accepted.


THIS WEEK ON FORMED: SEPTEMBER 14

- ◆ 100 Hearts: Betrayal & Forgiveness in the Life of Blessed Clelia Merloni
- ◆ Saint John Chrysostom: Catholic Saints
- ◆ Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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.

2025-2026 VOCATION DAYS

Priesthood Sunday – September 28, 2025; Deacon Sunday – October 12, 2025; National Vocation Awareness Week – November 2-8; World Day of Cloistered Life – November 21, 2025; National Catholic Schools Week – January 26 – Feb 1, 2026; World Day for Consecrated Life – February 2, 2026; World Marriage Day/ National Marriage Week – February 7, 2026; World Day of Prayer for Vocations – April 26, 2026; Religious Brothers Day – May 1, 2026. Please use these days as reminders to pray for vocations!



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!

**WELCOME,
FR. TOM!**

MASS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Memorial/Feast Day	Mass Location/Time	Intention
Monday	September 8	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:30 a.m. - St. John's CCD Center Chapel	Jerry Barnett †
Tuesday	September 9	Memorial of Saint Peter Clever, Priest	NO MASS
Wednesday	September 10	Wednesday of the 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 p.m. - St. John's	Jeanne Soulek †
Thursday	September 11	Thursday of the 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	8:30 a.m. - St. John's	Adolph & Rose Novak †
Friday	September 12	Friday of the 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time/ Most Holy Name of Mary	1:00 p.m. - St. Paul's	Benefactors
Saturday	September 13	Vigil of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Scott McAdaragh †
Sunday	September 14	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9:00 a.m. - Assumption 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's	Don & Tim Cihak † Benefactors

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GUN RAFFLE

The Knights Gun raffle is going on! Tickets will be for sale at St. John's bazaar, Knights' meetings, and at So-Co Pioneer. Proceeds from the raffle are used to help pay for our yearly scholarship and other activities within the churches! This year we have a 12 gauge shotgun, and the drawing will take place at the Knights' November meeting! Only 200 tickets will be sold.

1 ticket for \$20
6 for \$100

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

**"Serve the Lord
with gladness"**

— Psalm 100

	Saturday, September 13 5:30 p.m. - St. John's	Sunday, September 14 9:00 a.m. - Assumption	Sunday, September 14 11:00 a.m. - St. Paul's
EM	Bonnie Soukup/ Sandy Seiner	Mike Beeson	Karen
Lector/ Cantor/ Intercessions	Ray Soukup	Mike Beeson	Cathy/ Amy/ Georgia
Altar Servers	Hannah Holzbauer/Luke Holzbauer/ Rachel Holzbauer/Jacob Holzbauer	Vera Beeson/ Vivian Beeson	Bennett/ Briggs
Music	Kim Soukup	Emily Walloch	
Ushers	Gene Niehus/ Jarred Niehus/ Colin Soukup/ Richard Nedved	Ross Beeson/ Travis Krcil	Ryan K./ David L.
Greeters	Fran Podzimek		Judy
Gift Bearers	Jeff & Julie Doom	Ross Beeson Family	Ryan, Abby, & Family
Rosary	Don & Theresa Koupal		
Sacristan	Ray Soukup		
Collection Counters	Mary Kuhlman/ Dorothy Holzbauer	Ross Beeson/ Travis Krcil	Ray/ Jason

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, September 8

Morning Prayer at 8:10 a.m. at St. John's
Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. John's CCD Center Chapel/Daily Rosary Following
Catholic Daughter Monday Mingle at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's

Tuesday, September 9

NO MASS

Daily Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's

Wednesday, September 10

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 6:30 p.m. at St. John's

Thursday, September 11

Morning Prayer at 8:10 a.m. at St. John's
Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. John's/Daily Rosary Following

Friday, September 12

Young Children's Bible School at 9:00 a.m. at Assumption
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

Saturday, September 13

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, September 14

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

BROOM TREE DAYS OF RECOLLECTION

September 16 – "Devotion to the Holy Face," directed by Dr. Teri Kemmer;
October 14 – "Pro Sanctity: Holiness in Everyday Life," directed by Jackie Sempek; November 11 – TBD, directed by Dr. Chris Burgwald; December 9 – TBD, directed by Fr. Tom Anderson. Broom Tree Days of Recollection begin at 10 a.m. and include conferences, time for adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. Because lunch is served, we ask that you please register. A prayerful donation is requested Contact broomtree@sfcatholic.org or 605-263-1040.

ST. JOHN'S COLLECTION

Amount Needed Each Week \$2750.00
August 30 \$ 936.00
Thank you for your generosity - every gift matters and is appreciated! The following amount was also received:
Votive Candle Offerings \$ 91.70

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!



THANK YOU!

The flowers in front of the altar at St. John's were donated by Ray & Bonnie Soukup in honor of and in memory of Farke and Soukup family members. Thank you, Ray & Bonnie!

ARE YOU MISSING SOMETHING?

There are still several jackets and sweaters on the coat rack in St. John's church basement and unclaimed bowls, containers, and pans on the table in the church basement. If you are missing any of these items, please check the church basement to reclaim items that might be yours.

Let's Have Fun!

SAVE THE DATE!!

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.

ST. PAUL'S MY PARISH APP

St. Paul's parishioners who have smart phones or tablets are encouraged to use the My Parish app, which comes to parishioners FREE. To download the app, simply text App to 55321. This will give you access to Mass changes, faith formation updates, and the ministry assignment list. Please pick up the cards that contain download information - the cards can be picked up in the church entryway.

SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION

Would you like to offer a presentation about the Shroud of Turin in your pastorate, parish or group? Michael Moran, a doctor in Watertown, just finished a one year, 22 credit hour, post graduate certificate in Turin Shroud studies online in Rome at the Pontifical Atheneum Regina Apostolorum's Faith and Science Institute, the only place currently offering this degree. He has a life-sized replica of the Turin Shroud, a life sized replica of the negative (black and white) Shroud image, replicas of the lance, the nails, and the Roman scourge to examine. He is available and happy to present a Power Point presentation and Q-and-A session to any pastorate, parish or group to share his knowledge about the Shroud and the latest scientific studies on it. If you are interested in this presentation, contact Michael at eyeguy@wat.midco.net or 605-881-6439.

PRAYER OF SIMPLICITY

Dear God, In my desire for You, take away anything that keeps me from knowing You, myself, or my mission here on earth. Help me to remember what is truly important, and to seek and treasure that. Amen.

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

September 9: Theresa Kocer, Asher Krcil, Weston Frank; September 10: Linda Krcil, Larry Uherka; September 14: Beth Krcil, Jasmin Frank.

Happy Anniversary to these Assumption parishioners who will celebrate wedding anniversaries this week:

September 14: Allen & Lori Cihak, Shawn & Donna Smejkal, Troy & Shirley Soukup.



TEACHERS & VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Teachers and volunteers needed to help with the CCD program at Assumption Parish. Contact Norma Beeson 605-491-2961 for details.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING, DANTE

September 14 After Mass
Soup Dinner Topic; Band 1 has meal; Band 2; activities. Please attend to make a successful event.



ASSUMPTION PARISH COFFEE FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

(Following our 9:00 a.m. Mass)
Please bring something to share as the Tyndall Bakery is closed for rest and repairs. All are WELCOME!

YOUNG CHILDREN'S BIBLE SCHOOL

Friday, September 12
9:00 a.m.
Assumption CCD Center, Dante

You're Invited!

Support Her

Protect Her

SD Right to Life Convention
 Sept. 26-27, 2025
 Faith Lutheran Church
 714 N. Grand in Pierre
 Pierre Area Right to Life
 is excited to host the 54th Annual SD Right to Life State Convention. Please join us for this uplifting event!

Great local and nationally renowned speakers!

Sessions/Activities for all ages

Lunch & Daycare Provided!

For more information, go to sdrighttolife.org or use the QR code on the bottom of the page!

To join the local effort, go to pierrearearighttolife.org or follow us on Facebook at PierreAreaRightToLife.

 Great food, youth breakout session, special music, basket row, and 30+ exhibitors!
 Register now at www.SDRightToLife.org
 Questions? Call the SDRTL Office: 605-220-8678 or email us: Dale.SDRTL@gmail.com



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



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

REACH OUT IN LOVE

We are all called to be accountable to one another. As brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we have a responsibility to reach out in love when we see someone lost and to offer support when the need is the greatest. In that same regard, we must never stand between a loved one and him. Our goal when it comes to those we love is to lead them toward heaven and eternal life with the source of all love, Jesus Christ.

This is the "why" of our stewardship. Our generosity and our giving of very selves back to God need to bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus. It is easy to fall into the trap of loving someone so much that we place them before God. We make our human relationships the main thing and ultimately make decisions that keep our loved ones away from that which they need the most. If we truly love another, we will offer them the example of how we love God even more than them.

We live in a world where romantic and parental love are seen as the highest forms of affection. Stories are often told in books and on the screen of how nothing will keep someone from his or her beloved. Although we are called to love one another, we must never be trapped into the portrayal of love that comes from the world. We are gifts from God to one another, and like all other gifts given to us, we are accountable to God for that which He has given. If you can give a loved one back to God completely, then you are worthy of their love in the first place.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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WEEKLY READINGS: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
 Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
 Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19
 Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42
 Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49
 Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

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DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio divina ("divine reading") is a practice of praying through the reading of Scripture, opening oneself to the inspiration and communication of the Holy Spirit.

The practice of Lectio divina dates to ancient monastic communities, but it has gained popularity in modern times as a way to meaningfully engage with the word of God.

The formula for Lectio divina is simple and follows four steps. The text of the Scripture is read (lectio) multiple times, and the reader takes note of any words or phrases that resonate with him in a particular way. The reader then reflects deeply on the passage (meditatio) and the words that he noticed, turning them over in his mind. Following this, the reader prays with the passage (oratio), and dialogues with God, inviting him to illuminate the reader's understanding of the text. Finally, there is rest and contemplation (contemplatio).

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS WHERE'S THE SACRIFICE?

"It's not that I want you to do it. It's that I want you to want to do it."

If you're married or in a relationship, your partner has probably either said something like this to you or you have said it to them. If one of you hasn't said it, you have probably wanted to, and it's likely that a big argument or two was had where you dance around the sentiment, these exact words flashing in your mind like an old-time movie marquee.

The "it" never really matters much. Taking out the trash, painting the bedroom, traveling to your in-laws' for Christmas — whatever the subject matter of the disagreement is, it's all just so much set dressing. The heart of the matter is the sacrifice and desire. That's what it all hangs on. Am I with a person who will sacrifice for me?

When Paul writes to Philemon that he is sending Onesimus to him, he says exactly this. He tells Philemon that he would prefer to keep Onesimus with him, but that he does not want to deprive Philemon both of Onesimus and the opportunity to make a sacrifice worthy in the sight of the Lord.

The point is not who gets to hang out with Onesimus. The point is, as it says in the Gospel, who is willing to carry his cross? Who is willing to renounce his possessions? Who is willing to do the good deed for the sake of the other?

God doesn't care that much about what we have to offer. He cares much more that we have the strength to offer whatever we have.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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