BY LAURIE HALLSTROM

A rare opportunity to venerate the relics of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will be offered in the Diocese of Rapid City, September 28-29 (see schedule at right). It will take place at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Known to many as Padre Pio, he was a priest who bore the stigmata, or wounds of Christ. He was canonized June 16, 2002, by then-Pope John Paul II.

Vicar General, Fr. Michel Mulloy, said, “Relics bring us close to the saints, the men and women whom the church declares to be in heaven. God worked powerfully in their lives. Coming close to something that was a part of their lives, opens us up to the ways that God wants to work in our lives.”

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, relics in the Catholic Church are divided into three categories. **First class relics** are a portion of a saint’s body. A piece of bone would be an example. **Second classic relics** are clothing or objects that were part of a saint’s life, perhaps a rosary. **Third class relics** are objects, like a piece of cloth, that have been touched to a first class relic. The relics of St. Pio will be displayed in small containers known as reliquaries.

Describing a second class relic, Father Mulloy said, “I was in Assisi, Italy, and saw the tunic that St. Francis wore. It was amazing to think that this holy man wore this garment. It was a moment of encountering God through St. Francis and his own clothing. It helped me imagine his life. In seeing his clothing I could get in touch with him. It renewed my faith and trust and made me want to strive for a more holy life.”

Veneration, or showing great respect to a deceased loved one, is a common practice similar to decorating the grave of a relative. According to Catholic Answers, an organization dedicated to answering questions about Catholic Church teachings, during veneration Catholics do not worship the saint but ask their intercession for divine assistance with prayers.

Mary Daniel, director of Liturgy for the cathedral, said, “We will be setting out two wooden boxes at the front of the church by the handicap pews. Intercession requests and donations for the St. Pio Foundation will be placed in these boxes.”

Two Biblical examples of divine intervention through objects include the woman who was healed of severe bleeding just by touching the border of Jesus’ garment in Lk 8:44. Or in Acts 19:11-12, “God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.”

The foundation will also provide religious items for purchase.

**Venerating relics of St. Pio**

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**Cathedral OLPH Schedule for Relics of St. Pio**

**Friday, September 28**
- 5:30 p.m. Votive Mass of St. Pio and Reception of Relics with Bishop Robert Gruss
- 6:30-10 p.m. Reconciliation
- 6:30 p.m. Veneration of Relics continues through Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament resumes in Our Lady’s Chapel

**Saturday, September 29**
- 8 a.m. Mass for the Feast of the Archangels, Chapel
- 8:30 a.m Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament resumes Chapel
- 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Reconciliation
- Noon Sung Rosary
- 3 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 5:30 p.m. Sunday Vigil Mass with Bishop Robert Gruss
‘Jesus wants to heal you and give life in abundance’

In so many places in the Gospel, people who were sick and suffering were brought to Jesus, in hope of healing. Over and over again, Jesus touches them or they touch him. His healing love and mercy then become the source of new life for those who believed in his power. “Your faith has saved you,” he says over and over again. Have you ever thought about the need for healing in your own life; that Jesus desires to give you that same new life? All of us, “he says over and over again. Believed in his power. “Your faith has saved come the source of new life for those who were sick and suffering were brought to Jesus, in hope of healing. Over and over again, Jesus touches them or they touch him. His healing love and mercy then become the source of new life for those who believed in his power. “Your faith has saved you,” he says over and over again.

Have you ever thought about the need for healing in your own life; that Jesus desires to give you that same new life? All of us, “he says over and over again. Believed in his power. “Your faith has saved come the source of new life for those who were sick and suffering were brought to Jesus, in hope of healing. Over and over again, Jesus touches them or they touch him. His healing love and mercy then become the source of new life for those who believed in his power. “Your faith has saved you,” he says over and over again.

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly,” (Jn 10:10). This promise of Jesus may seem like just a dream to many people. But these words of Jesus from John’s Gospel reveal a gift that is offered to all of us. We know that he is not speaking of material abundance, but a deeper life in his love and mercy and healing. But how often do we ask for this gift? Or open our hearts to this gift?

In order to realize the need for inner healing, we must first identify the problem, those emotional wounds, so that we can then seek the healing Jesus wants to give us. Allow me to name a few common ones:

- A hurt that doesn’t seem to go away
- A tendency to become easily irritable with others, to lash out at others, even people who love you and have done you no harm
- Low tolerance and/or irrational expectations of others, expecting and demanding more from them than is reasonable
- Feelings of anger, hate, resentment, etc., that seem to “rise up” within you at the slightest offense from others
- Feelings of anger or resentment that are brought up by events from your past
- Difficulty in forgiving yourself and others, perhaps even God
- Difficulty in feeling loved, in seeing clearly and realizing the love of others and God in your life, as if a wall has been erected that blocks the flow of love into your life
- Self-hate
- Becoming easily frustrated with others, with everyday tasks and responsibilities
- Perfectionism
- Feelings of hopelessness

These are just a few common emotional wounds that diminish the life Jesus desires for you.

How does one overcome these negative emotions to receive healing? 1) Believe that these things are not what defines you. What defines you is Christ’s love. 2) Believe that Jesus wants to heal you and give life in abundance. Remember Jesus’ words, “Your faith has saved you.” You must have faith that he can and wants to do this.

Over the years I have come across many prayers that have helped me along the way – leading to a deeper life in abundance. Below are two prayers which have helped and which I pray daily with my morning Liturgy of the Hours. They have helped me. I hope and pray that they will help you and lead you to the healing you seek — and the promised life in abundance. They have come from the “Manual of Minor Exorcisms by Bishop Julian Porteous.”

Prayer for Protection and Deliverance

Heavenly Father, I praise and thank you for all you have given me. Please cover me with the protective, precious blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, and increase your Holy Spirit in me with His gifts of wisdom, knowledge, understanding, hunger for prayer, guidance, and discernment to help me know your will and surrender to it more completely.

Father, please heal my negative emotions and any wounds in my heart and spirit. Send the sword of your Holy Spirit to sever and break all spells, curses, hexes, voodoo, and all negative genetic, inter-generational, and addictive material, past, present, or to come, known or unknown, against me, my relationships, and family, finances, and possessions.

Father, I forgive and ask forgiveness for my sins and failings, and I ask that my whole person, body and mind, heart and will, soul and spirit, memory and emotions, attitudes and values be cleansed, renewed and protected by the most precious blood of your Son, Jesus.

In the name, power, blood, and authority of Jesus Christ I bind and break the power and effect in or around me of any and all evil spirits who are trying to harm me in any way and I command these spirits and their companion spirits in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit to leave me peacefully and quietly and go immediately and directly to the Eucharistic presence of Jesus Christ in the closest Catholic Church tabernacle, to be disposed of by Jesus and never again return to harm me.

Dear Holy Spirit, please fill up any void in me to overflowing with your great love. All this, Father, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ by the guidance of your Holy Spirit. Immaculate Heart of Mary, spouse of the Holy Spirit, please pray for me and with me. Amen.

— Manual of Minor Exorcisms by Bishop Julian Porteous

Prayer for Inner Healing

Lord Jesus, you came to heal our wounded and troubled hearts. I beg you to heal the torments that cause anxiety in my heart. I beg you, in a particular way, to heal all who are the cause of sin. I beg you to come into my life and heal me of the psychological harms that struck me in my early years and from the injuries that they caused throughout my life.

Lord Jesus, you know my burdens. I lay them all on your Good Shepherd’s heart. I beseech you — by the merits of the great, open wound in your heart — to heal the small wounds that are mine. Heal the pain of my memories, so that nothing that has happened to me will cause me to remain in pain and anguish, filled with anxiety.

Heal, O Lord, all those wounds that have been the cause of all the evil that is rooted in my life. I want to forgive all those who have offended me. Look to those inner sores that make me unable to forgive. You who came to forgive the afflicted of heart, please, heal my own heart. Heal, my Lord Jesus, those intimate wounds that cause me physical illness. I offer you my heart. Accept it, Lord, purify it and give me the sentiments of Your Divine Heart. Help me to be meek and humble.

Heal me, O Lord, from any pain caused by the death of my loved ones, if it is oppressing me. Grant me to regain peace and joy in the knowledge that you are the Resurrection and the Life. Make me an authentic witness to your resurrection, your victory over sin and death, your living presence among us. Amen.

— Manual of Minor Exorcisms by Bishop Julian Porteous
Changes to the West River Catholic

Readers of the diocesan newspaper will notice a few changes to the format in the coming months. Currently, the paper includes eight columns each month. If you have a favorite columnist do not despair, we are not dropping anyone at this time. Bishop Robert Gruss' column “No Greater Love” and a new offering, “Learning the Liturgy,” mainly written by Fr. Michel Mulloy, Vicar General and Liturgy Director for the Diocese of Rapid City, will be regularly included. However, the remaining columnists will be featured in the paper on a rotating basis. A writer you enjoy will appear within a two or three month cycle. This will make space to increase news, features and other informative articles. History buffs will enjoy a new feature “Curia Corner” from Kathy Cordes, diocesan archivist, see page 15. All in all, these will give the paper a fresh focus. — Laurie Hallstrom, Editor

Fr. Andzej Wyrostek
— Bishop Robert Gruss has made the following appointment. In addition to responsibilities as Pastor of Our Lady of the Black Hills Parish, Piedmont, Father Wyrostek is assigned as Chaplain for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Elementary School in accordance with the agreement reached with Superintendent Barb Honeycutt. This assignment was effective July 1.

Fr. David Matzko, SJ
— Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, the Provincial of the USA Midwest Jesuits has missioned Fr. David Matzko, SJ, formerly an associate pastor of the St. Francis Mission, to be a retreat director and spiritual director at The Cloisters on the Platte Retreat Center in Gretna, Nebraska.

Priest Assignments

WEST RIVER CATHOLIC

USPS 983-360
Official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City, published monthly.
The West River Catholic is owned and published by the Diocese of Rapid City
606 Cathedral Drive Rapid City, SD 57701-5499 Phone: 605-343-3541

Publisher: Bishop Robert D. Gruss
Editor: Laurie Hallstrom, lhallstrom@diorc.org
Assistant Editor: Becky Berreth, bberreth@diorc.org
Circulation: Tanya Cooper, tcooper@diorc.org
Advertising: Laurie Hallstrom, 343-3541
Subscription: $27, Foreign subscription: $60 per year.

Postmaster: Address all correspondence, including change of address, to:
West River Catholic, PO Box 678, Rapid City, SD 57709-0678
Periodical postage paid at Rapid City, SD 57701

Benefactors: Catholic Extension, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Office of Home Missions

Bishop’s Calendar

August 25, Saturday
1 p.m. BHSU Newman Center Grand Opening Presentation, BHSU Newman Center, Spearfish
August 26 Sunday
9 a.m. Mass & Dedication of Children’s Memorial Garden, Terra Sancta Retreat Center
August 27, Monday
5 p.m. RCCSS Board Meeting
August 28, Tuesday
8:30 a.m. Investment Committee Meeting, Chancery
9 a.m. Finance Council Meeting, Chancery
August 29, Wednesday
9:30 a.m. Bishop’s Cabinet Meeting, Chancery
August 30, Thursday
11:30 a.m. Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation Executive Board Meeting, Chancery
September 4, Tuesday
9:05 a.m. Live Appearance on Real Presence Radio
September 7, Friday
11:15 a.m. First Friday Mass/Luncheon, Cathedral
6 p.m. Celebration of 50th Anniversary of Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese, Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City
September 8, Saturday
9:30 a.m. Honors Ceremony: Induction of Nicholas Black Elk into the S.D. Hall of Fame, Chamberlain
September 9, Sunday
Noon Catholic Social Services Annual Awards Banquet Meeting, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center
September 12, Wednesday
10:30 a.m. Bishop’s Cabinet Meeting, Chancery
4:30 p.m. Pre-Confirmation Meeting, St. Patrick Church, Wall
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick Church, Wall
September 13, Thursday
9 a.m. All School Mass, Cathedral
4:30 p.m. Chancery Staff Mass and Picnic, Terra Sancta
September 15, Saturday
4 p.m. Terra Sancta Guild Annual Members’ Mass/Dinner, Terra Sancta
September 16, Sunday
3 p.m. Veritatis Splendor Certification Mass, Terra Sancta

W R C 3
Archbishop McCarrick will face Vatican canonical process

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick “will rightly face” a Vatican canonical process regarding sexual abuse allegations against him, but the U.S. Catholic Church must take steps to respond to church leaders “moral failures of judgment,” said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The accusations against Archbishop McCarrick, a former cardinal and retired archbishop of Washington, “reveal a grievous moral failure within the church,” said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston. To determine a course of action for the USCCB to take, Cardinal DiNardo said he convened the bishops’ Executive Committee. “This meeting was the first of many among bishops that will extend into our Administrative Committee meeting in September and our general assembly in November,” he explained. “All of these discussions will be oriented toward discerning the right course of action for the USCCB.”

That process will take time, Cardinal DiNardo said, but right now he urged action to be taken now, including bishops in their own dioceses responding, "with compassion and justice to anyone who has been sexually abused or harassed by anyone in the church," and anyone who “has experienced sexual assault or harassment by anyone in the church” must come forward. (CNS photo/Brendan McDermid, Reuters)

Statement from Bishop Robert D. Gruss on Archbishop Theodore McCarrick

Most all of us have read about or heard of the recent allegation of sexual abuse and misconduct with young seminarians and priests by Archbishop Theodore McCarrick. He has resigned from the College of Cardinals and Pope Francis has imposed upon him a “life of prayer and penance” as he awaits a church trial.

These actions bring deep sadness and shame to me and many of my brother bishops. I would have to believe that those who have experienced the trauma of sexual abuse by clergy feel betrayed once again by the Church. They have every right to feel this way. My apologies and prayers go out to each of them.

I agree with what many bishops have already suggested: that these tragic and abhorrent actions must be dealt with decisively, honestly and with total transparency. The proposal by Albany Bishop Edward Scharfenberger for a national, independent panel of expert lay faithful, commissioned and duly approved by the Holy See and completely separated from any source of power in the Church, that could exert influence on the bishops would be an important step forward in making lasting reforms in the Church in regard to the investigation of bishops.

Cardinal DiNardo, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, stated: “Both the abuses themselves, and the fact that they have remained undisclosed for decades, have caused great harm to people’s lives and represent grave moral failures of judgement on the part of Church leaders.” Therefore, a thorough investigation is necessary, one that is credible and done with the utmost transparency.

It has been promised that “the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will pursue the many questions surrounding Archbishop McCarrick’s conduct to the full extent of its authority; and where that authority finds its limits, the Conference will advocate with those who do have the authority. One way or the other, we are determined to find the truth in this matter.”

In the meantime, members of the Body of Christ are suffering. The Church is suffering. Let us all turn to prayer and sacrifice and ask the Lord Jesus, who gave his life for his Church, to lead her to holiness, true healing and conversion.

A Safe Environment for Children and Young People

The Catholic Diocese of Rapid City is firmly committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for our children and young people. To report allegations of sexual abuse by church personnel, contact the Victim Assistance coordinator, Barbara Scherr. To ensure confidentiality in her outreach to victims, she can be contacted privately at 1-605-209-3418 (cell). Her phone has caller ID and messaging features. All information will be treated confidentially. Alleged victims are advised of their right to report alleged abuse to civil authorities.

In accordance with diocesan policy, all allegations of sexual misconduct involving children or young people and priests, deacons, lay employees, or volunteers serving the Diocese of Rapid City will be investigated.

The diocesan sexual misconduct policy and the code of conduct are posted on the diocesan website at www.rapidcitydiocese.org.

Diocesan adult Safe Environment training programs expand

BY CHARLOTTE VERHEY, SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Safe Environment training has been implemented in the Diocese of Rapid City, as required by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops’ Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth People. In 2013, the Diocese of Rapid City implemented a new adult safe environment training program. As required by diocesan policy, all clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults for all Catholic entities must undergo adult training and background checks every five years. We are now facing the five-year date, beginning in August for those adults first trained under the 2013 program.

With the approval of the bishop and the Diocesan Safe Environment Committee we will now offer two safe environment training programs for adults. Adults will need to contact their parish Safe Environment Coordinator to assist them in selecting the correct program for their training; or to check the date of their previous training.

- The Adult Safe Environment INITIAL Training, “Creating a Safe Environment for Our Children – Diocese of Rapid City Adult Safe Environment Program” is for those adults who are participating in the adult safe environment training for the first time. This program has been reviewed and updated. Individuals taking the INITIAL Training are also required to read for understanding, and then complete the appropriate forms at the end of each the diocesan “Sexual Misconduct Policy” and the “Code of Conduct.”

- The Adult Safe Environment RENEWAL Training, “Safe Haven,” is for those adults who have successfully completed the adult safe environment training five years ago and are now renewing their training for the five-year period. This is a program provided by Catholic Mutual Group, having three video sections, with each section followed by questions to answers.

Both programs are best presented in a group setting, with the Safe Environment Coordinator there to present the program and encourage interaction between all participants on questions or topics covered by the training. Each has multiple-choice questions asked to check for understanding and help provide on-going education for more knowledge on this important topic. Both options fulfill the Child and Youth Protection Office of the USCCB list of what constitutes as an effective safe environment program in training adults. These include: signs an adult may see in a child who is abused; signs an adult may see in a person who abuses children; and what actions an adult should take when they believe child abuse of any kind may be occurring.
New Lay Ministry Formation Classes

If you are being called to be a more intentional disciple of Jesus Christ, being asked or have a desire to lead others to a deeper relationship with Jesus, the Lay Ministry Formation Program can help form and prepare you.

Lay Ministers help their parishes in many ways, such as leading parish ministries, extraordinary ministers to the homebound/hospitalized, assisting with wakes, leading communion services, and many other ways.

New classes are being formed across the diocese. To learn more, visit: https://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/lay-ministry-formation/ or contact Deacon Greg Sass at gsass@diorc.org or 605-343-3541 x2228.

Bishop Robert Gruss invites you to join him on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land & Jordan

January 14-25, 2019

Visit bit.ly/GrussHL for more information!

$4,599*

*Based on double occupancy

ONLY 4 spots left! Book now while there’s still availability!
**Parish Feast Day**

The Keystone parish celebrated its namesake’s feast day; Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Sunday, July 15. Magdalena Mutchler dressed as Our Lady of Mount Carmel to celebrate this special occasion. She processed up the aisle while walking on rose petals distributed by her sister Catherine. She is shown with her pastor, Fr. Mark Horn. *(Photo by Peggy Sue Mutchler)*

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**Bishop Gruss invited to become a CRL Board member**

Bishop Robert Gruss has been asked to serve on the Board of Directors for Catholic Rural Life. He will begin serving a three-year term in November. The 94-year-old organization is headquartered in St. Paul, Minn.

Executive Director Jim Ennis said he met Bishop Gruss last year when they served together on a rural ministry panel. He recommended the bishop to the organization’s board.

The organization was founded in 1923, in St. Louis, Mo., by Fr. Edwin V. Ohara, who at that time was serving as the director of the National Catholic Welfare Conference’s Rural Life Bureau. He believed rural Catholics were underserved by Catholic priests, schools and hospitals. His primary interest was in religious education.

During the Great Depression the organization sought to help the economic plight of farmers by bringing attention to produce prices. In the 1940s the headquarters were moved to Des Moines, Iowa. Msgr. Luigi G. Ligutti became a spokesman for rural life issues. During the next two decades National Catholic Rural Life also focused on the spiritual needs of rural Catholics. It developed its own “Rural Life Prayerbook,” stressed blessing animals and fields and chose St. Isidore as the official patron saint for farmers. Between 1960 and 1980, the organization stressed farm-aid policies that did not change with political parties and responsible soil, energy and water stewardship.

Under the leadership of Bishop Maurice Dingman, with the help of Dr. John Hart, in 1980 a pastoral letter was developed: “Strangers and Guests: Toward Community in the Heartland,” and it was signed by 44 Midwestern bishops. In the 1980s, when many farmers and ranchers faced foreclosures, the organization began working to impact national food and agriculture policies.

In 2008, Ennis became executive director. In 2013 the name was changed to Catholic Rural Life and in 2014 the office was moved to St. Paul. Today the organization focuses on the environment, developing leaders in the agriculture community, and training priests and lay leaders who serve in rural areas. More can be learned about Catholic Rural Life from the Website, [https://catholicrurallife.org](https://catholicrurallife.org/). In the Diocese of Rapid City, Fr. Tyler Dennis, Martin, is the Rural Life Director. *(History condensed from CRL materials by Laurie Hallstrom)*

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For more information contact: Teresa Spiess, PO Box 678, Rapid City, SD 57709

tspiess@diorc.org  •  605-343-3541

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**Bishop’s Golf Classic**

On Aug. 13, a golf tournament to benefit the Diocese of Rapid City, Catholic Social Services and Rapid City Catholic Schools was held in Rapid City. Blessed Sacrament Church players from Rapid City took home the Parish Team Champs Trophy. Pictured are Steve Miller and Fr. Adam Hofer. Also in their foursome were Robert Sage and John Schaack. A total of 112 golfers turned out for the event. *(WRC photo by Becky Berreth)*

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**Home Healthcare Available**

Home healthcare provider has an opening for long-term care and service in westside home in Rapid City. Preferably for an elderly male. 24/7 care and medication CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) trained provider with 15-years plus of experience. Call Jim Robertson, 605-718-9909.
Closer to becoming a priest

According to Fr. Mark McCormick, director of Vocations, on Friday, August 3, at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Hot Springs, as part of the annual diocesan Clergy/Seminarian Day, Robert Kinyon was received as candidate for the priesthood for the Diocese of Rapid City.

In the Rite of Candidacy, the church formally recognizes the seminarian as being worthy of being ordained a priest. During the Rite of Candidacy there are two main promises that Robert made to Bishop Gruss.

“In response to the Lord’s call, are you resolved to complete your preparation so that in due time, you will be ready to be ordained for the ministry of the church?”

“Are you resolved to prepare yourself in mind and spirit to give faithful service to Christ the Lord and his body, the church?”

Robert responded “I am” to both questions. Bishop Gruss responded to Robert’s yes with these words: “The church receives your declaration with joy. May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfillment.” Bishop Gruss is pictured with Kinyon. The seminarian will begin Theology I this fall. (Courtesy photos)
Summit speaks to share powerful stories

“A story is a way to say something that can’t be said any other way.”
— Flannery O’Connor

“Lost coin is found by means of a candle; the deepest truth is found by means of a simple story.”
— Anthony De Mello

As a third-grader, my son was really struggling to memorize his multiplication facts. We tried everything from flash cards to math games to incentives, all to no avail. He just could not remember them for more than about a day, particularly those involving the numbers greater than five. Finally, I discovered a program developed by a mom who had assigned names to the numbers 6-9 and then developed simple one-sentence stories that contained the math fact. For instance, 7 x 8 = 56 became, “Mrs. Weeks (7) and Mrs. Snowman (8) drove down the highway at 56 mph. (complete with a simple illustration).” In just a matter of days, my son, who had struggled for months, had memorized all the math facts associated with these number “stories.” There is power in a story. For one thing, we remember them. Stories stick with us.

In addition, stories have a power that the mere recitation of facts do not. They draw us in and arouse emotions in us. They bring to the forefront of our minds our own experiences, our own stories.

Recently, I attended a reception for parishioners at the cathedral given to share information with us about the parish’s renovation plans. Much good information was shared and all present seemed to enjoy the conversation and fellowship. But several parishioners shared with me later that the best part of the evening was Fr. Brian’s spontaneous recounting of attending Mass at the cathedral for the first time as an Air Force officer newly assigned at Ellsworth. All of us delighted in the warm welcome he received from a fellow parishioner and in a real way, shared his gratitude and joy.

Stories often generate conversation and help foster friendship. In late July, I attended the Regional Stewardship Conference in Sioux Falls. There were many fine speakers and good information shared over the course of two days. But, in all honesty, what I enjoyed most was dinner on Thursday evening. Will Wisner, the director of our capital campaign, generously invited those of us from Rapid City to dinner. He also delighted us all with many of his adventures traveling across our diocese gathering information for our campaign. Thanks to his (and others) talent for storytelling and his generosity in sharing it, all who were at our table had a delightful time.

Lastly, some stories have the power, as Anthony de Mello notes in the quote above, to convey deep truths. We know this is true of the stories Jesus told. In his parables, deep truths are conveyed through these stories which often use experiences and events drawn from the everyday lives of those he spoke to. Despite the apparent simplicity of these stories, books have been written unpacking the meaning of some of them.

My great respect for the power of a story well-told is one of the reasons I am so excited about the upcoming Summit to be held on Saturday, September 22 from 10: a.m.–8 p.m. at Terra Sancta. The speakers we have coming for this year’s Summit are master storytellers. They have some powerful stories to share. Matt Loboda is a father of five and works in landscaping in Phoenix, Arizona. In many ways, he is just like the fathers and husbands you know. But Matt has a very powerful story to share with us. In December of 2016, while visiting her grandparents, 19-month old Joy Loboda, was found floating face down in the swimming pool. She was not breathing. Matt pulled her from the pool and began performing CPR. “As I breathed into Joy, I prayed that my breath would be the breath of God into her...,” says Matt. Thus, begins Matt story of a long, very difficult and faith-filled journey for Matt, his wife Kristen and Joy. A story of a modern-day miracle which, like all good stories, touches the lives and hearts of those who hear it; a story which allows Matt to share with us the sure and certain knowledge of God’s great mercy and love.

Jim Beckman is also a husband and father. He has a great gift for sharing stories from his own life. He was privileged to witness the miraculous healing of his father, and as a Youth Minister for a Denver-area church to minister, to students who experienced the Columbine shooting. Jim was the keynote speaker at the Summit two years ago, and here are a few things people said about him then: “Jim Beckman was excellent!” “Speaker was Exceptional!” “I would love to hear him again.”

Finally, Chris Stewart and Tony Brandt will be there as well, sharing once again their inspirational stories and experiences from their many years of teaching and ministering as they did so well at last year’s Summit.

Bishop Gruss will be joining us, leading us in Mass and sharing his wisdom with us as well. I am looking forward to the event. I pray that you, too, are inspired to make every effort to clear your calendar and come. There are many ways we can choose to spend our time; many demands put upon us. But this is worth sacrificing for!


FEELING TIRED?

“COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.”
— JESUS

Would you like a day to get away, to relax and be renewed? Join us for this year’s Summit. Inspirational talks, music, good food and fellowship will all be a part of the day.

September 22 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Cost is only $25/person or $50/family and a Youth Track will be provided.

For more information or to register, please visit: www.The2018Summit.com.

Come. Be Inspired. Be Renewed.
WYD-1993: The turning point

On this 25th anniversary of World Youth Day in Denver, I can't help sharing one of my favorite personal memories of John Paul II.

It was December 15, 2004, and as had become our custom during the years when I was preparing “Witness to Hope,” I was having a pre-Christmas dinner with Pope John Paul II who loved the Christmas season — and believed in opening his Christmas presents when he got them. That year, I had brought him a very large photo album, National Parks of the United States, which the pope proceeded to unwrap as soon as I gave it to him, with some help from then-Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko. The 263rd successor of St. Peter then looked at the table of contents — and immediately turned to Rocky Mountain National Park.

AFTER A FEW MINUTES OF QUIETLY BROWSING THROUGH THE PICTURES, JOHN PAUL GOT THAT LOOK IN HIS EYE, AND SAID ACROSS THE TABLE, “Hmm. Rocky Mountain National Park. Hmm. Denver. World Youth Day 1993. Hmm. Bishops of America said it couldn’t be done. I … proved … them … wrong!” The last sentence was spoken through a big smile, with as much force as the Parkinson’s-ridden pope could muster, and he punctuated it by stabbing his finger down on the page with each dramatically drawn-out word.

The memory of those remarkable days in August 1993 obviously meant a lot to him, and he wasn’t exaggerating the opposition he faced in bringing World Youth Day to the Mile High City. Despite its successes elsewhere, a lot of American bishops thought that a Catholic youth festival just wouldn’t work in the United States. But the pope insisted that he wanted a World Youth Day in America; Archbishop J. Francis Stafford wanted World Youth Day as a kick-start to the re-evangelization of the Denver Archdiocese; and after some efforts were made to hold the event in Buffalo (where it was thought it might attract Canadian pilgrims) or Chicago, Denver got the nod and Archbishop Stafford and his team set to work preparing WYD 1993.

It was a colossal undertaking that exhausted everyone involved in it (except, perhaps, for the ebullient St. John Paul II), and it succeeded far beyond anyone’s expectations (except, again, for the pope). The event itself was a marvel. The helicopter pilot who flew John Paul into the old Mile High Stadium said the noise from the cheering crowd created air turbulence the likes of which he hadn’t experienced since being under fire when flying in Vietnam. The chief of police later noted that there hadn’t been a single felony arrest in the city during the entire time World Youth day was underway — right after Denver had been experiencing a serious crime wave.

Skepical people who hadn’t seen the inside of a church in years found themselves giving water and candy to young pilgrims as they walked 15 miles through and out of the city they’d transformed, to the closing Vigil and Mass at Cherry Creek State Park.

And during that Mass, the pope brought it all to a fine, dramatic conclusion with this challenge: “Do not be afraid to go out on the streets and into public places like the first apostles who preached Christ and the good news of salvation in the squares of cities, towns, and villages. This is no time to be ashamed of the Gospel … It is the time to preach it from the rooftops.”

WYD 1993 was not just a triumph for John Paul II, and for now-Cardinal Stafford and his team; it was a turning point in the history of the Catholic Church in the United States; and its effects are still being felt on this silver jubilee. Before WYD 1993, too much of Catholicism in America was in a defensive crouch, like too much of the church in western Europe today. After WYD 1993, the New Evangelization in the United States got going in earnest, as Catholics who had participated in it brought home the word that the Gospel was still the most transformative force in the world. Before WYD 1993, U.S. Catholicism was largely an institutional-maintenance church. With WYD 1993, Catholicism in America discovered the adventure of the New Evangelization, and the living parts of the church in the U.S. today are the parts that have embraced that evangelical way of being Catholic.

That crucial turning point on the road to a Catholicism of missionary disciples should be remembered with gratitude.

George Weigel is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the Catholic Social Services Palm Sunday Brunch April 14, 2019, at noon.

George Weigel
Senior fellow
Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

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Monthly Message From Our Lady
On the 25th of each month, Our Lady appears to the Medjugorje visionary Marija to give us her message.

“Dear Children! God called me to lead you to him because He is your strength. That is why I am calling you to pray with Him and to trust in Him, because He is your refuge from every evil that lurks and carries souls far from the grace and joy to which you are all called. Little children, live Heaven here on earth so that it will be good from you; and may the commandments of God be a light on your way. I am with you and I love you all with my motherly love. Thank you for having responded to my call.” 7/25/18

Catholic Extension selects Lumen Christi finalists

A Pine Ridge priest is a finalist among the Catholic Extension Lumen Christi Award candidates.

Jesuit Father Peter Klink’s mantra and mission at Red Cloud Indian School is to provide the Lakota children and their families on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation with “a brighter future." Since arriving 40 years ago to teach high school students, and even before he became a priest in 1981, he has aimed to give a boost to young Lakota who face many challenges. He has served the school and Holy Rosary Mission in almost every capacity: teacher, principal, superintendent of schools, director of development, president, pastor and currently, vice president for mission and identity. He has managed a successful Lakota language immersion program at the school, for 10 years, which is producing fluent Lakota speakers.

He believes that schools need to give any student, but especially Indian students, two things to succeed in college: competency and confidence. Through his dedication, 95 percent of the 2017 graduating class went on to post-secondary education at 23 colleges. “These sons and daughters of God are beloved and meant to make a positive difference in this world,” he said. “They have been gifted with life and given gifts that need discovering and growing.”

FR. PETER KLINK, SJ
In silence we are receptive to what God is revealing

Last fall parishioners reflected on their experience of Mass through a survey conducted by the Diocesan Liturgy Commission. The responses highlighted many wonderful aspects of our Eucharistic celebration as well as areas that need renewal. One area that could use attention is the experience of silence at Mass.

Silence makes some people nervous. Silence during Mass can seem as if something has gone wrong or someone has forgotten their part. Many are relieved when the silence ends.

Yet the General Instruction of the Roman Missal also referred to as GIRM which guides our celebration of the Eucharist prescribes silence as an integral part of the celebration of Mass. The introduction of the GIRM dedicates a full paragraph on this topic. The purpose of the prescribed silence depends on the moment in the Mass, but in general the hope is that we encounter the Lord during these moments.

The Eucharistic celebration is an encounter with the living God through his Son Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. Like any relationship, that encounter requires us to listen. Listening requires silence. More importantly, we must be receptive to what God is revealing to us in this encounter. This is a challenge in our culture of constant noise, movement and stimulation amidst a blizzard of digital communications.

There are four primary moments of silence in the Mass. We are asked to recollect ourselves in the introduction to the Prenunention Act and just before the Collect (Opening Prayer). The Liturgy of the Word is laced with silence after each reading and the homily. Finally, we are invited to be silent after we receive Communion.

The DLC, working with the pastors, is hoping to renew our appreciation of these moments of silence and to help everyone engage silence more fully in the celebration of Mass throughout the diocese. The commission will be sharing explanations of these moments of silence when they occur in the Mass, the desired experience, and how we can all enter these moments more fully. The commission will also provide resources, radio dialogues and podcasts on the subject, including a pew card. Additionally, the DLC is developing a workshop for liturgical ministers. This workshop will explore the ministry of silence that readers, cantors, servers, musicians and other liturgical ministers share as collaborators with the priests and the faithful in the celebration of the Mass. Stay tuned for more in the near future.
The Terra Sancta Guild has led the way as a valuable resource in carrying on the ministry at the Terra Sancta campus. The Terra Sancta Guild began almost ten years ago and through its generous donors continues to provide valued support in serving the mission of the Diocese of Rapid City. With deep gratitude I thank this generous group of people who, year after year, come forward in faith to advance the mission of Jesus.

Our Diocesan Priority Plan stresses stewardship as one of our core values, stating “In gratitude we will joyfully and generously share our gifts out of love for God and neighbor.” Over the past year, there have been Terra Sancta Guild socials declaring “In gratitude we will joyfully and generously share our gifts out of love for the mission of Jesus.

Each year we continue to build up the church in western South Dakota through our Guild membership — one person, one family at a time. With your generous financial and prayerful support, we will continue to do great things together!

Terra Sancta Guild members will gather together again on September 15, 2018 in recognition and gratitude for their faithful stewardship. Guild members, please join me for an evening to joyfully celebrate and thank you for your generosity and support.

Be assured of my continued prayers for all of you. May the generosity of our Lord overflow in abundance to you and your family.

Wishing you all the peace and joy in Christ,
Bishop Robert D. Gruss

We build the church one person, one family at a time

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## 2018 Annual Membership Update

### Terra Sancta Charter Members

- Stanford Adelstein
- Tony & Vickie Berendse
- Kenneth Berens
- +Joseph & +Barbara Butler
- +John (Jack) & +Ruth Cannon
- +John & Helen Colgan
- +Rev. D. Craig Cower
- Dakota Charitable Foundation
- Stephen & Lynn Eckrich
- David & Deanna Emery
- John Finn
- William Fischer
- +Adeline Gassen
- Richard & Nancy Gowen
- Joe & Bonnie Hilt
- Jim & Laverne Klifelletter
- +Arthur & Eleanor Kroetch
- +Roman & Wilma Kurylas
- Tom & Judy Lien
- +Tom & Cindy Lillibridge
- Joseph McGinley
- +Rev. Msgr. William O'Connell
- Pete Lien & Sons
- Wayne & Pat Roe
- +Rev. Gerry Scherer
- Rev. Andrzeje Wyrostek
- Rev. William Zandri
- Anonymous (3)

### Nazareth Charter Members

- Michael & Kimberly Albertson
- +Raymond Berens
- David Bradsky
- Most Rev. Blase Cupich
- Monte & Luanne Dirks
- Eric & Dionne Eastmo
- +Tom Foye
- John & Tonya Gomez
- Brian Hagg; Rex & Cindy Hagg;
- and Kent & Karin Hagg
- Jolene & Norm Fasse
- Karl & Eileen Fischer
- Irene (Micki) Fox
- Tom & Pam Fritz
- Tim & Deb Frost
- Deacon George Gladfelter
- Jim & Christa Headland
- Dave & Frances Henderson
- Gerald & Colleen Hepnar
- +William A. & Judith Hobbs
- Bill & Barb Honeycutt
- Roger Johnsen
- Martin & Mary Jorgensen
- Lyle & Phyllis Kenzy
- Gregory & +Rose Kopriwa
- Deacon Larry & Elke Kopriwa
- Tom & Kathy Letner
- Robert & Betty Letner
- +Joe & Edith Lien
- Dennis & Margaret Lindskov
- Thomas & Kathryn Loff
- Most Rev. Robert Lynch
- The Maguire Family
- Rev. Mark McCormick
- Angel & Barbara Munoz
- Thomas & Carolyn O'Meara
- +John & Patti Herlihy
- +Richard & Marge Kovarik
- Kevin & Denise Maher
- Stephan Miller & Jennifer May
- +Rev. Andrew Morvay
- Richard & Toni Rangel
- +George & +Shirley Stec
- Anonymous (2)

### Bethlehem Charter Members

- Frances M. Bachand
- Greg & Julie Bernard
- +Earl & Elizabeth Boxa
- John & Jan Brewer
- Kent & Peggy Bruguier
- Pat & Lucy Burchill
- William Cerny, Jr.
- Christopher & Angie Dietrich
- Dan & Karrie Duffy
- +Don & Miranda Dunmire
- Pat & +Audrey Durkin
- Peggy Falvey
- Deacon Larry & Valarie Brown
- +Howard Bruner
- John & Julie Burkhard
- Bruce & Roxann Basham
- Pascal & Dennesse Bedard
- Bonnie Beer
- Bob & Kelly Bickett
- Derek & Annette Bissinger
- Jim & Sherry Blackwell
- Nancy Bradsky
- Deacon Dan & Valarie Lien
- +Marie Lamm
- Rev. Brian Lane
- James & Iona Langer
- Kip & Donna Larson
- Corey & LuAnn Lindskov
- Dave & Lori Litzen
- +Don & Diane London
- +Sharon Long
- Michael & Sandra McNeeley
- Wesley & Karen Mendenhall
- Patrick & Barbara Miller
- James & Dorothy Miller
- +Wallace & Roberta Molin
- Robert & Cathy Morcom
- Greg & Sweenie Mower
- Rev. Michel Mulloy
- +John & Patti Herlihy
- +Richard & Marge Kovarik
- Kevin & Denise Maher
- Stephan Miller & Jennifer May
- +Rev. Andrew Morvay
- Richard & Toni Rangel
- +George & +Shirley Stec
- Anonymous (2)

### Jerusalem Charter Members

- Rev. Kevin Achbach
- Paul & Mary Arthur
- Paul & Gloria Baker
- Linda Baldwin
- Bruce & Roxann Basham
- Pascal & Dennesse Bedard
- Bonnie Beer
- Bob & Kelly Bickett
- Derek & Annette Bissinger
- Jim & Sherry Blackwell
- Nancy Bradsky
- Deacon Dan & Valarie Lien
- +Howard Bruner
- John & Julie Burkhard
- Bruce & Roxann Basham
- Harold & Patricia Carda
- Chad & Allison Carpenter
- Robert Case
- +Kevin & Mary Casey
- Sean & Jami Casey
- Alan & Marlan Christensen
- Linda Comeau
- George & Vicky Coyle
- Mike & Barbra Coyle
- Deacon Mike & Wilma Curtin
- Ron & Brenda Czmoswki
- +Rev. Paul Dahms
- Michael & Jo Conda Dana
- Deacon Raul & Mary Daniel
- +Rev. Raymond Deisch
- Bruce & Mary DeMarcus
- Scott & Sandy Diegel
- Joe & Jolene Dobbs
- Dan & Barbara Dolan
- Lawrence & Patty Donegal
- Robert & +Carol Dorsey
- +Dorothy Doyle
- Mickey Duffield
- Sam & Laurie Durr
- Rick & Rachel Edelen
- +Ray & Mary Eide
- Keith & +Lucille Emerson
- Mike & Mary Erz
- +Rev. Brian Favett
- Dan Flynn & Mary Carpenter
- Ernesto & Nancy Garcia
- Rev. Rori Garry
- Dale & Karen Geiman
- David & Jeanine Gerlach
- +Larry & Mary Giddings
- Jeff & Kim Goble
- Sally Graham
- +David & Julie Gray
- Pat & Mary Lou Guptill
- Donald & Brenda Habbe
- Leo & +Mary Hargens
- Charles & Kathryn Hart
- Rev. Leo Hausmann
- Rev. John Heying
- Bryant & Margery
- High Horse
- +Zbigniew & Halina Hladysz
- Rev. James Hoeter
- Don & +Betty Holliday
- Cynthia Howell
- +Edwin & +Jan Hubbeling, Sr.
- Keith & Cynthia Jackson
- Jim Jacquot
- Tim & +LeAnn Johns
- Ronald Johnsen
- Rev. Dan Juefls
- The Julio R. Gallo Foundation
- Rev. Arnold Kari
- Stuart & Mary Kellogg
- Larry & Micki Kennison
- +Rev. Peter Kovarik
- Harvey & +Joy Krautschun
- +Louisa Krebs
- +Richard & +Judy Kruil
- Mitchell & Maureen Lefleur
- Kelly & Suzie Lambert
- +Marie Lamm
- Rev. Brian Lane
- James & Iona Langer
- Kip & Donna Larson
- Corey & LuAnn Lindskov
- Dave & Lori Litzen
- +Don & Diane London
- +Sharon Long
- Michael & Sandra McNeeley
- Wesley & Karen Mendenhall
- Patrick & Barbara Miller
- James & Dorothy Miller
- +Wallace & Roberta Molin
- Robert & Cathy Morcom
- Greg & Sweenie Mower
- Rev. Michel Mulloy
- Joseph & Margie Munro
- Brendan & Jonette Murphy
- Rollie & Peg Noem
- Madonna Opbroek
- Modesta Opbroek
- Robert & Sharon Ormesher
- Deacon John & Joanne Osnes
- Patricia Peel
- Wade & Karen Pogany
- Tom & Joy Polonic
- Sid & Carol Pond
- Rev. Kerry Prendiville
- Kevin & Lisa Pummel
- +John Quillin
- +Rev. Msgr. William Schrempp
- +Rev. Msgr. William Woster
- Larry & Joyce Williamson
- Mike & Paula Wilson
- Maureen Wilson
- Rev. Mr. Martin Wooster
- DeWayne & Helen Yantes
- Anonymous (15)

### Jerusalem Regular Members

- Darlene Veurink
- Joseph & Megan Volk
- Larry & Diane Von Wald
- John & Betty Wagner
- Richard & Frances Waits
- Robert & Pamela Weaver
- +Gregor & Dorothy Weber
- Elaine Whalen
- Larry & Joyce Williamson
- Mike & Paula Wilson
- Maureen Wilson
- Rev. Msgr. Michael Woster
- DeWayne & Helen Yantes
- Anonymous (15)

### Bethlehem Regular Members

- Greg & Pam Scherr
- Ellen Schofield
- Ronald & Marilyn Schwans
- Frank & Mary Ellen Short
- Wayne & Melanie Shull
- Donal & Catherine Sieger
- Thomas & Michelle Skoog
- Terry & Lori Slattery
- +Don & +Barbara Smith
- +Eugene & Avis Smith
- Leroy & Janice Smith
- Richard & Lynn Soulek
- +John & Sandra Wade
- Kyle & Suzanne White
- Don & Jeanne Wieseler
- Deacon Walt & Judy Wilson
- Gregory & Nan Wittenberg
- Thomas & Sharon Zeller
- Anonymous (8)

###Nazareth Regular Members

- Mike & Barbra Coyle

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**In the list of guild members + indicates a deceased member.**

**Charter Members joined before December 31, 2010.**
Via Crucis Charter Members

We Walk by Faith

August 2018

Via Crucis Regular Members

Andrew & Keva Aberle
Joe & Jeanne Bride
Rev. Brian Christoph
+Jerome & +Plus Dorsch
Randy & +Becky Fitchner
Knights of Columbus,
Belle Fourche
Joe & Lois Lamer
Sarah Lantis

Via Crucis Regular Members

Robert & Laura Varilek
Larry & Carol Vavruska
Nobil & Marg Veal
Steve Venteicher
Rev. Claude & Dorothy
Vershure
+Don & +Dona Vetsch
Mark & Shelby Vickers
John & Bobbie Vogel
Dustin & Angela Wagner
Josiah & Vicki Wallace
Bill & Jo Walsh
Virg & Myra Warnke
Tim & Brenda Warnke
Lisa Wattenhofer
Ed & JoAnn Wegner
Larry & LaVonne Wich
Tavis & Cindy
Weidenbach
Mike & Judy Weisgram
Kenneth & Rebecca
Wentz
Timothy & Paula
Welinger
Doug & Sue Wernke
Peg Westrich
Kenneth & Donna Wetzel
James Whalen
William & Beverly
Whitney
Hank & Joyce Whitney
Leon & Carolyn Wilke
Steven & Linda Williams
Wade & Carrie Wilson
Jon & Gail Wingert
Rev. George
Winzenburg, SJ
Rev. Ed Witt, SJ
Joe & Bobbi Wottte
Kevin Wolfe
Mary Woytaske
Jerome & Patricia Wright
Paul & Kathy Young
Don & Mindy Zacher
Anonymous (40)

Via Crucis Charter Members

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+Mary Lou Pennati
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+Mary Lou Polonic
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Robert & Sandy Spencer
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Spatte
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+Herman & Jane Rausch
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Oliver & Angie Redden
+Ingrid Reineke
Christina Cote & Gable
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Howard & Mary Rice
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Paul & Debra Roberts
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Rojandez
Rudy & Susan Roth
Frank Rubin
Randy & Teresa Ruby
Jack & Gayle Rush
Claudia & Bennie
Saldahna
Bart & Nicole Samuelson
Mary Kay Sandal
Walter & Ramona
Saubers
+Deacon Claude &
+Eileen Sauer
+Samuel & Irene
Saunders
+Thorval & Mary Sautter
Annette Saylor
Joe & Linda Schacher
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Schaferes
+Jennie Schatz
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Schweitzer
Paul & Susan Sedlacek
Jacqueline Sell
Jean Seiler
+Marie Seniuk
+Robert & +Trudie Besse
+Robert & Leona Best
Bar & Marlene Biegler
Greg Biegler & Janine
Kern
William Bielmaier
Kevin & Jody Bielmaier
George Biggs
Mike & Linda Birgenheir
+Delbert & JoAnn Birkel
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Gloria Clausen
Deacon Calvin & Joan
Clifford
Grant & Mary Coffin
Tom & Lorinda Collins
Mary Collins
+Mary Jean Conklin
Kevin & Carol Conway
Ana Costas
Leo & Pam Coughlin
+Mary Coughlin
50th Anniversary of U.S. Permanent Diaconate

One of the great legacies of the Second Vatican Council was its renewal and encouragement of the order of deacons throughout the entire Catholic Church.

Following the closing of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI formally implemented the renewal of the diaconate. Since the Second Vatican Council consigned the decision of the restoration of the diaconate to individual episcopal conferences, the bishops of the United States voted in the spring of 1968 to petition the Holy See for authorization. On August 30, 1968, the Apostolic Delegate informed the United States bishops that Pope Paul VI had agreed to their request. To commemorate this anniversary the West River Catholic will feature active deacons monthly throughout the year.

Assign to: St. Paul, Belle Fourche; St. Joseph, Spearfish


Ministry Highlight: Baptizing my grandchildren, but also seeing families come together at funerals with many becoming active in the church.

Work: Real Estate Appraiser

Deacon Ray & Joan Klein

Ordained May 22, 2003 by Bishop Blase Cupich

Deacon Greg & Nancy Sass

Ordained February 1, 2013 by Bishop Robert Gruss

Assigned to: Our Lady of the Black Hills, Piedmont

Duties: Faith Formation, Returning Catholics, Marriage Prep

Ministry Highlights: The first two weddings I presided at were my children's weddings. It was such a blessing to be able to witness, on behalf of the Catholic Church, the Sacrament of Matrimony for them. I also baptized my grandson.

Work: Diocesan Director of the Diaconate, Diaconate Formation, Lay Ministry Formation

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Aug 26, Sunday

*Padre Pio Diocesan Choir:* Rehearsal 7-8:30 pm at Cathedral choir loft. Also rehearses Sept 9 and Sept 23 — 7 p.m. in the choir loft. As Amber 605-3443-0507 or amber@cathedralolph.org.

Aug 31, Friday

*Deadline for submissions.*

Paper mailed Tuesday, September 18.

605-343-3541

lhallstrom@diorc.org

bberreth@diorc.org

**September 1, Saturday**

*World Apostolate of Fatima:* First Saturday begins with prayers at 7:45 a.m. followed by 8 a.m. Mass and exposition in Our Lady's Chapel, Cathedral. First Friday, September 7, prayers and devotions 6 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Chapel, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Dr. Kopriva 605-343-6202.

**September 7, Friday**


*50th Anniversary of the Diaconate Open House/Mass:* All are invited to attend a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the diocesan in the United States. See p. 14.

**September 8, Saturday**

*Spiritual Motherhood Retreat:* Open to all women of the diocese. Commitment to prayer and offerings for the priests of our diocese, as well as prayers for an increase of vocations in our diocese. $30 includes Sunday lunch. Lodging and other meal options available. Ends September 9. www.rapidcitydiocese.org/vocations/

**September 13, Thursday**


**September 14, Friday**

*Right to Life 10th Annual Golf Tournament:* Held at the Executive Golf Course, Rapid City from 12:30-3:30 pm. Cost is $20 plus green fees. There will be prizes and lunch will be served. Jeff Cook 605-718-1999.

*Call to Holiness Retreat:* This four-day retreat led by Dr. Clare Ten Eyck will focus on personal healing. Held at Sioux Spiritual Center. $200 includes lodging and meals. Only 12 spaces. Ends September 17. siouxspiritualcenter.org/retreats. See p. 19.

**September 15, Saturday**

*Prayerful Painting:* Theme for the day is listening. Held at St. Martin Monastery, Rapid City. $20 includes lunch. Sr. Therese Marie 605-343-8011.

**September 16, Sunday**

*VSI Mass of Certification:* Basic and Master graduates of the Veritatis Splendor Institute will receive their certification at 3 p.m. in Holy Cross Chapel, Terra Sancta. All are welcome. Reception to follow. Dione Eastmo 605-716-5214.

**September 22, Saturday**

*The Summit 2018:* Held at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Lunch and dinner provided. $25 individual or $50 per family. Day includes Sunday vigil Mass. Child care will be available. Youth Tracks for pre-k–high school students. www.The2018Summit.com.

*Natural Family Planning:* Seminar for engaged couples or anyone wanting to learn more about natural family planning. Held at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City, from 9 a.m.-noon. Next Seminar, October 13, St. Joseph Church, Spearfish. Preregistration required. Amy 605-716-5214.

**September 24, Monday**

*Bereavement Support Group:* An eight-week non-denominational support group open to all Christian adults who have lost a loved one due to death. Held at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City. George Wallace 605-721-3811 or Janice Rieman 605-343-5547.

*Returning Catholics:* Six-week program for those who have been away from the church and are thinking about returning. Begins at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rapid City. No charge. Margaret Jackson 605-939-0579 or ReturningCatholics.net. Sessions will also be held in Spearfish, Diane Say 605-642-2306, and Lead/Deadwood, Pete Morris 303-319-3993.

**October 12, Friday**

*White Mass for Health Care Professionals:* Mass at 5:30 p.m., Holy Cross Chapel, Terra Sancta. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and social to follow. Amy Julian 605-716-5214.

**October 21, Sunday**

*Celebration of Marriage:* Mass in commemoration of those celebrating 25, 40, 50, or more years of marriage in 2018. If you, or someone you know is celebrating one these milestone anniversaries Amy Julian 605-716-5214 for an invitation to this celebration.

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**Curia Corner**

*Preserving a Catholic community*

This monthly feature will share stories along with tips on how to preserve what we have, antidotes, stump the archivist, learn how to donate artifacts to our diocese, and be a place to share and ask for help with historical photos and stories that could be necessary for preserving our diocesan history. Watch the diocesan Facebook — www.facebook.com/DiocesesofRapidCity — page for #tbt! The diocesan archivist, Kathy Cordes recently attended the Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists conference in Mundelein, Ill. at the University of St. Mary of the Lake. “By keeping records archivists are ‘Preserving the Past, Embracing the Future,’” said keynote speaker Bishop Thomas Paprocki, Diocese of Springfield, Ill. “They are recording events such as the first apostles scripted. They are to be evangelists for the heart of the Catholic Church.”

*Right* In Illinois, little did she know, she would encounter Cardinal Blase Cupich, bishop of this diocese from 1998-2010. (Courtesy photo)
In Your Prayers

In Your Prayers is designed to help us remember the birthdays, ordination, and death anniversaries of the priests who serve us. Every effort has been made to have a complete list.


**Birthdays:** September 2, Fr. John Itukulapat, ALCP/OSS; September 11, Fr. George Winzenburg, SJ; September 12, Fr. Adam Hofer; September 17, Dcn. Paul Keller; September 20, Fr. Marcin Garbacz; September 22, Dcn. Michael Curtin; September 28, Fr. James Hoerter; September 22, Dcn. Michael Curtin; September 28, Fr. James Hoerter; September 29, Fr. Jacob Bodickker, SJ.


The Officers and Directors of Catholic Social Services cordially invite you to attend our Annual Meeting Brunch with special recognition of

**Former Mayor Donald Barnett**

Sunday, September 9, 2018 — 12 noon-2 p.m.
Rushmore Plaza Civic Center - LaCroix Ballroom

$20 per person — Brunch
or save $5 per ticket by ordering online at:
www.catholicsocialservicesrapidcity.com

Please RSVP by August 31 • 605-348-6086 • css@cssrapidcity.com
Susan Raposa, President

**Parishioners gathered at St. Bonaventure Church, McIntosh, for a centennial Mass celebration. (L-R) Deacon Paul Keller, Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt of Grand Island, Neb., Bishop Robert Gruss, Fr. Tony Grossenbarg and Deacon Bill Dustman. Choir members past and present sang at Mass: Sue Bubbers, Molly TenBroek, Nancy Olson, Brenda Schneider, and Myron Volk. (Photos by Gary Bubbers)**

**Diocesan PODCASTS**

Headphones ready?

Communicating via Website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are already in place. Now the Diocese of Rapid City is launching a new communications method — podcast. For those unfamiliar with the medium, podcast is a coined phrase that came about by combining the words “iPod” and “broadcast.” A recorded topic is housed on the diocesan Website. Start by downloading the cellphone podcast icon from the Apps menu. Select the search icon and type in “Official Podcast for the Diocese of Rapid City.” Then select a title from list. A link will also appear on the rapidcity diocese.org page.

Listeners can download and listen to a podcast at their own convenience. In many ways it is like listening to an audiobook. The first regular podcast will be released Wednesday, August 22. Listeners will get the scoop on Summit 2018. Upcoming topics include Padre Pio Relics, Encuentro and Black Elk.

**Steve Allender**
Mayor, City of Rapid City

**Ozzie Osheim**

**Kay Rippentrop**

**Rev. Larry Dahlstrom**

**Susan Raposa**
President
Catholic Social Services

**The Most Rev. Robert Gruss**
Bishop of Rapid City

**Jim Kinyon**
Executive Director
Catholic Social Services

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In their desire for a child, couples who struggle with infertility sometimes turn to in vitro fertilization. The rapidly growing industry that provides IVF offers fulfillment of a couple’s dream of becoming parents. For some, the dream turns into a nightmare after multiple IVF attempts fail to produce a child. Torn between cycles of hope and heartbreak, these couples suffer from the effects of what Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City recently called a “God crisis,” which he described as “the most serious crisis” facing our country. As Archbishop Naumann highlighted, when we sever our relationship with God and reject his plan, we view people as things.

How is in vitro fertilization a rejection of God’s plan? Consider the process: the mother’s eggs are collected from her ovaries, fertilized by the father’s sperm in a lab, and the new life is implanted in the uterus. In the words of Robert Edwards, one of the scientists who created the first “test-tube” baby 40 years ago, “I wanted to find out exactly who was in charge, whether it was God himself or whether it was scientists in the laboratory.” His answer: “It was us.”

It is admirable when couples seek to overcome infertility, but not all acts are morally acceptable. Many couples are unaware of the church’s teaching that IVF is wrong. The creation of the child in the laboratory eliminates sex as the means of procreation. It is in a loving, sexual union that God desires to gift a husband and wife with biological children. This is essential for respecting both the fullness of the love the couple is called to, as well as the right of the child to be conceived from the physically-expressed union of loving parents. With IVF, couples “take charge” and view the child as a thing that achieves their goal of having a family, rather than as a gift bestowed according to God’s will.

Contrary to Edwards’ words, God is in charge. It is truly God who lovingly created the world and all of humanity and, in every moment, holds us all in existence. Our attempts at controlling life and death are as old as Adam and Eve, who freely chose to act as if they were God.

Sold a bill of goods by fertility clinics, women have increasingly begun to tell heartbreaking stories of mourning their children who were conceived but later destroyed or permanently frozen from IVF. Recent stories detail the sadness and anger of parents whose frozen embryos and eggs were lost after a power loss caused the unexpected thawing of freezing tanks. Some are turning to the church for help after they discover the realities of IVF.

How do we remain faithful to the truth but merciful toward those who mourn children lost to IVF? We respond by acknowledging their loss and expressing our sympathy. We always affirm the goodness of children conceived through IVF. Consider that it may be more appropriate in educational settings to make the crucial distinction that IVF is morally unacceptable.

Those struggling with the unfulfilled desire to bear a child might find solace and guidance in the prayers of the church and Scripture. In the Nicene Creed we profess faith in the Holy Spirit, “the Lord, the giver of life ...” In Galatians, we see the Spirit creating physical life, but also bestowing grace and spiritual life (Gal 5:5). St. Paul speaks of hope, of waiting with endurance, and of the “groanings” of mankind as we wait for our ultimate fulfillment — union with God (Rom 8:26).”

Let us pray for all who mourn their children, for those struggling to conceive, and for God’s plan for creating life to be accepted in our hearts, our families, and our culture.
Paradise in life after death

What happens to us when we leave this life? Where do we go from here? Is death really the dark veil? According to beliefs, teachings, culture and written documentation we can look forward to another kind of life when we depart from this life.

In Lakota Culture, the belief is that one looks forward to going to the Spirit World. The Spirit World is characterized by a place of happy reunion with deceased relatives and friends. There is a large circle of tipi’s, and everyone present enjoys ceremonial singing and social dancing. As always with Lakota celebrations there is plenty of food and water which is all shared in peace with respected friends, relatives and elders. Life continues there. This place is located in the direction of the South and the Milky Way forms the trail that gets us to this wonderful place. The things that are absent are the insults, injuries and sicknesses that we have in this life (Lakota Star Knowledge).

In Christianity, we have the Bible to learn about the place we call heaven. There are many readings and Gospel passages that refer to a better place where we go after this life. In Isaiah, Chapter 25:6-8, it says, “On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide life. In Isaiah, Chapter 25:6-8, it says, “On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever.”

It represents an ideal place we strive to be a part of. A place of no more death, disease, violence, hatred, racism, or hunger; only true happiness and peace, surrounded by those we love, and God himself will always be present.

It leads us back to the place we come from, the place of God. We are sent into this world for a short period of time to say, “yes” to all the Creator has given us. We return to the beloved Father with “yes” engraved on our hearts. Our death becomes our moment of return. Eternal life is not some big surprise that suddenly occurs at the end of our life. It is the fullness of how we have lived on our earthly journey.

With these visions of the afterlife, death is no longer the ultimate defeat. Many don’t look at death as a moment of fulfillment, but rather view it as something that should be kept at bay for as long as possible. Our society views death as the great enemy who will finally get the better of us (Henry Nouwen, “Life of the Beloved”).

Am I afraid to die? Yes, every time I allow myself to be intimidated by the noisy voices in the world telling me that my “small life” is all I have and that I should cling onto it as tightly as possible. But, when I put these voices in the background and listen to that small soft voice calling me a beloved child of God. I know there is nothing to fear and that death becomes the greatest act of love that leads me into the eternal embrace of my Father.

Office of Native Ministry Schedule:
The Sioux Spiritual Center will be hosting a Leadership Day for all who work on the Native Reservations or work in Native Ministry. The meeting is scheduled on Aug. 22 beginning at 10 a.m. at the SSC. The Canku Wakan is scheduled for Sept. 20-23. This is an inculcated retreat utilizing Catholic and Lakota Spiritualities as the focus for the weekend. Past attendees have found the retreat inspirational and came away with a deeper faith in God. You can get applications from me or your parish priest. The cost is $100 for the weekend, scholarships are available, please come.

For information phone: 605-716-5214, ext. 237. Send applications to Deacon Marlon Leneaugh, Director Native Ministries, 2101 City Springs Rd., Ste. 200, Rapid City, SD 57702
Sioux Spiritual Center hosts ‘Called to Holiness’ retreat

September 14-17, at Sioux Spiritual Center, there will be a “Called to Holiness” Retreat led by Dr. Clare Ten Eyck.

In an SSC press release it said, “Everyone is made in the image and likeness of God and called to live in that image and likeness. However, the reality of our fallen world means that we get separated from that image and likeness. God can restore us to what he created us to be if we can learn to open ourselves to his healing power and love.”

This retreat is suitable for any adult Catholic who seeks greater wholeness and maturity in their relationship with Our Lord. The retreat will be held at the Sioux Spiritual Center near Plainview. Space is limited to 12 adults.

The retreat begins on Friday, September 14 at 10 a.m., and concludes mid-afternoon on Monday September 17. The daily schedule contains three or four conferences, each approximately an hour in length. Each conference is followed by a free period in which to reflect and pray on the given material presented and to apply this material to one’s own life. There are also some experiential activities to help more fully integrate the material, and times of discussion. There is an opportunity for individual Spiritual Direction. Each day the retreatant has the opportunity to participate in times of prayer, focusing on the Liturgy of the Hours, the rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and healing prayer for each individual. The Eucharist and reconciliation are scheduled when a priest is able to provide them. Sunday Mass will be offered at the Sioux Spiritual Center.

For more information please contact Carole Brown at the Sioux Spiritual Center, 605-985-5906. Cost is $200 per person.

Job Opening: Mentor – Lakota Circles of Hope Program

Full-time position with the Lakota Circles of Hope Program at Catholic Social Services, with emphasis on prevention education and program marketing. BA or BS Degree Required. Travel is also required. Must have working knowledge of Native American culture. Competitive Salary and benefit package. Send resume to: CSS, 529 Kansas City Street, Suite 100, Rapid City, SD 57701 or email to: css@cssrapidcity.com. Open until filled.

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Obituary

Sister Juanita Tellez, OSB, 98, from St. Martin Monastery

RAPID CITY — Sister Juanita Tellez, OSB, 98, died July 25, at St. Martin Monastery. She was born Genevieve Tellez on Dec. 11, 1919, in Salem, N.M., the second oldest of 10 children of Lorenzo and Juanita Tellez.

Her family moved later to Greeley, Colo., where she received her elementary education and participated with family members as laborers on the local farms. With the outbreak of WWII, she moved to California and worked as a riveter in a shipyard. Later she was employed by United Airlines in Cheyenne, Wyo, and then in San Francisco. After her mother’s death in 1949, she returned to Wyoming to care for several younger siblings.

Sister Juanita entered St. Martin Convent in Sturgis in 1954, made temporary profession in 1956, and perpetual profession in 1959. Her first ministry was work in the monastery kitchen, including years when she supervised the school lunch program for the students of St. Martin Academy.

In 1978, Sister Juanita spent a year in the monastery’s South American mission in the seaport city of Cartagena, Columbia, where she ministered to sailors from many countries at a center sponsored by the Catholic Church.

For the next 10 years she worked in the business offices of St. Martin Academy and St. Martin Monastery. She also worked for several years in the business office of the newly-established St. Thomas More High School. In her retirement she participated fully in the monastery’s daily life of prayer and work.

Sister Juanita was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers Max, Henry, Philip and Paul; and her sister, Sally. She is survived by her brothers, Albert and George; her sisters, Jennie and Lydia; and the members of St. Martin Monastery.

Mass of Christian Burial was July 30, at the Monastery Chapel. Burial was in St. Martin Cemetery.

Her online guestbook is available to sign at osheimsschmidt.com.
Plainview parish centennial and closing coincide

BY CARVEN THOMPSON

More than 100 people jammed the little “Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church” at Plainview, on Sunday, July 29, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church, and to honor and recognize the closing of the church. Declining rural population and church attendance necessitated the church closing.

Bishop Robert Gruss presided over the centennial Mass. Concelebrating with Bishop Gruss were the current Plainview pastor, Father Janusz Korban, a former pastor, Father Michel Mulloy, and Deacon Larry Brown assisted. Also participating were 49-year church member Mary Kay Sandal, Carole Brown of the Sioux Spiritual Center, guitarist Robert Dennis, and singers from the Faith, Plainview, and Red Owl parishes.

The weather had been rainy off-and-on all weekend but by 2 p.m. God had cleared the skies in time for the celebration. People came from near and far for the event, many of whom had past connections with the Plainview church and community. After Mass, refreshments furnished by parishioners from thePlainview area, and folks from other communities, were served outside the small church while people visited, exchanged memories, shared tearful hugs, and took pictures. It was a wonderful, happy event, although a bit sad for many.

While the crowd was enjoying refreshments, the weather suddenly changed. The sky got dark and cloudy, the wind came up, and it started to rain. This moved the food and people back into the church or to their cars, the only shelters available. The people were more than 100 people jammed the little “Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church” at Plainview, on Sunday, July 29, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church, and to honor and recognize the closing of the church. Declining rural population and church attendance necessitated the church closing.

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One Hundred Years

(Left to right) The centennial and final Mass for Our Lady of Victory Church, Plainview, was celebrated July 29. Sam and Guss Dennis were the altar servers, Fr. Michel Mulloy, a former pastor, Fr. Janusz Korban, current pastor from Faith, Deacon Larry Brown and principal celebrant Bishop Robert Gruss. A potluck dinner followed.

(Photo by Dede Long)

The decree closing the church is at the right.
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Learning, leadership, sacredness all part of CDA convention

SIOUX FALLS (CNS) — Camaraderie, learning, new leadership and the sacred were in sharp focus at the Catholic Daughters of the Americas 57th Biennial National Convention in Sioux Falls.

“When a person dies, we often say ‘may they rest in peace.’ But we only need true rest — the eternal rest that God alone can give — when we have exhausted ourselves in the service of the Lord,” said Father Shenan Boquet of Human Life International in his keynote speech.

“To achieve that eternal, peaceful rest,” he continued, “you must remember that in everything you do, you represent the Lord. And also remember that there will never, ever be another you. You are unique and you are sacred.”

The sacredness to which Father Boquet referred was present during business meetings, discussion of bylaws and amendments, workshops and voting sessions. There were patriotic, memorial and vigil Masses and daily adoration and benediction. The sacrament of reconciliation was available. The chapel remained open for prayer, reflection and silent communication with God.

The priest’s keynote came on the second day of the July 17-22 convention.

Sacredness was especially visible during the installation Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph when the 14 newly elected national board members — five national officers and nine national directors — took their pledge of office in a white candle and red roses ceremony.

One of those five national officers included Vickie Feist, Court St. Ann #1121, Pierre-Ft. Pierre. She was voted First Vice National Regent. She has been a CDA member for 19 years.

The CDA was formed over 110 years ago and today numbers 66,000 dues-paying members in 1,150 courts (local chapters) in 45 states across the country, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Kenya and Peru.

Confirmation Preparation

Have a student preparing for confirmation? Want to learn more about the sacrament? Watch for this Q&A featuring questions for confirmands from Bishop Robert Gruss.

Who created us? God (CCC 355)

“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground. God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.” Gen 1:26-17

Noah’s Ark floats through parade

Fr. Brian Christensen poses on the St. Michael Parish, Hermosa, float with the youth of the parish before the Custer County Fair parade in August. The parish youth spent two days helping to build the Noah’s Ark themed float. The group won first place in the religion category.
St. Francis youth attend national Tekakwitha conference

BY JENNY BLACK BEAR
ST. FRANCIS INDIAN MISSION

The St. Francis Mission Youth Group traveled to Tacoma, Wash., July 16-23, for the 79th Annual National Tekakwitha Conference. Nine youth made the trip. We did some youth activities with our sister parish Sacred Heart, Bellevue, Wash., that included painting a mural similar to one in Rosebud, played games, and shared stories. We were very blessed to have the opportunity to stay at the home of one of the Sacred Heart parishioner, Carol Guenther. She was very generous, and we cannot thank her enough.

Our youth have been working hard the weeks leading up to the trip, making their own ribbon skirts. The girls wanted to wear ribbon skirts for the Grand Entry of the Tekakwitha Conference, were we met up with Bishop Robert Gruss and Father Maurice Sands, Executive Director of the Black and Indian Missions — and were able to take a photo with Fr. Sands.

Father Sands has been very supportive of the work we do, and we were able to gift him with a star quilt. He was very happy and told the youth “I will cherish this until the day I leave this earth.”

We traveled to the Lummi reservation on the “Pilgrimage day” for the Tekakwitha Conference on the 21 and the youth were able to see the Lummi Canoe Ceremony. They watched as the canoes paddled in from the other tribes. They would circle once and raise their paddles to say they are coming in peace and ask for permission to land on their shores. The drums were beating the whole time. The Salish people’s Chief would grant them permission to land. They came to share a meal and tell stories of their people.

With all the fundraising we did the youth were able to go to the Space Needle in Seattle, Wash. They enjoyed the experience!

Overall, it was an awesome trip and we feel very blessed to have been able to take our youth. We met so many new people and we are so grateful. We are looking forward to next year’s Tekakwitha Conference in Alexandria, La.

Red Cloud pummeled with hail

On July 27, a wasú hinȟáŋ, or hail storm, hit Red Cloud’s campus and a number of communities on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Wind gusts reached over 80 miles an hour, and hailstones the size of softballs ripped through windows and pulled siding and roof shingles off of housing units.

“We are grateful that this storm hit during the summer, when our students aren’t back to school yet,” said Robert Brave Heart Sr., Red Cloud’s executive vice president. “But our teachers and volunteers are now returning to a campus strewn with shards of dangerous glass and boarded-up windows. Many of our buses we desperately need to transport students won’t be usable without extensive repairs. Our community is coming together in this time of need to help assess the damage and to start to rebuild.” (Photo courtesy Red Cloud Indian School)
Summer Stretch

Students from St. Paul Parish, Belle Fourche, and St. Joseph Church, Spearfish, pose for a photo outside the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store after a morning of volunteer work. The middle school students, ages 11-14, were participating in Summer Stretch, a community service program. It is based on the principles of social justice, giving youth an awareness about local poverty and service opportunities throughout the community.

“I did this program as a middle school and high school student at Blessed Sacrament Church (Rapid City) and enjoyed it. In college I realized the importance of the lessons learned in serving others,” explained Taylor Linn, youth director at St. Joseph Church. “When took I the job in Spearfish, I wanted to share the joys of community service with the middle school and high school students I serve.”

Beginning the last week in May, the group met on Thursdays for a service project and recreation time. This year students volunteered at St. Vincent de Paul, the Black Hills State University Newman Center, and the Humane Society. (Courtesy photo)

Totus Tuus Boys Camp

A vocations camp for middle school and high school age boys was held July 16-20 at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, Rapid City. The camp combines the efforts of the diocesan Vocations and Youth Offices. Priests and seminarians offered testimonies about their personal calling to the priesthood or seminary. (Above) Martin Lane, Hot Springs, prepares to shoot a sponge while Aiden Aultmann, Rapid City, and Father Grant Gerlach, Hot Springs, watch during water games. (WRC photo by Becky Berreth)

Blankartz makes first profession

Vocations director Father Mark McCormick poses for a photo with Sr. Lucia Christi in Nashville, Tenn. Eleven novices for the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia — including Audree Blankartz from Rapid City — made their first profession of vows at the Cathedral of the Incarnation on July 28. (Courtesy photo)

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Meet the Newman Center directors: Black Hills State University and South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

Taylor Linn is from Rapid City and grew up as a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish. In high school, she was involved in parish life and helped with religious education in college. Linn was not active in the Newman Center because she felt it was not a welcoming place, but was open to working in Newman ministry so that no student would feel uncomfortable going to a Newman Center.

“I was offered the job and knew there was a reason God wanted me here in Spearfish,” she explained. “In taking the job I truly learned that I need to place all my trust in God and he will take care of the rest.

“I am truly inspired by the Mass and love getting to experience the Mass in different places. I love that no matter where I have traveled in the United States and in other countries the Mass stays the same.”

She has been the Director of Youth and Newman Ministry for two years. “I am most looking forward to seeing our new building being full of laughter, love, new experiences,” she said. “And helping the college students grow in their faith.”

South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, 316 E. Kansas City Street, Rapid City, renewmancenter.com: When Jacques Daniel was a freshman in college he was invited by some upper classmen to consider playing guitar at a weekly campus gathering called “Campus Ventures.”

It was a non-denominational Christian group on campus; this outreach from students with a desire to share the Gospel would change the direction of his life. Although he had grown up Catholic, he didn’t know his faith very well and his new friends were good at challenging him to understand and take ownership of his Catholic beliefs.

“In a completely merciful act of God, I was invited by a friend to a college retreat on the Holy Spirit. The Lord moved powerfully that weekend and my experience started a series of conversations that ultimately led me back with full zeal into the Catholic Church! Within a year my Protestant girlfriend was welcomed into the church and soon after that I became the president of the Newman Club,” he explained. “Within a couple years Annie and I were engaged and began ministering to college students on the campus of SDSM&T.

“About 10 years ago we discerned that God was closing the door to campus ministry and inviting us to grow our little family into a bigger domestic church. We now have 8 children.

“This fall I’m excited to say I get the opportunity to serve the students again, to get into the mess and beauty of college life,” he said.