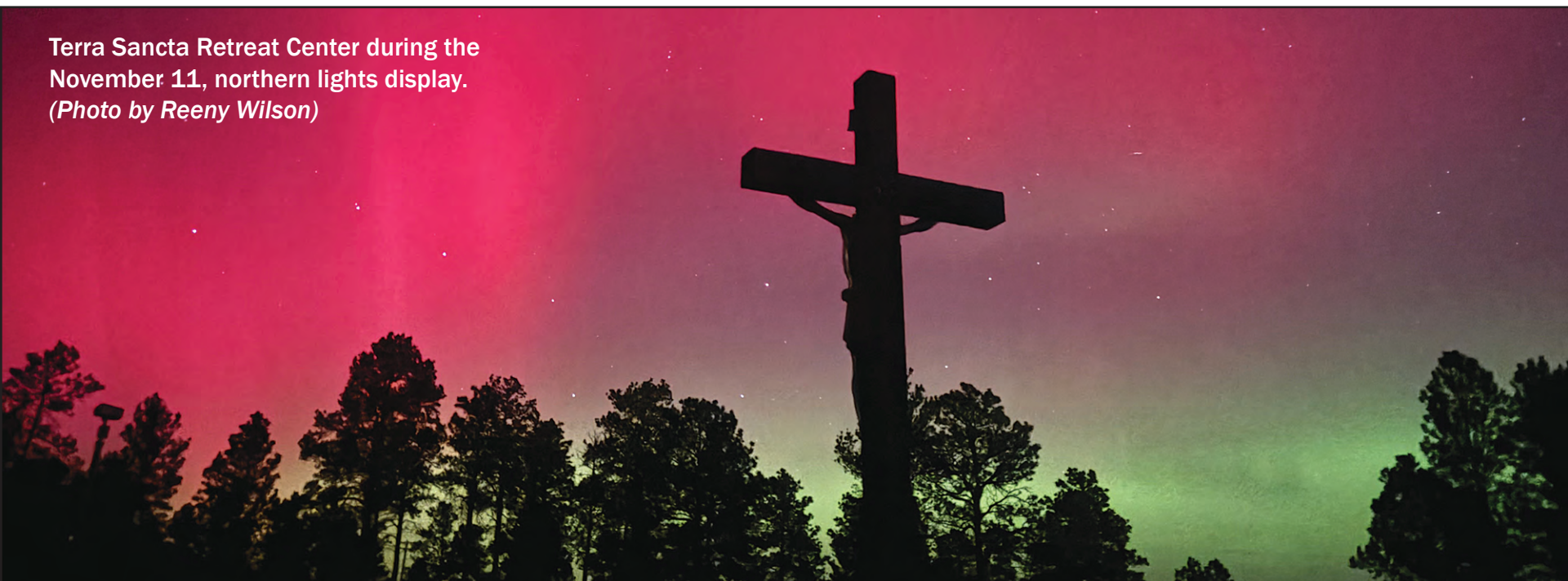




Terra Sancta Retreat Center during the
November 11, northern lights display.
(Photo by Reeny Wilson)



Recap of U.S. Bishops' Plenary Assembly in Baltimore

BALTIMORE — The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops gathered for their Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore, November 11-13. Throughout the meeting, the bishops had opportunities to spend time in prayer and fraternal dialogue together.

As one of the first items of business on the plenary agenda, the bishops elected Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City as president, and Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville as vice president to lead the Conference. Their terms run through November 2028. Additionally, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend was elected as

USCCB secretary.

In their message to the Holy Father, the bishops assured the pope of their prayers and communion with him. They acknowledged facing a growing worldview that is often at odds with the Gospel mandate to love thy neighbor, but stated: "Holy Father, please know that the bishops of the United States, united in our concern, will continue to stand with migrants and defend everyone's right to worship free from intimidation." Out of their pastoral concern for immigrants and in unison with Pope Leo XIV, the bishops issued a Special Message.

The United States celebrates

the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence next year. To mark the American Semiquincentennial, the U.S. bishops voted to consecrate the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in June 2026.

The bishops discussed and voted on a revision of the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. The revisions address the statement issued by the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine in 2023 ("doctrinal note") that underscored the role that those involved in the ministry of Catholic health care services have in providing the best medical care, as well as

Christ's compassionate accompaniment to all patients, no matter who they may be, or from what condition they may be suffering.

Other business items on their agenda included: an update from the Subcommittee on the Catechism on the Catechetical Accompaniment Process; a report from The Catholic University of America, and from The Pontifical Mission Societies USA. The USCCB's 2026 budget was approved. The bishops also held a consultation on advancing the cause for beatification and canonization for Reverend Richard M. Thomas, a priest of the Society of Jesus. The bishops also received an

update on the recently concluded National Eucharistic Revival and were given a report on the impact of the three-year initiative. The report was followed by a vote to approve the Summer of 2029 for the next National Eucharistic Congress.

In a presentation during the public session of the plenary that underscored the importance that the Catholic Church places on understanding artificial intelligence and the ethical implications of AI, especially in the context of the life of the Church. The bishops were briefed on the topic by Dr. Paul Scherz of the University of Notre Dame.

'A Faithful Response to the Wounded Knee Decision'

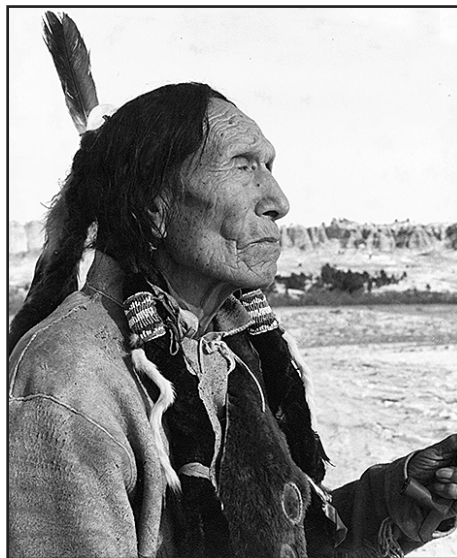


Bishop Scott Bullock
Diocese of
Rapid City
Surgite Eamus
"Rise, let us
be on our

On October 20, I joined the members of the Society of Jesus ("Jesuits") to issue a statement entitled, "A Faithful Response to the Wounded Knee Decision." This response was to the decision of Secretary of Defense/War Pete Hegseth's decision to retain the Medals of Honor that were bestowed upon the Federal Combatants at Wounded Knee in 1890. The statement

gained rather wide reporting, including by the Vatican and the New York Times. See the text of the joint statement on the Diocese of Rapid City (rapidcitydiocese.org, search for "Wounded Knee"). With such wide publicity in our digital age, there have been many reactions expressed online, a good deal of them supportive of the statement. However, some opinions questioned the appropriateness of the statement. I'd like to use this occasion to reflect upon the role of our Church in such issues of public discourse such as this.

1. Why now? The current question of revoking the medals given 135 years ago was precipitated by an initiative by the South Dakota Legislature (Senate) whose



Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk was at the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890. A bullet grazed his thigh.
(Photo courtesy Marquette University Archives)

resolution of February 2024, adopted by a vote of 38-1, asked the Department of Defense to open an investigation into the awarding of these medals and, furthermore, condemned the bestowing of Medals of Honor in this situation. My joint statement with the DeSmet Jesuits of South Dakota of October 20, 2025, was prompted by Secretary Hegseth's decision not to revoke the medals. While the medals were given so long ago, they remain symbolic of a most-pained history of our native sisters and brothers. The

wounds of this massacre remain fresh in the collective memory of our Native American population. As the Wounded Knee Massacre site is within our diocese, on the Pine Ridge Reservation, the Jesuit leaders and I were compelled to speak to the issue of the awarding of our highest military honor to such a disreputable event. The discouragement that our native population felt with the decision of the Secretary of Defense demanded our clear statement of opposition to this decision, in defense of the sacred dignity of the innocent victims of Wounded Knee.

2. Is not the revoking of Medals of Honor an example of "revisionist" history, changing history and its facts? In fact, the very bestowing of the medals was, in a certain sense, a "revision" of history. The massacre, which happened in December of 1890, was almost immediately renounced as the massacre it was, of some 300 innocent men, women and children. Even by 1891, Army Gen. Nelson A. Miles, writing just days after the killings, described the Wounded Knee massacre as "the most abominable, criminal military blunder and a horrible massacre of women and children." While there have been a good number of situations that might seem excessive (e.g., the removal of statues of founding fathers, etc.), we have to be able to be discerning. In this case, it would be appropriate to do what has been done hundreds of times before: after a more

sober historical assessment, these Medals of Honor ought to be revoked.

3. Shouldn't the Church stay out of these public debates and remain in its spiritual realm? Many public voices have felt the right to enter this conversation, as is seen by the widespread online community of commentary. We Catholics have our rightful place in this public discourse: to bring to bear, above all, our faith's teaching on the dignity of each human person redeemed by the Word made Flesh (cf. Jn 1:14) and an embrace of the truth that sets us free (cf. Jn 8:32).

4. Shouldn't the Church remain apolitical? Obviously the Federal Administration of one of our political parties made a decision to deny the request of a near-unanimous vote of our South Dakota Senate in their 2014 resolution asking for an examination of the medals and a revoking of them in the face of the massacre at Wounded Knee. But, any administration is subject to the critique of its citizens. Our statement was a statement rooted in the truth of the facts of history and the dignity of the victims of Wounded Knee. With our South Dakota Jesuits, we continue to ask for a reconsideration of the decision, in service of the truth and a humble gesture of acknowledgment of the painful history that demands our embracing the truth with humility and penance.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30



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YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Advent 2025

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WEST RIVER CATHOLIC

USPS 983-360

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Bishop's Calendar

November 20 - December 14, 2025
Subject to change without notice

November 20, Thursday
5:30 p.m. Real Presence Radio Banquet, Ramkota, Rapid City

November 22, Saturday
4:30 p.m. Pre-Confirmation Meeting &
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Mass, St John, Custer

November 23, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Mass, Cathedral

November 27-28, Thursday-Friday
Chancery Closed for Thanksgiving

December 3, Wednesday
7:35 p.m. Cathedral Parish Mission, Cathedral

December 4, Thursday
6:30 p.m. Bishop's Film Series: "Safety Last," Cathedral

December 5, Friday
5:30 p.m. BHSU Newman Center Benefactor Banquet, Spearfish

December 8, Monday
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
7 a.m. Mass, Cathedral

December 12, Friday
5 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass/Celebration, Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City

December 14, Sunday
3 p.m. Christmas at the Cathedral Concert, Cathedral



ADVENT

take time to come away and rest in the Lord

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Retreat Center



terrasancta.org



Belle Fourche, St. Paul, Reconciliation,
Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17 — 6 - 7 p.m.
Bison, Blessed Sacrament, Tuesday, December 9
— 7:30 p.m.
Bonesteel, Immaculate Conception, Friday,
December 5 — 5 p.m.
Buffalo, St. Anthony, Tuesday, December 9 — 5 p.m.
Colome, St. Isidore, Tuesday, December 2
— 5 - 6 p.m.
Custer, St John, Thursday, December 4 — 6 - 8 p.m.
Dupree, Sacred Heart, TBD
Eagle Butte, All Saints, Friday, December 12
— 5:30 p.m.
Faith, St Joseph, Thursday, December 18 — 5 p.m.
Ft. Pierre, St. John, Tuesday, December 9 — 6:30
p.m.
Gregory, St Joseph, Friday, December 19
— 6:15 p.m.
Hill City, St. Rose , Mercy Night, Tuesday,
December 16 — 6 - 8 p.m.
Hot Springs, St Anthony, Thursday, December 18
— 6 - 8 p.m.
Isabel, St. Mary, TBD
Lead, St. Patrick, Mercy Night, Friday, November 21
— 5 p.m.
Lemmon, St. Mary, Tuesday, December 2 — 5 p.m.

McLaughlin, St. Bernard, Sunday, December 14
— 7 p.m. MT
McIntosh, St. Bonaventure, Sunday, December 21
— 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Newell, St. Mary, Thursday, December 4 — 6 p.m.
Piedmont, Our Lady of the Black Hills, Tuesday,
December 9 — 6 p.m.
Pine Ridge, Sacred Heart Church, Healing &
Reconciliation Service, Saturday, December 6
— 11 a.m.
Presho, Christ the King, Tuesday, December 16
— 6:30 p.m.
Rapid City, Blessed Sacrament, Mercy Night,
Thursday, December 18 — 4 p.m.
Rapid City, St Isaac Jogues Wednesday,
December 10 — Time TBD
Rapid City, St. Therese, Mercy Night, Tuesday,
December 23 — 5 p.m.
Spearfish, St. Joseph, Reconciliation, Wednesdays,
December 3, 10, 17 — 4 -7 p.m.
Sturgis, St. Francis, Sunday, December 14 — 3 p.m.
Timber Lake, Holy Cross, Tuesday, December 16
— 5 p.m.
White River, Sacred Heart, Thursday, December 4
— 5 p.m.
Winner, Immaculate Conception, Thursday,
December 18 — 6:30 p.m.



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Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday, December 12, Bishop Scott Bullock will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe bilingual Mass along with priests of the diocese. It will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. Questions can be addressed to the parish at 605-342-3336. Rosary with praise music at 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (*Rosario Bilingue y Musica de Alabanza a las 8 a.m., y las 4:30 p.m.*)

Simbang Gabi

Filipino Advent Celebration, December 15-23, at 5:30 Masses, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 520 Cathedral Dr., Rapid City. The main celebration will be on Friday, December 19, starting with the Children’s Annunciation Play, followed by Mass and a festive Filipino meal. The celebrant will Fr. Jason Marco from Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wyoming.

In Your Prayers

In Your Prayers is designed to help us remember the birthdays, ordination and death anniversaries of the priests and deacons who serve us.

December

Birthdays: Dec. 2, Dcn. Raul Daniel; Dec. 7, Fr. Ron Garry; Dec. 13, Fr. Kerry Prendiville; Dec. 17, Dcn. Tom Murphy; Dec. 27, Fr. Brian Lane; Dec. 28,Fr. Bryan Sorensen.
Ordinations: Dec. 8, 1984, Dcn. Luis Usera; Dec. 13, 2013, Fr. Edmund Yainao, SJ; Dec. 28, 2017, Fr. Robert Chawngthu, SJ.
Necrology: Dec. 1, 1958, Robert Dube; Dec. 2, 1975, Robert Ready, OSB; Dec. 3, 2017, Dcn. LeRoy DeCory; Dec. 6, 2014, James Michalski, SJ; Dec. 7, 1925, Joseph Spangemacher, SJ; Dec. 7, 1953, Vincent Christie; Dec. 7, 2002, Dcn. Lawrence Whiting; Dec. 7, 2016, Thomas Tierney, SJ; Dec. 8, 1957, Matthew Connell, SJ; Dec. 9, 2002, James Becht; Dec. 12, 1936,Matthias Schmidt, SJ; Dec. 13, 1987, Bishop Harold J. Dimmerling; Dec. 14, 1955, John Groell; Dec. 17, 1989, Michael Roach; Dec. 18, 1967, Albert Grueter, SJ; Dec. 19, 1946, Francis Besendorfer; Dec. 20, 1899, Joachim Huwylet, OSB; Dec. 20,1946, Louis Gall, SJ; Dec. 20, 2001, Richard Plante; Dec. 22, 1924, Charles Weisenhorn, SJ; Dec. 23, 1931, Florentine Digmann, SJ; Dec. 24, 1968, James Walsh; Dec. 24, 2000, William Philbin; Dec. 24, 2014, Dcn. Eugene Heckathorne; Dec. 28, 1948, James Creahen; Dec. 29, 1978, Ralph Muldoon; Dec. 30, 1980,Cornelius Meade; Dec. 31, 1922, John Jutz, SJ; Dec. 31, 1936, James Sampon.



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Thanksgiving Dinner

43rd Annual KC Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Thursday, November 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. a turkey dinner (**free of charge**) will be served at St. Thomas More High School, Rapid City. It is sponsored by the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Knights of Columbus Council 1489, with help from Councils 8844 and 8025, and the Catholic Daughters of America, Court St. Rita. Volunteers are asked to report to the back entrance of the school at 10:15 a.m.



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Born to Eternal Life

These names are a list of family and friends
we lost between

Oct. 1, 2024, and Sept. 30, 2025.

Names and dates were furnished
by the parishes.

*May angels lead
them into paradise.*

Belle Fourche, St. Paul
1/16/25 Rose Green
3/19/25 Philip Hanify (Great Falls, MT)
4/6/25 Edgar Kumley (Redig)
5/1/25 Jack Jensen
5/15/25 John Svetcoff
5/20/25 Amy Denzin (LaFayette, CO)
5/30/25 Marie Mott-Clyde
9/13/25 Joan Pelle
9/17/25 Kelly Blake (Helena, MT)

Bonesteel, Immaculate Conception
3/16/25 Linda Schmitz
3/22/25 Pearl Black Bull
4/16/25 Donald Hausmann
6/2/25 Phyllis Heck

Bullhead, St. Aloysius
10/21/24 Todd Shoestring
1/8/25 Loren Archambault
1/17/25 Matthew Yellow Earrings
3/28/25 Roxanne Long Chase
4/3/25 Lakota Antelope
4/12/25 Kyann White Owl
6/26/25 Pertina Brownotter
7/31/25 Jada Archambault

Burke, Sacred Heart
1/17/25 Victor Gonzalez
5/12/25 Inez Dockendorf

Cherry, Creek, St. Joseph
11/29/24 Carol Dupris

Colome, St Isidore
11/19/24 Mary Donovan
1/19/25 Marilyn Rohde

Custer, St. John the Baptist
4/29/25 Russell “Russ” Arnold
7/7/25 Joseph “Joe” McGowan III

Deadwood, St. Ambrose
1/17/25 James Durst (Council Rd., OK)
1/27/25 Marvin Wermers
4/6/25 Thomas Fischer
8/19/25 Mary Sjomeling
9/18/25 Michelle Rost Fischer

Eagle Butte, All Saints
10/4/24 Bryce Claymore (Aberdeen)
10/5/24 Rikki Claymore (Aberdeen)
10/9/24 Andrew Fischer
10/24/24 Kermit Chasing Hawk
11/24/24 Charles Dupris
12/5/24 Clarence “Bud” Neigel
12/22/24 Juan Fernandez
1/4/25 Gilbert Marshall
1/22/25 Carrie Kennedy (Aberdeen)
3/3/25 Emma Reeves
3/6/25 Rose Ganje (Gettysburg)
3/26/25 Tristan Belt-Last Horse (Takini)
3/29/25 Jennifer Chasing Hawk (Rapid City)
5/14/25 Gillis Bear Stops Jr. (Denver, CO)
5/16/25 Belva Schad (Sturgis)
7/23/25 Michael Lesmeister
8/3/25 Prince Looking Horse

Edgemont, St James
8/28/25 Beverly Putnam

Fairfax, St Anthony
2/27/25 Anna Marie Cahoy

Faith, St Joseph
1/25/24 Gloria Traversy
1/25/25 Irene Jordan
1/11/25 Lane Kopren
1/17/25 Stacy Richards
3/16/25 Dustin Conn

Fort Pierre, St. John
10/18/24 Leo James, Jr. (Hughes)
11/12/24 Phyllis Stoesser
12/31/24 Amy Hertel
3/30/25 Leon Zentner

4/29/25 Evonne Flax
5/10/25 Cleota Bryan
5/23/25 Michelle Allison
8/12/25 William "Bill" Fischer

Gregory, St Joseph
10/1/24 Myrna Gergen
10/20/24 Elizabeth “Jean” Kayl
11/27/24 Karen Geaghan
12/23/25 Donald Petersen
12/27/24 Robert Beckers
4/13/25 Tehjalyn Whitepipe
5/3/25 John Putnam (Rapid City)
7/18/25 Stanely Sedlmajer
7/20/25 Carol Bahm (Sioux Falls)

Hill City, St. Rose
12/25/24 Pearl Johnson-Barrett
1/4/25 Gloria Shippy
4/1/25 Lois McVey

Hot Springs, St Anthony
10/12/24 Chad Allen
11/14/24 Donna Aiits (Helena, MT)
11/15/24 Glen Hupp
11/18/24 Earnestine Colgan
12/12/24 Robert Peplinski (Burial only)
1/9/25 Edwin Madigan
1/17/25 Arnold Monroe
6/30/25 Robert Heiser
8/13/25 Shirley Sieg
8/14/25 David Jaeger

Isabel, St. Mary
2/1/25 Kathleen Fleming

Kenel, Assumption
11/29/24 Mildred Strongheart (Wakpala)

12/18/24 Beverly Howard
1/13/25 Bernita Jordan (Wakpala)
1/16/25 Michael Little Bear
1/17/25 Melda Crow Feather
3/25/25 Trent Walking Elk (Mobridge)
5/28/25 Allison Martin
6/3/25 Henry “Scotty” Martin (Wakpala)
8/27/25 Djay St. John (Spencer, IA)

Keystone, Mt. Carmel
11/27/24 Alton Bertschinger

Kyle, Our Lady of Sorrows
10/11/24 Alexander Rodriguez
11/21/24 Sally Broken Rope-O'Rourke
12/30/24 Lisa Palmier
1/2/25 Charlotte Richards
1/2/25 Stacy Richards
1/3/25 Rudolph Palmer
1/11/25 Ladene Winters
1/23/25 Victoria Brown Bull
1/25/25 Darrell Richards Jr.
2/13/25 Donna Zimmerman
3/22/25 Joan Townsend

4/29/25 Amelia Brewer
5/12/15 Edwin Waters
6/25/25 Josephine Kills Enemy
6/27/25 Leonard “Shaun” Two Bulls
7/5/25 Anthony Brave Heart
7/12/25 Leonard Few Tails
8/16/25 Ramona Ashmore

Lead, St. Patrick
2/11/25 Mary Ann Schumacher Kmiecik (Ontario, NY)
2/13/25 Audray Geffre
2/15/25 Janet Cudmore
2/27/25 Mary Jo Pavich
3/3/25 Paul Schumacher (Rochester, NY)
4/13/25 Daniel Kinsella
4/29/25 Andre Silva
6/19/25 Joseph” Joe” Schumacher
8/13/25 Milanette Nelson

Lemmon, St. Mary
10/1/24 Lola Hobbs (San Diego, CA)
5/21/25 Neva Mistelski
6/10/25 Donald Pearson
7/22/25 Vern Goeres
7/28/25 Dorene Brabazon
8/23/25 Marcene Behrmann
9/11/25 Samantha Kling

Manderson, St. Agnes
11/28/24 John Ladeaux
12/12/24 Leon Brave Heart
12/20/24 Phillip Jumping Eagle
12/24/24 Rose Jumping Eagle
1/12/25 George Looks Twice
1/25/25 Laila Spencer
1/28/25 Laurence Swallow
3/19/25 Darnell Hawk
4/12/25 Terrance Little Dog
8/23/25 Hillary Long Visitor
9/8/25 Michael Ladeaux

Martin, Sacred Heart
1/11/25 Richard Whittle
5/24/25 Joyce Franzen
6/28/25 Loren Abernathy
7/16/25 Judy Porch
8/29/25 Charles Risse

McIntosh, St. Bonaventure
2/2/25 Lena Glines

McLaughlin, St. Bernard
5/27/25 Clarence Senftner
9/23/25 Ellen Woodard

Midland, St. William
6/27/25 James “Jim” Petoske, (Sioux Falls)
4/1/25 Alice Hanrahanm (Burial only, Omaha, NE)

Morristown, Sacred Heart
3/30/25 Leon Zentner

Murdo, St. Martin
6/3/25 Loretta Rea (Rapid City)
7/7/25 Theodore “Sonny” Tornow
7/26/25 Nick Van Dam

New Underwood, St. John
11/2/24 Karen Madsen
2/5/25 Rosalind McPhereson
3/19/25 Mary Helen Bloom
4/12/25 Rosalie Karp-Stangle
5/3/25 Rich Bloom

Newell, St. Mary
11/18/24 Pauline. Brimmer
8/29/25 Glaydis Cox
9/10/25 Joyce Orwick

Oglala, Our Lady of the Sioux
11/4/24 Linn Cross Dog
11/23/24 Thomas Patton
12/31/24 Josephine Fast Wolf
2/1/25 Linn Cross Dog, Jr.
2/19/25 Bryan Pipe On Head
2/22/25 Stephen Star Comes Out, Jr.
3/23/25 Everdell Black Spotted Horse Jr.
5/13/25 Jerry Bagola
5/29/25 Loran Conquering Bear
8/18/25 Kenneth Morrison
8/25/25 George Black Feather

Philip, Sacred Heart
10/23/24 Corey Denton (Newcastle, OK)
12/18/24 Dorothy McKinney (Rapid City)
2/10/25 Leo O'Dea, Leo (Vermillion)
2/27/25 Daniel “Danny” Addison (Burial only, Belvidere)
3/1/25 Theresa Clements
3/6/25 Raymond “Ray” Gibson
4/18/25 Evelyn “Evie” Abrahamson
4/27/25 Michael “Mike” Williams (Burial only)
5/1/25 Donna Quinn (Milesville)
5/19/25 Penny Stah
8/26/25 Jerry Rhodes, Sr.

Piedmont, Our Lady of the Black Hills
11/11/24 Steven Van Asma
11/27/24 Bernadine Gerving
12/9/24 Marc Jacobs
12/10/24 Dean Antonsen
12/13/24 Lyle Tennyson
1/15/25 Rachel Coats
1/28/25 Blanche Rieth
2/11/25 Roger Knutson
4/4/25 Jerome Kramer
7/17/25 Gregory Overholt
7/20/25 Judith Wilson
9/19/25 Kasmer “Capp” Holzer

Pine Ridge, Sacred Heart
10/14/24 Amber Red Cloud
10/17/24 Melvin Brewer
10/21/24 Karyn Tobacco

11/10/24 Donald Clifford
11/23/24 Reynold Richard
12/5/24 Rachel Chief Eagle
12/14/24 Melanie White Eyes
12/25/24 Manson Two Two
12/27/24 Franklin Murdock
1/13/25 Shirley Mousseau
1/26/25 Sidney Hammond
1/29/25 Norma Black Feather Roubideaux
2/3/25 Billie Lessert
2/5/25 Guy Red Cloud
2/13/25 Melodious Behan
2/13/25 Anthony Osbourne
2/21/25 Stanley Pourier
2/23/25 Patrick Pulliam
3/21/25 Francine Whalen
3/26/25 Robert Big Crow-Tyon
3/27/25 Kenneth Catches
4/5/25 Frank Siers, Jr.
4/8/25 Matilda Gainey
4/10/25 Manuel Lewis, Sr.
5/7/25 Marlene Wilson
5/30/25 Velma Gomez
7/25/25 Danelle Bagola
8/29/25 Novlyn Hairy Bird
9/19/25 Floyd Tyon, Jr.

Porcupine, Christ the King
11/23/24 Lester Running Hawk
12/20/24 Judy Pourier
1/11/25 Cody Pourier
1/26/25 Ramon Bear Runner II
7/18/25 Aloysius Running Hawk
8/6/25 Bette Gibbons

Presho, Christ the King
11/9/24 Gloria Leichtnam
11/29/24 Barb Brown
7/15/25 Marian Rasmussen
3/13/25 Earl Bailey

Rapid City, Blessed Sacrament
11/14/24 Maxine Koppert
12/6/24 Patricia Molina
12/20/24 Elizabeth Green
1/23/25 Arlene Lynch
1/27/25 Alice Sullivan
2/4/25 Robert Lantis
2/11/25 George Petry
2/12/25 Paul Arthur
3/1/25 Mary Deck
4/11/25 Percy “Dick” Peabody
4/21/25 Lore Wolff
4/22/25 Patricia Pesek (Aurora, CO)
4/28/25 Duane Prais
5/4/25 James Nolan
5/14/25 Bob Joachim
5/30/25 Mary Sautter
6/13/25 Jeanette Thorsteson
6/16/25 Todd Anderson
6/26/25 Brehanna Anderson
7/19/25 Dianne Coovert
7/20/25 Joanne Kirchgasser
8/3/25 Betty Adelman

8/15/25 Mark Marshall
9/14/25 Timothy McNa
9/17/25 Jake Lien
9/18/25 Charles Knight (Houston, TX)
9/21/25 Michael Erhart

Rapid City, Cathedral OLPH
10/10/24 Christine Shawda
11/8/24 Mary Ellen Potter
11/9/24 Donna Davis
11/23/24 Rudy Cornay
11/23/24 Raven Marquez
12/14/24 Alvin Pinkston
12/29/24 Joan Schmitt
1/6/25 Margaret “Toots” Johnson (Spearfish)
1/12/25 Richard “Rick” Dunne
1/15/25 Marjorie Snyder (Brighton, CO)
1/22/25 Kathleen Maguire
2/7/25 Nis Anton
2/13/25 Janice Moss
2/20/25 Katherine Hobart (Thermopolis, WY)
2/23/25 Deloris “Marie” Kinyon
3/11/25 Peter Duhamel (Rochester Hills, MI)
3/17/25 Fred Monson, Jr
3/25/25 Eric Eliason
3/25/25 Donna Belle Talty
3/18/25 Eileen Cadarr
4/18/25 Loretta Jackson
4/29/25 Pamela Ekberg
5/2/25 Rosemarie Kochmar
5/13/25 Kathy Brandner
5/14/25 Terranna “Terry” Lopez McGee (Hoffman Estates, IL)
5/30/25 Melvin Bachand (infant)
5/31/25 Mary Jane Conrad
6/28/25 Susan Oleson
7/15/25 Ronald Kopren
7/31/25 Lanny Callen
8/2/25 Charles “Chuck” Holm
8/15/25 Curtis Simonson
8/15/25 Fr. William Zandri
8/29/25 Eugene “Gene” Carda
9/1/25 Dcn. Michael Curtin
9/19/25 Emma Neal Malloy

Red Scaffold, Sacred Heart
5/31/25 Taun Bear Stops

Spearfish, St. Joseph
10/4/24 Ann Henning
10/12/24 Marianna Gengler
11/2/24 Joan Lester
12/2/24 Cecilia Keller
2/22/25 Thomas Sharp
3/8/25 Jessica Heinrich
3/12/25 William Hughes
4/22/25 Denice Best
4/24/25 Paul Young
5/11/25 Kathryn Cole
7/12/25 Darlene Hulm

Rapid City, Immaculate Conception
3/16/25 Shezalle Simons
8/17/25 Treacy Gibbons

Rapid City, St. Isaac Jogues
11/6/24 Audrey Hall
12/1/24 Myrtie Garneaux Black Bear
12/12/24 Sierra Wright
12/13/24 Stephen Chips
12/29/24 Donald Flynn
1/1/25 Sheela Farmer
1/2/25 Walter “Rusty” Rustad
1/3/25 Adela “Della” Arguello
1/6/25 Russell McClure
1/13/25 Gerald “Chic” Lawrence
2/15/25 Autumn Means
2/22/25 Thorson “Thor” Lammers

3/17/25 Paul Bordeaux
3/29/25 Joseph Massa
4/9/25 David Steele III (Ft. Meade)
4/9/25 David Knowles-Smith
4/24/25 Itice Quick Bear Page
5/24/25 John Gonsalves Delgado, Jr.
7/7/25 Elgene Noisy Hawk
8/17/25 Trinidad Roman

Rapid City, St. Therese
10/3/24 Alice Peterson
11/18/24 Susan Eagleton
12/3/24 Gerald “Jerry” Clinton
12/29/24 Joan Schmitt
1/8/25 James Levy
2/9/25 George Nalevanko (Box Elder)
2/15/25 Delores Schaefer
3/3/25 Timothy Bjork
3/4/25 Lorraine Hight
3/23/25 Shirley Tennyson
4/7/25 James Abdallah (Moscow, ID)
4/30/25 Stephanie Weiseler (Aubray, TX)
5/22/25 Charles Miller
6/13/25 Teresa Snider
7/7/25 Norene Crisman-Lantz
7/10/25 Larry Cole
7/11/25 Alice Leberknight
7/20/25 David Ange
8/13/25 Judith Jensen-Thomas
8/19/25 William Trumble
9/1/25 Jeff Gogue
9/4/25 George Tulowetzke
9/12/25 James Heath

Timber Lake, Holy Cross
11/8/24 Esther Goldade
11/17/24 Lorita Hall
2/11/25 Violet Voller
6/14/25 Betty Schweitzer
8/8/25 Kathy Kraft
8/16/25 Gloria Schweitzer (Burial only)

Trail City, Holy Rosary
3/17/25 Jack Collins

Wall, St Patrick
1/13/25 Ester O'Dea
1/20/25 Doug Kleinschmit
5/27/25 Veva Wernke

Wanblee, St. Ignatius
2/24/25 Christopher Long Soldier, Jr.
3/28/25 Douglas Standing Bear
6/20/25 Marlys Richards
7/3/24 Tucker Randall
7/24/25 Ava Martinez

Watauga, St. Michael
8/21/25 Elliott Riehl

White River, Sacred Heart
2/12/25 Annie Navin (Rapid City)

Winner, Immaculate Conception
10/1/24 Arthur Sattler
12/7/24 Elizabeth “Betty” Johnson
2/1/25 Florence Kirkpatrick
2/16/25 Aiden Hespe
4/8/25 Darrell Iron Shooter
7/3/25 Patricia Storms
7/22/25 Doyle Klein
8/21/25 Theresa Weber

Posters gifted to Rapid City student center

BY ANTHONY FLORES

The newly named St. Carlo Acutis Catholic Student Center, near the School of Mines, has witnessed what can happen when Christ is put in the center. Not only in our sanctuary, but in our very lives. On April 3, we began a renovation that put the tabernacle in the main church at the center of the sanctuary, along with other significant changes to the building. Since then, the Holy Spirit has been moving, and we invite you to come on down, get a tour, stay for a daily Mass, and pray with Jesus in Adoration. We have stories to tell.

The one story I want to share with you today is about an incredible gift St. Carlo's was given on November 3 of 160 posters of a Eucharist Miracles Exhibit that has traveled to more than 120 locations in the Midwest. The journey started fourteen years ago by two men from the eastern side of South Dakota, Earl and Jim. The two of them have logged more than 43,000 miles and presented the stories behind the miracles in seven states.

St. Carlo said, "All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies." Earl and Jim are not in danger of dying as photocopies. The banter between the two of them was a breath of fresh air. Both men were filled with joy from their travels. The miracles found on all 160 posters they gave us have led to so many more on their adventures. Even a Lutheran minister and his wife, after reading several of the panels, pondered if they needed to convert. Some people drove farther than two hours to meet with Earl and Jim and share what had happened to them because of their dedication to sharing these stories of our Lord's Real Presence. Story after story

poured out of them how God found ways to get them to where they were going.

St. Carlo Acutis designed and created on his website, *Miracoli Eucaristici*, the "Eucharistic Miracles of the World." He spent longer than two years using his advanced computer skills to create a multi-lingual website cataloging these miracles. However, he refused to become a slave to technology. St. Carlo limited his recreational computer time (aka video games) to one hour a week. That is why I see him smiling down on us for finding a way to use his work to be more communal. Surfing the internet is an individual endeavor. But with these panels, we watch parents read them to their children, friends engage in conversations about the Real Presence, parishes brought to life, and the Lord continue to work miracles in our lives.

Every few days I switch out the Eucharistic miracles displayed around St. Carlo. One tells the story of Fr. Otty Ossa Aristiabal in Venezuela on December 8, 1991. After dividing the host into four parts, he looked down on the paten and saw a red spot. The blood continued to flow and started to dry, yet it still appears fresh to this day. Years later, in 1998, a young American filmed the miraculous "Host of Betania" and caught a vision he describes "as if in flames, and there was a pulsating heart that was bleeding in its center."

You can invite students from St. Carlo's center to come to your parishes to carry on the mission of Earl and Jim. These two men would say whenever they felt hesitant, "If it changes one heart, we must go!" Although this trip to Rapid City was their last trip, our students plan to

continue their mission. They stand ready to bring to you these panels that have transformed hearts all around the world. St. Carlo put Jesus at the center of his life. He called the Eucharist "a foretaste of heaven." Call on us to come and share with you the incredible miracles of the

One who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." St. Carlo Student Center 605-716-4130, anthony@stcarlocsc.org, or Fr. Mark McCormick mmccormick@diorc.org.



St. Carlo Acutis Catholic Student Center students lean in to see one of the 160 poster donated to the center by two eastern South Dakota residents. The eucharistic miracle posters were made by the saint.

(Courtesy photo)

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Golden Anniversaries

*Photos provided by parishioners/WRC



Hugh & Carol Brechtel
St. Therese the Little Flower,
Rapid City
August 20, 1975



Tom & Lorinda Collings
Our Lady of the Black Hills,
Piedmont
October 6, 1975



Roman & Ella Lewandowski
Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City
January 25, 1975



Charles & Jean Loehr
St. Rose of Lima, Hill City
October 11, 1975



John & Dede Long
St. Anthony, Red Owl
August 8, 1975



Steven & Julieann Mousel
Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City
October 11, 1975



Greg & Denise Palmer
Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City
December 26, 1975



James & Susan Riphahn
Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
Rapid City
July 19, 1975



David & Cathy Stebbins
Blessed Sacrament, Rapid City
February 15, 1975



Patrick & Rose Mary Trask
St. Margaret, Lakeside
May 23, 1975



*Happy
Thanksgiving*

**THE CHANCERY OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
NOVEMBER 27-28.**



TELEVISED MASS

The weekly televised Masses on KNBN/NBC will conclude on December 28.

To find more online options, visit our website

WWW.RAPIDCITYDIOCESE.ORG/TELEVISED-MASS/

for a list of online Masses and resources for at home prayer and study. If you are homebound and would like to speak with a priest or receive communion, please call 605-342-0507.

SATURDAY – 4:30 P.M.

NBC 21.1

ConnectCenter1 21.2



SUNDAY – 7 A.M. NBC 21.1

SUNDAY – 10:30 A.M. KNBN.2 21.2

ONLINE newscenter1.tv/catholic-mass

Facebook: [KNBNNewscenter1](https://www.facebook.com/KNBNNewscenter1)

[DioceseofRapidCity](https://www.dioceseofrapidcity.org/)

DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS

SATURDAY

3 p.m. MT/4 p.m. CT

YouTube

SUNDAY

9 a.m. MT/10 a.m. CT

KELOLand TV (CBS)

ONLINE [sfatholic.org/tvmass/](https://www.sfatholic.org/tvmass/)



Listen to the homily on our website or on your favorite
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Praying for All Souls

Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek leads the Federation of North American Explorers in prayers at St. Martin Cemetery, near Terra Sancta Retreat Center, Rapid City, on Nov. 2, All Souls Day. The Catholic Youth Movement is a member of the International Guides and Scouts of Europe. They prayed for the late Bishop Peter Muhich, priests and Benedictine Sisters buried there. It was their tenth annual All Souls gathering.

(Photo by Jacques Daniel)

December live stream schedule:

with Bishop Scott Bullock

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

December 8, 7 a.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS AT NIGHT

December 24, 10 p.m.

CLOSING MASS FOR THE YEAR OF HOPE

December 28, 5:30 p.m.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Vigil, 5:30 p.m.



www.rapidcitydiocese.org/live
facebook.com/DioceseofRapidCity

USCCB statement on Nigeria

USCCB — WASHINGTON Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace issued this statement September 24:

"We reiterate our solidarity with the bishops and faithful of Africa, as they offer the world a profound witness of respect for human life and dignity amidst ongoing conflicts.

"In 2025, millions of our brothers and sisters on the African continent live displaced from their homes and communities, forced to flee due to conflict, religious and ethnic persecution, economic hardship and environmental crises. Cycles of deadly violence and resulting humanitarian crises continue to claim thousands of innocent lives in Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, and throughout the Sahel region. Due to the rise of extremist violence, Christians, Muslims, and other people of faith are increasingly targeted by campaigns of mass killings, abductions, and forced displacement. We remember, in particular, the hundreds of Christian civilians massacred in recent weeks and months in Nigeria's Middle Belt and northern regions as well as in eastern Congo.

"We pray that government officials and people of all faiths may work together to bring lasting peace, justice, and security to the continent. We also reaffirm that lifesaving and life-affirming international assistance funding is a crucial complement to these efforts. The Catholic Church and the U.S. government have a shared responsibility to promote the international common good and respect for human life by contributing to international humanitarian and development assistance.

"In fraternal unity with the church in Africa, we ask Our Lady Queen of Peace to comfort all those afflicted by violence and grant all people of goodwill the courage to build peace both in their local communities and across borders. As our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has said, 'May every community become a "house of peace," where one learns how to defuse hostility through dialogue, where justice is practiced and forgiveness is cherished.'"



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24-RC-03077 (09/24)

Nigerian violence hits home — send prayers

BY LAURIE HALLSTROM

Troubled areas in the world's eastern hemisphere seem distant to western South Dakota. The ongoing conflict in Nigeria on the African west coast affects Nigerian priests serving in the Diocese of Rapid City, including Fr. Michael Oli, Faith; Fr. Collins Igwilllo, Hot Springs; and Fr. Francis Nwakile, FJS, Eagle Butte.

According to online sources, Nigeria is almost half Christian and half Muslim.

Most Muslims live in the northern states and Christians reside in the southern

states. Christians are predominantly Protestant because England ruled the country for nearly 100 years.

About 12% of the total population of 233,560,000 are Catholic. Statistics say more than 145 Catholic priests have been killed in the violence in recent years.

According to Father Oli, the Nigerian Church leaders are trying not to exacerbate the friction between Muslims and Christians.



FR. MICHAEL OLİ

He said, "As a way of national integration after the Nigerian/Biafra civil war of 1967 to 1970, the National Youth Service Corps was established for the purpose of integration. Bachelors' degree graduates go to a different region to serve for one year. I was assigned to the Northern part; it was the Islamic dominated area. It coincided with the introduction of Islamic Sharia Law. The extremist Islamic practices made me redeploy back to my region after a few months to complete my service year."

Fr. Collins Igwilllo said, "I remember the day a native of my parish, who had been living in Benue State, arrived at a neighbor's home — shaken, exhausted, and seeking refuge. His adopted parish in Benue State had been locked down after violent clashes erupted nearby. That same week, on January 1, 2018, an attack in Guma and Logo local areas left dozens dead. Masses were canceled. Families stayed indoors, terrified. The roads were unsafe, and even the sound of footsteps outside stirred panic. This



FR. COLLINS
IGWILLO

wasn't an isolated event. It was part of a growing pattern — of fear, displacement, and silence.

"I'm deeply thankful for the support and solidarity shown by the Church here in western South Dakota. Nigeria needs that compassion — and those prayers — more than ever."

Fr. Nwakile added more about the situation. "It's virtually impossible to track the number of people I know who were either kidnapped or who were killed because of religious violence in Nigeria. I have lost quite a number of friends due to the violence," he said. He added that the issue of religious violence in Nigeria is as complex as the formation of the Nigerian State it-



FR. FRANCIS
NWAKILE, FJS

self where more than 250 ethnicities were forced to become one country without being consulted.

"Know that there is no day a Christian is not killed in Nigeria because of his or her faith. Christians in Nigeria are at the risk of being eliminated or forcefully being converted to Islamic faith.

"Threats and security challenges in the Southeastern region from the 'Unknown Gunmen' delayed the burial of my mom for five months. She died on August 20, 2022, but we could not bury her until January 13, 2023. Anyone denying or downplaying religious violence or Christian genocide in Nigeria is either an accomplice to the crime or is directly benefiting from it.

"Please keep Nigeria in your prayers," he said.

(See page 10 statement from Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace.)



An Evening to Remember

At Osheim & Schmidt Funeral Home
December 11, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Join us for a heartfelt gathering to honor and remember our departed loved ones.

The evening will include a brief remembrance service and tribute video, concluding with each family placing an ornament on the tree as a tribute to their loved one.

We warmly welcome every family in our community, no matter when they lost a loved one.

Please Call or Scan to RSVP 605-343-0077

Light food & beverages will be served after the service.





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of the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City

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www.westrivercursillo.org



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 Victim Assistance Coordinator Irene Lee. To ensure confidentiality in our outreach to victims, she can be contacted privately at 605-209-3418 (cell). 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, young people, and vulnerable adults by 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.



Going Deeper

November 7 - 9, high school youth from around the diocese gathered at Placerville Camp in the Black Hills for the Going Deeper Retreat. The theme of the retreat was "To the Heights," and the keynote speakers were Lieutenant Colonel James Diroff and the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary. In addition to talks, Olympic games, and small groups, the whole group did an early hike on Sunday morning to Inspiration Peak for a cold sunrise Mass with Fr. Mark Horn. "They embraced the challenge, knowing that the climb to holiness is not an easy one, but one we desire to pursue anyway," said Sr. Sara Kowal, SCTJM. (Courtesy photo)

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