

MASS INTENTIONS ~ December 14 - 20

Intentions indicated by "+" are deceased; no notations are for living

MONDAY 7:30 am – Maurine DeJager +
5:30 pm – Thomas Birgenheir

TUESDAY 7:30 am – Peter Bauhs +

WEDNESDAY 7:30 am – John P. Thomas +

THURSDAY 7:30 am – Joyce Leischner

FRIDAY 7:30 am – Marcy Habbe

4th Sunday of Advent

SATURDAY 5:30 pm – Wayne Milburn +, Don Taylor + &
Carrol Krause +

SUNDAY 9 am – Donald (o) & Jeanette (+) Culhane
5:30 pm – Parishioners

MASS INTENTIONS: *Other than at St. Therese*

Thursday, December 17 Special Intention
By Fr. Zandri – West Hills Village South – 4 pm

Sunday, December 20 James Vandenberg +
By Fr. Zandri – St. John's in New Underwood – 11 am

FAMILY ROSARY: EVERY SUNDAY AT 7PM

PLEASE COME! EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Our Daily Scriptures

Monday Nm 24:2-7,15-17a Ps 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9 Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday Zep 3:1-2,9-13 Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23 Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday Is 45:6b-8,18,21b-25 Ps 85:9ab,10-14 Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday Gn 49:2,8-10 Ps 72:1-4b,7-8,17 Mt 1:1-17
Friday Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19 Mt 1:18-25
Saturday Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a Ps 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17 Lk 1:5-25
Sunday Mi 5:1-4a Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45

Faithful Citizenship "Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. Console parents who have lost that gift through abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and healing through the Divine Mercy of your Son. Teach us to cherish and to care for family and friends until God calls them home. Help us never to see others as burdens. Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen." www.usccb.org (From www.rapidcitydiocese.org/family-life-ministries-social-justice/social-justice-commission)

Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Dec. 19 & 20

SAT. 5:30 pm EM: Bob & Kay Olson (S) Deacon Rausch, Doug Meiron, Patty Fritzie, Ellen McGuigan, Joe Zacher **Lector:** Valeria Vifquain, Kristi Willard **Ushers:** Mike & Betty Quasney, Michael & Sarah Crook
Gift Bearers: Jim & Roxie Quintus **Altar Servers:** Kaitlyn Schmahl, Justice Moore, Abby Wagner, Arin Wagner

SUN. 9 am EM: Jean French, Gayle Martin (S) Deacon Rausch, Kim Dolan, Kelly Heintz, Paul Schneider, Mark Vedder **Lector:** Judee Popken, Randy Vette **Ushers:** Bill Schneider, Al Thome, Brenda Wills, Tom Baumgartner
Gift Bearers: Tom & Melanie Parson **Altar Servers:** Destinee Heizelman, Drake Heizelman, Dyson Heizelman, Joshua French

SUN. 5:30 pm E.M.: Lynn Loomer (S) Deacon Rausch, Elaine Kocher
Lector: Harold Hansen **Ushers:** Ben VanCleave, Will Winch, David & Chris VanCleave **Gift Bearers:** Tim & Molly Rausch Family
Altar Servers: Jacob Rausch, Lucy Rausch, Sarah Johnson

**Please remember to find a substitute if needed.
If you have changes for future schedules,
please call Gayle Martin at 718-4631.**

"Thank you to all those who volunteered for the Holy Day."
– Gayle Martin



Oh my goodness! THANK YOU to all involved in the Christmas Pageant "A Mouse's Tale"! How delightful it was!!

WELCOME

----- to the Faith Community

Through the Waters of Baptism.

Mary FOSTER, daughter of Michael & Jill

**We are in dire need of Ushers for Saturday and Sunday 5:30 pm Mass.
Please prayerfully consider tithing an hour of your time. -- You're here in Church for Mass anyway. MANY hands are needed. Please contact Gayle Martin at 718-4631.**

== The "Z" Gram ==

--- Notes From Father Bill ---

Many people helped out with the play "The Mouse's Tale". Special thanks are given to the two directors Lori Ashley and David Carroll. They are both teachers at Douglas. Many other people also helped out to produce a great play!

Penance Services are going to be very common this coming week. Confessions will be heard at the Cathedral on December 15 starting at 8 am and ending at 7 pm. Many priests and our bishop will be available to hear confessions. St. Therese will have a Communal Penance Service at 7 pm on December 17 and New Underwood will have one at 7 pm on December 18. Please try to attend one of those services.



CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

After Masses: December 12 & 13

Stop downstairs after Mass to get your Christmas goodies!



A huge THANK YOU to those that helped set up the trees & other decorations! You're great!



Please add BETTY BOSSEN & SHARON LONG to your prayers

Bulletin Prayer List:

Tim Ange, Don Anton, Wendlin Baumgartner, Shirley Black, Betty Bossen, Brittany, Kellee Callender, Darwin Coats, Jr., Dorothy Coats, Alice Cole, Barb Collins, Irene Cox, Ed Davis, Todd Ennen, Cathy Falcone, Judy Fisher, Dick & Diane Fraser, Haven Garrett, Vern Goetz, Leo Grebner, Gary Gross, Laurie Gustaf, Harold & Judy Hansen, Sue Hayden, Rosemary Huggins, Stephanie Johnson, Jim Kampa, Kaylan King, Arlene Kingsley, Melanie Lewis, Sharon Long, Josh Magbuhat, Margaret, Susan McFadden, Melani, Steve Miller, Calvin Neiss, Ann O'Connell, Ron Oney, Bonnie Palmer, Helen Quasney, Jerry Quinn, Joyce Quinn, Ted & Judy Rapp, Kathleen & Larry Riehle, John Radziwon, Cathy Robinet, Steve Rumbaugh, Carla Sandifer, Sand Family, Claude & Eileen Sauer, Dc. Beau Schumacher, Dixie Shreves, Leota Sidel, Mary Swanson, Bob Taylor, Austin Trask, Louis Vanderslice, Eileen Walters, Rose Wickenheiser, Betty Wilson, Carolyn Wise, Unborn Palmer Twins, Bernadette Zander, Darlys Zeller, John Zeller

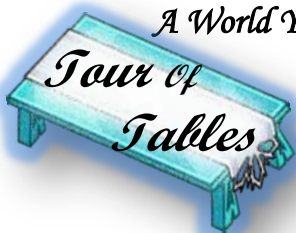
Thank you for the continued prayers for Al Winland +

Altar Society Funeral Chairpersons ~ DECEMBER

Chairperson: Diane Dahl Co-Chairperson: Diane Ange

www.sainttheresechurch.org

The weekly bulletin can be found there, as well as other info. about our parish.
If you haven't checked it out, you SHOULD!! ©



A World Youth Day Luncheon Fundraiser

Coming to St. Therese

January 16th, 2016

You won't want to miss it!

Mark your calendars!

Details coming soon!

A WEEKLY FUNNY...from Connie ☺



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE at St. Therese is

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 ~ at 7 pm

New Underwood, December 18 at 7 pm

"I am a sinner." Reach this awareness. Make this confession; it is the first condition for salvation."

From "Mustard Seeds: Daily Thoughts to Grow With" By Matthew Kelly



Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

GENERAL FUND: Contributions last week

Envelopes	\$ 7390.00
Plate Collection	\$ 2078.21
Children's Collection	\$ 125.11
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 10.00
Gifts & Donations	\$ 1000.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 120.00
Christmas	\$ 45.00
Votive Candle Income	\$ 68.00
TOTAL	\$10836.32

Amount needed per week: \$ 6805.00

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Building Improvements	\$ 130.00
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"THANK YOU" FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Seminarian Fund	\$ 108.00
Priest Retirement Aid Association	\$ 373.00
Retired Religious	\$ 40.00
Families in Need - Christmas	\$ 1000.00

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER:

Dec. 13: Retirement Fund for Religious / General Fund

Dec. 20: General Fund **Dec. 25:** Christmas **Dec. 27:** General Fund

DEC.: Priest Retirement Aid Assoc., Building Improvements, Seminarian Fund



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

9:30 pm Christmas Eve
Come early to the 10 pm Mass and join in raising our voices to welcome the Newborn King!

CANNED MEAT, SWEET POTATOES, CANNED FRUIT AND JELLO

ARE NEEDED AT CHURCH RESPONSE

Please place your items in box at either entrance! THANK YOU !!

MOMMY'S CLOSET Items needed soon:

WINTER CLOTHING up to size 6

We greatly appreciate all your contributions.

Please place all items in the cradles at either entrance.



NOW THROUGH DECEMBER!!

BABY JESUS SHOWER

0-12 MONTH "GIFTS" FOR BIRTHRIGHT

Please place all items in the cradle "manger" at either entrance.

PARISH PINOCHLE NIGHTS hosted by the KC's



Every Tuesday from 7 to 9 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME!! Bring a friend (if you want) !!

Attention students in 8th - 12th grades! STEUBENVILLE SIGN UPS ARE RIGHT NOW!!!

Thirst, June 24-26, in Denver, CO! Seats are going fast, so we have to sign up today to reserve our spots!!! See Rita or the Youth Board for details. Fund raising available, so don't let the cost keep you from going!!

Attention all Volunteer Drivers, we are instructed by the diocese to watch the Safe Driver Video if we transport kids &/or parishioners. This entails getting a user ID and new password. The website to go to is www.catholicmutual.org. You will receive a certification of completion, please file a copy with Rita in the Youth Office for reference. If you need assistance, please contact the office. Thank you!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Grades PreK - 7th: SUNDAYS- 10:15 - 11:30 am

Dec. 13 Happy Birthday Jesus Party!!

Dec. 20, 27, Jan. 3 NO Class - Christmas

CONFIRMATION: SUNDAYS: 6:30 - 8:30 pm:

Dec. 13 Class

Dec. 13 "On Sunday December 13 at 5:30 mass, confirmation class, along with parents and sponsors are invited to the Rite of Welcoming of Confirmation Candidates. Please mark your calendar. "

Dec. 20 Christmas Party

Dec. 27, Jan. 3 NO Class - Christmas

Youth Connection: WEDNESDAYS- 6 - 7:30 pm (Grades 6-12)

Dinner is served, and fun activities are happening!

6th -12th grade!!! Please join us

Dec. 16

Christmas Party

BACK TO BASICS with Father Bill

WEDNESDAYS at 7 pm NEW book, **only \$5!**

Get in office or at class! (even if you don't come to class).

Come one, or all Wednesdays... let's get back to basics!



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

MONDAYS: 8 am to 5:30 pm

Even if we speak with a low voice, even if we whisper without opening the lips, even if we call to him only from the depths of the heart, our unspoken word always reaches God and God always hears.

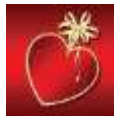
— St. Clement of Alexandria

The Giving Tree

Thank you for taking a tag for the Parishioner Giving Tree and/or the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

Please return your **unwrapped** gift for Salvation Army or **WRAPPED or unwrapped** gift for the Parishioner Tree by **December 14th!** Thank you so very much for sharing your gifts and blessings! Our parish is so awesome!

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.



Christmas is a time for giving and sharing and what better way to do that than purchasing 'We Care Gift Cards'! You can help the needy AND get your holiday shopping done at the same time!!! They're available for many area stores including Walmart/Sam's Club, Safeway, & Family Thrift Center/Prairie Market and they're good for all kinds of things like clothes, toys, music and even gasoline! Come by our table after mass or visit the ladies in the parish office. You'll be glad you did!

~ PRAYER CHAIN ~

This is not the list in the bulletin.

If you would like prayers or would like to be a link in the prayer chain, please contact Anne Pozorski at 721-1229.

"What ought we to do?" the crowds ask John, and he sends them to fulfill their calling. Doing the ordinary extraordinarily well is a step toward welcoming Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18)

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

ANOTHER WEEKLY FUNNY...from Father Bill

Why do the Irish only put 239 beans in their bean soup?

Because... one more, and it would be "too far-ty". ☺

Do you have a hole in your shoe?

"NO? Well, how'd you get your foot in?"

Please note... due to shipping costs, the company is unable to take toner cartridges, only ink cartridges.

So.. SAVE YOUR EMPTY INK CARTRIDGES!

Just place your empties in the box in Parish Center.

****Must be original cartridges – not generic. Please see the list on the box for acceptable ink cartridges.****

Thank you for supporting St. Therese YOUTH!

Come, Let Us Adore Him 40 HOURS ADORATION

St. Therese, the Little Flower

16th Annual Celebration

**Beginning Mass: Sunday,
December 27th at 6:30 PM**

**CONSIDER A HOLY HOUR WITH YOUR FAMILY
SIGN UP ON THE POSTER IN THE PARISH CENTER**

ADORATION begins at 6:30 pm through
Closing Mass: Tuesday, December 29th at 10:30 am

Mass on the 29th will be followed by a CELEBRATION

WE NEED YOU! TO DONATE BLOOD AT THE KC BLOOD DRIVE



Monday, December 14th from 3:30 to 6:30 pm
WALK-INS WELCOME! OR CONTACT Bill Schneider at 391-7413.

Or www.bloodhero.com & enter code: therese

WE NEED MORE DONORS!!! Among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver – Maya Angelou

Everyone come on down!

KC BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 13th

8 am until all served following 9 am Mass

Cost? Free-will offering, with proceeds to charity



Hey Catholic men, 18 & up!!

YOU should join the Knights of Columbus NOW so you can be a Knight before Christmas! ☺

Next Knights of Columbus Meeting

Monday, December 14th ~ 7 pm

YOU should be a Knight! See any KC!!

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS Court St. Rita #916

ADVENT PARTY ~ Dec. 14th at 6 pm at St. Therese

Please bring \$5.00 for a charity, a can of food, and a potluck dish.

Note the change in time. Winners of the Catholic Daughter Raffles will be announced. If you need a ride, please call Florence at 431-0851.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS THANKS YOU

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Lucille Beach and Helen Bakken memorials given to the Catholic Daughters. These two ladies were very active members during their time and we will miss them greatly. Their memorials will be given to charities of which they were a part. Thanks again.

Are you a single, separated or divorced Catholic?

CONNECTED CATHOLICS OF SD A group of single, widowed, separated, and divorced Catholic men and women ages 35 and up that provides a social and spiritual network of activities that offer companionship for singles. The group offers a variety of programs and experiences that enrich its members socially, educationally, and spiritually. If you need additional information or would like to be put on our email list please contact Brenda at 718-0954 or Larry at 355-9087.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 18 – Blessed Sacrament Church – 5pm -come help fill candy bags for the prison ministry

Grand Ultreya ~ Sunday, December 13 at 5:30 pm

Potluck at Blessed Sacrament Church. Please come and join the fun and meet the new *Cursillo* members. A witness will share how God is working in their life. Sing and celebrate the Christmas season with friends old and new. For more information call Bob Melvin at 484-0324.



Drawing for Pie & Coffee with Bishop Gruss

I would like to invite you to consider taking part in our third online survey, which is on hospitality. I value your insights and opinions. Please use the computer link listed below. From those who respond to the survey, I will randomly draw the names of 50 individuals or a combination of couples and individuals to total 50 people who will be invited to a gathering with me for coffee and pie on Saturday, January 30, at Terra Sancta. Surveys must be completed and submitted no later than January 19 to qualify for the drawing. Thank you for helping me shape the future of our lives together as faithful stewards by living lives of hospitality, faith, and discipleship in our Catholic way of life.

— **Bishop Robert Gruss**

Survey can be found online at: www.rapidcitydiocese.org/stewardship

And ONE MORE FUNNY...from Father Bill

Jesus said to John, "come forth and you'll be given the gift of eternal life." But John came in 5th and he got a toaster.

Catholics Returning Home

Have you been away from the church for a while? Have you ever thought about returning? Do you know someone who wants to return to the Church? If so, there is a special ministry for people who have been away from the Church. The six-week "Catholics Returning Home" series begins on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 520 Cathedral Drive, Rapid City. For more information contact Greg Sass at gsass@diorc.org or 605-939-0579, or visit ReturningCatholics.net There is no charge and pre-registration is not required.

Christmas Taizé ~ Monday, December 21st ~ 7 pm

Join us for a celebration of Christmas through song, scripture and silence. Amidst all the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparation, this is a chance to rest in God's love. The simple and beautiful melodies and prayerful silence nurture our heart and soul and lead us into a deeper relationship with our Emmanuel, God with us! Taizé is always ecumenical and all are welcome. Bring your families and friends. Questions? Call Sandi Ohlen at 341-1078.

Our Gift to YOU!

Terra Sancta Retreat Center invites you to come away during the Christmas Holiday and enjoy the quiet and peace of Terra Sancta at a discounted rate. Make your reservation on-line at <http://terrasancta.org/ChristmasLodging2015> for the discounted rate of \$75 per night. Rates honored for family style lodging December 15-31. Questions? Contact us at 605-716-0925.



Take life in a new direction

Join the hundreds of people who have found financial freedom, parenting help and life skills. FREE tuition, children's program and activities, and groceries for completing weekly assignments. FREE meal for students and their families. Learn more & register at www.loveinonline.com or call Love INC at 718-LOVE (5683).

Apply NOW! New 9-week quarter will be starting soon.

Registration deadline for all classes is one week before class start dates. Pick up a flyer on bulletin boards at each entrance for class descriptions, list of locations and start dates.

~ Money 101 ~ Financial Freedom ~ Bridges to Freedom
~ Common Sense Parenting ~ Stepping into Freedom (Women only) ~ Nutrition on a Budget ~ Kids Cooking (for parents & children) ~ Christianity Explored ~ Bible Class ~ Star Quilting Class 101 (\$25 fee) ~ Vehicle Maintenance Class ~ EWorks

Christian Prayer Labyrinth ~ All are welcome!

Need time to get away from busy-ness & distractions to become centered on the true reason for Christmas? Enter into a deeper relationship with Christ using an indoor Christian Prayer Labyrinth at Terra Sancta Retreat Center. The labyrinth will be available 8 a.m.-4 p.m. daily December 15-31 (excluding December 24-26). Prayer guides are available.

Handel's Messiah ~ Sunday, December 13th ~ 7 pm

The Chamber Orchestra from Rapid City Stevens High School will play selections from Handel's Messiah at Holy Cross Chapel. The concert will feature vocalists Pamela Baker (Soprano); Deb Martin (Alto); Dean Peterson (Tenor); and Matthew Baker (Bass). Goodwill donations will be requested during the concert to support a local non-profit or person in need.

SPIRITUAL MOTHERHOOD

The Office of Vocations would like to invite the women of our diocese to join us in our Spiritual Motherhood Group, according to the invitation of the Congregation for the Clergy, who asked women everywhere to consider serving as "Spiritual Mothers" to priests. This would include a commitment to prayer and offerings for the priests of our diocese, who greatly need our prayers and spiritual support. We invite the women of our diocese to join us at **Our Lady of the Black Hills in Piedmont, January 8, 2016 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm.** At this gathering we will provide more information about what a commitment to Spiritual Motherhood means, we will pray together, share stories, and have a light supper. Please join us! Please RSVP to Shawna Hanson, Office of Vocations and Stewardship at shanson@diorc.org or 716-5214 ext. 233, by January 4th, in order to get a count for the dinner. If you cannot attend, but would like to be a part of this, please contact the office.



You can now get Father Kari's CD in the office!

"Father Kari's Favorites"

1 for \$15; 2 for \$25!

Please make check payable to:

Fr. Arnold Kari

Get em while we got em

and get your toes a tappin!

Diocesan Masses for Life Matching Grant

Again this year, the Diocesan Social Justice Commission will match total donations made for the Diocesan Masses for Life project, up to a total of \$250. The Masses are coordinated by the Blessed Sacrament Parish Pro-Life Committee, but are offered daily at parishes throughout the diocese. This is the ninth year the diocese has matched funds for these Masses for the protection of all life. Please send donations to: Diocesan Masses for Life, c/o Mary Mitchell, 113 Berry Pine Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702. Donations must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2015.

An Update from the Hope For New Life (HFNL) Jail Ministry Annual Christmas Jail Program 2015

Imagine a Christmas holiday during which you were separated from your family and friends due to your incarceration. This is a condition which fortunately few of us have experienced. But for some the pain of this separation is all too real. This was brought home to me while I was parked outside the Pennington County Jail a few weeks ago. There I noticed a young woman with two small boys looking up toward the jail windows. Suddenly, she became quite excited and began to wave joyously. Calling the little boys to her side, she pointed upward. The boys began to laugh and wave and the littlest one began to throw kisses. A family visit was in progress. Each year our ministry sponsors a Christmas caroling event in the jail. Our 9th annual program is scheduled for Sunday evening, December 20th at 7:00 pm. **We are very much in need of one more guitar player to accompany our singers.** The program lasts about an hour and a half. We typically give a short message about Christmas and sing 3-4 songs in each area. We also distribute candy bags for all inmates. This is often an especially moving experience for those volunteers who encounter the inside of the jail for the first time. **If you are interested in joining us for this year's program, please contact Bill Gradoville 341-2721, Jill Leberknight 431-1926, or Tony Galles 348-2301.** As part of the volunteer process, you will be required to fill out two short forms a few weeks before the event so the jail has time to complete a basic background check for your clearance. Volunteers must be 18 years or older. If you would like to learn more about our ministry, you are welcome to attend our monthly HFNL business meetings every 3rd Monday of the month at Catholic Social Services beginning at 6:30 pm.

Pro-life Film A gentle presentation on the effects of abortion on the United States for last 40 years titled "40" will be shown Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016, at 2 p.m., in the Fine Arts Theater of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City. The movie is free to attend. Everyone welcome. A free will offering will be taken at the event — 100 percent of which will be given to pro-life ministries.

---- Happenings at St. Martin's --- INTO THE HEART OF THE WOMAN

Advent Workshop ~ Saturday, December 19, 9 am to noon.

Sr. Marion Howe, OSB, will host at St. Martin Monastery. It will be a morning of meditation including Centering Prayer and Scripture readings. Please bring a Bible and some Christmas art or other seasonal items to share. Crayons and watercolors will be available. Please register beforehand at 343-8011. Refreshments will be served and donations are welcome.

There is still time to sign up for the Pilgrimage with Bishop Robert Gruss to Lourdes, Spain & Fatima and an optional Rome Extension ~ Feb. 5-15, 2016

The 11-day pilgrimage includes round-trip airfare from Rapid City, daily Mass in significant Catholic shrines and churches, professional Catholic tour escorts /guides and daily sightseeing that includes the sites of Lourdes and Fatima, touring the Marian apparition of Zaragoza, St. Teresa's city of Avila, Madrid, and much more — price \$3,299. February 15-19, 2016, there is an optional 5-day extension to Rome that includes a Papal Audience with Pope Francis, the major Basilica's of Christian Rome, ancient Rome sites, and the Vatican \$1699

Mark your calendars! **Married Sweethearts Mass & Dinner-Dance**, Saturday, February 6, 2016 Join us for this year's event, **"We Languish with Love"**. Mass and renewal of vows will be celebrated at Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rapid City at 5:30 p.m. The dinner-dance will follow at the Best Western Ramkota, catered by Minervas, I-90 & Exit 59. Registration fee of \$65 per couple includes the dinner and dance and is required to be received by January 28. Please consider sponsoring a couple who would like to attend, but cannot afford the fee. For more information, please contact Amy at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236 or ajulian@diorc.org.



FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

For info. on the following ministries, call FLM, 716-5214 x236

Beginning Experience Level 1 Separated, Divorced & widowed Support Group, "Coping with Life Alone". Are you recently separated, divorced or widowed? Are you struggling with pain and loneliness? Healing can begin with the next nine week session of the support group. The group starts at 7:00pm on January 14th at St. Therese the Little Flower Church, 532 Adams St, Rapid City. The non-denominational group is open to all Christian men and women who are hurting following a separation, divorce, or the death of a spouse. Registration fee is \$30.00; need-based scholarships available. Pre-registration is requested but not required. For more information and to pre-register, call Amy with Family Life Ministries, 716-5214 x 236.

Heart to Heart: A Weekend Retreat for the Engaged is a weekend getaway for engaged couples to deepen their relationship with each other and with God by exploring the Catholic Church's vision of marriage. The next weekend retreats will be held at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, January 15-17, 2016 and February 19-21, 2016. Please register on-line at www.terrasancta.org. For more information, contact Amy at Family Life Ministries, 716-5214 x 236 or ajulian@diorc.org. Please note: *Because this retreat is such a powerful preparation for the sacrament of marriage, attendance at a "Heart to Heart" Weekend Retreat is a requirement for couples doing marriage preparation in the Diocese of Rapid City.*

"Heal Your Grief" Bereavement Support Group is an eight week non-denominational support group for Christian adults grieving the loss of a loved one. The group begins at 7:00pm on Monday, January 25th at Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. Please come early to register! For information or to pre-register, call Janee Rieman, 343-5547 or Amy with Family Life Ministries, 716-5214 ext 236.

Marian Conference

As part of the Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, the Diocese of Rapid City will be holding a Divine Mercy/Marian Conference at Blessed Sacrament Church on Friday and Saturday, April 15-16, 2016 featuring Fr. Chris Alar, the director of the Association of Marian Helpers in Stockbridge, MA. Theme, "Do Whatever He Tells You." - Jn 2:5. All are welcome! For more information please contact Frank Birkholt at fabhome@qwtc.net or Fr. Mark McCormick at mmccormick@diorc.org

Spearfish Canyon Holy Rosary Tour Looking for a unique and meaningful way to celebrate this year's season of Advent? Consider taking the Spearfish Canyon Holy Rosary Tour. This 2-hour bus ride through beautiful Spearfish Canyon will feature all four sets of the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary as well as inspirational songs specifically selected for each mystery. Tours will be given on **Thursdays and Saturdays** now through December 24 beginning at 10 a.m. — ending at noon. Tours will depart from and return to the parking lot at St. Joseph Church, Spearfish. Please reserve your seat on the 14-passenger bus by calling the day before the scheduled tour. The number to call is **722-4068**. Price of the tour is a free-will donation with 100 percent of the proceeds being donated back to the church.

Centering Prayer at Terra Sancta

Join us each week on Wednesday at 5 p.m. for an hour of quiet reflection centered on the Lord. Sandi Ohlen leads this contemplative prayer experience, which allows you to deepen your personal relationship with Christ. Centering Prayer adds depth to your prayer life and helps put us in a more receptive place for all prayerful experiences. Never done Centering Prayer? Sandi will help you through the process. Please use the south patio entrance and join the Centering Prayer group in the Solarium at Terra Sancta Retreat Center. Weekly starting November 4 through May. All are welcome.

Clothe yourselves...with humility toward one another ~ 1 Peter 5:5

SHATTERED HEARTS... A GRANDPARENTS GRIEF

To offer friendship to those who share the same loss...

The loss of a grandchild

9-10 am ~ Saturdays: December 26

Rapid City Public Library, Helen Hoyt Room, 610 Quincy St.

GROUNDKEEPER POSITION-full-time Rapid City Catholic School System
300 Fairmont Blvd., Rapid City, SD 57701 (605) 343-8484

Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent, Experience in building and grounds operations with desire to continue career improvement

Submit a completed non-certified application (available for downloading and printing at <http://rccss.org/district-information/employment-opportunities/>), letter of interest, resume, and three reference letters to: ATTN: Dave Hollenbeck, Director of Facilities
c/o Marcia Werner - mwerner@rccss.org (or send to above address)

Visit Ireland Join Fr. Marcin Garbacz on a pilgrimage to experience the faith of the Irish, June 2-13, 2016. Price based on two people per room, \$3,895.00 from Rapid City. For more information contact Select International: Susan Prendergast 800-842-4842 or susan@select-intl.com Rita Dupres 605-381-4988 or Ritadupres@msn.com

St. Therese Prayer

St. Therese, the Little Flower, please pick me a rose from the heavenly garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favors I ask, I thee implore, and tell Him I will love Him each day more and more.



Looking for more than just a job?

During his visit to the U.S., Pope Francis spoke about not holding back the little miracles of life – to show our love as signs of Jesus' own living and active presence in our world. Being a part of the team at Terra Sancta Retreat Center provides an opportunity to do just that ... We live our ministry of hospitality and generosity through our work at the retreat center. Applications accepted on a continuous basis as business continues to grow. Additional Event Staff are needed for both Hospitality Services and for Catering Services. Find out more on-line at <http://terrasancta.org/employment/> or call us at 605-716-0925.

Annual Diocesan Appeal 2016 "Above all, let your love for one another be intense"

"Thanks once again for your participation in the Annual diocesan Appeal. If you have not yet turned in your pledge for the appeal, please do so. You can place your pledge form in a Sunday collection basket, turn it in to the parish office or you can mail it in the pre-addressed pledge envelope. Pledge forms are available at the parish office or at either church entrance."



Hi there! Have you recently switched to just a cell phone? Do we have your current address & phone number?

We are working to get our records as accurate as possible, so...."THANK YOU!" to those families that recently shared address and phone number changes – helps us keep in touch. ☺ (Anyone else out there in the pews wanting to share changes? We'd love to hear from ya.)

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PUBLIC PROTEST

Every Friday from 4-5 by the statue of Abraham Lincoln on the corner of 9th and Main to pray the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Prayer for Peace ~ Every Thursday from Noon to 1 pm (noon hour) you are invited to come to the Cathedral in Rapid City to pray for peace.

The Origin of the Twelve Days of Christmas

You're all familiar with the Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" I think. To most, it's a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written. It is a good deal more than just a repetitious melody with pretty phrases and a list of strange gifts. Catholics in England during the period 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England, were prohibited from ANY practice of their faith by law – private OR public. It was a crime to BE a Catholic. "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written in England as one of the "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith – a memory aid, when to be caught with anything in "writing" indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged, or shortened by a head – or hanged, drawn and quartered, a rather peculiar and ghastly punishment I'm not aware was ever practiced anywhere else. Hanging, drawing and quartering involved hanging a person by the neck until they had almost, but not quite, suffocated to death; then the party was taken down from the gallows, and disemboweled while still alive; and while the entrails were still laying on the street, where the executions stomped all over them, the victim was tied to four large farm horses, and literally torn into five parts – one to each limb and the remaining torso. The song's gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so..."

The other symbols mean the following: 2 Turtle Doves= The Old and New Testaments; 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues; 4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists; 5 Golden Rings = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", man's fall from grace; 6 days of Creation; 7 Swans A-of the Holy Spirit, the seven 8 Maids A-milking = the Dancing – the nine Spirit; 10 Lords A-Commandments; 11 eleven faithful Drummers twelve points of Apostle's

which gives the history of Geese A-laying = the six swimming = the seven Sacraments; eight beatitudes; 9 Ladies Fruits of the Holy leaping = the Ten Pipers Piping = the apostles; 12 Drumming = the Doctrine in the Creed.

