

MASS INTENTIONS ~ Dec. 22 - 28

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

MONDAY 7:30 am – Gordon Milam +
No 5:30 pm Mass due to Dorothy Rapp funeral
TUESDAY 7:30 am – Jeanette Culhane +
WEDNESDAY 7:30 am – Joe Engelhardt +
Christmas
WEDNESDAY 5:30 pm – Agnes, Jim, Mark & Raymond Kurtenbach +
10:00 pm – Ken Lovik +
THURSDAY 9:00 am – William O. Campbell +
FRIDAY 7:30 am – Special Intention
Holy Family
SATURDAY 5:30 pm – Alois & Donna Krebs +
SUNDAY 9:00 am – Donna Abrams
5:30 pm – Parishioners

MASS INTENTIONS: Other than at St. Therese

Wednesday, December 24 Jim Vandenberg +
By Fr. Zandri – Good Samaritan Center, New Underwood, 9:30 am
Thursday, December 25 Mike J. Vandenberg +
By Fr. Zandri – St. John's in New Underwood – 11 am
Sunday, December 28 Special Intention
By Fr. Zandri – St. John's in New Underwood – 11 am

Our Daily Scriptures

Monday 1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1,4-7,8a-d Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday Mal 3:1-4,23-24 Ps 25:4-5b,8-10,14 Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Ps 89:2-5,27,29 Lk 1:67-79
Thursday Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18
Friday Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd,4,6-8b,16bc,17 Mt 10:17-22
Saturday 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12 Jn 20:2-8
Sunday Sir 3:2-6,12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:22-40

Faithful Citizenship "Marriage teaches us that men need women and women need men and that children need both mothers and fathers. In this sense, marriage and the family represent foundational realities, not constructs that can be invented, defined, legislated, or determined by popular vote or culture. Marriage, in fact, is the "primordial first institution," flowing out of the intimate and creative union of male and female. It precedes other societal institutions and conventions, and is essentially ordered towards creating and caring for the future in the form of the next generation. Marriage is a given reality that we come to discover in its authentic design, not a concept for us to "define" according to our own agenda or desires." *West River Catholic, Marriage, in fact, is the 'primordial first institution,' October 2014.*
www.rapidcitydiocese.org (From Diocesan Social Justice Commission
www.rapidcitydiocese.org/WP/offices/social-justice-commission)

Come, Let Us Adore Him

40 HOURS ADORATION

St. Therese, the Little Flower

15th Annual Celebration

**Beginning Mass: Sunday,
December 28th at 5:30 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 30th at 10:30 am

Mass on the 30th will be followed by a CELEBRATION

CHRISTMAS Schedule – Dec. 24 & 25

WED. 5:30 pm E.M.: Diane Wilkinson, Bob & Kay Olson (S) Kim Dolan, Paul Schneider, Pat Guertman, Julie Heintz, Kelly Heintz **Lector:** Scott Sime, David Dolan **Ushers:** NEED 3 MORE, Dick Cuka, Brenda Wills **Gift Bearers:** Bill & Kathy Klemann **Altar Servers:** Genna Miller, Maggie Miller
WED. 10 pm E.M.: Jean French (S) Ellen McGuigan, Donna Abrams, Beth Sand, NEED 3 MORE **Lector:** Jean French, Deanna Johnson **Ushers:** Kent French, Rachel French, Evan Sand, VanCleave **Gift Bearers:** Sand Family **Altar Servers:** Joshua French, Sarah Johnson, Cooper Sand
THUR . 9 am ALL MINISTRIES BY 4TH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Dec. 27 & 28

SAT. 5:30 pm E.M.: John Mowry, Doug Meiron (S) Martha Cook, Bob & Kay Olson, Patty Fritzie, Ellen McGuigan **Lector:** Kevin & Kris Hittle **Ushers:** Mac Coldwell, Dick Cuka, Fred & Paula Welsch **Gift Bearers:** Jim, Roxie & Bradley Quintus **Altar Servers:** Abby Wagner, Arin Wagner, Karen Witcraft
SUN. 9 am E.M.: Diane Ange, Diane Dahl (S) Kim Dolan, Mark Vedder, Ray & Mary Wagner, Paul Schneider **Lector:** David Dolan, Jean French **Ushers:** Joe Martin, Randy Rapp, Larry Cole, Dean Hade **Gift Bearers:** Jason & Donna Gorman Family **Altar Servers:** Destinee, Drake & Dyson Heizelman, Hayden Grosz
SUN. 5:30 pm E.M.: Chris VanCleave (S) Elaine Kocher, Beth Sand **Lector:** Lynn Loomer, Nancy Palmer **Ushers:** 2 NEEDED, Greg Suto, Will Winch **Gift Bearer:** Chuck & Holly Bossen Family
Altar Server: Tyler Matt, Corten Dobesh, Cailin Haiar

Please remember to find a substitute if needed.

**The January, February & March Liturgical
Schedule is in the works! So if you know you
are going to be gone during that time, PLEASE
call Gayle Martin at 718-4631 soon!!!**

== The "Z" Gram ==

--- Notes From Father Bill ---

Many people have worked very hard to make the coming celebration of the birthday of the Lord one to remember. What I mean is that a great deal of people have made donations, both in money and buying gifts for people they do not even know. How we live our ordinary days is as important as how we live our big moments, and the celebration of the birth of the Lord is a big moment! Each day is a new challenge and provides new experiences in which we can be Christ-like to the people that we meet. We need to be positive, not negative, to believe in people, be generous people, like yourselves, to give, to share and to make the best of every ordinary day, because each day is not ordinary. Each day is a gift from God to be Christ-like to others. Your contributions have helped turn ordinary days into extraordinary days for many people that you do not even know!! On behalf of the staff at your parish, we all wish you the best ordinary day, December 25th!!!!!!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! For all the
gifts, gift tags, gift bags, goodies, and
ALL THE HELP for the
Happy Birthday Jesus party for our
religious education classes!**

YOU made this such a wonderful event for our youth! What a fantastic time it is! THANK YOU AGAIN!



FAMILY ROSARY: EVERY SUNDAY AT 7PM

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

www.sainttheresechurch.org

The weekly bulletin can be found there, as well as other info. about our parish.



CHRISTMAS CHOIR

5:30 pm Christmas Eve
Practice **MONDAY, Dec. 22 at 7:30 pm**

PLEASE JOIN US!! Questions?
Contact Sue Englin at 343-8455 after 6 pm

Bulletin Prayer List:

Tim Ange, Don Anton, Marlene Baker, Jerry Bartholmay, Wendlin Baumgartner, Sharon Baumgartner, Larry Blote, Dewayne Borszich, Jeanne Carey, Margaret Chronos, Tina Chronos, Cindy, Eleanor Clarich, Dorothy Coats, Alice Cole, Barb Collins, Ed Davis, Colette DeVries, Brandon Eastman, Kelli Eastman, Ben Eicher, Don Everett, Lena Fagen, Cathy Falcone, Gene Farrell, Joan Feller, Sheryl Feller, Judy Fisher, Vic Gaudette, Darlene Grass, Leo Grebner, Alma Gruenig, Jim Hanna, Harold & Judy Hansen, Margaret Hansen, Sue Hayden, Jacob Heil, Charlie & Brandi Henriksen & Family, Charles Hewitt, Jeannine Hittle, Ellen Horan, Rosemary Huggins, Tim Irvine, Marlys Johnson, Baby Kash, Fern Keller, Shirley Kenoyer, Kathy Krause, Peter Krause, Melanie Lewis, Mike, Julie Lindy, Pearl Lyon, Kevin Maher, Mary Maher, Luke Mars, Susan McFadden, Robert Melvin, Jr., Anita Miller, Zane Morris, Tracey Mowery, Ron Oney, Heather Popken, Helen Quasney, Joyce Quinn, Ted & Judy Rapp, Joel Reed, Joseph Regal-Frazier, Mary Rieb, Andrea Rivera, Doyle Roseland, Karla Sandifer, Claude & Eileen Sauer, Deacon Jim Scherr, Beau Schumacher, Sister Marie Schwan, Leota Sidel, Mike Smaltz, Donna Stulken, Nick Tomac, Bud Torp, Betty Wilson, Al Winland

Thank you for the continued prayers for Dorothy Rapp +

Altar Society Funeral Chairpersons ~ DECEMBER

Chairperson: Team Co-Chair: Diane Ange

Mary received and responded to the Lord's will through the invitation of an angel. Who are God's messengers in your life? Listen to God speaking to you through them. (Luke 1:26-38)
PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

"Thank you!" to all who so generously showed their "little way" of sharing His love this blessed season through The Giving Tree!



We in the office are so touched by our parish's generosity towards others. It is truly a gift to us to be able to experience the recipient's joy and genuine gratitude at receiving your "gifts". You are truly a wonderful blessing. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Wow! Thank you for the tremendous support in WRAP 'EM IN WARMTH & PRAYERS!

We received a bunch of throws & blankets!!!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING show others how much they are appreciated and loved! **YOU** helped wrap lots in warmth & prayers!

THE WEEKLY FUNNY...from Father Bill

A motorist, after being bogged down in a muddy road, paid a passing farmer five dollars to pull him out with his tractor. After he was back on dry ground he said to the farmer, "At those prices, I should think you would be pulling people out of the mud night and day." "Can't", replied the farmer. "At night I haul water for the hole."

SOUP & CRACKERS, CEREAL & TOILET PAPER

ARE NEEDED AT CHURCH RESPONSE
Please place your items in box at either entrance! **THANK YOU !!**



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 Don's Valley 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!**

So, you heard that **Don's Valley Market** has a new owner? **NOT TO WORRY** - We Care Food Certificates are still good and being honored by the new owners. Yes, you can still buy We Care... & shop!... at Don's!!

In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" - "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." - that the promise find fulfillment.

GENERAL FUND: Contributions last week

Envelopes	\$ 5880.29
Plate Collection	\$ 1067.75
Children's Collection	\$ 57.54
Adult Education Program	\$ 5.00
Copier Maintenance - KC's	\$ 50.00
Religious Education Program	\$ 105.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 701.21
Christmas	\$ 10.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 12.00
Votive Candle Income	\$ 84.04
TOTAL	\$ 7972.83
Amount needed per week:	\$ 6805.00

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Building Improvements	\$ 234.00
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"THANK YOU" FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Seminarian Fund	\$ 98.00
Retired for Religious	\$ 713.00
Priest Retirement Aid Association	\$ 332.00
FAMILIES IN NEED FUND	\$ 1120.00

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER:

Dec. 21: General Fund **Dec. 25:** Christmas **Dec. 28:** General Fund
DEC.: Priest Retirement Aid Assoc., Building Improvement, Seminarian Fund

Seeking Adorers, especially from 11 am to noon.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

MONDAYS: 8 am to 5:30 pm

Come rest in Me. If only for a little while.

~ 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.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER!!

BABY JESUS SHOWER

0-6 MONTH "GIFTS" FOR BIRTHRIGHT

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



MOMMY'S CLOSET Items in need are:
Winter clothing & coats/jackets size newborn – 6T

We greatly appreciate all your contributions.
Thank you for your kindness to mothers and their little ones!
Please place all items in the cradles at either entrance.



Go to the parish website to view the Origin of our beloved St. Therese statue! Parishioner Dale Schumacher has done extensive research. VERY interesting! Go to sainttheresechurch.org and click on the link on the home page.

Knights of Columbus 2nd Annual BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Meadowood Lanes January 17th

Registration starts at 1 pm (Pre-registration encouraged)
\$80 entry for 4 person team

CASH PRIZES/DOOR PRIZES/ STRIKE POT & MORE!

Proceeds to "Coats for Kids" **Put a team together and come join the fun!!! Questions or to sign up, call 381-6027.**



ANOTHER WEEKLY FUNNY...from Father Bill

Father Bill was about to baptize a baby. Turning to the father he replied, "His name please." The father said, "William, Patrick, Arthur, Timothy, John MacArthur". Father Bill turns to his assistant and says, "A little more water please".

Share the Christmas spirit with Veterans!!

Once again we are collecting socks, underwear/shorts, t-shirts and toiletries for the VA Home.

Thank you, in advance, for your support.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Grades PreK - 5th: SUNDAYS- 10:15 - 11:30 am

AND CONFIRMATION: Grades 9 & 10 (and 11- 12 if needed):
& *NEW* & EXCITING!!! YDISCIPLINE Small Group (11th & 12th)

SUNDAYS: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Dec. 21, 28 No Class – Christmas / New Year

Youth Connection: Grades 6 - 8: WEDNESDAYS- 6 – 7:30 pm

Meal provided

Dec. 24, 31 No Class – Christmas / New Year

THANK YOU!! For the "cake" tubs! We have plenty!... at least next 5-6 funerals! When we have need again, will ask again! THANK YOU so very much!!!

Seeking a member of the parish to sit on the Church Response Board of Directors.
Typically only meet on 3rd Monday evening of the month.
If you might be interested, see Father Bill or call the parish office.

take life in a new direction



find support to launch out

Life INC's classes offer you a place where you can take your life in a new direction. This free program provides a meal before classes, childcare during classes, and resources for participants. Find answers for finances, parenting, faith and life (see below). Complete class descriptions are available at www.loveinonline.com or call Love INC at 718-5683. See flyer on bulletin board for location. Class titles: Financial Freedom; Money 101; Common Sense Parenting; Strengthening Families; Tools for Loving Relationships; Best of Dave Ramsey; Bridges to Freedom; Employment Prep; Jobs for Life; Nutrition on a Budget; Christianity Explored; Wounded by Shame, Healed by Grace. Most classes begin on Jan. 8, 2015. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: include mentors (budget, employment, faith), children's ministry helpers, serving meals as group project, classroom asst., administration and teachers. Call Love INC to learn more. FYI: St. Therese parish will be serving a meal this quarter at Main Campus. Call Kathy Grebner at 718-1404.**

Bishop's Mass and Luncheon — Date Changed

The date for the Bishop's Mass and Luncheon in January has been changed from January 2 to January 9 in order to allow the cooks more time after the holidays to prepare.

Are you a single, separated or divorced Catholic?

There is a new ministry to serve you called CONNECTED CATHOLICS. Connected Catholics is 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. Please join us for an **INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND POTLUCK on Saturday, January 24 at 7 pm at St. Therese Church.**

For the potluck, please bring an appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert to share. For any questions, contact Brenda at 718-0954 or Larry at 455-9087.

ONE MORE FUNNY...from Father Bill

The sermon was very long one Sunday morning and little Johnny was getting more restless by the minute. Suddenly, he whispered too loud for his mother's comfort, "If we give him the money now, Mom, will he let us go?!!!"

What we've done to the least of our brothers and sisters we've done to Christ. Choose to serve in every instance; listen for a call to service as a priest, brother, or sister. (Matthew 25:31-46)
PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

Catholics Returning Home

Were you raised Catholic but don't go to Church anymore? Are you a Catholic who feels separated from the Church? Do you know someone who also feels the same way? No matter how long it has been and no matter the reason, all are invited to consider renewing their relationship with the Catholic Church. The six-week "Catholics Returning Home" series begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at Blessed Sacrament, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. For more information, contact Dcn. Greg Sass at gsass@diorc.org or 605-939-0579, or visit <http://ReturningCatholics.net>. There is no charge and pre-registration is not required.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR ST. THERESE FAMILY!!

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 or divorced? Are you struggling with the pain and loneliness? Healing can begin with the next nine-week session of the support group. The group starts at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2015 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 due to separation or divorce. Registration fee: \$30.00; need-based scholarships available. Pre-registration is requested! For more information and to pre-register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 ext. 236 or jslegner@diorc.org.

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 retreat will be held at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, January 23-25, 2015. Please register on-line at www.terrasancta.org. For more information or to register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 716-5214 x 236 or jslegner@diorc.org. **Note: Attendance at a "Heart to Heart" weekend retreat is a requirement for engaged couples planning to get married in the Diocese of Rapid City.**

HEAL YOUR GRIEF Bereavement Support Group is an eight-week non-denominational group open to all Christian adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The support group begins at 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 26, 2015, at Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. Please come early to register! For information or to pre-register, call Janece Rieman, 605-343-5547 or Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236.

Retrouvaille is a confidential weekend that offers hope and help for couples to heal and renew their marriage relationship. The next weekend is February 27-March 1, 2015 at The Abbey of the Hills near Marvin, SD (formerly Blue Cloud Abbey). Retrouvaille is a peer-to-peer ministry and has helped couples experiencing chronic communication problems, as well as those who thought they were beyond hope, already separated, or even divorced. Please keep this weekend in mind for any couple you feel would be open to this healing opportunity. For more information or to register, please contact 605-988-3755. For general information visit: www.retrouvaille.org.

Mark your calendars! Married Sweethearts Mass & Dinner-Dance, Saturday, February 7, 2015 Join us for this year's event, "A Sweet Kiss Shared by Two". Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. with Fr. Brian Lane at Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. The dinner-dance will follow at Stagestop Receptions, I-90 & Exit 48, Piedmont, SD. Registration fee: \$60 per couple. Registration is required! Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Late registrations will not be accepted. Please consider sponsoring a couple who would like to attend, but cannot afford the fee. For more information, please contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236 or jslegner@diorc.org.

Black Hills CHRISTMAS TAIZE Service, Join us Monday, December 22nd, 7:00 p.m. in Holy Cross Chapel at Terra Sancta for a special Taizé prayer service for Christmas. Sandi Ohlen, featured soloist, and others will highlight the story of Christ's birth through song, silence and scripture. All are welcome. Free-will donations at the door.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS Court St. Rita

News from CDA Advent Party: Thank you to all who came & especially the Unity/Charity group for hosting the meal & decorations.

The winners of the raffle are: 1st place: Crystal Robertson (reception with the Bishop for 6); 2nd: Cecilia Smith (Kindle HDX); 3rd: Peg Westrich ("Let it Snow Quilt"); 4th: Brenda Anderson, State Vice Regent from Polo, SD, (\$100 Family Thrift card); We also gave \$175 to Meals on Wheels from our charity donation tonight. Church Response was the recipient of the canned foods, and the Women's Shelter received the lovely toiletries and gifts. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! -Bonnie Spratte, Regent

www.sainttheresechurch.org

The weekly bulletin can be found there, as well as other info. about our parish.

St. Therese Prayer

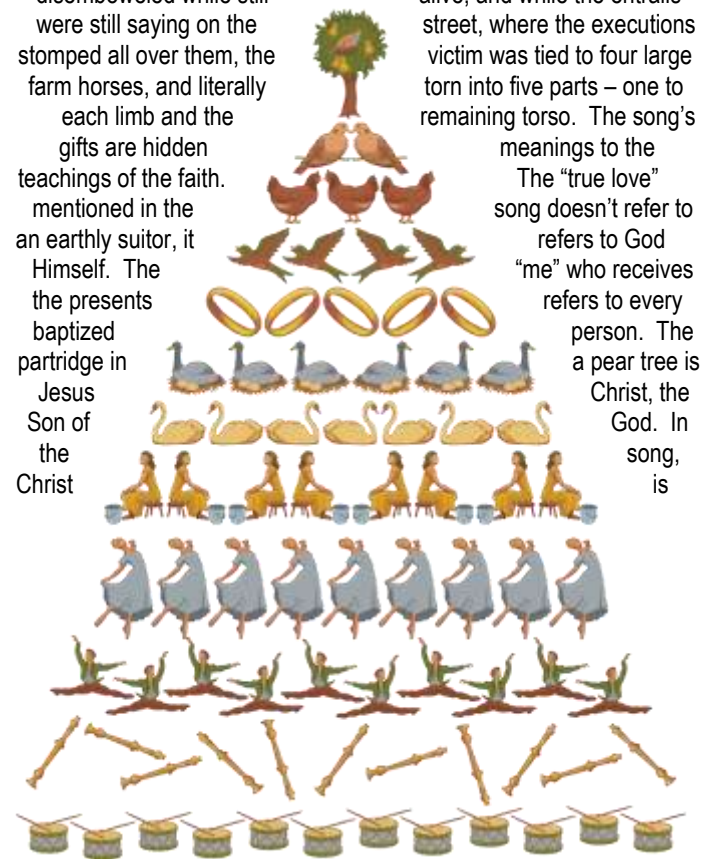
St. Therese, the Little Flower, please pick me a rose from the heavenly garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favors I ask, I thee implore, and tell Him I will love Him each day more and more.



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 saying on the street, where the executions victim was tied to four large farm horses, and literally stomped all over them, the each limb and the gifts are hidden teachings of the faith. mentioned in the an earthly suitor, it Himself. The the presents baptized partridge in Jesus Son of the Christ



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", which gives the history of man's fall from grace; 6 Geese A-laying = the six days of Creation; 7 Swans A-swimming = the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven Sacraments; 8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes; 9 Ladies Dancing – the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit; 10 Lords A-leaping = the Ten Commandments; 11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful apostles; 12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of Doctrine in the Apostle's Creed.