

MASS INTENTIONS ~ Dec. 8 - 14

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

Immaculate Conception – Holy Day
MONDAY 7:00 am – Ervin Schanning +
7:00 pm – Leo Quinn +
TUESDAY 7:30 am – Special Intention
WEDNESDAY 7:30 am – Edward Griffith +
THURSDAY 9:00 am – Special Intention
FRIDAY 7:30 am – Eugene Keller +

3rd Sunday of Advent
SATURDAY 5:30 pm – Irene Cuka +
SUNDAY 9:00 am – Tony & Esther Quinn +
5:30 pm – Parishioners

MASS INTENTIONS: *Other than at St. Therese*

Wednesday, December 10 Gene Ronke +
By Fr. Zandri – Good Samaritan Center, New Underwood, 9:30 am
Thursday, December 11 Ronald King
By Fr. Zandri – West Hills Village South – 4 pm
Sunday, December 14 Special Intention
By Fr. Zandri – St. John's in New Underwood – 11 am

Our Daily Scriptures

Monday Gn 3:9-15,20 Ps 98:1-4 Eph 1:3-6,11-12 Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-3,10ac,11-13 Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-4,8,10 Mt 11:28-30
Thursday Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1,9-13b Mt 11:11-15
Friday Zec 2:14-17 (Ps) Jdt 13:18bc,19 Lk 1:26-38
Saturday Sir 48:1-4,9-11 Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 Mt 17:9a,10-13
Sunday Is 61:1-2a,10-11 (Ps) Lk 1:46-54 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8,19-28

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." Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe, USCCB 2010 Respect Life Liturgy Guide, www.usccb.org (From Diocesan Social Justice Commission www.rapidcitydiocese.org/WP/offices/social-justice-commission)

Immaculate Conception Holy Day Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Dec. 8th

MON. 7 am E.M.: Diane Ange (S) 2 needed **Lector:** Joann Solano
Ushers: 4 needed **Gift Bearers:** ushers
MON. 7 pm E.M.: Jean French (S) Gayle Martin, Diane Wilkinson
Lector: John Zeller, Tom Baumgartner **Ushers:** Joe Martin, John & Nadine Zeller, Brenda Wills **Altar Server:** Joshua French, 1 needed

Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Dec. 13 & 14

SAT. 5:30 pm E.M.: Pat Guerttman, Jill Leberknight (S) Patty Fritzie, Martha Cook, Ellen McGuigan, Doug Meiron, Joe Zacher **Lector:** Julie Shauger, Jim Blackwell **Ushers:** Dan Shank, Mac Coldwell, Jim Theis, Dick Cuka
Gift Bearers: Becky Huber, Diane Wilkinson **Altar Servers:** Abby Wagner, Arin Wagner, Karen Witcraft
SUN. 9 am E.M.: Jean French, Gayle Martin (S) Donna Abrams, Del & Joann Solano, Ron & Anita Miller **Lector:** Brenda Wills, Judee Popken **Ushers:** Joe Martin, Randy Rapp, Bill Schneider, Paul Schneider **Gift Bearers:** John & Nadine Zeller **Altar Servers:** Abigail Popken, Noah Popken, Brock Williamson, Hayden Grosz
SUN. 5:30 pm E.M.: Elaine Kocher (S) Lynn Loomer, Beth Sand **Lector:** Evan Sand, Deanna Johnson **Ushers:** Will Winch, Joyce Lorenzen, Stan Fisher, Greg Suto **Gift Bearer:** Tim & Molly Rausch Family
Altar Server: Corten Dobesh, Sarah Johnson, Cailin Haiar, Cooper Sand

Please remember to find a substitute if needed.

WELCOME

----- to the Faith Community

Through the Waters of Baptism

Sadie RAUSCH, daughter of Greg & Kelsey

FAMILY ROSARY: EVERY SUNDAY AT 7PM

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

== The "Z" Gram ==

--- Notes From Father Bill ---

Be alert, watchful, be prepared! These are words that we hear during the season of Advent. The season of Advent is one of the shortest of the various Liturgical Seasons that is found in the Church Year, which began on the first Sunday of Advent.

Last Sunday, the gospel was all about getting ready, alert, be prepared; not to meet the baby Jesus, but Jesus as our Judge. Our diocese and the family of Father Peter Kovarik are still in shock over his passing. He was ordained a priest for our diocese on June 6, 1991. At the time of his passing he was the pastor of Saint Patrick's in Lead and Saint Ambrose in Deadwood. Please keep him in your prayers.

On a Sunday morning on December 7, 1941, at 7:45 am in Hawaii, at Pearl Harbor, bombs started falling from the sky. Again, be prepared, be alert, be watchful!

December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation. On December 8 only, Masses for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at St. Therese will be 7 am & 7 pm and 5 pm in New Underwood.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE at St. Therese is

THURSDAY, 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



Please add ED DAVIS, LEO GREBNER & TRACEY MOWERY to your prayers

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, Shania 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 Gruening, 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, Dorothy Rapp, 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, Ryan Wise

www.sainttheresechurch.org

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

Altar Society Funeral Chairpersons ~ DECEMBER

Chairperson: Team Co-Chair: Diane Ange

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming the Lord.
Who will proclaim him in this generation? (Mark 1:1-8)
PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

~ 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.

The Giving Tree

Once again, we will have both the Parishioner Giving Tree and the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

Gift tags are up! Simply take a tag and return your gift (unwrapped for Salvation Army, and either wrapped or unwrapped for Parishioner Tree) by **December 15th!** Thank you so very much for sharing your gifts and blessings!

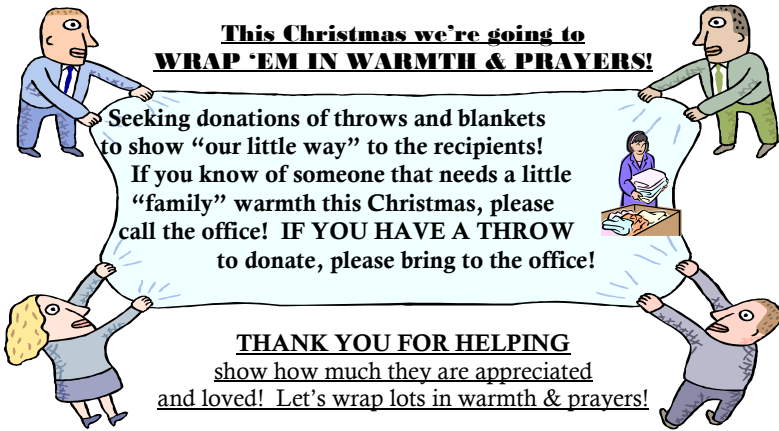
Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.



This Christmas we're going to WRAP 'EM IN WARMTH & PRAYERS!

Seeking donations of throws and blankets to show "our little way" to the recipients! If you know of someone that needs a little "family" warmth this Christmas, please call the office! **IF YOU HAVE A THROW to donate, please bring to the office!**

THANK YOU FOR HELPING show how much they are appreciated and loved! Let's wrap lots in warmth & prayers!



John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

GENERAL FUND: Contributions last week	
Envelopes	\$ 3904.00
Plate Collection	\$ 798.47
Children's Collection	\$ 46.01
Religious Education Program	\$ 50.00
Gifts & Donation	\$10,000.00
Reimbursement for priest expenses from	
St. John's in New Underwood	\$ 1292.07
Christmas Flowers	\$ 475.00
Votive Candle Income	\$ 112.12
TOTAL	\$ 16677.67
Amount needed per week:	\$ 6805.00

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Building Improvements \$ 15.00

"THANK YOU" FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Priest Retirement Aid Association \$ 120.00

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER:

Dec. 7: General Fund **Dec. 8:** Immaculate Conception

Dec. 14: Retirement for Religious / General Fund **Dec. 21:** General Fund

Dec. 25: Christmas **Dec. 28:** General Fund

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

Seeking Adoration daily from 11 am to noon.
EUCARIST ADORATION

MONDAY TO 5:30 pm

Come rest in Me. Pray for a little while.



There will **NOT** be Adoration on Dec. 8th

Seeking gift bags, gift tags and small gift items for the Santa Store at the annual St. Therese "Happy Birthday Jesus" Party to be held December 14.

If you have any you would like to donate, please bring them by the office! Also...if you would like to volunteer for the party, contact Beth Sand or the office! And thank you for making this such a wonderful event for our Religious Education youth! It is a fantastic time for all!



THE WEEKLY FUNNY...from Father Bill

A Florida senior citizen drove his brand new Corvette convertible out of the dealership. Taking off down the road, he pushed it to 80 mph, enjoying the wind blowing through what little hair he had left. "Amazing," he thought as he flew down I-95, pushing the pedal even more. Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw a Florida State Trooper, blue lights flashing and siren blaring. He floored it to 100 mph, then 110, then 120. Suddenly he thought, "What am I doing? I'm too old for this!" and pulled over to await the trooper's arrival. Pulling in behind him, the Trooper got out of his vehicle and walked up to the Corvette. He looked at his watch, then said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding – a reason I've never before heard, I'll let you go." The old gentleman paused then said, "Three years ago, my wife ran off with a Florida State Trooper. I thought you were bringing her back." "Have a good day, Sir," replied the trooper.



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!!

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER!!

BABY JESUS SHOWER

0-6 MONTH "GIFTS" FOR BIRTHRIGHT

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



SOUP & CRACKERS, CEREAL & TOILET PAPER

ARE NEEDED AT CHURCH RESPONSE

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

We need to **THANK YOU!**
FOR DONATING BLOOD AT THE
KC BLOOD DRIVE

You saved lives!! You're such a blessing!
Thank you to Bill Schneider for organizing, too!



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.

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION
SERVICES at 7 pm**

Tuesday, December 9 ~ OLBH Piedmont
Monday, December 15 ~ Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday, December 16 ~ Cathedral OLPH
Wednesday, December 17 ~ St. Isaac Jogues

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 ~ ST. THERESE

Friday, December 19 ~ St. John's, New Underwood
& EVERY SATURDAY FROM 4 TO 5 PM AND
SUNDAY FROM 8 TO 8:30 AM AT ST. THERESE



During weekend Masses on December 13-14 our parish will be conducting the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This annual appeal benefits some 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

ANOTHER WEEKLY FUNNY...from Father Bill

An American and his wife were driving in Canada and got lost. Finally they came into some city. They saw a gentleman on the sidewalk, so the husband pulled up to the curb, and the wife let down her window and asked: "Excuse me, sir. Where are we?" The gentleman on the sidewalk replied, "Saskatoon, Saskatchewan." The wife rolled up the window, turned to her husband and said, "We really are lost. They don't even speak English here!"

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.



Save . . . and recycle. The Funeral Dinner committee volunteers would appreciate some **LARGER** containers to wrap leftover cakes in.

You all have done amazingly well with the cottage cheese and butter tubs and cool whip containers to send salads home. Thank you!

Now, we are asking you to please save (and recycle!) your microwavable lasagna containers, and aluminum cake pans, etc. We can certainly put some of these **LARGER** containers to good use.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

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

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

SUNDAYS: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Dec. 7 Class
Dec. 14 Happy Birthday Jesus Party / Christmas Party
Dec. 21, 28 No Class – Christmas / New Year

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

Meal provided

Dec. 10, 17 Class
Dec. 24, 31 No Class – Christmas / New Year

Card Party with the Knights: 2nd Saturday of each month, a Whist Card Party is hosted by the Cathedral Knights of Columbus at their hall on Minnesota Street, Everyone invited! Card Party for December - Saturday, December 13, at 7 pm – Invite your friends and neighbors to come along.

ONE MORE FUNNY...from Father Bill

Two guys are hiking in the forest when they suddenly come across a big Grizzly bear! The one guy takes off his hiking boots and puts on some running shoes! His friend says to him "You're crazy! There's no use, do you know how fast Grizzlies are, you'll never be able to out run it!" and the guy says, "I only have to out run you!"

The Gift of Silence during Advent Take a few days this Advent season to spiritually prepare for Christmas. Father Peter Etzel, SJ, will lead a silent preached retreat at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, December 11–14. Begins with dinner December 11 and concludes after lunch on December 14. Daily Mass, times for prayer and silence are included in the schedule. Costs based on your preference for lodging range from \$245 to \$365. Meals, lodging, talks by Fr. Etzel, and spiritual direction are included in your costs. Scholarships available. Find out more and register on-line at <http://terrasancta.org/silentretreats/> or call us at 605-716-0925.

25th Annual National Prayer for Life Gathering

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Rapid City, will join other US parishes on December 8 in prayer for the respect and defense of all life from conception to natural death. Adoration will follow the 7 p.m. Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Rosary for Life and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed. Benediction will take place at 9:45 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Grand Ultreya Sunday, December 14, at Blessed Sacrament Church, Grand *Ultreya*. It is the celebration to welcome all new *Cursillistas*. Pot Luck will start at 6 p.m., *Ultreya* at 7 p.m. We will sing Christmas Carols in between, and just enjoy getting together with friends, prayer and witness. Please come! Baby sitter if needed, call Lynda Jacquot-Imberi 605-390-9379.

A Time for Personal Reflection An indoor labyrinth will be available at Terra Sancta Retreat Center for everyone interested to enter more fully into the Advent season starting Tuesday, December 16 through Wednesday, December 31. The main retreat center entrance will be open daily from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (except December 24 & 25). Prayer guides and information on how to pray using the labyrinth will be available. All are welcome!

Our Christmas Gift to YOU!

Have family or friends visiting this Christmas? Do you plan to visit the Rapid City area? Enjoy a quiet stay with us at Terra Sancta Retreat Center at a discounted rate – just \$75 per family style room per night (tax included). Go to <http://terrasancta.org/Christmas2014/> to make your reservation today! Rates honored December 15-31.

**Top Hats and Roses Annual Christmas Spectacular
Concert & Silent Auction to benefit CHURCH
RESPONSE December 14, 2014, at Emmanuel**

Episcopal Church, 717 Quincy St. Silent auction items from local merchants will include gift certificates, decorating items, quilts and hand-made items, candy, jewelry, etc. Also Christmas baked goods and lefse will be sold. The silent auction will open at 1pm, and the free Top Hats and Roses holiday concert will start at 2pm. Non-perishable food donations, proceeds from silent auction and bake sale, and a free will offering will benefit the Church Response Community Pantry. Church Response is celebrating its 42nd year of service to the needy of Rapid City. This is a wonderful free holiday event for the whole family that is sure to add to your Christmas Spirit. For more info., email churchresponsepantry@gmail.com or call Dan Palmer at 381-7957 or "like" Church Response on Facebook.

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!

**An Update from the Hope For New Life (HFNL) Jail Ministry
Annual Christmas Jail Program 2014**

Imagine a Christmas holiday during which you were separated from your family and friends? Now imagine your separation from your loved ones being a result of your incarceration in Pennington County Jail. While it is difficult for most of us to think of ourselves in jail during the Christmas holiday, this is a fact for nearly 500 prisoners currently serving sentences in our community. For several years, the HFNL Ministry and Destiny Four Square Church have reached out to these men and women through our annual Christmas program. **This year's Christmas Program will take place on Sunday December 21, 2014 from 3 to 7 pm.** The program consists of caroling by our ministry members, enhanced by the talented voices and guitar playing skills of several volunteers from our different parishes. During the Christmas program, we will also distribute between 500-600 bags of holiday candies and Holy cards to the inmates. **[Volunteers needed for assembling the candy bags at Blessed Sacrament Parish Center on 19 Dec at 5:30 pm.]** The Christmas program is uplifting for all who participate and is a truly wonderful way to honor Our Savior's birth. If you like to sing, we welcome your participation. We are also asking for donations for the jail of puzzles (especially those with a Christian theme), checker games, decks of cards, and paperback books (themes: action, Westerns, historical). Donations can be placed in specially marked boxes in your parishes. **To volunteer to take part in the Christmas program, please contact Cathie Harris at 431-8370. Volunteers will need to complete a form for the Jail to approve their entrance. This form must be returned by December 5th. Thank you!** To learn more about the HFNL ministry please contact **Bill Gradoville (341-2721)** or **Jennifer Shama (381-1118)**. You are also welcome to attend our monthly HFNL meetings every 3rd Monday of the month at Catholic Social Services at 6:30 pm.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS Court St. Rita #916

There will be **NO** meeting on the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8th. Catholic Daughters will meet for their **ADVENT POTLUCK** at St. Therese at 6:30 pm on **December 15th**. *In addition to a potluck dish, members are asked to bring \$5 for a charity, 2 cans of food for Church Response, and an optional gift for the women's shelter. Hostesses are the Unity/Charity Group. For questions, please call 393-8213.*

"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. These Masses are coordinated by the Blessed Sacrament Parish Pro-Life Committee, but are offered at parishes throughout the diocese. This is the eighth year the diocese has matched funds for the daily Masses offered throughout the diocese for the protection of all life. Prayer is essential to ensuring a culture of life in South Dakota and throughout the nation. Donations must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2014. Please send donations to: Diocesan Masses for Life, c/o Mary Mitchell, 113 Berry Pine Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.

O merciful heart of God, in true penitence and remorse I open my heart to you now. Let me keep nothing hidden from you while I pray. The truth about myself is humbling, but give me courage to speak it out in your presence. What I was not too ashamed to commit, may I not be too ashamed to confess. In your wisdom use this pain of confession as a way of making me hate the sins confessed.

I confess to laziness in this ____ and this ____;
I confess to vanity in this ____ and this ____;
I confess to this ____ and this ____ indulgence in physical desires;
I confess to the habit of lying in this ____ and this ____;
I confess to this ____ and this ____ dishonesty;
I confess to this ____ and this ____ unkind word;
I confess to having entertained this ____ and this ____ evil thought;
I confess to this ____ and this ____ wrong direction my life has been taking;
I confess to this ____ and this ____ lapse from faithful Christian living.

O Lord, whose love in the human heart can burn like a fire all that is shameful and evil, let me now grasp your perfect righteousness and make it my own. Blot out all my disobedience and let my sins be covered. Help me to feel your hand upon my life, cleansing me from the stain of past wrongdoings, loosing me from the grip of evil habits, strengthening me in new habits of pure heartedness and guiding my footsteps in the way of eternal life. O God, lead me in battle against my secret sins. Fence around my life with a shield of hope and commitment. And let Christ be formed in my heart through faith. All this I ask for his holy name's sake. Amen.

A Diary of Private Prayer, John Baillie

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

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

Beginning Experience® Level 1 Separated, Divorced & Widowed Support Group, "COPIING 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 Stagespot 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.

*The spiritual power of the Sacraments is boundless.
With grace, we can overcome every obstacle. – Pope Francis*