

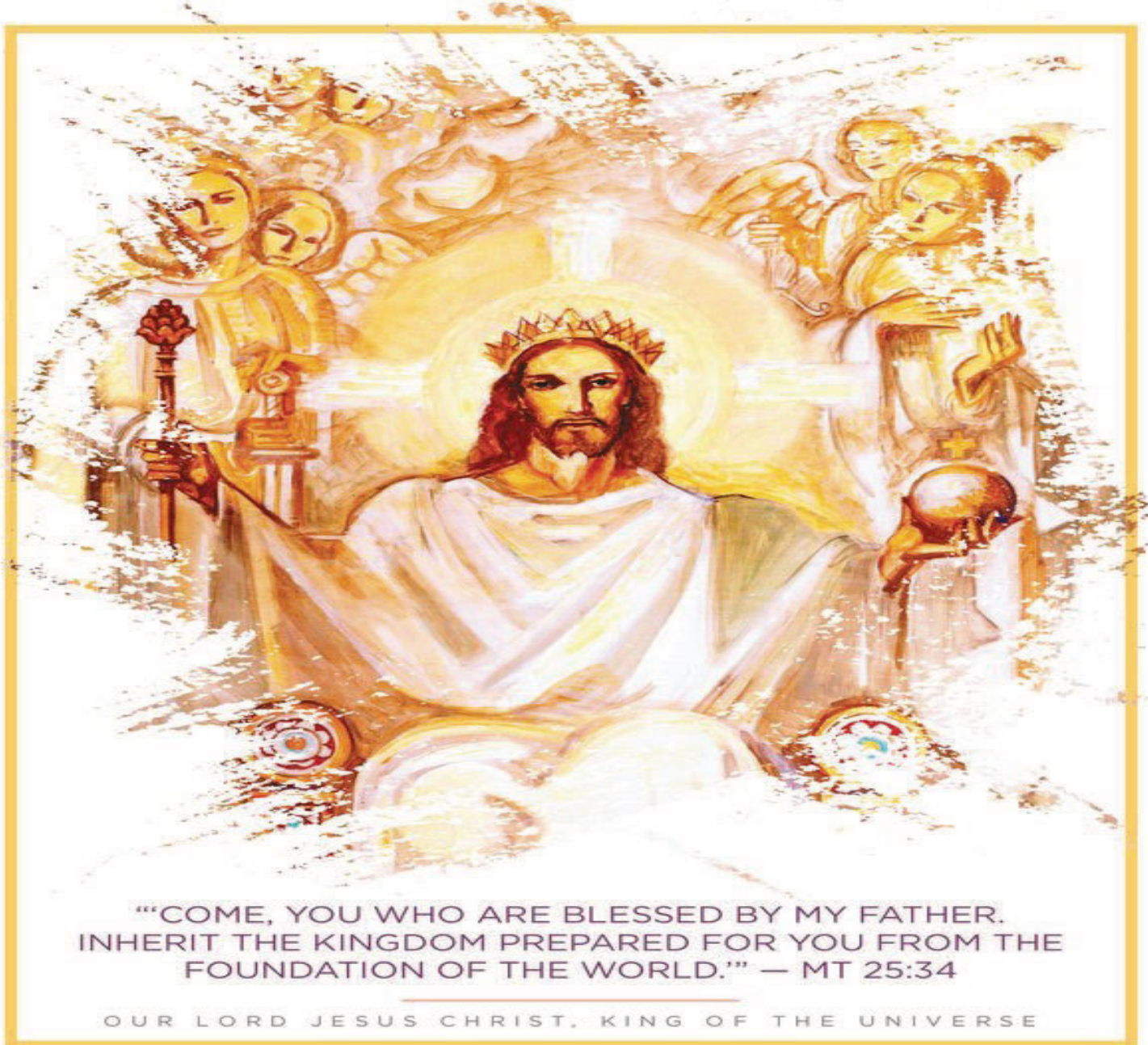
November 26, 2023 • Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



The Cathedral of SAINT JOSEPH

521 North Duluth Avenue • Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104

www.stjosephcathedral.net



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DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS

Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood, *Bishop*

LITURGY GUIDE - November 26, 2023

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Welcome to the Cathedral of St. Joseph and thank you for joining us for the celebration of Holy Mass today!

Please, **silence your cell phones** and **refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum** in the Cathedral. Help keep our Cathedral tidy by utilizing the waste baskets found near the main entrances.

Please, **do not take pictures during the Mass celebration.** You are welcome to take pictures **after** Mass.

INTROIT - (AT 9:15 AM THE INTROIT IS SUNG BY THE CHOIR, FOLLOWED BY THE OPENING HYMN)

Dignus est Agnus qui occisus est, accipere virtutem, et divinitatem, et sapientiam, et fortitudinem, et honorem. Ipsi Gloria et imperium in saecula saeculorum. (Verse) Deus, iudicium tum regi da: et iustitiam tuam filio regis.

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honor. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever. (Verse) Endow the King with your judgment, O God, and the King's son with your righteousness.

OPENING HYMN 596

DUKE STREET Jesus Shall Reign

INTROIT - (AT 11:00 AM THE INTROIT IS SUNG BY THE CHOIR)

Worthy is the Lamb G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honor, glory and pow'r be unto Him, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever, Amen.

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, **(striking breast three times)** *through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;* Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

GLORIA

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, hea-ve-nly King, O God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly be - got - ten Son, Lord God,

Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are sea-ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer-cy on us. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will look after and tend my sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep.

I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark.

I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD.

The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly.

As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6

(Refrain sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)

The Lord is my shep-herd; there is noth - ing I shall want.

Text: Refrain trans., *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL; verses, *New American Bible*, © 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, 1998, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **R**

Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul. He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name. **R**

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending. **R**

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please Stand

(Sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! **R**

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him.

And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'

And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?'

He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.'

And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Please Stand

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(bow here)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN (4:00PM & 7:30AM)
499

DIADEMATA
Crown Him with Many Crowns

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (9:15 AM)

Postula me, et dabo tibi gentes hereditatem tuam, et possessionem tuam terminus terrae.

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance and the utmost parts of the earth as your possession.

OFFERTORY MOTET (11:00 AM)
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Edward Bairstow
(1874-1946)

Celebrant: Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: A Community Mass, Richard Pross, © 1971, 1977, 2006, GIA Publications, Inc.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rec - tion un-til you come a-gain.

AGNUS DEI

Cantor or Choir: All: *Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,
[To repeat] [Last time]
have mer-cy on us. grant us peace.

ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

HOLY COMMUNION

All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward. Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with their arms crossed over their chest to signal their desire to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (4:00 PM & 7:30 AM)

The Lord sits as King for - e -
ver. The Lord will bless his peo - ple with peace.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (9:15 & 11:00 AM)

*Amen dico vobis: quod uni
ex minimis meis fecistis, mihi
fecistis: venite, benedicti Patris mei,
possidete praeparatum vobis
regnum ab initio saeculi.*

Amen I say to you: in as much as you have done it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you have done it to me. Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.

COMMUNION MEDITATION (11:00 AM)

Ave Verum Corpus

Colin Mawby
(b. 1936)

*Ave, verum corpus natum de
Maria Virgine: vere passum,
immolatum in cruce pro homine:
cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua
et sanguine:*

*Esto nobis praegustatum, mortis in
examine.. O Jesu Dulcis, O Jesu
Pie,
O Jesu filii Mariae.*

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary: Who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for the sake of man. From whose pierced side flowed water and blood: Be a foretaste (of Heaven) for us in the trial of death. O sweet, O merciful, Jesus, Jesus, Son of Mary.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING
784

ST. COLUMBA
The King of Love

CLOSING HYMN (4 AM, 7:30 PM, 9:15 AM)
415

CORONATION
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

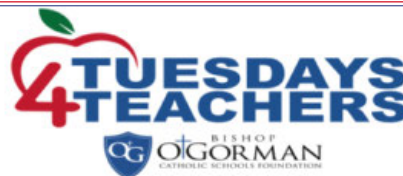
RECESSIONAL (11:00 AM)
Above All Praise and Majesty

FELIX MENDELSSOHN
(1809-1847)

Above all praise and all majesty, Lord, thou reignest evermore. Hallelujah.

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A gift to our 6th annual Tuesdays 4 Teachers effort helps to ensure future generations of Knights will receive the best quality, Christ-centered education. To learn more about our efforts during the month of November, please scan the QR code or go to www.ogknights.org/giving/tuesdays-4-teachers

On **Tuesday, Nov. 28th** - if you eat at **Minervas, Grille 26** or **Morrie's Steakhouse** 10% of proceeds will be given back to the Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools.

SUPPORT THE SISTERS



The Adoration Sisters invite you to visit their gift shop of religious articles and gifts at **Mater Ecclesiae Monastery**. The Monastery and gift shop are located in the parking lot behind St. Joseph Cathedral. Great ideas for Christmas gifts. **Open Monday through Saturday 9:30am to 5:30pm.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Risen Savior Music Ministry presents: **Glorious Light of Christmas**, A Christmas Cantata with performances
December 2nd at the State Capitol; 2:00 pm
December 17th at Risen Savior Church, Brandon 5:30 pm (potluck to follow)
December 20th at St. Rose of Lima Church, Garretson 7:30 pm.
No admission fee. Donations are welcome.

Cookie Parade on December 3rd - Risen Savior Church, Brandon Sale begins at 9:15 am. Soup and Turkey Croissant Sandwiches at noon and 50/50 Raffle for gift baskets.

Join Fr. Mike Wensing for his Spring Pilgrimage to Italy - Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi, and Rome, **April 15-25, 2024**. Price is \$4299. Registration deadline is **December 14, 2023**. For more information, please contact: Mrs. Lisa Lane at [605-520-7700](tel:605-520-7700) or Fr. Michael Wensing at [605-868-4348](tel:605-868-4348) or by email: fr.mikeholylnd2015@gmail.com.

Holiday Grief Program - "He is Stable" hosted by The Lourdes Center on **December 5, 2023 (6:30-8:00 pm)** at St. Therese Church in Sioux Falls. There will be presentations along with a beautiful candle lighting ceremony. Cookies and Cocoa to follow. Children are welcome. Call [605-988-3775](tel:605-988-3775) or go to: tlc@sfcatholic.org.

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight'

Advent begins on **December 3rd**, the First Sunday of Advent. The Catholic Daughters of Ct. St. Patricia invite you to join them on that day for an afternoon of **Reflection and Preparation**, conducted by



Archbishop Thomas Gullickson in the Fireside Room at Holy Spirit Parish, 12:30-3:30 pm.

Confession will be available.

Call Mary Althoff with questions @ [605-665-5617](tel:605-665-5617).



Annual Prison Christmas Packages

The SD Prison Chaplains Assoc. is once again asking for donations for those incarcerated. Christmas is a very difficult and lonely time for inmates and this small gesture lets them know they are not forgotten. For some it is the only gift they will receive. Please join us in this beautiful act of charity and Corporal Work of Mercy "visit the imprisoned". Donations can be sent by **November 30th to SD Prison Chaplains Assoc., Christmas Sacks, 601 W 57th St., Sioux Falls SD 57108**. Please write "Christmas Sacks" in the memo. Give electronically at <https://www.convergeheartland.org/donate> and choose **SDPCA Christmas Sacks**. For more information visit the Prison Ministry link on the Sioux Falls diocese website <https://www.sfcatholic.org/prison-ministry/>. Any questions ~ feel free to email Mo Irvine at prisonministry@sfcatholic.org

CHRIST THE KING



Liturgical Roles

December 2/3



December First Saturday Mass Reader

9:00 am Betty Barto-Smith

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4:00 pm Susan Albers, Jon Schmidt
7:30 am Gerald Frisbie, Sharon Frisbie
9:15 am Larry Canfield, Mary Canfield, John Moneke
11:00 am Nancy Kadinger, Desiree Langel Plorde, Bob Lux
4:00 pm Ministers as Scheduled

Lectors

4:00 pm Kate Piercemogen, Jessie Schmidt
7:30 am Steve Mogle
9:15 am Kathryn Muller, Jarrod Muller
11:00 am Josh Plorde, Tess Simon
4:00 pm Readers as Scheduled

Altar Servers

4:00 pm Pontifical Servers
7:30 am Thomas Mogle, James Mogle
9:15 am Jacoben Schmidt, Jevan Schmidt, Isaac Stanek
11:00 am Nicholas Simon, Andrew Simon, Joseph Tran
4:00 pm Servers as Scheduled

Mini-Bus Driver

4:00 pm Susan Albers
Dow Rummel Jane Reuwsaat
Good Sam Chris Lent

Readings for the week of November 26, 2023

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75 - 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82 - 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37/Lk 20:27-40

CONGRATULATIONS

Madysen Muller is Cathedral 500 Club's fourth winner for November 2023. She has received a check for **\$95**. Anyone interested in joining will find applications at the front entrance (Duluth Ave) of the Cathedral. Cost is \$5/month. Applications must be received by **November 27** to be in the December 2023 drawings. Call the Parish Office - [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390) for details.

Mass Intentions

Mon. Nov. 27•	<i>Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	Michael Solem
Tue. Nov. 28•	<i>Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	Margaret & Alphonse Bartcher
Wed. Nov. 29•	<i>Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	Zach & Ciara Lahr
Thu. Nov. 30•	<i>St. Andrew, Apostle</i>
12:00 pm	Ben & Mona Altman
Fri. Dec. 01•	<i>Weekday - First Friday</i>
12:00 pm	✠ Dean Rallis
Sat. Dec. 02•	<i>Blessed Virgin Mary - First Saturday</i>
9:00 am	✠ Leonard & Arlene Thoms
4:00 pm	✠ Alan Solem
Sun. Dec. 03•	<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>
7:30 am	Ethan Thoms
9:15 am	✠ Bishop Paul Swain
11:00 am	✠ Fr. Antonio W. Ramos
4:00 pm	Pro Populo

Sanctuary Candles

This week the five sanctuary candles in the Sacred Heart Chapel have been requested for the following intentions:

- 1.) For the **Eucharistic Revival**
- 2.) ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 3.) ✠ Brian Fromdahl
- 4.) Tom Staebell
- 5.) Special Intention

Cathedral Events Calendar

Monday - Friday - Please, come pray before Jesus in the Tabernacle at the Cathedral for a **Eucharistic Revival** in our Diocese.

Monday, November 27 -
6:30 pm - Young Adults

Tuesday, November 28-
9:00 am - Cathedral Quilters - Cathedral School
10:00 am - Women's Group - Cathedral School
7:00 pm - Adult Education

Wednesday, November 29 -
6:45 pm - RCIA - Parish Hall

Thursday, November 30 -
7:00 pm - Adoration and Reconciliation

Friday, December 01 - First Friday
11:00 pm - Adoration Before Noon Mass (No Rosary)

Saturday, December 02 - First Saturday
9:00 am - First Saturday Mass
12:00 pm - Reconciliation - Cathedral Nave
3:00 pm - Reconciliation - Cathedral Nave

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Parishioners and Visitors! We are happy you are worshipping with us. If you are new to our parish, would like to know more about the Catholic Faith or how to become a registered member of Cathedral, please call the parish office at **605-336-7390**.

Cathedral Young Adults - Young adults (age 20-35) are welcome to join the Cathedral Young Adult Community for our weekly formation, monthly socials & prayer events. Times and locations are sent out via email or text message - contact Abigail acarter@sfcatholic.org to receive updates! It is a great time to meet with other young adults to share and grow your faith.

Baptisms - If you are expecting or have a child to be baptized, please call Deacon Bill Radio (**605-336-7390**) for baptism planning.

Formed.org - Easy and Free to signup. Go to formed.org, enter our parish, your name/email and enjoy movies, books and more.

SCAM ALERT! - Some of our parishioners have received emails, texts and/or phone calls from people asking for money or gift cards by impersonating Fr. Morgan. **Please, Do Not respond to them. It is a phishing scam - a hoax.**

Celebrate the Lord's many blessings this Christmas



by supporting members of our parish family facing financial challenges. To assist families, we welcome your monetary gift to our annual Christmas appeal project. Please drop off any cash or check (made payable to "**Cathedral of St. Joseph**") in the weekly collection within a sealed envelope labeled "**Christmas Project**". You can also mail your gift to: Cathedral of St. Joseph, 521 N. Duluth Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, Attn: Christmas Project. Please be sure your gift reaches the parish by **December 18th**. Father Morgan will distribute your gift to the families in need before Christmas. Thank you! Cathedral's Outreach Ministry



Citizenship Classes

The LSS Center for New Americans

Lutheran Social Services offers weekend and evening citizenship classes. Classes can be started at any time. For more information call: **605-731-2000**.



Due to an earlier Bulletin Submission deadline the Offering totals will be included in the December 3, 2023 Bulletin.

Scan QR code to be directed to our Giving Page
Thank you for your Support and Prayers!

CATHEDRAL INFORMATION

Parish Office: 605-336-7390

Parish Office Email: cathedral@sfcatholic.org

Office Hours: 8:30am-5pm M-Th, 8:30am-3pm Friday

Cathedral Church Hours:

8am-5pm Monday-Saturday

7am-Noon & 3:30-5:00 Sunday

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 7:30am, 9:15am, 11:00am,
4:00pm (St. Josephine Bakhita Community)

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 12pm (Noon)

Confessions

Thursday 7:00pm

Saturday 12 Noon & 3:00-3:30pm in Cathedral

(In the Chapel if a Wedding is scheduled)

Adoration

Thursdays 7pm-8pm (In the Chapel during Confessions)

First Friday of the month at 11am in the Cathedral

Self Guided Tours

1:00 pm Monday-Friday (except Holy Days)

Guided Tours-By appointment 605-336-7390

Parish Staff

Rector, Very Rev. James P. Morgan

Parochial Vicar, Rev. Pasquale Armando Francesco

Deacon, William Radio

Deacon, Tim Dickes (Prison Ministry)

Administrative Assistant, Mary Anne Lux

Director-Operations & Finance, Heidi Solem

Director-Liturgical Music, Dr. Jared Ostermann

Director-Faith Formation & Social Media, Abigail Carter

Tour Docent/Guide, Susan Albers

Wedding Coordinator, Mary Enderson

Counseling Services

The Lourdes Center (Formerly Catholic Family Services)

Counseling and Grief Programs **605-988-3775**

Sacraments

Baptism The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated for our parishioners on Sundays after the 11AM Mass. Parents must attend a Baptism preparation meeting. To schedule a meeting for preparation contact the parish office at **605-336-7390**.

Matrimony Six months preparation required. Registered parishioners, please contact the parish office. All others, contact the pastor of your home church. For wedding information, go to www.stjosephcathedral.net, under Sacraments.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the parish office to request this Sacrament if you have been diagnosed with an illness, in preparation for surgery or in case of serious illness.

Catholic Cemetery - St. Michael's Cemetery 605-338-3376

CLERGY REFLECTION

In the past couple years I have become much more aware of the distractions in my life and how I deal with them (or not). I am pretty sure we all have times when we are distracted because of all the things screaming for our attention. Our job, our family, preparing for retirement, planning a vacation, completing our school assignments, our hobbies, etc. There are many factors involved in determining how we spend our time. Most of the time those decisions are heavily influenced by what is most important to us at any given moment. Where does our relationship with God fit in to our daily routine? There are many times each day when we may be called to prayer but find the time short-circuited by distractions. I became acutely aware of the magnitude of distractions in my prayer life a couple years ago when I realized how often I was checking my phone in the middle of Morning or Evening Prayer. Did I have any messages? What was the next thing on my schedule? I had to ask myself why I kept my phone right at my fingertips when I was trying to pray. This practice was only encouraging me to give in to even minor distractions in the middle of what should have been the most sacred part of my day with the most important person in my life (Jesus Christ).

One day an image came to me in prayer of my future encounter with Jesus at the time of my particular judgement at the hour of my death. My soul approaches Jesus seated on his throne at the gates of heaven. There is a long line but suddenly it is my turn. As I approach Jesus a phone rings and Jesus says to me "hold on a minute, Bill. I have to get this call." Every time that image comes to me I have to chuckle because I know Jesus would not do that. So why would I do it to him? This has helped me cut down tremendously on how much I allow myself to be distracted during prayer time. Next week we begin the Season of Advent. Without question it is the time of year filled with the most distractions of any time of the year. Don't allow the distractions of the secular Christmas Season to rob you of the sacredness of the Advent Season and the approaching birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. There is **No One** and **No Thing** more important.

Have a blessed week.

Deacon Bill Radio

Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant to our young people the generosity necessary to follow Your call and the courage to overcome all obstacles to their vocation in life. Give their parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. Let Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young people and parents and let Your grace sustain them.

Amen.

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