

**2nd Sunday of Lent/ Feb. 28, 2021**

# SAINT AGATHA

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P.O. Box 100 Howard, SD 57349-0100

# CHURCH of the EPIPHANY

106 Jackson Street • Epiphany, SD  
P.O. Box 100 Howard, SD 57349-0100

# SAINT WILLIAM

120 W 3rd Street • Ramona, SD  
P.O. Box 100 Howard, SD 57349-0100

## MASS TIMES

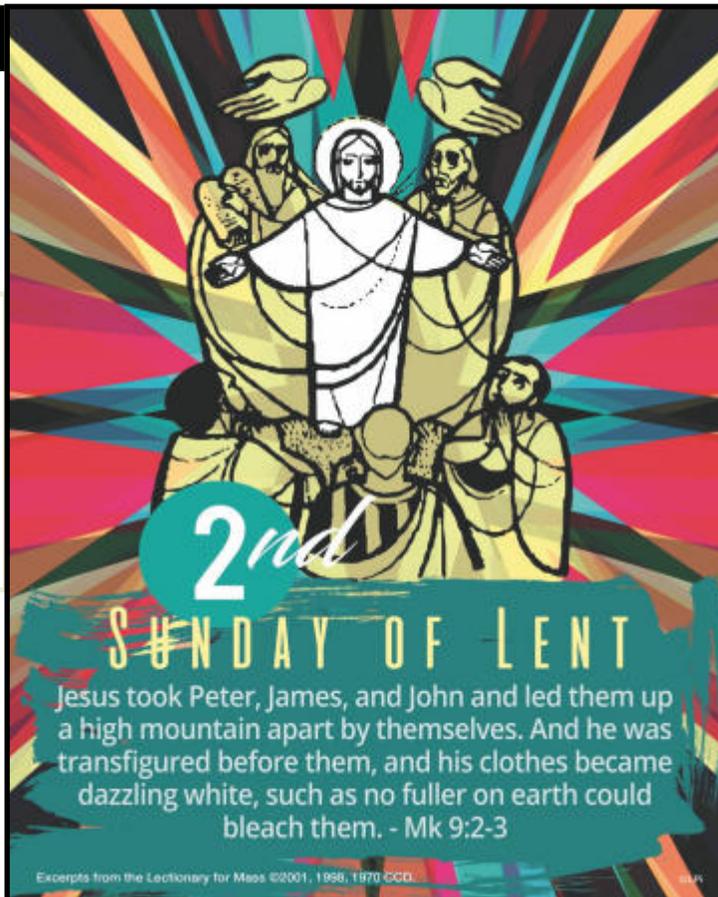
Saturday: 4:00pm Ramona  
Sunday: 9:00am Howard  
11:00am Epiphany  
Daily Mass: See Inside  
Holy Day Mass times: TBA

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday  
2:00-3:00pm Howard  
Before Mass in Epiphany.  
Before Mass in Ramona.  
Also, by appointment.

**Fr. Chester Murtha Office – (605) 772-5564  
Cell - (605) 940-1034**

**Send bulletin information to Nancy Erickson  
[nrerickson2000@yahoo.com](mailto:nrerickson2000@yahoo.com) or 605-770-5944  
Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 3pm**



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

How is your Lent going so far? In changing the circumstances and order of our lives a bit, perhaps we can hear God's voice more clearly and drink more deeply of graced moments we experience. Having God as a friend always involves several things. First, there is God's call. We become attuned to the echo of God's voice in the depth of our souls calling and beckoning us to listen. Second, there is a request. We begin to see that God asks us to do certain things, to order our lives a particular way, and become more intentional in the choices we make. Third, there is trust. Do we trust this call and request? Trust commits us to the relationship and makes a claim on who we are. Finally, we are asked to act. We find ourselves acting, not in the way we used to, but in a transformed, more enlightened way. Things seem clearer and all that is around us shines with the brilliance of God's presence. God's call came through a cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him," This is the call and the request. Can we give God our trust and do as God asks? ©LPi

## SACRAMENTS

### Engaged?

Call at least six months before the wedding date regarding marriage instructions.

### New parents or expecting?

Call for pre-baptism class and to schedule a baptism.

### Going in for surgery or for a procedure?

Call so I can give you the Sacrament of the Sick.

### Cemetery Questions?

In Howard, contact Tim or Karla Neises at 772-4832.  
In Epiphany contact Joe Zens at 523-2644.  
In Ramona contact Tammy Lembcke at 482-8652.



## Fr. Murtha's Musings:

Deeply impressed upon me in my upbringing was the duty to pray for the souls in Purgatory. That duty is not something that preoccupies my thoughts however. As a result I do not offer prayers for the souls in Purgatory to the degree that I should.

The instruction and formation I received from the Presentation Sisters who taught at St. Joseph Catholic School in Woonsocket (of which I am eternally grateful) helped to instill in me a charitable concern for the souls in Purgatory. So too has reading Sacred Scripture; reading books on Mary's appearances at Fatima; and when I was in college seminary the reading of a book by Fr. Francis Xavier Shouppe, S.J., entitled *Purgatory*.

Now not all of that reading was explicitly warning of the condition of the souls in Purgatory but rather of the suffering of the souls condemned to hell. The Catechism of the Catholic Church in its treatment of the subject of hell (#1033 - #1037), for instance, cites passages in Matthew's gospel in which Jesus warns that evildoers will be cast into the fiery furnace where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth (i.e., Mt. 13:42, 50). And at Fatima on July 13, 2017, Mary showed the children a terrifying vision and told them, "You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go." Following the vision Mary told them to continue to pray the rosary and include after each of the mysteries the prayer she had taught them the previous month (June 13). It is the Fatima prayer we typically recite at the end of each decade or at least some variation of it, "*O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell. Take all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need.*" Our prayers cannot free souls from hell but they do offer relief to the souls in Purgatory which is what Father Shouppe's book details. In his book he relates numerous true stories of apparitions and revelations on Purgatory; accounts taken, for instance, from the lives of St. Margaret Mary, St. Gertrude, St. Bridget of Sweden, the Cure of Ars, St. Lidwina of Schiedam, et al. Common among the accounts of the testimonies reported by the saints from the souls in Purgatory is the truth of the severe suffering which they are or had been experiencing. But the souls recognize the suffering is due to the consequence of sin they committed in life and God justly allows the suffering. In fact the pain the souls suffer most deeply is a result of the greater ache and desire they have to be with the Lord God in heaven. As they become more detached from sinful desires, the more they long for heaven and can even rejoice as they know they are drawing nearer to their eternal destiny of union in God's love.

Okay – so I mention all this above in order to move people to consider attending and praying the devotion being offered in Lent at the parishes known as the **Stations** or **Way of the Cross**. This beautiful devotion focuses on Jesus' Passion, from his being condemned to death by Pilate to Christ's death and being laid in the tomb. The Church grants "indulgences" to those who devoutly participate in the Stations. The teaching of the Church in regard to indulgences can be found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1471 to #1479. As stated in #1471: "An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven .... The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or **apply them to the dead.**" We can only imagine the gratitude a soul would have for the one whose prayer or sacrificial offerings have benefitted the soul with access to heavenly glory! I hope you are doing well! And may you have a blessed week!



## Catholic Family Services 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Gift of Hope event Lighting the Path to Hope and Healing

Saturday, April 10 - 8:30 p.m. Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls, SD We invite you to join us for a NEW Gift of Hope Event to benefit Catholic Family Services! A candlelight celebration will be held on Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup> on the steps of the Cathedral of St. Joseph to unite us all in *Lighting the Path to Hope and Healing*. Proceeds made from the sale of our Gift of Hope Commemorative Candles will benefit the Gift of Hope Endowment Fund. Through this fund, CFS is able to provide programs like "Camp Sydney," a youth grief camp, suicide prevention, health and wellness of the body, mind, and spirit to people of all faith in our communities. Order your commemorative candle online at [ccfesd.org](http://ccfesd.org), email us at [events@ccfesd.org](mailto:events@ccfesd.org) or call our office at 605-988-3765.

Junior High and Senior High D-camp Registration for July 2021 is available online! Sign up fast to reserve your spot and snag the Early Bird discount. The Early Bird discount ends in February. [www.sfcatholic.org/youth/d-camp/](http://www.sfcatholic.org/youth/d-camp/).

If you are a college student looking for a fulfilling summer job, pray about becoming a Lumen Christi missionary for the summer of 2021. Find all the info at [www.sfcatholic.org/youth/lumen-christi/](http://www.sfcatholic.org/youth/lumen-christi/)

**Masses at Good Samaritan Nursing Home – Howard:** It has been requested that I have Mass at the nursing home only twice a month rather than weekly. At this point I will schedule Masses there then on the third and fourth Wednesdays of the month. As for Masses at **Whispering Winds**, the start date to begin there is in the works yet.

## Confirmation class for the girls on Wednesday, March 3 at 7:00 pm.

Catholic Family Services is honored to host and facilitate St. Joseph Cathedral's GriefShare program! GriefShare is a worldwide Christian grief program for adults. It blends faith, educational videos, a personal workbook, and group discussion. The video series is watched as a large group followed by group discussions. The program will run for 13 weeks, with 13 various topics surrounding grief being covered. **GriefShare will be offered online only.**

GriefShare will begin again on March 4-May 27, 2021, from 11 am - 1 pm. The workbook's cost is \$15 (scholarships available), and there will be an opportunity for a free-will offering to help cover the additional costs. For more information about GriefShare, or to register, please contact Catholic Family Services at 605-988-3775 or email [cfs@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org). Space is limited, and pre-registration is required.

Ministry Schedule- March 6 & 7

4:00pm—Ramona  
 Lector: Sue Pederson  
 EM: Carol Fischer  
 Server: Volunteer  
 Offertory: Rod & Donna Jatton  
 Usher: Bill Thurow & Tom Kattke

9:00am—Howard  
 Lector: Deb Eggert & Kim Eggert  
 EM: Darrel Spader & Mary K. Schlim  
 Servers: Karsyn, Trent & Owen Feldhaus  
 Greeters/Off./Bulletins: C. & A. Neises Family  
 Rosary: Pat Winker  
 Music: Kay Genzlinger

11:00am—Epiphany  
 Lector: Erica Endorf  
 EM: Leanne Eich  
 Servers: Rachel Brown & Brooke Endorf  
 Offertory:  
 Usher:  
 Rosary: Kenny & Jean Klinkhammer  
 Music: Ronda Zens & Pat Zens

Mass Intentions for March 1-7

Mon. 3/1 6pm R Stations 6:30pm Mass dJohn Cassutt  
 Tues. 3/2 5:30pm H Stations 6pm Mass  
 Special Intentions  
 Wed. 3/3 10am H dConnie Hodges  
 Thurs. 3/4 8am H dMartin Esser  
 6pm E Stations 6:30pm Mass dNorbert Eich  
 Fri. 3/5 10am H dVince Weidler  
 Sat. 3/6 9am H Mass followed by Bible Study  
 For Families  
 4:00pm R dAudrey Kattke  
 Sun. 3/7 9am H dConnie Pardy  
 11am E For Parishioners

Weekend Support for  
 February 20 & 21

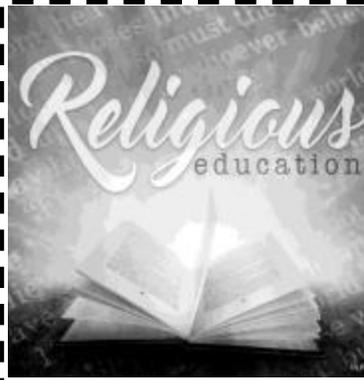
4:00pm Ramona  
 Reg: \$565  
 Loose: \$24  
 Total: \$589

9:00am Howard  
 Reg: \$1,080  
 Loose: \$25  
 Total: \$1,105

11:00am Epiphany  
 Reg: \$815  
 Loose: \$-  
 Total: \$815

*How could I  
 bear a crown  
 of gold when  
 the Lord bears  
 a crown of  
 thorns? And  
 bears it for me!*

—St. Elizabeth of Hungary



**Parents & Students**  
 Please work on  
**CCD Lesson 22** in  
 your workbooks this  
 week. Complete  
 the Review and  
 hand in to Father  
**Murtha - Thanks!**

**SECOND WEEK OF LENT**

The early Church Fathers saw the Transfiguration as the revelation of Jesus as divine and as a fulfillment of God's kingdom here on earth. Imagine what Peter, James, and John must have thought after seeing such a demonstration of God's power. It is in direct experiences with God, like this one, that we come to see the truth about Jesus.

Events like the Transfiguration don't happen every day, you say? On the contrary, they happen EVERY DAY! The sacraments are direct, purposeful experiences with God that occur every day in churches everywhere. In the Eucharist, we are able to witness the real Jesus in our midst. One could say that appearing to us in the form of bread and wine is even more miraculous than what the three apostles saw that day.

Yet what do we think when encountering the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist? Lent is a great time to attend daily Masses, spend time in Eucharistic adoration, or prepare more fully for Sunday Mass by reading the Scripture in advance or quieting our hearts and minds with prayer. Do not let this time pass without noticing him. In the Eucharist, he is right in front of you.

JESUS  
 LED THEM UP  
 CLOTHES  
 MOSES  
 LET US  
 VOICE  
 AROUND

PETER  
 MOUNTAIN  
 DAZZLING  
 RABBI  
 THREE  
 LISTEN TO  
 RISEN

JAMES  
 BEFORE THEM  
 ELIJAH  
 IT IS GOOD  
 CLOUD  
 SUDDENLY  
 THE DEAD

**THREE TENTS**

C B E F O R E T H E M C  
 I L E D T H E M U P I L  
 C H O D L I S T E N T O  
 K W J U V O I C E F I T  
 Y L N E D D U S S P S H  
 M O U N T A I N U D G E  
 O G H O J R Z P T H O S  
 S N A N A O J Z E A O U  
 E D I B M U E L L J D S  
 S D B D E N A Y L I Q E  
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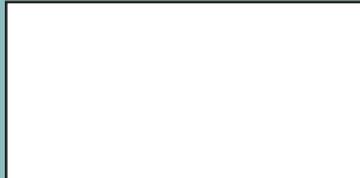


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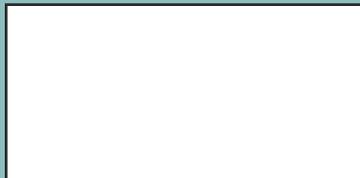
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