

4th Sunday of Lent/ March 14, 2021

SAINT AGATHA

202 W Washington Avenue • Howard, SD 57349

Bookkeeper - Nancy Feldhaus

Phone: (605) 772-4543 Fax: (605) 772-5179

Email: stagatha@alliancecom.net

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

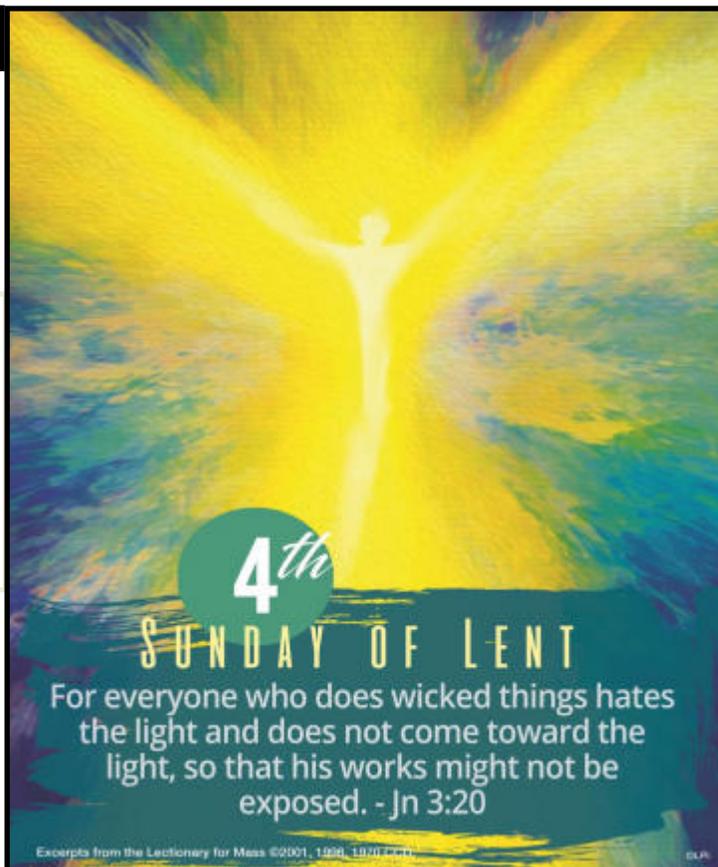
Saturday: 5:00pm Ramona
Sunday: 8:30am Epiphany
10:30am Howard
Daily Mass: See Inside
Holy Day Mass times: TBA

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 or 605-770-5944
Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 3pm



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God's messengers always seem to get mocked. They speak a truth that some folks do not want to hear. While on the one hand we admire them, we also are quite happy keeping them at a distance. After all, they are not referring to me but someone else, aren't they? We often wrongly conclude that because we may be more avant-garde, contemporary, politically sensitive, and untraditional, we are somehow more in the light than others. People tend to prefer darkness more than light, even the most spiritually sensitive among us. The light always carries with it the richness of God's mercy and compassion which see beyond ideologies and concepts to relationships that cultivate life, earthly and eternal. Every hand of compassion and mercy extended to a human being must always point back to God. The call always involves ordering our lives in accord with our truth and essence of being. As God never forgets us, we must never forget God. Now is the time to take stock of our infidelity and return to the light, even though it is difficult to look at. ©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:

In last weekend's musings I suggested going online to watch videos from Catholic Relief Services. I'm going to suggest it again! Go to crsricebowl.org; then click on "Stories of Hope" and whatever week you want to view. I just watched the week two video and have presented here information from the text about Madagascar.

"We all need food to nourish us and keep us healthy. Without food, we find it hard to concentrate, study, do our work or even play. Jesus often shared meals with friends and even strangers, and he teaches us to be generous in sharing what we have to eat with others."

"What is your favorite show or movie? Why do you like it? Has it taught you anything new or interesting?"

In Madagascar, families gather to watch puppet shows that entertain and teach. They love seeing the brightly colored puppets talk to each other, tell stories and ask the crowd questions. After each show, parents leave with new information to help their families.

Half of all children in Madagascar are undernourished, meaning they don't have enough nutritious food to stay healthy. Parents want their children to grow up healthy and strong, and the puppet shows give them new knowledge they can use right away to make sure that happens. Community health workers trained by CRS use the puppets to teach families about how doctor visits, hand washing and *rainbow foods*—different colored foods like tomatoes and carrots that have important vitamins and nutrients—are necessary to stay healthy.

Frankline and Labaladezy have eight children. Their youngest child, Thorin, is almost a year old. While Frankline was pregnant with Thorin, she and her husband Labaladezy watched the puppet shows and learned new ways to support Thorin's growth and development. When Thorin was born, his parents fed him different, more nutritious foods and took him to the health center for regular check-ups. Thorin is growing a lot and is reaching all his developmental milestones.

Frankline is happy her youngest son is doing so well, and she sees the positive effects of their new rainbow diet on the rest of the family. She says, "I dream that my children will stay healthy. I hope that Thorin may become a doctor or a leader in our community." Every parent wants their children to reach their full potential, and CRS is helping make sure they can do just that."

Please consider picking up a Rice Bowl container at the entry of the church and contributing through it to the work of Catholic Relief Services.

I also just finished reading a comment from John H. Samson in "Letters to the Editor" in the Feb. 21-27 issue of **Our Sunday Visitor** regarding a previous article in OSV, "What if they don't come back" (Faith, Jan.17-23). He opens his comments stating, "If anyone believes that Christ is really present in the Blessed Sacrament, they will come back." I expect and hope that to be true. However, I also expected my mother and other faithful homebound Catholics to ask for a priest to bring them Holy Communion in their homes when they became unable to attend Mass in person and oftentimes that wasn't happening, and it still doesn't happen even though I ask people to let me know of their situation so I can bring them Communion. And if I would get lax and stop bringing someone who is homebound Communion, that person should contact me and even nag me until I do! Mr. Samson believes the real problem regarding people coming back to Mass is "in the number of Catholics who do not believe in the Real Presence [of Jesus in the Eucharist]. He adds, "They, of course, will not return because the holy Eucharist has no real significance to them." Mr. Samson writes in closing, "Instead of spending time pondering why they may not come back and what we will do if they don't, we should wonder how we can make belief in the Blessed Sacrament more robust. It's time to pray," he writes, "for guidance so we can make those who proclaim to be Catholics real holy Eucharist-believing Catholics. If you believe Christ is really present at Mass, how could you not attend?" I tend to agree with you Mr. Samson!



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat –April 30-May 2, 2021-**Strictly Confidential**. A safe, loving, non-judgmental environment. Open to *men, women, mothers, fathers, grandparents* who have been affected by abortion. Non-denominational. Sponsored by Catholic Family Services. For more information, call 605-988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or email cfs@sfcatholic.org.

Join with other adults in our diocese seeking to deepen their prayer life, strengthen their faith, and discover the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit. **Spiritual Impact Bootcamp Retreat, March 26-28**. Find all the info at www.sfcatholic.org/adultformation/sib.

Registrations are open for the 'Spiritus' Going Deeper Retreat April 9-11 at the Abbey of the Hills. Find all the info at www.sfcatholic.org/youth.

Welcome to our Catholic Faith family! Oliver Thomas Ruml, child of Francis and Kelli, was baptized at St. Agatha Church on Sunday, March 7. As a faith community we extend not only a welcome but our prayers of blessings for Oliver and his whole family. It's good having you, Oliver!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES- Broom Tree Retreat Center near Irene, SD now has the following openings available:

Housekeeping Supervisor at the Youth & Family Camp - If you have management skills and want a job that keeps you active, this position is for you! We offer flexible scheduling, health, vision, & dental insurance, long-term disability, life insurance, paid holidays, and earned sick and vacation time in addition to a competitive wage and discounts on facility rentals.

Part-time Cook at the Retreat Center – If you love to cook and serve, this job is for you! We offer flexible scheduling including late morning, afternoon, and early evening hours with some weekends in addition to a competitive wage and discounts on facility rentals.

If you would like to join our dedicated staff, please contact Kris Sees, Administrator, at 605-263-1040 or email ksees@sfcatholic.org for more information. Learn more about us at www.broom-tree.org.



**CHANGE YOUR CLOCK
CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES**

Ministry Schedule- March 20 & 21

4:00pm—Ramona
 Lector: Nancy Rensch
 EM: Nancy Dinges
 Server: Addison Stewart
 Offertory: Claudia & Logan DeRungs
 Usher: Bob Casanova & Brian Secher

9:00am—Howard
 Lector: Janet Kizer & Abby Connor
 EM: Amy Neises & Amy Noonan
 Servers: Calvin, Adeline, and Thomas Halverson
 Greeters/Off./Bulletins: J. & D. Mentele Family
 Rosary: D. & MK. Schlim
 Music: Pat Koepsell & Carrie Mentele

11:00am—Epiphany
 Lector: Stacy Kampshoff
 EM: Jean Klinkhammer
 Servers: Drew & Erica Endorf
 Offertory:
 Usher:
 Rosary: Larry & Diane Eich
 Music: Kim Miller & Pat Zens

Mass Intentions for March 15-21

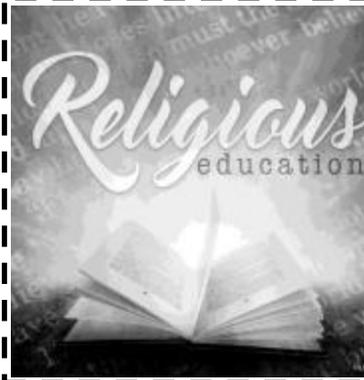
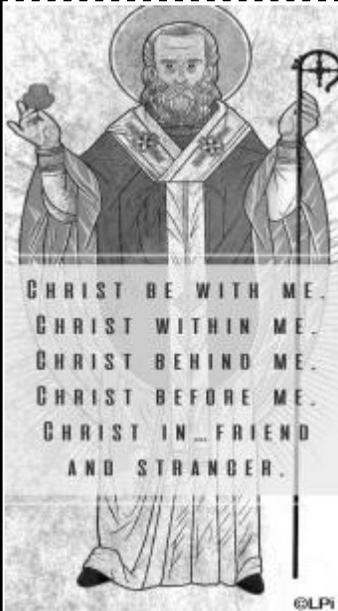
Mon. 3/15 6pm R Stations 6:30pm Mass Special Intentions
 Tues. 3/16 5:30pm H Stations 6pm Mass dJim Strouth
 Wed. 3/17 10am H dSid Kearin
 Thurs. 3/18 8am H dJim Spader
 6pm E Stations 6:30pm Mass dZina Scheuren
 Fri. 3/19 10am WW Residents & For the end of pandemic
 Sat. 3/20 9am H Mass followed by Bible Study
 dMoore families
 5:00pm R dFrancis & Margaret Schnell
 Sun. 3/21 8:30am E dDerrin Miller
 10:30am H For Parishioners

Weekend Support for
 March 6 & 7

4:00pm Ramona CFSA
 Reg: \$275 Goal- \$9,000
 Loose: \$6 Pledged-\$3,540
 Total: \$281 Paid- \$2,740

9:00am Howard CFSA
 Reg: \$1,990 Goal-\$19,000
 Loose: \$620 Pledged-\$25,670
 Total: \$2,610 Paid-\$22,970

11:00am Epiphany CFSA
 Reg: \$750 Goal-\$12,500
 Loose: \$10 Pledged-\$6,525
 Total: \$760 Paid- \$6,525



Parents & Students
 Please work on
CCD Lesson 24 in
 your workbooks this
 week. Complete
 the Review and
 hand in to Father
 Murtha - Thanks!



MOSES
 ETERNAL
 HE GAVE
 SEND
 THE NAME
 PEOPLE
 HATES

LIFTED
 SO LOVED
 BELIEVES
 CONDEMN
 VERDICT
 DARKNESS
 EXPOSED

SERPENT
 WORLD
 PERISH
 ALREADY
 LIGHT
 EVIL
 TRUTH

SO LOVED

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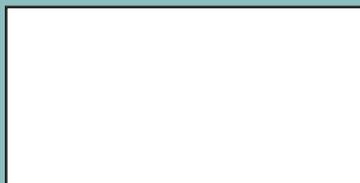
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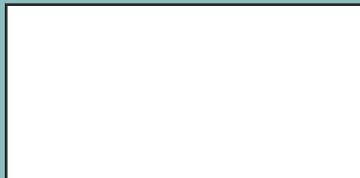
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