

5th Sunday of Lent/ March 21, 2021

SAINT AGATHA

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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

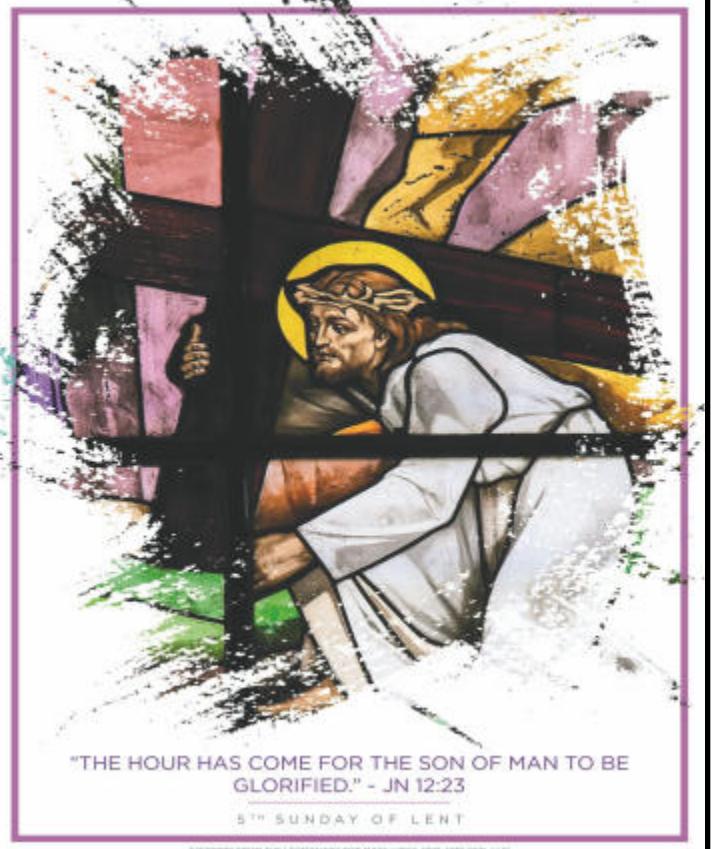
MASS TIMES

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
nrericson2000@yahoo.com or 605-770-5944
Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 3pm



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis. It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name." By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done. ©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:

The Church in its liturgical calendar honors St. Joseph on two occasions – March 19 is **St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary** and May 1 is **Joseph the Worker**. But since December 8, 2020, Pope Francis is asking the Catholic faithful to remember St. Joseph in a special way. On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis in the Apostolic

Letter (*Patris Corde/With a Father's Heart*) decreed a special year dedicated to St. Joseph for the global Catholic Church. The special year, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the 1870 naming of St. Joseph as patron of the universal church, will run through Dec. 8, 2021. Apparently Pope Francis had been reflecting on St. Joseph, “this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience,” in this time of the pandemic and desired to share some of his personal reflections. He writes, “My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how ‘our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked.’”

Of St. Joseph, Pope Francis acknowledges in his letter that Sacred Scripture “tells us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God’s providence.” He notes however that:

After Mary, the Mother of God, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the papal magisterium than Joseph, her spouse. My Predecessors reflected on the message contained in the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate more fully his central role in the history of salvation. Blessed Pius IX declared him “Patron of the Catholic Church”, Venerable Pius XII proposed him as “Patron of Workers” and Saint John Paul II as “Guardian of the Redeemer”. Saint Joseph is universally invoked as the “patron of a happy death”.

The Pope’s reflections on St. Joseph are listed in seven categories from which I will attempt to highlight a point or two.

A beloved father – Joseph has been trusted by the faithful to be relied upon in prayer. “Every prayer book contains prayers to St. Joseph.” Saints such as Teresa of Avila were “passionately devoted” to St. Joseph and encouraged devotion to him as well.

A tender and loving father – Joseph teaches us through his own experiences “that faith in God includes believing that God can work through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses.”

An obedient father – Using dreams, God revealed his saving plan to Joseph. “Obedience made it possible for Joseph to surmount his difficulties.”

An accepting father – Reflecting upon Joseph’s attitude to accept Mary as his wife and to leave his native land to go to Egypt, the Pope states, “Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.”

A creatively courageous father – God gave a broad plan for Joseph to follow, but details are left to Joseph. Joseph was trusted to provide for Mary and Jesus.

A working father – Joseph worked as a carpenter to earn a living that he might provide for Mary and Jesus. The pope writes, “From Joseph, Jesus learned the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labor.”

A father in the shadows – Joseph gave the gift of himself to watch over and protect Jesus in keeping with God’s will and yet allowed Jesus the freedom to become the person God intended Jesus to be. Joseph is that father “who always knew that his child was not his own but had merely been entrusted to his care.”

Dear St. Joseph, patron of the universal Church and our Diocese, pray for us! – And may you all have a blessed week!

March ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers during Holy Week – Next Sunday, the 28th is the beginning of Holy Week. Some extra liturgical ministers may be needed at some of the parishes for the special liturgies of Holy Week. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be set out at the entrances of the churches.

Prayer to St. Joseph – Somewhere I found a heart shaped prayer card with the image of Joseph holding the Child Jesus on one side and a prayer to St. Joseph on the other. I have set out the prayers cards in the entry at each church. Feel free to take as many as you desire.

Br. Joseph Prostrollo, OSB will be taking first vows as a monk of Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham, Massachusetts on Sunday evening March 21, 2021 during Vespers. Br. Joseph was baptized and confirmed at St. Agatha Church and attended St. Agatha Grade School in the 1960's. Glastonbury Abbey is a small Benedictine monastery south of Boston. The ceremony will be live-streamed on Facebook at [GlastonburyAbbeyMA](https://www.facebook.com/GlastonburyAbbeyMA) beginning at 5:15 PM EDT / 4:15 PM CDT

Early Bulletin Submission– For the Sunday, April 4th bulletin, please have information sent in by Wednesday, March, 24th at 4pm. Thank you!

Church of the Epiphany– The new ministry lists are available in the back of the church.

As April 4th is Easter, there will be no 1st Sunday breakfast in Epiphany.

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.

Ministry Schedule- March 27 & 28

5:00pm—Ramona

Lector: Donna Rensch

EM: Brenda Lembcke

Server: Volunteer

Offertory: Larry & Peggy Casanova

Usher: Bryan Jaton & Rod Jaton

8:30am—Epiphany

Lector: Lisa Brown

EM: Leanne Eich

Servers: Kendra & Paige Endorf

Offertory:

Usher:

Rosary: Kenny & Jean Klinkhammer

Music: Ronda Zens & Rene' Koepsell

10:30am—Howard

Lector: Briar Feldhaus & Deb Eggert

EM: Kim Eggert & Larry Kieffer

Servers: Brody & Dakota Spader, Halle Schulz

Greeters/Off./Bulletins: L. & E. Martian Family

Rosary: Pat Winker

Music: Emma & Angie Neises

Mass Intentions for March 22-28

Mon. 3/22 6pm R Stations 6:30pm Mass dJohn Cassutt

Tues. 3/23 5:30pm H Stations 6pm Mass dGene Bartscher

Wed. 3/24 10am HNH Residents & Staff

Thurs. 3/25 8am H djim Strouth

6pm E Stations 6:30pm Mass dBill Simunek

Fri. 3/26 10am WW For Families

Sat. 3/27 9am H Mass followed by Bible Study
For Peace

5:00pm R dFrancis & Margaret Schnell

Sun. 3/28 8:30am E For Parishioners

10:30am H Special Intention

Weekend Support for
March 13 & 14

5:00pm Ramona

Reg: \$120

Loose: \$13

Total: \$133

8:30am Epiphany

Reg: \$385

Loose: \$-

Total: \$385

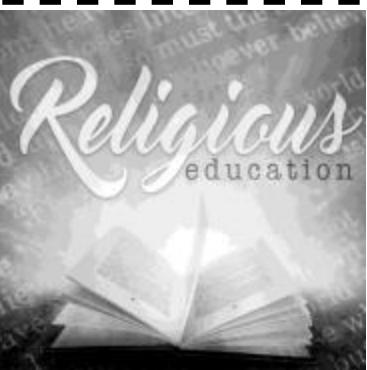
10:30am Howard

Reg: \$1,240

Loose: \$10

Total: \$1,250

THE
Annunciation
OF THE
LORD



Parents & Students
Please work on
CCD Lesson 25 in
your workbooks this
week. Complete
the Review and
hand in to Father
Murtha – Thanks!



GREEKS
TO SEE JESUS
GLORIFIED
PRODUCES
HONOR
CROWD
ANGEL

WORSHIP
ANDREW
WHEAT
WHOEVER
TROUBLED
HEARD IT
LIFTED UP

PHILIP
HOUR
GROUND
FOLLOW
SAVE ME
THUNDER
DEATH

THUNDROUS

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