

Palm Sunday/ March 28, 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

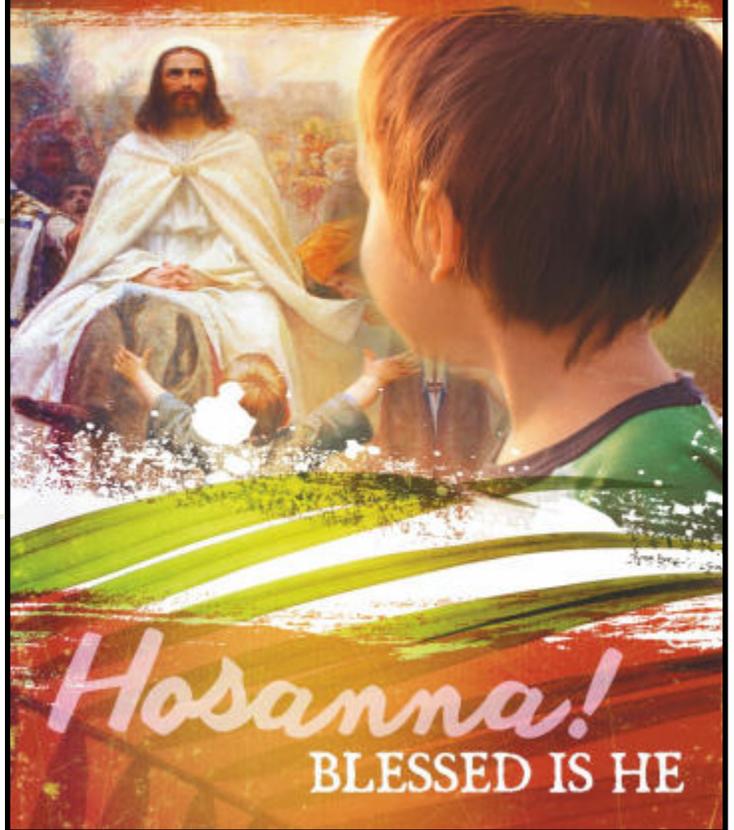
CONFESSIONS

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
nrerickson2000@yahoo.com or 605-770-5944
Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 3pm

PALM SUNDAY



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What an ironic twist of events! Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance it seems like such hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching but wince when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silence when it comes to global solidarity. We talk out of both sides of our mouths too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. There exists in each one of us a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week! ©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:

Two weeks ago I went online to watch the Bishop's televised Mass. I did a little more "browsing" around and decided I should draw your attention to a couple of posts by Bishop DeGrood. They are titled: **Disposition Lifting Statement** and **The Mass – Information Guide**. I've printed the Dispensation Lifting Statement here in nearly its entirety and highlighted some.

March 11, 2021

My beloved brothers and sisters,

As your spiritual father and bishop, through consultation and ongoing research on the status of COVID, it has become clear to me that it is the appropriate time to remove the revised dispensation that I previously granted to Catholics over the age of 65 and/or with underlying health conditions related to COVID from fulfilling their obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation. This revision to the general dispensation to all Catholics was previously announced on August 10, 2020. Therefore, effective **March 27, 2021**, the Church's obligation of Catholics to attend Sunday Mass weekly and Holy Days of Obligation is being reinstated for all Catholics in the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

For Catholics who have serious reasons for not physically attending Mass, here is guidance the Church provides in the Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181: "The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor."

Due to the essential spiritual need we have for weekly physical participation in Sunday Mass, the tremendous gift and spiritual nourishment of physically receiving our Lord in Holy Communion is critically important for our spiritual growth. I hope you will find the attached teaching on the Mass helpful for ongoing education and for deepening our appreciation for the benefits promised through our full participation in Holy Mass.

Know of my prayers for your spiritual wellbeing so we all can be healthy, happy and holy in our journey to heaven through God's gift of Holy Mass.

In His Service,
Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood Bishop of Sioux Falls

I've printed out a few copies of the Bishop's teaching on the Mass and put them in the entries of the church. This teaching on **the Mass** is the second of his teachings that can be found online. The first was offered on February 15 on **Human Life**. Bishop DeGrood comments he felt in prayer that he was called to present some teachings to the faithful in accord with his ecclesiastical ministry as bishop to teach, sanctify, and govern. I highly recommend you access his teachings online if you can! I've pulled one paragraph from his teaching on the Mass for you.

Many of us have spent years or even decades attending Mass. It has simply been an automatic part of our weekly or even daily lives. For others—the young among us, or new Catholics—the Mass is still a new reality. Either way, our participation in the Mass and the difference it makes in our lives can be enriched by a deeper understanding of this beautiful prayer which is such an important part of our Catholic faith. Therefore, I would like to offer a few thoughts, based on the Bible and the teachings of the Church as found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church that I hope will allow you to both appreciate and participate more fully in the Mass. And may you have a blessed week!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was recently celebrated for the first time by another one of the second grade students of St. Agatha Parish – **Macie Jeffrey**, child of Aaron and Lindsey Jeffrey. Macie, we pray you may continue to experience God's love in the sacraments he has given to the Church for the faithful!

Easter Sunday Mass time change in Ramona! - Rather than 11:00 am, Mass will be offered at St. William Parish at **9:00 am** on Easter Sunday morning by Fr. Bob Vinslauski.

Asking Volunteers to sign-up for the liturgical ministries of the Triduum.

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.

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.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday–Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Apr. 1)

- In Epiphany at **6:00 pm**

-In Howard at **8:00 pm**

Good Friday – Friday of the Passion of the Lord (April 2)

-At **noon** in Epiphany

-At **3:00 pm** in Howard

-At **7:00 pm** in Ramona

Easter Vigil at 8:30 pm in Howard

Easter Sunday Mass times (April 4):

-7:00 am in Epiphany

-9:00 am in Howard

-9:00 am in Ramona

Ministry Schedule- April 3 & 4

5:00pm-Ramona

Lector: Brenda Lembcke

EM: Sue Pederson

Server: Addison Stewart

Offertory: Doug & Marcia Riedel

Usher: Larry Malcomb & Jared Riedel

8:30am-Epiphany

Lector: Cory Eich

EM: Kelli Endorf

Servers: Chloe Schmitt & Rachel Brown

Offertory: Tim Brown Family

Usher: Cory Eich, Ben & Kelly Endorf, Dave Esser

Rosary: Denis & Evie Wingen

Music: Pat Koepsell & Pat Zens

10:30am-Howard

Lector: Janet Kizer & Kim Eggert

EM: Deb Eggert & Dave Miller

Servers: Kingsten Feldhaus, Ryder & Sutton Erickson

Greeters/Off./Bulletins: N. & L. Kizer Family

Rosary: D. & MK. Schlim

Music: Kay Genzlinger

Mass Intentions for March 29- April 4

Mon. 3/29 6pm R Stations 6:30pm Mass dJoyce Bunker

Tues. 3/30 5:30pm H Stations 6pm Mass dMarcy Hinker

Wed. 3/31 10am H dDelores Kothe

Thurs. 4/1 6pm E dMartin Esser

8pm H dDave Goronja

Fri. 4/2 12pm E

3pm H

7pm R

Sat. 4/3 8:30pm H dJim Spader

Sun. 4/4 7:00am E dDerrin & Austin Miller

9:00am H For Parishioners

9:00am R dMarie VanVooren

Weekend Support for
March 20 & 21

5:00pm Ramona

Reg: \$420

Loose: \$35

Total: \$455

8:30am Epiphany

Reg: \$240

Loose: \$500

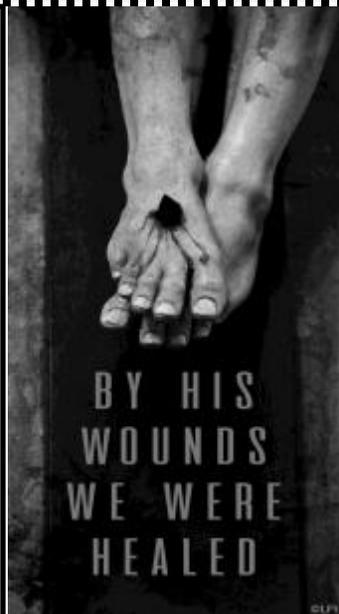
Total: \$740

10:30am Howard

Reg: \$1,595

Loose: \$48

Total: \$1,643



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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember - we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them.

Cherish them. Be present for each one.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

JERUSALEM
MOUNT
VILLAGE
BRING
SPREAD
HAD CUT
NAME

BETHPAGE
OLIVES
FIND
STREET
LEAFY
FIELDS
KINGDOM

BETHANY
DISCIPLES
A COLT
BYSTANDERS
BRANCHES
WHO COMES
HIGHEST

BLESSED IS

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C H O J H S Y J L I N N
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