

7th Sunday of Easter / May 16, 2021

SAINT AGATHA

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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

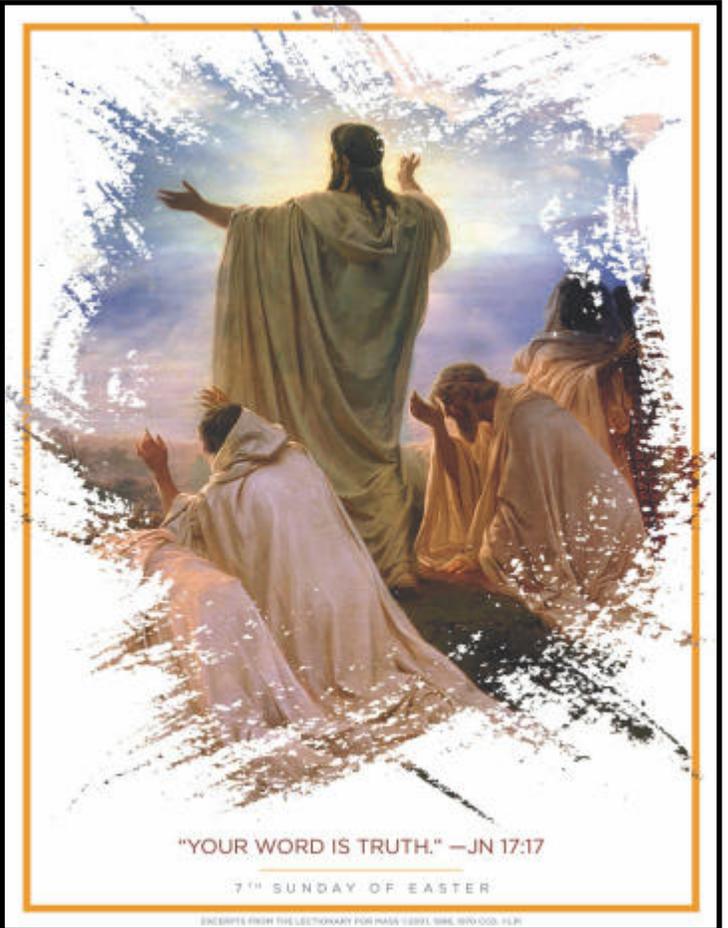
Saturday: 5:00pm Ramona
Sunday: 8:30am Epiphany
10:30am Howard
Daily Mass: See Inside
Holy Day Mass times: TBA

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

When Jesus was physically with his disciples, he guarded and protected them. One of his greatest desires was that they share his joy completely. God's love is the source of all things and their sustenance. As we conduct the normal routines of our lives it is easy to get caught up in the immediacies of this world and lose focus. We become very self and worldly dependent, forgetting that God wishes to guard and protect us. The joy the resurrected Christ can offer cannot be found in this world. It takes a bit of faith to realize that God's will is a constant in our lives and that God desires only the sustenance and goodness of both our bodies and our souls. We need to trust in God's constant and rejuvenating love. This radical resurrection trust allows us to experience the joy of God's presence in all of the good and the bad, positive and negative, life building and life destructive events that we encounter.

God remains where love remains. ©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:

You may be aware that priests are expected to do daily prayers throughout the day from what is known as the "Liturgy of the Hours", the "Breviary", or the "Office of Readings." All are terms that are used interchangeably. As I was reading the "Office" this morning (Monday, May

10) some of the lines in Psalm 31 got my attention as did the introductory description attending the Psalm. The general introduction describes Psalm 31 in this way – "A troubled person's confident appeal to God" and includes a New Testament verse: "Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit (Luke 23:46).

The actual verses from Psalm 31 that especially caught my attention were these:

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.
Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free,
hear me and speedily rescue me.

Be a rock of refuge for me,
a mighty stronghold to save me,
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

So why did these words get my attention you may ask. It is a question I also asked myself. In further prayer and reflection I believe I have an answer.

As usual I was seeking guidance from the Holy Spirit about what I should say for my "Musings" this weekend. My mind was dwelling on the end of the school year. I thought about what that was like for me back when I was in my early teens on the farm. One thing it meant was a drastic change in the routine of my days. No longer was it going to be the routine of getting up, doing chores, eating breakfast, changing clothes and riding the bus to school for classes (yes, the Murtha kids rode the bus to school throughout the school year). Now the routine was going to be getting up, doing chores, eat breakfast, then go out to do whatever work dad had for me (and my brothers) that day. This is the time of the year when I especially remember helping dad set up the disc or the drag to work the fields; fueling up the tractor; then starting out as dad drove off to do whatever he needed to get done for the day (like plowing or planting). There I was – left on my own to get the job done. The smell of being out in the open, the tractor at work, and the earth as it was being worked up was nothing like the smells of the classroom. These were much more exhilarating! But out on my own in this springtime environment, I had to concern myself with the job of not getting the equipment stuck, with not tearing the equipment up by turning too short, and avoid tearing up the fence line by not turning at the appropriate time. I had to find the new, but old routine, each year. Until I did so, I prayed a little that I would not mess up. I'm certain I did not use the words of Psalm 31 but I suspect the spirit of the words were the same.

In my later years I had jobs off the farm and I'm sure I began each new employment with a troubled spirit until I got to know a routine and get comfortable with the job at hand. I think I can say now that I begin many things with an inward prayer to the Holy Spirit to lead and guide me (as I did before beginning these musings).

In any case, my thoughts and prayers are with all our youth as they end the school year. And I pray especially for graduates whose lives will really experience new circumstances in the future.

And may God bless us all this week!



D-Camp - The high school D-Camp for 2021 is now full. High school students may sign up on the wait-list in case a spot opens up. **Spots are still available for the Junior High Camp July 15-18.** Youth entering grades 7 and 8 in the fall of 2021 are invited to join. Sign up fast to reserve your spot at www.sfcatholic.org/youth/d-camp/. Find out all the info at the [D-Camp webpage](#).

High School Graduates - This summer Bishop DeGrood would like to send a letter to the graduating seniors in our diocese so he can personally congratulate and encourage you to seek God's will in your lives. To make this possible we are requesting the following information from you: names, cell phone number, parent's names, addresses, gender and college plans for all seniors. Please get the information to St. Agatha Parish Office stagatha@alliancecom.net. The Vacations Office has also used the college information to help keep our youth connected with their Catholic faith while they are at school.

Please join us for a party of celebration for Kathleen Wingen's 80th birthday. Sunday, May 30th 2021. Join us for 8:30am mass at the Church of Epiphany and/or brunch following in the parish hall until 11:00am.

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3 OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

VIRTUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT JUNE 5 TH - JUNE 14 ANY PUBLIC BODY OF WATER IN SOUTH DAKOTA	MONDAY BIG STONE CITY JUNE 7 LAKE SIDE PARK	MONDAY PIERRE JUNE 14 LAKE DOMINSTREAM RECREATIONAL AREA
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Teach us to give and not count the cost.

— St. Ignatius de Loyola

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Ministry Schedule- May 22 & 23

5:00pm-Ramona
 Lector: Sue Pederson
 EM: Brenda Lembcke
 Server: Volunteer
 Offertory: John & Betty Bauer
 Usher: Bryan Jatton & Joe Riedel

8:30am-Epiphany
 Lector: Erica Endorf
 EM: Jean Klinkhammer
 Servers: Drew & Erica Endorf
 Offertory: Dennis Gassman Family
 Usher: Greg Roberts, Dave & John Schmitt, Bob Wingen
 Rosary: Larry & Diane Eich
 Music: Kim Miller & Rene' Koepsell

10:30am-Howard
 Lector: Cole Mentele & Deb Eggert
 EM: Mary K. Schlim & Darrel Spader
 Servers: Gabriel, Natalie & Elizabeth Martian
 Greeters/Off./Bulletins: M. & A. Neises Family
 Rosary: D. & MK. Schlim
 Music: Emma & Angie Neises

Mass Intentions for May 17-23

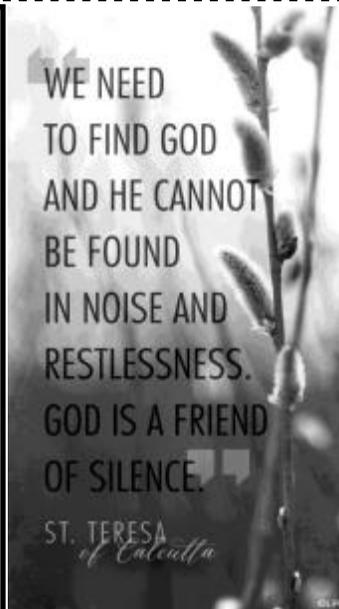
Mon. 5/17 No Mass
 Tues. 5/18 5:30pm H dJack Strouth
 Wed. 5/19 10am HNH dGreg Dornbusch
 Thurs. 5/20 8am H dGeorge & Hilda Calmus
 10am E dGerald B Kaufmann, Sr.
 Fri. 5/21 10am WW For Residents
 Sat. 5/22 5pm R dIrene Casanova
 Sun. 5/23 8:30am E For Parishioners
 10:30am H dCharles & Justina Schlim

Weekend Support for
 May 8 & 9

5:00pm Ramona
 Reg: \$430
 Loose: \$54
 Total: \$484

8:30am Epiphany
 Reg: \$290
 Loose: \$55
 Total: \$345

10:30am Howard
 Reg: \$1,055
 Loose: \$35
 Total: \$1,090



FIRST
COMMUNION
Blessings

St. William Parish:
Adrian Riedel

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RIGHT HAND

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

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