



ST. ISAAC JOGUES

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8:30 AM -
3:30 PM

Contact Us:

Parish Office

605-343-2165

Fax: 605.343.3257

Office Email:

stisaac@rushmore.com

221 Knollwood Drive

Rapid City, SD 57701

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1304

Pastor

Rev. Ed Witt, SJ

Deacons

Luis Usera Sr.....x12

Deacon/DRE/Liturgy/Safe
Environment

Bob Ackerman

Parish Office

Parish Office....605-343-2165

Office Manager:

Bruce.....x10

Maintenance:

Kookiex14

Glenn Holst

Mass Schedule

Saturday

5:00 PM

Sunday

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

Monday-Thursday 12:10 PM

(unless there is a funeral,
call to confirm)

DECEMBER 27, 2020 THE HOLY FAMILY



THE HOLY FAMILY

"For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples."

- Lk 2:30-31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St. Isaac Jogues Parish, recognizing our rich Native American history and Jesuit identity are a Catholic community empowered by the Holy Spirit, the sacraments and prayer. Using our unique and diverse gifts, we are called to grow in Christian faith and love, to proclaim the gospel values and to minister to one another and all the people of God. With God's grace, we continue our Apostolic Mission to spread the Good News and to follow our baptismal call to be the Body of Christ.

Mindfulness Moments:

Jesus is both God and man.

Jesus will make your physical body conform with his glorified body.

Philippians 3:21

Recently, a parishioner posed this question to me. Will you have a physical body in heaven? I believe that our bodies will be whole and shining with God's glory in heaven. I wasn't quite ready to give him my response and this gave me a perfect opportunity to "talk to Jesus" through scripture. We know that Jesus is the firstborn among the brethren- conquering the grave and is the only One who has both a spirit and physical body.

In the May 5, 2011 edition of the Christian Doctrine, I quote, "Our old bodies, the ones we die in, are corrupt so cannot enter Heaven. So, when we are resurrected by Christ, we will have new bodies, pure and undefiled. In both cases, mortal and spiritual, the 'body' is the same thing and has the same meaning. That is, an actual presence. A body has position, mass and image. So it will be in Heaven!" Our bodies in heaven will be touchable, visible, recognizable and whole.

Christ arose physically, and for this reason so will we. Our new bodies will be like Jesus' new body. Christ will know us individually in Heaven, and so we will know others in love to enjoy the amazing glory of God's heavenly home.

Lead with Love,
Dr George
www.drgeorgej.com



Derek Adams, Donna Anderson, Jim Augustine, Scott Benson, Glory Brewer, Roger Cadotte-Gray, John Carlson, Laura Clarke, BJ Cole, Sharon Colombe, Alisha Conroy, Guy Davison, Deacon Heavy Garnette, Alta Hertal, Maxine Hendricks, Kayla Hertel, Rose Larose, (Brewer), Ron & Lavonne Kocer, Bobby Lyon, Shane McCarthy, Melissa & Jake Meyer, Beverly Monday, Kreara Overby, Patrick Paur, Kathy Reed, Joel Rivera, Rita Tibbitts, Pat Weber, Richard Thomas, Weston Thomas, Darren Vasquez.

If you have the person's permission, you may request their name be included in the bulletin's *Prayer Request List*. Call Abby Seales at 341-5552 or the parish office at 343-2165 to leave the name of the individual in need of prayer. If you wish to have the person's name remain on the list for more than one month, please contact the parish office every subsequent month with your request.

Holy Communion to the Sick: If you are at home, please call the parish office to request that an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist (EME) bring Holy Communion to you. In case of hospitalization, inform the hospital staff that you are a Catholic and would like to receive Holy Communion.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office if you need to receive the anointing of the sick at home. In emergency situations when the office is closed, call the Cathedral at 342-0507 and they will have someone available for the anointing.



APOSTLES VS. DISCIPLES QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN APOSTLES AND DISCIPLES?

ANSWER:

When we look at the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, we see two special titles applied to his followers: apostles and disciples. At first glance, we might think that these two words are interchangeable, but when we look at what each one means, we quickly see that the evangelists were using them very specifically. When we look more closely, we see that while Jesus had many disciples, the group of apostles was much more limited and referred to Jesus' closest collaborators. The word apostle essentially means "one who is sent forth" or, as we might think of it today, "an ambassador." The group of apostles — sometimes called the Twelve — included those twelve men who formed Jesus' inner circle (see Mark 3:13-14; Luke 6:12-13). It was this group that received the gift of the Holy Spirit and who were sent out by Jesus with the special mission of forgiving sins on that first Easter Sunday (see John 20:19-23). In time, the Catholic Tradition also recognize Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas as apostles, recognizing that they also shared the mandate of going out in the Lord's name to pray, to bless, and to preach. In 2016, during the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis raised the liturgical celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene to the rank of feast, recognizing that she also received a special mandate to proclaim the good news of Jesus' resurrection to the Eleven, becoming the "apostle to the apostles." In a particular way, the bishops continue the mission of the apostles in our own time. When we think of the word disciple, we see that it has a very different meaning. Rather than referring to those who were sent out to carry on the mission of Jesus, disciple literally means "student" or, more specially, an "apprentice learner." The task of the disciple is to learn and integrate into their lives the teachings, values, and way of life of their master teacher. Although a disciple might be called on to explain or represent aspects of their life, in light of the teachings they receive from this master teacher, Christian discipleship is ultimately about living our lives with faith and integrity, guided by the life and mission of Jesus, our Master Teacher. The call to discipleship is the common vocation of all Christians

PARISH ACTIVITIES & NEWS

St. Isaac Jogues Parish Schedule for December / January

Monday—28 The Holy Innocents,
Martyrs

♦ Mass at 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday—30

♦ Rosary Group Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Parlor Room

Thursday—31 Happy New Years

♦ Office Closed

♦ Mass 12:10 p.m.

Friday—January 1, 2021

Happy New Year

Solemnity of Mary,
Holy Mother of God

♦ Mass at 10 a.m. only

Sunday—January 3

♦ No Religious Education (CCD)
and Adult Faith Formation



FUNNY

At the Christmas Eve service at my church, the pastor, quizzing some children about the nativity, asked, "What gifts did the three wise men give the Christ child?" "Gold!" one child yelled. "Frankincense!" shouted another. After a pause, a third yelled, "Gift cards?"

Rosaries as Decorations

Question: I've seen people hang rosaries over the rear-view mirrors in their cars and a few of them wear them around their necks. Is it OK to do that?

Answer:

The practice of hanging a rosary or a religious medal off of the rearview mirror of one's car is a fairly popular custom across many cultures. While there is no particular rule approving or condemning this practice, we should also be mindful of the respect and reverence due to religious objects and devotional items (i.e. sacramentals).

An important point to consider would be the reason why one chooses to place a rosary or religious medal in our cars. Is it a reminder of the protection and intercession of Mary and the saints? Does it encourage us to be mindful of God's presence, even in such a mundane task as driving? Is it an outward expression of our more private devotions?

One advantage of having a rosary or religious medal in our cars is that it can also serve as a reminder to pray when we travel, asking for protection for ourselves and for other motorists or commuters. Certainly, invoking the protection and prayers of the saints is a wonderful practice for families, helping to reinforce our belief in the communion of saints and the care and concern we owe to one another.

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

FOR DECEMBER

SATURDAY 19th 5 P.M.

Thursday—Christmas Eve

December 24 5 p.m. Mass

Lectors: Rhonda Wright, Sharon Harpel

Usher: Need

Friday—Christmas day

December 25 at 9 a.m.

Lectors: Germaine Little Bear, Sandy Albertson

Usher: Rick

11 a.m. Mass

Lectors: Mary Tognotti, Rhonda Leneaugh

Usher: Darrell Tognotti

Saturday December 26 at 5 p.m.

Lectors: Kevin Woster, Sue or Frank Kelly

Usher: Arnie Cummings

Sunday December 26 at 9 a.m.

Lectors: Jerry Meyer, Sandy Albertson

Usher: Rick Maher

Sunday December 27 at 11 a.m.

Lectors: Susan Schipman, BJ Cole

Usher: Derrell Tognotti

Safe Environment

The Catholic Diocese of Rapid City is firmly committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for our children. To report allegations of sexual abuse by church personnel, contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator. In accordance with diocesan policy, all allegations of sexual misconduct involving children or young people and priests, deacons, lay employees, or volunteers serving the Diocese of Rapid City will be investigated.

Victim Assistance Coordinator - Barbara Scherr 605.209.3418

NEW LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The Diocese of Rapid City has installed a Little Free Library (littlefreelibrary.org) with a Catholic twist. Located at the Catholic Chancery, 225 Main St., Rapid City, this LFL contains only books on Catholic teachings. For 2000 years the Catholic Church has been sharing the Love of Christ, and we are excited to have this new opportunity to reach out to our neighbors. Anyone who reads these books is invited to contact Pastoral Ministries at 605.343.3541 or LFL@diorc.org for more information about Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith, as well as a referral to a local parish, where they can find a faith home.

Father's Corner Season of Advent

The story of the Holy Family is the story of life not always turning out the way you expected. It is the story of a teenage mother, conceiving a child before she was married. It is the story of an anxious father, confronting scandal, planning on divorce. It is the story of a family forced to become refugees, living as immigrants in the land that once held their ancestors as slaves. As we heard in today's gospel, it is the story of a missing child, and days of anxious searching by his parents. But there is even more. Mark's gospel describes an incident in which the relatives of Jesus were so alarmed, they thought he had lost his mind, and set out to seize him. Not long after came his violent death – one his mother watched with helplessness and almost unimaginable sorrow. This family was holy. But it was also human. We need these reminders. Especially now.

The Church calendar shows us that the Christmas season is one of light – but also of shadow. The day after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the first martyr, St. Stephen. Then a couple days later, we mark the feast of the Holy Innocents, the children slaughtered by Herod. The joy of Christ's birth is suddenly tempered by tragic reminders of what the Incarnation cost. And the Holy Family shared in that. I seen a post on the internet of some images of a Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. They were beautiful. But I was struck by something that had not occurred to me. In the pictures, I noticed, the light shines brightly on this nativity scene, the Holy Family and baby Jesus. But a few feet away, very close, it shines just as brightly on the crucifix, and the dying Christ. In the stable, the mother Mary looks down at a life beginning; at the foot of the cross, she looks up at a life ending. It is just a few steps here from the wood of the manger to the wood the cross. But in so many ways, the two singular events are inseparable. One led inevitably to the other. Joy and sorrow are almost side by side, linked by sacrifice, by faith, and by love. It is the story of our salvation. And it is the story of the Holy Family. The juxtaposition of those two images in this church, the crèche and the crucifix, serves as a powerful lesson for this feast. We realize that when we speak of the Holy Family, we speak of a family that struggled and suffered, like so many of us. But: this family also knew profound hope. They trusted completely in God. They call all of us to that kind of trust. And they are with us. In our own time, they stand beside all who worry, who struggle, who search, who pray.

The Holy Family stands beside parents anxious about their children, worrying for their welfare. They walk with immigrants and refugees separated from those they love. They comfort teenage mothers and single parents. They console the prisoner, the outcast, the bullied, the scorned—and the parents who love them. And they offer solace and compassion to any mother or father grieving over the loss of a child. This Christmas, they weep with the parents of Newtown and Sandy Hook. The Holy Family shares our burdens. But they also uplift us by their example. Jesus, Mary and Joseph were never alone. They endured through the grace of God. They prayed. They hoped. They trusted in God's will. We might ask ourselves where we can find that kind of peace and purpose in our own families, in our own lives.

One answer is in Paul's beautiful letter to the Colossians. This passage that we hear today is sometimes read at weddings. Like Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, it speaks eloquently of love. But Paul was not writing about romantic love. This letter is about how to form a healthy and holy Christian community. And from his words, we can draw lessons about how to form a healthy and holy Christian family. Put on compassion, Paul tells us. Kindness. Lowliness. Meekness. Patience. Forgiveness. And love.

It is all that simple — and all that difficult. I am sure the Holy Family had moments when living those virtues seemed hard, or even impossible. But they did things most of us do not. They listened to angels. They dreamed.

And they gave themselves fully to God.

When we find ourselves overwhelmed, we need to remember where we look today and remember to look toward the crèche. There is our model for living: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. But we need to see them in full, remembering the closeness of the cross. That was their life, and it is ours, too. Yet, through all their hardships, in a time of anxiety and difficulty, persecution and tragedy, a time very much like our own—they showed us how to be people of faith, people of forgiveness, people of love.

They show us, in other words, how to be holy.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, “people need people.”

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn’t important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don’t misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



