

Saint Michael Parish
Clark, SD

Saint Henry Parish
Henry, SD

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Florence, SD

Main Office ~ Office hours 9:00 am - 12:00 pm ~ Mon-Fri

Saint Michael Parish

112 N Idaho St

PO Box 28

Clark SD 57225

Administrative Assistant: Dan Whalen

Phone: 605-532-3855

Email: office@cfhcatholics.org

All 3 Parish Websites can be found at www.parishesonline.com

*"I know who you
are the Holy
One of God!"*
Mark 1:24

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Smith

Phone: 605-532-3854

Email: frdanielsmith@sfcatholic.org

Confessions:

**30 Minutes before Mass on
Weekends and Holy Days
or by appointment**

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Tue – Feb. 2 - 5:15 pm – C
President Biden

Wed – Feb. 3 - 9:00 am – C
Lyle Smith

Thur – Feb. 4 - 8:30 am – F
Glenn Wensing

Fri – Feb. 5 - 8:30 am – H
Albert Kittelson

Sat – Feb. 6 - 5:00 pm @ - C
Clara Heer

Sun – Feb. 7 - 8:30 am @ - H
Bill Schuster

Sun – Feb. 7 - 11:00 am @ - F
For the People

**Praying a Holy Hour inside
the Church this week:
Last Names starting with
E and F
Wednesday's at 5:30 pm**

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ January 31, 2021

From Fr Dan, Praise be Jesus Christ.

Below is an article from the Columbia magazine. God bless.

"The Hidden Pandemic"

The year 2020 has left much suffering in its wake. In addition to deaths caused by COVID-19, the economic and social stresses of the pandemic have contributed to a significant increase in the mortality rate for diabetes, high blood pressure and other conditions. By mid-December, more than 300,000 deaths were directly attributed to COVID-19 in the United States alone – making it the third leading cause of death, after heart disease and cancer, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A New York Times editorial put the number in perspective: "Three hundred thousand is more than the number of Americans who died fighting in World War II. It is roughly half the number of total cancer deaths expected this year. It is the population of Pittsburgh."

Truly, the public health threat of the pandemic should not be taken lightly. At the same time, neither should we underestimate the extent of another public health crisis – a pandemic, of sorts – almost completely ignored by both the CDC and the media. Every year, the leading cause of death in the United States – and throughout the world – is not heart disease, cancer or any other illness. It is abortion. Since the 1973 Supreme Court decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the lives of more than 60 million preborn children have been ended by abortion in the United States.

Sixty million is more than the number of Americans who are over age 65. It is roughly half the total number of people worldwide who died in all the wars of the 20th century. It is over one and a half times the population of Canada, where there has been a similar lack of restriction, and similar rate, of abortion for more than five decades. Virtually an entire generation of innocent children has been lost in the name of "choice." This is why, each January, the Knight of Columbus solemnly observes the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and reaffirms our commitment to promote and defend the dignity of every human life.

There are, no doubt, many threats to human life and dignity that deserve our attention. However, the issue of abortion is unique in both kind and scope. The U.S. bishops, in an introductory letter to their document *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility* put it this way: "The threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." (continued on back)

It is sometimes claimed that those who put special emphasis on the pro-life cause care about the unborn, but care little about other vulnerable populations. Yet, this claim ignores all that the pro-life community does for expectant mothers, young mothers and post-abortive women in need of hope, help and healing. It also ignores the countless ways that an organization like the Knights of Columbus, with charity as our first principle, puts faith into action by serving our neighbors in need. Most of all, it ignores the reality that abortion is a grave violation of human rights - of pandemic proportions. Indeed, it is our grave responsibility to pray and advocate for an end to this evil, and to build up an authentic culture of life. (Alton J. Pelowski – Editor, Columbia ~ Jan. 2021)

Adult Formation and RCIA: Next class is Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00pm at St Michael Church, Clark SD.

Marriage retreat:

Friday, February 26th – Sun, February 28th at Broom Tree Retreat Center, Irene SD. During this retreat, you and your spouse will enjoy all the beautiful and quiet surroundings and good food as well as have the time and spiritual direction to dispose yourselves to the river of grace that lives in your marriage. Register by email or phone: broomtree@sfcatholic.org or (605) 263-1040.

Stewardship Prayer

Lord God, giver of life and all good gifts,
You anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit
Who inspired Him to give everything He had for our sake.
Move us by the same spirit of stewardship to share,
first to the Lord, for the benefit of all.
By Your grace, help us to follow in Your footsteps
and become more focused on loving and caring
for our families, our neighbors, and our communities.
Lead us to the awareness that everything we are
and everything we have is Your gift.
Grant us the spirit of sacrifice to always seek Your will
and to share our gifts with our brothers and sisters.
May we be good stewards of all we have received and
cooperate with You in building Your kingdom of love and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saint Michael, Clark: Last Week's Offerings: \$ 4,890

- The **2021 Offertory Envelopes** are on the tables in the back of the church.

Blessed Sacrament, Florence: Last Week's Offerings: \$ 1,360

- The **2021 Offertory Envelopes** are on the table in the entrance of the church.

Saint Henry, Henry: Last Week's Offerings: \$ 217

- The **2021 Offertory Envelopes** are on the tables at both entrances of the church.

At home? Formed.org has the answer: ... reading, homeschooling, praying, watching videos and movies, listening to audios, and more. Just go to [formed.org](https://www.formed.org) (in English or in Spanish, Disponible en Español). Click "Sign Up" then "Sign up as a parishioner", type in zip code "57225", click "St Michael Parish" then "Next", fill in Your Name and Your email address and click "Sign Up." This is a shared subscription with all three parishes, so the sign-in is exactly the same for each parish.