

Catholic Tri-Parish Community

ST. PETER - Colman
STS. SIMON & JUDE - Flandreau
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL - Elkton
105 S. Bates St., FLANDREAU, SD 57028



The History of the Christmas song, 'Silent Night.' (edited to fit bulletin space)

"[In] the court of Frederick William of Prussia, the fourth king of that name, just after his ascension to the throne in 1840. It was Christmas Eve. In Berlin, the King and his court were commemorating the birth of Christ. The Cathedral choir, directed by Felix Mendelssohn, was playing"... "the song 'Silent Night'. The King was very impressed by the beautiful song and wondered who the author might be. He examined his program"... "and was surprised to see that the author was unknown. The King of Prussia could not permit such imprecision. So" ... "he had the director come to see him. However, Mendelssohn" ...did not know... "He then called the Head of Royal Concerts, Ludwig, who had the reputation of being able to discover the origin of unknown songs. But to Frederick William's disappointment he knew nothing either. So the king then ordered Ludwig to find out, because Prussian hymn books had to be in proper order!" ... "Ludwig had his reputation on the line, it was imperative that he discover who the composer of the song was. He scoured the libraries, cities, principalities, and kingdoms of what was then Germany. But all to no avail.

'The Song Hunter', as they started to call Ludwig, noticed that the style of the music seemed Austrian. So off he went to Vienna. But again drew a blank. However, an old musician from Haydn's day gave him a clue. Michael Haydn, the brother of the famous musician, composed many works that had been lost. It was a long shot, and Ludwig wasn't encouraged. So giving up his search he decided to return to Court.

During the return trip, while he was staying at an inn, he noticed a cage-bird singing a familiar song. He leapt to his feet startled. Ludwig realised the bird was singing that mysterious Christmas song whose author he was looking for; it was singing 'Silent Night'! "What happened?" the innkeeper asked. "The bird," answered Ludwig. "Who taught the bird that song?" The innkeeper did not know. But he added that a friend of his had bought it at the abbey at Salzburg and left it at the inn for the entertainment of guests." ... "He knew that Michael Haydn had lived for quite a long time at that abbey. So it was almost certain that the song was Michael Haydn's." ... "The abbot and the monks offered him a good dinner" ... "But, lamentably, nobody knew the origin of the song." ... "When the 'Song Hunter' told them about the cage-bird, suggesting that the monks had taught it to sing that song, the abbot was offended because such antics were prohibited in the monastery. Ludwig then examined all the manuscripts of Michael Haydn in the room where he had worked. And just as the monks had foretold, he found nothing." ... "Discouraged, Ludwig began his journey back to the Prussian Court.

However by chance, among those participating in the dinner offered by the Abbot, there was a school teacher called Ambrosio Prestainer, who was especially interested in the story of the bird. "This could have been done by one of the boys in the abbey choir," he mused. "The school teacher could imitate the bird perfectly" ... "A few days later he placed himself by a window that opened onto the inner courtyard of the school. He whistled, imitating the bird singing 'Silent Night'. His ruse worked, because he soon heard a boy's voice saying: "So little bird, you're back!" and a nine-year-old boy came running out of class. How surprised the boy was to see he had fallen into a trap! "What is your name?" the teacher asked. "Felix Gruber," the boy answered. "And tell me Felix, where did you learn that song?" "My father taught it to me. "And where did he get it?" "He composed it, sir." Without losing a minute Prestainer went to the boy's house in a nearby village. There he met the local school teacher, Franz Gruber, who said he had in fact composed the music, but the lyrics had been written by his friend Fr. Josef Mohr, parish priest of the village of Bagan, who had recently died. Overjoyed at finally finding the song's origin, Prestainer wrote to Ludwig 'The Song Hunter', telling him his quest to find the origins of the song were over. He sent Ludwig a full written account of how the song came about. And this is what he told him:

It is Christmas Eve," ... "the young Fr. Josef Mohr, twenty-six years old, is reviewing the Gospel in preparation for that night's ceremonies when a knock at the door breaks the silence. It is a peasant woman who asks the parish priest to help a baby that has just been born. Without delaying, the priest leaves the comfort of his home and, after a hard climb up the mountain, arrives at the humble abode where the child has been born. Upon his return the stars shine in the heavens reflecting their light on the whiteness of the snow. He begins to reflect on the scene he has just witnessed. The child, the peasant couple, and their humble home, have all impressed him. They remind him of another child, another couple, another humble dwelling in Bethlehem of Judah.

After midnight Mass Fr. Mohr is unable to sleep. He takes pen and paper and begins to write a poem that will become the lyrics to the song 'Silent Night'. The next morning, Christmas Day 1818, the pious priest looks for a friend of his called Franz Gruber, then 31-years-old. After reading the poem, Gruber exclaims: 'Father, this is exactly the Christmas song that we needed! Praised be to God!' And that very day he composes the music to go with the words. (((The full story is found on the website:

Fr. Doug Binsfeld

MARILYN SCHWEBACH, Adm. Asst.
PHONE: 997-2610 FAX: 997-2180
simonjude@iw.net

Epiphany of the Lord
January 1, 2020

FATHER DOUG BINSFELD, PASTOR
605-997-2610
frdougbinsfeld@sfcatholic.org

Liturgy Schedule			Location	Mass Intention
Mon., Jan. 6		No Liturgy		
Tues., Jan. 7	7:30 AM	Mass	Flandreau	† Betty Cullen
Wed., Jan. 8	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Mass/Exposition/Adoration Mass at Edgewood Vista	Elkton	† Richard Gebhart dec & ill CDA members
Thur., Jan. 9	9:00 AM	Mass/Exposition/Adoration	Colman	† Joe/Lois Heim
Fri., Jan. 10	10:30 AM	Ronald Lee Funeral Mass	Flandreau	
Sat., Jan. 11	5:00 PM	Mass	Colman	All Parishioners
Sun., Jan. 12	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Mass Mass	Elkton Flandreau	† Joe Gebhart † Bev Minor
<u>CONFESSIONS</u> ~ 1/2 hour prior to each weekend Mass.				

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

COLMAN ~ SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Lay Minister: Ryan/Mary Zwart, Alice Berg
Lect./Comm.: Chad Groos
Altar Servers: Ben Zwart, Rilyn Groos
Gifts/Ushers/Greeters: Mike/Julie Preheim

ELKTON ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Lay Minister: Kelly Neill, Sharon Landsman
Lect/Comm: Chris Myers, Bill Fargen
Altar Servers: Jack Skordahl, Gabby Mejia
Greeters/Gift Bearers: Andy/Roxane Weber
Ushers: Dan Knuth, Kevin Myers

FLANDREAU ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Lay Minister: Dave/Deb Feske, Betty Groos
Lect./Comm.: Pat/Amy Weight
Altar Servers: J.P. Powers, Josie Hamilton
 Samuel/Matthew Gassman
Ushers/Greeters: Jesse Gaspar Family
Sacristan: Brenna LeBrun

Daily Mass Readings

Jan 6: 1 John 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7-12; Matthew 4:12-17,23-25
 Jan 7: 1 John 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-8; Mark 6:34-44
 Jan 8: 1 John 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2,10-13; Mark 6:45-52
 Jan 9: 1 John 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2,14-17; Luke 4:14-22
 Jan 10: 1 John 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Luke 5:12-16
 Jan 11: 1 John 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-9; John 3:22-30
 Jan 12: Isaiah 42:1-7; Ps 29:1-4,9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Matt 3:13-17

Stewardship Thought for the Week:

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to us.

Intention of the Holy Father for January:

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.



Thank you to all who have showed God's Love to me this Christmas through your kindness and generosity of prayers, cards, gifts and baked goodies. Merry Christmas and may God Bless you and your families in very great ways. *Father Doug*

Dec. 29 th	Elkton: \$1016
Our Weekly Offering	Christmas: \$1544
	Flandreau: \$4491
	Christmas: \$1445
	Colman: \$2880; Christmas: \$1932

Read our parish bulletins on-line:
www.parishesonline.com/find/sts-simon-and-jude-parish

STS. SIMON & JUDE

1st Sunday Breakfast - January 5th after Mass. KC's will be serving Ham & Eggs, French Toast, Fruit, and drinks. Everyone is invited!

Help Wanted - Parish Handy Man: Someone to help with minor repairs and upkeep of parish facilities. Contact the parish office (997-2610).

CCD Preschool Class begins Jan. 8 - 5:45 PM Questions, please call Marietta 864-3182 or Laura 530-9428.

Quilting: Thursdays at 8:30 AM in the church basement. Questions, call LaVonne 633-1739.

We Remember

- **Betty Hinricher:** her funeral was Friday.

- **Ronald Lee:** his funeral will be Fri., Jan. 10 May the Lord grant them eternal peace and give their families and friends hope and comfort.

Thank you to SS&J for the bathroom supplies (20 items), food items (30 items) and money donations \$300 this fall to our ministry. And **Thank you** to St. Peter's Catholic Daughters (40 items). We are so grateful. In November we gave food relief to 86 families serving 333 with 148 children. Blessings, The Breadbasket.

Receptions for Bishop Swain: With the appointment of Bishop-elect Donald DeGrood and his ordination on February 13, Most Reverend Paul J. Swain will be retiring. You are welcome to greet him at **receptions following the Masses at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph on January 11 and 12.** Masses at the Cathedral are at 4 p.m. on Saturday, January 11, and at 7:30, 9:15, and 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 12. Light refreshments will be served.

Reckless: There are only a few spots left at *Reckless: A Catholic Couples Conference* coming up February 1 & 2. Surprise your spouse with an early Valentine's Day celebration! Sign up at www.sfcatholic.org/couplesconference.

CCD: Wednesdays

Flandreau: K-6 ~ 5:45 PM; 7-12 ~ 7:15 PM

Colman & Elkton: All grades ~ 6:30 PM

ST. PETER

Help Wanted - Parish Handy Man: Someone to help with minor repairs and upkeep of parish facilities. Contact the parish office (997-2610).

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays from 12:00 - 1:00. You are invited to come and be with the Lord in adoration.

"Our Lady has never refused me a grace through the recitation of the Rosary."
Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

Farmer and Spouse Retreat Harvesting Hope: A Non-denominational January 10th-11th, 2020

We invite all farm couples to leave your worries and concerns behind and enjoy one night away at The Abbey of the Hills! Come rediscover peace from the often-stressful life on the farm. Begins on Friday, 6:30 p.m. with Supper Concludes on Saturday, 3:00 p.m. *Freewill offering retreat. Advanced registration is required. Please visit abbeyofthehills.org/harvesting-hope to register or call 605-398-9200

PRAYER RALLY & WALK FOR LOVE AND LIFE:

This pro-Life event will be held as in every year on **Jan. 22nd** at the same place, Sioux Falls First, 6300 W. 41st Street, Sioux Falls, SD at the same time **6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** It will include a rally with ecumenical prayer and our speaker Fr. Kevin O'Dell on the aftermath of abortion; a silent prayer walk to Planned Parenthood, and fellowship to follow. This is on a Wednesday church night this year; so please, take the opportunity for you and your family to be inspired together to pray for the conversion of hearts to respect human life, born and pre-born and for the reconciliation and healing of hearts affected by abortion. Dress for the weather!

March for Life: Please pray for those on pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington D.C. Jan. 22-26. If you want to follow the March from home please visit www.marchforlife.org. They march on Fri., Jan. 24, 10 am to 3 pm ET.

"With Whom I Am Well Pleased"

A women's breakfast and retreat;

Saturday January 11th, 8AM - noon

at St Therese Catholic Church, Sioux Falls.
Registration \$10 - Mail to 901 N Tahoe SFSD
57110 by Jan. 8; email speters51@gmail.com

Thomas Nash of Catholic Answers:

A special presentation about our Catholic faith in preparation for Lent on **Saturday, January 18, 10 a.m.- noon in the Parish Hall of the St. Joseph Cathedral**. Admission is free and open to the public.

Words of Wisdom – Who Am I to Judge?:

Do memories of the holidays have you wishing you could share your faith with family or friends? *Who Am I to Judge: Responding to Relativism with Love* by Edward Sri is an excellent response to your heart's desire. Get it. Read it. And join Dr. Chris Burgwald in a day-long retreat that unpacks the book and helps make it your own. Find all the details at www.sfcatholic.org/wow.

Pray for Vocations!

D-Camp (Discipleship Camp): Register before **February 1st** and receive **\$50 off** of your registration at www.sfcatholic.org/youth

Going Deeper Retreat will be held at St. Thomas More, Brookings on **Feb. 7-9**. These retreats are designed for **youth in grades 9-12** who are desiring to go deeper in their prayer life. **This is not a confirmation retreat**. Register at www.sfcatholic.org/youth/

Seminary Visits: Men ages 16-25 are invited to visit the seminaries in St. Paul and/or Winona, MN. No cost. No Obligation. See how men are formed for the priesthood.

Feb. 14-16: St. John Vianney Seminary
St. Paul Theological Seminary

March 14-16: Winona Seminary

Register at sfcatholic.org/vocations Learn more: frjordansamson@sfcatholic.org or 988-3772

Bishop Hoch Scholarship: Scholarships are available to ANY student interested in attending or already attending Mount Marty or Presentation Colleges for the 2020-2021 academic year. Applications are **due March 15th**. To apply or for more information go to www.sfcatholic.org/catholic-schools/bishop-hoch-scholarship.

Grieving the Loss of a Spouse: Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm. **Jan. 7-Feb. 11** at Catholic Family Services, SF. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran. For adults who have lost a spouse and are trying to cope with the pain of separation and loss. Register at 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867.

Grief Support Group: If you are in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith sharing group is for you. It meets in the **Brookings** St. Thomas More Parish library for **six Thursday evenings beginning January 9, 6:30-8:30pm**. Includes prayer, scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship. Questions or to register call Laura Kondratuk at 692-4361.

New Program - Grieving a Loss from Overdose & Addiction: February 25-March 31. A six-week program directed by Janell Christenson held *Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m.* at Catholic Family Service, Sioux Falls. This is a program for families that have lost a loved one from overdose and addiction. The suddenness of death, the complexities of addiction, the confusion and the painful reactions are significant topics of the program. This is a time when professional support is needed.

Rachel's Vineyard One Day Retreat – February 29 - Strictly Confidential. A safe, loving, non-judgmental environment. Open to *men, women, mothers, fathers, grandparents* who have been affected by abortion. Nondenominational. Sponsored by Catholic Family Services. For more information, call 605-988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or email cfs@sfcatholic.org.

Grieving the loss of a child - Six Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30, **February 25- March 31** – Catholic Family Services, Sioux Falls. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran. Call 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 to register, the program is non-denominational. Cost – Donation. This program is for adults who have lost a child and are trying to understand and reconcile their grief. The program is designed to be educational and will offer positive suggestions to help people to survive and learn to live fully again.

Baptismal Preparation Class: Required of all parents requesting to have their child baptized. Classes are held on the **1st Thursday** of each month in SS&J Parish Basement. Contact Fr. Doug (997-2610) prior to the class to register and give baptismal information.