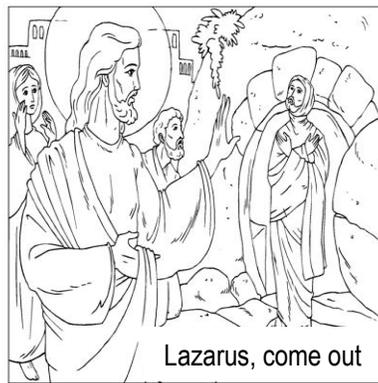


St. John the Evangelist Church
21 March 2021 5th Sunday of Lent

stjohnsfortpierre.org website has parish bulletins, and audio: 'click to listen to daily reflections from Fr. Ron'

Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat. 4pm
 or by calling 223 2176 for Fr. Ron Garry. Office email: main.stjohns@midconetwork.com
 206 W. Main Ave, Ft. Pierre SD 57532
 Eucharistic Adoration Sunday 1pm



Mass schedule all Central Time

Saturday 5:30pm Sunday 7:30am, 10:00am

Monday & Tuesday – 5:00pm this week

Wed – 7am and 10:00am Thursday & Friday – 7am

- Sat 3/20 welfare of Barb Kleinsasser
- Sun 3/21 + Darlene LeClaire For parishioners
- Mon 3/22 + Bud Whitney
- Tue 3/23 + Pete Buchholz
- Wed 3/24 + Larson and Unterbrunner families
- Thu 3/25 + Milo Hoensheid
- Fri 3/26 Reparation for clergy sexual abuse

Bishop Muhich: the general obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is to be reinstated in the Diocese of Rapid City effective March 27, for those who are healthy. Exceptions include if you care for the sick, homebound or infirmed, if you are pregnant, or if you have significant fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.

In St John Church the east side pews will not have ropes, with the possibility of your sitting next to another person not of your household. If you are healthy and want this situation, sit on the east side. The west pews will be reserved for seating every other pew: for those who want more space.

Stations of the Cross Wed 6:15pm, Friday 5:30pm

Share Jesus' victory over sin **Confession:** Tues.4-5:15pm. Wednesday 7-8pm. Friday 6-7pm. Saturday 4-5pm

- Students in grades 1-8, come to Padre Hall on Sunday 11 April, learn the rosary
- Students in grades 9-12, Wednesday in Padre Hall at 6:15pm for Stations of the Cross, class until 7:30pm



The **Teammates Mentoring Program of Pierre** is a 1 to 1, school-based, mentoring program serving kids in 6th through 12th grade that will support you in your quest to make that difference for a child. Please consider this opportunity and contact Rena.Lehman@k12.sd.us for more information, or call Brandon Johnson 280 8701. You can apply to mentor at teammates.org and clicking "Become a Teammates Mentor"

May the angels lead you into paradise... **Jim Harmon**, with funeral at St John's Saturday 27 March, 11am

... **Darlene LeClaire**, who died in Curry MN 18 March

"I know in whom I have placed my trust. **To enter this world, God only needed one woman. But it was also necessary for a man to take care of her and her Son, and God thought of a son of the House of David: Joseph**, the Spouse of Mary, from whom Jesus was born. Saint Joseph,



teach us to bring Mary with Jesus into our home so that we always live to serve them. Like he did."

-Fr. Gonzalo Mazarrasa, a Spanish priest, credits St. Joseph for the survival of all passengers of a plane, which in 1992 split in two upon landing in Granada. (catholicnewsagency.com/news/priest-attributes-to-st-joseph-miracle-of-plane-that-broke-in-half-with-no-one-killed-45748)

Holy Week liturgies: no Mass here Monday 29 March (Pray for priests at Diocesan Chrism Mass)

- Tuesday 5:30pm Mass, confession before and after
- Wednesday, 7am & 10am Mass, confession 4-5pm
- Tenebrae Wed 7pm (vigil of Holy 3 Days, darkening candles)
- Holy Thursday 7pm Mass
- Good Friday Confessions noon -1pm
- 3pm Liturgy, 7pm Stations of the Cross
- Easter Vigil, 2 April, after dark 9:00pm
- Easter Morning 7:30am and 10am

At Sts.Peter & Paul Church, March 17-22: rosary at 6pm. March 23-25 & 27-29: rosary at 6:30pm with **Marty Rotella** to follow at 7:15pm. Friday March 26: rosary at 3pm, Marty speaks at 4:15pm.

Catholic Men's Conference Saturday 27 March at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, speaker Kevin Wells: The Men We Need. Cost \$40 includes breakfast and lunch. Register at journeymensd.org

Good Charities for your almsgiving

Pierre Area Referral Services **PARS** has a fund raiser through April: the Townsend Challenge. Donations will be matched, up to \$50,000, by local banks. 110 W Missouri Ave, Pierre

Rapid City Catholic Diocese has not met the needed goal from last fall's Annual Appeal. See Bishop's letter in this weeks' *West River Catholic*. PO Box 678, Rapid City 57709

Our neighbors to the south, on the Rosebud Reservation, operate the **Sapa Un School** and many good ministries, see information at sfmission.org St.Francis Mission, PO Box 499, St. Francis, SD 57572

All the donations in the parish basket on **Good Friday** go to the Franciscan Missions in the Holy Land, info at ffhl.org Franciscan Foundation For Holy Land, PO Box 29086 Washington, D.C.

Pastoral Ministry Days March 22 & 23, Monday & Tuesday.

Speakers Chris & Linda Padgett: **Family: Become Who You Are** with digital connection of recorded sessions **Monday** and both days 5:30-8:30pm in Padre Hall

- Session 1: Feeding the Shepherds
- 2: Family Basics
- 3: What is Love

Only 100 persons at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, 9am MT start

Tuesday 5pm CT Mass in St John Church each day

- Session 4: Mary and Joseph
- 5: Habits of Holiness
- 6: Where do we go from here?

Register online at terrasancta.org/events and click the box with 'bill my home parish'. Then call Josie 280-9428

March 19, 2021 From Bishop Peter Muhich

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith, because it is during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass that the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is made present to us, and Our Lord makes himself truly present for us in His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. As one of my brother bishops recently said **“the Eucharist is an irreplaceable gift, a foretaste of Heaven!”**

When Coronavirus pandemic broke out, we explored safe ways to bring Christ to our people, both through the Word of God and the Sacraments in the light of public health recommendations. We put in place prudent restrictions, such as capacity limits and sanitization protocols, to allow for the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments without undue risk of accelerating the pandemic. During the last year our pastors, parishes, and all of the faithful have adapted in order to ensure the health and wellbeing of everyone in our local communities. **I am grateful to all of you for your efforts to implement and maintain the things we put into place to keep our parishes and schools safe.**

As part of our efforts, many of our parishes have broadcast Masses over the internet. While this has been a means to help Catholics nourish their souls when they could be present at Mass, we must remember that it cannot become the norm. **God did not come to us virtually. He came to us in the flesh.** As Catholics, unmediated contact with the Real Presence of the Flesh and blood our Lord in offering his sacrifice to the Father is essential – and irreplaceable! Remember the Lord’s words in John’s Gospel: “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him (Jn 6:54-56)

Because of the essential and central nature of the Eucharist, it is important for me as your bishop to lead you the Lord Jesus in the Mass. That is why **I am reinstating the obligation to participate in Sunday and Holy Day Masses beginning on Palm Sunday.** Because we are still dealing with the coronavirus, I am also granting some particular dispensations to those still at risk.

It is time for us to come back to Mass, with renewed amazement that we have God who is so close to us, and who has such a deep love for us that he comes to us in flesh and blood.



Active participation in Mass is an occasion for all of us to avail ourselves of the inexhaustible graces Christ desires to give us in the Eucharist.

I know that a real concern for **spread of infection still remains, especially among those most vulnerable.** Because of this important concern, **I am granting particular dispensations** from the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day Masses for people in certain circumstances, including those who are ill and those who care for anyone who is at risk of serious complications from COVID 19.

I ask all those who are ill or think they might be ill to refrain from in-person attendance at Mass. Those who would experience significant anxiety or fear of getting sick are also dispensed from their obligation to attend Mass...

In reinstating the Sunday and Holy Day Obligation, we welcome back all Catholics who have already been engaged in other activities that would present a similar or greater risk of exposure, such as eating out at restaurants, traveling and partaking in non-essential shopping. These individuals should prepare to return to Mass in recognition of its preeminence in our lives as Catholics.

The health and safety of our communities is very important, and we will continue to monitor local conditions. For that reason, I am continuing to encourage all the faithful present at Mass, with the exception of small children, to wear a mask or face covering.

The Eucharist is the heart and soul of our Catholic life together. Let us never take this irreplaceable encounter with Christ for granted. And let us continue to pray for an end to this pandemic, and for all who are ill.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter M. Muhich, Bishop of Rapid City

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During Holy Week we will once again recall what Jesus Christ has done to save us from sin and death. He held nothing back in his sacrifice on the cross, so much does he love us. I pray that as we celebrate another Holy Week and Easter our hearts are open to the Lord’s great love for us and that we allow him to renew our faith. We have travelled through a challenging time in so many ways this past year and the Lord has been with us every step of the way.

As more and more people receive their vaccinations the time has come to reinstate the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day Masses. In this edition of the *West River Catholic* you will find my letter doing just that and a list of important exceptions to the obligation for those who still need them.

It is my deep desire and prayer that we will experience a rebirth of our faith as we emerge from the pandemic and live our Catholic life boldly in new ways that draw those around us to Jesus Christ.

God bless you with good health and renewed faith.
+Bishop Peter

Mary and St. John stand at the foot of the cross in this depiction of Christ’s crucifixion at Holy Family Church in Ramallah, West Bank.
(CNS photo/Debbie Hill)