

St. John the Evangelist Church
3 October 2021 27th Sunday Ordinary
stjohnsfortpierre.org website has
parish bulletins & audio: 'click to listen to
Sunday sermons from Fr.Ron'

Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat. 4pm,
or call 223 2176 for Fr. Ron Garry. Email is
main.stjohns@midconetwork.com
206 W. Main Ave, Ft. Pierre SD 57532

Eucharistic Adoration Sunday 1pm

Monday & Tues 5:30pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 7:00am CT

St. John Weekend Mass (Fr. Ron at Draper Sun.8:00am)
Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 10:00am CT

Sat 10/2 + Jerry Sylva
Sun 10/3 + Raeburn Moore
Mon 10/4 + Joseph Turpin
Tue 10/5 + Brian Konzem
Wed 10/6 Pro Life ministry
Thu 10/7 LeClaire family deceased
Fri 10/8 Reparation for clergy sexual abuse
(Fr. Brian Fawcett, former pastor, died ten years ago October 9.)

Fr. Ron & diocesan priests are on retreat October 10-15.

Pray for those on the Rachel's Vineyard retreat in the Black Hills this weekend, for **post abortion healing** of men and women. National hotline 877 467 3463 "I felt the Holy Spirit moving around, among and in us. God's presence was there with its entire splendor manifested in the power of healing forgiveness. It was beautiful."

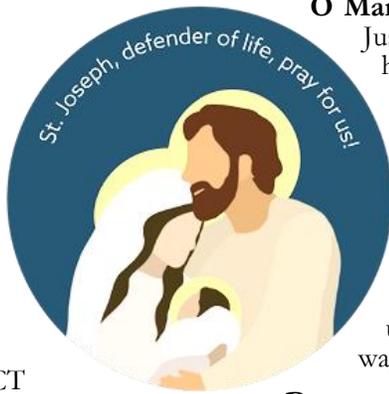
Parish council met Wednesday: Judy Weisgram, Kelly Madson, Laura Hand, Jess Holt, Fr. Ron Garry, absent Mary Fravel; and Eileen Fischer, Eileen Kramer, Barb Kleinsasser, Deb Gates.

1. We talked of the Parish Profile to be completed for the Diocesan Planning. Fr. Ron, Josie, Judy, Mary will compile
2. Eileen, Eileen, Barb, and Deb presented a list of things to reinvigorate the parish life and bring back parish events.. Discussion was held on expanding information in the parish bulletin: expanded financial information, catechist and communion minister schedules, etc. Fr. Ron & Judy will meet Tuesday to refine a job description for a part-time office assistant & part-time janitor.
3. Will address better adherence to a parish council constitution and more communication with the parish.

A person to clean classrooms is needed in the coming year: likely 7-10 hours a week, \$15 an hour. Call Fr. Ron or Josie. Also we wish to hire a person to **work in the office**.

We will engage in a Strategic Planning Process, seeking wide input from across the diocese. **I ask all parishes fill out a survey. The goal of this planning process is to discover and implement ways that we can better proclaim Jesus Christ and build up the church.** Please pray for the Holy Spirit to bless and guide this important effort and please get involved in the discussions that will take place in your parish.

May everything we do as we plan for the future of the Diocese of Rapid City be pleasing to God & bear much fruit for the good of our people. Our Lady of Perpetual Help, pray for us! +**Bishop Peter Muhich West River Catholic Sept 2021**



O Mary, our Heavenly Mother, we ask for your help. Just as you held your Son in your arms, we ask you to hold our family. Through the Holy Spirit, you nurtured Jesus in your womb, and as a child. Hold us, in the power of the Spirit - so we may have health, strength, patience, and understanding. In his obedience to the Father for our salvation, Jesus suffered, and you were always close. Be with us now as we stand together as a family in these trying times. As you rejoiced in His rising, so now inspire us. Cover us with mercy. Protect us, so our family, parish, and nation may be on the way of eternal life with Jesus. Amen.

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life — especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.

Grades 1-8 Faith Formation Sunday 8:45-9:45am, breakfast bars & juice available in Padre Hall before. No class on Sunday 10 October

Grades 9-12 Wednesdays, October 6,13,27, 6:30-7:45pm

Age 4-5 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd classes start Wednesday, Oct. 6th, 3:30-4:30pm. Space is limited, so please call Josie at office or on cell phone

Diocesan Youth Rally Sunday, Oct 10th. Register online rapidcitydiocese.org for grades 6-12
St. Johns will provide transportation & cover the rally cost. Call Josie 605-280-9428

Sunday 24th, children lead in praying rosary at 10am
Sunday **31 October**, pumpkin decorating party and **All Saints** celebration, before & after 10am Mass.

Pro Life action needed: On 9/28, the House of Representatives passed the most radical abortion bill of all time. The so-called "Women's Health Protection Act" will force taxpayer dollars to fund abortion, and:

- Abortion on demand at any stage of pregnancy would be imposed nationwide, even in states that don't want it.
- State Pro-life laws rescinded. This includes laws on parental notification for minor girls, informed consent, & health or safety protections for abortion facilities.
- No conscience protection for Health care professionals
- Employers and insurers would be forced to cover or pay for abortion. Contact our Congressmen to reject WHPA.

The **Supreme Court has set the date of December 1** to begin hearing arguments in a case that directly challenges the constitutionality of *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 ruling that legalized abortion in all 50 states. The case, called *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health*, will decide the validity of a Mississippi law that bans abortions after 15 weeks of gestation. In December, attorneys will begin presenting arguments against a lower court ruling which stopped the Mississippi pro-life law from being enforced.

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.

5 Catholic teachings that free families, Tom Hoopes 02/10/20
aleteia.org/2020/02/10/5-catholic-teachings-that-free-families/amp/

To bring a vision to reality, certain choices have to be made. True freedom doesn't mean being able to do what you want to do; it means being able to be who you want to be.

You can only become thinner if you gain the freedom to say no to certain foods and drinks. You can only be an attentive person if you gain the freedom to say no to your phone. And you can only have a strong marriage if you are free enough to be able to say no to some things, too.

We all know what we wanted to be when we stood before the altar and said "I do."

We wanted to be a strong married couple, united in love. We wanted to grow old together with a committed partner, helping each other through highs and lows, giving each other our all.

That's a beautiful vision, but like a diet or exercise program, it entails saying "No" to certain things in life in order to say a louder "Yes" to our spouse. In fact, this starts before marriage ...

1: "No cohabitation" means saying Yes to a clear-headed assessment of your relationship.

How is it "freeing" to live apart from your beloved and never express your love sexually?

Because sex bonds you and blinds you — and you want to go into marriage unhindered, with your eyes wide open.

Studies show that sex is a powerful drug, literally. Sexual activity awakens physiological chemicals in your brain that make you feel bonded to another person, and help you overlook the other's faults.

It's no wonder that even the New York Times reports that cohabitation increases the chances of divorce. As Jason Evert put it, "The devil wants you to have a lot of sex before marriage, and very little after marriage" — so that romance will ease you into a bad relationship on the one hand, and won't help smooth your married relationship on the other.

2: Having to raise kids in the Church unites couples.

Especially in mixed-religion marriages, the Church's insistence that a couple raise its children in the faith turns out to be a lifesaver.

Some of the best Catholics I know (including my mother-in-law) entered the Church because they spent years raising children in the faith and eventually saw the value in joining them.

Putting the whole family under the mantle of the Church is an act of humility that allows you to bow to a greater wisdom than yours, and helping your children find their faith helps you find yours.

"Let us reserve a special place in our families for individual and communal prayer," said Pope Francis. "If God's love is lacking, the family loses its harmony, self-centeredness prevails, and joy fades."

3: "No divorce" lifts an enormous burden.

The Catholic Church does allow separation and even divorce in cases of real abuse, so please know that I am not talking about those cases.

But many older Catholic couples can name almost to the date the times they would have divorced if it was an option. And they are glad it wasn't.

Divorce complicates your life immensely, leaves you alone or in another relationship that requires new commitments, and when children are involved increases the incidence of all kinds of trouble in their lives.

But the Church's teaching that marriage is indissoluble is a great act of faith in your love. It tells you that when you said "I do," Jesus Christ himself took you at your word, and he will help you fulfill your vow.

4: The Church says Yes to parents as children's primary educators so that parents can say No

Parents often feel at a loss about the education of their children. Something they hear kids learning might sound wrong, and they think, "Who am I to say this isn't right? I'm not an expert."

The Church teaches that parents are the experts. This should mean that parents get involved — and it should mean that schools let them. It is the parents' job to pay attention to what children are learning, add what they can, and fine-tune what they must.

5: Saying "No" to contraception means saying "Yes" to true love.

The Church's teaching on artificial contraception puts sex in its proper perspective. On the one hand it is a great gift; on the other it isn't always ours on demand.

A contracepting husband can too easily become like a spoiled child, thinking sex is his right all the time. A contracepting wife can too easily begin to feel used, that his sex drive is what's important and her side-effects don't matter.

The truth is, natural family planning is a much more humane way to avoid having children if one must, and having children is a much more fulfilling way to live married life if one can.

True love means giving up what you may want, in order to give the other what you both need. Ultimately, that is what a lot of these marriage "Nos" become: a giant Yes to love.

As St. Paul says in Ephesians: "Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the Church and gave himself up for her..." (Eph 5:25) St. Paul called the union of husband and wife a "mystery" (Eph 5:32) because it reflects the love of Christ, for his bride, the Church. **This mystery of God's love for his people as a covenantal marital union flows throughout the Bible**; from Genesis, with the marriage of Adam and Eve, to the Gospels, with Jesus performing his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana, to Revelation, culminating in the marriage feast of the Lamb. "The entire Christian life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery; it is so to speak the nuptial bath, which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Christian marriage in its turn becomes an efficacious sign, the sacrament of the covenant of Christ and the Church. Since it signifies and communicates grace, marriage between baptized persons is a true sacrament of the New Covenant." *Catechism of Catholic Church*#1617.

Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted 2017: dphx.org/gods-plan-for-marriage/

God designed the marriage covenant to be a mirror image of His own covenant with Israel. Since God's covenantal love is always faithful, so He designed the marriage covenant between husband and wife to be faithful until death.

It is true that Moses permitted divorce but, Jesus explained, "that was because of your hardness of heart;" it was not part of God's plan. Moreover, Jesus not only came to teach about marriage but also to do much more: namely to raise marriage to a sacrament, to soften hearts of stone and create hearts of flesh enlivened by the Holy Spirit, making them capable of faithful love beyond what they could do before.

Jesus' teaching about divorce, as we see, is only a fraction of what He did to redeem His Father's plan for marriage. His words were followed with actions. Actions that redeemed the world and transfigured the institution of marriage.

Actions such as His first miracle at the Wedding Feast of Cana. By changing water into wine, He prepared for the day when He would change wine into His own Precious Blood. Then, when He multiplied bread and fish to provide abundant food for an immense crowd, He provided another sign of a much greater miracle that happened with bread at the Last Supper and happens again at every Sacrifice of the Mass. Jesus' teaching about the natural good of marriage and the suffering caused by divorce was bolstered even more when He made a total gift of Himself on the marriage bed that is the Cross.

Jesus' teaching about divorce, then, cannot be understood apart from His wondrous love poured out as blood on the altar of the Cross. He brought into the human family a love that is stronger than sin and more powerful than death.