

**THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
449 HARNEY ST                          147 N 5TH ST ~ PO BOX 632  
CUSTER, S.D.                            WWW.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG

## **Parish Pastoral Staff**

Pastor: 605/745-3278 (after-hours/emergency)	<b>Fr. Collins Igwilo</b> <u>CLIGWILO@DIORC.ORG</u>	605/673-4426 (office)
Deacon: 605/574-2605	<b>Dn. Pat Coy</b> <u>LOFTLANDRANCH@GMAIL.COM</u>	605/209-4636 (mobile)
Hours: Tues. – Thurs., 9A – NOON Fr. Igwilo in the office Tues.-Fri. 9A-2P	<b><u>Office Information</u></b>	605/673-4426 (office)
Office Manager:	<b>Kate Ryan</b> <u>STJOHNS@GWTC.NET</u>	605/673-4426 (office)
Bookkeeper:	<b>Brenda Oster</b>	605/673-4426

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS**

*Visit the National [www.EUCHARISTICREVIVAL.ORG](http://www.EUCHARISTICREVIVAL.ORG) site today!*

## Christmas Time

(Fr. Igwilo in Hot Springs)

## **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

- |             |               |       |   |
|-------------|---------------|-------|---|
| <b>1/ 1</b> | <b>Mon.</b>   | 8:00A | <u>Mass</u> (Int.: Gary Sharkey)                          |
|             |               | 5:00P | KCs Rosary  |
| <b>1/ 2</b> | <b>Tues.</b>  | 7:00A | LHs: Office of Readings & Morning Prayer [OR & MP]        |
| <b>1/ 3</b> | <b>Wed.</b>   | 7:00A | LHs: Office of Readings & MP                              |
| <b>1/ 4</b> | <b>Thurs.</b> | 7:00A | LHs: Office of Readings & MP                              |
| <b>1/ 5</b> | <b>Fri.</b>   | 7:00A | Holy Communion <i>outside Mass</i><br><i>First Friday</i> |
| <b>1/ 6</b> | <b>Sat.</b>   | 7:30A | Most Holy Rosary <i>for Life</i><br><i>First Saturday</i> |

## The Epiphany of the Lord



*Note: \* indicates that incense will be burned.*

## **Monthly Devotion (Jan.) Holy Name of Jesus**

Everything about our divine Lord is holy, including His Name. It was the Archangel Gabriel who first spoke the name of Jesus to His mother, “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus” ([Luke 1:31](#)). The Archangel was only a messenger, so the name of Jesus was given to Him by the Father in Heaven.

**GIVE ELECTRONICALLY!** Visit [www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/GIVE](http://www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/GIVE) (online) or [www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/GIVE-APP](http://www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/GIVE-APP) (mobile app). Create a profile with an e-mail address and a password, set-up a way to give, and begin giving electronically (i.e., e-tithing). So far, we have **42 registered families** and are **processing \$ 628.74 over 25 weeks so far in FY24** Interested? Contact Brenda at the parish church office.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** **through December 24, 2023**

General Collection	\$ 4,355.70	Anawim Fund	\$ 10.00
- via e-giving	\$ 275.69	Major Capital Fund	\$ 23.00
<i>Adopt-A-Seminarian</i>	\$ 25.00	Votive Candles	\$ 83.25
		LCM Kiosk	\$ 5.00
<u>Special Collections:</u>		Gathering Area	\$ 105.00
<i>Ret. Fund /Religious</i>	\$ 220.00	Christmas Offering	\$ 2,137.00

**General Fund Income, Actual (*to date*) : \$104,308.91**

**General Fund Income, Budgeted (to date) : \$ 90,272.00**

**Difference of YtD Actual against Budgeted (+/-) : \$ 14,036.91**

*Note: Avg. \$3,472/week needed for FY24 budgeted income.*



 **IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS:** Stacy Bauer†, Sammie Bland†, Rachel Brickey†, Elaine Emery, Patricia Fritz†, Dan Keierleber, Jackie Loutsch†, Peter Lux, Victor May†, Sr. Irene McDonnell, John Murphy, Michael Murray†, Heather Plaisted†, Jimmie Schneller, Sr. Andrea Turbak, Terry & Bill† Wakeland, Janet & Mary Woytassek & all residents of MH's facilities in Custer.

In need of a visit? Contact the parish church office or  
Dn. Pat Coy

**Attention Adorers! Come one, come all...**

make room for Jesus at the Inn of your Heart on **Friday, January 12**. We will offer Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 7am until 5:45pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation begins at 5pm with Benediction to follow. Mass begins at 6pm. Please watch for sign-up sheets at the entrances to the church after Mass this weekend. Adoration will truly help keep Christ in our hearts.

We would like to thank everyone for their generosity in giving us gifts of all kinds.  
Deacon Pat and Fran

## **Celebrate our Holy Family**



**STEWARSHIP SPOT:** Holy Family..." Whatever you do," says St. Paul to the Colossians, "...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through Him." And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist "through Him, with Him, in unity of the Holy Spirit."

**New Year's Day**...The first reading today recalls God's special blessing upon the Israelites. The Lord has been gracious to us as well, pouring into our hearts that spirit which knows Him as Father and makes us His children. May we, like Mary, treasure these things in our hearts and live gratefully!

"Any country that accepts abortion, is not teaching its people to love, but to use violence to get what it wants."

*Mother Teresa*

### **Forgiveness after an Abortion**

All mothers of conscience will suffer feelings of guilt and remorse. There is only one permanent solution for a grieving mother: a solution based on reality, not on denial or pretense. This solution is FORGIVENESS.

Our merciful God loves us and wants to forgive us and help us find peace. However, forgiveness is a gift that must be received to take effect. Just like any other gift, we do not receive forgiveness until we choose to receive it. God does not want anyone going through life punishing themselves for having an abortion or being part of an abortion.

Women who have had an abortion can accept God's gift of forgiveness and if more help is needed, seek professional help. Attending a retreat like Rachel's Vineyard and Project Rachel (which are very active in our nation) can be very helpful.

Many women who have had abortions carry understandable bitterness toward men who used or abused them, toward parents and friends who were insensitive to their predicament, and towards those who misled or pressured them to abort. God wants women to take the forgiveness He has given them and extend it to others. This frees them from the awful burden of resentment and bitterness..

After accepting God's forgiveness, a wonderful way to heal and give something back (for a woman who has had an abortion) is to commit herself to the pro-life movement in defending life and reach out to other prospective mothers in crisis pregnancy situations. In this way, God uses us to help others and share with them His love and guidance.

*Pro-Life Articles*

### **Mary, Mother of God**

It is through the virginal Motherhood of Mary that the Word was made flesh. In adoring the Son of God made man in the Child of Bethlehem, we recognize that Mary is the Mother of God.



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

What will convert America and save the world? My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer.

*Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

news and resources at <https://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/>

**ANIMA CHRISTI:** Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from the side of Christ, wash over me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me; Within your wounds hide me; Separated from You, let me never be; From the evil one protect me; At the hour of my death, call me; And close to You bid me; That with your saints, I may be, praising You forever and ever. **Amen.**

**AN ACT OF CONTRITION** (*outside the confessional*): O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they [have] offend[ed] Thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



**FEEDING S.D.** is distributing food/produce in Custer at **the Custer Lutheran Fellowship parking lot, 12622 HWY 16A, on every month's second Tues., 1-2P.** Next scheduled distributions for 2024: **January 9.** Contact Feeding S.D. (605/348-2689) for more info.

**Storehouse** donations (635 lbs. for the year) Thank you all.

Remember to use your **Reverse Advent Calendar** for the Holiday Food Drive to supply the Custer Food Pantry. 180.5 #s donated

**AN ACT OF CONTRITION** (*during a confession*): My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen

~ **FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES ~**

Contact Amy Julian or Linda Drake ([FAMILYLIFE@DIORC.ORG](mailto:FAMILYLIFE@DIORC.ORG) or 605/343-3541) for more info on any FLM-sponsored event or visit [www.RAPIDCITYDIOCESE.ORG/FLM](http://www.RAPIDCITYDIOCESE.ORG/FLM)

**Courage** is an international apostolate which ministers to persons with same-sex attraction (SSA) who desire to live chaste lives following the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. **EnCourage** is a ministry within Courage dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of persons who experience SSA. Members in both groups support one another through discussion, prayer, and fellowship. Contact [COURAGE@DIORC.ORG](mailto:COURAGE@DIORC.ORG) for info on Courage. Contact [ENCOURAGE@DIORC.ORG](mailto:ENCOURAGE@DIORC.ORG) for info on EnCourage. Or call 605/787-3837 for either ministry.

**The “Flame of Love” Cenacle** meets on Thurs. evenings at 6:30P at the home of Delores & Dennis Dahm: 25308 Sidney Park Rd. Contact the Dahms at 605/673-5333.

**The Parish Lending Library** is available during Office Hours, Tues-Thurs 9-12. Please sign out any books you borrow on the Check-Out Sheet inside the door.



In the first part of January, we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming at Bethlehem and in our hearts. We have the wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, where we honor Mary's highest title, and then we follow the Magi to the crib as they bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. Finally we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist.

## **The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of January 2024**

**For the Gift of Diversity in the Church:** We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

### **PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

***Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us!***

Liturgical Minister Schedule

[www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/LITURGICAL-MINISTER-SCHEDULE](http://www.CUSTERCATHOLIC.ORG/LITURGICAL-MINISTER-SCHEDULE)