



**STEWARDSHIP SPOT:** There is a certain urgency in today's Gospel as Jesus calls His first disciples—Andrew and Simon, James and John. Each one follows Jesus *immediately*, unhesitatingly abandoning nets and boats and father and fellow-workers. To what is Jesus calling me—at *this* moment, in *these* circumstances? What will I need to abandon in order to follow Him?

"When we die, we will come face to face with God, the Author of Life. Who will give an account to God for the millions and millions of babies who were not allowed a chance to live, to experience loving and being loved?" *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

### Abortion and Child Abuse

Abortion teaches us that violence is an acceptable way to deal with difficult life problems. It teaches us that human beings are only valuable if they meet certain criteria, and it teaches us that the strong have a legal right to kill the weak and defenseless. When the unique value of individual human life is trampled upon, society inevitably suffers.

Abortion advocates argue just the opposite. They purport that aborting "unwanted" children will reduce child abuse, neglect, poverty and violence and will generally lead to happier families. However, our experience since 1973 proves that this theory does not work. During that time, over 63 million "unwanted" babies have been denied the right to live, yet we have more crime, more violence, more dead-beat dads, and more gangs. The list goes on.

Abortion advocates even argue that abortion is an effective way to prevent crime since it eliminates those who are "most likely" to commit crimes, more specifically the babies of poor mothers. Dianne Glass wrote an article supporting this radical idea. It is hard to believe that in this age, people could argue that human beings should be executed for crimes they may commit in the future and that abortion is the answer to solving poverty. Indeed, it is a truly frightening social policy!

In the final analysis, it is only logical to conclude that societies who are willing to abort children before birth will be far more likely to abuse them after birth. Abortion is child abuse, and it is the most severe form of abuse in existence.

*Pro-Life*

*Articles*

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

"THE CHURCH IS BACK IN ORDINARY TIME,  
BUT EVERY DAY IS EXTRAORDINARY,  
A GIFT FROM GOD, AND CAN BE AN OUTBURST  
OF GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY."

Timothy Cardinal Doyle



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

"This supernatural bread and this consecrated chalice are for the health and salvation of mankind." St. Cyprian  
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: **February 13.** Contact Feeding S.D. (605/348-2689) for more info.

**Storehouse donations** (655.5 lbs. for the year) Thank you all.



Please bring in your  
old Palms

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

Liturgical Minister Schedule

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

**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. **Please bring in your Palms** 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.

## **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

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## **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.

