IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2026

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend Masses
Sat: 4pm (Oct); Sun:9am & 11am

Confessions
Tue, Wed, Thu after 12:10pm Mass;
Sat: 3pm-4pm (October)

Weekly Mass Schedule
Daily Mass: Tue, Wed, Thu 12:10pm; Fri 9am; Sat (1st & 3rd) 8am. Daily Mass times may change on account of a funeral. To receive Daily Mass updates, call the office to be added to Daily Mass Notifications.

24 Hour Adoration
Wed 12:40pm - Thu 12pm (Noon) (through the night). Benediction at noon. Chapel is available from 7am-8pm Mon-Fri and 7am-7pm Sat-Sun.

Flocknote Notifications:
To stay informed on all the important information from Fr Haggerty and upcoming events: Text **AVEMARIASD** to **84576**.

Parish Office Address
309 2nd Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201

Office Hours
Mon-Thu: 9am-5pm; Fri: 9am-Noon

Parish Office:
(605) 886-4049 IC Parish

Email Address:
icoffice@avemariapastorate.org

Discipleship & Evangelization:
(605) 878-2055

Ave Maria Catholic School:
(605) 886-3883

Website:
www.avemariapastorate.org

Facebook:
Immaculate Conception Parish or Ave Maria Pastorate

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." - Mt 22:37

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

AVE MARIA PASTORATE PRIESTS

Fr Shaun Haggerty
Pastor
frshaunhaggerty@sfcatholic.org
Phone: (605) 886-4049

Fr John Fischer
Parochial Vicar
frjohnfischer@sfcatholic.org
Phone: (605) 886-2628

Fr Christopher Hughes
Parochial Vicar
frchristopherhughes@sfcatholic.org
Phone: (605) 886-3344

Fr Richard Baumberger
Parochial Vicar
frrichardbaumberger@sfcatholic.org
Phone: (605) 868-6609

Emergency Priest Line:
(605) 884-5088 for last rites

PASTORAL TEAM

Terri Bjerke
Business Manager
tbjerke@avemariapastorate.org
Phone: (605) 886-4049

Parker Schlenker
Director of Discipleship & Evangelization
pschlenker@avemariapastorate.org
Phone: (605) 878-2055

Tony Aas
Facilities Manager
taas@avemariapastorate.org
Phone: (605) 886-4049

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Hour of Mercy
Sundays at 3:00pm
Led by Fr Christopher
October 25th
at Holy Rosary, Kranzburg

"Baptised in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit"

God Bless You

Tucker Bradley Coyle
Son of Tristan & Brooke
October 17, 2026

Welcome to the Catholic Faith

AA

Weekly meetings held on Tuesday at 6:30pm & Thursday at 5:45pm—Parish Office Basement.

ADULT CHOIR

Adult Choir every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 9am. Practices are the Thursday before at 6pm. IC also has a Funeral Choir that sings when requested.

YOUTH CHOIR

Directed by Alison Thyen. Grades 5-12th. Once a week practice Wednesday from **4:00-4:45pm**, sing on Sunday once a month at various parishes. To sign up please call **(605) 878-2055** or email Alison directly at **athyen@avemariapastorate.org.**

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Marne Hult can be contacted by calling **(605) 880-1460** or emailing her at mhult@ccfesd.org.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Are you or a family member unable to attend Sunday Mass because you are homebound? Would you like a compassionate, caring person to visit with you and bring communion to your home? Would you like to be trained as a homebound minister? For all inquiries, please call Bridget at the parish office at **(605) 886-4049.**

IC QUILTERS

1st & 3rd Monday at 1pm, Parish Office Basement. Quilts created by this ministry are given to Beacon Center, C.A.R.E., Multicultural Center and the Christmas Gift Baskets. Quilters are desperately needed. 100% Cotton Fabric (any color & pattern) is also needed.

THE LOURDES CENTER

Call (605) 988-3775 to schedule an appointment. This service is currently telehealth.

MEALS ON WHEELS

We are responsible for delivering meals every 8 weeks and run solely on volunteers. Please contact coordinator Karla Stutzman at (**605) 595-7127** for any questions.

OCIA

OCIA is for those who are not currently Catholic or baptized Catholic desiring Holy Communion or Confirmation. Please call **(605) 878-2055** for more information. ***OCIA classes on Tuesday's at 6:30 at Ave Maria School & Faith Formation Center.***

REMEMBRANCE GROUP

This group is not your typical grief group but rather seeks to provide an environment of community with others who have lost a spouse as they continue to walk through life. Join us for a time of prayer, fellowship and study. Meetings are held the last Tuesday of the month at 10:30am in the Parish Hall. **~ October 27th, 2026.**

ROSARY MAKERS

Meets 2nd Monday of the month at 1pm in the Parish Hall.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Weekly meetings on Monday at 9am in the chapel. Participants will pray for healing for our country and the needs of our own parishioners. All are welcome to participate. To submit prayer requests, call or email the office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Monday at 6:30pm at Holy Name in the Angelus Center. If you need assistance please call **(605) 503-7475.**

WATERTOWN AREA RIGHT TO LIFE

Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm at Midwest Bible Camp (1500 SD Hwy 20).

WATERTOWN MEN'S GROUP

Thursday mornings 6:30-7:30am in the IC Parish Hall. Call Craig at **(763) 458-0718** with questions.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

CDA meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6pm
Next meeting: November 10th.
***Be sure to attend as we will be making the final preparations for the Annual Card/ Cribbage fundraiser for charities.*

SERRA MINISTRY

Our mission is to support, encourage & pray for vocations and to grow in individual holiness. Meet 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month. Rosary: 7:30am, Mass: 8am (Chapel), coffee & and inspirational speaker (Parish Hall).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

All Knights meet the 1st Tuesday at 7pm & the 4th Degree Knights meet the 3rd Tuesday at 7pm at the Unity Hall.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE WINNER

Oct 15th- $100 Winner - Brian & GerriAnn DeBoer, Watertown

THE ABBEY OF THE HILLS INN & RETREAT CENTER

Days of Recollection Schedule

November 10, 2026 by Fr Tyler Mattson "Living God's Word"

December 8, 2026 by Christopher Gromis "I Didn't Go Looking for Rome"

January 12, 2027 - By Jacob Brooks "Can We Trust the Bible? Discovering Salvation History"

For more information regarding these events and to register please visit www.abbeyofthehills.org or email events@abbeyofthehills.org or call 605-398-9200.

Events at the Abbey

October 28, 2026 - Abbey of the Hills Fall Banquet

November 13-15, 2026 - Women's Fall Retreat "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

December 5 & 6, 2026 - Christmas Cantata

December 11-13, 2026 - Advent Retreat by Fr. Gregory Tschakert - "Welcoming Jesus-Becoming Disciples"

Priest Retirement Special Appeal

The Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls has launched a Priest Retirement Special Appeal. The appeal will help fund the Priest Pension Fund and Priest Medical Fund. These funds support the priests as they transition into senior status or face medical needs. Our priests have spent their lives caring for, loving, and serving you throughout your life. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the appeal. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen the future of care for all priests in our Diocese.

To donate, visit:
ccfesd.org/priest-retirement
or scan the QR code.
Thank you for your generosity.

A Mass of Remembrance

All Souls Day Mass

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

Monday, November 2nd at 5:30pm
Immaculate Conception Parish

Candles will be lit and names read for Immaculate Conception Parishioners who died this past year. All are welcome to remember all those who have died.
May they rest in peace.

Marriage Blessings

Congratulations
Mason Bundy & Natalie Peterson
Married
October 17, 2026

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

National Vocation Awareness Week ~ November 1 - 7

Please join us to support our Seminarians from the Sioux Falls Diocese

Sunday, November 1, 2026
at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall
Serving from 9:30am - 1:00pm
Free Will Offering

Sponsored by the Watertown Area Serra Club and the Knights of Columbus

The 30th Christmas at the Cathedral will be performed with six concerts December 10-13 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. This year's theme, ***"Surrender"***, invites us to look through the eyes of St. Luke's Gospel who reminds us that the Christmas story is not just about a baby being born in Bethlehem. It's about our God who surrendered His throne to be humbly born into our world for our salvation. It's about Mary's unconditional "yes", Joseph's abiding trust, and the invitation extended to each of us: to open our hands, release our plans, and trust that God's plan is better than our own.

In addition to being an inspiring Christmas experience, Christmas at the Cathedral supports the poor and vulnerable in our midst through endowments for the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House as well as the on-going care of the Cathedral of St Joseph.

There are several ways to purchase your tickets: 1) On-line at www.ccfesd.org 2) Phone at 605.988.3765 3) Email at events@ccfesd.org or 4) at all Sioux Falls Hy-Vee stores (general admission only).

Please also note that many volunteers are needed and if interested, you are encouraged to call 605-988-3765 or visit our website for details.

Respect Life Month

We draw your attention to the BABY BOTTLES in the entryway of the church. Your donation reflects your commitment to strengthening a culture of life. These funds help to support all local Pro-Life efforts of the Watertown Area Right To Life. www.watertownrighttolife.org

Ave Maria Music Ministry

PIANISTS WANTED!!

Do you play the piano?
Immaculate Conception and Holy Name of Jesus Parishes are seeking accompanists to play at our weekend Masses.

What we offer:

- **A supportive community and flexible scheduling.**
- **Start by playing 1 Sunday a month.**
- **ANY and ALL skill levels are welcome.**
- **Training will be provided for those who have never led music for Mass before.**
- **Payment for accompanists is $75 per Mass.**

Contact Music Director, Alison Thyen, if you have questions or are interested in being trained.

athyen@avemariapastorate.org 605.886.4049

It takes many hands and voices to make our liturgy beautiful each week, and music is a powerful way to contribute.

We need new people to fill this essential role.
Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you.

FAMILY ROSARY

Family Rosary at
Foundation Plaza on Kemp Ave
at 9:00 am
Saturday, November 7th

An Important Opportunity to Support Students and Families of our Catholic School

Through the new **Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC),** beginning January 1, 2027, you can divert your federal tax liability to the kind of **education you believe in**. A gift through the FSTC makes Catholic education even more accessible to Ave Maria Catholic School families. Gifts **up to $1,700 for single filers or $3,400 married filing jointly** are eligible for **a dollar-for-dollar tax credit** against your federal tax liability. This means you may be able to redirect a portion of your federal tax liability to directly support families seeking the education that is best for their children—at no additional cost to you.

Here's How It Works
It's simple:

1. Make a qualifying donation to an approved Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO).
2. Receive the required tax documentation from the SGO.
3. Claim the federal income tax credit when you file your federal tax return.

Remember: This Isn't the Usual "Donation and Deduction." This is a tax credit—not a charitable deduction. A qualifying tax credit can reduce the amount of federal income tax you owe dollar-for-dollar, subject to program requirements and limitations. A traditional charitable deduction works differently: it reduces your taxable income, rather than directly reducing your tax liability. And this opportunity is available to eligible taxpayers in all 50 states.

Pledge your support now for a gift **during tax year 2027** by completing this form: https://forms.gle/GMYroRfJgEnaoT9T8

Completing this form allows us to contact you to answer any questions and determine the amount you wish to contribute in 2027. Contributions cannot begin until January 1, 2027.

Questions or want to learn more? Contact Emily Berg, Director of Development, at development@avemariacatholicschool.org.

Federal Scholarship Tax Credit information is subject to change as federal and state guidance is finalized. Individuals should consult their tax advisor regarding their specific tax situation.

SCHEDULE OF HOLY MASSES & INTENTIONS

10/27	Tuesday	12:10	+Dale Buetow
10/28	Wednesday	12:10	+Sy Korbel
10/29	Thursday	12:10	+Ronald Cooley
10/30	Friday	9:00am	+Les Staufer
10/31	Saturday	4:00pm	+Paul & Rose Cordell
11/01	Sunday	9:00am	For Ave Maria Pastorate
11/01	Sunday	11:00am	+Colleen Vavruska

Canon Law states that Mass Intentions can be made 12 months prior to the date requested for both the living and the deceased. Stop by or call the office at (605) 886-4049.

Saturday, October 31st at 4:00pm

Sacristan: Jo Vitek
Lector: Rachael Jaeger
Altar Servers: Aleah, Eli & Mia Jaeger
EMHC: Paulette DeVille, Rachael Jaeger, Elaine Sietsema, Kathy E Tesch
Ushers: Bob Albers, Pete Bauman, Chuck Clausen, Rick Gully, Dave Redder, Elaine Sietsema, Mike Zafft, **Volunteer (1)**
Greeters: Bridget Bauman, Kris Fey, Elaine Ries, Rita Waba

Sunday, November 1st at 9:00am

Sacristan: Volunteer (1)
Lector: Volunteer (1)
Altar Servers: Ellie Henderson, Ben Roberts, Bennett Roby
EMHC: Sheila Grabow, Cindy LaBerge, Lana Waege, **Volunteer (1)**
Ushers: Steve Horning, Wayne Jenc, **Volunteers (6)**
Greeters: Kristin Jenc, **Volunteers (3)**

Sunday, November 1st at 11:00am

Sacristan: Ryan Hanten
Lector: Rosemary VanLaecken
Altar Servers: Nick Hanson, Marissa Quale, Molly Thorson
EMHC: Carissa Quale, Michael Roethler, Kathy Stewart, Rosemary VanLaecken
Ushers: Greg Hanson, Lisa Kreutner, Bill & Brenda Ortmeier, Patrick Quale, Ron VanLaecken, **Volunteers (2)**
Greeters: Don & Judy Becht, Corrine Kallemeyn, **Volunteer (1)**

WEEKLY GIVING

Oct 18th Envelope: $6,358.00 Loose: $1,805.85

Automatic Giving Average $3,600.00 per week. Weekly Collection needs $16,000.00.

Thank you for your continued support!

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 22:34-40

When I was in seventh grade, like most boys of that age, I was constantly hungry. I could eat at any hour of the day. Then I fell head over heels for a classmate named Kristin. One evening, while lying on my bed and pondering her perfections, my mom called me to dinner. For the first time in my adolescent life, I remember thinking: "I'm not hungry." My heart longed for Kristin more than my stomach for food. Now, I wouldn't confuse adolescent infatuation with mature love. But it was an experience of how love can reorder everything in our lives.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus says, "**You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart" (Matthew 22:37).** He is not issuing a burden or a moral goal for high achievers. He is naming the deepest orientation of the human heart. We were made for love so great that it gathers every other love into itself. Jesus does not ask us to love less the persons or things that attract us. Rather, he wants our love for God to be so total and intense that we love everything and everyone else because we love him so much.

Do we believe that such a love is possible for us? Because of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, it is! It is readily available to us. Let's repent of our half-hearted love for God and ask Him to fill our hearts to the brim with divine love.

~ Father John Muir ©LPi