



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2026
25TH 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



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Are you envious because I am generous?” Thus, the last
will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:15-16

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Hour of Mercy

Sundays at 3:00pm

Led by Fr Christopher

October 4th, 11th & 18th
at Holy Rosary, Kranzburg



Next week is **National Priesthood Sunday**. Please take this opportunity to thank and celebrate our Priests. Do something special to thank them: a thank you, a card or something special to appreciate them.

AA

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

ADULT CHOIR - Off during the summer months

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 3:45-4:30pm, 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 will begin Tues., 9-15-26 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. ~ **September 29th, 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.

SCHEDULE OF HOLY MASSES & INTENTIONS

09/22	Tuesday	12:10pm	+Jerome Reichling
09/23	Wednesday	12:10pm	+LeRoy & Daisy Mernaugh
09/24	Thursday	12:10pm	+Ray & Ethel Zirbes
09/25	Friday	9:00am	+Mel & Snookie Reichling
09/26	Saturday	4:00pm	Mass at Holy Name of Jesus ~ month of September
09/27	Sunday	9:00am	+Doug & Kenny Lukonen
09/27	Sunday	11:00am	+Mary Ann Wehde

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, September 26th at 4:00pm

Mass will be at Holy Name of Jesus

Sunday, September 27th at 9:00am

Sacristan: Evan Meester

Lector: Becky Tesch

Altar Servers: Gage Robison, Nora & Rudy Struzman

EMHC: Katie Gruman, Denise Hoff, Trish Spartz, Lana Waege

Ushers: Brian DeBoer, Steve Horning, Spencer Lindner, Roger Mack, Bob Spears, Jamie Whiting, **Volunteers (2)**

Greeters: Jerry & Leona Corey, Corrine Kallemeyn, Sandi Parkin

Sunday, September 27th at 11:00am

Sacristan: Kristina Schmidt

Lector: Tammy Meyer

Altar Servers: Ella, Sam & Sophia VanLaecken

EMHC: Ann Roby, Kristina Schmidt, Jay & Karen Trepanier

Ushers: Ryan Hanten, Donna Lantgen, Scott Schwinger, Rob VanLaecken, **Volunteers (4)**

Greeters: Sharon Byer, Tyler Roberts, **Volunteer (2)**

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 20:1-16

Every December, the priests of my diocese gather for a Christmas dinner with our bishop. Nearly 200 of us in one room: newly ordained and long retired, pastors of large parishes and quiet confessors, men full of energy and others moving more slowly. Some carry visible success; others bear hidden wounds. It is a tapestry of vocations and lives. When the bishop thanks us, I am always moved. For a moment, none of our differences matter. What matters is that we belong to one another.

I usually leave that evening with a deep sense of peace, but also with a sober realization. Nothing drains joy from the vineyard of the Lord faster than comparison. The quiet habit of measuring, ranking, and resenting can creep in even among those who sincerely serve God.

That is what Jesus exposes in today's parable of the workers in the vineyard. The early laborers are not upset because they were treated unjustly; they are angry because others were treated generously. Their resentment blinds them to the gift already in their hands. When the landowner asks, "Are you envious because I am generous?" he names the real wound.

This tension echoes throughout salvation history: the elder brother resenting the prodigal, the faithful servant scorning the latecomer. Jesus does not deny the labor of those who have borne the heat of the day, but he refuses to let God's mercy become a zero-sum game.

In the end, the vineyard's reward is not about fairness but belonging. The joy offered is communion with a generous Father, who delights in gathering early and late, strong and weak, into one household of grace.

~ Father John Muir

WEEKLY GIVING

Sept 6th Envelope: \$7,546.00 Loose: \$1,546.85

Sept 13th Envelopes: \$12,905.00 Loose: \$,962.00

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

Thank you for your continued support!

Mass Intention Policy Update

The practice of requesting a Mass to be offered for loved ones, living or deceased, is a beautiful part of our Catholic Tradition. To accommodate the many requests for Mass intentions, in accord with Canon Law and Diocesan policy, the following are the Immaculate Conception guidelines:

- A request may be made for a deceased person, a living person who is sick, a living person celebrating a birthday or anniversary, in thanksgiving, or an intention fitting to the Eucharistic celebration (vocations, world peace, etc.).
- Requests for Mass Intentions will be honored on a first come, first served basis.
- Mass intentions can be scheduled up to one year in advance.
- A maximum of three (3) single Mass intentions can be requested for any one intention for a given year.
- Each family/group is limited to nine (9) total Mass Intention requests per calendar year. Of those, only three (3) may be Saturday vigil/Sunday Masses.
- One Mass will be reserved each weekend and Holy Day of Obligation for the Parishioners of our Pastorate. This rotates throughout our pastorate. (Missa pro populo, see Canon 534.1).
- The suggested offering/donation is \$10 per intention.
- Every effort will be made to publish the desired Mass intention in the current bulletin and mentioned at the Mass.
- The same intention may not be repeated within the same week (Monday-Sunday).
- Cards are available upon request to notify the recipient of the date the Mass is scheduled.

If you would like to have a Mass intention for your loved one sooner than we are able to accommodate, we suggest sending your requests to a retired priest. Following are suggestions for priests who have served the Watertown community. A specific date cannot be guaranteed.

Father Michael Wensing, 2416 S Sherman, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Father John Lantsberger, 211 McLaughlin St NW, Watertown, SD 57201

Father Rodney Farke, 1926 Laurel Lane, Brookings, SD 57006

Other addresses for retired priests are available by using the following link: <https://sfcatholic.org/priests/>

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

CDA meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6pm

Next meeting: October 13th at KC Unity Hall at 6:00 pm.

All are invited to come and pray together.

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

Sept 10th - \$100 Winner - Roche Steobner, Watertown



Days of Recollection Schedule

October 13, 2026 by Wade VanDover “Divine Mercy - The End of Times”

November 10, 2026 by Fr Tyler Mattson “Living God’s Word”

December 8, 2026 by Christopher Gromis

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

September 18-20, 2026 - Mixed 12-Step Spiritual Retreat

September 25-27, 2026 - Marriage Retreat “Covenant Love”

November 13-15, 2026 - Women’s Fall Retreat “O Come Let Us Adore Him”

December 5, 2026 - Christmas Cantata

CATHOLIC TRIVIA ~ JUST FOR FUN

Question: During the liturgical year, when is the very first solemnity celebrated?

Answer: December 8th – the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Registration is required
by September 20, 2026

Retreat Leaders



**Darin and Missy
Baumberger**

To register please visit:
www.abbeyofthehills.org
Or call: 605-398-9200
Email:
events@abbeyofthehills.org

September 25-27, 2026

Marriage Retreat

"Covenant Love"

Free, Faithful, Fruitful, Forever

We invite you to join us for intentional time away as a couple to be renewed in your sacramental love. The weekend will include time to reflect and pray as a couple, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation and a time for fellowship and laughter. We hope you will join us!

BEGINS: Friday, September 25 - 7 p.m.
CONCLUDES: Sunday, September 27 - 11 a.m.

COST:

This retreat is offered at no cost to ensure accessibility for all couples; however, free-will donations are welcomed. A suggested donation of \$350 allows the Abbey to continue offering programs like this.



Fosters the Rediscovery of Peace

For more information about upcoming events visit us at:
www.abbeyofthehills.org

The Abbey of the Hills Inn & Retreat Center
46561 147th Street
Marvin, SD 57251



1968 MERCURY COUGAR XR7



**TICKETS
STILL
AVAILABLE
\$100 EACH**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE SCHOOL &
IC OFFICE**

First Friday Breakfast Potluck

Friday, Oct 2nd

following 9:00am Mass
at IC Parish Hall

Please join us in fellowship



FAMILY ROSARY

First Saturdays thru the Summer

Family Rosary at
Foundation Plaza on Kemp Ave
at 9:00 am

Saturday, Oct 3rd



Together Encounter Christ



East River TEC #2
Ave Maria School, Watertown, SD
October 10-12, 2026

Register now at EastRiverTEC.com for a retreat experience like no other. In three days' time, we'll take you through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and equip you to share His love with others.

The registration fee of \$85 covers all retreat expenses, including materials, lodging at Ave Maria Catholic School and meals.



SCAN TO REGISTER

Space is limited, so reserve your spot today!

IRONMAN 2026



**Congratulations to
Father Haggerty** for
competing in and
finishing the 2026
IRONMAN Triathlon
held in Madison, WI
on 9-13-26.

The race included
swimming, a bicycle
ride and running a
marathon.

Great work Father H!

"Run so as to win. Every athlete exercises discipline in every way. They do it to win a perishable crown, but we an imperishable one." - 1 Corinthians 9:24-25