



DISCIPLESHIP & EVANGELIZATION

Immaculate Conception | Holy Name of Jesus | St. Mary | St. Michael | St. Henry | Holy Rosary | Blessed Sacrament



Letter from the Director of Discipleship & Evangelization

Happy New Year! As we enter into another year, I can't help but reflect and give thanks for all God has gifted us and look to the future with anticipation to all that lies ahead.

The second semester of Faith Formation brings many events to celebrate. Our second grade students are currently preparing to experience God's gift of mercy through the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. They will then continue to prepare to receive the body of Christ through their First Holy Communion. Our tenth grade students will soon be going on retreat as they prepare to receive a deepening of the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the gift of Confirmation. We have a number of adults learning more about the Catholic Faith through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults class with the desire to join the Catholic Church this Easter Season. There is additional information on each of these sacraments on our website and within this newsletter. We encourage you to pray for all of these individuals and their families.

During this new year, I invite those that are interested in renewing their baptismal promises to join me in an opportunity to consecrate their heart to Christ through the book, *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* by Matthew Kelly. This opportunity will help us reflect on what God is asking of us throughout the third year of the National Eucharistic Revival or 'Walking With One' to enter more fully into the Jubilee Year and become pilgrims of hope. To consecrate your heart simply means learning to entrust all that we have to Christ through a deeper union with him. The act of consecration invites us to live a life of personal sacrifice, to realign our minds according to God's will, to recommit our thoughts, words, and deeds to God, and to be renewed in our prayer life. There will also be a study surrounding the Holy Mass available during this time. You will be able to read more about these opportunities in this newsletter, in upcoming bulletins or on our pastorate website. I hope you will join me and others throughout the pastorate on this spiritual pilgrimage.

Missy Baumberger, Pastorate Director of Discipleship & Evangelization

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Youth Formation

SCHEDULE

February Encounter Event has been cancelled. Check with your local parish to determine if your student will be having Faith Formation class.

Feb 9th/12th- 13th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Feb 15th- Service Project at the Mother of God Monastery

Feb 16th/19th- 14th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Feb 22nd- Ave Maria Confirmation Retreat at Immaculate Conception

Feb 23rd/26th- 15th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Mar 5th- Ash Wednesday, students are to attend Mass w/ parents

Mar 9th/12th- 16th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Mar 16th/19th- NO CLASS
Spring Break

Mar 23rd/26th- 17th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Mar 26th- Confirmation Rehearsal at Immaculate Conception

Mar 30th- Confirmation Ceremony at Immaculate Conception

Mar 30th/Apr 2nd- 18th Week of K-10th Faith Formation

Apr 4th- Living Stations of the Cross at Holy Name of Jesus

Apr 5th- 2nd Grade Eucharistic Retreat at Immaculate Conception

Apr 6th- Communal Penance Service at Immaculate Conception



Lenten Activity: Crown of Thorns

The Lenten season is a time for reflecting on our actions and how they may affect those around us and our relationship with Christ. Use this activity to help your children understand how their actions may affect others, both positively and negatively.

Throughout Lent use a grapevine wreath and toothpicks to create a "Crown of Thorns." When your child does something positive they can take a toothpick out of Jesus's crown. When they do something negative they put a toothpick into Jesus's crown and say a short prayer. On Easter, decorate the crown with a bouquet of flowers or Easter eggs to show how Jesus redeems our sins. There are many variations of this activity that can be found online to best suit your family's needs.

First Communion Eucharistic Retreat

Saturday, April 5th
9:00am to 11:30am

Immaculate Conception Church

A Eucharistic Retreat for students preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. The students will make their banners, tour the church, practice how to receive Holy Communion and more! At least one parent or guardian is required to attend with their student. Snacks will be provided. If your 2nd grade child does not attend classes in Watertown but would like to attend the retreat, please visit with your parish coordinator for more details.

Ave Maria Youth Ministry

February Service Project

Mother of God Monastery

Join us on February 15th at 3:00pm at the Mother of God Monastery in Watertown to help arrange and deliver a Valentine's surprise to honor the Benedictine Sisters in our community followed by evening prayer at 4:30pm. This project is open to all high school students.



Steubenville Youth Conference

Limited spots available!

We are partnering with the Lady of the Snows Pastorate (Sisseton area) this year. We will leave Thursday, July 10th to enjoy a day at Valley Fair before the conference. The dates of the conference are July 11th-13th, 2025. The cost of the event will be around \$590; scholarships are available to those who help fundraise. The conference is for current eighth grade students to high school seniors. We are planning to travel together and stay as a group.



Confirmation Reminders

Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, February 22nd

Immaculate Conception Church

The Ave Maria Confirmation Retreat will be held Sat., Feb. 22nd from 1:00-6:30pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Students must register for the retreat. Sponsors are required to attend. If sponsors are unable, parents may substitute for the sponsor. Cost is \$60 per student. For questions, please call 878-2055.

Scan the QR code to register.



Confirmation Rehearsal and Ceremony

Confirmation Rehearsal:

- Wednesday, March 26th at Immaculate Conception Church, 6:30pm
- Sponsors must attend with the Confirmation candidate (Parents may sub for Sponsors as needed)
- Attending rehearsal is required

Confirmation Ceremony:

- Sunday, March 30th at Immaculate Conception Church, 1:30pm
- Students and Sponsors must arrive to the parish hall by 12:30pm

Adult Formation

Prayer Opportunities

Adoration

3:00-4:00pm Holy Hour with
Father Christopher Hughes:

- Feb 2nd Holy Rosary, Kranzburg
- Feb 9th Holy Rosary, Kranzburg
- Feb 16th Holy Name of Jesus, Watertown
- Feb 23rd Immaculate Conception, Watertown
- Mar 2nd Holy Rosary, Kranzburg
- Mar 9th Holy Rosary, Kranzburg
- Mar 16th Immaculate Conception, Watertown
- Mar 23rd Holy Name of Jesus, Watertown
- Mar 30th Holy Rosary, Kranzburg

Adoration every Wed at 7:30am until 6:50am
on Thurs at Immaculate Conception

Rosary

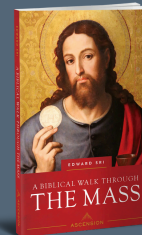
- Rosary Prayer Group meets every Monday at 9am in the Immaculate Conception Chapel.
- Rosary prayed following daily Mass on the first Wednesday of each month at St. Michael, Clark.
- Rosary Fellowship Group meets weekly on Mondays at 6:00pm. Please contact Jody at 605-690-1529 or join the Facebook group 'rosary and ice cream nights' for more information. All ages are welcome.

Pastorate Lenten Opportunities

33 Days to Eucharistic Glory Consecration & A
Biblical Walk through the Mass



Join us on a spiritual pilgrimage this Lent. Both resources will help you give yourself more fully to Christ through prayer, devotion and personal sacrifice. More information can be found in the bulletins and on our pastorate website.



Encounter Events

February Encounter: CANCELLED

Please check with your parish coordinator to determine if you will be having Faith Formation class this week.

March Encounter: Ash Wednesday

March 5th, check the back page of the newsletter for Mass times.

April Encounter: Living Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 4th, 7:00pm at Holy Name of Jesus Parish

Wednesday, April 16th, 7:00pm at Immaculate Conception Parish

Communal Penance Service

April 6th, 2:00pm

Immaculate Conception Church in Watertown will be hosting a communal penance service. See the bulletin or website for other opportunities for confession.

Blessed Sacrament Soup Fundraiser

March 2nd, 11am to 1pm

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Florence is hosting a free-will offering soup dinner at the Florence Community Center. They will be serving chicken noodle soup, potato soup and chili, along with homemade breads and desserts.

Women's Discipleship

Women's Group: SHE Shall Be Called Women

Transforming Women and Their Families in God's Love.
This study meets Wed., 8:45-10:00am in the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall.

Women's Group

Journey Deeper Into the Life of Jesus Christ through rediscovering the power of the rosary; The Glorious Mysteries. Tuesdays at 4:30pm at Holy Name of Jesus.

Couple's Formation

Young Couples Group

This group meets every other week and is aimed at young married couples. Childcare is available, however we ask that you provide a small stipend in exchange. To learn more & to register, please contact Shelby at (605) 237-9691.

Couple's Retreat at Broom Tree- March 7-9th, to learn more, visit <https://www.broom-tree.org/retreats/scheduled-retreats>

Men's Discipleship

That Man is You! Men's Group

The men's group meets every Thursday at 6:30am in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall. Spring session will begin Feb 6th.

Young Men's Group

Are you searching for deeper purpose, brotherhood and a stronger faith? Join us as a group of young Catholic men, 18-29, striving to live out our faith more fully. Weekly meetings on Mondays at 7:00pm in the IC Parish Center.

Contact Ryan Hanten at (605) 881-0683 with questions.



309 2nd Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201

STAMP

Ash Wednesday Mass Times

March 5th, 2025

Holy Name of Jesus, Watertown

8:30am | 12:00pm | 5:30pm

Immaculate Conception, Watertown

9:00am | 12:10pm | 6:30pm

Blessed Sacrament, Florence

6:00pm

Holy Rosary, Kranzburg

7:00am^ | 7:30pm

St. Henry, Henry

4:30pm

St. Mary, Bryant

6:00pm

St Michael, Clark

7:30pm

^ Distribution of ashes, no Mass (30 min or less)



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YEAR of Jubilee



2025 is the Jubilee Holy Year, the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord, an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church." The concept of "Jubilee" has its origins in the Book of Leviticus (chapter 25) as a special year of reconciliation, pilgrimage, and coming home. Pope Francis has designated the 2025 Holy Year as a time to renew ourselves as "Pilgrims of Hope."

To Learn more about the Year of Jubilee go to
www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html
or scan the QR code

