



Christmas Day



December 25, 2016

Merry Christmas!

Dear Parish Family,

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

The King is born! Now is the time to experience Him as a child. Walk up to the stable. See the wise men kneeling before Him in complete wonder and awe. See His mother, Mary, wrapped in the arms of her husband. As you draw nearer, feel the warmth from the breath of the animals in the stable. Your heart begins to leap as you gaze upon the face of the child in Mary’s arms. Here lies the Savior of the world. The man who came for you. Yes, YOU.

“Is our faith in Jesus simply belief in a historical person who lived an exemplary life, who died a sacrificial death, and who left us a legacy of teachings to guide us in life’s journey? Or do we also truly believe that Christ IS risen, that he is alive now, and that, even though he has ascended into heaven, he comes physically to earth as the living bread come down from heaven in the Eucharist? Do we go to the Eucharist simply out of obligation or tradition, or do we go to encounter the Lord of our lives? Do we view the Eucharist only as a series of rituals, or as an encounter with a living person whose love can transform us? Do we truly believe that the little Babe laid in a feeding box in Bethlehem, whose birth stirs up so much joy in us, is the same Jesus who is laid on the altar to feed his sheep today? Can we be filled with the wonder and awe of those down-to-earth shepherds who witnessed heaven singing to celebrate the joy of God-become-man? When we go to Mass do we find the experience dull or dreary unless the choir or the homilist brightens it up for us, or do we go with stars in our own eyes, stars that guide us to adore the King of heaven and earth? When we leave after having received the Eucharist, do we grasp the incredible wonder that the same Jesus who was carried in the womb of the Virgin until she brought him forth to the world is carried in us so that we can bring him forth in today’s world?”

A Christmas Reflection by Bishop Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu

He is waiting for us. He is calling you. Go to Him. Spend time with Him and then go forth with a renewed meaning of “Merry Christmas!”

-- Briana Fiegen, Director of Youth Discipleship and Ministry, Gr. 7-12



PARISH COLLECTION



Envelopes:	\$13,672.67	(194 parishioners)
ACH:	\$ 5,345.00	(31 parishioners)
Loose:	\$ 690.40	
Children:	\$ 39.80	

Total collected last week: \$19,747.87 Thank You!

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS (ACH): If you would like to have your church contributions automatically deducted from your bank account each month, call the parish office at 996-3639. Forms can also be found on our website, www.holyfamilymitchell.com (under FORMS) that you can fill out and return to the parish office.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: We welcome those who are new to our parish and ask them to call the parish office for registration information, or if you are moving, please also notify the parish office at 996-3639.

BAPTISM: Last Sunday of the month after the Saturday evening Mass (6:15pm) or Sunday after the 11:30am Mass (12:45pm). Please notify the parish office and a Baptism Information Form will be provided.



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THIS MONDAY, DEC. 26 FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

NO MORNING MASSES DECEMBER 27-30 – FATHER WILL BE AWAY



**NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27
NO 5:30 PM CONFESSIONS**

PARISH NEWS

UNBOUND – A Call to Serve the Poor – January 7/8

Next weekend, please welcome Rev. George Knab O.M.I. who will be with us to celebrate Masses and tell us about the work of Unbound, a lay Catholic sponsorship ministry that helps children and elderly in 20 developing countries. To learn more, call (800) 875-6564 or visit Unbound online at www.unbound.org.



Thank you to all who donated their time and energy to come and help with the Church and Gathering space decorating for Christmas. As usual everything looks beautiful!

This year our head decorator is stepping down. For the past 25 years Cindy Easton has volunteered her time, talent and treasure in decorating our Church, not only at Christmastime, but year round! The countless hours she has put into always making sure our Church looked so beautiful is overwhelming! Thank you Cindy for your humbling service to our Church for so many years! God Bless you!



Now...with Cindy stepping down, we are asking for new volunteers to please step forward to help the current volunteers keep this wonderful tradition going. ‘Many hands make light work’ ☺. Please call the parish office to volunteer.

– Fr Stevens and grateful Holy Family Parish



THANK YOU to all who donated toward the cost of the “Holiday Fruit Baskets”. Also, thanks to those who helped deliver them. Over 65 deliveries were made this year! They were very much appreciated by all who received them. Merry Christmas and God Bless!

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer or have a prayer request that you would like added to Holy Family’s prayer list, email holyfamilyprayerlist@gmail.com or submit it on our website at www.holyfamilymitchell.com.

♥ We Believe in the Power of Prayer ♥

JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL NEWS



Robin Cahoy – Principal
1510 W Elm Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301
(605) 996-2365 – Website: www.johnpaul2.org

The teachers and staff at John Paul II School wish everyone a Happy and Healthy 2017! School will resume on January 3rd – Happy New Year!

There will be a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting on January 5th to begin this New Year. We look forward to many parents attending to help plan the activities for the upcoming School Carnival on January 29. The meeting will begin at 7:00 in the faculty lounge on the east end of the school.

We are grateful for our World of Work students who are seniors from Mitchell High School. These students are graduates of John Paul II School and chose to return to their elementary school classrooms for an opportunity to delve into their chosen plan of study in college. These students are Brody Weiss, in Mrs. Morgan's third grade classroom, Megan Sebert, who divided her time between speech with Mrs. Karin Larson, and second grade with Mrs. Yahne, and Kylee Auch, in Mrs. Mentele's kindergarten classroom. Kylee will return for one more semester of World of Work in the second grade classroom with Mrs. Yahne. We wish all of you the best in your last semester of high school.

The SCRIP program that benefits our school, as well as parishes, has truly begun to be supported by so many people! Purchasing gift merchandise cards for families' everyday expenses such as groceries, gas, restaurants, and many local stores helps our school as well as tuition for individual families. You may dedicate your purchases for tuition of a specific family or to our school's Adopt-A-Student plan. Scrip will be sold after masses in both parishes every weekend except holidays and over summer vacation. Please call the school to find out more about this awesome program!

S.C.R.I.P. SALES WILL RESUME AFTER MASS THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 7/8 IN THE GATHERING SPACE

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL on KELO TV on Christmas Day

If you were unable to attend the 20th Annual Christmas at the Cathedral in person, we invite you to watch a taped rebroadcast on Christmas Day from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on KELO TV.



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

12/27-30	No Mass
12/31	5:00pm d. Mary & Joseph Spencer
01/01	8:30am d. Ronald Kight
	10:00am For Holy Family Parish
	11:30am d. Pat & Margo Kirby

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers

12/31	5:00pm	L-S Kirby; EM-Deacon Graves, W&M Puetz, T Kirby, J Schreiner
01/01	8:30am	L-J Feiner; EM-M Bittner, D Callies, S Moege, P Essig, Volunteer
	10:00am	L-J Schumacher; EM-T Schumacher, K Hohn, D Price, J Thury, J Traupel
	11:30am	L-P Paulson; EM-C&L Bannwarth, V Weber, M VanderHeiden, T Day

Mass Servers

12/31	5:00pm	J Ebert M Mauszycki, C Miller
01/01	8:30am	C&E Delehant, E Vermeulen
	10:00am	A Fergen, C&J Hohn
	11:30am	P Schleich, T DeJong (sub requested), B Sparks (sub requested)

Ministers of Hospitality

12/31	5:00pm	J Grosdidier, E Huber, B&B Puetz, L Sparks
01/01	8:30am	J&T Hohrman, M Miiller, H Morgan,
	10:00am	Max Alexander, C Bartscher, L&V Boehmer, D Sabers
	11:30am	Mary Alexander, T&C Riddle, K Soukup, N Zimmerman


WEEKLY BULLETIN BOARD

12/25	Christmas Day – Mass: 10:00am
12/26	Parish Office Closed
12/27-30	No Daily Mass – Fr. Stevens will be away
	No Eucharistic Adoration
12/28	Combined Choir Rehearsal – 6pm – Music Office
	No R.C.I.A Class
12/31	Mary, Mother of God – Vigil Mass times: 5:00pm
01/01	Mary, Mother of God – Masses: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30am

NEW SITE FOR MITCHELL FOOD PANTRY

A new site for the Mitchell Food Pantry will open on Feb. 1, 2017 at 212 W 1st Ave, formerly the Hair Affair. We ask for your continued support of Mitchell Food Pantry through your generous donations of money and food. We are also reaching out to our church communities in search of volunteers to help us run the Pantry in areas such as: helping clients with paperwork and "shopping", cleaning, stocking shelves, and hauling food that has been donated by local businesses and organizations. For more information, call the Mitchell Food Pantry at 999-8150.

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 **MEALS ON WHEELS** – January 2 to February 10, 2017.
Still in need of 10 more drivers! Five routes from Queen of Peace, Monday to Friday, meals picked up at 10:45 am. Approximately 40 - 50 minutes per route start to finish. Copies of each route available to those who want one. To volunteer call Kathy, 996-7977 or 630-0448.

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"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him a hand". –Mother Teresa