

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: September 20, 2020

The generosity of God is downright scandalous! Yes, you read that right. We have a very good habit of placing limits upon Almighty God; we put Him into a box. Better yet, we already have a pre-conceived notion about how He is supposed to act and when He doesn't act accordingly, we often get mad, or we think He is something less than who He is, namely God. God is God and we are not. He can do whatever He wants to do. This is the essence of the story that we hear in our Gospel for this weekend. Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner," who hires laborers for his vineyard. All of us are the laborers in His vineyard. We are all working toward the same goal, which is Heaven! I will say it again.... We are all working for heaven! That is the goal. Whether or not we have been working long and hard for it, or whether we have just shown up to the field, the end goal is the same. God has given all of us, through our baptism, the grace to be faithful to Him every day and to carry out His will every day. We have the choice to cooperate with that grace or not! Every single one of us is a sinner, but that is not the end of the story, God gives us the grace to do His will; to do good and to avoid evil. Yet what happens when you see others succeeding and you seem to be struggling? Why does evil seem to be winning and goodness seems to be losing? What happens when it seems as though God does not care about you and you feel empty and alone? These are all questions that our Lord is inviting us to ask Him. Go ahead, ask Him the hard questions. Be as brutally honest with Him as you can. Our Lord sees the big picture. He knows what we need and when we need it. Sometimes we grasp for control, when we never had it to begin with. The only thing we actually have control over is our thoughts and actions. We can choose to cooperate with our Lord or we can choose to do things ourselves. Today, what is our Lord asking of you? Have a conversation with Him. Ask Him for the grace that you need to do His will and not your own. Remember, we are all working for heaven! Strive to follow our Lord and cooperate with His grace, and He will take care of the rest. —With much love, Fr. Tim

PARISH COLLECTION

 Envelopes:	\$ 9,372.00	(111 parishioners)
ACH/WeShare:	\$ 1,080.00	(13 parishioners)
Loose:	\$ 276.00	
Total Church Support:	\$ 10,728.00	Thank you!

Opportunity to Share your Time and Talents

We are in need of Money Counters for the 2nd weekend of the month. If you are interested, please contact the Parish office.

An average of \$15,300 in weekly contributions is needed to offset the cost of living increase for parish expenses, etc.

Holy Family's Annual Statement for fiscal year 2019-20 is available for review on our website at www.holyfamilymitchell.com

Options for electronic giving

ACH is an option for automatic withdrawals from your checking or savings account. A form would need to be completed.

WeShare is an option for online giving that has been set up through Holy Family. Access on parish website – www.holyfamilymitchell.com. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the parish office at 996-3639, Monday—Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm.

GriefShare, a support group for those experiencing grief and loss, will be held on Sunday evenings at Holy Family Church beginning this Sunday, Sept. 20th at 6:00 pm. Weekly sessions include "Is This Normal?" "The Challenges of Grief," "Grief and Your Relationships," "Why?" and "Guilt and Anger." For more information or to register online visit: www.holyfamilymitchell.com or call 605-996-3639. Cost is \$15 for your own personal workbook to accompany the sessions. If you would like, you are welcome to attend a session with no obligation.

LOST & FOUND: Hearing Aid found in the church a few weeks ago. Call or come to the parish office to claim.

Parish News

 With joy we welcome and congratulate Layton Kasper, part of last year's RCIA group, who made a profession of faith and received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at Holy Family. May you continue to grow in your love for God and the beautiful riches of the Catholic Faith! Know of our prayers for you.

RCIA Classes: For adults interested in joining the Church, classes will begin Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7:00pm in the JP11 Religion Room. Wearing a mask is required. Contact Christine for details, 996-3842.

John Paul II Gift Card Program

Gift Cards - Do you like to use them or give them as gifts? Did you know John Paul II School sells gift cards that give a rebate back to the school **and** to a student with no extra expense to you? Don't have a student at the school? No problem, you can give your rebate to the Adopt-A-Student/Tuition Assistance Scholarship program!

Fun Fact of the Week – Culver's Gift Cards have a 10% rebate for our school. So if you purchase \$100 in gift cards to Culver's, \$5 goes back to a family (or Adopt-A-Student program) and \$5 goes directly to John Paul II School. We will be selling John Paul II Gift Cards after Mass this weekend and most Masses during the school year. We encourage you to give it a try!

Renee LeBrun—Development Director of John Paul II



We are still looking for a few more drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels. Please call Marcia Sprinkel at 770-2328 if you can help out.

Faith Formation News



Holy Family & Holy Spirit Catholic Churches
Christine Lemmer – Director of Family Formation K-6 and RCIA
996-3842 - familyformation@ffmitchell.com

K-12 Faith Formation News: The Parent Meeting for **Gr. K-8 FF** is this Wed., Sept. 23 from 6-7pm in the JP11 MPR. *To allow for social distancing: only one parent per family attends and no children; wearing a mask is required.*

You are invited to join: Our Lady of the Prairie Prayer Cenacle for Faith Formation has been formed and you are invited to join. The cenacle takes its name from the Upper Room where the Last Supper and Pentecost occurred and also means a group of people. We are seeking adults to commit to pray one day each week September-May for the youth, families, volunteers, and Faith Formation initiatives in our parishes. You would pray “on your own”, whatever prayer and time of day you’d like to pray. To join, sign up online at www.ffmitchell.com or call Christine at 996-3842.

Thank you for your prayerful support!

Weekend Snack Pack Program: For the past several years, the Faith Formation Program has taken on a service project of adopting a weekend for the Snack Pack Program. Due to the pandemic we will not be doing so this year, but we are inviting the parishioners to help restock the bare shelves of the Weekend Snack Pack Program. **Now through Oct. 11 we will be collecting boxes of macaroni & cheese; you may drop off at the boxes at the Church entries.** *Thank you for your generosity!*

John Paul II School News



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

Happy Fall everyone! What a beautiful week we had! It seems as if school has just begun, but we are already getting close to the month of October. The midterm grades will end on Friday. One great way to celebrate the midterms is to order pizza from Papa Murphy’s online for our school fundraiser through Sept. 21st. You can order online and pick up for a great midterm celebration!

Our John Paul II Student Council members have been chosen for the 2020-21 school year. Kenna Magee – President; Elizabeth Schoenfelder – Vice President; Daphne Barondeau – Treasurer; and Caleb Machado - Secretary. Class representatives are Coy Reinesch, Bree Rockwell, Calvin Rockwell, Gina Wyatt, and Treston Zens. Congratulations to all of these students. Student Council advisors this year are Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Hagerty.

A new school calendar was sent out this week with many pending activities. We will keep you informed of activities as they change. Speaking of change, we have seen many changes in the past few months at school. Once again, thank you to our parents for being so positive about these changes and for helping to keep our school family safe and healthy. Water bottle fillers have been installed, hand sanitizer stations are posted at the entrance doors, chrome books for 2nd-3rd grade students should arrive within the next two weeks, the cart of new iPads is ready to be used, and the staff and students share in the responsibility of social distancing, wearing masks, and keeping the school clean and sanitized. We are blessed!

I encourage you to take the time to check out our Facebook page at John Paul II. Several pictures have been posted since the beginning of the school year.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon. Sept. 21	8:00 am	✠	Betty Lou Miller
NO MASS on Tuesdays			
Wed. Sept. 23	8:00 am	✠	Keith Feiner
Thur. Sept. 24	8:00 am		Darrell & Judy Olson and family
Fri. Sept. 25	8:00 am	✠	Michael Skelly
Sat. Sept. 26	5:00 pm	✠	Ida Rowe
Sun. Sept. 27	8:30 am		Holy Family Parish
	10:30 am	✠	Keith Loes
	5:00 pm	✠	Terry & Marlene Nuebel

No Ministry Schedules at this time



Nicole Fuhrer - Donor Advocate
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Stewardship Reflection: Today in our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus offers us a glimpse of the “Godly logic” of the Father through a parable of a landowner. Some workers are called early in the day, others not until very late. Yet the landowner pays them all a full day’s wage. This angered the laborers who had worked longest. But those laborers were relying on human logic and human calculations. They were not thinking as God does. This can happen to us Christian stewards as well. We can grumble and complain (at least internally) when we compare ourselves to others and sense that not everyone is contributing as much as we are to the parish, the neighborhood, within our family and so on. At those moments, we need to think bigger! As His followers we must strive as best we can to think as God does, using our time, our talents and treasure with eternity in mind. We must remember that it is a great privilege to have been called by the Father to work in His vineyard. Living the stewardship way of life brings us meaning, depth and purpose. Let’s embrace this Godly thinking and thank Him for calling us to this way of life.

Presentation Sisters VIRTUAL Women on the Prairie Conference
Kindness Champion, Nicole J. Phillips from Aberdeen will be the featured speaker for the Presentation Sisters’ VIRTUAL Women on the Prairie Conference. The event, “Kindness is Contagious...Are You Catching It?”, is being held on Saturday, October 3, 2020 from 9:00am – 11:15am. This event will be held via virtual Zoom Conference. You can register online at www.presentationisters.org. The fee is \$15 for the conference and can be completed with a credit card or through your Paypal account. Contact Barb Grosz at 605.229.8391 or bgrosz@presentationisters.org for more information.



Mitchell Area Food Pantry Needs: CEREAL - JUICE - CANNED FRUIT - HAMBURGER/TUNA HELPER - PASTA - RICE - CREAMED SOUPS - CREAMED CORN - CANNED PEAS/CARROTS - CANNED SPAGHETTI (RAVIOLI/SPAGHETTI O'S ETC.)
Donations may be left in the bin located in the foyer of the main entrance to the gathering space or you may bring them directly to the Food Pantry at 812 N Rowley St #C, Mitchell. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please mail to: Mitchell Area Food Pantry, PO Box 815, Mitchell, SD 57301. Thank you.