

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: September 27, 2020

First, I want to say "Thank You" for all the prayers, cards and kind words before, during, and after my surgery. Saying thank you has been a big part of my life lately as I have been pretty dependent on others for my comfort care. I especially want to thank my older brother Bill and his wife Betsy for staying with me in the days after surgery. I can honestly say "I couldn't have done it without you!"

I had an interesting experience leading up to surgery that I would like to share with you. I was surprised how peaceful the night before surgery was. I slept well and was rested when it came time for surgery. This is not my typical reaction, usually the night before a big event is restless and goes without much sleep. So what was the difference? Surrender.

I don't think of myself as a control freak but I do like to have my hand on the wheel or at least know where I am going before entering the unknown. But the night before surgery I knew that I had no control over what was going to happen. I could fear the unknown or ponder the pain that was to come later or I could place myself in the hands of God and the care of the doctors and nurses and surrender. It was here that I experienced peace in a way that is rare to me.

This my friends is what we call a God moment, facing what scares you with confidence through God's Grace. When it came time for the surgery I asked permission to pray for God's blessing and then I turned myself over to God's providential love and the skill of doctors and nurses.

As I said "Thank You" has become a big part of my vocabulary lately. I end this article with one final word of thanks "Thank you Lord for your comfort and care in the face of the unknown. May that peace reside in all of our hearts as we face these uncertain times. May we become instruments of that peace for each other. Amen".

—Fr. Ken

PARISH COLLECTION

 Envelopes:	\$ 6,265.00	(92 parishioners)
ACH/WeShare:	\$ 9,242.00	(69 parishioners)
Loose:	\$ 284.00	
Total Church Support:	\$ 15,791.00	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.

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.

RCIA Classes: For adults interested in joining the Church, classes will begin Thursday, October 1st at 7:00pm in the JP II Religion Room. Wearing a mask is required. Contact Christine for details, 996-3842.

Don't Worry, Retire Happy! Seven Steps to Retirement Security

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a special webinar event from award-winning author, speaker, and economist Tom Hegna. He is an industry leader and is considered by many as "The Retirement Income Expert." Tom has presented at over 5,000 seminars helping build lasting retirement plans. Join us on **October 15th at 7:00pm** as Tom walks us through his Seven Steps to Retirement Security. To take the next step in insuring you are prepared for retirement, register for this amazing **FREE** webinar event at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7FifX0fxTd6YrAYG3siNuQ OR call Tom Bechen at 605 770-9798 for more information.

Parish News

Holy Family wishes to Congratulate Brandon Anderson & Abbie Bartscher

who were united in marriage at Holy Family Church last weekend. May the Lord bless you as you begin your vocation of married life.



Holy Family Parish extends our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of recently deceased Dick Kenton and Mike Goldammer, both of Mitchell. May our Lord comfort you in your time of sorrow.



Real Presence Radio is holding their 15th annual Fall Live Drive fundraiser, October 6-9. Tune in to hear inspirational stories of faith and hope and find out which parish will win the Incredible Parishes Challenge. Donate and you'll be entered in a chance to win a beautiful handmade crucifix, gift cards, a rosary and a variety of books from Stephen Ray, Teresa Tomeo and Susan Tassone. Something new every day!! You can support the Real Presence Radio Live Drive in two ways:

- Call 877-795-0122 – 7AM – 7PM CST – October 6-9
- Donate online at www.realpresenceradio.com

Your gift helps to support one of the greatest resources we have to share the truth about the Catholic faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our **PRAYER CHAIN** is willing to pray for you or anyone in need of special prayers. At **HOLY FAMILY**, call Kathy Domeyer, 996-7977. At **HOLY SPIRIT**, Joan Honomichl, 996-6855 or Judi Bartscher, 770-6145.

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. 2 First Penance/First Communion** is this Wed., Sept. 30 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

I am very excited that John Paul II School will again offer our students the opportunity to pray together. During October we celebrate the Month of the Rosary. Every week during the month, the school children and teachers will join together to pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in Holy Spirit Church. The Chaplet will be led by different classes each week. What a wonderful way to end our school day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Deacon Nick Baus for all his hard work keeping our school looking SO wonderful! We celebrate National Custodial Day with him on October 2 and thank God for blessing us with his presence and many hours of commitment to our school!

A huge thank you to all who purchased pizza from Papa Murphy’s during our monthly fundraiser. We appreciate your support of John Paul II School.

Family members are welcome to come to the School Masses beginning next week. However, they are to sit in the gathering space and watch the Mass remotely. We thank Mrs. Reiser’s sixth grade class for planning the Mass on Sept. 30 at 9:00. There will be NO Mass on Wednesday, October 7 due to Clergy Days.

We hope you can join us for our PTO Zoom meeting on Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7:00 to discuss possible upcoming activities including the tentative October Family Fun Night scheduled for Oct. 30.

There will be a First Penance/First Communion parent meeting on Sept. 30 from 6-7:00 in the MPR of the school.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon. Sept. 28	8:00 am	✠	Jerome & Colleen Thelen
NO MASS on Tuesdays			
Wed. Sept. 30	8:00 am	✠	Maxine Oleson
Thur. Oct. 01	8:00 am	✠	Norb & Berdine Nuebel
Fri. Oct. 02	8:00 am	✠	Karen Thelen
Sat. Oct. 03	5:00 pm	✠	Jim Oberembt
Sun. Oct. 04	8:30 am	✠	Donna Giese
	10:30 am		Holy Family Parish
	5:00 pm	✠	Mary Franey

No Ministry Schedules at this time



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Stewardship Reflection: Today’s readings challenge us to imitate more fully both the actions and attitudes of Christ. We are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ’s disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. We should not be overwhelmed by this high bar, however. Our God is a loving and patient Father. He embraces every faltering step we take in imitation of His Son. We can move towards this goal in “baby steps.” and we can be honest with God when we falter. After all, He knows our thoughts already. When we stay engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it’s just to say, “I don’t think I can, Lord,” He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do. We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby stepping along, assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

The 49th Annual SD Right to Life Convention will be Friday, October 2nd (7-8:30pm) and 3rd (9-5pm), with the Life Chain on Sunday, October 4th at 2pm in Sioux Falls.

Speakers-Scott Klessendorf, President of Life Training Institute; Dr. Patti Giebink-Former SD Abortionist & now Pro-life Champion; Jon Hansen-State Rep. & SDRTL Board Member; Chris Motz-SD Catholic Conference Executive Director; Joanna Hyatt-Live Action. Plus, breakfast, lunch, vendors & Youth (Middle & High School) breakout session. For more info, visit www.siouxfallsarearighttolife.org or email righttolifesf@gmail.com



Mitchell Area Food Pantry Needs: CANNED PEAS, CORN, GREEN BEANS, CARROTS, STUFFING MIXES, BROWINIE MIXES, CAKE MIXES AND PANCAKE MIXES.

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.



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.