



WRC e-Edition

BI-MONTHLY NEWS UPDATES FOR CATHOLICS IN WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA • DECEMBER 2021 No. 9



Unto us a child is born...

The great Solemnity of Christmas celebrates the entrance into human history of God's Son, born of Mary and laid in a manger. Christ was not born in a palace but in a stable. He shows us that the power that establishes and advances God's kingdom is not the power of wealth or the power of brute force, but the power of love.

When the Word became flesh, he emptied himself of divine glory to share our life in all things but sin. What astounding love God has

for us! As we celebrate another Christmas in this challenging time, I pray that you will open your heart to this child who entered human history to overthrow the fallen world marked by sin and death. He establishes God's kingdom of mercy, salvation, and love.

May God bless you and those you love during the Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

+Bishop Peter M. Muhich

Events

Televised Masses

Dece. 24 – 10 p.m. on Christmas Mass at Night (follow banner at top of website) on website and Facebook

<https://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/christmas-masses/> or:

www.facebook.com/DioceseofRapidCity

December 25 – 10 a.m. ConnectCenter1 (formerly MyTV) & 4 pm NBC (This will also be shared to our Facebook and Twitter pages after 10 a.m.)

Chancery Schedule

Dec. 23 - 24 Chancery closed for Christmas. Dec. 30 - 31 Chancery closed for Solemnity of Mary

*Have a blessed
Christmas &
a happy and healthy
New Year*

Bishop's Calendar

Dec. 23, 2021 to Jan. 31, 2022
Subject to change without notice

2021

December 23-24, Thursday-Friday

Chancery Closed for Christmas

December 24, Friday

10 p.m. Christmas Mass at Night,
Cathedral, livestreamed at

www.rapidcitydiocese.org

December 26, Sunday

10 a.m. Mass, Our Lady of Victory,
Kadoka

December 30-31, Thursday-Friday

Chancery Closed for Solemnity of
Mary

December 31, Friday

5:30 p.m. Mass, Cathedral

2022

January 4, Tuesday

5 p.m. Chancery Staff Mass,
Chancery Chapel

January 6, Thursday

10 a.m. Chancery Cabinet Leaders
Meeting, Chancery

January 17, Monday

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,
Chancery Closed

January 19, Wednesday

7 a.m. Mass with Blessing of March
for Life Pilgrims, Cathedral
3:45 p.m. Rapid City Catholic School
System Executive Committee,
Bishop's Office

January 23, Sunday

10 a.m. Pre-Confirmation Meeting
11 a.m. Confirmation Mass, Blessed
Sacrament, Bison

January 25, Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Catholic Social Services
Board Meeting

January 30 – February 5

National Catholic Schools Week

January 31, Monday

9 a.m. National Catholic Schools
Week Mass, Cathedral
7 p.m. Men in Black Basketball
Event, St. Thomas More High
School, Rapid City



December 8, at the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Bishop Peter Muhich consecrated the Diocese of Rapid City to St. Joseph. (WRC photo)

Invoking the intercession and protection of St. Joseph

“Go to Joseph,” a diocesan Advent Mission, was held the first three Wednesdays in December. Deacon Josh Lee gave a live reflection via Zoom at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City, December 1. Deacon Lee is a seminarian at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, Mo., and his presentation was titled “The Beauty of the Heart of Joseph.” On Dec. 15, Fr. Mark McCormick, spoke on St. Joseph’s role as the “Pillar of Families, Glory of Home life,” at Our Lady of the Black Hills Church, Piedmont.

The Dec. 1 and 15 events and the Dec. 8 consecration of the Diocese of Rapid City to St. Joseph are available as videos on the diocesan website at <https://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/stjoseph/>.

Wednesday, December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Bishop Peter Muhich consecrated the Diocese of Rapid City to St. Joseph. The date also marked the conclusion of the Year of St. Joseph which was declared to start Dec. 8, 2020, by Pope Francis. The papal observance marked the 150th anniversary of Pope Pius IX declaring St. Joseph patron of the universal church. The local celebration was held at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rapid City.

Noting the day is a Marian feast, Bishop Muhich said, “Today we have something even more special, grace upon grace.” In his homily, Bishop Muhich began with the

many ways the Blessed Mother’s life is intertwined with her divine son, Jesus.

Then, he explained when something is consecrated or set aside for a specific purpose there is movement in the spiritual world. “St. Joseph knows what is happening tonight,” he said.

He added St. Joseph is someone men and boys should pay attention to, “he can teach us the virtues of manhood and how to be a good man.”

When Bishop Muhich consecrated the diocese to the care and protection of St. Joseph, he said, “I dedicate the Diocese of Rapid City under the protection and prayers of St. Joseph. I ask St. Joseph to watch over our parishes, our religious communities, institutions ... protecting them from the attack of the evil one just as he did when he watched over the holy family.

“Watch over us all, leave no corner of the diocese untouched by your protection and intercession. St. Joseph, most chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, foster father of the Son of God, patron of the church, protector of the Eucharist, terror of demons, come to our aid with Our Lady of Perpetual Help to make us strong in faith, deep in hope and overflowing with love for our faith, our church, our Eucharist, and the people of western South Dakota. Great St. Joseph pray of us.”

Henderson retires from WSDCF

Tim Henderson, executive director of the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation is retiring December 31, 2021, after eight years of service. He started working for the church in 2013. Originally, his title was Executive Director of the WSDCF and Development Director of the Diocese of Rapid City.

The Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation was incorporated on Dec. 30, 1992, to benefit the church and provide for future needs. The foundation seeks gifts including trusts, estates, and wills that will add to permanent growth, allowing the endowment funds to generate investment earnings,

and support the church across the diocese.

The endowment funds have grown to \$25 million, and the foundation board of directors typically awards about \$1 million for specific grant requests. Among those grants, in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the foundation awarded \$380,000 to chancery operations. Other awards went to parishes and organizations.

During Henderson's tenure the jobs were separated into two different offices. Discussing the separation of the jobs, Henderson said, "Part of the logic was to have both entities treated separately for legal purposes. Also, there was just too much going on for

one person to provide enough energy and productivity for both jobs — there's plenty to do."

Currently, Development Director Todd Tobin and Development Operations Elizabeth Siemieniak are in the Chancery building at 225 Main St., Rapid City. Now, Henderson and the WSDCF Administrative Assistant Cheryl Hubbeling have offices located in the Terra Sancta Campus at 2101 City Springs Road, west of Rapid City.

Numerous fundraising events were already in place when Henderson came on board including estate planning seminars, the Bishop's Hunt, and Fishing for Seminarians. "The main thing I added was the Western South Dakota Bishop's Golf Classic," said Henderson. "This golf tournament generates the most funds by quite a bit. Although the funds are important, I would add that the most important outcome for these events is building relationships and getting people familiar with the WSDCF."

Henderson added, "It has truly been a blessing to work for the WSDCF and the diocese. I was able to work with a lot of great people, whether at the parish level, at the Chancery, my coworkers, committee members, board members, priests, or bishops."

A subcommittee of the WSDCF board of directors is working to find a new executive director.



Tim Hendersen, executive director of the WSDCF, and Tony Berendse outgoing board of directors president are shown with Msgr. Michael Woster. Monsignor Woster will be overseeing the foundation until new management is in place. (WRC photo)

New parish life coordinator at Mission

Fr. James Kubicki has started to serve as pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in the town of Mission, South Dakota. "Unfortunately, with my other duties, I can't give the necessary pastoral attention to the people there, as well as to those in the care center in White River and in other nearby communities," he said. Father Kubicki is also the administrator of St. Francis Mission.

Sr. Rose Messingschlager, CDP, has moved here to help Father Kubicki on the Rosebud Reservation as the Parish Life Coordinator at St. Thomas Parish. She worked with Jesuits on Pine Ridge Reservation for nine years and then she served

as the Diocesan Director for Native Ministry in Duluth, Minnesota for twenty-six years.

When Father Kubicki asked Sr. Rose how she felt about coming to St. Francis Mission, she said: "Coming to be with the Lakota is like returning home!"

Her religious order initials stand for the Congregation of Divine Providence, which began in France in the 1700s and has its U.S. provincial house in northern Kentucky. She has an M.Ed. from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a Licentiate in Pastoral Missiology from the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy.



Sr. Rose Messingschlager, CDP, has moved here to help Father James Kubicki on the Rosebud Reservation as the Parish Life Coordinator at St. Thomas Parish. (Photo art)



Robert Braveheart, Sr.; Jo Ann Rooney, president of Loyola University Chicago; and Fr. Peter Klink, SJ, at the Opus Awards.

Red Cloud wins Opus award

Pine Ridge, South Dakota: On November 11, 2021, The Opus Prize Foundation, in partnership with Loyola University Chicago, named Red Cloud Indian School the winner of the 2021 Opus Prize at an award ceremony held on Loyola's campus in Chicago. The Opus Prize is an annual award recognizing individuals or organizations who champion faith-filled change. This year, The Opus Prize was named in honor of Fr. Peter Klink, S.J. and Robert Brave Heart, Sr., both who have served at Red Cloud Indian School for more than 75 years combined.

"This award really recognizes the heartfelt efforts of many people, over many years of the 133 years of the history of Red Cloud," says Fr. Peter Klink, SJ. "We (Red Cloud Indian School) are truly honored and grateful to be acknowledged in this way," shared Bob Brave Heart.

"For Red Cloud to be recognized by the Opus Prize Foundation, alongside the Kino Border Initiative and Fe y Alegria, two outstanding organizations grounded in justice and persistence, is such an incredible honor," says Tashina Rama, Executive Vice President at Red Cloud Indian School.

The Opus Prize is given not only to expand the humanitarian efforts of the recipient but to inspire others to pursue lives of service and is one of the world's largest faith-based, humanitarian awards for social innovation. Red Cloud was finalist along with Fe y Alegria and Kino Border Initiative. For more information about the Opus Prize, please visit www.opusprize.org.



RAPID CITY — Bishop Steven Biegler will be at Terra Sancta Retreat Center presenting a two-day retreat titled, "The Beatitudes: Standards for Stormy Seas," January 21-22, 2022. The retreat begins at 5:30 p.m. Mass on Friday, January 21 and includes conferences, holy hours, and reflection time, and ends with a sharing of graces at 5:15 on Saturday, January 22.

"I hope that participants will gain a deeper appreciation of the Beatitudes so that their spirituality more closely resembles Jesus' spiritual life," explained Bishop Biegler, Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyoming. "The retreat should strengthen their relationship with Christ so as to follow him more closely, to be sustained by grace and more peaceful in times of suffering, and to experience his abiding love and joy."

"We will reflect on the Beatitudes as a description of Jesus' spirituality, that is, how they express his relationship with the Father, his attitude toward and treatment of others, and his paschal perspective of the cross and resurrection," Bishop Biegler wrote in the retreat description. "We will consider how the Beatitudes provide us with standards for

stormy seas. By living the Beatitudes, we can navigate the trials of life and keep a paschal perspective that the Lord is with us in our suffering and leading us to unsurpassable eternal joy, which is what the word beatitude means."

The retreat is part of the 10-year celebration for the retreat center. "Since Bishop Steven was instrumental in the start-up of Terra Sancta Retreat Center, we are very excited to have him kick-off our 10th Anniversary year of events and activities with a mini retreat on the Beatitudes in January," said Reeny Wilson, retreat center director. "We have a blend of activities and events throughout the year that we hope everyone can participate in as we celebrate and give thanks for this gift of Terra Sancta. We pray our anniversary theme 'Encounter Jesus. Experience His Love. Embrace His Gift.' comes to life for each of our guests, today and always!"

Cost of the retreat is \$50. For lodging, meals, and retreat registration visit <http://terrasancta.org/beatitudes> or call 605-716-0925.



Children line up to present roses to Our Lady of Guadalupe at Mass Dec. 13. It was held at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rapid City. (WRC photo by Becky Berreth)