

Annual Report

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Our Lady of the Black Hills

Our Lady of the Black Hills exists to proclaim the joy of the Gospel to all creation and to transform lives with the Father's mercy.

Dear friends,

I am grateful to God for each of you. I want to say thank you. Thank you for your generosity and your faithfulness. I am very much touched by your good spirit and your faithful stewardship. Our parish did very well with the Diocesan Capital Campaign "Living the Mission" and with our ongoing parish financial and spiritual needs. Our finance and parish councils help to ensure your gifts are used wisely and that all measures to protect them are in place. I strongly encourage you to consider online (automatic) giving—a safer and easier way to give at olbh.org/donate.



As we look to the future, the Stewardship Committee will continue leading us toward the designation of "Stewardship Parish:" in accordance with our mission above. The Our Lady of the Black Hills team thanks all of you for assisting us in building with the Father's mercy.

In this report you will find the income/expense sheet for the 2018-2019 statement as well as facilities repairs, building projects, and parish life information.

Thank you, Fr. Andrzej

Completed Upgrades to Buildings & Grounds

1. Replaced the roof and gutters of the rectory.
2. Converted the garage to additional usable meeting space and indoor storage as an addition onto St. Joseph's Hall.
3. Installed a new playground which meets all safety codes and requirements as well as a cement pad to the playground area for parents/caregivers to have a comfortable space to gather.
4. Sealed the parking lot.
5. Completed the Parish phase of the Diocesan Capital Campaign, Living the Mission, which will aid us in future projects.

Ongoing Parish Needs and Projects:

- ⇒ Replacement of the church roof and gutters due to hail and wind damage.
- ⇒ Striping of the parking lot.
- ⇒ Security cameras to aid in the safety of the interior and exterior of the Church.
- ⇒ Sound system upgrade and/or replacement.
- ⇒ Additional routers for internet use in the rear classrooms.
- ⇒ Finishing of the rectory basement.
- ⇒ Updates to the landscaping surrounding the Church.
- ⇒ Replacement of the main entrance doors.

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L i t u r g y



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It truly takes a holy, dedicated, prayerful and prepared community of Liturgical Ministers to serve at Sunday masses, daily mass, Sacramental celebrations (First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms), Penance Liturgies, the Triduum, Stations of the Cross and all of the Liturgies of the Church Year. Every year OLBH sees the dedication of those who are “called to serve” in so many ways, as Hospitality ministers, Extraordinary ministers, Altar servers, Lectors, Sacristans, and Music ministers. Throughout the year, we have seen God’s grace enter a lively new discipleship of new ministers in all Liturgical areas of service!

Our parish is richly blessed with devoted and talented accompanists, cantors and choir members. This past year, although we had some challenges with losing a couple cantors, the Spirit provided us with yet another group of new cantors and instrumentalists (drums, guitarists, bells, violin, keyboard) who have become an integral part of our Music Ministry. In a special way, we are blessed by those leading the music ministry each weekend: Lorraine Rieth-Ptacek (Director of Music & Liturgy), Jane Abernathy, Brenda Czmowski, and Regena Thrall.

OLBH was again the place for late summer Weddings at which our Music ministers provided joyful liturgical music. In September, we initiated our weekend mass time change to 8am and 11am on Sundays. We also provided a Communal Penance Liturgy with Taizé Prayer during the week of our Parish Feast Day.

In October, at Terra Sancta Holy Cross Chapel, Music ministers Lorraine Ptacek, Brad Blauvelt and others from other Catholic and Christian churches, led their ‘once a month’ Taizé Prayer Service. Lorraine was especially grateful in October, when the local chapter of the National Pastoral Musicians had their annual St. Cecilia’s Banquet and awarded her with the St. Cecilia Award for Laity for 2018. Lorraine also was blessed to play for the Priests’ Retreat masses at Holy Cross chapel. On the last Sunday of the month at the 11am, the Music ministry added the Youth music ministers with bells, violin, keyboard, and vocals, as well as youth lectors and greeters, an initiative which was continued thru the year. Also in October, we had Liturgical ministry training followed by a lunch.

During the Advent Season, the children prepared for ‘The Christmas Window,’ a Christmas musical complete with actors, biblical narrators, and carolers, accompanied by Lorraine and the Youth music ministers (bells, drums, keyboards, violin); the musical was presented to the parish before Christmas. We also had our Communal Penance Liturgy. Our Christmas Liturgies were again enhanced by special music and extra instrumentalists.

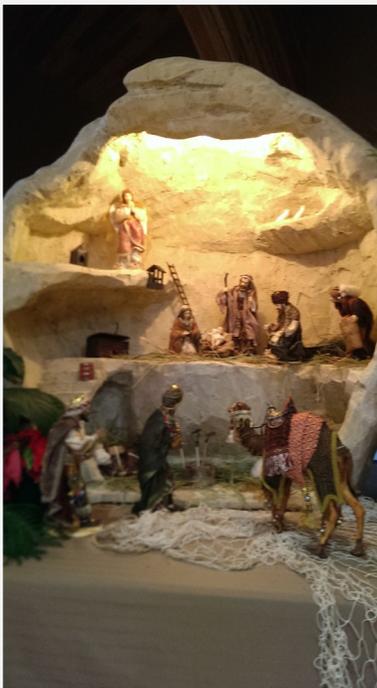
In March, ministers helped once again with the Lenten Communal Penance Liturgy. The second graders led us in the Stations of the Cross for kids, complete with special music led by Lorraine and the youth music ministers and special reflections, read by some of the youth lectors.

The Triduum was again a high celebration of the church year, with faithful liturgical ministers giving of their gifts to help our community journey with our Lord from Holy Thursday, Good Friday and thru to His Resurrection celebrated at Easter Vigil and Sunday Liturgies. All of these Liturgies experienced the joy of a collaboration of Music ministers: choir members and instrumentalists.

In May, we again prayed the rosary before masses & celebrated with a May Crowning. During Duc in Altum camp for kids in June, the young people ministered as lectors and singers.

Our liturgical ministers and music ministers served at numerous Diocesan events including Pastoral Ministry Days, priest retreats, Catholic school masses, and Taizé prayer services to name a few. Other preparations and celebrations of the Sacraments, Holy Days, and other Liturgies and prayer experiences was ongoing.

Throughout the year our Liturgy Committee and Worship Commission met to discuss, plan and prepare to serve the needs of our worshipping parish community. One final note just in-the NPM (National Pastoral Musicians) Rapid City Chapter, of which OLBH is an active member, was awarded the Winner of the 2019 NPM Chapter of the Year Award to be presented in Raleigh this July!



Our Lady of the Black Hills **Statistics 2018-2019**

525 Families registered
110 Formed.org Families
13 Children baptized
20 Children received First Eucharist
14 Youth Confirmed
0 Adult Baptized // 4 Funerals
3 Adults received into Full Communion
6 Couples prepared for marriage

Faith Formation: 2018-2019

Catechists	61
Pre-K—5th grade	95
Middle School	34
High School	10
Adults	375 participated in one or more sessions of adult faith formation

† R C I A †

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults team instructed three adults in the Catholic faith along with their sponsors each Sunday morning from September through the Easter season. Three of the adults also made their First Communion. The class utilized many different learning materials including the *Symbolon* series from Formed. Brad Blauvelt and Stacy Tate led the class through Church teachings and doctrine.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Children had one participant. She was confirmed on Easter Vigil. She attended RCIA instruction with her parents as well as focused on the parent led Blessed program from Dynamic Catholic.

F a i t h F o r m a t i o n

Adult Faith Formation

Coordinated by Joni Osnes and Deacon John Osnes

During Lent four groups of 10 members studied 'Around the Lenten Circle'. The Sunday morning adult faith formation class of 20-25 members led by Pat Schubauer studied *Presence* and *Lectio: Peter* by Formed as well as *The Mass* by Word on Fire. They also took part in three sessions of Sharing Christ of the ChristLife series. The average attendance at the morning classes was 13 with the average number of sessions attended by each adult at 10.6; 30 adults attended at least one session and there were a total of 24 sessions offered.

Wisdom Wednesday topics included Catechist Workshop (25 attendees), Reverence for the Eucharist by Fr. Mark McCormick (22 attendees), Internet Safety by Holly Strand (30 attendees), Angels & Saints by Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek (25 attendees), Suicide Prevention by Jim Kinyon (40 attendees), Permanent Diaconate by Deacon Greg Sass (15 attendees), Stewardship of the Earth (20 attendees) and Healing & Deliverance Ministry by Fr. Michel Mulloy.

There are three weekly bible studies with 6-12 participants in each consisting of the Mothers' Bible Study, Early Bird Bible Study, and Mens' Group Bible Study.

A senior brunch retreat was held for parishioners aged 70+ and 58 people attended and studied *The Winter of Our Senior Years*.

30 families who had their child baptized received follow up mailings.

The ChristLife Evangelization series was continued with 57 attendees in the Discovering Christ course, 42 in the Following Christ course, and 31 in the Sharing Christ course. 27 adults attended four or more sessions.

Our Lady of the Black Hills supported and encouraged 36 adults and 9 children to attend The Summit, 13 adults to attend REFUEL, and 20 adults to attend Pastoral Ministry Days hosted by the Diocese of Rapid City.

There were thirty families that hosted the traveling chalice in their homes for one week and promised to pray daily for vocations.

Middle and High School Faith Formation

Coordinated by Rhonda Gehlsen

6th Grade - The 6th grade class had twelve students and was taught by Jeremy and Suzanne Reeve and Kodi Carlin. The curriculum was Sealed by Fire by Sophia Institute.

7th Grade (Confirmation Class) – The students walked through the 'Chosen' curriculum on Wednesday evenings led by Mark Weishaar, Laura Varilek, Jennifer Schaeffer, and Pascal Bedard to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. They attended an overnight retreat at Terra Sancta Retreat Center. They also completed a Saint Report and answered the Bishop's required questions. Thirteen students were confirmed by Bishop Gruss on May 18, 2019.



8-12th Grade – The youth participated in YDisciple groups which are small faith sharing groups designed for high school aged youth. There were two girls groups and two boys groups held on Wednesday evenings led by Samantha Hough and Kami Serfling, Sydnie Gamroth and Billie Harris, Brett Whealy and Jeremy Thompson, and Jim Landers and Aric Dyczek. Nine high school students attended the Steubenville conference in Denver, CO.

F a i t h F o r m a t i o n

Elementary Faith Formation

Coordinated by Rhonda Ghelsen

We offer two paths of Pre-K – 5th faith formation: the traditional classroom model and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This was our first year of offering classes on both Sunday mornings or on Wednesday evenings instead of two sessions on Sundays.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

Parents led their children in preparation for the sacraments using the 'Blessed' curriculum by Dynamic Catholic consisting of a workbook and DVD. The parents attended 'Forgiven' and 'Presence' presented by the Augustine Institute and facilitated by Deacon Greg Sass. Monthly meetings for the children were held to review the 'Blessed' curriculum while their parents attended their catechesis. The children and their parents also attended a reconciliation and first Eucharist retreat. Twelve children received their First Communion on May 5th and one child received Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 20th.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to our Catholic faith that combines scripture and liturgy in a Montessori environment. The children gather in an atrium that is filled with material that helps aid the children in their relationship with Christ. We had over 60 children enrolled in CGS this year and our atriums were bursting, thus, we spent the summer building an additional level I atrium that we will open this fall allowing all PreK-1 students to experience CGS. The level I atriums were led by Lisa Katzenstein, Maria Pesek, Kathy Van Asma, and Suzanne Wilhelmi. The level II atriums were led by Megan Hamer, Debby Heisinger, Cathleen Denekamp, and LaChel McCollar. The level III atriums were led by Suzanne Wilhelmi, Traci Hanson, Jenny Scherr and Melissa Murphy.

Traditional Catechesis

A lectionary-based catechesis is the foundation of this program. The basic curriculum is selected to integrate scripture, doctrine, prayers and practices of the Church. There were over 40 children enrolled in the traditional classrooms PreK – 5th grade. We offered Traditional classes on both Sunday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. They used 'Spirit of Truth' curriculum by Sophia Institute. Our diligent catechist teams include Autumn and Brenda Cassen, Rose and Rachael Held, Naomi Heid and Melissa Hood, Kelsey Cox and John Gehlsen, Peggy Wermers and Tiffany Turnquist, and Bridgette Fode, Valerie Curtis and Lori Blake.

Duc in Altum

Eighty-five students entering grades 1-12 participated in morning and evening sessions based on their ages the first week in June. They learned about vocations, the liturgy, and God's love with a focus on the liturgy. Instruction was carried out by four collegiate students along with a multitude of parish volunteers.



Thank You

Thank you to the parishioners of Our Lady of the Black Hills.

We could not maintain our vibrant parish without all of you.

Special acknowledgement to the following:

Knights of Columbus 7079—Grand Knight Aaron Denekamp

- ◆ Parish Feast Day food preparation and clean up
- ◆ Fall Festival food preparation and clean up
- ◆ Steubenville Fundraiser Spaghetti Feed for youth attendees
- ◆ Placement of the Narthex Cross for Lent

Landscaping Committee—Head Phillip Thompson

- ◆ Cleaning of front flower beds
- ◆ Replacement of underlayment in flower beds
- ◆ Planting of new trees
- ◆ Visioning of future landscaping renovations

Funeral Committee—Head Mary Ann Pulaski

- ◆ Food preparation
- ◆ Set up and clean up
- ◆ Gracious hospitality to over eight families in their time of grief

Gary Langfeldt

- ◆ Preparation of the land for the new playground
- ◆ Pouring of cement pad for the playground
- ◆ Regrading of the raw land surrounding the playground
- ◆ Countless hours mowing the grounds



Parish Happenings

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Our Lady of the Black Hills Society of St. Vincent de Paul fulfilled 179, up from 71 last year, requests of help from Friends in Need in the Black Hawk, Piedmont, Summerset area.

The needs included:

Housing	\$6285.81	Gas	\$100
Utilities	\$6290.33	Food	\$18.68
Other	\$1148.85		

Conference expenses for travel, phone, checks, PO Box, and training totaled \$1551.83.

The conference collected \$14,735.08 in income and paid \$15,295.50 in expenses this year.

Library

The OLBH Library continues to serve the parish by providing books and audio-visual materials for children, youth and teens, and adults. 156 items were checked out in this 12 month period. Other items were used for quick reference and during Adoration. Since records of library activities were first kept, 2,690 items have been checked out. Librarian Mary Coffin selects and catalogs materials into the collection. Bernie Gerving volunteered to process the books; Jane Abernathy helped by compiling a bibliography of library books about Saints for use by the Confirmation students next fall.

Piedmont Valley Ministerial Association Food Pantry

2018-2019 Activity:

The Piedmont Valley Food Pantry had 356 customers and gave out 483 bags of food. At Christmas, 804 gifts and food boxes were given to 90 families.

Traveling Chalice

The Traveling Chalice is a program to raise awareness of vocations and to remind everyone to pray about their vocation and vocations in general. All families in our parish are invited to take the Traveling Chalice home for a week as a reminder that God has a plan for our lives and to seek His will for our lives. The Chalice visited 33 homes in the first year. To host the traveling chalice in your home, contact Joni in the office at 787-5168.

In addition to supporting our parish, people donated \$24,072.98 to other ministries. In addition there was \$81,768 pledged by 179 households to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. OLBH parishioners also pledged \$673,700 by 124 households to the Diocesan Living the Mission campaign.

Church in Latin America:	\$50	Peter's Pence:	\$160	Black & Indian Missions:	\$65
Church in E. Europe:	\$60	Holy Land:	\$733	St. Vincent de Paul	\$2080
Solidarity Fund-Africa:	\$145	Catholic University:	\$30	Campaign for Human Dev.	\$80
Catholic Relief Services:	\$710	Mission Meals	\$500.98	Catholic Charities:	\$1747
Mission Sunday:	\$95	Priest Retirement:	\$4350	Adopt a Seminarian:	\$5213
Diocesan Misc. Collection	\$2540	Retired Religious	\$260	CSS Ash Wednesday	\$5254

FY Income/Expense: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

BALANCE SHEET

Checking & Savings	30,051.88
Receivables	11,476.05
Cont. Investments	1763.78
Contingency General Savings	10,237.01
Contingency Education Fund	23,595.49
American Century Gift Trust	0.00
Building Maint. Savings	50,538.32

Land	66,376.00
Land Improvements	42,514.46
Buildings & Improvements	605,073.21
Furniture & Equipment	196,882.14

TOTAL ASSETS **1,038,508.34**

Loan Principal (new Rectory)	0.00
Amounts held for others	6,012.36
Accounts Payable	0.00
Fund Balance account	1,038,508.34

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE **1,015,737.89**

INCOME:

New Building Funds	1,953.50
Collections	390,676.49
Merchandise Donations	863.22
New Rectory	0.00
Subtotal Contributions	412,345.89

Parish Activities	11,010.10
Fall Festival	6,136.00
Parish Income	22,056.44

Reimbursements	7,000.00
Interest & Dividends	1,5735.33
Misc./Facility Income	970.00
Miscellaneous Income	2,545.33

TOTAL INCOME **\$443,947.66**

EXPENSES:

Salaries	102,978.95
Employee Benefits	34,481.57
Continuing Education	720.00
Employee Screening	0.00
Subtotal Salary/Benefits	161,912.87

Office Supplies	2,428.26
Computer Supplies	7,119.62
Postage	959.50
Office Expenses	6,834.55
Subtotal Office Expenses	17,341.93

Worship Aids	1,823.95
Liturgical Supplies	3,787.07
Choir Expenses	2,231.31
Special Events	3,440.02
Service to Parishioners	3,809.80
Subtotal Aid/Event Expenses	15,092.15

Household/Table Expenses	5,691.71
Travel Expenses	5,691.92
Subtotal Expenses	11,3836.30

Utilities	23,881.88
Equipment & Building	74,863.48
Assessments/Donations	40,498.29
Subtotal Parish Costs	139,243.65

Grade School Religious Ed	6,260.85
Atriums/Cat. Of the Good Shep.	557.80
Middle/High School Ed.	13,662.68
Adult Education	6,246.12
Parish Education	4,045.32
Subtotal Rel. Ed Program	30,772.77

Assistance/Gifts	894.35
Parish Activities	3,029.41
Fund Raising Costs	212.15
Interest on Loan	19.15
Subtotal	4,155.06

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$403,328.43**

Principal Payments on Loan	-0.00
Capital Improvements	-47,276.08
Adjusted Net Difference	\$40,619.23

“Assessments/Donations” (right column) includes \$850 per month of support for our Sister Parishes in Corson County and \$29,511 paid to the Rapid City Catholic Schools because our parish had 34 students enrolled. The income of \$443,947.66 does not include the contributions of OLBH parishioners to diocesan ministries or for other special collections which was an **additional \$105,840.98** in contributions (on left).

LOOKING AHEAD

PROPOSED BUDGET: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

PROJECTED INCOME		PROJECTED EXPENSES:	
Checking & Savings	30,051.88	Salaries	148,116.00
Receivables	11,476.05	Employee Benefits	44,909.00
Cont. Investments	1763.78	Continuing Education	2,000.00
Contingency General Savings	10,237.01	Employee Screening	50.00
Contingency Education Fund	23,595.49	Subtotal Salary/Benefits	195,075.00
American Century Gift Trust	0.00	Office Supplies	2,500.00
Building Maint. Savings	50,538.32	Computer Supplies	4,150.00
Land	66,376.00	Postage	1,000
Land Improvements	42,514.46	Office Expenses	6,450
Buildings & Improvements	605,073.21	Subtotal Office Expenses	14,000.00
Furniture & Equipment	196,882.14	Worship Aids	2,150.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,038,508.34	Liturgical Supplies	4,900.00
Loan Principal (new Rectory)	0.00	Choir Expenses	2,550.00
Amounts held for others	6,012.36	Special Events	3,770.00
Accounts Payable	0.00	Service to Parishioners	2,500.00
Fund Balance account	1,038,508.34	Subtotal Aid/Event Expenses	15,870.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	1,015,737.89	Household/Table Expenses	6,100.00
INCOME:		Travel Expenses	5,250.00
New Building Funds	20,000.00	Subtotal Expenses	11,350.00
Collections	390,676.49	Utilities	24,950.00
Merchandise Donations	1000	Equipment & Building	51,800.00
New Rectory	0.00	Assessments/Donations	56,080.00
Subtotal Contributions	436,550.00	Subtotal Parish Costs	132,830.00
Parish Activities	0.00	Grade School Religious Ed	7,000.00
Fall Festival	6,200	Atriums/Cat. Of the Good Shep.	7,000.00
Parish Income	18,000.00	Middle/High School Ed.	10,000.00
Reimbursements	7,500.00	Adult Education	5,040.00
Interest & Dividends	1,500.00	Parish Education	11,535.00
Misc./Facility Income	800.00	Subtotal Rel. Ed Program	40,575.00
Miscellaneous Income	8,300.00	Assistance/Gifts	800.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$464,750.00	Parish Activities	10,250.00
		Fund Raising Costs	1000.00
		Interest on Loan	0.00
		Subtotal	11,250.00
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$464,750.00

OLBH Councils and Committees

Pastoral Council

The purpose of the pastoral council is to act as a consultative body to the pastor. By collaborative exchange it seeks to discern the pastoral needs and goals of the parish. It promotes the best interests of the parish by making recommendations for its management and development, both spiritual and temporal. Finally, it serves as a medium whereby any and all members of the parish may make known their views of parish matters. All are welcome to attend any meeting.

Members Include:

Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek, Deacon Greg Sass, Deacon John Osnes, Cathleen Denekamp (Chair), Wade Rhodes (vice Chair), Brad Blauvelt, Jane Abernathy, Lorinda Collings, Audrey Montileaux, Erik Haakedahl, and Lorinda Collings

Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM in the parish hall.

Leadership Night

Leadership Nights are hosted on the second Thursday of each month beginning in the Church with evening prayer, followed by a light meal, and then breaking out into commissions/councils, and committees. All are invited to attend and to lend their voice and hands to aiding all involved in furthering the mission of OLBH. Councils meeting that night include Stewardship Council, Administration Commission, Evangelization Commission, Catholic Outreach Commission, and Worship Commission. For more information on how to be a part of the commissions or to aid the councils/commissions in planning or projects please contact the office.

*The Catholic Outreach Commission (formerly the Social Justice Commission) is in need of membership.

Finance Council

The Finance Council provides assistance to the pastor in applying the principles of good stewardship in utilizing all parish resources, both human and financial. The council meets quarterly with the pastor in order to review and approve the annual budget, recommend business management policies of the parish and to address human resource issues including salaries and insurance, offer long term recommendations on management of the financial resources of the parish, advise regarding maintenance and facilities improvements.

Members include:

Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek, Leisa Nash (Chair), Trista Hedderman (Vice Chair), James Johns, Larry Williamson, Ryan Turnquist, Tom Collings, and Lorinda Collings

Discipleship Commission

The purpose of the Discipleship Commission is to support the faith formation programs and to guide their development in accordance with the parish purpose statement, vision, core values, priorities, and goals. It serves to foster cooperation, coordination, and communication among those involved in faith formation at OLBH. Meetings are held quarterly and are open.

Members include:

Deacon Greg Sass (Chair), Deacon John Osnes, Teresa Thompson, Joni Osnes, Rhonda Gehlsen, Brad Blauvelt, Brenda Czmoswski, LaChel McCollar

Safe Faith Environment



PROMISE TO
PROTECT



PLEDGE TO
HEAL

*“Each of
you is a child
of God.”*

Pope Francis



www.usccb.org

The Diocese of Rapid City takes seriously the commitment to keeping all God’s children safe. All clergy (priests and deacons), lay employees, and volunteers are required to take Safe Environment Training and undergo a background check prior to interacting with children and vulnerable adults. In addition, all children and young people are offered age appropriate Safe Environment Training. Parents and guardians are offered SET materials to review with their children as well.

The Victim Assistance Coordinator (VAC) is Barbara Scherr who can be contacted by calling the VAC cell phone 605-209-3418. Barbara is a retired elementary teacher who is both experience in confidential matters and caring. All information is treated confidentially. Alleged victims are advised of their right to report alleged abuse to civil authorities.

More information regarding Safe Environment Training, what is included, and where to look for resources can be found at rapidcitydiocese.org/safe-environment. Documents including the Diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy and the Code of Conduct of the Diocese of Rapid City can be found there. Quarterly Safe Environment newsletters are also printed in the bulletin for more information.

Any concerns or questions regarding the Safe Faith Environment at Our Lady of the Black Hills can be directed to Fr. Andrzej or to Katie Harwood, Safe Environment Coordinator at 605-787-5168. You may also contact Charlotte Verhey, Safe Environment Coordinator for the Diocese of Rapid City at 605-343-3541. Again, all matters concerning Safe Environment are treated with confidentiality and diligence.

*Vulnerable Adults are noted in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and broadly defined as dependent adults, those who are institutionalized and those who are developmentally disabled or habitually lack the use of reason. The Diocese of Rapid City expanded that definition to include the following groups of individuals: 1. Those in hospitals, nursing homes or the homebound; 2. Those in programs for the bereaved, separated and divorced; 3. Those in Rachel’s Vineyard; 4. Those in Returning Catholics programs; and 5. Those in the annulment process.

*Children are those individuals under the age of consent that rely on adults for part or all of their basic needs to be met.



“Our Lady of the Black Hills Catholic Community is alive. The liturgies are vibrant and reverent. The music is always good and appropriate to the celebration. The community participates well and parishioners are welcoming and inviting. The beauty of the facility is matched by the inner joy and peace of the community that gathers there to worship God and build up the Kingdom of God. I love celebrating with the community at OLBH.”

-Fr. Michel Mulloy, Diocesan Administrator

Pastor: Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek

Pastoral Team: Deacon couples Walt & Judy Wilson (retired), John & Joni Osnes, and Greg & Nancy Sass.

Staff: Rhonda Gehlsen, Lorinda Collings, Joni Osnes, Lorraine Rieth-Ptacek, Todd Philippe, Erik Haakedahl, and Katie Harwood