ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Pastoral Staff

Parochial Administrator:	Fr. Grant Gerlach
Phone:	605/673-4426 (office)
	605/745-3278 (emergency)
E-Mail:	*GGerlach@diorc.org*
Deacon:	Dn. Pat Coy
Phone:	605/574-2605 (home)
	605/209-4636 (mobile)
E-Mail:	*LoftlandRanch@gmail.com*
Office Manager / Bookkeeper	Karen Thomsen
	605/673-4426 (office)
Parish Office Hours:	Tues. - Thurs., 9:00A - NOON
Parish E-Mail:	*StJohns@gwtc.net*
Parish Web Site:	*www.CusterCatholic.org*

WEEKLY CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

Second Week in Advent

12/ 5 Mon.	7:00A		Communion Service
12/ 6 Tues.	7:00A- …		Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration
	5:00P	*	Eucharistic Benediction
	4:00P- 5:00P		Reconciliation (*during Advent*)
	5:30P		Mass Int.: Ron Pfeiffer †
12/ 7 Wed.	5:15P	*	HDO Vigil Mass Int.: Melvin Hiermeir † (*followed by potluck and an Evening of Prayer & Reflection on Reconciliation*)
	6:00P		HDO Vigil Mass (Keystone)
12/ 8 Thurs.	**Holy Day of Obligation (HDO)**: *Immaculate Conception of the BVM*		
	5:30P	*	HDO Mass (Hot Springs)
	7:30P	*	HDO Mass (Edgemont)
	7:30P		HDO Mass (Hill City)
12/ 9 Fri.	9:30A		Rosary @ Custer Regional Senior Care
12/10 Sat.	4:45P- 5:15P		Reconciliation

Third Sunday of Advent

	5:30P	*	Mass Int.: Roger Krogman †
12/11 Sun.	7:15A- 7:45A		Reconciliation
	8:00A	*	Mass Int.: George Criscione †

*Note: * indicates that incense will be used.*

FAMILY FORMATION – Wed., Dec. 7, 5:15P Holy Day Mass followed by a potluck. Following the meal, children K-5 will have their regularly scheduled session at the parish center. Middle School through adults will be with Fr. Gerlach in the church for an "Evening of Prayer and Reflection on Reconciliation". All parishioners are encouraged to attend this evening event.

SERVER TRAINING for all current and new Servers will be **Wed., Dec. 7** immediately following the 5:15P Holy Day Mass. Fr. Gerlach would like to make some small logistical changes that should simplify serving mass for all. Please help to spread the word. Call Rich Zacher at 673-4104 if you have questions.

All parishioners & families are invited to the Grand Ultreya of the Diocese **Cursillo** group on **Sun., Dec. 11 from 3-6P** in St. John's basement dining room. Children welcome. Witness talk will be given by Lorette Tobin. Then we'll be caroling at the Custer Senior Regional Care Center and at Rose Haven. Dinner will include roast turkey and ham. Please bring a dish to share. Come join us for food, fellowship and song! Call Cathy at 673-4741 for more information or to confirm.

2017 CALENDARS are available in back of the church.

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE: Beginning **Nov. 30 - Dec. 21**, the **Wednesday morning Mass** will be at **8:00A**. (The Mass on **Wed., Dec. 7** will be at 5:15P.)

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULES for December are available at the front entrance.

Last Year's "Breaking Bread" (hymnals) are available in the west, side entrance if anyone would like one.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS If you would like to remember a loved one for the Christmas season you can make a donation for a poinsettia plant to the church and it will be displayed for the season. You can find envelopes located at both church entrances. We need your donation before **Sat., Dec. 17**. Thank you.

GIFTS FOR SELECT-A-GIFT The traditional Select-A-Gift tree for the Christmas project has been set up in the back of the church. Please take a tag from the tree and buy a gift for the adult or child listed. Unwrapped gifts should be to the church by **Sun., Dec. 11**. If not brought to the church take to the First Interstate Bank by **Wed., Dec. 14**. Call Juli Ames-Curtis at 673-2967 or 970/391-9921 for info. Thanks for your generosity.

ADVENT PROGRAM: **Sun., Dec. 11 at 2:00P** at the Lutheran Fellowship Church (east of town). Our Choristers, directed by Colleen Mahrt, will be singing. ***Women of St. John's*** are asked to provide cookies and bars. Cookies/bars can be dropped off at the church basement by **Sun., Dec. 11 at 10A**.

Fr. John Lule Update is at St Martin's Monastery in Rapid City. His new address is St. Martin Monastery, Fr. John Lule, Rm 128, 1851 City Springs Rd, Rapid City SD 57702. Feel free to visit, but a call would be appreciated before visiting. His number is 605/343-8011.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: November 27, 2016

Regular Collection	$2,381.16	Plate Collection	$ 254.21
Youth Collection	$ 22.45	Cap. Improvements	$ 70.00
Seminarians	$ 23.00	Gathering Area	$1,160.00
All Saints Day	$ 50.00		

General Donations Collected (to date)	**: $66,370.60**
General Budgeted Expenses (to date)	**: $60,036.60**
Difference (+/-)	**: +$ 6,334.00**

IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS: Sr. Rosalie, Tyler Anderson, Lorena Bottum, Billie Colvin, Jackie DeKeyrel, Lois Dvorak, Sutishe Fireheart, Christine Gay, Gordon C. Gladdin, Tom/Marilyn Green, Jason Hafner, Jill Hart, John Kocer, Connie Lynch, Michael Murphy, Jesse Olson, Lynus "Pat" Ryan, Jimmy Schneller, Sherry Sharkey, Grace Snyder, Mitchell Snyder, Sue Tennyson, Terry Wakeland, Donale Walker, Roger Whiting, Joyce Whitney, Mary Woytassek, Stephanie Zacher, residents of Custer Regional Senior Care Center, Wedgwood Assisted Living.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is every Tuesday from 7:00A until 5:00P. A sign-up sheet is available in the entry of the church. "Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the bread of angels and the fulfillment of the soul's deepest desires. May my heart always hunger for you, so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence."

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

Tues., Dec. 6 5:30P

Sacristan	Teresa Fiala
Servers	Anthony Dillon, Thomas Dillon
Reader	Cathy Brickey
EMHCs	Phyllis Wheeler, Myra Wickham

Holy Day (Vigil): Immaculate Conception of the BVM
Wed., Dec. 7 * 5:15P (Family Formation Night)

Sacristan	Laura Wickham
Servers	Jonathan Lewis, Carter Tennyson, Gage Tennyson, Thomas Dillon
Readers	Stephanie Zacher, Ann Dvorak
EMHCs	Rich Zacher, Dawn Holland

Third Sunday of Advent ----------

Sat., Dec. 10 * 5:30P

Sacristan	Catherine Fierberg
Servers	Frank Rosa, Jon Larcher, Thomas Dillon, Ana Rosa
Readers	Phyllis Wheeler, Laurie Arthur
EMHCs	Fran Coy, Myra Wickham, John Fejfar, Lisa Krogman
- *Deacon*	Dn. Pat Coy
Greeters	Bill and Terry Wakeland
- *West Door*	Hank Whitney

Sun., Dec. 11 * 8:00A

Sacristan	Teresa Fiala
Servers	Dominic Dvorak, Emma Arp, Logan Block, Carter Tennyson
Readers	Joe Raver, Mary Eide
EMHCs	Gayle Schneller, Joan Vega, Fran Coy, Duke Schneller
- *Deacon*	Dn. Pat Coy
Greeters	Don Kistler and Mary Krogman
- *West Door*	Mai Dillon

It is not too late to participate in the **Annual Diocesan Appeal**. You can place your pledge form in a Sunday collection basket, turn it in to the parish office or you can mail it in the pre-addressed pledge envelope.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS (RFR) Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95% of donations to the RFR aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to work." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the RFR and give to those who have given a lifetime.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

DIOCESAN SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
Sun., Dec. 4 – 2nd Sunday of Advent
"The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society – in economics and politics, in law and policy – directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable."
(**www.USCCB.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/call-to-family-community-and-participation.cfm**)

Diocesan Masses for Life Matching Grant
The Diocesan Social Justice Commission will again match donations made for the "Diocesan Masses for Life" project, up to a total of $250. The Masses are coordinated by the Blessed Sacrament Parish Pro-Life Committee, but are offered daily at parishes throughout the diocese. This is the tenth year the diocese has matched funds for these Masses for the protection of all life. Please send your donation to: Diocesan Masses for Life, c/o Mary Mitchell, 113 S Berry Pine Rd, Rapid City SD 57702-1911
Donations must be postmarked on or before **Sat., Dec. 31**.

REFUEL 2017 For all who serve the church in religious education, youth ministry, evangelization, or catechesis of any kind, join us (Fri.-Sat.) **Jan. 20-21, 2017**, at Terra Sancta Retreat Center for **REFUEL 2017:** "DESIRE: Catechesis in the Heart of Christ." Our speaker is Jessi Kary, AO, from the Pontifical Secular Institute of the Apostolic Oblates, formator, retreat director, spiritual director, and teacher in the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF). We'll begin with Mass at 5:30P followed by dinner on Friday evening and end at about 4:30P on Sat. Cost is $65 and there is an early bird rate of $50 if you register before **Tues., Dec. 20**. This fee includes the conference, dinner Friday and lunch on Saturday. If you would like to stay at Terra Sancta overnight, there are lodging options available at a lower rate as well. The optional breakfast on Saturday is available for an additional fee. Register online at: www.REFUEL17.com.

STEUBENVILLE OF THE ROCKIES: The Diocese is accepting applications to attend a youth conference for young disciples in grades 9-12 in Denver, Colo., on (Thurs.-Sun.) **June 22-25, 2017**. The registration deadline is **Thurs., Jan. 12, 2017** -- a deposit of $70 is required. Total cost: $390, includes conference, travel, lodging, t-shirt, most meals, and Elitch Gardens. For details on this contact Randy Vette, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, 716-5241 ext. 228.