

June 22nd- *Scripture Reflection*

The gospel is a comfort today; reminding us that God loves us. The Prophet Jeremiah knew the history of his people: God had offered the Hebrews a covenant—if they would be His people- faithful and holy, he would be their God. A covenant is a sacred connection of personal wills that bonds people to each other as family. Jeremiah said that he trusted God who was with him “like a mighty champion”. And St Paul says “how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.”

Jesus tells us not to be afraid. We don't have to be afraid because God is Love. He knows the depths of our hearts, even when others misunderstand. He knows that we are destined for eternal life and tells us not to fear losing our life, but losing our soul. He reassures us that He knows the number of the hairs on our head—the smallest detail about us! And all He requires for our part of the covenant is that we acknowledge Him. Then He will acknowledge us before His heavenly Father. Our covenant with God is a covenant of Love.

Scripture Reflection June 29, Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

The Acts of the Apostles is the story of the early church. Today, Acts 12 tells us that Herod had James the brother of John killed by the sword. Herod also imprisoned Peter, but “prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God on his behalf.” Peter was rescued from prison by an angel and went on to preach and teach according to the will of God.

God also helped St Paul to accomplish his mission. In the second reading Paul tells us “The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it.”

All of this reminds us of Jesus' promise that He would build his Church and the gates of the hell would not prevail against it. He entrusted the power and authority of the Kingdom of Heaven to Peter and the young apostolic Church.

The death of James did not deter the apostles; most if not all of them died the death of a martyr. The patrimony of Church authority we receive today is not a patrimony of worldly power, but a heritage of love and fervent prayer, coupled with passionate efforts to follow where Christ would lead.

Prayer for Pastoral Planning Diocese of Sioux Falls

Almighty God, we the people of the diocese of Sioux Falls prayerfully look to the future. During this time of pastoral planning, we implore the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us the gifts of wisdom, courage and hope.

May we exercise the virtue of prudence by opening our hearts and minds to be good stewards of the legacy of faith inherited from those who built the Church on the prairie;

May we exercise the virtue of justice by opening our hearts and minds to assure that the voices of persons from all generations, all vocations and all areas of the diocese are welcomed and respected;

May we exercise the virtue of fortitude by opening our hearts and minds to understand and acknowledge the spiritual and practical realities of our day and prepare for the days to come; and

May we exercise the virtue of temperance by opening our hearts and minds to accept the changes in diocesan, parish and personal life that the Holy Spirit, through this planning process, is guiding us to make.

Under the protection of Blessed Mary, our Mother, and St. Joseph, our patron, may we discern and implement what is best for the diocesan Church and all the faithful of Eastern South Dakota.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord.



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Valerie Zorr, *Office Manager*

Andrew Pietrus, *Campus Ministry Assistant*

Genevieve Stalvig, *Pastoral Council President*

Liz Thompson, *Pastoral Council Vice President*

Bryce & Ronda Mayrose, *Outreach Coordinators*

Katie Graves & Joe English, *Music Coordinators*

Joseph Mattson, *Maintenance*

Genevieve Stalvig, Larry Klipfel

Carrie Egging, & Andrew Pietrus, *Residents*

Saint Thomas More

On June 22 we celebrate the feast day of the name-sake of our Newman Center here at the University of South Dakota who was born in England on February 7, 1478 and died on July 6, 1535. Saint Thomas More was a lawyer, author and statesman. He attended Oxford University and studied at both New Inn and Lincoln law schools in London. He believed that justice must be tempered with mercy and that because society was responsible for the conditions that bred thieves and murderers, society was party to blame for the crimes committed against it.

Saint Thomas More earned a reputation as a leading humanist scholar but became most famous when in 1516 he published the book *Utopia*; a term he coined meaning “the best condition of society.” This work described the ideal society where all citizens worked in harmony for the common good and in which there was only public ownership of property and goods.

Saint Thomas occupied many public offices, including undersheriff of London, High Steward of Cambridge and Oxford, Speaker of the House of Commons and Lord Chancellor during the reign of Henry VIII from 1529 to 1532 whom he also tutored before Henry became king.

Saint Thomas More spent that last 15 months of his life imprisoned in the Tower of London for refusing to sign an Oath to King Henry VIII. Eventually More was found guilty of treason and was beheaded. Before his execution More said to the crowd, “I am the King's good servant, but God's first.”

In 1886 Saint Thomas More was beatified by Pope Leo XII. Then in 1935, four hundred years after his death, More became canonized by Pope Pius XI. Pope John Paul II declared More the patron saint of politicians, lawyers and statesman in 1980. In that year More was also added to the calendar of saints for the Church of England.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR SUMMER 2008

WEEKEND MASS:

SUNDAY 10:30 AM

Scriptures for June 29th, 2008

ACTS 12:1 - 11

PSALM 34:2 - 3, 4 - 5, 6 - 7, 8 - 9

2ND TIMOTHY 4:6 - 8, 17 - 18

MATTHEW 16:13 - 19

Scriptures for July 6th, 2008

ZECHARIAH 9:9-10

PSALM 145:1 - 2, 8 - 9, 10 - 11, 13 - 14

ROMANS 8:9, 11 - 13

MATTHEW 11:25 - 30

June 21- July 6, 2008

IN A NUTSHELL

06/21 Saturday
(Aloysius Gonzago, Religious)

06/22 Sunday - Saint Thomas More Feast Day
(Birthday of Andrew Pietrus)

10:30am Mass
Going away celebration in Wakonda for Fr. Joe

06/23 Monday

06/24 Tuesday
(Nativity of St. John the Baptist)
8am Fast Track

06/25 Wednesday
5:30 Grille Out

06/26 Thursday
8am Fast Track

06/27 Friday
(St. Cyril of Alexandria, bishop, doctor)

06/28 Saturday
(St. Irenaeus, bishop, martyr)

06/29 Sunday
(SS. Peter & Paul, apostles)

10:30am Mass
Farewell Father Joe
Celebration 12 to 2

06/30 Monday

07/1 Tuesday - Canada Day
(St. Junipero Serra, priest)

07/2 Wednesday
5:30pm Grille Out

07/3 Thursday

07/4 Friday - Independence Day

(St. Elizabeth of Portugal)

07/5 Saturday
(St. Anthony Zaccaria, priest)

07/6 Sunday
10:30am Mass

Deadline for bulletin submissions:
Thursdays at 5pm.

Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan

First Meeting June 23 at 7pm in the Fireplace Room

Come learn about the Theology of the Body as explained by Pope John Paul II and Christopher West

If interested contact Liz Thompson at 605-212-9839 or at Elizabeth.Thompson@usd.edu

Additional information at <http://www.tobinstitute.org/default.asp>

FAREWELL FATHER JOE FORCELLE

On June 29th from 12noon until 2pm we will be celebrating Fr. Joe's 8 years of service to the St. Thomas More Newman Center as well as seeing him off to his new parish, Immaculate Conception in Watertown.

Come be a part of the celebration and give Father your best wishes.

If you plan on attending please RSVP by sign up sheet or e-mail us at newmanpc@usd.edu

On Thursday, June 26, 2008 at St. Agnes Parish in Vermillion, the Yankton/Vermilion Serra Club will be hosting a Clergy appreciation supper for Priests from this Deanery. We will begin by celebrating Mass at 6:00pm followed by a meal. We invite all those interested in membership in the Yankton/Vermillion Club to join us in thanking our Priests for their service to our community and Diocese.

Catechesis Corner:



Jesus spoke with authority because he is God; the *author* of all that is. He taught His apostles, and before he ascended to heaven He promised to keep them on the right path by sending the the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost, 'day 1' these apostles were his Church, His instrument for bringing the way and truth of Jesus to all people of all generations. Just as we do today, Christians in the first century trusted the teachings of the apostolic Church to be the revelation of God.

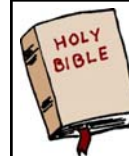
Irenaeus, an early teacher and bishop of the Church wrote:

"Matthew also issued among the Hebrews a written Gospel in their own language, while Peter and Paul were evangelizing in Rome and laying the foundation of the Church. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, also handed down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter (*Against Heresies* 3:1:1 [A.D. 189])."

And:

"But since it would be too long to enumerate in such a volume as this the successions of all the Churches, we shall confound all those who, in whatever manner, whether through self-satisfaction or vainglory, or through blindness and wicked opinion, assemble other than where it is proper, by pointing out here the successions of the bishops of the greatest and most ancient Church known to all, founded and organized at Rome by the two most glorious Apostles, Peter and Paul, that Church which has the tradition and the faith which comes down to us after having been announced to men by the Apostles. For with this Church, because of its superior origin, all Churches must agree, that is, all the faithful in the whole world; and it is in her that the faithful everywhere have maintained the Apostolic tradition (*Against Heresies* 3:3:2)"

Saint Irenaeus was a disciple of Polycarp of Smyrna, who was a disciple of John the Evangelist.



A Catholic teaching document, *Dei Verbum*, paragraph 19 tells us: Holy Mother Church has firmly and with absolute constancy held, and continues to hold, that the four Gospels just named, whose historical character the Church unhesitatingly asserts, **faithfully hand on what Jesus Christ, while living among men, really did and taught for their eternal**

salvation until the day He was taken up into heaven (see Acts 1:1). Indeed, after the Ascension of the Lord the Apostles handed on to their hearers what He had said and done. This they did with that clearer understanding which they enjoyed after they had been instructed by the glorious events of Christ's life and taught by the light of the Spirit of truth. The sacred authors wrote the four Gospels, selecting some things from the many which had been handed on by word of mouth or in writing, reducing some of them to a synthesis, explaining some things in view of the situation of their churches and preserving the form of proclamation but always in such fashion that they told us the honest truth about Jesus. For their intention in writing was that either from their own memory and recollections, or from the witness of those who "themselves from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the Word" we might know "the truth" concerning those matters about which we have been instructed (see Luke 1:2-4).

Bible reading and discussion - Wednesday night at 7 pm in the fireplace room of the Newman Center. All are welcome. Bring a friend. If you don't have a Bible we can provide one.

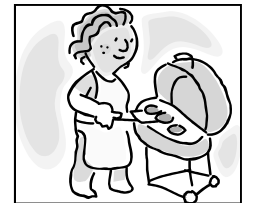
Fast Track Coyote Fair

The Newman Center will have a booth at the Coyote Fair during every Fast Track this summer, and we are looking for help to tell incoming freshmen what we're all about. Please see the sign up sheet on the desk in the foyer if you are interested in helping out. We would like to have 2-3 people for each date. The event takes place from 8-9:30am, in Old Main on the following days: May 20, 22 June 3, 6, 16, 19, 24, 26 July 9, 25 August 15

Don't want to cook?

Come to the Newman Center on Wednesdays at 5:30pm for grilled burgers, brats and hot dogs.

Bring chips, a salad or dessert, and dinner is on us!



Summer at the Newman Center

Bring your ideas or suggestions for summer activities or discussion groups for summer 2008 to Anne or send a note to us at newmanpc@usd.edu

**Last weekend's collection:
June 15th: 1,042.90**