



206 West Main ~ P.O. Box 670 ~ Fort Pierre, S.D. 57532-0670
www.StJohnsFortPierre.org ~ 605-223-2176
Rev. Brian P. Christensen ~ Pastor

“More than “Good-bye!”

by Rev. Brian P. Christensen

“As they were looking on, Jesus was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight” (Acts 1:9). This is how Luke describes the Ascension of Jesus in the opening of the Acts of the Apostles. After spending forty days with his disciples following his resurrection, after giving final instructions to them, and after promising that he would send to them the Spirit of all truth, Jesus ascends into heaven. The One who came down from heaven, now goes back to heaven.

Christian Churches traditionally celebrate this Feast of the Ascension forty days after Easter. Frequently, we look upon this celebration as a solemn farewell to Jesus, but this event is something far greater than a send-off for our Lord. Jesus’ ascension into glory has life-changing cosmic effects that we must appreciate and in which we are called to participate.

The Ascension of Jesus into heaven is a revolutionary moment in the history of the world. By his incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, God did the unimaginable: he united his divinity to our humanity. And now, by ascending into heaven, he accomplishes unforeseen glory: he forever unites our humanity to his divinity. In Jesus Christ – true God and true man – our human nature finds its home within the eternal Trinity. Our finite human nature enters forever into the infinite nature of God. Our human nature has a home in God!

St. Augustine (354-430AD), Bishop of Hippo in North Africa, once observed with great astonishment and amazement: “*God was made man, that man might be made God*” (Sermon xii *de Temp*). It was for this that we were created and it was for this that we were saved: to participate fully in the life of God! He entered into our world and into our lives; he shared our very human nature, so that we might share in his divine nature!

So what does this mean for us? St. Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome from 440-461 AD, once exclaimed in a Christmas sermon: “Christian, remember your dignity!” (*Sermo 1 in Nativitate Domini*). Yes, indeed, Christians should remember their dignity. They have been baptized into the very life of Christ. By the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, Christians share in the very nature of God. He has made his dwelling with us. Christians have become the dwelling place of the Most High God! Yet, this is not the end of the story.

Once God has chosen to dwell within us, he leads us to the fullness of dwelling within God. Our human nature finds its fullness and its perfection, not by the indwelling of God, but when our humanity finds its home within God. We are called; we are destined to dwell within the very heart of the Triune God for all eternity! For this we were created! For this we were redeemed! For this our hearts and souls long with unyielding desire. This is our high and lofty calling in Christ. This is our inheritance in Christ. This is our Christian dignity which we ought never to forget.

Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ

May 16th, 2010

Sunday, May 16th

Acts 15: 1 - 2, 22 - 29
Revelation 21: 10 - 14, 22 - 23
John 14: 23

Monday, May 17th

Acts 19: 1 - 8
John 16: 29 - 33

Tuesday, May 18th

Acts 20: 17 - 27
John 17: 1 - 11a

Wednesday, May 19th

Acts 20: 28 - 38
John 17: 11b - 19

Thursday, May 20th

Acts 22: 30, 23: 6 - 11
John 17: 20 - 26

Friday, May 21st

Acts 25: 13b - 21
John 21: 15 - 19

Saturday, May 22nd

Acts 28: 16 - 20, 30 - 31
John 21: 20 - 25

Sunday, May 23rd

Acts 2: 1 - 11
1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 7, 12 - 13
Romans 8: 8 - 17

Pastor: Rev. Brian P. Christensen frchristensen@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Sherri Stoesser sherri.stjohns@midconetwork.com
Faith Formation: Lisa Fahey lisastjohn@pie.midco.net

Parish Support: Mary Welsh
Parish Council: Carol Pond
Finance Council: Pat Durkin
JustFaith: Pat Storms
Grand Knight: John Lott
Altar Society: Glenda Marks, Lillian Magnusson, Rose Anderson

**Parish
Team**

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Lord's Day Masses:

Saturday - 5:30 PM
Sunday - 7:30 & 9:30 AM
Confessions: 1/2 hour before Mass

DAILY MASS (see bulletin weekly schedule)
7:00 AM Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
5:30 PM Tuesday
8:00 AM Saturday (with Eucharistic Adoration)

SS. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH Lord's Day Masses:

Saturday - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 7:00 PM, (11:45 AM at Mary House)

St. John's Weekly Schedule

Saturday, May 15th

SPAGHETTI DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

6:30 pm Youth Fundraiser - Come support our Youth!

Thursday, May 20th

2:00 pm Sainthood Project Call Rose Egan - 224-0351

7:00 pm RCIA

Saturday, May 22nd

2:00 pm Rosary and Holy Hour for Priests

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH EVENTS

DUC IN ALTUM ~ Seminarians are Coming!

June 20 - 24th - 9th - 12th Grade (7:30pm - 9:30pm)

June 21 - 24th - Pre-school - 8th Grade (9:00am - 2:30pm)

Call Church office for information at 223-2176

TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration forms available at church office.

July 5 - 9: 9th-12th Grade Girls ~ July 6 - 9: 6th-8th Grade Girls

August 2 - 6: 9th-12th Grade Boys ~ August 3-6: 6th-8th Grade Boys

Needed: Kindergarten Teacher

St. Joseph School will offer two kindergarten classes due to the large enrollment for the 2010/2011 school year. Teachers interested in this position please contact Darlene Braun at 224-7185 by Friday, May 14th.

www.StJohnsFortPierre.org

Liturgy Schedules, Adult Activities, Youth Opportunities, Summer Retreats, Camps, Mission Trips; Weekly and Monthly Church Calendars; Church Teachings; Update on Translation of Roman Missal. Photos and more! Check out our Parish Website Today!

Educational Materials on the Danger of Abuse

The overwhelming majority of clergy and lay leaders are dedicated to serving the People of God in our parishes and schools. We are all responsible for making sure that our ministries are as safe as possible for our children and young people. Each of us should become educated about the real danger of sexual abuse. Linda Severns, can be reached at 605.343.3541.

Oahe Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help build a house! Ground has been broken in Fort Pierre and the foundation has been laid, now the rest of the building can begin. Volunteers would be needed on Wednesday evenings from 5:30pm until 8:30pm and on Saturdays from 8:00am until 4:00pm. They also need volunteers to help provide lunches for the Saturday build days. St. John's would like to form a help group of 10 individuals. If you would be interested in being part of St. John's Group build please contact Irma LeFaive at 223- 2316.

WEEKLY AVERAGE TIME OF AMERICAN CHILDREN BY AGE in 2002-2003

(Hours: Minutes per Week)

Activity	Age 9-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
Market Work	0:02	0:26	3:06
Personal Care	7:53	8:04	8:39
Household Work	5:39	6:30	5:52
Eating	7:28	6:50	6:25
Sleep, & Naps	70:06	66:14	63:53
School	33:17	33:05	29:33
Studying	3:36	4:40	4:59
Church & Prayer	1:41	1:38	1:16
Visiting, Socializing	4:19	4:02	7:26
Sports	2:42	4:02	3:32
Outdoor Activities	0:54	0:40	0:51
Hobbies	0:07	0:11	0:18
Art Activities	0:50	0:51	0:32
Television	15:01	15:22	15:00
Other Passive Leisure	1:24	3:21	5:05
Playing	9:09	6:43	4:53
Reading	1:33	1:25	0:49
Being read to	0:04	0:02	0:00
Computer Activities	1:27	3:23	5:08
Missing Data	0:52	0:35	0:51
TOTAL	168.00	168.00	168.00



**From Father
Christensen**

From Father: Our teenagers have many choices, activities, and options that didn't exist just a generation ago. They use iPods, cell phones, social networking, and texting with the dexterity and ease of walking and talking! Laptops are standard issue in schools and any information is readily available at the touch of a button. Our teenagers work, study, volunteer, and participate in a host of extracurricular activities including sports, rodeo, theater, dance, music, and service. They live a full and active life which can be very enriching and fulfilling. However, all this perpetual daily movement and unabated activity can also be a cause of stress and anxiety. In all of this constant motion, where do the priorities of God and family find the space that they need and deserve for a healthy and holy lifestyle? How many times a week do we find ourselves around the kitchen table together for a family meal? How often do we pray as a family or individually each day? Is Sunday Mass — the gathering of the family of faith around the table of our Lord — a priority for our family and our teenagers? The choices that we make as a family today will bear fruit in the future. A choice for God — a choice for a life which includes prayer and worship — will bring greater peace today and fulfillment for all eternity! Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever!

Monday, May 17th

7:00 AM No Mass

Tuesday, May 18th

5:30 PM SI Winifred Bowlby

By: Eileen Kramer

Wednesday, May 19th

7:00 AM SI Mary Galvin

By: Eileen Kramer

Thursday, May 20th

7:00 AM Intentions of the Parish

Friday, May 21st

7:00 AM + Mae Erickson

By: Father Christensen

Saturday, May 22nd

8:00 AM Mass and Adoration

5:30 PM + Regina Koenig

By: Mary Welsh

Sunday, May 23rd ~ Pentecost Sunday

7:30 AM Intentions of the Parish

9:30 AM + Kelly Krell

By: Bob and Bridget Mayer

Sacrament of Reconciliation

1/2 hour before Masses or by appointment

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Regular Envelopes	\$2,535.00
Student Envelopes	\$ 20.00
Plate	\$ 317.95
Total	\$2,872.95



"Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you."
Luke 6:38



Our Military Members

That God's loving hands protect them as they protect us and heal those who have returned to us physically or emotionally wounded.

We especially pray for the safety and well-being of:

- Melissa Gross (Darrell & Cindy-daughter)
- David Collins (Mary Collins -son)
- Cody Byrum (Rachel Byrum -Husband)
- Jocelyn Baker (Megan Anderson - sister)
- Robert Firman (Bernie & Peggy Duffy-son-in-law).

Please take time to drop a note to our soldiers and thank them for their sacrifice and dedication.

SP4 MELISSA MCINTYRE
21ST MP CO (ABN) UNIT 031
CAMP BASRAH
APO AE 09375
MAJOR ROBERT FIRMAN
PSC2 BOX 9067
APO AE 09012

MAJ DAVID S COLLINS HHC
41BCT 11D, S-3
COB Spreicher
APO, AE 09393
MAJ JOCELYN BAKER
KFOR 12 TF FALCON HHC
APO AE 09340



Mon. 17 Diana Melvin

Tue. 18 Annie Hanson, Steven Kokesh, McKenzie Stulken

Wed.19 Casey Ryckman

Sat.22 Lillian Magnusson, Carol Schneiderhan, Wendy Shay

Sun.23 Lori Hall, Brad Rathbun, Annette Reiman, Josh SLocum



Sun.16 Gaylon and Cindy Gerber

Tue.18 Steve and Sherri Stoesser

Wed.19 James and Debra Palmer

Fri.21 John and Lynette Singleton

For all the sick and suffering, Brenda Maxon, Sue Pospisil, Eric Buchmann, Grady Jacobson, Judy Hobbs, Nancy Holub, Maddox Rowland, Kelsey Spurlin, Dennis Carlson, Marie Gibson, Mary Gibson, Eileen Hofer, Barb Brown, Doris Ogan, Jennifer Cink, Dorothy Brown, Doreen Pospisil, Cindy Foreman, Francis Bies, Lois Zimmer, Mary Hostler, Jace Nickolas, Loren Pospisil, Leona Jacobsen, James Garrity, Geraldine Kokesh, Bryan Ice, Chance Wagner, Beverly Russell, Cindy Hogman, Jason Jund, Stella Nagel, Linda Titze, Jesse Keckler, Baby Roberts, Jim Palmer, Les Welk, Reva Maher, Bert Weaver, Alice Gannon, Linda Waldman, Erik Anderson and all who have asked for our special prayers. For Prayer Chain requests call Marica Knight - 223-2478.



Liturgical Ministers Eucharistic Ministers Lectors Servers

May 22, 5:30 PM	PAT FAHEY LISA FAHEY	BRITA BERGESON	JACE WERNSMAN SAM SLOCUM
May 23, 7:30 AM	PAT SUEDKAMP CHRISTINE OLSON	MARY GIDDINGS	ADAM BROWN AUSTIN BROWN
May 23, 9:30 AM	PAT STORMS PAT DURKIN MARY COLLINS	GAYLON GERBER	WILSON KOLBECK CONNOR GERBER WAYDE WIECZOREK
May 23, 10:30 AM			DAVID PAGE ROD AND MEGAN ANDERSON

St. John's Adopt-A-Seminarian Pledge

Our annual goal of \$5000 is due at the end of June. We have \$3,206.25 thus far. We have 6 weeks before our pledge is due. We need \$145 a week to meet our pledge. Please help in the formation of our future priests by contributing to our Adopt-A-Seminarian Pledge. You can use your blue envelopes from your packets!

Update Your Parish Registration

The church registrations are missing several new/changed phone numbers, addresses, some birthday and marriage dates. Please advise the office of any changes or if you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary in the bulletin - so it can be added or corrected in the church records. Thank-you! Call 223-2176.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Many women have no one to turn to who can help them validate and work through their grief. They feel isolated and become trapped in the mistaken belief that no one can understand their feelings. Come find help, understanding and hope on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™. The next retreat will be held May 21 -23 in the Rapid City area.

Contact Carol Kling about area retreats at 605-374-5639 or ckling@sdplains.com or www.rachelsvineyard.org. or www.rapidcitydiocese.org/Ministries/FamilyLife.htm or call 77-467-3463.

Pilgrimage with Father Brian to the Eternal City of Rome

October 4th- 15th 2010

Round trip from Rapid City, all transportation, lodging, breakfasts, and seven dinners included for \$3,629.

12 Days: October 4-15, 2010.

Call Fr. Brian at 223-2176

or frchristensen@gmail.com.



We Walk By Faith

Learn about the We Walk By Faith Special Appeal and the plans for *Terra Sancta*. Read about the Spirituality Initiative program. Watch the videos. Pray the *Terra Sancta* prayer. Take a walking tour. Consider becoming a Guild member. Log on to www.terrasancta.org.

World Youth Day with Pope Benedict XVI, Madrid Spain

August 9 - 22, 2011. This spiritual and rustic pilgrimage is open to those who are 18 by August 9, 2011. Space is limited to the first 40 accepted applicants. Travel through Burgos, Avila, Toledo, Madrid and more. Cost: \$2,100. Deposits of \$250 and applications now being accepted. Contact Provatia Potvin 343-3541. Application and information is online at www.rapidcitydiocese.org.

Men's Retreat: As Iron Sharpens Iron

Summer Men's Conference: Iron Sharpens Iron Conference - June 12th, 2010. You are in the midst of an epic battle... Are you ready to face the challenges set before you? Come and be prepared for the battle. June 12, 2010 7am - 3pm, Mother Butler Conference Center For more information or to register online visit: www.ironsharpensiron2010.com. Fr. Brian will be one of the retreat speakers. Please join us!

Taste of Silence: A Response to the Busyness of the World Contemplative Retreat

Join others in exploring what it means to live the contemplative dimension of the Gospel in every day life and to have a deeper relationship with Christ through Solitude, Simplicity, and Service. The retreat will be presented by Fr. Carl Arico, a founding member and vice president of Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. The retreat will be held at *Terra Sancta* and will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 5, and end with Mass at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 6. The \$75.00 fee includes all meals and snacks and lodging at *Terra Sancta* on Saturday night. For more information or to register, contact Fr. Mark McCormick at mark.mccormick@olbh.org or Our Lady of the Black Hills at 605-787-5168.

Divorced? Separated?

Find Help and Hope and Healing and Support in Divorce Care

- Interdenominational Free 13 Week Session — Every Thursday 7pm-8:45pm
- Starting Thursday, May 27, 7pm - 8:45 pm New Life Assembly - 1120 N Harrison in Pierre.
- Divorce Care for Kids - Helping children ages 5 - 12 heal from the hurt of divorce. Same time as the adult group meeting. Combines games, crafts, activities, music and DVD dramas to create a fun atmosphere where children feel comfortable and accepted.
- Support Staff: Sherri Bastle and Lisa Nold
- For More Information Call 224-1592