OUR PARISH BULLETIN

PAGE 4

Happy Birthday

Jul 18 - Cody Russell, Aiden Van Matre, William Keoke Jul 19 - LaFae Wind, Michaela Wells, Trevin McBride, Terrance Young.

Jul 20 - Duranne Howe, Royce Loudner Jr., Leo McCauley, Kimberly Jensen, Ohitika Dion, Kimberly Rockwood, Leslie Hanson, Trig Larson, Lisa Griffith Jul 21 - Travis Fire Cloud, Ellen Grassrope, Lindsey Hall, Shantay Werdel, Natalia McCauley, Chelsea Jo Morrison, Dallas Gabe Morgan,

Jul 22 - Pat Laverdure, Louise Locke, Phillip St. John, Delores Sazue, LeRoy Wounded Knee IV, Jody McCauley, Brianna Drapeau, Theodore Heminger Jul 23 - Matthew Kusser, Sophie Kercher, Carolina Fallis, Cleveland Skunk

Jul 24 – Reita Etzkorn, Shane McBride

Jul 25 - Anna Michalek, Justin Crow, Jerry Kusser, Leonard Traversie Jr., Trey Gourneau, Jaimee Estes, Elliot Medicine Crow

Jul 26 - Donika Gonzales, Carla Howe

Jul 27 - LeToy Fleury, Mabel Grey Cloud, Fay Jandreau Jr., Juanita Kennedy, James Grassrope, Kazney Knippling, Hank Jandreau

Great Plains Humor





Team Offices, Contacts & Phone Numbers:

Fr. Mastin: (605) 473-5335 Lower Brule (LB)

No Fax- use the email address

Emergency Phone Calls: LB Priest's Rectory 473-5487 Reliance call Lower Brule 869-2285 Kennebec

Ft. Thompson: Fr Hendrick: 473-5487

Sr. Charles: Main: 245-2350

Deacon Steve: 245-2745 or 680-2936 Stephan call Fort Thompson Big Bend call Fort Thompson

Email: pastteam@gwtc.net

Website: catholicplainsministries.org Facebook: Catholic Plains Ministry

Priest Members: Priests of the Sacred Heart:

Fr. Christianus Hendrik, SCJ — Pastor for East River Parishes

Fr. Mark Mastin, SCJ — Pastor for West River Parishes PO Box 185 Lower Brule, SD 57548

Pastoral Minister Members:

Sr. Charles Palm, OSB, PO Box 47, Ft. Thompson, SD 57339

Dn. Steve McLaughlin, Sr., PO Box 145, Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Lay Ministers:

T.J. Metcalf ——-Ft. Thompson

245-2122

East River Bishop (Sioux Falls): Most Rev. Donald DeGrood West River Bishop (Rapid City): Most Rev. Peter Muhich





Please remember in your prayers the souls of:

R.I.P. --- Randy His Law, Jr.; Patsy Marques & **Robert Drapeau**





The Priests of the Sacred (S.C.J.), also known as Dehonians after the last name of our founder Leo John Dehon, serve in 41 countries throughout the world. We began o serve the Native Americans in the Lower Brule area in 1923, and soon afterwards began to minister those on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation. Years later, the Priests of the Sacred Heart began to also serve the Farmers and Ranchers in the region. Today, we serve six parishes in the East and West Missouri river regions. They are:

> St. Mary's in Lower Brule, St. Mary's in Reliance, St. Michael's in Kennebec, St. Joseph's in Fort Thompson, Immaculate Conception in Stephan and St. Catherine's in Big Bend.

Our other missions include St. Joseph's Native American school founded in 1927 and the Sacred Heart center on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. The school is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Lakota and Dakota (Sioux) children and families. The Sacred

Heart Center covers over 4,707 square miles and operates four primary programs; Family Violence Services, Child Services, Community Outreach and Bear Necessities

Our ministries are also supported by the Benedictine Sisters of Watertown, SD. The sisters first came to the United States in 1864 in Missouri and then settled in the Dakota Territory in 1874 in Zell, SD. In 1889, they built their Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton SD and then broke grown for their Mother of God Community in 1967 in Watertown, SD. The Benedictine sisters established schools, Hospitals and other services around the Dakotas, Nebraska and Colorado.

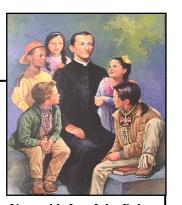


Our Parish Bulletin

A Ministry of the Priests of the Sacred Heart in South Dakota

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

19 JULY 2020



Venerable Leo John Dehon Founder of The Priests of the Sacred Heart (S.C.J.)



Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn." (MT 13: 24-25, 30).

Live Streaming on Facebook page: Catholic Plains Ministry at 11:00 AM

Mass locations, days and times (Reconciliation 30 minutes before or after mass)

ST. MARY'S (Reliance)

Saturday Mass: 6:00 PM

ST. MICHAEL'S (Kennebec)

Sunday Mass: 9:00 AM

ST. MARY'S (Lower Brule)

Sunday Mass: 11:00 AM For Local Residents only.

Weekday Mass: 8:30 AM on Tues.,

Thurs., and on Friday - Mass & Adoration

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(Stephan)

There will be mass this weekend for East river residents only: 6:00 PM (Year round time)

ST. JOSEPH'S

(Ft. Thompson)

There will be mass this weekend for East river residents only: 9:30 AM

Weekday Mass: WED. 7:00 PM

ST. CATHERINE'S

(Big Bend)

There will be mass this weekend for East river residents only:

12:00 NOON

Scripture Reflection

Today, it is hard to tell the difference between who are the wheat and who are the weeds. After all, we cannot always know the depth of ones' heart to always judger their sinfulness because there may be circumstances that occurred to cause them to behave badly in words and deeds.

Every day in the news, we see people doing bad things---killing a 1 year old, rioting, threatening a person's life, government corruption, etc. We know that there are social factors such has poverty or lack of equal education that may drive people to steal or kill someone. Despite some of those reasons, they are not to be used as excuses. Others in the same situation still live a good and virtuous life. When these horrible things occur, we sometimes are tempted to ask, "Where is God in all of this chaos? Why does he let these bad things happen? Why wont' God intervene and get rid of the evil in the world?

In the time of Jesus and especially in those early centuries of Christianity, people faced similar evil attacks from the Romans and in some way from a few of the Jewish leaders. They must have asked the same questions about where is God in all of their struggles? In today's Gospel, Jesus tries to answer these questions in the parable of the weeds and the wheat.

The weed called darnel that Jesus speaks of looks very much like wheat, especially when both plants are very young in growth. One can only see the difference when they are ready for harvest---the weed has no head of grain on it. This is when the weed can be separated for the wheat,---and burned.

Jesus is trying to make the point that he came not to destroy the evil in the world and restore paradise that we lost by Adam and Eve sinning. Rather, to give us the grace and wisdom to be able to confidently subdue or destroy the evil. To give us the ability to evaluate the evil and make a virtuous judgment on how to reconcile a person who has gone bad back to God. This is why Jesus wants us to be patient like the farmer who waits for the weed to grow, otherwise, the good will be removed with the bad.

Most of us hate weeds because they are powerful and destroy our gardens and lawns. Weeds grow erratically. Sin is like this in our lives. Once it takes root, it is hard to be rooted out of our lives. Sin damages our relationship with ourselves, our community and God. It is like a surgeon trying to remove a tumor around a vital and healthy organ. The surgeon has to go in slowly and remove the cancer. If he or she doesn't, then the organ can be permanently damaged or the surgeon may severely harm the patient for life.

Jesus was quite aware of the reality of the devil prowling about the earth to destroy souls. The devil waits until after the seed is sown in order to sneak into the field of our lives, thereby assuring he does maximum damage to our souls. The good news is that God always allows us the opportunity to repent and fight evil.

Jesus likewise knew that God gave us free will and that sin and evil is the price we pay for that freedom. Without free will, our love for God would not be fully tested or sincere. Freedom allows us to choose between right and wrong. As when planting seeds, the farmer does not refuse to plant because he might find weeds among the wheat, soy or corn. He or she plants knowing the risk that there will be some weeds, but plant they must. Maybe a good weed killer will help.

So, do we accept evil? Do we ignore it and not speak up against the wrongs of people or society? The answer is never. We, like God, must keep working the fields. His field is what we call the Kingdom of God. To keep planting good seeds of God's words and God's love. Darkness and evil can only be overcome by the light and love of Christ. Jesus and our scriptures tell us that good will always come out of evil. God allows evil to exist in part for us to be transformed and related to people in a positive loving way. We are in a spiritual war and we need all the help we can get. To cut off Christ as our ally is a huge mistake.

God's earthly Kingdom that we are continuing to build here on this earth before we enter the Heavenly kingdom, is a working model. A work in progress. For the kingdom of God continues to grow even in the presence of those who work against it. (Fr. Mark Mastin, SCJ)



Please pray for the following members of our community:



Brett Abernathy
Marsha Grey Cloud
Pearl Colombe
Katie Cook
Jill Cowan
Jeffery Long Crow, Sr.
Dustin Deal
Charles Divine
Jenae Dunn
Jeanie Eagle
Lakisha Big Eagle
Theresa Big Eagle
Tom Big Eagle
Chris Bear Face.
Phyllis Comes Flying

Bernadine Gingway
Mildred Hamiel
Juanita Harrison
Roberta Harrison
Lois Hart
LaShonda Round Head
Vickie Husted
Jerry King
Ardith Knippling
Donald Knippling
Judy Kirkie
Sheila Kusser
Shirley S. LaRoche
Marisa Lopez
Quinn Lulf

Todd McKenney
Pat Mitchell
Kathleen Pomani
Mike Reuman
Della Richards
Lance Sanders
Clarissa Sargeant
Stacey Shields
Chad Strohfus
Jody Taylor
Alyssia Thompson
Delores Volmer
Cora Weiand
Beatrice Whiting
Savannah Williams

All Parishes and Diocesan News

St. Mary's, Lower Brule:

---Our West river churches are open---for Local residence only

St. Mary's, Reliance:

---Our Parish is open

St. Michael's. Kennebec:

---Our Parish is open

St. Joseph's, Fort Thompson:

- ---There is mass this weekend for East River residents only.
- ---We continue to have Wednesday Mass July 15th, at 7:00 PM
- ---There will be Confirmation, but we have not set the date yet.

Immaculate Conception. Stephan

---There is mass this weekend for East River residents only.

St. Catherine's. Big Bend

- ---There is mass this weekend for East River residents only.
- --No summer camp this summer.

July: Priests and Deacon Mass Schedule			
Date	Location	Priest	Time
East River			
July, 4 11, 18, 25	Stephan	Fr. Hendrik	6:00 pm
July 5, 12, 19, 26	Fort Thompson	Fr. Hendrik	9:30 am
July 5, 12, 19, 26	Big Bend	Fr. Hendrik	12:00 pm
None for July	Preach- All 3 Parishes	Dn. Steve	All times
West River			
July, 4 11, 18, 25	Reliance	Fr. Mark	6:00 pm
July 5, 12, 19, 26	Kennebec	Fr. Mark	9: 00 am
July 5, 12, 19, 26	Lower Brule	Fr. Mark	11:00 am
July 25th and 26th	Preach- All 3 Parishes	Dn. Steve	All times