

September, 2010



To God Who Sings Through Us

Leader

God who sings in our hearts, as the flute needs openness to receive the breath of melody, we pray to be open to the many ways that your symphony of love plays in our lives.

All

Thank you for the way that your enlivening Spirit touches us and moves through our beings. Remind us often that each one of us is a special instrument of yours. Together we create the wondrous music in your concert of love.

Leader

You stand at the door of our hearts, asking for an entrance. You desire to come in and share the intimacy of your presence with us (Rv 3:20).

All

Behold, we open the door of our minds and hearts. We welcome your entrance and long for deeper union with you. Come and make music through our lives. Dance through our days and sing in our hearts.

Leader

We have days when we resist your movement and message. We seek you in stillness, but forget you in busyness. We yearn for fullness, but miss you in emptiness. We welcome you in joy, but reject you in sorrow. We rejoice in the harvest but struggle with the planting.

All

Open our inner eyes so that we may know you in all the dimensions of our lives. Help us to trust you in the numerous ups and downs, to believe that your song can happen in all aspects of our existence.

Leader

God of courage and strength, we are waiting to receive your loving energy in the empty corners of our hearts. It is your power working through us that can do more than we can ever ask or imagine. It is your enlivening breath moving through us that enables us to overcome anxieties, fears, doubts, and misgivings (Eph 3:20).

All

Breathe through us, Music Maker, and let your song weave a melody through all we are and do. May we acknowledge your power at work in us and open ourselves to this blessing.

Leader

You are a God who accepts the uniqueness and beauty of every individual. You love us as we are while you yearn for us to be more. You invite us to extend this kind of love to those who challenge our compassion and our patience. Your love within us will give us the strength to love them as we ought.

All

Nudge us and encourage us to accept those people who are alien to our love. May your song of kindness and patience be sung through us. Fill our attitude toward others with notes of understanding and nonjudgment.

DRE Deanery Meetings

Minot

Our Lady of Grace, **Minot**
Tuesday, September 7, 10:00am

Dickinson

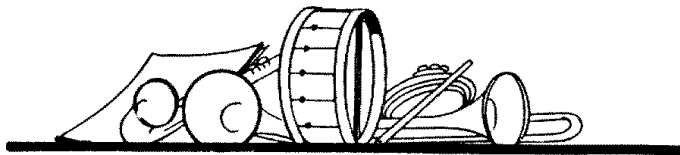
Elks Club, **Dickinson**
Thursday, September 9, 10:00am MT

Bismarck/Mandan City

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, **Bismarck**
Friday, September 10, Noon Lunch

Rural Mandan

St. Ann Church, **Hebron**
204 S. Park St. (878-4658)
Tuesday, September 14, 10:00am CT



Catholics Come Home

Training for Parish Staff and DREs

Williston, St. Joseph Church

September 14, 3:00pm -5:00pm

Bismarck, Church of the Ascension

September 16, 10:00am to noon

Dickinson, Queen of Peace Church

September 20, 10:00am to noon MT

Minot, Our Lady of Grace Church

September 22, 10:00am to noon

Senior High Youth Rally

October 21, 2010

Trinity High School, Dickinson

Calendar of Events

Child Safe Environment Training

*Training for School and Parish Teachers,
Catechists, Parents and Adults*

Dakota Children's Advocacy

Free of charge * Certificates granted

Dickinson, Trinity High School

Wednesday, September 1, 6:30-9:00pm MT

Minot, Bishop Ryan High School

Wednesday, September 1, 6:30-9:00pm

Bismarck, Church of the Ascension

Thursday, October 7, 6:30-9:00pm

Catechist Workshop

Catholic School Religion Teachers

Parish Religion Catechists and DRE's

Wednesday, September 8, 5:30-9:00pm

St. Mary Parish Center

Presenter: Johan VanParys

Catechetical Sunday

September 19, 2010

MATRIMONY

Sacrament of Enduring Love

Echoes of Faith[®] Plus

Center for Pastoral Ministry

520 North Washington Street, Bismarck

7:00-9:00pm

Second Monday of each month

starting September 13

I Believe, We Believe - 4 sessions - \$7.00

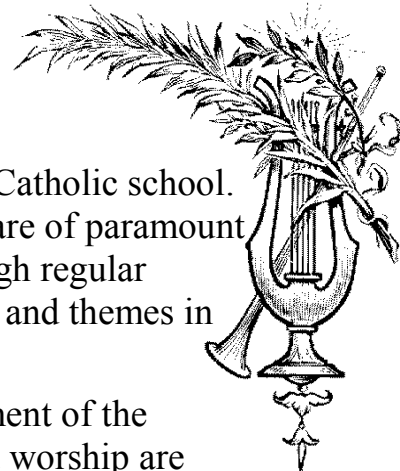
Catholic Morality - 4 sessions - \$7.00

While there is no need to pre-register - in order to provide the most comfortable room - to accommodate the number of attendants

Please call Shirley at: 1.222.3035 (or) 1.877.405.7435 with your name and phone #

***Should you forget to call - PLEASE COME!

Worship Check List



Worship is an important and unifying expression of the distinctly Catholic school. Eucharistic liturgy, meaningful prayer services, and shared daily prayer are of paramount importance in the life of the school. Catholic values are reinforced through regular reference to Scripture, church teachings, and through the use of symbols and themes in many types of school activities.

Prayer in its varied forms is taught as central to spiritual development of the individual. Participation in and understanding of prayer, sacraments, and worship are consistently emphasized in the Catholic school.

Meaningful Expressions of worship are evident in the routines of the school.

1. Shared prayer is a regular part of the school day. Yes No
2. Liturgical seasons and special Church feasts are celebrated and are visible in school decorations. Yes No
3. Paraliturgies and rituals' are used to support Catholic values in instruction and activities. Yes No
4. Formal and informal worship experiences are specifically designed for the age, understanding, and culture of the students. Yes No

Prayer is central in all school programs.

1. Various prayer forms are taught and creatively utilized by staff and students. Yes No
2. The staff prays together regularly. Yes No
3. Staff members participate in prayer with their students. Yes No
4. Meetings and school activities include prayer. Yes No

Eucharistic Liturgy is a regular expression of worship in the school.

1. Eucharistic liturgy is given high priority as a school activity and appropriate attendance, dress, and behavior are expected. Yes No
2. Participation in liturgy by students and staff is encouraged. Yes No
3. Liturgies and paraliturgical services are cooperatively planned by students and staff. Yes No
4. School liturgy is coordinated with parish liturgy whenever appropriate. Yes No
5. Music for worship is included as part of regular music instruction. Yes No
6. Study of symbols and rituals related to liturgy are part of the religion curriculum. Yes No

Generosity

“It’s not how much we give
but how much love we put into giving.”

- Mother Teresa

The word *generosity* comes from the Latin word for “birth” and at its root it means “someone of noble birth.” It can (without intending to) carry the implication of bestowing some of *one’s own riches* on other people.

Now that is not all bad, but what we need to do is move beyond generosity - as though we were giving away what rightfully belongs to us by birth or however we got it.

What we all need to do is go beyond generosity and arrive at stewardship - the realization that it all belongs to God, no matter how we got it, and we are administering it on God’s behalf.

A very different way to look at all our “stuff.”



Diocese of Bismarck

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**To be ambassadors for
Christ**

**Who live Stewardship in
Word Sacrament Service**

**On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of
Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon’s mother-in-
law lay sick with fever. They immediately told him about it. He
approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. (Mk 1:29-31)**

This passage happened early in Mark’s Gospel. It describes 24 hours in the life of Jesus, and is Mark’s attempt to characterize how Jesus lived and ministered.

Jesus is in Galilee, a “Hicksville” compared to the larger city of Jerusalem. The disciples think Jesus should seize the opportunity, go to Jerusalem, and establish this kingdom of God that he talks about. But Jesus stays in Galilee. He’ll go to Jerusalem to die... and that would happen about two-and-a-half years from this day.

Mark’s context faces head-on the great temptation that Jesus faced: Is this really the way? That temptation is more or less compressed early in Jesus’ life in the symbolic scene in the desert when Satan tells him to “seize the power.”

We often face a similar temptation, one of “what’s the use?” Sometimes we ask it in terms of the poverty or hunger throughout the world. I help Catholic Relief Services, you do this or that, I bring up canned goods at the presentation of the gifts...But, really, in terms of an impact, what’s the use? Is this the way?

This *is* the way. Somehow, in God’s plan, perhaps in thousands of years, the seed of truth, the seed of gentleness, the seed of forgiveness, and the battle against consumerism and the fight for peace will bear fruit.

When I read a Gospel like this and see how Jesus spent his time, then the way I spend my time doesn’t seem so useless.

Spent some quiet time with the Lord

“The Little Burgundy Book: Six-minute reflections on Stewardship in the light of the Gospel of Mark” - Little Books of the Diocese of Saginaw, Inc. 5800 Weiss, Saginaw, MI 48603, (989) 797-6653, FAX (989)797-6606 or visit web site at: www.saginaw.org