



From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year and a Merry Christmas to you all! The Christmas Season is with us through the Baptism of the Lord, which is celebrated on Monday, January 8th, this year. So if you haven't had your fill of Christmas music and goodies, and if you haven't found time to take down the Christmas decorations yet, you're doing just fine. Enjoy these holy days. And speaking of Christmas, please plan to join us for our children's Christmas programs, both of which take place this week. Details are printed below.

I also want to announce a change to our weekday Mass schedule. Due to low attendance (a few times recently, I was the only one present), I will no longer be offering the Saturday morning Mass. Those who desire to practice the Five First Saturdays devotion from Fatima need not worry, as the 5 p.m. Masses on Saturdays do fulfill the requirements of the devotion, as do any Masses on the next day, Sunday. This was explained to Sister Lucia during a vision of our Lord himself in 1930. If you have questions or concerns about this schedule change, please don't hesitate to visit with me about them.

-Fr. Jason Signalness

News & Events

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, on Monday, January 1st, is *not* a holy day of obligation this year. That said, you are all invited to join us for Mass at 10:30 a.m. on Monday at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church.

Why We're Catholic Book Groups are starting soon. There are only a few copies of the book, *Why We're Catholic* by Trent Horn, remaining, but you can always order a copy on Amazon if you did not pick up a copy at our Christmas Masses. If you want to participate, read the first two chapters (up

to page 16) and join Fr. Jason for informal discussion at the following times:

Read chapters 1 and 2, up to page 16
Stanley: Thursdays, 7 p.m., starting 1/4/18
Berthold: Sundays, noon, starting 1/7/18

Be aware that the first chapter is a bit more difficult than the subsequent ones, but persevere! It's worth the effort. If you miss a week (even the first one), just show up the next and jump back in.

Saint Ann Christmas Pageant: Join us on Wednesday, January 3rd, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Our CCD students will be presenting Saint Ann's First Annual Christmas Program with a potluck dinner to follow. Please don't miss out on a very special evening. Needless to say, we are all very excited to have this great opportunity to share with you as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, who took on human flesh for the sake of our salvation. Innocent of all sin, Jesus carried our sins in his body to the cross. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Catechist Appreciation Dinner: CCD teachers in Stanley are reminded of the upcoming appreciation meal at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, January 5th. Please RSVP if you will be attending.

Holy Rosary Christmas Pageant: Celebrate Christ's birth! A "Simple Christmas Pageant" will be presented by the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary K-5 CCD students after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, January 6th. A potluck of salads and bars with sloppy joes will be served after the program.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a private weekend away from the distractions of daily life for couples. Give your marriage this gift! The next weekend is Jan. 5-7 in Mandan and Feb. 2-4 in

Hermantown, MN. Register early. For more information, visit ndwwme.org or contact Rob and Angie at 701-347-1998.

SEARCH Retreats for Youth & Young Adults:

Search for Christian Maturity is a weekend retreat experience sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Bismarck. The weekends are for anyone of high school or college age (at least 15 years old). Search weekends are held at the Badlands Ministries Camp just south of Medora. Upcoming weekends for 2018 are: Jan. 19-21; March 2-4; and April 20-22. More information can be found at www.bismarckdiocese.com/search1.