



# Dakota Catholic Action

Reporting on Catholic action in western ND since 1941

## Following God's will



Seminarian Dustin Johns



Seminarian Josh Hill

### Two men to be ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 24

By Sonia Mullally  
DCA Editor

Two diocesan seminarians will be one step closer in their journey to the priesthood as they are ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 24 at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.

Seminarians Dustin Johns and Josh Hill, currently studying at the Theology III level, will soon put their knowledge into practice as deacons, true servants of the Church. The transitional diaconate is the entry into the clerical state, meaning the men become members of the clergy.

Fellow seminarian Steven Vetter will be ordained this fall at the Pontifical North American College by his uncle, Bishop Austin Vetter, who will travel to Rome to be the celebrant at the ordination Mass. Bishop Vetter was a Bismarck Diocese priest and faculty member at the college in Rome and, since November 2019, serves as the bishop of the Diocese of Helena, Montana.

These three men will be ordained to the priesthood, God

willing, in the summer of 2023 at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.

Seminarian Dustin Johns converted to the Catholic faith in adulthood but would attend Mass with family members while growing up and always wanted to be a "preacher." While working at the military base in Minot, he accepted an invitation from an acquaintance to attend Mass at St. Leo the Great leading to his conversion to the faith in 2011. He entered the seminary in 2016 and has been studying at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis for the past few years.

"This year in prayer has been of constant affirmation and love from our Lord; by the grace of God, I am what I am," Dustin said. "In seminary, I've been practicing homiletics and administering the sacraments and how to be a deacon."

He's looking forward to being ordained to the transitional diaconate after years of formation. "I'm very excited for ordination and look forward to assisting the bishop, priests

and people of God of the Diocese of Bismarck. I look forward in administering the sacraments and parish life."

Seminarian Josh Hill grew up in the Black Hills area of South Dakota attending Mass at his local parish with his family. He attended the University of Mary in Bismarck where his life was radically changed—a place where he experienced immense growth in his Catholic faith. In the summer of 2012, while studying abroad in Rome with the university program, thoughts of the priesthood entered his mind and heart.

He's currently studying for the priesthood in Rome at the Pontifical North American College.

"This year in Theology III has been one of immense growth, with a lot of time and energy spent on the immediate spiritual and practical preparations for

diaconate ordination," Josh shared. "Throughout it all, Jesus has continued to walk alongside, just as He promised to do so all our life. As witnessed in the Gospels, His humble service, and the continual gift of Himself, even in the midst of great sufferings, has been the exemplar for me as I prepare for a life of service through the sacrament of holy orders. In preparing for this lifelong commitment, it has been a tremendous blessing to be formed in Rome where the universality of the Church is on full display and the lives of the saints shine brightly."

He's excited yet humbled by the upcoming ordination.

"On one hand, I'm ready for this step in my vocation because I recognize God's infallible providence in preparing me

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### A LOOK INSIDE



#### Rosary makers

A group of rosary makers from Bismarck's Church of Saint Anne are offering classes for the public .... Page 3



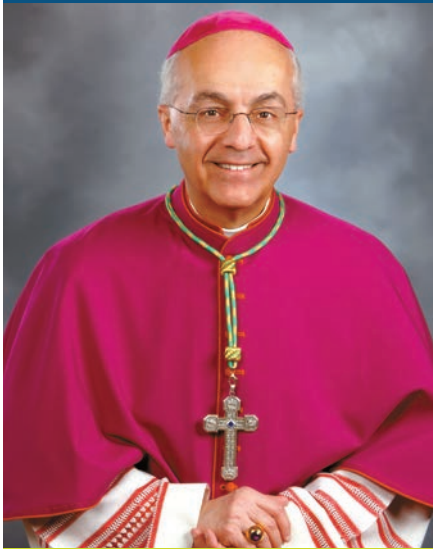
#### God's Share Appeal

Learn more about the annual diocesan appeal that will be conducted April 30-May 1 in parishes..... Pages 5-7



# Jesus lives and so do we if we choose Him

## FROM THE BISHOP



Bishop David D. Kagan

As we enter the month of April, it would be very good for each of us to recall the day that Lent began, Ash Wednesday. When you and I received the blessed ashes on our foreheads in the sign of the cross, we pledged ourselves to serious daily prayer, works of real charity and a penance which would deprive us of something significant in our lives. Why did we do this? Simply put, we wanted to be free of whatever is an obstacle to our being holy and literally, to our being saints.

Now that we enter April with the Paschal Triduum so near, we must examine our lives and see if we have been keeping our Lenten resolve and discipline. We

need to ask ourselves if we have grown even slightly in holiness, saintliness. If not, why not? If so, in what ways?

God’s mercy is with us, and we still have time to fulfill what we pledged to do on Ash Wednesday. We will celebrate Palm Sunday and Holy Week in the Paschal Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday all because we know what has been done for us and how that happened for us on Easter Sunday.

Recall the Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent, the temptation of Jesus in the desert. Understand that if Satan is arrogant enough to tempt Jesus Who is God, he will certainly come after us! Jesus showed us how to reject Satan, but have we done this? The fifth week of Lent had been called Passion Week because the Sunday and daily Mass readings showed just how relentless Satan is and how he used others to taunt, to stalk, to criticize and reject Jesus. Holy Week reveals the real nature of holiness incarnated in Jesus and the real nature of evil embodied by those who have allowed themselves to be possessed by Satan.

Gratefully, Jesus’ resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday reveals that glory which is to be ours that His transfiguration hinted at. As we make our way through the last days of Lent let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus so that Easter Sunday is the day of

the greatest joy and rejuvenation for us. Jesus lives and so do we if we choose Him and His life.

Have a most Blessed Easter and a holy Easter season.

## BISHOP’S SCHEDULE APRIL 2022

Apr. 2	• Confirmation at Church of St. Bernard, Belfield, 10 a.m. MT	Apr. 16	• Easter Vigil Mass, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 8 p.m.
Apr. 3	• Confirmation at Church of St. Thomas, Tioga, 10 a.m.	Apr. 19	• Real Presence Radio Interview, 9 a.m.
Apr. 4	• Women’s Care Center Board Meeting, Chancery, Bismarck, 5 p.m.	Apr. 21	• Knights of Columbus Convention, Holiday Inn, Fargo, 1 p.m.
Apr. 8	• Cabinet Meeting, Chancery, Bismarck, 10 a.m.	Apr. 23	• Confirmation at Church of Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Stanley, 10 a.m.
Apr. 9	• Palm Sunday Vigil Mass, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck 5 p.m.	Apr. 24	• Confirmation at Church of St. Charles, Bowman, 10 a.m. MT
Apr. 11	• Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 11 a.m.	Apr. 25-28	• Spring Clergy Conference, Bismarck
Apr. 14	• Mass of the Lord’s Last Supper, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 6 p.m.	Apr. 29	• Confirmation at Church of Christ the King, Mandan, 7 p.m.
Apr. 15	• Good Friday Service, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, 3 p.m.	Apr. 30	• University of Mary Graduation, Bismarck Event Center, Bismarck, 2 p.m.

## PRAY FOR THE PRIESTS, RELIGIOUS, DEACONS SERVING OUR DIOCESE AND THOSE IN FORMATION AND LAY MINISTERS



### An invitation from the Bismarck-Mandan Serra Club

Apr. 1	Fr. David Zimmer	Apr. 16	All Liturgical Ministers
Apr. 2	Deacon Richard Fettig	Apr. 17	Bishop David Kagan
Apr. 3	Seminarian Dcn. Logan Obrigewitch	Apr. 18	Br. Louie Bachand, OSB
Apr. 4	Br. John Patrick Arnett, OSB	Apr. 19	Sr. Anna Rose Ruhland, OSB
Apr. 5	Sr. Nicole Kunze, OSB	Apr. 20	Fr. Mark Aune
Apr. 6	Seminarians & Religious in Formation	Apr. 21	Deacon Mike Fix
Apr. 7	Sr. Karen Warren, SSND	Apr. 22	Sr. Gemma Peters, OSB
Apr. 8	All Lay Ministers	Apr. 23	Fr. Anthony Baker, OSB
Apr. 9	Fr. Charles Zins	Apr. 24	Deacon David Fleck
Apr. 10	Deacon Tony Finneman	Apr. 25	Sr. Rosemary DeGracia, OSB
Apr. 11	Fr. Basil Atwell, OSB	Apr. 26	Fr. Paul Becker
Apr. 12	Sr. Grace Dahmus, OSB	Apr. 27	Seminarian Dcn. Ben Wanner
Apr. 13	Fr. Jeff Zwack	Apr. 28	Fr. Gary Benz
Apr. 14	Deacon Leonard Fischer	Apr. 29	Deacon Randy Frohlich
Apr. 15	Seminarians & Religious in Formation	Apr. 30	Fr. Dan Berg

## BISHOP IN ACTION



Staff photo

Bishop Kagan during a videotaping session for the promotional video for the annual God’s Share Appeal.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow the Diocese on Twitter @BisDiocese and follow Bishop Kagan @VescovoDDK



### Bishop David Kagan

Following

@VescovoDDK

Third Week of Lent, Sunday: the image of the fig tree as Jesus uses it is an image of the patient mercy of God and it is an image of us. We live on God’s time not our own so there is no time to waste in repenting and using God’s grace to be holy. Let us bear good fruit.



Search “Bismarck Diocese” on YouTube for videos from the Church in western N.D.



Visit our website at [www.bismarckdiocese.com](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com) Get news, photos, videos and more from around the diocese.



Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/BismarckDiocese](http://www.facebook.com/BismarckDiocese)

Get status updates, photos, videos, and links and share them with your friends.



Dakota Catholic Action



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# A craft and a calling

## Rosary making classes offered at Bismarck’s Church of Saint Anne

The humble beginnings of the rosary makers of Bismarck’s Church of Saint Anne are traced back to just four people with the same idea—to make rosaries.

With luck, one person in the original group, Marcella Streiffel, knew how and taught others. During that first year in 2005, two members made 75 rosaries and were elated. By the second year, and every day since, a rosary table sits in the gathering space of the Church of Saint Anne, inviting anyone interested to join the rosary making efforts.

During the first eight years, large groups of rosary makers assembled. At times the group numbered 25 or more. Today, there are a fraction of that number of active rosary makers, and more are always welcome to help create the beautiful rosaries that have become so depended upon by those who receive them.

During the first seven years, the group distributed 8,000 rosaries. Yet, in recent years, that number has climbed to 40,000 rosaries and they are working toward yet another banner year. This time with just eight people and a pandemic.

“Six years ago, we began using couriers whenever possible to reduce shipping costs,” explained Don Lucas, group member. “That allowed sending rosaries overseas. In the last three-year, non-pandemic period, we shipped to 20 different countries...many countries more than once. When the pandemic is finally controlled, we will do all that again. Because what we found in sending rosaries to other countries is that they have rosary needs far greater than ours.”

The group’s primary rosary is the World Mission rosary designed and initiated by Venerable Fulton J. Sheen, Archbishop of the Diocese of Rochester, New York. Each decade is made using a different color, with each color representing a different part of the world. Each decade calls to mind an area where the Church continues its evangelizing mission: green for the forests and grasslands of Africa; blue for the ocean surrounding the Islands of the Pacific; white symbolizing Europe, the seat of the Holy Father; red calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries

to the Americas, and yellow for the morning light of the East, for Asia. It was Archbishop Sheen’s belief that peace would come to our world only when we prayed for each part of it.

“We believe that praying this rosary provides special grace because it was designed and initiated by a priest en route to becoming a saint,” Don added. “We send this rosary to students being confirmed anywhere, but always in their spoken language, meaning that we have shipped them overseas as well.”

Since the start, the group has sent rosaries to places too many to mention. Destinations and recipients of the rosaries include students at Saint Anne’s School, to motherhouses, penitentiaries, groups of seminarians, to the bishop for vocation days, the diocesan Thirst conference, Indian Missions, the University of Mary, St Mary’s Central High School, Ministry on the Margins, to a visiting church couple traveling to Columbia, to sisters leaving for Suriname (in South America) or Rome, to hospitals near and far, to nursing students heading to Guatemala.

“We are particularly grateful to members of the McCabe United Methodist Church in Bismarck who, for the past 10 years, have taken our rosaries along with their sun ovens and other supplies to people in Haiti and Santo Domingo,” Don said. “We have also made special rosaries for the annual carnival at St Mary’s. Once, we gave rosaries to a priest who was on a cruise ship. He took our rosaries, passed them out to those attending Mass, and ran out when he was in Singapore. Imagine! Saint Anne’s rosaries in Singapore! For everyone who has ever made a rosary for another, that act becomes a special event always remembered, when they realize the significance of what they have just done.”

While the list of places the group has sent rosaries has grown over the years, members would sincerely love to continue expanding that list. They never lose sight of how many lives could be affected by receiving the gift of the rosary. The notion is not lost on them of how many people could come to know and grow in their love of Jesus through praying the

rosary.

However, they know that for more people and places to receive this beautiful gift, they need help. How can you help? First, they are asking for prayers for their ministry and its members to be blessed by the grace of God.

Next, there are other tangible ways to help further the mission. Are you able to be a courier and take rosaries with you on your travels to help defer shipping costs? Are you able to help make rosaries? The greatest need right now is for more active rosary makers.

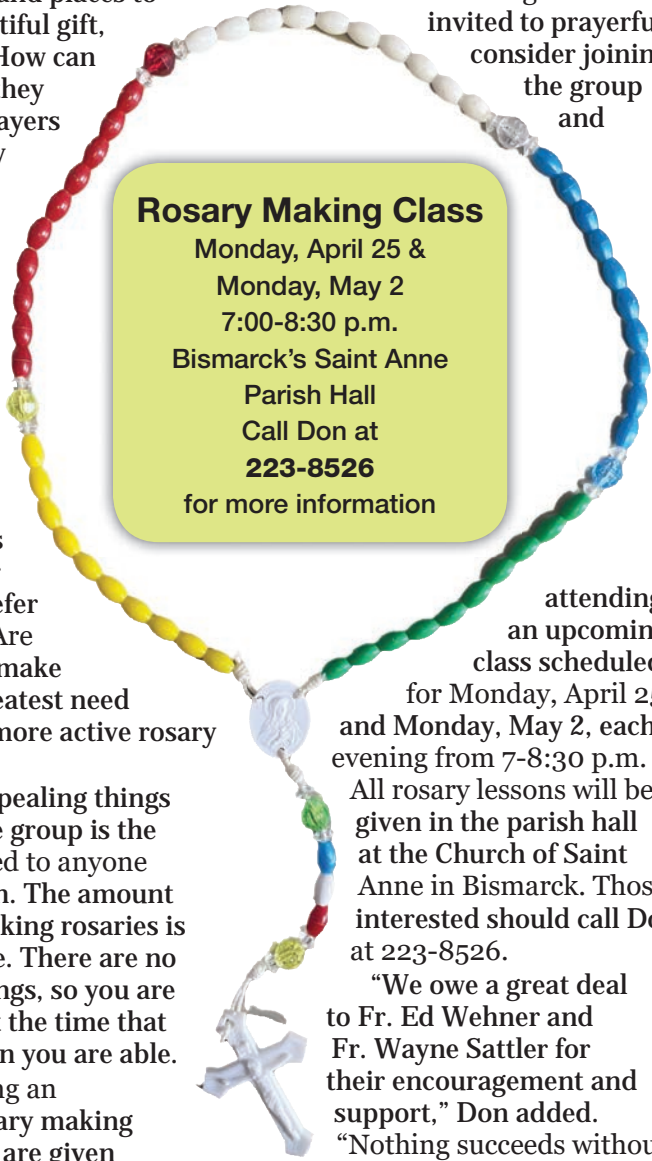
One of the appealing things about joining the group is the flexibility afforded to anyone willing to pitch in. The amount of time spent making rosaries is a personal choice. There are no scheduled meetings, so you are free to put into it the time that you can and when you are able.

After attending an introductory rosary making class, volunteers are given materials to take home to make more at their own pace in the

comfort of their own home. Assistance in fine-tuning the skills can be arranged. All are invited to prayerfully consider joining the group and attending an upcoming class scheduled for Monday, April 25 and Monday, May 2, each evening from 7-8:30 p.m. All rosary lessons will be given in the parish hall at the Church of Saint Anne in Bismarck. Those interested should call Don at 223-8526.

“We owe a great deal to Fr. Ed Wehner and Fr. Wayne Sattler for their encouragement and support,” Don added. “Nothing succeeds without support of a parish priest!”

— Staff report



**Rosary Making Class**  
Monday, April 25 &  
Monday, May 2  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Bismarck’s Saint Anne  
Parish Hall  
Call Don at  
**223-8526**  
for more information

### 26,000 and counting

Rosaries created by Janet Keohane, parishioner at St. John’s parish in Beach, have been shipped all over the world. Her rosaries have traveled to far-away places such as the diocesan African Mission in Kenya and missions in Guatemala. They’ve ended up in prisons in California and soup kitchens in Detroit. She’s shipped them to hospital emergency rooms and reservations. They also reach the hands of the children who receive their first communion at the tri-parishes of Beach, Golva and Medora.

“It’s a nice hobby and it’s amazing how it adds up over the years,” Janet said.

It began in the mid-1960s when she learned how to make rosaries at a church group. From there, she “put down the pliers” for some years to focus on her family and career as a schoolteacher. She retired in 2004 and began making rosaries again in 2007 on a steadier basis.

Her simple hobby turned into 26,000 rosaries and counting. “I simply love it, it’s very rewarding,” she added.

The most rewarding part, perhaps, is turning spare time into prayer and devotion to our blessed Mother Mary throughout the world.

Photos by Deacon Joe Krupinsky

## Rite of Election

The Rite of Election took place at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on March 6. The catechumens were chosen by Christ and the Church, and accepted by Bishop Kagan, to become “The Elect,” and now enter the period of purification and enlightenment, with more intense preparation to receive baptism, confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. They were accompanied by their sponsors who testified on their behalf at the Rite. Other clergy present were Fr. Dominic Bouck, chaplain at the University of Mary and assistant vocations director, and Deacon Tony Ternes, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.





# ‘Baby Bump’ event in Bismarck

## Donations needed for charitable giveaway

A new event called “Bundle Up Your Baby Bump” is coming to Bismarck.

Bundle Up Your Baby Bump is a free baby item giveaway hosted by the Pregnancy, Parenting, and Adoption Services program at Catholic Charities North Dakota. This event started in Fargo and has been very successful at helping families in need. All new and expectant parents are welcome to come shop for free baby supplies. Items are gently used and are donations from generous community members.

Bundle Up Your Baby Bump Bismarck will be held at Ministry on the Margins (201 N. 24th St.) on Saturday, May 7 from noon to 3 p.m.

The event was born from identifying a need and involving the community in helping fulfill that need. The Bundle Up Your Baby Bump event is one real way to serve a need, pass along God’s compassion and hope, and a few thousand baby items one event at a time.

“In exploring ways to walk with and support expectant parents or those with children facing financial difficulties and other stressors, we identified that there are families throughout our communities

that are in need of baby items due to these various factors,” explained Kristal Huntley-Egemo of Bismarck’s Catholic Charities office. “We believe this event also provides the community the ability to be part of providing for those most in need.”

**Donations needed**

Donations of all baby items including clothing, toys, supplies, etc. are welcome from the public. Items can be dropped off at the Bismarck Catholic Charities office at 600 S. 2nd St, Suite 150 or the Minot Catholic Charities office at 216 S. Broadway, Suite 202, at the attention of Kristie Urness.

Since April of 2019, the Fargo Catholic Charities office has held the Bundle Up Your Baby Bump three times. It has been a great success and has grown each time it has been held. The event has provided hundreds of families and children with many needed necessities.

Kristal, who works with the Pregnancy Parenting and Adoption Program with Catholic Charities North Dakota, shared that the agency is dedicated to supporting children and families in need and excited to offer this event to families across the state.



Pregnancy, Parenting, and Adoption Services  
at Catholic Charities North Dakota is  
Collecting Donations of:  
Baby Clothes | Blankets/Crib Sheets  
Bottles | Toys | Strollers  
Pack and Plays  
Or anything else for babies!

*To BE USED FOR*  
**BUNDLE UP YOUR BABY BUMP**  
A free shopping event on May 7th to help parents  
in our community.

Please drop donations off at:  
Catholic Charities North Dakota  
600 S 2nd St Suite 150  
Bismarck, ND 58504

More info on our Facebook page:  
[@pregnancyandadoptionND](#)



“We provide not only baby items but ongoing support through their pregnancy and following the birth. We honor these parents, first for choosing life, and for wanting to be successful parents. Providing these items assists in alleviating financial stressors during a time that can be very difficult.”

All items are free. Parents,

expectant parents and anyone else that is in need of baby items such as clothes (up to about 5T), toys and miscellaneous baby supplies are welcome to the event on May 7.

Find out more about the event at their Facebook event page: Bundle Up Your Baby Bump Bismarck.

—Staff report

## Two men to be ordained to the transitional diaconate May 24

Continued from page 1

throughout my whole life. He called me ‘out of my boat,’ and praise be to Him for giving me the grace to respond and follow. However,



Josh Hill

I also sympathize with St. Peter in recognizing my unworthiness (Lk 5). Yet, how could I say ‘no’ to Love Incarnate and His exciting invitation to become a ‘fisher of men?’ If it is in giving of ourselves that we receive, then how rich is the life spent in service for others!”

Both men are eagerly anticipating their new diaconal faculties to assist at the Church’s

liturgies and being able to share more actively the joy and freedom of the Gospel. While summer assignments have yet to be determined, they are also looking forward to putting that into practice back at



Dustin Johns

“home” in the parishes within the diocese.

Next fall, both men will return to the seminary for the final year of formation on the path to the priesthood.

“After returning from summer break, I look forward to continuing my formation to the priesthood in order that I may lay down my life for the Church,” Dustin shared.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**■ Chrism Mass April 11**

The annual Chrism Mass will take place on Monday, April 11 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. The Chrism Mass takes place once per year during Holy Week. According to ancient practice, there are two main features of the Chrism Mass: an expression of union of the priests with the bishop and the blessing and consecration of the sacred oils used throughout the year in the various sacraments that call for oil.

**■ Living Chaplet of Divine Mercy April 24**

The faith formation students at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary in Stanley will present the Living Chaplet of Divine Mercy on Sunday, April 24 at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

**■ Priesthood anniversary Mass May 3**

The public is invited to gather with the diocese and Bishop Kagan on Tuesday, May 3 for the anniversary Mass of the ordination of the holy priesthood. Priests celebrating anniversaries this year are: 5 years - Fr. Jordan Dosch and Fr. Gregory Luger; 10 years - Fr. Gregg Hochhalter, Fr. Jady Nelson and Fr. Anthony Baker, OSB; 15 years - Fr. Joshua Waltz and Fr. Benedict Fischer, OSB; 20 years - Fr. Basil Atwell, OSB, Msgr. Chad Gion, and Msgr. James Shea; 25 years - Fr. Wayne Sattler; 35 years - Fr. Raphael Obotama and Fr. Julian Nix, OSB; 45 years - Fr. Charles Zins; and 65 years - Fr. Damian Dietlein, OSB. The Mass will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck beginning at 11 a.m.

**■ Baby supplies event May 7**

Catholic Charities North Dakota is hosting a “Bundle Up Your Baby Bump” event in Bismarck on Saturday, May 7. The first-ever event held in the Bismarck Diocese offers free baby items and supplies for expectant and new parents. The shopping event will

be from 12 to 3 p.m. at Ministry on the Margins at 201 N. 24th St. in Bismarck. Those wishing to donate new and good used items may drop off their donations at the local Catholic Charities office at 600 S. 2nd St., Suite 150. Items of baby clothing, blankets, crib sheets, bottles, toys, strollers, etc. are welcome. More information can be found on Facebook at facebook.com/pregnancyandadoptionND.

**■ Caritas Award May 10**

The public is invited to join the Catholic Charities North Dakota’s Annual Caritas Award Luncheon on Tuesday, May 10 from 11:30-1 p.m. for lunch and a program. The event will be held at Church of Ascension in Bismarck, with special guest Bishop David Kagan, as Catholic Charities N.D. honors the Daughters of Mary Immaculate of Guadalupe for their service to the North Dakota Hispanic community. Visit [www.CatholicCharitiesND.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesND.org) to learn more. RSVP by emailing [dinner@catholiccharitiesnd.org](mailto:dinner@catholiccharitiesnd.org) or calling 701-235-4457 no later than Tuesday, May 3. An RSVP is required due to limited capacity.

**■ Blue Mass May 12**

The annual Blue Mass will be held on Thursday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck. Held during National Peace Officers Memorial Week, this special Mass with Bishop Kagan is an opportunity to pray for all active, retired and deceased law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

**■ Marriage Encounter Weekends**

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a private weekend away from the distractions of daily life for couples in good marriages. Give your marriage this gift. The next available weekend in the region is May 6-8 in Buffalo, Minn. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information, visit [ndwwme.org](http://ndwwme.org) or

[Applications@ndwwme.org](mailto:Applications@ndwwme.org) or 701-347-1998.

**■ Search weekend**

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. The final weekend for the 2021-22 schedule is April 8-10. More information can be found at [www.bismarckdiocese.com/search1](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com/search1).

**■ Corazon weekends**

The diocesan program for troubled marriages called Corazon is available on two upcoming weekends—May 13-15 and September 2-4. Couples who may be in a marriage in crisis are encouraged to attend a weekend. All confidences are kept and privacy for anyone inquiring about or attending a Corazon retreat is a priority. For questions, contact Amanda at 204-7205. For couple registration or additional information, visit [bismarckdiocese.com/corazon](http://bismarckdiocese.com/corazon).

**■ Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

There will be two new Catechesis of the Good Shepherd level 1 courses in the Bismarck Diocese to begin the summer of 2022. Dates and locations include July 25-30 (part 2 in summer of 2023) at Corpus Christi in Bismarck and August 8-13 (part 2 in summer of 2023) at St. Vincent de Paul in Mott. Registration for both courses is now open. To fill out the interest form and join the communication list, visit [bismarckdiocese.com/cgs](http://bismarckdiocese.com/cgs).

**■ Steubenville St. Paul, July 2022**

The Diocese of Bismarck will host our annual trip to the St. Paul Steubenville Conference this summer. The Steubenville Conferences are hosted by Franciscan University and provide youth the

opportunity to encounter Christ in a powerful way through testimonies, talks, fellowship, the sacraments and adoration. This year’s Steubenville Conference will be in St. Paul, Minn. from July 28-31. If you are interested in attending or serving as a chaperone (21+), register online at [bismarckdiocese.com/steubenville](http://bismarckdiocese.com/steubenville).

**■ Post abortion ministry**

Rachel’s Vineyard is a confidential retreat for anyone struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion. This is open to all individuals regardless of faith denominations. Register at [bismarckdiocese.com/rachels-vineyard](http://bismarckdiocese.com/rachels-vineyard)-retreat or contact Carol at 605-374-5639 or [ckling@sdplains.com](mailto:ckling@sdplains.com) for more information and dates of retreats.

**■ Patriotic rosary at Spirit of Life**

Come in prayer to heal our nation. A patriotic rosary dedicates one Hail Mary in a traditional Catholic rosary to each state of the United States and asks God’s protection and guidance for our nation. This will be said the first and third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at Spirit of Life in Mandan. Please join as we come together and unite to strengthen our nation.

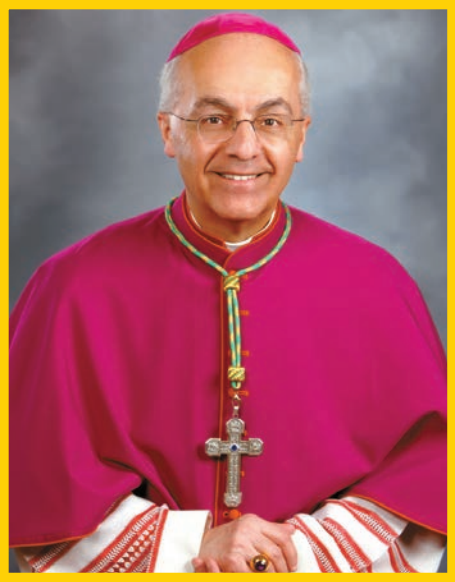
**■ Hannah’s Hope infertility support group**

Are you and your spouse, or someone you know, struggling with infertility? The Diocese of Bismarck Office of Respect Life facilitates a support group for couples suffering with infertility. The group is made up of other couples also walking the infertility path and is based on the teachings of the Church regarding infertility. The focus is on spiritual healing and moral support. Daily prayers are offered for all members by an appointed chaplain. For more information or to sign up, go to [bismarckdiocese.com/hope](http://bismarckdiocese.com/hope) or call Amanda at 701-204-7205.



# God’s Share Appeal

“Put your gifts at the service of one another”  
1 Peter 4:10



### My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to thank you for your continued prayers and support of my ministry which resulted in unsurpassed levels to last year’s God’s Share Appeal.

The Annual God’s Share Appeal is a combined effort of our 96 parishes and 61,862 Catholics to support our vibrant Catholic community and to carry out Jesus Christ’s mission in western North Dakota. As Jesus relied on the original disciples to help in His ministry, so too must I rely on you, as one of my disciples to help me in my ministry.

Our 65th Annual God’s Share Appeal is upon us. This appeal is very important to the diocese as your gift helps to fund the spiritual, pastoral, educational and temporal works critical in forming our families, children and all individuals yearning for the love and mercy of God.

This year’s goal is \$3,263,100. With your donation, we will be able to form our 18 seminarians and 10 diaconate candidates; train our religious education catechists and adult faith formation leaders; help our young people grow in faith and prepare for the reception of the Sacraments; promote the dignity of life and marriage, and so much more.

Please read this brochure to learn how your gift makes such a large impact on thousands of individuals and families in our diocese. Our website, [www.bismarckdiocese.com](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com) has additional information on our offices and programs, as well as materials that will inform, educate and inspire you.

I have chosen, “Put your gifts at the service of one another” 1 Peter 4:10, as our theme for the 2022 God’s Share Appeal. As Christian stewards, we know that every gift and blessing we have received is a gift from God. Peter is challenging us to see whatever we have been given as an opportunity to serve other people. As baptized Catholics, one way we show our appreciation for God’s blessings in our lives is by sharing those gifts and talents with others.

You play a very important and necessary role in our diocesan family! I need you and your prayers and financial support to keep our church alive and vibrant to serve you and your loved ones for generations to come. We simply cannot continue to do the Lord’s work without your support.

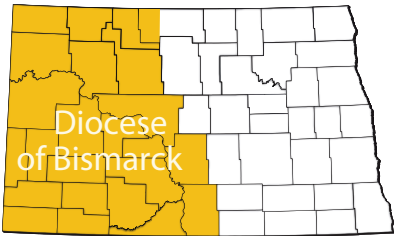
I invite you to work as co-laborers with me in building God’s house here in western North Dakota.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David D. Kagan  
Bishop of Bismarck



The Diocese of Bismarck is not just one person, it is not just one parish, it is an entire diocese which is the Kingdom of God in western North Dakota.



Diocese of Bismarck  
520 North Washington Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
(701) 222-3035 or  
Toll Free 1-877-405-7435  
[bismarckdiocese.com](http://bismarckdiocese.com)

### We Respond as Disciples . . .

After reflecting on the importance of the vital works of formation, outreach and education funded through the God’s Share Appeal and how you can help,

Please **reflect** on the many gifts you have received from God, including your family and financial blessings.

Next, **pray** about how God wants you to use the gifts He has entrusted to your care.

Then, **decide** how you will share your blessings with those in need and to support the mission of your Diocesan Church.

Please prayerfully discern how you respond to God’s generosity in your life by making a generous pledge to the God’s Share Appeal that impacts thousands of lives in western North Dakota each year.

*Diocese of Bismarck*  
*April 30-May 1, 2022*

**“Put your gifts at the service of one another”**  
*1 Peter 4:10*



Your donation to the 2022 God's Share Appeal supports all of the programs and services provided by the following offices:

- Archives
- Bishop's Office
- Canonical Services
- Catechesis and Youth
- Chancery Office
- Communications and Media Services
- Continuing Education for Clergy
- Dakota Catholic Action
- Education
- Episcopal Vicar for Clergy
- Family Ministry/Respect Life
- Finance
- Internal Auditor
- Missionary Activity
- Moderator of the Curia/Vicar General
- Permanent Diaconate
- Planned Giving
- Stewardship and Resource Development
- Vocations

**"Put your gifts at the service of one another"**

1 Peter 4:10

# God's Share Appeal

April 30 - May 1, 2022

## WE ARE...

61,862 Catholic people  
96 Parishes  
1 Bishop  
59 Priests  
13 Retired Priests  
18 Seminarians  
84 Permanent Deacons  
10 Men in Diaconate Formation  
1 Diocese

## LIVING AND SHARING OUR FAITH IN 2021, WE CELEBRATED:

971 Baptisms  
1,012 First Communions  
782 Confirmations  
215 Marriages  
903 Deaths

The Diocese of Bismarck is not just one person, it is not just one parish, it is an entire diocese which is the Kingdom of God in western North Dakota.

Bishop Kagan poses with our four new priests after their Ordination.

Our five seminarians that will be Ordained to the Priesthood.

Our seminarians attending their summer gathering.

Bishop Kagan confirms over 780 people each year.

Youth from western North Dakota attend the #NDMarchforLife event at the State Capitol grounds and the National March For Life event in Washington, DC.



## Office of Vocations

Your donation supports the Office of Vocations. Last year, four priests were Ordained to the Priesthood: Fr. Greg Hilzendeger, Fr. Nicholas Vetter, Fr. Ben Franchuk, and Fr. Jacob Degele. On June 13, 2022, five more of our seminarians, Deacon Grant Dvorak, Deacon Paul Gardner, Deacon Jake Magnuson, Deacon Logan Obrigewitch, and Deacon Ben Wanner will be Ordained to the Priesthood. Thirteen current seminarians are scheduled to return to the seminary in August. In addition, Bishop Kagan is still visiting with several other possible new seminarians. For a small diocese of our size, we are extremely blessed with the number of seminarians we have.

## Office of Catechesis and Youth

Your gift supports the Office of Catechesis and Youth which provides valuable training and information to all of the parishes' Religious Education programs. This office also coordinates the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd training for the parishes and Catholic schools using this special Religious Education program; the High School and Middle School Youth Rallies; March for Life Pilgrimage; Search weekend; Steubenville Youth Conferences; and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) wanting to enter the Catholic Church.



Bishop Kagan blesses the land, animals and machinery at the Annual Town & Country Celebration.



Bishop Kagan with our two new Deacons, David Fleck and Brian Lardy.



Bishop with retired priests.



## Office of Family Ministry/Respect Life

Your contribution supports the Office of Family Ministry/Respect Life which provides informational resources for marriage preparation, marriage encounter, sponsor couple training, respect life, natural family planning, marriage enrichment and several other opportunities. There are numerous programs and services offered by this office that include the Town & Country Celebration; Courage; Hannah's Hope Ministry; Rachel's Vineyard; Struggling Marriages – Corazon; Second Marriage Seminars; and others.

## Office of Permanent Diaconate

Your gift supports the Office of Permanent Diaconate which assists men who are studying to become deacons in the five-year formation program. This office also coordinates the on-going formation weekends for our Ordained Deacons throughout the year. Currently, we have 10 men in formation and 84 deacons.

## Retired Priests and Bishop

Your contribution supports all of our 13 retired priests who are a tremendous gift to our diocese. Through the ministry of the Office of the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, we desire to reaffirm them and offer encouragement to them as they experience their sunset years. Bishop Kagan poses with some of our retired priests.

## Office of Communications

The Office of Communications assists Bishop Kagan in communicating with people of all ages in a variety of ways – through the Dakota Catholic Action newspaper, weekly video messages on the diocesan website and through social media including Bishop's Twitter account.



Zoom meeting.

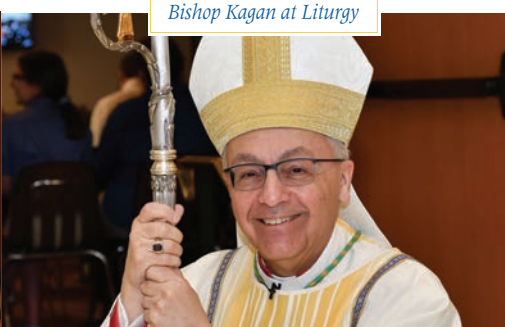


## Continuing Education for Clergy

The Office of Continuing Education for Clergy provides for the continued spiritual, intellectual and pastoral growth of our clergy by planning the Annual Fall and Spring Clergy Conferences, Annual Retreats for Priests, and the New Priest Workshops.



Bishop Kagan holding the Host.



Bishop Kagan at Liturgy

## The Chancery Office

The Chancery Office provides administrative and clerical assistance for Bishop Kagan and maintains official diocesan records and reports in the Archives.

## Diocesan Educational and Training Workshops

Educational workshops are offered by several diocesan offices to a variety of parish groups throughout the year. Our priests, deacons, parish employees, parish and finance council members are among the many who benefit from the education provided. Zoom meetings became very popular during the past year.

# Doing God's Work

For more pictures and information on each office, please visit our diocesan website:

**bismarckdiocese.com**

Diocese of Bismarck • 520 North Washington Street • Bismarck, ND 58501 • (701) 222-3035 or Toll Free 1-877-405-7435 • bismarckdiocese.com

## Stewardship and the God's Share Appeal

The God's Share Appeal is based on the concept of Christian Stewardship. Stewardship is centered on the daily recognition that we are not the absolute owners of ourselves, our time, our talents, or material goods. Rather, we have received every gift of nature and grace from God. Through Baptism we are called to use our time, talent and treasure in a responsible manner for our families, our parish communities, the pastoral, educational and religious ministries of the diocese, and for the global ministries of the universal Church. Stewardship is not about just giving in order to fill a need. It is about living a life that shows gratitude to the Lord for our lives, our skills and our resources.

## Stewardship is . . .

- Receiving God's Gifts Gratefully
- Nurturing God's Gifts Responsibly
- Sharing God's Gifts Justly
- Returning God's Gifts Abundantly

This year's God's Share Appeal theme is

**"Put your gifts at the service of one another" 1 Peter 4:10**

Our faith teaches us that the way we came to know of Jesus' love for us, was that He laid down his life – as an example for us to follow. By making a gift to this year's God's Share Appeal, you are expressing your love as a Christian steward – supporting Christ's work here in western North Dakota.

## Consider Different Possibilities

1. Make a pledge rather than a one-time gift.
2. Have your gift automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.
3. Use your credit card or debit card to make your gift.
4. Make your gift on-line at [www.bismarckdiocese.com](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com)
5. Make your gift by "Text-to-Give": text the \$ amount to (833) 544-1375.
6. Make your gift on your parish's APP.
7. Increase last year's gift by a percentage or a specific dollar amount.
8. Pledge one percent of your income.
7. Make your gift using stocks, bonds, grain, livestock, securities, real estate, or other personal property, which may have greatly increased in value. Should you be considering this type of gift, contact the Office of Stewardship and Resource Development at (701) 222-3035 for assistance.

Annual Household Income	1% Pledge	Down Payment	11 Monthly Payments
\$12,000	\$120	\$10.00	\$10.00
\$24,000	\$240	\$20.00	\$20.00
\$48,000	\$480	\$40.00	\$40.00
\$60,000	\$600	\$50.00	\$50.00
\$90,000	\$900	\$75.00	\$75.00
\$120,000	\$1,200	\$100.00	\$100.00
\$180,000	\$1,800	\$150.00	\$150.00

Please consider 1% of your income as a gift to the 2022 God's Share Appeal. Make your pledge today. Thank you for being good stewards of God's varied grace.



## PRAY FOR OUR 2021-2022 SEMINARIANS



The Office of Vocations, on average, has the largest office budget. Through your donations to the annual God's Share Appeal, Bishop Kagan is able to pay for the education and formation expenses of our 18 seminarians. The average cost for one seminarian in the major seminary is \$37,500 each year. Please continue to pray for our 18 seminarians and for everyone else that is considering a call to the Religious Life.

**"Put your gifts at the service of one another"**

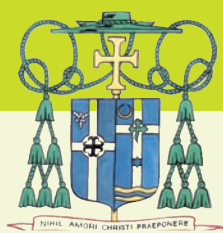
1 Peter 4:10



**DIOCESE of BISMARCK**  
BISMARCKVOCATIONS.COM



# CLERGY APPOINTMENTS



The following appointments, with the permission of Bishop David D. Kagan, are effective July 1, 2022.

**The Reverend Todd Kreitinger**

to be Pastor of St. Leo the Great Parish, Minot, and Parochial Administrator for St. Mary Parish, Foxholm, and St. Philomena Parish, Glenburn.



Fr. Todd Kreitinger

**The Reverend Keith Streifel**

to be Pastor of Spirit of Life Parish, Mandan, St. Martin Parish, Huff, and St. Anthony Parish, St. Anthony.



Fr. Keith Streifel

**The Reverend Justin Waltz**

to be Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Dickinson, and to continue as the Bishop's Delegate for Catholic Education.



Fr. Justin Waltz

**The Reverend Mark Aune**

to be Pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Linton, St. Paul Parish, Hazelton and St Katherine Parish, Braddock, and continue prison ministry to MVCC and the North Dakota State Penitentiary.



Fr. Mark Aune

**The Reverend Benjamin Franchuk**

to be Pastor of St. Charles Parish, Bowman, St. Mel Parish, Rhame, and St. Mary Parish, Marmarth.



Fr. Benjamin Franchuk

**The Reverend Jarad Wolf**

to be the University of Mary Chaplain for Athletics.



Fr. Jarad Wolf

**The Reverend Gregg Hochhalter**

to be Parochial Vicar for Saint Anne Parish, Bismarck.



Fr. Gregg Hochhalter

**The Reverend Douglas Krebs**

to be Adjunct Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Bismarck and live in residence at Ascension Parish, Bismarck.



Fr. Douglas Krebs

**The Reverend Jordan Dosch**

Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Bismarck, to live in residence at Corpus Christi Parish, Bismarck upon completion of the Parish Rectory.



Fr. Jordan Dosch

**The Reverend Brandon Wolf**

to be the Dean of Students at Bishop Ryan Catholic School and live in residence at St. John the Apostle Parish, Minot.



Fr. Brandon Wolf

**The Reverend Christian Smith**

to be the Academic Dean for Trinity Jr. and Senior High School, Dickinson.



Fr. Christian Smith

Upon ordination to the sacred priesthood, the following appointments, with the permission of Bishop David D. Kagan, are effective June 24, 2022.

**The Reverend Mr. Grant Dvorak**

upon sacred ordination, to be Chaplain for Trinity Jr. and Senior High School and Parochial Vicar for Queen of Peace Parish, Dickinson.



Rev. Mr. Grant Dvorak

**The Reverend Mr. Paul Gardner**

upon sacred ordination, to be Chaplain for St. Mary Academy, Bismarck, and Parochial Vicar for Spirit of Life Parish, Mandan, St. Martin Parish, Huff, and St. Anthony Parish, St. Anthony.



Rev. Mr. Paul Gardner

**The Reverend Mr. Jacob Magnuson**, upon sacred ordination, to be Parochial Vicar for the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit Parish, Bismarck, and part-time Religion Instructor at St. Mary Central High School, Bismarck.



Rev. Mr. Jacob Magnuson

**The Reverend Mr. Logan Obrigewitch**

upon sacred ordination, to be Parochial Vicar for Corpus Christi Parish, Bismarck, and provide clergy assistance to St. Mary Academy, Bismarck.



Rev. Mr. Logan Obrigewitch

**The Reverend Mr. Benjamin Wanner**, upon sacred ordination, to be Parochial Vicar for St. Joseph Parish, Dickinson, and part-time Religion Instructor at Trinity Jr. and Senior High School, Dickinson.



Rev. Mr. Benjamin Wanner



## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS *for Vice President for Student Development*

Are you looking for a career where you can joyfully and actively live out your faith?

The Vice President for Student Development supports a vibrant student life environment that adheres to the Benedictine values and the university's mission. S/He handles the planning, budgeting, collaborative management, implementation, and overall visionary leadership for programs and services needed to create a high quality student life program in support of student success and the university's mission.

The appointee provides vision and direction to campus ministry, residence life, new student orientation, student activities, student recreation and wellness, student involvement, educational and cultural programming, student conduct, counseling services, career and testing services, student accessibility services, academic support services, and student health.



UNIVERSITY  
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Learn more and apply at [umary.edu/Jobs](https://umary.edu/Jobs)



# Fostering the university’s Catholic mission

## Vice President Seaworth retiring after two decades

**By Emily Lysne**  
**Special Contributor to the DCA**

The rich history of Catholic education in the Diocese of Bismarck is filled with stories of remarkable dedication and generous self-sacrifice. Religious women, priests and laypersons—in quiet, unassuming ways, often giving back from what they have been given—have labored through the years to provide the gift of education in the faith to thousands.

Among these stories is that of Dr. Tim Seaworth, who was raised in the Catholic schools of Bismarck. Now, after more than 20 years of service to the University of Mary as Vice President for Student Development, he is retiring.

For him, the past two decades have been spent growing and renewing the Catholic identity of programs that are key to the university’s mission: among them university ministry, student activities, residence life, and mission for life, the university’s student service and volunteer-coordinating arm.

For those who knew the campus at the time Seaworth arrived, and those who know it now, the transformation of such programs is palpable. Today, a rich sacramental life flourishes on the campus, a robust study abroad program in Rome draws large numbers of applications each semester, vocational-based residence halls are filled with students committed to lives of prayer and virtue, and an annual university-wide “day of service” floods the Bismarck-Mandan community with university volunteers.

Seaworth came to Mary in 2000 from a counseling post at the University of North Dakota to serve such programs. But the tone of his service comes from roots that were planted much earlier.

### Early faith journey

Seaworth’s great grandfather was an Irish immigrant who came to Bismarck as a railroad laborer in 1873. It was in the days before a Catholic church had been established in the wild western town, but the nearest priest from Duluth, Minnesota would venture to the area every now and then to offer Mass and witness marriages.

The community, though, wanted a church. So, Seaworth’s great-grandfather and his newly married wife helped to host a fundraising picnic, where they raised \$1,400 to build the first St. Mary’s Church.

Soon after came St. Mary’s School, staffed in 1878 by the religious women who would become the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery.

It was there that Seaworth’s grandfather, mother, and eventually he and his siblings would attend grade school.

But the religious sisters were even more than educators to the Seaworth family. When an economic downturn at the start

of World War I bankrupted Seaworth’s grandfather’s construction company, he and his family found themselves in need, sometimes unsure of where their next meal might come from.

The sisters weren’t so unsure. They’d bring vegetables from their garden to the Seaworth family, or they’d give them a little money to clean the school. They got the family through—caring for educational as well as material and spiritual needs wherever they found it.

Dr. Seaworth remembers coming out to their newly-constructed priory when he was four years old, the priory that would eventually become part of the University of Mary campus, and his mom would remind him of how much the sisters did for her, and so, for them.

With the sisters as his teachers and his mom passing on to him her deep affection for the Benedictine community, the language of Benedictine life and values became a centerpiece of Seaworth’s vocabulary even then.

### Arriving at the university

While still at UND, Sr. James Messer, a former principal of Cathedral Grade School, steadily asked Seaworth, “When are you going to come and work at Mary?”

So, his arrival to the campus was something of a homecoming for him, and he was welcomed with affection.

The university was smaller then, and so Sr. Thomas Welder, president at the time, tasked student development with the question of how to keep students enrolled from year to year. That grew into asking questions about student experience: are students happy at the University of Mary; what are they looking for? And that, over the years, grew into asking questions about how Catholic culture might be fostered on the campus, to satisfy both the desires students were expressing and those that lay deeper within their hearts.

They were questions that were given good answers. The university was attempting to prompt students to consider the deepest questions of life: Who am I? Who is God? What’s my relationship with God? What’s my purpose in life?

Seaworth says about that effort, “You can look for those answers in the classroom; you can read and write about what other people have had to say about those questions, and that’s important.

“But then,” he goes on, “you need to have the environment where those questions get talked about at two in the morning, in the residence hall or the Crow’s Nest campus restaurant. That’s where students consider how those questions impact who they are and how they live their daily lives.”

To build that kind of a culture — one that aims to foster opportunity for genuine friendship, for the chance to care for another, especially those that need care — has been at the heart of his work.

### Navigating campus life

For him that work has meant building up programs that are

hallmarks of the university’s Catholic mission, like its beautiful and consistent liturgies; its residence life program bolstered by mission-driven staff and programming aimed at forming students in virtue and relationship; and its student organization culture, which is marked by groups like Collegians for Life and Knights of Columbus.

But Seaworth’s favorite moments have been the chances he’s had to really invest in individual students’ lives.

The stories range from the bizarre to the deeply moving. He remembers one student who ordered an inflatable hot tub for his room. When his residence director asked him to remove it, he calmly replied that the student handbook didn’t prohibit inflatable hot tubs.

Dr. Seaworth met with him, and in good humor they talked about the hot tub, but also about much more. Dr. Seaworth extended to him an invitation to think about more than jokes and handbooks, but about how his gifts, clear as they were, could be used for a higher purpose.

Dr. Seaworth says, “He’s become a young man all of us would say we’re very proud of.”

And then there was a student with a substance abuse problem, whose life was slipping out of control. The problem eventually got him into some trouble through the student conduct disciplinary process. But that process, too, was viewed as a tool for formation.

Through it, the student was helped to go into recovery, and the trajectory of his life was forever changed.

“All of his potential,” Seaworth says, “was suddenly unlocked.”

### Leaving a legacy

For Seaworth, that’s the legacy: using the whole of the life of a university—its academic and non-academic aspects—to form the whole of the person, so that students might become all that they were meant to.

It’s a legacy that resonates with his family’s first encounters with the sisters, who brought education for their minds but also vegetables and work for their bodies and the assurance of their care for their souls, too, as they fostered in them a spirit of steadfast hope.

That hope runs all through the stories of those serving and those served by the university, from the student ordering the hot tub to the vice president retiring after two decades.

Indeed, Seaworth says of his time at Mary, “To do what I felt called to do, to become who I feel I was meant to become, and to realize along the way that I couldn’t do it alone, has made me know, more and more, God’s presence in my life.”

Seaworth remembers coming out to campus when he was in high school to a lookout spot just to the west of North Hall. Down off the bluff flows the Missouri River, surrounded by a vast expanse of trees and prairie grass and rugged hills, covered over by a sky that lights up from time to time in magnificent sunsets, training the eye to expect the unimaginable.

There was so much more to come, from Seaworth’s vision—then, as now.

## OBITUARY

### Deacon Joe Mattson

Joseph (Joe) Morris Mattson, M.D., age 82, passed away on February 12, 2022, in Littleton, Colo.



Deacon Joe Mattson

Joe was born on February 22, 1939, in LaMoure, N.D, to Jul Morris and Dorothy Cecelia (McGregor) Mattson. After attending LaMoure Public Schools, Joe graduated from Jamestown College. He began medical school at the University of North Dakota, completing his medical degree at the University of Washington in Seattle. Joe completed his medical residency at Saint Paul Ramsey Hospital before serving in the United States Air Force.

In 1968, Joe joined United Clinics P.C. and Community Memorial Hospital (later West River Medical Center and Clinics) in Hettinger, N.D. Soon after arriving, he helped establish the ambulance service, teaching the first formalized sessions in emergency care in North Dakota to local volunteers. Dr. Mattson served all the affiliated clinics, helping to shape rural healthcare and innovate the satellite clinic system model. Board certified in family practice and geriatrics,

he shared his experience by mentoring medical students on their training rotations. For many years, he was the medical director of Hillcrest Care Center (later Western Horizons Care Center) in Hettinger and was the founding medical director of a community hospice. Joe retired in 2010, after 41 years of dedicated service to his patients and the communities of southwestern North Dakota and northwestern South Dakota.

Joe married Patricia (Pat) Ann Fisher in 1969. Together they raised seven children in Hettinger. Joe was ordained as deacon in the Catholic Church and served for 23 years at Holy Trinity Parish in Hettinger and Sacred Heart Parishes in Reeder and Scranton.

Survivors include his wife, Pat; his children, Co-Bin (Sarah), Stacie, Don (Paula), Jennifer (Steve), Chris (Tara), Nathan, Amy (Andrew), Tahna; his brother, Michael Mattson (Colleen); sisters-in-law, Rose Mattson, Jan Mattson, and Marge Mattson; 21 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and many much-loved nieces and nephews.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Mary Ellen Kluever; brothers, Clem, Larry, Max, and Don James Mattson; and grandson, Elijah Joseph Kjolsrud.



# Balancing Church & State

CHRISTOPHER DODSON



## A partnership of caring for the least among us

A recent story in the Grand Forks Herald about the Grand Forks County “poor house” and “poor farm” that operated from 1893 to 1973 brought to mind a common myth about how we care for the poor.

The myth is that when it comes to taking care of people in need, the government has taken over what used to be done by only churches and charitable organizations. The truth is that churches and charities have never been the sole provider of care for the poor. Throughout much of history government and churches together cared for the poor.

As far back as the Old Testament, the prophets told everyone to remember the “anawim,” the poor ones who remained faithful to God during difficult times. But it was the rulers and leaders, the closest we have to today’s “government,” who the prophets most often instructed to care to the poor.

Christ made clear that the “poor” includes not just the economic poor or believers. Some non-Catholics preach that Jesus’ parables, especially the parable of the talents, instructs that government should never involve itself in the care for the poor, but most Catholic scholars, including the Church Fathers, never interpreted the parable in that way. In fact, Jesus did not expressly preach that care for the poor should be done solely by private works or only by the state.

The early Church, however, understood that the Gospel taken as a whole meant that the obligation to care for the least among us applied to everyone. Two Church Fathers of the 4th Century, St. Basil the Great and St. John Chrysostom, made clear that rulers and government officials had

duties to the poor, not just because of the officials’ common humanity, but because of their position of authority.

From the Middle Ages to the rise of the modern state, the church became the primary, if not only, provider of care to the poor, the sick and the orphaned. But it would be a mistake to think that the church operated these institutions alone. Church and state were so intertwined that these “charitable” institutions were really partnerships between the government and the church. Monasteries, hospitals, orphanages and schools existed with the blessing, protection and financial support of lords and kings. The government, meaning the rulers and landowners, were the primary benefactors of the institutions operated by the church. Taxes paid to the lords and sovereigns eventually supported the church’s work.

The Protestant Reformation and later Enlightenment-era anti-clerical movements dissolved or confiscated many of the church’s institutions or severed their relationship with the state. It was during this time, especially in the Anglo-American world, that private benevolent institutions arose. Some were connected with churches, some were not.

When people talk about a time when the churches took care of everybody, they are usually thinking about this time. History shows, however, that churches never did take care of all the poor and sick. Governments operated hospitals, orphanages, maternity homes, sanitariums, poor houses and institutions for the blind, deaf, mentally ill and disabled.

The pendulum swings. Sometimes government does more, sometimes the charitable sector

does more. Sometimes one does something the other does not. Sometimes they provide the same services.

What does Catholic social doctrine have to say about the proper role of government in caring for the poor? Let us start with some clear principles.

First, the government should not monopolize care for the poor. This is a form of collectivist socialism that is incompatible with the Catholic understanding of society and the human person.

Second, the government should not prohibit religious groups from serving the public. This is a violation of religious freedom.

Third, the state should enact regulations that protect the vulnerable and ensure basic care. Protection, a form of justice, is one of the primary functions of the state. Government has a role in ensuring that charities and religious groups providing services to those in need provide safe conditions, real care and do not waste donors’ contributions.

Fourth, at the same time, the government should not be so intrusive that it creates a system that demeans the dignity of the human person, interferes with the

family structure or violates the principle of subsidiarity.

From there, how much and how government should be involved in care for the poor becomes a matter of prudential judgment, varying from place to place and time to time.

Saint John Paul II once said something about substance abuse treatment that summarizes a Catholic approach to this question. He said that government does not “do” substance abuse treatment. People do. He added, however, that government has an obligation to help the people providing treatment, financially and legally.

We need to constantly search for that right balance. Some things only government can do. Some things only charities and churches can do. Most services, however, are partnerships between the private sector, including religious groups, and the government sector. Our task is to make sure that each is doing the right part and that the true needs of the least among us are never lost.

■ Dodson serves as executive director of the N.D. Catholic Conference, the official liaison for the dioceses of Fargo and Bismarck in matters of public policy.

### PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

The Diocese of Bismarck is firmly committed to the health and protection of our children, young people and vulnerable adults. With the hope of healing the pain and suffering from sexual abuse in the Catholic Church, we encourage anyone who has suffered from this abuse to please come forward and let us know. To report allegations of sexual abuse, please contact: Dale Eberle, Chancellor, Diocese of Bismarck, PO Box 1575, Bismarck, ND 58502-1575. Phone: 701.223.1347 or 1.877.405.7435. Email the victim assistance coordinator, Joyce McDowall, at [victimassistance@bismarckdiocese.com](mailto:victimassistance@bismarckdiocese.com).

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The Catholic Church must be exemplary: Clergy, staff, whether diocesan or parish, and volunteers are held accountable for their behavior. To enable the highest level of accountability, there must be a clear and unambiguous definition of appropriate behavior. To this end, this Code of Conduct is defined for the Diocese of Bismarck and it provides a foundation for implementing effective and enforceable standards for all personnel. View the Code of Conduct at <http://www.bismarckdiocese.com>.

## Questions

### I was afraid to ask

FR. GREG LUGER



#### Q: Are there different types of Catholicism?

**A:** From time to time, people ask, “Are there different types of Catholicism?” The answer is, “Yes (sort of).”

Here’s what I mean. In the Church, there are several different rites: the Latin, Byzantine, Chaldean, Coptic, Syriac, Armenian and Maronite. Furthermore, there are several rites within these rites. For example, the Latin rite includes the Roman rite, the Ambrosian rite (found in Milan), and the Mozarabic rite (found in Toledo, Spain).

In our diocese, most are probably familiar with the Ukrainian churches found in Minot, Belfield and Wilton. If you would like to witness what the Ukrainian rite looks like, I highly recommend that you attend one of their Masses (or as they call it “Divine Liturgy”). And, yes, going to their Mass on Sunday fulfills your obligation. The Ukrainian rite is one of the Byzantine rites. The Ukrainian rite Catholics, like all others of Catholic rites, are just as Catholic as us Roman Catholics. So yes, they are under the pope and believe all the same things that we do: the articles of the Creed, the sacraments, morality, all of it.

What is different about them is their liturgical heritage. The Catechism explains it this way: “The diverse liturgical traditions have arisen by very

reason of the Church’s mission. Churches of the same geographical and cultural area came to celebrate the mystery of Christ through particular expressions characterized by the culture: in the tradition of the ‘deposit of faith,’ in liturgical symbolism, in the organization of fraternal communion, in the theological understanding of the mysteries, and in various forms of holiness. Through the liturgical life of a local church, Christ, the light and salvation of all peoples, is made manifest to the particular people and culture to which that Church is sent and in which she is rooted. The Church is catholic, capable of integrating into her unity, while purifying them, all the authentic riches of cultures” (CCC 1202).

This is to say that all these rites possess the same Catholic faith (the “deposit of faith”) but in different areas of the world, different liturgical rites developed around the deposit of faith. While there is legitimate diversity of liturgy (which must be recognized by the highest authority of the Church), can there be legitimate diversity of belief? No. The deposit of faith was given to us by Christ and entrusted to the Apostles, to this we must all humbly submit ourselves.

I will conclude with the following from the Catholic Encyclopedia: “Within the Catholic Church ... Canonical rites, which are of equal dignity, enjoy the same rights, and are under the same obligations. Although the particular churches possess their own hierarchy, differ in liturgical and ecclesiastical discipline, and possess their own spiritual heritage, they are all entrusted to the pastoral government of the Roman pontiff, the divinely appointed successor of St. Peter in the Primacy.”

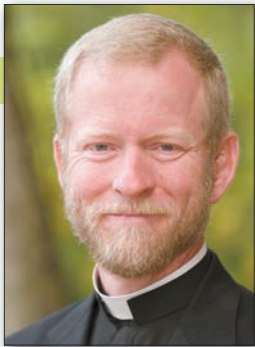
■ Fr. Greg Luger is pastor at the Churches of St. Jerome in Mohall, St. James in Sherwood and St. John in Lansford. If you have a question you were afraid to ask, now is the time to ask it! Simply email your question to [info@bismarckdiocese.com](mailto:info@bismarckdiocese.com) with the “Question Afraid to Ask” in the subject line.



Making Sense out of Bioethics

FR. TAD PACHOLCZYK

Appropriate use of morphine near the end of life



To help people navigate some of the complex decisions involved in end-of-life situations, the National Catholic Bioethics Center offers a free and confidential consultation service via e-mail or phone. Often, we are asked about the appropriate use of morphine and other opioids. Family members may be understandably concerned about the potential for overdosing their loved ones, as hospice workers appear to “ramp up” the morphine rapidly, especially in the last few hours of life.

What principles can guide us in the appropriate use of morphine near the end of life? It can be helpful to summarize a few key points here.

Morphine and other opioids can be very useful—indeed, invaluable—in controlling pain and reducing suffering for many patients near the end of life. Morphine is also used to alleviate anxiety and labored breathing. Opioids are highly effective pain management tools in the tool box of palliative care and hospice specialists.

These drugs need to be used carefully, since very high doses are capable of suppressing a patient’s ability to breathe, which can lead to death.

Medically appropriate use of these drugs for pain management will involve the important concept of titration. Dosage titration means giving enough medication to dull or limit the pain, but not going so far as to cause unconsciousness or death. This implies continually assessing and adjusting the balance of a drug to assure it is effective and not unduly harmful. In other words, pain medications should be dispensed in response to concrete indicators of pain and discomfort, so that patients can have their pain-relief needs met

but not be unnecessarily over-medicated. Practically speaking, it is important to pay attention to signs of discomfort that a patient may be manifesting, whether grimacing, twitching, crying, flailing extremities or other movements. Such objective indicators should guide those making dosing decisions as they seek to control pain and limit discomfort.

As families receive advice about how to care for their loved ones, and try to make good decisions on their behalf, one question that should be asked is, “What is the reason someone is being given (or is being advised to receive) pain medication?” Is the medication being provided because the patient is actually experiencing pain, or for some other reason, such as an intent to hasten death? This can be an important factor in determining whether the administration of a particular pain medication would be ethical or not.

By carefully dispensing pain medications without rendering patients lethargic or semi-comatose, to the extent possible, we afford them the opportunity to make preparations for their death while still conscious. In general, patients should not be deprived of alertness or consciousness except to mitigate excruciating or otherwise unbearable pain.

In order to address situations of escalating pain, it may become necessary to administer higher and higher doses of morphine or other opioids. At a certain point, we may face the prospect that the next dose we provide to properly control the pain will be so high that it will suppress the patient’s breathing, leading to death. The principle of double effect can guide and assist us in such cases. When the clinical requirement of proper titration of pain medications is carried out, and the other

conditions of the principle are satisfied, a strict and appropriate use of pain medication in this manner can be allowable, even when it may indirectly or unintentionally contribute to an individual’s demise.

This has been helpfully summed up in Directive 61 of the “Ethical and Religious Directives” of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which reminds us that, “Medicines capable of alleviating or suppressing pain may be given to a dying person, even if this therapy may indirectly shorten the person’s life so long as the intent is not to hasten death. Patients experiencing suffering that cannot be alleviated should be helped to appreciate the Christian understanding of redemptive suffering.”

In situations of truly intractable pain, it can be legitimate to employ “palliative sedation,” which involves the decision to render a patient unconscious during his or her final hours. This should be done with proper consent, obtained from the patient or the designated surrogate. It is important to avoid any suicidal intention and to ensure that other duties, such as receiving the last sacraments and saying goodbye to loved ones, have been fulfilled.

Such careful attention to pain management is of paramount importance in end-of-life care and supports both the patient and the family in a dignified way during the dying process.

■ Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. He also serves as a professor of bioethics at the University of Mary in Bismarck. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

Ag Attitudes

JAMES ODERMANN



Water used in baptism gives hydration in service to God

An often-repeated request at the prayers of the faithful during Mass is “for sufficient moisture.” Agricultural producers pray daily for moisture, especially in the semi-arid Bismarck Diocese.

Water is the well-spring of life; something expected. The abundance of water, especially clean, quality water, however, is not universally present.

North Dakota is blessed with the Missouri River, a water source for all. Residents have long understood—and underscored—the importance of making sure this river of life is secured to create a great quality of place.

With the gift of this great natural resource, however, comes great responsibility. The greatest obligation is to use the water wisely, share the water prudently and protect the water for future generations.

Water is a pure substance that is the same whether it be on the prairies of the Bismarck Diocese

or in the rivers of the world. It was then that I made the connection, reflecting (daydreaming might be more accurate) before Sunday Mass.

Water is the medium through which I was invited (even though I was too small to remember) in baptism to be a child of God, a disciple of Jesus using the Holy Spirit’s gift of grace so universally evident. God called me (through my parents and family) to clothe myself in the precepts of Christianity and the Catholic Church.

As I reflected happily on the week just passed, I could feel the same excitement about the week ahead. Yes, it would be busy and, as I reflected on the many things on the calendar, I felt a little bit selfish, a lot embarrassed.

“ . . . I was thirsty and you gave me drink . . . (Matthew 25:35).

My embarrassment was about perhaps this most basic need—water. And, my mortification was

heightened as I reflected on the African Mission Appeal. There are many needs present at the diocesan-sponsored mission, but water is one of the most basic. I blushed as I reflected how I walk to the faucet, lift the handle, fill a glass and then savor the taste of good, clean water.

I complain about a lack of rain, but I have been lucky. I do not have to worry if I will be able to hydrate myself with untainted water, a luxury taken for granted too often.

I thought it would be good to

sponsor water filters and water drums. It is the least I can do.

And, I need to pray for my sisters and brothers in Africa—and war-torn Ukraine. Prayer and almsgiving are two tenets of Lent.

Care to join me?

■ Odermann lives with his wife, Leona, on the family farm in Billings County. They are members of the Church of St. Patrick in Dickinson and assist with Eucharistic celebrations there as well as at the Churches of St. Bernard (Belfield) and St. Mary (Medora).

Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions for April



**For health care workers**  
We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.





Join us for the  
**Catholic Charities North Dakota**  
**2022 Caritas Award Luncheon**

*Honoring*  
*The Daughters of Mary Immaculate of Guadalupe*  
For their service to the North Dakota Latino community  
and their love of Jesus Christ.



**Tuesday, May 10**  
11:30am - 1:00pm  
**Catholic Church of the Ascension**  
1825 S 3rd St  
Bismarck, ND 58504

Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 3 to  
[dinner@catholiccharitiesnd.org](mailto:dinner@catholiccharitiesnd.org),  
call John at 701-235-4457.  
An RSVP is required due to limited capacity.

# Corazon

**Have you lost hope in your marriage?  
You are not alone!**

For couples in crisis...Corazon can help you begin  
to put the pieces back together again.

For more information and to register online visit  
[bismarckdiocese.com/corazon](http://bismarckdiocese.com/corazon).

**Upcoming weekends:**  
**May 13-15, 2022**  
**September 2-4, 2022**



## BUNDLE UP YOUR BABY BUMP

Baby Item Giveaway  
**MAY 7, 2022**  
12 pm to 3 pm | 201 N 24th St, Bismarck

COME "SHOP" FOR  
FREE BABY SUPPLIES

ALL EXPECTANT AND NEW  
PARENTS WELCOME



Catholic Charities  
North Dakota

More info on our Facebook page:  
[@pregnancyandadoptionND](https://www.facebook.com/pregnancyandadoptionND)





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