

Reflection: The Abolition of Sin

By Sarah Dixon Young

Some of my children participated in a speech competition this past weekend. It was sponsored by the McKenzie County Right to Life organization, and all of the speeches had to expound on pro-life topics. In many ways, it was heartening to hear young people (ages 13-18) defend life, but it also led me to think that in order to fix social ills like abortion and euthanasia, we would need to abolish sin altogether. I've been reading a biography of William Lloyd Garrison, a famous abolitionist from the 1800's who advocated for the complete, immediate abolition of slavery and the



Young subsequent granting of full citizenship and rights to all former slaves. It was an unpopular view in the 1830's and -40's, and his newspaper, The Liberator, had many enemies. Garrison was even a wanted man in several southern states because of the infor-

mation he published about abolition and the evils of slavery. He was also unpopular even in some abolitionist circles because his hatred for the evils of slavery spread into many other arenas. In addition to speaking out in favor of women's suffrage, he also spoke against voting and government participation. In his view, if one spoke was broken, the wheel was no good. He threw the baby out with the bathwater when he burned a copy of the U.S. Constitution at a rally to prove the point that slavery was corrupting the nation. Several speeches at the Speech Meet also advocated for the abolition of abor-

tion. As a Christian, I'm in favor of this. Abortion is always murder, and therefore, always wrong. The Gospel is the only solution to give to post-abortive mothers, at once offering honest condemnation of their sin and complete forgiveness and healing in Christ. Some who advocate for the abolition of abortion refuse to endorse legislation such as North Dakota's 6-week abortion ban because it makes an allowance for murder. I do not know why we would take such a Garrisonian view. Why not be in favor of banning abortion after six weeks and also be in favor of banning it ever? I think one can have a both-

and approach to putting a stop to the legalization of sin. Garrison wanted to see the abolition of sin in his day. The young people speaking at the speech meet seemed to want the same thing. It isn't wrong to yearn for the righting of all wrongs, the judgment of all evil, the sad things to come untrue. And the Bible says it will happen. It began the moment Jesus began His ministry. "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." And it will end with Him too: "Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The One sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteous-

ness, He judges and makes war." In the meantime, we must live as Kingdom citizens in this far country, remembering the prayer our Savior taught us: "Let Your Kingdom come and Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Sarah Dixon Young uses stories everyday to share the love of Jesus with her family, friends, and neighbors. She lives in Fort Totten, ND with her husband, Paul, and their four children. She is the author of five books, many articles, and more Sunday School lessons than she can count. You can follow her adventures or get in touch at www.SarahDixonYoung.com

Reflection: Saints Alive!

by Fr. Bernard Pfau

St. Joseph Catholic Parish hosted a regional celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist on Sunday, May 18, 2025 at St. Joseph Parish in Devils Lake. Thirty three young students from St. Joseph's Parish and nine young students from neighboring parishes

were the recipients of these two Sacraments which were administered by Bishop John T. Folda, Bishop of the Fargo Diocese. Each of the candidates had selected a sponsor to stand with them at the ceremony and pledge to support their young disciple in future years. I was present at this Service and I represented the pastor of one of parishes

who could not be present. One of the requirements for each student in preparation for Confirmation is to choose a saint of the Church and make it their Confirmation Name. The Bishop addresses each student by that name as he anoints their foreheads with the holy Oil of Chrism and greets them with a Sign of Peace. This practice

has become an important part of their formation, as they study what it means to be a disciple of the Lord, and also learn from the Saints how to follow Christ. One of the most common saints chosen by this Confirmation Class was that of St. Francis of Assisi, a 16th century saint who is revered as the Founder of the Franciscans. Francis suffered

much as he embraced the Cross of Christ and lived a lowly life in the hills of Italy. St. Francis of Assisi is one of the most revered saints in the Catholic Church, as well by many Christians of other faiths. His love for all creation is evident in his manner of living as well as in many prayers he composed. The "Canticle of the

Creatures", which is printed in this Issue of the DLJ, captures St. Francis admiration for God's Creation and his respect for the diversity of its creatures. The former Pope Francis chose the name, "Francis," in his Pontificate of twelve years, to help us better understand and appreciate See REFLECTION | 5

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

ASSEMBLY OF GOD River of Life 1903 Hwy 20 Devils Lake 701-662-4582 www.riverlife.us Sunday: 10 a.m. worship	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS 20th St. & Lincoln Ave. Devils Lake Sunday: 10 a.m. Sacrament at 11 a.m.	LIGHTHOUSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD Fort Totten, N.D. 701-766-4826 Sunday 10:30 a.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 515 Fourth St. Devils Lake 662-7558 Monday -Friday at 12:00pm Tuesday at 10:00am at Odd Fellows Wednesday at 10:00am at Eventide Friday at 9:30am at St. Joseph School Saturday at 8:30am & 5:00pm Sunday at 7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am	ST. WILLIAMS CATHOLIC CHURCH Maddock, N.D. 438-2668 Wednesday: 7 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass. Mass at 5 p.m. on the first Friday of the month.
ASSUMPTION OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH Starkweather, N.D. 292-4301 Sunday: Mass: Rotating 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. with St. Mary's, Munich Call 682-5178 (Munich).	DAKOTA BAPTIST CHURCH West Highway 57 Fort Totten Church - 766-4516 Sunday: 11 a.m. worship.	MORNING STAR PARISH 701-262-4714 www.morningstarparish.com Worship services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. rotating: American, Pekin, Warwick, Sigdal and Sheyenne Lutheran	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH St. Michael, ND 58370 766-4151 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.	SEVEN DOLORS CATHOLIC CHURCH Fort Totten 766-4314 Sunday: 11 a.m. Mass. Daily Mass: 7 a.m.
BDECAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Tokio, N.D. (2 miles south of Tokio, near Woodlake) 294-2283 www.bdecanpresbyterian-church.org Worship: at 11 a.m., Sunday school kids K - 5 grade during worship, potluck meal after	DAKOTA OYATE LUTHERAN CHURCH 294-2361 Tokio, N.D. 11 a.m. worship	NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP North Junction of Hwy. 15 & 20 Rural Hamar 262-4470 Sunday: 10:30 a.m. worship service	ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 601 6th St. NE Devils Lake, ND 662-4911 9:30 a.m. Worship (September - May) Summer: 8:30 a.m. at Retreat Center 11 a.m. at St. Olaf (June - August)	TRINITY-BERGEN AFLC LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 46 Starkweather Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion every Sunday
BETHEL EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 1312 East Walnut St. Devils Lake 662-3758 www.bethelfree.com Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue Devils Lake 11 a.m. Morning prayer 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Holy Eucharist- 4th Sunday	OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 612 14th Ave. NE Devils Lake, N.D. 662-5112 Sunday: 10 a.m. Service Wednesday: 6 p.m. Service	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 7th St. & 7th Ave. 662-2245 Devils Lake Missouri Synod Worship: 11 a.m. Dial-a-Devotion: 662-3158.	WEBSTER CHAPEL Webster, N.D. Worship is at 9 a.m. the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH Tokio Saturday: 7 p.m. Mass all year round.	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 311 5th Ave. NE Devils Lake 701-230-1332 Sunday: 10:30am and 6 p.m.	PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (NALC) 1700 Fifth Ave. NE PO Box 1041 Devils Lake, N.D. 662-3565 Worship Sunday 9:30 a.m.	ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Fort Totten, N.D. 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays, 4th Sunday - Morning Prayer	WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 501 Fifth St. NE Devils Lake, 662-3584 Sunday worship 11:00 a.m.
CHURCH OF GOD (SEVENTH DAY) 607 Fifth St. S.E. Devils Lake Saturday: 2 p.m.	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Lakota Missouri Synod Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH Esmond, N.D. 249-8360 Tuesday-Saturday: Weekday Mass at 9 a.m. Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass.	ZOAR FREE LUTHERAN Hampden, North Dakota Pastor Craig Wentzel May through August Worship Sundays 9 a.m.	If you would like to make changes or corrections to this ad, please contact Louise at loleson@cmpapers.com
	HIGH PLAINS MINISTRY Nekoma, Lawton, Concordia, and Our Redeemer's	ST. JEROME'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Crow Hill District Hwy. #57, One mile N. Saturday: Mass 5 p.m.		
	LAKOTA LUTHERAN CHURCH LAKOTA, ND 247-2777 Sundays: 10 a.m.			

This week's listing brought to you by the following local businesses:

-Devils Lake Journal & the Country Peddler
516 4th St., 662-2127

-Jerome W wholesale
1115 2nd Ave. NE, 662-5366

-Nordic Fiberglass & All Employees

-Glibertson Funeral Home
Hwy2West

-Altru Health System
1001 7th St NE, 662-2158

-Eventide Senior Living Communittes

-Leevers Foods
323 5th St. NE, 662-4945

-Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 756
314 3rd Ave NE, 662-4117

-First United Bank
323 5th St NE, 662-4024