

## Work with marriage, family and respect life now up to each person

Dear Friends throughout the Diocese,

As we approach the end of our time in the Marriage, Family and Respect Life Ministry Office, we have so many memories of the wonderful years of serving together with you, of learning and growing and coming to know you.

We have treasured every one of those times, all the trainings and conferences, parish and personal visits, all the joys and sorrows and tears and laughter we have shared. We treasure all of these not just because of our common ministry but because of how we have all lived the realities of family life in the presence of one another. Your goodness and your strength have touched our lives and we are so very grateful to have been so honored and blessed by our relationships with you.

Although we truly believe in the importance of diocesan office support for parishes, families and individuals, we also know that the future of ministry does not depend on an office or any one, two or three persons. It depends on all of us and it is in that knowledge that we have hope. You have helped so much to make the ministry to married couples and families what it is and has become. You have offered the gifts of Jesus' love and presence through making a gift of yourselves to others. We pray you will continue to love and serve one another, believing and teaching always that marriage and family were ordained by God Himself to be the foundation of both our Church and society. We also pray that you will continue to uphold the truth of the dignity of every human life and express the urgency for an end to abortion and all abuses of human life in our country and the world. Please, let us go forward together; each as we can in our own parishes and deaneries to continue the good work He has begun in us.

May God bless each of you and your families. Please pray for us and know you will be in our prayers as well,

most especially when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist. You have been among the Lord's greatest gifts to us. Thank you so much for who you are and all you have given to us and others over these past 20 years.

If you have any questions or need any help re-

garding how to continue the ministries of this office in your parishes, please call us anytime between now and the end of June at 800-788-4616.

*In Christ's love,*  
**Pat McCarthy,**  
**Pam Trujillo and**  
**Ruthie Halvorsen**

### Letter to Editor

## Father Ogg thanks Knights of Columbus

For the first time in my priesthood, I fully attended the Knights of Columbus State Convention. I enjoyed the convention. I enjoy the intensity of the Knights. One of the things I found most interesting and something that the Knights should be most proud of is that 18 years ago they established the Wyoming Knights of Columbus Charitable Trust. The beneficiaries are St. Joseph's Society-Clergy Retirement Fund of the Diocese of Cheyenne and the Diocese of Cheyenne Seminarian Endowment.

The Wyoming Council members have contributed throughout these years almost \$500,000 to this trust. This is a long term venture for the Knights, and as time passes will provide a great benefit to our retired priests and our seminarians. What a wonderful gift that is to the Church. The awkwardness of the Trust is that as it now exists, will not provide any benefits for at least another 50 years to the beneficiaries.

At the convention as president of St. Joseph's Society I shared the present situation of our priest's retirement fund with the Knights. We are spending close to \$45,000 per month in retirement benefits. The Society is dipping into principle. This can't last very long, and so as an immediate response during the convention the Knights gave \$16,000 in cash to the Society. It was wonderful to experience. On behalf of all the priests both active and retired I

thank all the Knights for their collective efforts to support the St. Joseph's Society. Thank you and God Bless you all.

Another wonderful bit of news is that two resolutions were passed that will be positive for St. Joseph's Society. The first is that all councils are asking a \$10 donation from each member. There are approximately 2,800 brother Knights in Wyoming, and if that happened between the two collections, they would come close to paying a months worth of our benefits. The second is that all councils are again being asked to do an annual fundraiser for St. Joseph's Society this next year. And so I would like to express my gratitude to the Knights and to let the world know of their generosity in response to our need. This convention was a turning point. What a privilege to be a member of the Knights of Columbus, a huge and charitable organization.

If you would like to learn more about how to support St. Joseph's Society, our Priest's Retirement Fund, please contact me at 307-672-2848 or Tim Stransky at the Diocese of Cheyenne - P.O. Box 1468 - Cheyenne, WY 82003 or email [tstransky@dioceseofcheyenne.org](mailto:tstransky@dioceseofcheyenne.org) or call 307-638-1530.

**Father Tom Ogg**  
*President,*  
*St. Joseph's Society*



## First Communion, Thermopolis

Front row: Ben Jennings, Tanner Boss, Spencer Axtell; second row: Kirsten Kraske, Noah & Ali Schwalbe, Linda Umbdenstock; and, Father Hugo L. Blotsky, O.S.B.



Front, left to right: David Berry, Stephanie Brown, Richard Redle (not pictured, Alison Wigglesworth)

## Sheridan's Holy Name Catholic Community Awards scholarships

SHERIDAN - Holy Name Catholic Community recently awarded four Graduating Senior Scholarships to students who are members of the parish. These scholarships are in the amount of \$600, and may be used at an institution of the recipient's choice.

The recipients of the scholarships were: David Berry, son of John and Janet Berry will be attending the University of Wyoming and majoring in Political Science and Speech.

Stephanie Brown,

daughter of Ann and Dave Brown plans on attending the University of Illinois, Urbana, Champaign, and will major in Aerospace Engineering.

Richard Redle, son of Tom and Kathy Redle will attend the University of Mary, Bismarck, majoring in Radiology Technology.

Alison Wigglesworth, daughter of John and Linda Wigglesworth will attend Montana State University, Bozeman, and will major in Business Management/Finance.

Three of the students

attended Sheridan High School and one attended Big Horn High School.

Since 1990, Holy Name Catholic Community has provided funds for more than 90 students to attend college. These funds are made available through the generous donations of parish members and organizations.

The graduating seniors must have offered on-going, active service to Holy Name Catholic Community, have a strong faith, and also have been active in their school and community.