

Real Presence Radio Review



Your Family of Faith & Hope

North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, & Wyoming Spring 2018

Great Opportunities and a Special Need

By Steven Splonskowski, Executive Director

Thank you for your generous support for Real Presence Catholic Radio in the recent past. We are blessed to be able to carry on this work of evangelization!

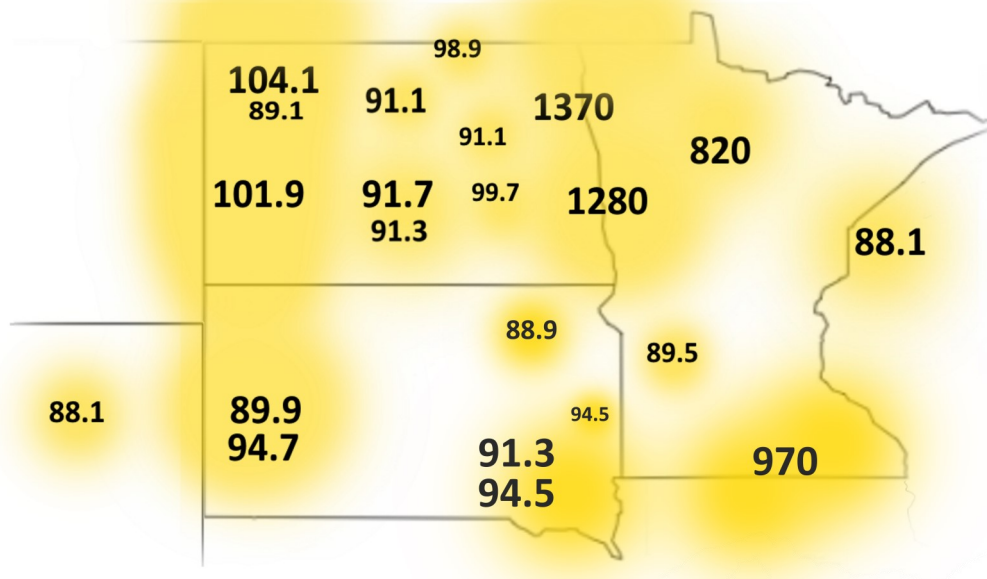
We have an opportunity to expand our coverage and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and His Church with many more souls! We have been invited to purchase signals in two different areas.

Bishop Swain of Sioux Falls has invited us to come into the Sioux Falls, SD area, and Bishop Quinn of the Winona-Rochester Diocese has invited us to come into the Southern MN area.

In our meeting with Bishop Quinn, he shared this thought: "We trust and we risk in the Lord, so that He may do great works." There are radio signals available in both locations mentioned above and,

having discerned a call to "trust and risk in the Lord," we have signed purchase agreements in both areas. These signals will essentially double our coverage and our annual budget needs.

Future Coverage Map of RPR



In order to make these projects a reality, along with meeting our regular expenses, we need to raise a total of \$1.8M over the next three years. However, our immediate need is much less. **We have a \$100k match available and will**

need to raise another \$300k by late July in order to have enough to cover down payments and beginning operations for these stations.

I ask that you prayerfully consider a **special one-time gift** to help us "trust and risk in the Lord" so that He may continue to do great works through Catholic Radio!

Christians in the Holy Land

by Deacon Mark Krejci

We met Joseph and Ruth in their Bethlehem apartment. I was with a group of pilgrims, Catholics from Moorhead and Fargo who were in the Holy Land on a Lenten journey to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Joseph and Ruth were a Catholic Palestinian couple, and after our group had prayed at the Church of the Nativity that morning, we were delighted to have lunch with a Christian family living in the Holy Land—at least with the members of this family who were still residing in Bethlehem. All of Joseph and Ruth's adult children had left and scattered across Europe and the United States. Joseph told us that most Palestinian Christians his age shared a common lamentation, "our children have all moved away."

According to the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land, there are only 150,000 Christians living in Israel, about 2% of the population. In the Palestinian Territory, Christians make up only 1% of the population. The Franciscans and others predict that at the current rate of Christian emigration from the Holy Land, there will be no native Christians living in the Holy Land in the next 30 to 40 years.

On a previous trip to the Holy Land, I had the opportunity to talk with a Church official who explained that the Christian community finds itself between two forces. Most native Christians in the Holy Land are Palestinian Arabs who thus have to deal with Israeli government policies restricting travel and commerce for all Palestinians. He explained that most Palestinians are Muslim and that a tension exists between the Christian and Muslim communities. He concluded by saying "our young people see themselves as trapped between two groups, and so they move to other countries."

Peter, our Arab Catholic tour guide, lived in an Israeli town that was once predominantly Christian. The town no longer had a Christian majority because the

Muslim families had more children and remained in the town while the Christians, who had fewer children, had the education and opportunity to leave. His own children were now living in the United States. He told our group that while he wishes his children and grandchildren lived in Israel, he understands why they left to seek a better life for their families.



*Deacon Mark and Julie Krejci with
Msgr. Michael Foltz at Cana in Galilee.*

While we saw many Christians in the Holy Land, they were primarily pilgrims from countries like India, Poland, Japan, Italy, the Philippines, Russia, Nigeria, Mexico and from the United States. Christian pilgrims and tourists are a major part of the Israeli and Palestinian economies, and both groups seek to keep pilgrims safe and secure.

Others who rely on Christian pilgrims include the various religious orders who keep the holy sites open. Most are able to exist through contributions and sales of religious articles yet, as with the native Christians, the number of Christian Religious in the Holy Land is also in decline.

The hardship of Christians living in the Holy Land is a daily experience of being a minority in a land where the two majorities exist in constant tension. Caught in between, many Christians leave, which may bring about the day when there will be no native Christians living in the land where Jesus walked. Christians from around the world will continue to travel to Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem on the great Christian pilgrimage, but the Christian families who trace their heritage back to the time of Christ will no longer be there to greet them, to guide their tours, and to host them in their homes.

Deacon Krejci is the Director of Marriage, Family, & Life for the Diocese of Crookston. He serves at St. Joseph Parish and is a professor of Psychology at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN.

"We trust and we risk in the Lord, so that He may do great works."

-Bishop John Quinn, Diocese of Winona-Rochester, MN

Real Presence Radio Announces New Staff

Mike Kiedrowski, Listener Relationships Coordinator, Western Dakotas

Mike Kiedrowski, M.Ed., CFRE, is a resident of Dickinson, ND and has served the non-profit industry for 29 years in Catholic schools, parishes and health care. Most recently, Mike was a capital campaign consultant for churches, travelling nationally. He was previously the Director of Major and Planned Giving at Trinity Catholic Schools, where he led a \$21 million capital campaign to rebuild their school after a fire in 2014. Before Trinity, Mike worked for the Diocese of Bismarck as the Director of Planned Giving where he led a team of clergy and lay people in restructuring the diocese's foundation, increasing assets by 50% in one year.

Mike is very familiar with Real Presence Radio, having assisted Steve Splonskowski in securing RPR in the Dickinson area in 2013.

He is a current member and former state board member of the North Dakota Association of Fundraising Professionals and is a Certified Fund-Raising Executive. Mike earned a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Mary in Bismarck when he was the CEO and Superintendent with Trinity. During his time as administrator, a new strategic

plan was put into place, incorporating Dickinson Catholic Schools into the network it is today.

Mike and his wife Kathy have four grown children with four grandchildren and counting. In 2017, the Kiedrowski Family was selected as the North

Dakota Knights of Columbus Family of the Year and the International First Runner-up Family of the Year. Mike and Kathy enjoy gardening, biking, hunting, supporting their favorite college and professional football teams, and spending time with family, especially their grandchildren.

Mike's favorite programming includes Fr. Larry Richards, Real Presence Live, Holy Mass, and the Rosary.



Margaret Ricci, Listener Relationships Assistant, Duluth/Superior

I grew up south of Superior near Manitou Falls. The youngest of five siblings, my parents kept our family active at St. William's Church and Cathedral School in Superior. We also had a farm and raised sheep. I graduated from the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, with a degree in Piano and

Music Education. For the past 20 years, I have taught in public and private schools in the Twin Ports area. Currently, I am the Choir Director at Queen of Peace Church in Cloquet, and the Music Coordinator for St. Francis of Assisi Church in Carlton. I also enjoy serving as a substitute teacher at Queen of Peace School for all subjects grades K-6.

I was encouraged to apply for this position by a dear friend who led me back to the Catholic Church after 30 years of estrangement. Though I never really "left" the Church in my heart, I felt I was in exile because I married outside the Church and did not know I could come back. I have returned with greater love, vigor and appreciation for the Church, and I am eager to help others find their way home via Real Presence Radio!

My favorite activities include anything I do with my five beautiful children, gardening, making crafts, writing letters, spending time outside in nature, and writing music. On Friday nights, I play my accordion at Grannucci's Italian Market in Duluth.

My day is most fruitful when I begin it with a Rosary. I also look forward to my favorite hour of the week, my appointment with Christ for Eucharistic Adoration.

No matter what program is airing when I tune into RPR, it is my favorite! Truly I devour this soul food like the hungry orphan I am. Thank you RPR, for feeding the flock so richly! Bring us all home!



Real Presence Radio

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www.yourcatholicradiostation.com

Our Stations:

Grand Forks AM 1370

Fargo/Moorhead AM 1280

Bemidji AM 820

Bismarck/Mandan FM 91.7/91.3

Minot/Harvey FM 91.1

Williston FM 104.1/89.1

Dickinson FM 101.9

Rapid City FM 89.9/94.7

Duluth/Superior FM 88.1

Montevideo FM 89.5

Jamestown (AF) FM 99.7

Belcourt (AF) FM 98.9

Coming Soon:

Sioux Falls FM 91.3/94.5

Aberdeen FM 88.9

Rochester AM 970

Gillette FM 88.1

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Join Us as We Grow and Go!

The annual Real Presence Radio Spring Live Drive is fast approaching, and as we grow our listening area, we'd like to invite you to join us as we go on the road May 9th, 10th, & 11th! We'll be broadcasting live and local stories of faith and hope from all 10 of our dioceses across the Dakotas and Minnesota and into Wisconsin, Wyoming, and Iowa. With a lineup of guests that includes bishops, priests, and laity, their stories are sure to inspire! Check out the full schedule of guests online at yourcatholicradiostation.com/live-drive!

As we continue to grow, expanding to 22 signals across the Midwest, we are continuously blessed to

hear from people whose relationship with Christ has grown because of Catholic Radio. Our twice-yearly Live Drives allow us to continue striving to reach souls with the Gospel for Christ, and you, our listeners, are an integral part of this driving force.

As our listening family expands, however, so do our expenses. Our goal for the Spring Live Drive is to raise \$400,000. We know we can do this—we just need 1,000 listeners like you to give \$400 or 1,500 listeners to give \$275. Will you tune in and prayerfully consider making a donation to help us share the Gospel and change hearts across the Midwest?

