
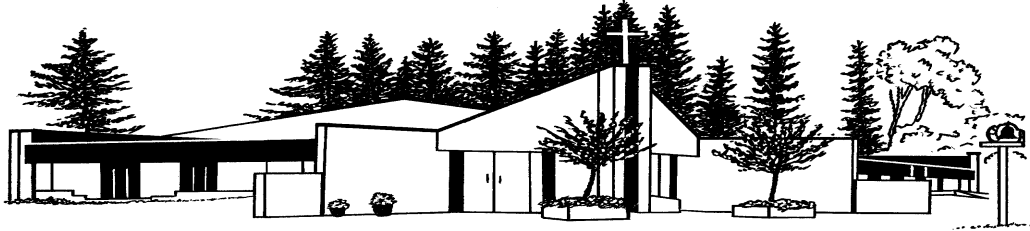

RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

65 West Evergreen Drive • Kalispell MT 59901 • 752-4219 • fax: 752-4226

E-Mail: rcparish@montanasky.us and My Parish App 

Website: www.risenchristkalispell.org



Father Stanislaw Rog, Parish Administrator

Deacon Floyd McCubbins, 270-2632, deaconfloydmc@yahoo.com

Heidi Durbin, Religious Formation Coordinator, Grades K-6

Katie Loudon, Youth Minister, Grades 7-12

Maryruth Fallon, Music Coordinator....Diane Slobojan, Pastoral Care Minister

Sandy Carter, Office Manager, Kelli Gillingham, Office Assistant

Mike O'Neil, Maintenance, 253-1464

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENTDECEMBER 24, 2017

Saturday, December 23, Mass for the December Intentions **5:00 pm**

Sunday, December 24, Mass for the Parish **9:30 am**

CHRISTMAS EVE Mass for Deceased Parishioners **6:30 pm**

Mass for Peace and Justice **11:00 pm**

CHRISTMAS DAY Mass for the Parish..... **9:30 am**

Tuesday-Friday December 26-29 **NO MASS**

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILYDECEMBER 31, 2017

Saturday, December 30, Mass for the December Intentions **5:00 pm**

Sunday, December 31, Mass for the Parish **9:30 am**

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD JANUARY 1, 2018

Monday, January 1, Mass for the Int. of President Trump, rb Moritz Family **8:45 am**

Tuesday, January 2, Mass for the Soul of Rocco Gulli, rb Fran Cavanagh..... **8:45 am**

Wed. January 3, Mass for the Souls of George & Frances Cavanagh, rb Fran.. **12:10 pm**

Thursday, January 4, Mass for the Int. of Pete Burke, rb Super Family **9:00 am**

Friday, January 5 **NO MASS**

END OF YEAR CHARITABLE GIVING

In order for charitable gifts to be credited for the current year, 2017, please note the following: IRS regulations require checks received after January 1st, to be accompanied by a postmarked envelope dated no later than December 31st. Transfer of stocks or securities must take place on or prior to December 31st.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec.	23	Chaplet of Divine Mercy 4:40 pm
	24	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Chaplet of Divine Mercy 9:10 am
	25	CHRISTMAS EVE CHRISTMAS DAY
	26 – 29	Parish Office closed..... No Mass
Jan.	1	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD World Day of Prayer for Peace Holiday Parish Office closed, Mass 8:45 am
	2	Choir 7:30 pm
	3	Religious Formation, grades K-6..... 4:00 – 5:15 pm Youth Ministry, grades 7-12 6:30 – 8:30 pm
	7	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
	8	BAPTISM OF THE LORD
	9	KC Ladies dinner 6:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm
	10	Religious Formation, grades K-6..... 4:00 – 5:15 pm Youth Ministry, grades 7-12 6:30 – 8:30 pm
	11	Food & Fellowship, Sykes 11:30 am
	14	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	15 – 22	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
	15	Martin Luther King Day Parish Office closed
	16	Choir 7:30 pm
	17	Religious Formation, grades K-6..... 4:00 – 5:15 pm Youth Ministry, grades 7-12 6:30 – 8:30 pm
	21	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus after Mass

Sacrament of Baptism by appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday, 3:45-4:30pm, or by appointment.

FOR OUR YOUTH

CYRO WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY, Start your day in an unbelievable way! For all High School Youth, Grades 9-12 **Tuesdays**, 7:00 am at Wheat Montana, Kalispell

SAVE THE DATES

High School Ski Retreat

“He restores my SOUL” -Psalm 23:3

February 16-18, 2018

The 41st Annual Diocesan CYC Convention, March 9-11, 2018!

~OUR GIFT TO GOD ~

“Above all, let your love for one another be constant, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be mutually hospitable without complaining. As generous distributors of God’s manifold grace, put your gifts at the service of one another each in the measure he has received.”

(1 Peter 4:8-10)

Thanks to everyone who so generously supports our parish.
Your financial support enables us to continue the on-going work of our ministry.

December 16 & 17, 2017

Sunday Envelopes	\$4217
Holyday Envelopes	55
Total	\$4272

Ministry Schedule, December 30 & 31, 2017

MINISTRY	Saturday, 5:00 pm	Sunday, 9:30am
Plate Minister	Linda Zimmerman	Need Eucharistic Ministers
Cup Minister	Don Zimmerman	
Lector	Suzanne Johnson	Paul Heath
	Dixon Rice	Pati Heath
Greeter	Need Greeters	Need Greeters
Server	Need Servers	Need Servers

Ministry Schedule, January 6 & 7, 2017

MINISTRY	Saturday, 5:00 pm	Sunday, 9:30am
Plate Minister	Patti Slack	Jack Lavin
Cup Minister	Jovita Kottraba	Anita Lavin
	Deacon Floyd	Neil Heino
		Connie McCubbins
		Deacon Floyd
Lector	Dixon Rice	Sam Louden
	Maureen Neitzling	Mike Santacroce
Greeter	Denny & Bev Falcon	Dan & Tammy Newton
Server	Bert Eickert	Ron Boespflug
	Abby Mitchell	Keegan Siebenaler

The deadline for bulletin announcements is noon on Wednesdays and the deadline for altar announcements is noon on Thursdays.

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE MONTH OF December, 2017

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Howard and Lorraine Carter, rb Kimberly Carter

Jim Thomas, rb Bobbie Thomas

Poat & Roberts Family, rb Chris Beyer

Tracy Iano, rb John & Connie Babb

Ron Anderson, rb Larry & Betty Visocan

Jim Jensen, rb Jackie Jensen

Karel Barrett, rb Ken Barrett

Gary Luther, rb Bruce & Carol Trimble

Judy Carr, rb Reta Sweeney

Ron Anderson, rb Larry & Andre Anderson

FOR THE SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Luke Frampton, rb Risen Christ Parish

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2017

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Howard and Lorraine Carter, rb Kimberly Carter

Jim Thomas, rb Bobbie Thomas

Poat & Roberts Family, rb Chris Beyer

Jim Jensen, rb Jackie Jensen

Karel Barrett, rb Ken Barrett

Gary Luther, rb Bruce & Carol Trimble

FINANCE COUNCIL

Our Finance Council members are:

Roger Ackerly, Peg Gebhardt, Christopher Gill, Loren Vranish

Wally Walbruch and John Gunnerson

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Your Pastoral Council is always interested in your concerns. Take your questions about the future of the parish, your hopes and needs, to a

Pastoral Council member:

Jovita Kottraba, 752-6694 or Vicki Walbruch, 758-0170

PARKING SPACES FOR SENIORS

Please leave the parking spaces bordering the building and the row just west of that, for seniors or others who have trouble navigating our icy parking lot.

THE PASTORALS ON SUNDAY

A week-by-week resource from the Pastoral Letters of the Bishops' of Rome, of the Second Vatican Council, and of the Bishops' Conference of the United States

THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Nations shall walk by your light.

The gentiles are now coheirs with the Jews.

Astrologers from the east bring gifts to the newborn king.

We celebrate the manifestation of God in Christ to all peoples today. Do our actions show our conviction that all are coheirs? How can we live so as to proclaim that the Epiphany is good news for all?

The fundamental premise of world order in Catholic teaching is a theological truth: the unity of the human family-rooted in common creation, destined for the kingdom, and united by moral bonds of rights and duties. This basic truth about the unity of the human family pervades the entire teaching on war and peace: for the pacifist position it is one of the reasons why life cannot be taken, while for the just-war position, even in a justified conflict bonds of responsibility remain in spite of the conflict. ♦ The Challenge of Peace, 236

HEART LOCKER

The Heart Locker takes in clothing for our homeless teens. Risen Christ parishioners have been very generous in delivering good, clean used clothing. If you have items to deliver, the location is 514 E. Washington St. right behind Taco Bell (use the door to the far left). The hours that donations are accepted are: Mondays and Tuesdays from 8 A.M. to 10 A.M. and Wednesdays from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M. The Heart Locker is not open on school holidays. If you have difficulty delivering your items, please bring them to church and let the secretaries know, and the clothing will be delivered. Risen Christ Parish's donations have been greatly appreciated through the years.

SCHOLARSHIP ALUMNI CONCERT

There will be a concert Friday, January 5th, 2018, 7:30 pm at Glacier High School featuring Nathan Connell. Tickets are available at the door. Please see Maryruth Fallon, or reference the poster in the Social Area for more information.

RISEN CHRIST RUMMAGE SALE

The Fifth Annual Risen Christ Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, February 3, 2018**. Please look for more details in future bulletins! If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact the parish office, 752-4219, or call Helen Tobiason, 212-0063.

A CHRISTMAS PLEA FOR HELP

We have a unique situation with Christmas décor this year because the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve. Fr. Stan has given permission to set up some of the spots ahead of time.

I will be preparing as much as possible ahead. I am asking if anyone can claim one of the areas and maybe even help prep that and set in the church without lighting things up until Christmas Eve. Some things will need to wait to set up until after that last Advent Mass on Sunday, December 24, 9:00 am. If you are willing to take on any of these tasks, please contact Sandi Waverek, 249-0830. Thank you

“Come to Me”

Catholic Women’s Conference SPA DAY FOR THE SOUL

Join women from Montana and beyond for prayer, speakers, music, fellowship and more! Our “Spa Day” includes mass.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 21, 2018 7 AM- 6 PM

Civic Center, Helena Montana

Register online: ShowMyEvent.com

Be sure to visit helenacwc.com

PARENTS OF YOUNG VOICES

This Christmas, all young children are invited to process forward with Father Stan to carry the “Baby Jesus” to the manger at the 6:30 pm Mass.

Children should gather in the church social area prior to Mass to prepare for entry, by 6:20 pm on Christmas Eve. We also invite all young children coming to the 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass to sing “Away in a Manger” for one of the preludes. Please arrive by 6:00 pm and gather in the entryway with Heidi Durbin, who will assist you. Following the song you can walk back to prepare for processing with Father Stan.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers (teens, college students, or anyone that is young at heart) to sing at the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. If you would like to sing and missed the practice, or have questions, please call Maryruth at 752-1490.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AROUND THE VALLEY 2017

Risen Christ Parish

Christmas Eve

Vigil Music 6:00 pm
Mass 6:30 pm
Christmas Music 10:30 pm
Mass 11:00 pm

Christmas Day

Christmas Music 9:00 am
Mass for the Parish 9:30 am

St. Charles Parish

Christmas Eve: 5:00pm and 7:30 pm
Christmas Day: 9:00 am

St. John Paul II

Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm; 9:00 pm
Christmas Day: 10:30 am

St. Matthew Parish

Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm; 9:00 pm
Christmas Day: 10:00 am

St. Richard Parish

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: 7:00 pm,
Christmas Day

Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite (Traditional Latin Mass): 8:00 am
Christmas Day Mass: 10:00 am

RISEN CHRIST GIVING TREE

The Risen Christ Giving Tree will benefit the
Neighbors In Need Sleeping Bag and Tent Project.
Cash donations are welcome and accepted through Advent!
Please make checks payable to Risen Christ.



HOUSEKEEPING

We want everyone to feel welcome, especially those who are new to our parish, and any visitors.

- Enjoy singing and following along with the liturgy sheet that you received at the door.
- Please remember to silence your cell phones.
- If you have little ones who love to play and be active, there is a social area in the back where they can be more free to express themselves. From there you will be able to participate in the entire Mass.

RISEN CHRIST GIFT SHOP

The Risen Christ gift shop (located in the hutch in the social area) is now open. If you would like to purchase anything, please see Andrea Wright or Connie McCubbins before or after weekend masses or the office during the week.

CAMPBELL SOUP AND GENERAL MILLS LABELS

Please continue to save your Campbell Soup and "Big G for Education" labels for the St Paul's Indian Mission School in Hays MT and leave them in the box in the entry. For all Campbell Soup Company products, submit proof of purchase only (UPC code). For General Mills products, submit the box tops for education label.

POP TOP TABS

Gabby LeDuc is collecting pop top tabs from aluminum beverage cans. This will benefit the Ronald McDonald House in Spokane. Please put them in the carton near the literature table.



RISEN CHRIST PRAYER LINE

Call **Lavine Heuscher**, 752-4007, to ask the Risen Christ Prayer Line to pray for individuals or community intentions or to join this important ministry.

FORMING A COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY

If there is a birth, a sickness or a death in our parish community, or that of someone you know, please call **Mary Sonju**, 250-8610. She will send a card, or a card and flowers if they're in the hospital. But we can't do it, unless you let us know



ROSARIES

We have available for sale rosaries of fine quality hand made by one of our parishioners. They are available in the parish office for a suggested donation of \$7.00-\$10.00.

All proceeds will go to Sparrow's Nest of Northwest Montana.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

I would like to thank everyone for your generosity during our recent ACA campaign. You helped our parish reach the ACA financial goal. I am very grateful to all of you.

I love this parish. I would like to see us reach our participation goal. It would mean everyone shares in the unified effort. There is still time for us to do it. We are currently at 51% participation and that is very good. Our parish is in the top 5 of all parishes. Wouldn't it be great if we could make it 100% participation?

It wouldn't take much. The amount of money given does not matter for the participation goal, only that each parishioner participates. If everyone who hasn't donated could give only \$1.00, we can make our participation goal happen.

Please help us if you have not responded yet.

Thank you, Fr. Stan

ENGAGEMENT ENCOUNTER

"Three to Get Married"

An overnight retreat for engaged couples will be held at Saint John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork on Friday, January 26th, 2018. Registration deadline is Monday, January 8th, 2018. Online registration is available at: <https://www.showmyevent.com> under the name "Three to Get Married". For more information please call the Parish Office at 837-4846.

RETROUVAILLE

Ursuline Centre – Great Falls, Montana - February 2-4, 2018

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track, the opportunity to rediscover each other, and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: at 1-800-470-2230 or visit our website: www.retrouvailleMT.org or www.HelpOurMarriage.com

CARROLL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Carroll College is pleased to offer a prospective student from our parish a scholarship, named in memory of the deceased priests of the Diocese of Helena and the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. This \$1000 scholarship is funded by Carroll College, but the recipient is chosen by our parish. Carroll requires that the recipient be a student planning to attend Carroll for the first time in the fall of 2018. Risen Christ Parish will match this amount which will go to a prospective applicant. The completed application must be in to the parish no later than February 1, 2018. Applications may be obtained in the parish office or online at <http://www.carroll.edu/finaid/forms.cc>.

**For questions contact Tina Wagner by phone at 406-447-5466 or
email; twagner@carroll.edu.**

PLEASE REMEMBSER RISEN CHRIST PARISH IN YOUR WILL!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



We warmly welcome
all who have come today
to celebrate this glorious feast.

We welcome the stranger,
the traveler and guest!

We welcome the students
home from college
for a good winter's rest!

We welcome parishioners
who moved away but join us today
as old friends and guests!

We welcome all
who have not been active of late in
their Catholic faith;
and hope they will find new hope and inspiration
this Christmas
to come back again and again!

We welcome our faithful parishioners, loyal and true,
may the Lord bless you for all that you do!

Welcome to all!
May our gathering this day
gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds.

May we walk by the Light
and live by the Light – together in love.

*Many blessings to all members of the parish; to those who are
visiting, and to your families who are not able to join you this time.
May the joy of the Christmas season fill your hearts now and always.
Sincerely, Fr. Stan and the staff of Risen Christ Parish.*

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism:

The parents must be registered members of the parish. Contact the parish office, 752-4219, Someone will contact you to begin the process of baptismal preparation.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:

Preparation for these Sacraments is ordinarily in the second grade in our Religious Formation program. Preparation also includes conferences with parents. Contact Heidi Durbin, 253-4886.

Confirmation

Risen Christ children prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation as late high school students, with the rite being celebrated as needed. Candidates are enrolled in the Religious Formation program. Contact Fr. Stan Rog, 752-4219.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process of inquiring, faith-sharing, instruction, and liturgy for those who seek to become Catholics. All who are interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith are welcome. Contact Fr. Stan Rog, 752-4219.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC):

The process of initiation is adapted to meet the needs of unbaptized children or children who have been baptized but have had no formation in the faith. These are children of catechetical age, who have attained the age of reason and are capable of receiving and nurturing a personal faith. Contact Heidi Durbin, 253-4886.

Funerals:

Contact, Diane Slobojan, 756-6061, Consultation with a priest will be arranged.

Marriage:

Preparing for marriage is preparing for the rest of your life! Couples who plan to marry in the Diocese of Helena must contact the parish no less than six months before the proposed wedding date. Every effort will be made to accommodate the couples' plans. However, the date of the wedding will not be confirmed until after the initial stages of the preparation have been completed.

Home Bound Visits

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a home visit, have Communion brought to your home or have the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please call Father Stan Rog, or leave word at the Parish Office. Someone will be in touch with you.

Contact the parish office at 752-4219

The Nazareth Page
A gospel meditation for the home
December 24th, 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:26-38

Luke describes the most important event in the history of the world almost as casually as if he were giving a daily weather report. Granted it comes from an angel (who better to know the atmospheric conditions in the clouds?). But think about the scene Luke describes. A young woman is quietly minding her own business when suddenly she is not alone. A messenger from God (that's the meaning of the word, *angel*) is with her. And she is immediately fearful and alarmed. Wouldn't any of us respond in similar fashion?

Then comes the message: God favors you and God wants you to conceive a son whom you will name Jesus. He will be called the Son of God. Mary is baffled! Wouldn't any of us be? Mary's confusion deepens. Yet she has the courage and the wits to ask about how this will happen since she is a virgin. The angel clears this all up. The Holy Spirit will make this happen so don't worry about that part. Still, no clarity. Mary likely wonders whether this is all a dream. But it isn't. Mary ponders all this. The angel waits. What is Mary to do?

Of course, we know she agrees to do her part that is implied in this request from God. Again, Luke downplays the drama by simply reporting that Mary says, "Yes." I will do it. If this is what God wants, let it happen. I agree.

And with her agreement, the history of the world changes to becoming a place where God is suddenly here, physically here, personally here. But not in a palace, or in a major city. No, in a quiet village, an out-of-the-way place, in a seemingly ordinary young woman named Mary. Imagine that!

Because we have heard this account hundreds of times, we might easily let it quickly pass through us. As we say, in one ear and out the other. Unlike Mary, we don't ponder this event or let its incredible meaning astound us. Maybe because its literal truth is so astounding, we dismiss it and keep it at a distance. Don't!

Because of Mary's willingness to let it happen in her, God dwells among us. Through our Baptism, God's Spirit also comes to us and we become places where God dwells here on Earth. Mary reminds us of this today. Like Mary, welcome that presence.

David M. Thomas, PhD