
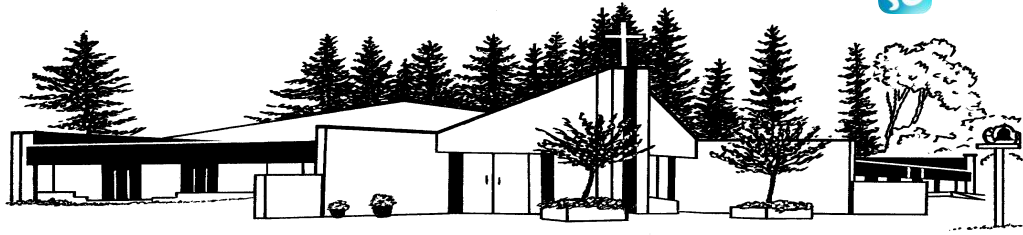


RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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



Website: www.risenchristkalispell.org

Formed Catechetical Resources: www.risenchristkalispell.formed.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 Director

Sandy Carter, Office Manager, Rose Hall, Office Assistant

Mike O'Neil, Maintenance, 253-1464

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 15, 2019
Saturday, Dec. 14, Mass for Monthly Intentions..... 5:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 15, Mass for the Parish..... 9:30 am
Monday, Dec. 16, Funeral Mass for Jeff Krautbauer 11:00 am
Tuesday, Dec.17, Mass for the Soul of Dennis Tobiason, rb Helen Tobiason 8:45 am
Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Friday, Dec. 20..... No Mass

Ministry Schedule, December 21 & 22, 2019

Ministry	Saturday	Sunday
Minister of the Plate	Joe Riska	Kathie Ackerly
Minister of the Cup	Maureen Neitzling	Roger Ackerly
	Jovita Kottraba	Connie McCubbins
		Lilia Hattel
		Deacon Floyd
Lector	Jim Galvin	Mike Santacroce
	Suzanne Johnson	Dixon Rice
Greeter	Shannon Sommers & Sam Nease	Rayne Beach & Anita Mills
Server	Don Zimmerman	Graham McGraw
	Rick Nease	

Sacrament of Baptism by appointment

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec.	15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
		Chaplet of Divine Mercy	9:10 am
		Piano Recital, students of Maryruth Fallon	3:00 pm
		Evening Prayer, Fr. Stan's Immigration Resolution Success	6:30 pm
	17	Choir	7:00 pm
	18	Men's Prayer Group	8:00 am
		At Prayer with Mary, Ladies' Scripture Study, final class	10:15 – 11:45 am
		Religious Formation, Grades K – 12.....	5:15 – 6:30 pm
	19	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	12 noon – 6:00 pm
	20	Morning Prayer, Fr. Stan's Immigration Status	9:30 am
	21	Chaplet of Divine Mercy	4:40 pm
	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
		Chaplet of Divine Mercy	9:10 am
		Christmas food baskets assembly and delivery	
		Evening Prayer, Recovery from Sex Abuse Scandal	6:30 pm
		Choir rehearsal for the 11:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve.....	7:00 pm
	24	CHRISTMAS EVE	Mass 6:30 pm and 11:00 pm
	25	CHRISTMAS DAY	Mass 9:30 am
Dec.	24-Jan 1	Parish Office Closed.....	
	29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	
	31	Vigil Mass for Mary, Mother of God.....	Mass 5:00 pm
Jan.	1	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD- Holy Day of Obligation	Mass 9:30 am
	2	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.....	12 noon – 6:00 pm

SPECIAL MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

On Friday, December 20 at 9:30 am, there will be **Morning Prayer** to pray for the successful resolution for Fr. Stan's immigration status.

CHOIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, 11:00 PM MASS

We are looking for volunteers to sing at the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. There will be one rehearsal date on December 22nd at 7:00 pm immediately following Evening Prayer. If you would like to sing and can't make that practice, or if you have questions, please call Maryruth at 752-1490.

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 are invited to join Fr. Stan for the entry procession.

~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.

November 30th & December 1st, 2019

Sunday Envelopes	\$4814
Building Envelopes	70
Thanksgiving Envelopes	20
Christmas Envelopes	20
Holy Day Envelopes	268
Mass & Stole Gifts	55
Total	\$5247

2019 CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE

In order for contributions to be credited to 2019, they need to be in the parish by December 31. If mailing contribution they must be postmarked on or before December 31.

FROM YOUR CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Are you beginning to think about year-end charitable giving for the Catholic Church? Your Foundation can help. Our goal is to help Catholics like you through the maze of gifting options available to support your Catholic faith. Contact Jeanne Saarinen, Executive Director of The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena, Inc. Inc., (406) 389-7051 or jsaarinen@diocesehelena.org through the end of the year for help with:

- Qualifying a gift for the 40% Montana Charitable Endowment Tax Credit
- Making a gift from your IRA
- Transferring appreciated stocks to the Church
- Catholic Charitable Gift Annuity –make a gift and you receive income for life, and much more!

If you want to claim a gift on your 2019 taxes, don’t wait until the end of December to do IRA and stock gifts as they take a little longer to process. If giving by check through the mail, be sure it’s postmarked on or before December 31. If giving online by credit or debit card, it needs to be charged on or before December 31.

Your Catholic Foundation’s mission is to serve and strengthen the people, parishes, ministries, and apostolic mission of the Diocese of Helena. Learn more at www.fdoh.org.

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2019

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FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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**Howard and Lorraine Carter, rb Kimberly Carter
Jim Thomas, rb Bobbie Thomas
Poat & Roberts Family, rb Chris Beyer
Jim Jensen, rb Jackie Jensen
Karel & David & Terry Barrett, rb Ken Barrett
John & Michael Culliton, rb Larry & Betty Visocan
Tracy Iano, rb John & Connie Babb
Eileen Babb, rb John & Connie Babb
Dennis Tobiason, rb Helen Tobiason
Ron Anderson, rb Andre Anderson
Elmer Alger, rb Hutchens' family
Jason Falcon, rb Denny & Bev Falcon
Jeff Krautbauer, rb Risen Christ Parish**

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**RISEN CHRIST MASS REQUESTS
FOR THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL INTENTIONS**

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**Shelley Hembd, Lavine Heuscher, Harry McAllister, Joe Riska, Sherry Miller,
Bob Neitzling Tim Slobojan, Larry Visocan, Mike Santacroce
Audrey and Jerry Turner, Mary Reckin, Mike O'Neil, Ron Frazier
Fr. Stan's Immigration Status**

FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

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**Dillon Armstrong, Matthew Christiaens, Tyler Frohlich
Kaleb Mitchell, Kyle Tannehill**

SAVE THE DATE

You are invited to attend a violin concert performed by Wai Mizutani and Lauren Welch on Sunday, January 12, 2020, 3:00 pm at Risen Christ Parish. The concert will benefit F.A.C.E. (Flathead Association for Catholic Education). Please join us and support Catholic Education.

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10-14	A virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.
Romans 1:1-7	Through him we have been favored with apostleship.
Matthew 1:18-24	Joseph, have no fear about taking Mary as your wife.

This is a day to reflect on what could have been. What if Joseph had not responded to the task he was given by God? The consequences for Mary would have been what many women are facing today.

We recognize, of course, that the problems women face in society and in the Church will not be remedied in full until men's questions are addressed. We must ask whether husbands and fathers are accepting their responsibility as parents; whether male employers within and outside the Church are treating women employees fairly and taking into account their responsibilities to their children; whether members of the clergy are committed to increasing their understanding of women's concerns by ongoing dialogue with women of various backgrounds and life situations. We challenge men to become involved in changing the structures and patterns of social and ecclesial life that account for the persistent oppression of women.

▲ Partners in the Mystery of Redemption, 230

MARRIAGE MATTERS

It's all about joy!

This week of Advent is all about joy. Not a sugar-coated "holiday feeling", but a deep trust and peace that comes from God and often "surpasses all understanding". When asked how to get this joy, John the Baptist told people to live their current situation well. In other words, focus your efforts on the vocation God has called you to. Consider these options to increase your joy:

- Pray that God would help you see your spouse as God sees him or her.
- Affirm your husband's or wife's strength or beauty
- Tell him or her why they are a great dad or mom.
- As we lean into our vocation, joy is released.

SAMARITAN HOUSE

The Samaritan House is asking for warm coats and boots for their homeless people. If you have some that are no longer used, they would be happy to receive them. If you are unable to take them to Samaritan House, you can bring them to the church.

ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed 20 minutes prior to Saturday and Sunday Masses during advent. This is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Please sign up in the social area if you would like to lead the Chaplet.

There will be Evening Prayer at 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings during Advent

1 st Week – Dec. 1	Prayer of Thanksgiving for Our New Bishop
2 nd Week – Dec. 8	Prayer for Vocations
3 rd Week – Dec. 15	Prayer for the Successful Resolution to Fr. Stan's Immigration Status
4 th Week – Dec. 22	Prayer for All Who Are Recovering From the Sex Abuse Scandal

Advent Penance Service—With Individual Confession, December 12, 7:00 pm

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:

Linda Zimmerman, 361-946-6055 and Ken Barrett, 755-0269

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday, 10:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-3:00 pm

To be sure your announcement gets into the bulletin, please have your information in to the Parish office by noon, Wednesday.

The deadline for altar announcements is noon, Thursday.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

Hams and turkeys are needed for the Christmas Food Baskets which will be assembled and delivered on Sunday, Dec. 22nd after Mass. We need help for assembly and delivery of the baskets. Call Julie Berquist at 253-4842 if you can donate a ham or turkey or if you know of a family in need of a Christmas food basket.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Support aging religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.



RISEN CHRIST PRAYER LINE

Call the Parish Office 752-4219, to ask the Risen Christ Prayer Line to pray for individuals or community intentions or to join this important ministry.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Philippians 4:6

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.

RISEN CHRIST GIFT SHOP



Risen Christ Gift Ministry wants to thank our parishioners and also the Knights of Columbus for your support these last three years. Advent will soon be upon us and we would like to "Keep Christ in Christmas". You can purchase a Keep Christ in Christmas yard sign for only \$15.00. One of our cabinets has Advent wreaths, candles, and Christmas cards. We also have Christmas ornaments, Rosaries, and small gifts. We will try to help fill your needs. Thanks again, Andrea Wright, Connie McCubbins, Sandy Carter, and Rose Hall.

POP TOP TABS

You can help support the Ronald McDonald House in Missoula by collecting pop top tabs from aluminum cans, such as energy drinks, soup cans or anything with a metallic tab. Please put them in the basket in the entryway.



Prepare the Way of the King

Dr. Scott Hahn

LISTEN ON
FORMED.ORG

The Greatest Gift We Can Ever Receive

Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind – Jesus Christ.

POWERED BY THE  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

To register please go to: www.risenchristkalispell.formed.org Click on register now and create your account. Be sure to follow the password requirements and check the square that you have read and understood the Terms of Service. After you have created your account, you'll have access to FORMED provided materials (like the one above) purchased for you by our parish. Please take advantage of this beautiful opportunity to learn more about your faith.

Fr. Stan

The Nazareth Page
A gospel meditation for your home
December 15, 2019 – Third Sunday of Advent
Matthew 11:2-12

Before Jesus there was John the Baptist. Reading between the lines of today's gospel we can surmise that those who made their way to the Jordan River for John's baptism were many. And their baptism was not just a "pass through and move on" experience. They joined John as his followers. And further, they must have been organized enough to make their way into Matthew's gospel by simply being referred to as "the disciples of John."

We should add then when Jesus eventually begins his public life, he did not enter an empty stage. There were many organized religious groups in Israel. Some were called zealots who were organized almost as para-military units preparing for the final "battle" between the forces of good and the forces of evil. While not mentioned in the New Testament, we have learned through archaeological research of a sizable monastic group called the Essenes. They were the ones who created the famous Dead Sea Scrolls. And there were the followers of John the Baptist. All these groups had their members and most important here, their leaders. John was one of them.

Religious leadership can easily bring forth questions about its value and authenticity. So, it would not be surprising that John the Baptist, who was well-known in religious circles, caused some to wonder about whether he was the Messiah. His prophetic message of repentance and renewal fit well into the expectations of some who hoped and prayed that God would send ("messiah" means "one sent") one who would restore Israel and Judaism to its earlier greatness.

As when Jesus entered the religious world of that time, it should be of no surprise that the opinion of John the Baptist would be sought about this new fellow who also brought a message thought by some to be from God. Is Jesus to be listened to? Are you and Jesus some kind of religious team? John's response is clear. He is of less importance than Jesus. Jesus alone is the one you should listen to. So John, as we say today, stepped aside.

What is the truth we should listen to? It's simple and complicated at the same time. Jesus is to be first in our lives. His teachings and example are primary. If there are other religious leaders, their views must be in line with those of Jesus. Their interpretations of God's truth must always be measured against those of Jesus. This was true in the time of John the Baptist and remains so today. That's why we are called Christians.

David M. Thomas, PhD