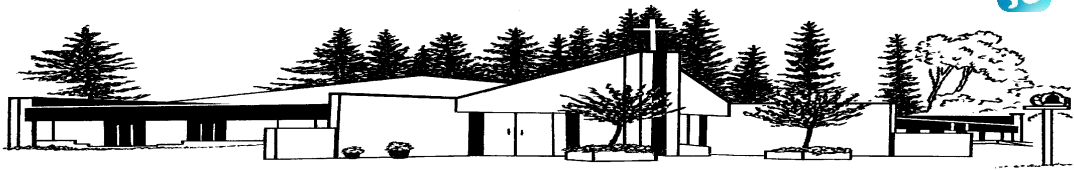

RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

65 West Evergreen Drive • Kalispell MT 59901 • 752-4219

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



Website: www.risenchristkalispell.org

Formed Catechetical Resources: www.risenchristkalispell.formed.org

Father Stanislaw Róg, Pastor/Parish Administrator

Father John Neneman, Associate Pastor

Risen Christ Parish and St. Matthew's Parish

Deacon Floyd McCubbins, 406-471-4379, deaconfloydmc@yahoo.com - Risen Christ

Deacon Charlie Harball, 406-752-6788, St. Matthew's

Rose Hall, Office Manager ~ Annette Trethewey, Office Assistant

Maryruth Fallon, Music Director ~ Helen Tobiason - Religious Form. Coordinator, K-6

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT..... December 1, 2024

Sat., Nov. 30, Mass for Dec. Collective Intentions of St. Matthew's & Risen Christ... **6:30 pm**

Sunday, December 1, Mass for the Parishes, St. Matthew's & Risen Christ..... **9:00 am**

Tuesday, December 3, Mass for the Soul of Kathleen Sverdrup, rb Rose Sverdrup **8:45 am**

Thursday, Dec. 5, Mass for the Soul of Frank Perusich rb Lee & Dee Hesper..... **8:45 am**

Masses at **St. Matthew's Parish:**

Wednesdays 8:30 & 12:10 pm; Fridays 8:30 am; Saturdays 4:30 pm

Sundays 7:00 am and 11:00 am

Ministry Schedule – December 7th & December 8th, 2024

MINISTRY	Saturday 6:30 pm	Sunday 9:00 am
Plate Minister	Deacon Floyd	Deacon Floyd
Cup Minister	Judy Hughes	Connie McCubbins
	Suzanne Johnson	Kathy Shanahan
Lector	Rick Nease	Jim Galvin
	Shelley Nease	Betty Heino
Server		
Greeter	JeNeil Grace, Rose Hall	Dan & Tammy Newton

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

To be sure your announcement gets into the bulletin, please have your information in the Parish Office by noon on Wednesday. The deadline for altar announcements is noon on Thursday.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec	1	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	3	Choir (new time) 7:00pm
	4	Religious Formation..... 4:00 – 5:00 pm
	8	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		Retirement Fund for Religious
	9	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 12:10pm
	10	Choir (new time) 7:00 pm
		KC Ladies, Bonelli's Bistro..... 5:30 pm
		Knights of Columbus 6:30 pm
	11	Religious Formation..... 4:00 – 5:00 pm
	14	Bake Sale..... After Weekend Masses
	15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		Coffee Hour.....After Mass
		Advent Evening Prayer..... 6:30 pm
	17	Choir 7:00pm
	18	Religious Formation Christmas Party Movie & Pizza 4:00 – 5:00 pm
	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PLEASE NOTE: The Sacrament of Baptism is by appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday, 9:00-10:30 am, or by appointment



CALLING ALL BAKING ENTHUSIASTS!

BAKING DAY FOR SEMINARIANS

Friday, December 13th 10:00 am Risen Christ Kitchen –
We are looking forward to seeing all of you who enjoy making goodies.
This will be a fun day with friends and laughter!
All supplies will be provided, we just need your help!



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass times for December 9TH: St. Matthew's: 8:30 am & 6:00 pm
Risen Christ 12:10 pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC COUNCIL #8329

We invite all Catholic men aged 18 and older to join our Brotherhood and

Help Us Help Others!

Grand Knight James Kuechmann (406-250-5224) kuechboone@yahoo.com

Deputy Grand Knight Mike Hanson (406-314-7826) mikester55@hotmail.com

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER — 6:30 PM

Please plan to attend Evening Prayer for the intention of Peace.

3rd Week of Advent – December 15

OUR GIFT TO GOD

We thank God for you! Your gifts throughout the year are gratefully acknowledged. **Because of your contributions, our congregation has been able to support the work of Jesus Christ locally, regionally, and around the world.**

November 23rd & 24th, 2024

Thanksgiving	85
Sunday Envelopes	4,750
Total	\$4,835



CRAB FEED

St. Charles Borromeo & St. Matthew's Knights present CRAB FEED!

Friday, December 6th, 2024, at Snowline Acres.

All You Can Eat Dungeness crab, adult beverages & live music!

- Early seating at 4:30 pm
- Late seating at 7:30 pm Tickets are limited and available in the Parish office or from your KC's.



ACA SUPPORT CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION

Formation for our Seminarians and Continuing Formation for our Priests



Our sacrificial gifts to the 2024 ACA help provide appropriate theological education and formation for our seminarians as well as continuing education/formation opportunities for our priests. Our prayers and generous contributions to the 2024 Annual Catholic

Appeal are in response to our belief in God's call for us to be His disciples of peace, justice, faith, hope and charity. Our priests teach us about Discipleship and journey with us as we discern our calling to prayer, ministry and sacrifice.

Let us nurture vocations, sharing our gifts in service and gratitude.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

We will be doing the Reverse Offering for the food baskets the weekend of December 14th & 15th.

Christmas Food Baskets will be assembled and delivered on Sunday, Dec. 22nd after Mass. Please bring donated food items to the church by the end of Mass on the 22nd. Some food items needed are **ham** (we would like one for each basket), tuna, canned chili, cereal, rice, soup, peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned fruit, stuffing, yams, potatoes, fresh fruit, buns, pie filling.

Call Julie Berquist at 406-253-4842 if you know of a family in need of a Christmas food basket.



**COLLECTIVE MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024**

+++++

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

**Karel & David & Terry Barrett, rb Ken Barrett
Carol Trimble, rb Bruce Trimble
Shelly Christiaens, rb Judy Stack
Eileen Babb, rb John & Connie Babb
Tracy Iano, rb John & Connie Babb
Tim Slobojan, rb Diane Slobojan
Les & Pat Herzog, rb Stephen Herzog
Janis Ruff-Strait, rb Mary Ruff**

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Fran Cavanaugh, rb Karol Witt
Ruff & Falk Families, rb Mary Ruff**

RISEN CHRIST MASS REQUESTS

FOR THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Judy & Elwin Allen, Pat Arnone, Ron Bauer, Peg Gebhardt,
Greg Grace, Mike Hanson, Eileen Kluesner
Maureen Neitzling, Amy Neitzling
Mike & Linda O'Neil, Mary Reckin, Joe Riska
Bob Vine, Larry Visocan**

FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

Deacon Dillon Armstrong

**Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, John Cooney, Riley Helgoe
Matt Keck, Kaleb Mitchell, Anthony Olmes, Brett Rotz,
James Semling, Jamie Severson, Jake Smith, Carson Gorton**

Look back and be grateful;
look ahead and be hopeful;
look around and be helpful

READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT– December 8, 2024

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

PRACTICE OF HOPE

This year the Church celebrates the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monday, December 9th. The solemnity recognizes that Mary was conceived without original sin so that she could be the vessel for God to become a human being among us. ♠On Thursday, Dec. 12th, the Church celebrates the Virgin Mary's radiant appearance to Juan Diego at Tepeyac, Mexico, in 1531. Our Lady of Guadalupe is observed with great festivity around the world. Place her image near your Advent wreath and share the miraculous story of her apparition and how she drew millions to faith in her Son. ♠On Friday, the Church honors St. Lucy, a fourth-century martyr, whose name means "light," as the patron saint for those with eye disease. Legends tell of how St. Lucy provided bread during a time of famine. Make or purchase two loaves of braided bread and adorn them with candles. Enjoy one and surprise a neighbor with the other.

At Home with the Word 2025

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**, 406-250-8610. She will be happy to send a card.

RISEN CHRIST PRAYER LINE

Call Helen Tobiason, 406-212-0063 or Sherry Miller, 406-609-9057 should you or someone you know need prayer. Please leave a message if they are not available and they will return your call.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The council's main purpose is to investigate, reflect upon, and reach conclusions about pastoral matters to recommend to the parish priest or bishop as appropriate.

The Council represents the interests and needs of the entire Parish community.

Jovita Kottraba, 406-232-8461, Jamie Miller, 406-955-8226

Ken Barrett, 406-755-0269, Judy Stack, 406-752-4411, Rose Hall, 406-885-0544

FINANCE COUNCIL

Finance Council members are **Peg Gebhardt, Christopher Gill, John Gunnerson, Wally Walbruch, Ken Barrett**

READY THE WAY FOR THE LORD AT THE SYCAMORE TREE

AN ADVENT RETREAT - CLIMBING THE TREE WITH ZACCHAEUS TO SEE JESUS

Presented by Father Joe Paddock, Pastor, Resurrection Parish, Bozeman

Thursday Evening - Saturday Morning **December 5-7, 2024**

For more information or to register, please call or email **Michell Jenkins** at 406-754-2429 or email@sycamoretreeretreat.org



Advent Giving Tree For The Flathead Warming Center

As you may recognize, Kalispell has a very large homeless population and an even more significant affordable housing situation. The Flathead Warming Center located on Meridian Drive has been housing about 50 homeless individuals and/or families over these cold winter nights. Everyone deserves a warm place to sleep!

This Advent, Risen Christ is sponsoring the Flathead Warming Center. Over the last several years your generous contributions have helped provide needed comfort to save the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves through the Giving Tree.

The donation receptacles are located in the Church entry. Cash or checks written to the Flathead Warming Center may be inserted in the receptacles or given to the church office. Your cash or check donations will be greatly appreciated!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Flathead Warming Center

Under the tree we welcome:

**Paper towels, individual packets of sugar or creamer,
Granola bars, ramen noodles, cough drops, disposable razors**

**Blessings to you during this season of hope
and thank you for your support!**

CATHOLIC RADIO IS COMING TO THE FLATHEAD VALLEY

Saint Gabriel Radio, KOFC-LP, 107.1 FM

Want to be a part of bringing Catholic Radio to the Flathead Valley?

Knight's Radio, a Montana 501(c)3 non-profit, seeks to be on the air by Christmas, operating as St. Gabriel Radio, The Herald of Good News!

We intend to reach every soul in the valley bringing the Good News and hope to those who need it. To do this we need \$25,000 to complete buying equipment. If you would like to be among the donors launching this ministry, please consider donating today. Use the QR code above or inquire at knightsradiokofc@gmail.com.

We are praying for your kind support.



WOMEN'S RETREAT - "Modeling Mary in Prayer and Life"

December 14 & 15, 2024, Saint Joseph Parish Hall, Libby MT - No cost to women, in gratitude for their witness of faith, love and service.

MONTANA CATHOLIC MENS CONFERENCE

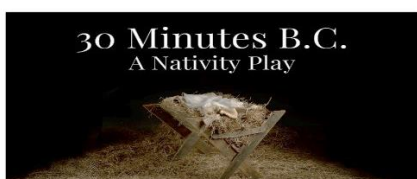
Supported by Knights of Columbus Insurance, Cathedral of St, Helena

December 7, 2024 - 10:00 am – 5:00pm

Adults \$55 Student \$35 - Lunch is included.



Week of December 01, 2024



30 Minutes BC

30 Minutes BC creatively explores the profound emotions and intimate struggles of Mary and Joseph during the final 30 minutes before the birth of Jesus. As the clock ticks down, the couple navigates a whirlwind of hope, joy, and uncertainty, turning to God amidst it all.



Christmas (Part 1) | What Catholics Believe

Dr. Michael Barber answers some of the Internet's most asked questions about Christmas. Is Christmas a pagan holiday? Why is Christmas celebrated on December 25? What happened at the "first Christmas"? Find out the answers to these and more!



Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa

Here is the fascinating story of the boy whose love for others make him one of the most popular figures of all times. Today, more than sixteen centuries later, the entire world celebrates the kindness and generosity of the man we call Santa Claus.

To register, please go to www.risenchristkalispell.formed.org, click on register now to 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 will 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

A LOOK AT AND REFLECTION UPON TWO DIOCESAN CAMPAIGNS

Parishioners in the Diocese of Helena have been presented with two campaigns in this past year. The information about each campaign was presented and made available to the Catholic faithful. In this information age, however, we are often overwhelmed by the sheer volume of it all that we sometimes filter out what is otherwise important to us. Here is a brief clarifying statement comparing and contrasting the two campaigns.

We are all familiar with the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) for the operational needs of the Diocese of Helena. This campaign provides for all of the essential expenditures of the diocese anticipated in its annual budget which has been set at about 2 million dollars in recent years. The categories of services supported include Catholic Education and Faith Formation, Relief and Hope, Pastoral and Ministerial Formation and Support, and Parish Support. Just a few of these specific services include Legendary Lodge, Campus Ministries, De La Salle Blackfeet School, Diocesan Catholic Schools, Prison Ministries, Catholic Cemeteries, Catholic Social Services of Montana, the Guatemala Mission, national collections for Archdiocese for the Military Services, Church in Central and Eastern Europe, and the Church in Africa, the Permanent Diaconate, Priests' Retirement and Clergy Benefit, Seminarian Education, and ongoing support for the Safe Environment/Protecting God's Children. This list is not exhaustive, but it illustrates how the funds we each contribute go to support a wide array of good and essential services locally and around the world.

The *He First Loved Us* campaign, otherwise known as the Campaign for Catholic Life that we participated in last year was a one-time only fundraiser, promoted for the Diocese of Helena and its parishes for the purpose of bringing a greater vitality to Catholic life throughout the Diocese. The target for the fundraising was set at 30 million dollars. The campaign was completed this month and the pledged gifts from around the diocese not only exceeded the target, but also brought in estate gifts to bring the total anticipated gifts to exceed 90 million dollars. The funds raised by this campaign are not intended to obviate the gifts necessary to support the annual budgetary needs of the diocese or the parish. However, this influx of revenue into the diocese and parishes will create opportunities that were previously unattainable. Approximately half of the revenue raised will go toward the goals of the diocese to increase priestly vocations, support our growing ranks of retired priests, provide more robust diocesan support for the parishes, expand its range of evangelical services, and restore and extend the life span of our beautiful Cathedral. The other half of the revenue will remain in the parishes for their future capital needs and revitalization of Catholic parish life.



Saints In Action

602 S. Main St.
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-6303
December 2024



Scan Me

St. Matthew's Catholic School



December 6th, 2024

JOIN US FROM 5 TO 8 PM IN THE SCHOOL GYM FOR FUN, GAMES, FOOD, MUSIC, GIFTS, AND "BUDDY THE ELF."

Enrollment = 248



SAINT OF THE MONTH:
BLESSED FRANZ
JAGERSTATTER

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:
SELF-CONTROL



Upcoming Events

- Starlight Market, 12/6, 5 to 8pm
- Christmas Concert, 12/19, 6pm.
- Las Posadas, 12/20, 2:30
- Christmas Break, 12/21 - 1/5
- School Resumes, 1/6



DR. PETERSON TOOK THE 8TH GRADE GIRLS TO LUNCH AT NORM'S - THANKS FOR SUPPORTING OUR 8TH GRADE STUDENTS SPECIAL OUTINGS WITH YOUR DONATIONS!



Event Information

50th Annual Blue and Gold Auction

When?

Saturday, Feb 22, 2025, 05:30 PM

Where?

Hilton Garden Inn Kalispell, U.S. 93, Kalispell, MT, USA

Matthew 19:26

With God All Things Are Possible

*Thank you for your support of St. Matthew's through your gifts of your time, your talents, and your treasure.
We appreciate your support of Catholic education in the Flathead Valley!*

The Nazareth Page
A Gospel meditation for your home
December 1, 2024 – First Sunday of Advent
Luke 21:25-36

As we begin a new year in the church, we are immediately met with a gospel about the “end of the world,” an interesting twist to encourage us to look at time a bit differently.

Most of us have been introduced to images of what it will be like at the end. Or when it will happen. I learned about this future “event” in Catholic grade school. As I recall learning about it, my fear level immediately increased. It sounded very scary.

Many churches believe that this event will include the return of Jesus – a second coming. Often this future event might involve a massive separation of the good people from the bad ones – of those already dead and those soon to die -the so-called Last Judgment. This would possibly be accompanied by spectacular cosmic, often destructive events. Some Christians believe that the end is imminent. Until it isn't.

Many accounts or descriptions of “the end” were common in the time of Jesus. We find them in Jewish scriptures that were composed in the two centuries before the arrival of Jesus. And after he ascended into heaven, a whole book of the New Testament, attributed to John the evangelist, called *The Revelation*, was entered into the New Testament.

How are we to read about these matters today? Are we living in “the end times?” Here's what many biblical scholars suggest. First, all these accounts of an end can remind us that all things on earth will eventually end. All humans will die. Everything on Earth is temporary.

Then after our deaths, it is widely believed that we will all face some kind of judgment by God relating to how they lived our lives on Earth. Whatever exactly comes next is mostly unknown. I hope that I will be in heaven with God, and with many others. Especially with those close to me while I lived on earth. Like members of my family and good friends I encountered along the way. We call this kind of thinking, *hopeful*. We have no complete listing of who might already be there. But we can imagine with lively hope.

We also need to believe that God knows all things created and is completely honest and fair, fully compassionate and forgiving toward all of us. With this conviction, we can endure and enjoy each day right now, trusting that our personal futures will be wonderful. This can help us positively begin this new year.

David M. Thomas, PhD