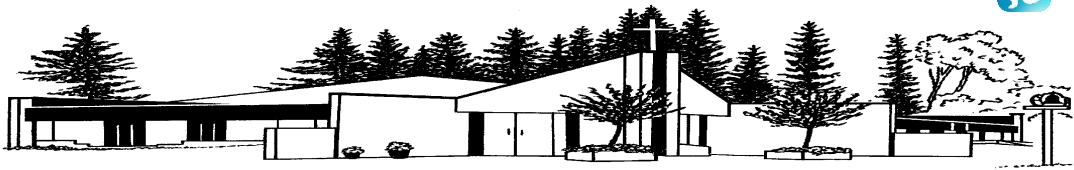


RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 15, 2024

Sat., Dec. 14, Mass for December Intentions of St. Matthew's & Risen Christ.....**6:30 pm**

Sunday, December 15, Mass for the Parishes, St. Matthew's & Risen Christ.....**9:00 am**

Tuesday, Dec. 17, Mass for the Soul of Dennis Tobiason rb Helen Tobiason.....**8:45 am**

Thursday, Dec. 19, 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 21st & December 22nd, 2024

MINISTRY	Saturday 6:30 pm	Sunday 9:00 am
Plate Minister	Deacon Charlie	Deacon Charlie
Cup Minister	Shelley Nease	Eric Barry
	Judy Hughes	Neil Heino
Lector	Suzanne Johnson	Pati Heath
	Bryan McMillan	Paul Heath
Server	Don Zimmerman	
Greeter	Lee & Dee Hesper	Josephine Wright Family

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.	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
		Ladies Scripture Holiday Party	10:00 – 11:30am
	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
		Choir	After Mass
	24	CHRISTMAS EVE	(Music begins at 6:00) Mass 6:30 pm
	25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY	(Music begins at 8:30)
		Mass 9:00 am
		No Religious Formation	
	12/25 – 1/1/2025.....	Parish Office Closed
	29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	
Jan.	1	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD ...	Mass 9:00 am

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

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

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.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER — 6:30 PM

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

3rd Week of Advent – December 15

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

Help is needed to prepare the Church for the Christmas season. We will be working on **Monday, December 23rd at 9 am** until we are finished. All other decorations will be put in place.



Men and women are needed. Many hands are needed and will make work lighter. Please plan to help! And, thanks to all who do so much for the church.

PIANO CONCERT AT RISEN CHRIST

All are invited to a Risen Christ Catholic Church for a piano recital featuring students of Maryruth Fallon Sunday, December 22nd at 2pm.



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.

December 7th & 8th, 2024:	Sunday Envelopes	\$5,454.00
	Thanksgiving	470.00
	Building	258.00
	Total	\$6,182.00

CHRISTMAS 2024 MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, Dec. 24th

4:30 pm @ St. Matthew

6:30 pm @ Risen Christ

Midnight Mass (12 at night) @ St. Matthew

Christmas Day

Wednesday, Dec. 25th

9:00 am @ Risen Christ

11:00 am @ St. Matthew

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, Dec. 31st

6:00 pm @ St. Matthew

New Year's Day

Wednesday, Jan. 1. 2025

9:00 am @ Risen Christ

11:00 am @ St. Matthew



Please note music for the Christmas masses will begin 30 minutes prior to mass time:
6pm Christmas Eve & 8:30am Christmas morning

SCAM ALERT

Please be aware of scams, especially at this time of year. You may see emails that look like they are from Father Stan or another employee of the church. They may be asking for money or gift cards, or even to verify your bank account. Some may ask you to send gift cards. **BE CAUTIOUS**, and when in doubt, do not open the email or click on any link.

~JESUS WILL HELP YOU THROUGH YOUR HOLIDAZE~

**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
Karla West, rb Risen Christ Parish

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

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Building a Culture of Life & Family across Montana

Funded in part by the Annual Catholic Appeal, Catholic Social Services provides confidential counselling throughout our state for expectant parents who need assistance to become new parents to their baby. Additional services include adoption placement, post-adoption support, Rachael's Hope (post abortion help), Youth Mentoring and supportive aid to birthmothers. Please help provide for these critical services.

PRAYER TO PADRE PIO

"O Lord I entrust my past to Your Mercy, my present to Your Love,
and my future to Your providence."

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT– December 22, 2024

Micah 5:1-4a

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

PRACTICE OF FAITH

Centuries before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Micah foretold that the tiny town of Bethlehem would be host to the birth of the long-awaited Savior. Following the angel's command, Mary and Joseph gave their son the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

♠ Recall birth stories about each member of your household. Talk about their birthplace and the special reasons their names were chosen.

♠ These few days marking the transition from Advent to Christmas are often consumed with frenzied preparations. Even so, keep Advent. Remember to light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath and put up the household nativity scene.

♠ These days are also a perfect occasion to bless your household Christmas tree. Gather members. Share stories about favorite ornaments. Compose a blessing prayer or find one online to adapt and use.

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.**



RISEN CHRIST GIFT SHOP - NEW ITEMS ARE HERE!

We now have scapulars, holy water fonts, rosaries, children's bracelets and much more. Stop by anytime to check out our gift shop! Please see

Connie McCubbins or Andrea Wright before or after the weekend Masses.

If you need to make a purchase during the week, please stop in the parish office.

We have many items available for Christmas giving!

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!**

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS

Women and men religious offer gratitude. Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit <https://retiredreligious.org>

TRANSPORTATION NEEDED

Are you able to provide a ride to Mass? We have a couple from Risen Christ Parish that need help getting to Mass. They live in the West Valley Dr. area.

If you live in that area and/or can provide them with a ride to Mass, please contact Julie Berquist 406-253-4842.

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

2025 Montana Tax Credit

Plan for your 2025 dollar for dollar tax credit donation now!

Donations due by

January 10th

Donation forms may be found in the community room.

Christmas shopping and Scrip

go together like peanut butter and jelly! Make a list and check it twice, then call the school office to pre-order the cards you would like to pick up.
406-752-6303

Need small gifts for many?

We currently have \$5 and \$10 increments for Barnes & Noble, Starbucks, Claire's, Amazon, Dairy Queen and more!



50TH ANNUAL
BLUE & GOLD
GALA

Early Bird Tickets - \$80
Purchase Online or School & Parish Offices
Until December 20th

Saturday, February 22, 2025
5:30p.m. Hilton Garden Inn
Theme: Old Hollywood Glamour



Before December 20th - Tables of 10 will sell for \$800

After December 20th - Tables of 10 will be \$950. We will not have tables of 8



Presents

Epiphany 2025

Featured Speaker - Fr. John Neneman

January 8th, 2025

Doran Center

Food, Fun & Fellowship from 6:15 to 7:00 pm

Program at 7:00 pm

Freewill offerings are gladly accepted.

CHARITABLE GIVING

Will you be making charitable contributions at the end of the year as part of your tax planning? There are ways to structure gifts that will help our parish and save you taxes at the same time – such as the Montana Endowment Tax Credit, charitable rollover from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), and transferring appreciated stocks/bonds/mutual funds.

These gifting options can provide you tax savings even if you no longer itemize under the new federal tax reform. Your gift can be designated to support our parish, the diocese, or even a specific ministry.

The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena, Inc. can help you navigate these tax-savings stewardship opportunities. Please contact foundation Executive Director at (406)389-7051.

In order for charitable gifts to be credited for the current calendar year, 2024, please note the following: **IRS regulations require checks received by the church after January 1st, to be accompanied by the postmarked envelope dated no later than December 31st.**

Transfer of stocks or securities must take place on or prior to December 31st.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

“THREE TO GET MARRIED ENGAGED RETREAT”

A free overnight retreat for engaged couples will be held at Saint John Paul II Church in Bigfork on Friday January 24th, 2025. The registration deadline is

Monday, January 6th. For more information, please call Dawn at the Parish office 406-837-4846 or register on the website www.saintjp2.org under events/updates.

ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS

The Valley Voices Community Choir Christmas concert will be held

Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 pm.

The location is at the **Whitefish Performing Arts Center**, 127 Spokane Ave, Whitefish.

Join us in welcoming the holiday season! Free refreshments and free admission, although there will be a Free Will Offering.

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of December 15, 2024



30 Minutes B.C. A Nativity Play

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.



ADVENTUS A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

This Advent, make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Uncover the beauty of the place where Christ was born, preparing your heart for Christ's coming so you can enter more deeply into this season.



Was Santa Claus a **REAL PERSON?**

Christmas (Part 2) | What Catholics Believe

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about Christmas. What are the 12 days of Christmas? Was Santa Claus a real person? What is Advent?

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

The Nazareth Page
A Gospel meditation for your home
December 15, 2024 – Third Sunday of Advent
Luke 3:10-18

Last week, we thought about the mission of John the Baptist. He prepared the way of the Lord by making straight the path to him. To do this he engaged in a ministry of penance, repentance and a preaching that was laser-focused on the coming of Jesus, the Christ. Be prepared, he said. God is coming in the person of Jesus. And believe the “good news.” Those words are equivalent to the concept of “Gospel.” Some contemporary translations of the New Testament actually use that phrasing for the essential message of Jesus. Thus, when we read the gospels, reflect on their meaning and importance by thinking of them as “good news.”

As I thought about that simple phrase, I asked myself where do I hear *good news* today? Immediately I thought of the news that is reported on daily television. I also recalled my reading of the newspaper. And my acquaintance with daily podcasts and reports that I read online. Do they report “good news” or something else? You can answer for yourself, but I must admit that what I mostly hear or read about is not good news! In fact, it spans the spectrum from news that is “not so bad” to what is terrible. Mostly “bad news.”

So, what is this good news that John the Baptist mentions, or that Jesus himself communicates to his contemporaries (and to us) in his own ministry? Not just any word, but God’s word describing the deepest meaning of what was, what is and what will be? What’s “good” about that?

There are roughly two-thousand years of thought and writings that seek to describe the good that has been created by God and what humans, like you and me, have tried to express in words and actions, 99.9% of which will not be found on popular media. Even that which is presented as “religious.”

Sometimes the good news is communicated and made real in words, but mostly, and more importantly, it is expressed in actions. And it happens in the everyday lives of ordinary people like you and me. Also, in the lives of our families and neighbors, the people we work with, shop with, and connect with during the passage of each day. Goodness is happening everywhere. Although very unreported in the news.

So much incredible good is done without recognition or acclaim. Nevertheless, it is exactly what John meant in today’s gospel when he said that with the coming of Jesus, we will experience good news.

David M. Thomas, PhD

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

For more information, contact Melanie Golie, 406-752-6303, office@stmattsaints.org



**St. Matthew's Catholic School
Montana Tax Credit Scholarship
Pledge Form**

St. Matthew's Catholic School SSO LLC is an approved Student Scholarship Organization (SSO) participating in the Tax Credit for Contributions to Student Scholarship Organizations Program. The program provides 100% tax credit to taxpayers or corporations filing Montana income tax returns (e.g. individuals corporations, nonprofits and other exempt organizations) that donate to certified SSOs. Eligible taxpayers can qualify for a tax credit of up to \$200,000 in the same calendar year their donation is made. Unused credits can be earned forward into future tax years. St. Matthew's Catholic School SSO LLC is not responsible for verifying donor eligibility. To receive a credit, interested parties should verify eligibility with a certified tax accountant or the Montana Department of Revenue.

To receive a state tax credit, please return this completed form to St. Matthew's Catholic School at office@stmattsaints.org by **January 10th**

DONOR INFORMATION

Legal Name of Individual(s)
or Corporation: _____

SSN or MT Spouse SSN (if
taxpayer ID #: _____ filing jointly): _____

(Note: Social Security Number or Montana taxpayer ID # are required under the laws governing the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program. This information will be redacted from an reports required under the law.)

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

CPA's Name: _____ CPA's Email: _____

The donor is
(please select one): Individual Corporation Nonprofit or
other exempt organization

Donation Purpose
(please select one): Scholarships

Donation Amount: _____

Special Instructions _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Spouse Signature
(if applicable): _____ Date: _____