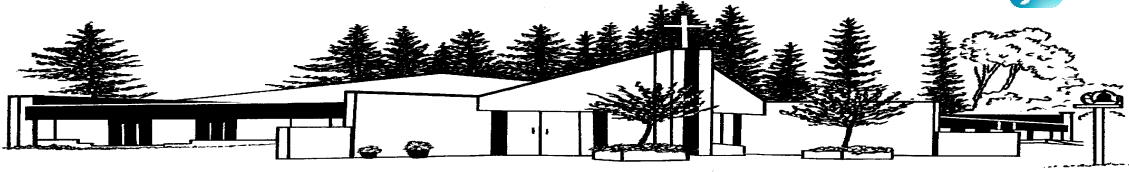

RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

E-Mail: rparish@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

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 22, 2024

Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24, Mass for Deceased Parishioners 6:30 pm

Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25, Mass for the Parish 9:00 am

Thursday, December 26 NO MASS

Saturday, December 28 6:30 pm

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH..... December 29, 2024

Tuesday, December 31 NO MASS

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, Wed. January 1 9:00 am

Thursday, January 2 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 24th & December 25th, 2024

MINISTRY	Tuesday, 6:30 pm	Wednesday, 9:00 am
Plate Minister	Deacon Floyd	Deacon Floyd
Cup Minister	Neil Heino	Jody Schweigert
	Suzanne Johnson	Jack Lavin
	Jovita Kottraba	Anita Lavin
Lector	Vicki Walbruch	Jack Fallon
	Cecelia Notess	Kathy Shanahan
Server	Don Zimmerman	Rick Nease
Greeter	C. Hutchens/L. Brandon	Howie & Marian Ficek

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec.	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
	5	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	Mass 9:00 am
	7	Choir	7:30 pm
	8	Ladies' Scripture Study.....	10:00 am – 11:30 am
		Religious Formation.....	4:00 – 5:00 pm

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

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.

Ministry Schedule, December 28 & 29, 2024 & January 1, 2025

MINISTRY	Saturday, 6:30 pm	Sunday, 9:00 am	Wednesday, 9:00 am
Plate Min.	Bryan McMillan	Eric Barry	Deacon Floyd
Cup Minister	Vicki Walbruch	Tom Berquist	Connie McCubbins
	Judy Hughes	Jody Schweigert	Shelley Nease
Lector	Rachel Cincis	TJ Higgins	Paul Heath
	Suzanne Johnson	Betty Heino	Pati Heath
Server	Don Zimmerman		
Greeter	T. Gunnerson/P. Arnone	Tom & Terrie Alger	Colleen Hutchens

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.

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 thank you to all who do so much for the church.

THE BEST GIFT EVER WAS WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES.

OUR GIFT TO GOD - Thank you to everyone who so generously supports our parish!
Your financial support enables us to continue the on-going work of our ministry.

December 14 & 15, 2024

Sunday Envelopes	\$5,019
Holy Day	1,615
Building	200
Christmas	350
Total	\$7,184

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.

****There will be no Adoration the week of Christmas or New Year. It will resume on January 7th & 8th, 2025.**

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

*GOD HAS A SOLUTION EVEN BEFORE
YOU KNOW YOU HAVE A PROBLEM.*

**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

Help Start Saint Gabriel Radio!



SUPPORT CATHOLIC RADIO IN THE FLATHEAD DEANERY

Saint Gabriel Radio Ministry is coming!
We have raised \$10,000 of our \$25,000 goal.
We need every Catholic family in the valley to help push us to the finish line.

To help, use this QR code, write a check to *Knight's Radio* at 100 Pine Loop Road, Kalispell 59901, or drop a check at



St. Matt's office. We cannot do this without your support.

As a Relevant Radio Affiliate, we will Broadcast the Mass, Catholic programming, Parish announcements and more. **This is your radio station!**

READINGS FOR THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

DECEMBER 25, 2024

Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-5, 9-14

PRACTICE OF CHARITY

The beginning of John's Gospel, proclaimed at Masses during the Day on Christmas, announces the inbreaking of Jesus, the true light to our world. In our churches and homes, we festively celebrate the mystery of the incarnation and the fulfillment of all the prophetic promises that God will come to save us. With gratitude for God's greatest gift, practice Christian charity.

◆ Consider giving a Christmas gift to a woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant. Donate to a local agency that supports expectant women in their choice to welcome the gift of life.

READINGS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 29, 2024

Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 Luke 2:41-52

PRACTICE OF HOPE

Our Church usually celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday after the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. Besides venerating Jesus' earthly family, the feast lifts us up and offers spiritual encouragement to all families.

◆ Reach out to someone you know who is struggling with their parenting. Offer a listening ear, a homemade dinner, a helpful resource, or other form of tangible support.

READINGS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2025

Isaiah 60: 1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2: 1-12

PRACTICE OF HOPE

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, the Church celebrates the manifestation of the Son of God to the world. The Magi followed the star to find the newborn Jesus in Bethlehem, which means House of Bread.

◆ Reflect on the world around you and look for examples of the miraculous way God allows great things to occur in the humblest of places. At Home With the Word 2025

ASSISTING OUR PARISHES AND MISSIONS

The 2024 ACA provides Human Resource Services and direction for Safe Environment/Protecting God's Children. Telecommunications and technology support benefits our 57 parishes and 38 missions.

PROTECTING ALL WE HOLD DEAR THROUGH FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY.

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, and 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 and year-round giving!



→ We're Hiring!!! ←

CSSM's counseling program is here for everyone with holistic, Catholic-based counseling and therapy. With over 80 clients from nearly 30 Montana communities served, it's time to add another licensed counselor to the team! Interested candidates can view the position description by visiting CSSM's website at

www.cssmt.org/staff-board/.

**ST. MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC
SCHOOL TAX CREDIT.
DONATION FORMS MAY BE
FOUND
IN THE SOCIAL AREA.**

2025 Montana Tax Credit
Plan for your 2025 dollar for
dollar tax credit donation now!

Donations due by
January 10th

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

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.

SEMINARIAN BAKE SALE

The proceeds from the Seminarian Bake sale were \$536.00. Great job everyone for your continued support for our Seminarians. To send encouragement or ask for prayers, please write our men at their respective seminary. The addresses may be found in the foyer on the Seminarian picture poster. Watch the bulletin for more upcoming sales for the upcoming year.

EPIPHANY BLESSING "CHALKING THE DOOR 2025"



20 + C + M + B + 25

MAY CHRIST BLESS THIS DWELLING PLACE

Each year, around the feast of the Epiphany, many parishes around the world participate in an annual blessing of chalk. An ancient tradition places God at the entrance of your home and your entire family under his protection.

The Epiphany blessing of chalk and homes is a centuries-old tradition where priests visit each family in their parish after the Feast of Epiphany. Over time, it became more difficult for priests to see all the homes of their parish. Thus, it became an accepted tradition that a household member could lead this blessing instead of the priest.

Using the Blessed Chalk, mark the lintel of your front door (or porch step as follows):

20 + C + M + B + 25 while saying:

The three Wise Men, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar, followed God's Son's star, who became human two thousand and twenty-five years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen

Then, offer the following prayer: ***Visit, O Blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; grant that we may manifest our love to each other and all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and your knowledge and love, guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.***

Chalking the door is an excellent way to celebrate and mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and homes. With time, the chalk will fade. As it does, we let the meaning of the symbols written sink into the depths of our hearts and manifest in our words and actions.

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!**



**BLESSINGS FROM
FATHER STAN,
FATHER JOHN,
AND THE
RISEN CHRIST
STAFF.**

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of December 22, 2024



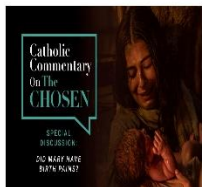
The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band

Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.

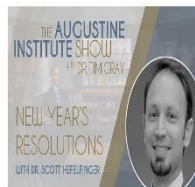


Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?

Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of December 29, 2024



New Year's Resolutions | The Augustine Institute Show

What's your resolution this year? Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, to celebrate one year of the Augustine Institute Show!



Christmas | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they look at the painting Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. This famous painting reveals the Christ Child as the light that has come into the world and also depicts the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the shepherds to be models of adoration to our humble Lord who came as a helpless baby.



O Holy Night, The King is Born: What Christmas Is About

Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph, and others as they make way for our Savior.

To register please go 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

**50TH ANNUAL
BLUE & GOLD
GALA**

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

Saturday, February 22, 2025
5:30 p.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

January 8, 2025 in the Doran Center



Presents

Epiphany 2025

Featured Speaker - Fr. John Neneman

Food, Fun and Fellowship from 6:15 – 7:00 pm

Program at 7:00 pm

Freewill offerings are gladly accepted.

The Nazareth Page
A Gospel meditation for your home
December 22, 2024 –Fourth Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:39-45

Right from the beginning of the greatest event in human history, there are surprises. But they are not the kind one might expect. For instance, think about the conception of Jesus. Mary his mother was an ordinary woman who lived in an ordinary place. My guess is that she blended in with the crowd as she passed each day with her family members and neighbors.

And clearly Mary was totally surprised with the visit of the angel inviting her to be a part of God's entrance into our world. Her first thought was likely some version of "why me? I'm a nobody. Nothing special at all." She might have asked why wasn't the daughter of a king, a high priest or someone already distinguished? Are you sure God want me?

Let's continue with the story. Already pregnant with Jesus, Mary learns that her cousin Elizabeth is also with child. Being the kind of person she is, Mary decides to visit her to see if she can be of assistance. She didn't have comfortable transport like we do. Likely she had to walk on the trails nearby. Not easy for one with child. That's what we read about in today's gospel. Again, we are invited to think about God's plan to use ordinary people in simple circumstances to achieve God's decision to become one of us. God involved people of ordinary means, just like most of us.

And that's my thought on this Sunday's gospel. Artists and historians will add to this totally commonplace event elements that will make it more dramatic or "out of the ordinary." But it wasn't. That's not how God works in our world.

In the recently concluded synod (meeting) called by Pope Francis, there was an effort to make those in attendance (about 400 selected from around the world) a representative sample of church membership. It was no small challenge given that previous synod gathering were overwhelmingly bishops and cardinals. But in my judgment a move in the right direction.

Throughout my career as a theologian and educator, I have tried to advocate for the view that in God's eyes we are all essentially equal. We have different tasks to accomplish but we are all God's people. And all that each of us do counts. To use church language, we are all disciples and the good that we accomplish, however hidden and ordinary in our daily lives is important to God. Two of those who first knew this were named Mary and Elizabeth.

David M. Thomas, PhD

A Song Was Heard at Christmas

By Timothy Dudley-Smith

*A song was heard at Christmas
To wake the midnight sky,*

*A Savior's birth, and peace on earth,
And praise to God on high.*

*The angels sing at Christmas
With all the hosts above,
And still we sing the newborn King,
His glory and His love.*

