

# Saint Anthony Catholic Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Great Falls—Billings



## Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5:30 pm  
Sunday 8:45 am, 11:00 am

## Daily Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 5:30 pm  
Wed – Sat 9:00 am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday 7:45 – 8:30 am  
Tues & Sat 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Before & After Daily Mass

OR By Appointment

Pastor: Rev Bart Stevens

406-697-1912

OR [paduapriest@gmail.com](mailto:paduapriest@gmail.com)

Deacon: Rev Dave Odermann

Call the office to contact.

## Contact Us

Main Office @ 628-7182

OR [paduaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:paduaoffice@gmail.com)

Religious Education @ 628-7484

OR [paduareoffice@gmail.com](mailto:paduareoffice@gmail.com)

## Office Hours:

Tues, Thurs, Fri 10 am – 2 pm  
Wed 10 am – 5 pm

## Mailing Address:

317 W 7th St, Laurel, MT 59044

## Online:

[www.saintanthonycatholicchurch.org](http://www.saintanthonycatholicchurch.org)

[facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel)

[saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel](https://www.facebook.com/saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel)

Secretary: Michelle Lopez

Bookkeeper: Kathy Manders

Religious Ed: Rita Baeten

Please remember to contact the office if you or someone in your family is hospitalized or enters a care facility.



## Jesus in the Desert

“Man shall not live on bread alone...” Luke 4:4

***“Take and divide it among yourselves.”***

By St John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

***“Christ then took on our nature,  
when He would redeem it;  
He redeemed it by making it suffer  
in His own Person;  
He purified it, by making it pure in His own  
Person.  
He first sanctified it in Himself, made it  
righteous, made it acceptable to God,  
submitted it to an expiatory passion and then  
He imparted it to us. He took it, consecrated it,  
broke it and said, “Take and divide it among  
yourselves.”***

Years later this Catholic priest wrote:

***“O wisest love! That flesh and blood  
Which did in Adam fail,  
Should strive afresh against the foe,  
Should strive and should prevail.”  
“And that a higher gift than grace  
Should flesh and blood refine,  
God’s presence and His very Self,  
And Essence all-divine.”***

*Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi!**"How we pray forms what we believe, which forms the way we live."***What is the Purpose of Lent?**

The season of Lent is a time of preparation for the greatest and highest of all feasts—Easter! We prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord from the dead by doing penance, which cleanses the soul from sin and fills it with divine grace. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the perfect remedy for our sin-sick souls.

Peter denied our Lord three times in the early hours of the morning on Good Friday. Some days after our Lord's resurrection, he was reconciled and restored to Jesus on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus only wanted to know one thing — He asked Peter three times, "**Simon, son of John, do you love Me?**" After we do our Lenten penance and arrive at the season of Easter, our Lord will want to know the same thing about us: "**Do You Love Me?**" This is precisely what Lent is for; to grow in our love for God.

Saint Maximus the Confessor wrote, "Charity is a right attitude of mind which prefers nothing to the knowledge of God. If a man possesses any strong attachment to the things of this earth, he cannot possess true charity. For anyone who really loves God prefers to know and experience God rather than His creatures. For God is far superior to all His creation, since everything which exists has been made by God and for Him. And so, in deserting God, who is beyond compare, for the inferior works of creation, a man shows that he values God, the author of creation, less than creation itself."

If we are honest, we will admit that we often prefer and choose to know and experience creatures over knowing and experiencing God. It's part of our sinful nature. Consider how you spend your free time. How much of it do you spend on knowing and experiencing creatures and how much of it do you spend on knowing and experiencing God? Anyone who really loves God prefers to know and experience God rather than His creatures.

This is not to say that there is not a time and a place to enjoy the good created things that God has given us. But the truth remains, no creature should be preferred to God. Why do we spend so much time and energy on creatures and so little time on God? He is infinitely more valuable and actually more attainable! Anyone can grow in the knowledge and experience of God, rich or poor, old or young. Furthermore, we will be happier and more satisfied in this life by seeking to obtain God rather than creatures. Do we really love God?

Lent is a time to grow in love for God. By fasting and abstaining from creatures we detach ourselves from them and grow to love them less. By prayer (and good spiritual reading) we obtain knowledge and experience of God. When we detach from creatures and find our joy in God alone, we are then free to love our neighbor—truly almsgiving. Do we really love God? Do we really prefer Him to creatures? Let us use this Lent in such a way that we can say with Peter, "**Yes Lord, You know that I love You!**"

*Pax,**Fr. Bart*

Throughout the season of Lent Father Bart will lead Stations of the Cross each Friday at 5:45 pm followed by a meatless soup and bread fellowship supper until holy week. Sign up in the Narthex to bring either a meatless soup or bread.



*Pre-St. Paddy's Day Dinner!  
with Luck-o'-the-Irish Desserts!*

***Corned Beef & Cabbage***

*Sunday, March 15, 1—4 pm,*

*At St. John's Catholic Church, Joliet*

*(404 W. Central, Joliet - a 20-minute drive from Laurel!)*

- *Adults: \$12*
- *Kids 4-10: \$5*
- *Kids <4: FREE!*



*Take a Beautiful Sunday Afternoon Drive into the Country, Enjoy Food, Fun, & Fellowship, and Support a Good Cause!*

An evening with **Johnnette Benkovic Williams & Jack Williams**  
**MARCH 19, 2020** Reserve your table!  
Support Billings Catholic Radio

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.





**Men's Lenten Breakfasts** have begun on Wednesday mornings. The men gather at 6 am for a 6:30 breakfast and fellowship. This week breakfast will be served at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. All men are welcome to attend!



One of the Gospel passages this Lent is from Matthew 25:40b, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for these least brothers of mine, you did for Me." This is one of the building blocks for what the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul does throughout the world. There are many opportunities available here within our local Saint Vincent de Paul to live out this passage. A few opportunities that are available are serving daily lunch, our Saturday Brunches, and joining one of our conferences that visit those in need. Volunteers are needed anytime of the year. If you have a special gift or talent you would like to share, please give us a call at 252-1855 or drop by 3005 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. S. May you have a Holy Lenten Season.



The parish Mardi Gras celebration was attended by over 100 people! Fun and games, prizes and 15 delicious entries for the chili cook-off. First place was awarded to Connie Blom, second place to Joseph Kalinowski, and third place to Deacon Dave and Lynn Odermann. It was a great evening of fun entertainment!

The annual roast beef dinner had a wonderful turnout! A wonderful meal and so many delicious pies to choose from. A huge thank you to all who donated and participated in helping make this a huge success.



The USCCB Black and Indian Mission Collection exists to help build up the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God. Contribution envelopes are available in the Narthex through March 8th.



**Parish Council of Catholic Women**

<b>President</b>	<b>Judy Goldsby</b>	<b>855-0053</b>
March	Altar Cleaning	St Louise
March 1	Coffee & Rolls	St Gianna
March 8	Coffee & Rolls	St Joan
March 15	Coffee & Rolls	St Bridget
March 22	Coffee & Rolls	St Louise

**Monthly Meeting on 2nd Monday, March 9th, at 6:30 pm.**  
Hosted by St Louise Council

**Knights of Columbus - Fr Shevlin Council #6455**



**Grand Knight Michael Temporal**  
Knight of the Month - Ed Holmes  
Knight Family of the Month - Steve & Lee Ann Story

**Monthly meeting on 3rd Monday, March 16, at 7:00 pm.**

**Diocesan Victim Assistance:**  
Confidential Line 406-750-2373  
Email [victimassistancecoord@gmail.com](mailto:victimassistancecoord@gmail.com)

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saint Anthony summer Vacation Bible Camp, held June 15—19. Stephanie needs to build her team so that they can start planning. To volunteer contact Stephanie Swecker at 855-8416.



**Attention 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parents!**  
**Mandatory confirmation meeting @ 12:30 pm on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.** Parents will meet with Fr. Bart in the 1st classroom on the right at the parish center. 2nd grade class will meet with Mrs. Odermann in the 2nd Grade classroom/cry room at the church. **The Baptismal, Sponsor, and Final Summary Forms are due by March 4<sup>th</sup>. Please turn them in or bring them to this meeting.**

**Lector Schedule**  
**Saturday, February 29th**  
5:30 pm Jon Swecker  
**Sunday, March 1st**  
8:45 am Michael Speidel  
11:00 am Jahna White




**BILLINGS CATHOLIC RADIO**  
**1240 AM & 97.5 FM**



Subscriptions for the Magnificat Magazine of daily liturgical readings are up for renewal. The parish needs 40 people (or more) to sign up for an annual subscription in order to be eligible for the discounted parish rate of \$32 per subscription. This is a savings of \$15 over the individual rate! Let the office know your request for renewal (or to begin a new subscription) on the signature sheet in the Narthex when you pick up your March issue! Envelopes provided for payment.

Consider the opportunity you have to utilize the parish FORMED account in support of a fruitful Lenten season. Explore the topics available: Daily Reflection, Opening the Word, Lectio series and Bible Studies, Movie Night, The Sacraments, Faith Formation, Especially for Kids, Youth Programs, Documentaries, Modern-Day Saints, Saints of History, Men & Women of Faith, Life & Witness of Mary, Devotional, Vocations, Current Topics, Lighthouse CD talks, Apologetics Videos, Audio Dramas, Audio Books, Books to download on Being Catholic, Exploring the Faith, Catholic Works of Fiction, & books for Kids & Teens. Lots of these programs are also available in Spanish!

**LECTIO DIVINA RETREAT**  
Fr. Jacob Stronach, OSB, from Mt Angel Abbey in Oregon, will be offering this retreat at St Agnes Parish, Red Lodge, beginning Friday, April 24th, at 7 pm and continuing through Saturday until closing with 5 pm Mass. To register contact Cynthia Marble at 406-425-1226 or [cynthiamarble@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiamarble@gmail.com). Free will donations accepted.

**Saint Anthony Stewardship Report**

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$ 146,148.38
Fiscal Budget	\$ 149,400.00
	<b>(\$ 3,251.62)</b>
Income week of February 16	\$ 4,635.00
Weekly Budget	4,150.00
	\$ 485.00

*Thank you for supporting your Saint Anthony parish!*

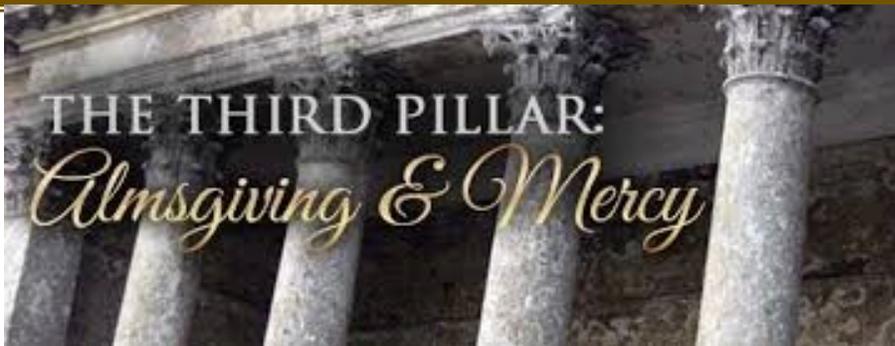
**Care & Share**

2019 Assessment	\$ 35,059.07
Collections & Pledges (thru March 1, 2020)	35,059.07
Balance	<b>PAID IN FULL</b>

Prefer online donation?  
Secure online giving is available on our website!  
Go to: [www.saintanthonicatholicchurch.org](http://www.saintanthonicatholicchurch.org)

Will you be traveling? Check out: [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) for a listing of churches and Mass times around the world. To stay connected with happenings at Saint Anthony you will find our most recent bulletins posted on the website.

On Ash Wednesday our focus tends to be on prayer and fasting, which is as it should be. Our awareness of personal sin and the need of individual conversion is uppermost. We mark the beginning of the



the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, visiting the sick, sheltering the homeless, and burying the dead are all corporal works

penitential season with a rigorous fast and an exterior sign of our inner resolve. Soon, however, the ashes are washed from our heads and we turn a beaming face to the world ('let no one know you are fasting . . .'). What should be the one thing everyone notices? Not our small acts of self-denial or the extra time spent in prayer, surely? No, our compassion, our almsgiving, should be what everyone notices about the Christian practice of Lent.

If you need a little nudge, here are three reasons you should start a regular almsgiving regimen: **It's Biblical** Tithing goes way back to the Old Testament and Jesus mentions the importance of giving several times.

**It Can Strengthen and Enrich Your Prayer Life** When we pray, and enter into the heart of God, it is natural to want to spread His love to others, thus making almsgiving an overflow of our prayer life. And when we give alms, it can open our hearts to others and to God in a circle of blessing and grace, thus enriching our prayer life.

**It is an Act of Mercy** Feeding the hungry, giving drink to

of mercy. Therefore, donating (almsgiving) to organizations that provide these services is, by extension, an act of mercy.

It has been well said that if you want to know God, show love to your neighbor. In our youth it is easy to think that the way to know God is to pray ardently and read deeply, but life will show us that, important though those are, the only way to know love fully is to show love oneself. The small sacrifices we make during Lent only have meaning if they increase love. So, if you are giving up chocolate or wine as a small gesture of love for the Lord, don't forget to give the money you save to those who cannot afford either. You will be repaid a hundredfold. Don't forget **the most precious gift you can give is your time.** So, over and above any material gift, give your time to those who need it. That visit to someone you have been putting off, that letter you have been meaning to write, even the smile with which you greet the stranger, they are all forms of almsgiving which will enrich your life as well as that of others. They will allow God a way in.

### Weekly Mass Schedule

We gather to pray the Holy Rosary 1/2 hour before every Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Tuesday is excepted: we pray the Perpetual Help Devotion 15 minutes before Mass and follow Tuesday's Low Latin Mass with Vespers (Evening Prayer), Saint Monica Perpetual Novena and pray the holy rosary together. Please join us! We need to pray for our Priests, our Pope, and our loved ones!

Date	Time	Auxiliary		Intention	Offered By
Monday, March 2nd	9:00 am	Liturgy of the Hours			
Tuesday, March 3rd	5:30 pm	Low Latin Mass		Baelyn Lopez	Michelle Lopez
Wednesday, March 4th	9:00 am	Daily Mass	✠	Mike Saxbury	Bob & Betty Saxbury & Family
Thursday, March 5th	9:00 am	Daily Mass		Chris & Jahna White	
	5:00 pm	Benediction		Eucharistic Adoration	All Visitors Welcome!
Friday, March 6th	9:00 am	Daily Mass		End of Abortion	PCCW
First Friday	5:00 pm	Benediction		Eucharistic Adoration	All Visitors Welcome!
	5:45 pm	Stations of the Cross		Soup & Bread Supper following	
Saturday, March 7th	9:00 am	Low Latin Mass	✠	Alma Bongiani Hedges	Watson Nieces
First Saturday	5:30 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	✠	Stanley Rubel	St Anthony Parish
Sunday, March 8th	8:45 am	Solemn Mass		Pro Populo	
	11:00 am	Sunday Mass		Stombaugh Family	Stevens Family