



*Moses elects the council of seventy elders*  
Jacob de Wit (1695-1754)

### A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Before I leave to join my brother priests and Bishop Vetter in Butte for our annual presbyteral assembly this coming week, I wanted to take this opportunity as I usually do at the end of each September to introduce Respect Life month, which is the month of October each year. During the month of October, there will be an insert in the bulletin each week that has been prepared by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops committee on pro-life affairs. However, more powerful than anything that we could say about the value and dignity of the human person is the very chilling story that has come across on the Associated Press wire regarding a recent court case that took place in the United Kingdom this past week. I am including the AP story in the bulletin.

What is chilling, and what ought to chill us is the conclusion of the British court that not every family is able to care for a disabled child with a supportive environment. A "supportive environment." What is also striking about the remarks is that the court admits that while science has given us the ability to detect disabilities in a child early on, sometimes the detection cannot be made until much later in its development, and so, well you already understand the implications.

A question that we need to ask and ponder deeply is at what point did we become so cavalier towards the miracle of the creation of new human life that our indifference has blinded us to the consequences manifested in the innumerable social ills that plague us as nations and communities? It is almost as if we are so distracted by trying to tape so many Band-Aids on our wound just hoping, hoping that we can do so by avoiding the most central and fundamental of all issues, that each and every new human life brought into existence at the moment of conception is willed by God and is a miracle of God's ongoing creative activity. Until we are able to look at our wound and name it and call it for what it truly is, the healing of our culture and the world will always remain an unattainable goal, and no effort born of our misguided ingenuity will every bring us the peace that we desire. Let me put it plainly; unless we change course and come back to our senses, the path we are on only has one destination. And it is not good.

I know full well that there are many concerns and anxieties that haunt us in the present state of affairs, as there always has been, but we cannot afford to let these things distract us from the bigger picture, nor can they divert our attention from that which truly matters. Perhaps as we enter into the month of October we can do so by first taking a very deep breath and exhaling the Holy Name of "Jesus," and with faith in His incarnation, that He truly is the Word of God made flesh Who came to dwell among us, we can take up our Rosary and meditate each day on the mysteries of the life of the Son of God who first gave us life at our conception, and then most wonderfully renewed that life in His passion and death unto a living hope of a life and a world that has no end.

God bless,  
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

# Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 September 2021

Sacred Heart, Ronan  
Immaculate Conception, Polson  
St. Joseph Mission, Charlo

### Parish Office

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### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 6:00 pm  
Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

#### Sunday

Sacred Heart at 8:30 am  
Immaculate Conception at 10:30 am

#### Friday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm  
Confessions will be heard at 11:30 am and again on Saturday morning at 9:00 am before the 10:00 am First Saturday Mass.

**Please note that Fr. Christofferson will be absent for most the week for the presbyteral assembly in Helena.**



### May He Rest In Peace

On September 21<sup>st</sup> Fr. John Miller passed after a long illness. Bishop Vetter will offer a Funeral Mass for the repose of his soul on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am St. Anthony's Church in Missoula.

### FIRST WEEKEND DEVOTIONS

*Immaculate Conception Church*

#### Friday (First Friday), October 1<sup>st</sup>

Confessions at 11:30 am

Mass at 12:10 pm—Memorial of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

#### Saturday (First Saturday), October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Confessions at 9:30 am

Mass at 10:00 am—Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (after Mass)

*During a period of Eucharistic Adoration after the First Saturday Mass the 5 Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary will be prayed, followed by a further 15 minutes of silent meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary as Our Lady had requested at Fatima.*

## Woman with Down syndrome loses UK abortion law challenge

SYLVIA HUI

Thu, September 23, 2021, 5:17 AM

LONDON (AP) — A woman with Down syndrome lost a court challenge against the British government Thursday over a law allowing the abortion up until birth of a fetus with the condition. Heidi Crowter, 26, and two others took the Department of Health and Social Care to court, arguing that part of the Abortion Act is discriminatory and violates the European Convention on Human Rights.

Abortions in England, Wales and Scotland are allowed up till 24 weeks of pregnancy. But the law states that terminations can be allowed up until birth if there's "a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped."

Crowter, who lives independently and recently got married, has said that she found the legislation "offensive" and disrespectful. She said she wanted to change the law to challenge people's perception of Down syndrome.

Two senior judges dismissed the case Thursday after a two-day hearing, concluding that the legislation isn't unlawful and that it aims to strike a balance between the rights of the unborn child and that of women.

Judges Rabinder Singh and Nathalie Lieven said the case gave rise to strong feelings and differences over ethical and religious views, but the court must not enter into such controversies and rule only in accordance with the law.

"The evidence before the court powerfully shows that there will be some families who positively wish to have a child, even knowing that it will be born with severe disabilities," they said. "But the evidence is also clear that not every family will react in that way," they said, and many families may not be able to provide a disabled child with a supportive environment.

"The evidence is also clear that, although scientific developments have improved and earlier identification may be feasible, there are still conditions which will only be identified late in a pregnancy, after 24 weeks," the judges added.

Crowter brought the case with Maire Lea-Wilson, 33, who has a son with Down syndrome, and an unidentified child with the condition.

She said she plans to appeal the ruling.

"The fight is not over," Crowter said outside the Royal Courts of Justice in central London, surrounded by supporters.

"We face discrimination every day in schools, in the workplace and in society. Thanks to the verdict, the judges have upheld discrimination in the womb too," she said.

Paul Conrathe, a lawyer from the firm representing the three claimants, called the judgment disappointing and "out of step with modern attitudes to disability."

"By allowing babies with (Down) syndrome to be aborted up to birth, unlike neurotypical babies, the law sends a powerful message that the lives of people with (Down) syndrome are of lesser value," he said.



### Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

*Vigil of The 26th Sunday in OT*

Repose of the Soul of Joseph Martinez, r.b. Lila Martinez

#### Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

*26th Sunday in OT*

Sick & Shut-Ins of the Parish/Intentions of the Parish Faithful

#### Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

*St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church*

Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

#### Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

*The Holy Guardian Angels*

Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

### *Humbly asking for your prayers*

Marcy Bishop, Mary Oullette, Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Ellen Holland, Kevin Normandeau, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Leonard & Gail Piedalue, Kate Shrider Olsen, Don Herbst, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Bob Mahon, Joe Wolfekuhle, John Miller, Caroline Hummel.

*Please help to keep the list current by contacting the Parish Office. Also, out of respect for a person's privacy, please make sure that all individuals wish to be publicly identified.*

**Grace be to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for you all; Making a remembrance of you in our prayers without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 1:2**

### The Holy Father's prayer intention for October



**Missionary Disciples** We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

### *Please pray for our seminarians!*

Dillon Armstrong, Tyler Frohlich, Matthew Christians, Kyle Tannehill and Kaleb Michell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, John Cooney, Jamie Severson, Hayden Petterson, Alex Olmes, Anthony Olmes, Alex Ramirez, James Semling.

## 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday OT

Antiphon:

*All that you have done to us, O Lord,  
you have done with true judgment,  
for we have sinned against you  
and not obeyed your commandments.  
But give glory to your name  
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.*

Collect:

*O God, who manifest your almighty power  
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,  
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us  
and make those hastening to attain your promises  
heirs to the treasures of heaven.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.*

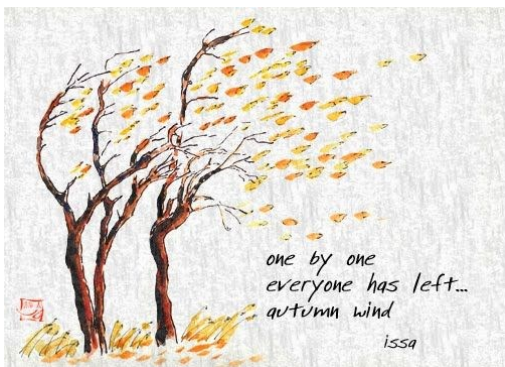
Readings:

Nm 11:25-29  
Ps. 19:8,10,12-13,14  
Jas 5:1-6  
Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

2286 *Scandal can be provoked by laws or institutions, by fashion or opinion.*

*Therefore, they are guilty of scandal who establish laws or social structures leading to the decline of morals and the corruption of religious practice, or to "social conditions that, intentionally or not, make Christian conduct and obedience to the Commandments difficult and practically impossible." This is also true of business leaders who make rules encouraging fraud, teachers who provoke their children to anger, or manipulators of public opinion who turn it away from moral values.*



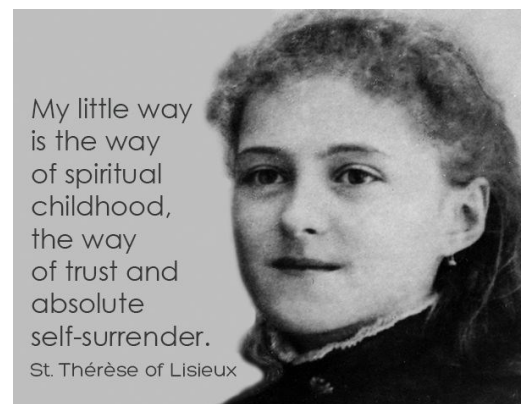
## Guardian Angels Memorial, October 2<sup>nd</sup>



Be alert in your every action as one should be who is accompanied by angels in all your ways, for that mission has been anjoined upon them. In whatever lodging, in whatever nook or corner you may find yourself, cherish a reverence for your guardian angel. In his presence do not dare to do anything you would not do in mine. Or do you doubt his presence because you do not see him? Would it really help if you did hear him, or touch him, or smell him? Remember, there are realities whose existence has no been proven by mere sight.

Brethren, we will love God's angels with a most affectionate love; for they will be our heavenly co-heirs some day, these spirits who now are sent by the Father to be our protectors and our guides. With such bodyguards, what are we to fear? They can neither be subdued nor deceived; nor is there any possibility at all that they should go astray who are to guard us in all our ways. They are trustworthy, they are intelligent, they are strong — why, then, do we tremble? We need only to follow them, remain close to them, and we will dwell in the protection of the Most High God. So as often as you sense the approach of any grave temptation or some crushing sorrow hangs over you, invoke your protector, your leader, your helper in every situation. Call out to him and say: Lord, save us, we are perishing. —**St. Bernard**

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
To whom God's love commits me here,  
Ever this day, be at my side,  
To light, to guard, to rule, and guide.  
Amen*



All Sunday homilies are available on YouTube and can be found by searching the full name *Fr. Kevin Christofferson*.

### ROSARY GROUP

St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Monday at 6:00 pm  
Friday at 9:00 am



### DIVINE MERCY RADIO 90.7 FM



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profit 501(c)3  
PO Box 568  
Polson, MT 59860*

### Parish Offertory Progress Report

*Fiscal Year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>*

**Immaculate Conception**  
\$42,898 of \$170,000 (25%)  
**Sacred Heart/St. Joseph**  
\$6,864 of \$44,500 (15%)



**Thank you for your generosity!**

# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus	2 The Holy Guardian Angels
3 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in O.T.	4 St. Francis of Assisi	5 Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos	6 St. Bruno Bl. Marie Rose Durocher	7 Our Lady of the Rosary	8	9 St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions St. John Leonardi
10 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in O.T.	11 St. John XXIII	12	13	14 St. Callistus I	15 St. Theresa of Jesus	16 St. Hedwig St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
17 Twenty-Ninth Sunday in O.T.	18 St. Luke	19 Sts. John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions	20 St. Paul of the Cross	21	22 St. John Paul II	23 St. John of Capistrano
24 Thirtieth Sunday in O.T.	25	26	27	28 Sts. Simon & Jude	29	30
31 Thirty-First Sunday in O.T.						

## PARISH EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event
1st	Friday	12:10 PM	First Friday Mass
2nd	Saturday	10:00 AM	First Saturday Mass
5th	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Book Group
6th	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night (Adult Classes Begin)
7th	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
7th	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW begins
10th	Sunday	11:30 AM	Knights of Columbus Meeting (I.C.)
12th	Tuesday	1:30 PM	Knitting Group
13th	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night
14th	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
14th	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW
19th	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Book Group
20th	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night
21st	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
21st	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW
23rd	Saturday	6:00 PM	Bp. Vetter Visits Sacred Heart (Mass & Reception)
24th	Sunday	10:30 AM	Bp. Vetter Visits Immaculate Conception (Mass & Reception)
26th	Tuesday	1:30 PM	Knitting Group
27th	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night
28th	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
28th	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW