



The Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus
Wilhelm von Kaulbach (1805-1874)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Poor Advent. It is a season that seems to be continually in search of a proper theology, and at the end of the day it always amounts to some kind of preparation for the celebration of Christmas in the commercial sense of the word. A “holiday season.”

Clearly the season of Advent is a preparation for the celebration of Christmas, but it is a preparation that is focused on the birth of Christ, the mystery of the Incarnation, with a view to His return as a conquering king at the end of time. I know that the end of time is not really a topic that folks like to cozy up to as they are preparing to welcome family and friends for the many parties and festivities that will make up the month of December, but it is where the mind of the Church is at. And we sincerely ought to think with the mind of the Church. Easier said than done.

When Bishop Vetter visited our parish, he preached on the freshness of faith that ought to reside in the heart of every believer. What did he mean by that? If you recall, he quoted the letter from St. Peter in which he said that for the Lord, “a thousand years is like one day,” and using the Lord’s math the bishop said that for all practical purposes the Lord rose from the dead two days ago. Two days ago. And upon making that point he asked if our faith was that fresh. But now, what about our hope?

If the Lord rose from the dead two ago, then using His timeline He should be returning in the next day or two, if not today. Is our hope that alive? Do we really believe and live as those who are holding fast to the promises made by the Lord? The promise of a new heavens and a new earth, living in this world as a passing guest and making use of it without becoming immersed in it and becoming part of it. But this I believe has become part of the problem, that the Lord seems to be so delayed in the fulfillment of His promise that we have become quite happy and comfortable with our life in this world, and it rarely if ever occurs to us that something better is about to arrive. In a day or two, if not today.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

First Sunday of Advent

28 November 2021

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

Parish Office

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This week’s office hours: TBD

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

Wednesday-Thursday-Friday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm
Confessions will be heard at 11:30 am and again after the 12:10 pm Mass on Wednesday during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.

First Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 10:00 am

FIRST WEEKEND DEVOTIONS

Immaculate Conception Church

Thursday, November 4th

Mass at 12:10 pm
Holy Hour of Reparation at 7:00 pm
Confessions are heard during this time.

Friday (First Friday), December 3rd

Confessions at 11:30 am
Mass at 12:10 pm—Memorial of St. Francis Xavier

Saturday (First Saturday), December 4th

Confessions at 9:30 am
Mass at 10:00 am—Votive Mass in Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
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.

Parade of Lights (Polson) — Friday, December 3rd

Parade begins at 6:00 pm

Our parish will host a chili booth at the Northwest corner of 1st Street and 3rd Avenue.

Come enjoy the festivities with us!

Mark your calendar!

Advent Mission December 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th

**Featuring Father David Mary Engo
of the Sycamore Tree Retreat Center**

The Advent Mission begins next weekend! Fr. David Mary Engo will preach at all the Masses. There will be hospitality in the parish hall following the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday. **Mission begins Sunday evening at 6:00 pm.** Confessions will be available during the talks.



Food Pantry Necessities

Peanut butter and cereal are a constant need; as well as oats, flour and rice. Pet foods are frequently in demand, and clients tend to prefer healthy options for food that are not so loaded with sugar. Items may be left in a bin at the entrance of the church.



Humbly asking for your prayers

Marcy Bishop, Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Ellen Holland, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Kate Shrider Olsen, Don Herbst, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Bob Mahon, Joe Wolfekuhle, Caroline Hummel, Jason Allen, Mauri Morin.

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 December

Catechists: Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



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.

What is Advent?

Sunday, November 28, 2021 - Friday, December 24, 2021

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

Excerpt from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/advent>

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 27th

Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent

Rest of the Souls of the Parish Faithful

Sunday, November 28th

First Sunday of Advent

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

Wednesday, December 1st

Intentions of the Parish Prayer List

Thursday, December 2nd

Intention for Expectant Mothers

Friday, December 3rd

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

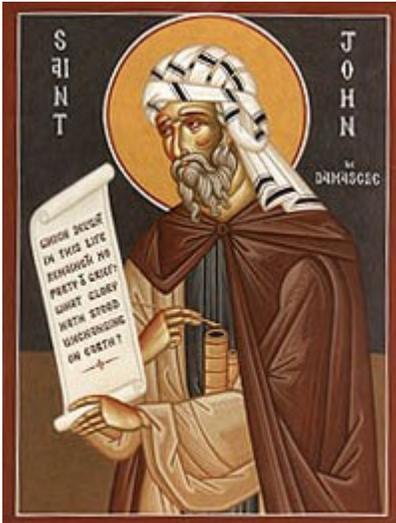
Rest of the Soul of Ruben Day

Saturday, December 4th

St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Votive Mass in Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Saint John of Damascus
Doctor of the Church
Feast Day December 4th



All who ask receive, those who seek find, and to those who knock it shall be opened. Therefore, let us knock at the beautiful garden of Scripture. It is fragrant, sweet, and blooming with various sounds of spiritual and divinely inspired birds. They sing all around our ears, capture our hearts, comfort the mourners, pacify the angry, and fill us with everlasting joy.

The saints must be honored as friends of Christ and children and heirs of God. Let us carefully observe the manner of life of all the apostles, martyrs, ascetics, and just men who announced the coming of the Lord. And let us emulate their faith, charity, hope, zeal, life, patience under suffering, and perseverance unto death so that we may also share their crowns of glory.

In former times, God, who is without form or body, could never be depicted. But now when God is seen in the flesh conversing with men, I make an image of the God whom I see. I do not worship matter; I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake.

First Sunday of Advent

Antiphon:

*To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
 In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
 Nor let my enemies exult over me;
 and let none who hope in you be put to shame.*

Collect:

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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:

First Reading: Jer 33:14-16
 Psalm: 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
 Second Reading: 1 Thes 3:12—4:2
 Gospel: Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

*Interior repentance is a radical reorientation of our whole life, a return, a conversion to God with all our heart, an end of sin, a turning away from evil, with repugnance toward the evil actions we have committed. At the same time it entails the desire and resolution to change one's life, with hope in God's mercy and trust in the help of his grace. This conversion of heart is accompanied by a salutary pain and sadness which the Fathers called *animi cruciatus* (affliction of spirit) and *compunctio cordis* (repentance of heart). (CCC 1431)*



Q: Which country in the world has the highest percentage of Catholics after Vatican City (100%)?

A: Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, also known as East Timor, at 97-98% Catholic.



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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 PO Box 568
 Polson, MT 59860

Parish Offertory Progress Report
Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception
 \$71,032 of \$170,000 (42%)
Sacred Heart/St. Joseph
 \$12,234 of \$44,500 (27%)



Thank you for your generosity!

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 St. Francis Xavier; First Friday of the Month	4 St. John Damascene; First Saturday of the Month
5 Second Sunday of Advent	6 St. Nicholas	7 St. Ambrose	8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin	10	11 St. Damasus I
12 Third Sunday of Advent	13 St. Lucy	14 St. John of the Cross	15	16	17	18
19 Fourth Sunday of Advent	20	21 St. Peter Canisius	22	23 St. John of Kanty	24	25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
26 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist	28 The Holy Innocents	29 St. Thomas Becket	30	31 St. Sylvester I	

PARISH EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event
1st	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night
2nd	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
2nd	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW
2nd	Thursday	7:00 PM	Holy Hour of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
3rd	Friday	12:10 PM	First Friday Mass
4th	Saturday	10:00 AM	First Saturday Mass
5th	Sunday	6:00 PM	Advent Mission Begins
6th	Monday	6:30 PM	Advent Mission
7th	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Advent Mission
8th	Wednesday	6:30 PM	End of Advent Mission Mass — Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
9th	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
10th	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW
12th	Sunday	11:30 AM	Swedish Meatball Feast (following 10:30 am Mass)
14th	Tuesday	1:30 PM	Knitting Group
15th	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Family Night
16th	Thursday	6:00 AM	That Man Is You!
16th	Thursday	10:30 AM	ENDOW
21st	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Book Group
28th	Tuesday	1:30 PM	Knitting Group