

St. Mary of the Rosary, Chewelah

Mass: Saturday 4:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM
Sunday 4:30 PM (NOT 12/25/16 or 01/01/17)
Reconciliation: Sat. 2:30—3:30 PM and by appt.

Holy Ghost, Valley

St. Joseph, Jump Off Joe

Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM (at Holy Ghost)
Reconciliation: Tuesday 6:00—7:00 PM at HG

Sacred Heart, Springdale

Mass: Saturday, 6:00 PM
Reconciliation: 1st Fridays, 5:00—5:30 PM

Mass Intentions

December 20	Mike Coleman
December 21	Janet Goulet
December 22	Jessica J, Doreen K, Maddie K.
December 23	All parishioner volunteers
Dec. 24, 4:00 PM	Jared Patton
Dec. 24, 10:00 PM	Community Dinner Volunteers

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday	5:30 PM Mass at Holy Ghost in Valley followed by Adoration from 6:00-7:00 PM
Wednesday	1:00 PM at Prov. St. Joseph Hospital
Thursday	12:15 PM at St. Mary of the Rosary
Friday	9:00 AM Mass at St. Mary followed by Adoration from 9:30—10:30 AM

Ski Season Mass Schedule

The Ski Season Mass will run through December and January. For these two months, there will be a 4:30 PM Mass at St. Mary of the Rosary every Sunday afternoon except Christmas Day and New Year's Day to attract the skiers and snowboarders to Mass on their way down the mountain.

Advent Sock Drive

St. Mary of the Rosary is once again holding its annual sock drive for the homeless men and women at the House of Charity. New or gently used warm socks will be collected from now until early January, and around Epiphany they will be delivered to the House of Charity for distribution to those in need.

Welcome!

We welcome Easton Ralph Peters and Everett William Peters into our family in faith. Easton and Everett (sons of William and Alexis) were baptized at St. Mary of the Rosary on December 11. Welcome, Easton & Everett!

Advent Confession Schedule

- Tuesday, 12/20, 6 to 7 PM, Holy Ghost
- Wed., 12/21, 5:30 to 6:30 PM, St. Mary Rosary
- Friday, 12/23, 5 to 5:30 PM, Sacred Heart
- Sat., 12/24, 2 to 3 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary

Christmas Mass Schedule

- Saturday, 12/24, 4:00 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary (family Mass; youth group choir and ministers)
- Saturday, 12/24, 7:00 PM, Sacred Heart
- Saturday, 12/24, 10:00 PM, St. Mary of Rosary
- MIDNIGHT MASS, St. Joseph (Jump Off Joe)
- Sunday, 12/25, 9:00 AM, Holy Ghost

Parish Christmas Party

There will be a tri-parish Christmas gathering at St. Mary of the Rosary parish hall on Sunday, Dec. 18, from 5:00—7:00 PM. There will be music by the Chewelah Brass Quintet, Bingo & other activities, and a Sing-Along. Please bring a white elephant gift for a Bingo prize and a potluck offering based on the first letter of your last name:

- **A—L**, please bring a casserole or main dish
- **M—R**, please bring a vegetable salad or side dish
- **S—Z**, please bring a dessert or jello or fruit salad

Hearts on Fire

The 2017 Hearts on Fire Catholic Men's Conference is being held January 28 at St. Thomas More Parish in Spokane. This is an extraordinary day for Fathers, Sons and Friends to spend the day with Jesus. Imagine being in a huge room filled with fellow Catholic men celebrating the church and hearing solutions for modern Catholic men in this insane world. The day features Jesse Romero, Doug Barry, and Bishop Thomas Daly. You can register online at www.dioceseofspokane.org. Contact Rich Hanson at 466-2209 for more information.

Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

Without the faithful and generous support of our parishes, we could not continue to transform lives and bring compassion and dignity to over 70,000 vulnerable individuals each year. This Christmas, please donate to the Catholic Charities Collection. Your gift matters!

Food for the Poor

Our parishes are still collecting donations to provide a house and a well for an impoverished family in a third world country (probably Haiti). Through "Food for the Poor", this can be done for only \$3,885 (\$3,600 for the house and \$285 for the well). Thus far, we have raised a total of \$2,240, which is 57.6% of our goal. Please keep donating!

St. Mary's Ladies Auxiliary

All women of the parish are invited to gather at the church hall every Wednesday morning from 9—11 AM beginning January 4. At our first social, we will begin with a short Bible study and then brainstorm for ideas for future activities. Please come! Kids are welcome. Coffee and a light snack will be available. Call Kellie at (509) 993-4150 if you have any questions.

Family Faith Formation:

Jesus is God

This week's *Family Faith Formation* topic is "Jesus is God" covering Questions 75-77, 79-80 in *The Apostolate's Family Catechism*. Home Lesson packets are available on the parish website and also in your email (if you registered for *FFF*). Please contact Fr. Jeff for more information or if you have any questions about this tri-parish religious education program.

By-Heart Catechism

75. Is Jesus Christ true God? Jesus Christ is true God because He is a divine Person having a divine nature, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, God the Son.

77. Did Jesus say that He was God? "I and the Father are one." (Jn 10:30); "Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham came to be, I AM." (Jn 58); among other passages.

79. Does the Catholic Church teach that Jesus is God? The Church has always taught and always will teach that Jesus is truly God; what the Church teaches about the divinity of Jesus Christ is expressed in the Nicene Creed, which is professed at every Sunday Mass.

80. Is there any further evidence in the New Testament pointing to Jesus as God? "My Lord and my God!" (St. Thomas the Apostle, Jn 20:28); "To [the Israelites] belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, Who is God over all, blessed for ever. Amen." (St. Paul, Rom 9:5)

Bible Study with Fr. Jeff

This Wednesday, Dec. 21, is our Bible Study component of *Family Faith Formation*, 6:30—8:00 PM, at St. Mary of the Rosary parish hall. Fr. Jeff will lead the presentation and discussion on biblical selections from the Old & New Testaments that prophesy about the Incarnation and the fulfillment of the prophecies.

The Fallacy of Sola Scriptura

Our Protestant brethren subscribe to *Sola Scriptura*, that "Scripture alone" is the only authority for the authentic Christian. The Catholic Church, on the other hand, has always taught a "triumvirate" of authority with regard to faith and morals: Sacred Scripture, Apostolic Tradition, and the Magisterium. And the fact of the matter is: the Bible teaches this, too!

There is no biblical text teaching us that Scripture alone is the sole authority for Christians, and *sola Scriptura* cannot even be deduced from implicit passages. What the Bible is *filled* with, on the other hand, are countless examples of *oral* tradition, *oral* teachings being proclaimed, *oral* words of the Prophets and the Apostles. And the oral tradition carried equal authority as written tradition.

Perhaps the most important example in Sacred Scripture that indicates the equal importance of oral tradition is the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), at which the Apostles made an authoritative pronouncement (citing the Holy Spirit), which was binding on all Christians; soon thereafter, Paul, Timothy and Silas began their journey to Christians throughout the Roman Empire and "delivered to them for observance the decisions which had been reached by the apostles and elders who were at Jerusalem." (Acts 16:4)

Now, the Protestants' so-called "proof" for *sola Scriptura* in the Bible is 2 Tim 3:16-17: "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." Yet still, this "proof text" does not indicate *sola Scriptura*; in fact, elsewhere in 2 Timothy, St. Paul makes reference to *oral* tradition *three times* (1:13-14, 2:2, 3:14).

Now, what is correct, and what the Church teaches, is that the Bible cannot be regarded as the sole test of truth because it is subject to different interpretations, but it must be interpreted according to the tradition of the Church, which alone has the right to expound it. If a new doctrine is advanced, it must be confronted with the universal teaching of the Church (the Magisterium) and, where the universality appears to be defective by reason of widespread apostasy at any period, appeal must be made to the teaching of the nascent Church of the Apostolic era. There must indeed be progress, but it must be like the growth of an acorn into an oak tree, or the development of a child into an adult. It must preserve identity and all essential characteristics. The chief work of the councils has been to elucidate, define, and emphasize that which had already been widely taught, believed, and practiced. And behind all the testimony of the fathers, the doctors, and the councils stands the authority of the Apostolic See.

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents contact Rev. Jeffrey Lewis for information.

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony: Couples contact Rev. Jeffrey Lewis at least four months prior to marriage.

Tri-Parish Office
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Parish Office Hours: Monday & Friday: 10:00—11:30 AM, 1:45—5:00 PM; Tuesday & Thursday, 10 AM-5 PM