



Agnus Dei

Jose Campeche (1751-1809)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Last week I had mentioned how the Mass here on earth incorporates us into the worship of God in heaven and that it is not some stretch of the imagination that prompts us to say that on the altar earth *does* unite with heaven to sing the song of a creation made new by the Pascal Mystery (the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.)

For those who follow Bishop Barron on *Word On Fire*, you already know that he is preaching each Sunday on the Book of Revelation, since readings from this book figure prominently in the liturgical prayer and worship of the Church during the Easter Season. Again, as I mentioned last week, the Book of Revelation gives us a glimpse of what is taking place in heaven while we press forward here on earth making our pilgrimage in this valley of tears, and not just a glimpse, but a clearer insight into what we do each Sunday in the celebration and the offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, which draws us up into heavenly realities. *Listen carefully to the preface of the Mass which always concludes with some reference to our voices being joined to the voices of the angles and the saints.*

Anyhow, in his sermon last week, or maybe it was the week before, Bishop Barron made a passing reference to the kind of music that is sung at Mass...he was very much thinking of the most recent document that the U.S. bishops had published in the fall of 2020 that spelled out the criteria of what constitutes a "liturgical" hymn and therefore suitable for Mass. Now before I proceed, I do want to say that there is a lot of really good religious music out there, but religious music is not the same as music that is suited and appropriate for the Mass. So, in his remarks, Bishop Barron did mention one song in particular that he found especially problematic, and that song was *Gather Us In*. It is not just that the tune itself reminds one of a theme song from a popular 1970's sitcom, but the words themselves are deeply flawed and contradict precisely what the Mass is in its essence. There are so many other songs like *Gather Us In* that have been sung for so many decades that little by little have shaped and formed our (mis)understanding of the Mass and the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Music really does have this power. *And so, we should not be surprised that barely 25% of Roman Catholics regularly attend Mass and of those many do not even believe that they are truly receiving Jesus Christ in Holy Communion.*

One of the reasons why I enjoy frequent little re-
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Fourth Sunday of Easter

8 May 2022



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



Parish Office

PO Box 1477 Polson, MT 59860

Phone: 406-883-2506

Cell: 406-594-0474

Email: lakecountyromancatholic@gmail.com

Website: www.lakecountyromancatholic.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lakecountyromancatholic

This week's office hours: Tuesday through Friday 1—6 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 6:00 pm

Sunday

Sacred Heart at 8:30 am

Immaculate Conception at 10:30 am

Thursday & Friday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm

Confessions are heard on each of these days at 11:30 am and again after the 12:10 pm Mass on Wednesday during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.

Happy Mother's Day!
May 8th

In honor of the May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Mother's Day, the Immaculate Conception Knights of Columbus will serve a special breakfast of waffles with fruit and whipped cream, eggs, and sausage.

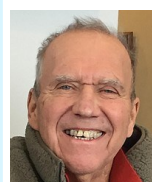
Sunday, May 8th

Immaculate Conception

After the 10:30 am Mass, in the parish hall.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more, for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:4 (Douay-Rheims)



The memorial Mass for the repose of the soul of Lou Marchello will be offered on Monday, May 9, at 10:30 am at Immaculate Conception. A reception will follow Mass in the parish hall, and the burial will commence thereafter.

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treats up at the Sycamore Tree, apart from the silence and the solitude, is the opportunity to listen to the hymn of praise offered to God by the creation and the creatures that He has made and then pronounced good. There are not a few folks who have no taste for religion but find some kind of connection with God in the cathedral of the wilderness where they can pray and worship God in their own way. I am not suggesting that this is right, but I do understand it, and maybe these folks are a little closer to the truth of things than we would like to admit.

In nature, apart from the hectic and noisy world of men, everything is exactly as it ought to be, as God created it to be. In nature we see the wisdom of God in all of His works and His beauty in everything that He has made. The sound the wind makes in the pines, the chattering of squirrels and the voices of so many varieties of birds. And everything is busy, so very busy, doing exactly what God created everything to do, because God is busy continually creating and recreating and guiding everything that He has made. And in all of this God is glorified and receives praise from His creation. But here is the one little caveat; creation does not know God. Only a creature with the use of reason, the human person—we are not talking about angels at this point—can know God and freely choose to render Him praise and offer Him the worship that is His due.

In the person of Jesus Christ, God has revealed Himself to us and at the same time has revealed us to ourselves. Unlike the non-rational creatures that God has made, we must freely choose to be who we were created to be and bring our human nature into conformity with revealed truth. *God does not have to reveal to non-rational creatures how to be because they simply are*

Parish grounds spring clean-up

Saturday 5/14, beginning at 10:00am
Immaculate Conception

We will be cleaning up beds, trimming bushes and raking branches, then adding new mulch all around the building. Bring garden tools, and perhaps a wheelbarrow if you have one.

Questions? Call Sheila LeBrun
406-208-5788



and act precisely as they ought each according to their proper nature. This is at the heart of Christ's redemption, to restore us to our original dignity and orient our lives back toward God so that freely choosing to live and to be fully alive God may be glorified in the manner of our lives and in our worship.

In our worship of the Mass, we see how Christ reorders and reorients in His own person all things back toward God who is both the source and the final end of all creation, and it is into this great mystery that we are caught up and come to experience the joy of being saved. Our hymns then, not unlike the hymn of creation, must correspond to the mystery of our recreation when we celebrate and offer the Mass, ordering our minds and our hearts to the God who made us.

Peace,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

P.S. As of yet, there is no Supreme Court decision on Roe v. Wade and therefore there is nothing to comment on.



Ronan Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast after the 8:30 am Mass on May 15th. All are welcome!

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 7th

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Repose of the Soul of Lou Marchello

Sunday, May 8th

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Intentions of Mary Lou Nelson, rb Shirley Christiansen /

Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Thursday, May 12th

Sts. Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs / St. Pancras, Martyr

Intentions of the Day Family

Friday, May 13th

Our Lady of Fatima

Intentions of Fr. Christofferson's Prayer List

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, Traven & Marisa Hoyt, Heather Stocki, Betty Bjork, Bill Posivio.

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 May



Faith-Filled Young People: We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Entrance Antiphon:

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

Collect:

*Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever*

Readings:

First Reading: Acts 13:14, 43-52

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 100:1-2, 3, 5

R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

Alleluia Verse: Jn 10:14 *I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep and mine know me.*

Gospel: John 10:27-30

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

All religious, whether exempt or not, take their place among the collaborators of the diocesan bishop in his pastoral duty. From the outset of the work of evangelization, the missionary "planting" and expansion of the Church require the presence of the religious life in all its forms. "History witnesses to the outstanding service rendered by religious families in the propagation of the faith and in the formation of new Churches: from the ancient monastic institutions to the medieval orders, all the way to the more recent congregations." (CCC 927)



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

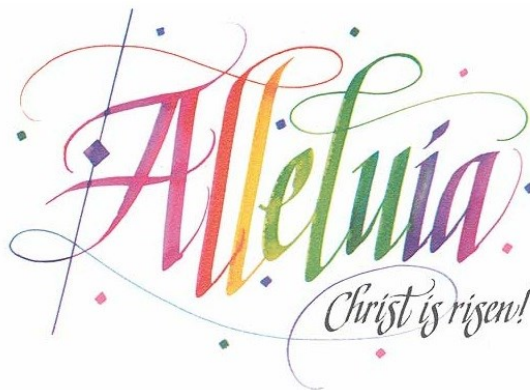
Monday at 6:00 pm
Friday at 9:00 am



DIVINE MERCY RADIO 90.7 FM



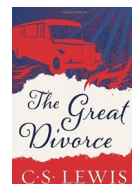
*DMR is a locally owned,
listener supported non-
profit 501(c)3
PO Box 568
Polson, MT 59860*



BOOK CLUB

Book club is currently reading C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*.

Next meeting on Tuesday, May 10th & May 24th
6:00—7:00 pm



Food Pantry Necessities

Peanut butter and cereal are a constant need; as well as oats, flour and rice. Fresh produce, including garden produce, are accepted. Pet foods are frequently in demand, and clients tend to prefer healthy options for food that are not so loaded with sugar. The Food Pantry will also accept money donations as well. Charitable donations may be left in the basket at the entrance of the church.



Mother's Day Prayer

"I thank you, Creator of us all, for my mother. I thank you that she gave me life and nurtured me all those years. She gave me my faith, helping me to know you and to know Jesus and his ways. She taught me how to love and how to sacrifice for others. She taught me that it was okay to cry and that I should always tell the truth. Bless her with the graces she needs and which you want to give her today. Help her to feel precious in your eyes today and to know that I love her. Give her strength and courage, compassion and peace. Bless her this day with your love." Amen.

This prayer was taken from prayers for and by mothers on Creighton University's Online Ministries. This website and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops offer prayers for mothers struggling through a variety of challenges as well as blessings.

Parish Offertory Progress Report *Fiscal Year beginning July 1st*

Immaculate Conception
\$163,326 of \$170,000 (96%)
Sacred Heart/St. Joseph
\$33,973 of \$44,500 (76%)



Thank you for your generosity!

Eucharistic Congress

June 10-12, 2022
at Carroll College



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Helena

Featuring:



Bp. Austin A. Vetter



Sr. Mary Eucharista, SMMC



Fr. Marc Lenneman

Bishop Vetter invites all to attend the Diocese of Helena Eucharistic Congress. Join for adoration, confession, Mass, and a Eucharistic Procession from Carroll College to the Cathedral of St. Helena. Meals are included with registration and the procession is open to all who wish to attend.

In addition to Keynotes from Bishop Vetter, Sr. Mary Eucharista, SMMC, and Fr. Marc Lenneman, there will be breakout sessions Saturday afternoon with topics that will enrich all who attend as we draw nearer to Our Lord and His true presence in the Eucharist.

Cost: Adults-\$125, Young Adult/Student-\$75, Child-\$25, Family Maximum Cost-\$400
Registration is at: <https://diocesehelena.org/2022/03/eucharistic-congress-2022/>

Agenda:

Friday

Arrival/Check-in
Dinner
Welcome & Keynotes
Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday

Breakfast
Rosary Prayer Walk to Cathedral
Adoration & Confession
Mass with Bishop Vetter
Lunch
Breakout Sessions - 8 Featured
Presenters
Dinner
Keynote Speakers
Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday

Breakfast
Eucharistic Procession to Cathedral of St. Helena - Open to All
Mass with Bishop Vetter



FOUNDATION
for the Diocese of Helena

Your gift to your parish could give YOU 40% in tax credits

- ✚ Thanks to the MT Endowment Tax Credit a donation given to an endowment through a gift annuity produces a Montana tax credit of 40% up to \$10,000 per individual
- ✚ Your parish has an endowment with the FOUNDATION
- ✚ There's a variety of ways to donate and a donation of stock to an annuity can help you avoid capital gains taxes, saving you even more
- ✚ Endowments distribute earnings to the parish each year, meaning your gift will keep on giving, bringing Christ to your community for generations to come.

Contact the FOUNDATION for more information about how you can **benefit your faith AND reduce your Montana taxes*** with a planned gift for tax year 2022.

Help Your Parish ✚ Reduce Your Taxes ✚ Bring Christ to Future Generations

Dan Thies, Executive Director

(406) 389-7051 | dthies@diocesehelena.org

**Always consult with your tax advisor for complete details regarding your personal financial picture.*