



Abraham's Journey to Canaan
Pieter Lastman (1583-1633)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

So, the other day a friend of mine sent me a book about the end times based on a variety of sources both secular and Catholic. I could not finish the first chapter. It now has a temporary place on the bottom of one of my bookshelves until I can think of a more suitable place for it.

Now you all know how I feel about this topic. I have not really shied away from mentioning that I do think that we are indeed living in the "end times." It is the end of the world as we have always known it and we are currently living in an epoch of significant political, economic, and cultural upheaval and revolution (not to mention a painful generational shift). And as it always happens during such times in history, interest in prophecies and speculations about prophecies begin to abound. And I mean abound. "But Father!" someone might say, "yes, things have been bad in the past but not *this* bad. This time it is for sure!" I guess 22 years is sufficient time to utterly and completely forget the hysteria of Y2K. Because yes, it has been this bad before.

But having said all of that I also have to make some mention of the way in which cable news and social media conditions our fears, especially when we make a steady diet of these things and get carried away by them. Information is fed to us in a very targeted way and with a very specific intention of shaping our attitudes, our ways of thinking and yes, our emotions, especially our fears. In a culture where free speech is no longer permitted and censorship is frenzied (things which are not new by the way), the matter is only made worse because only certain things can be talked about and only within certain parameters within a given narrative. Regarding the media and especially the Catholic media, I have to say once again, remember Y2K.

Yes, I do get it. I live in this world too and I know what is going on, but I make a conscious choice not to take the bait. I am also very well aware of the major prophecies about the end times that are part of our culture and consciousness as Roman Catholics, but again, one has to refuse to take the bait. At the end of the day, like I have said before, when the end is really here and has arrived, we will all know it at the same time.

The best we can do in such circumstances is to make sure that we are at peace with God, and this means that we need to operate from a pure conscience made clean in the sacrament of Penance. For starters. And to cultivate a true friendship with God, forming a bond of charity with Him through prayer and works of mercy. To be kind. Live in God's peace and let nothing perturb you. Recognize that our "war" is not against "flesh and blood," even if that flesh and blood takes the form of globalist elites who have no respect for God or for the human person, because our battle as the Scriptures make clear is with the "powers and principalities" of this world, the spiritual forces

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7 August 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

Office Hours Notice:

Katie is back in the office! But please be aware that over the next few weeks, the office schedule may be slightly erratic and unpredictable as she adjusts to returning to work with the new baby. Once we have a regular schedule in place, the office hours will once again be posted in the bulletin.

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

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



Congratulations to Zane and Carol Kelly for 65 years of marriage! A blessing on the occasion of their anniversary will be given after the 10:30 am Mass this Sunday. Please join them after Mass for some cake and hospitality on the front steps of the church.

On Sunday, September 11th, Bishop Vetter will be visiting the parish. In order to accommodate his visit the regular weekend schedule will be suspended. Mass will be offered at 10 am at Immaculate Conception and a brunch will follow immediately in the parish hall. Please mark your calendars.

who are at war against God and the authority of His Christ.

Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Christ is still risen from the dead. "Love for your enemies" the Lord commanded, "and pray for those who persecute you." The world must go the way the world must go. So let it. But pray. Pray for the world and all the people in it. Quite frequently I call to mind the words that the Lord spoke to the prophet Jeremiah, *if running against men has wearied you, how will you race against horses?* (Jeremiah 12:5) This is an excellent question. In other words, refresh yourself and find your peace and your strength in Christ. And be of good cheer.

That is enough for now but there will be more on the topic later because this topic is not going to die any day soon, especially since the horses we may one day have to race against have not yet been released. Or so it seems at the present moment.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson



The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15th

Mass will be offered at 5:00 pm at St. Joseph Mission in Charlo.

Picnic dinner and fellowship to follow!

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.



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, Mauri Morin, Zane & Carol Kelly.

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 August

Small Businesses: We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.



Please pray for our seminarians!

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

A Memorial Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of **Jean Lies** at Immaculate Conception on Friday, **August 12th at 11:00 am**. A luncheon will be served in the parish hall after the burial.



A Memorial Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of **Dar Ekstrom** at Immaculate Conception on Saturday, **August 20th at 10:00 am**. A luncheon will be served in the parish hall immediately after Mass and the burial will follow at the veteran's memorial in Columbia Falls.

May they rest in peace.

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 6th

Vigil of the Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Repose of the Soul of Carla Emery, rb Rita Rehbein

Sunday, August 7th

Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sick & Shut-Ins of the Parish/

The Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Wednesday, August 10th

St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

Repose of the Soul of Michelle St. Germain, rb Rita Rehbein



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon:

*Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.*

Collect:

*Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised.
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: Wis 18:6-9

Responsorial: Ps. 33:1,12,18-19,20-22

R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Second Reading: Heb 11:1-2,8-19 Or: Heb 11:1-2,8-12

Alleluia Verse: Mt 24:42a, 44: *Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day the Son of Man will come.*

Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

In Jesus "the Kingdom of God is at hand." He calls his hearers to conversion and faith, but also to watchfulness. In prayer the disciple keeps watch, attentive to Him Who Is and Him Who Comes, in memory of his first coming in the lowliness of the flesh, and in the hope of his second coming in glory. In communion with their Master, the disciples' prayer is a battle; only by keeping watch in prayer can one avoid falling into temptation. (CCC 2612)

AUGUST 9: ST. TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS (EDITH STEIN)

Catholic News Agency | August 9, 2021



On August 9 the Catholic Church remembers St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, also known as St. Edith Stein. St. Teresa converted from Judaism to Catholicism in the course of her work as a philosopher, and later entered the Carmelite Order. She died in the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz in 1942.

Edith Stein was born on October 12, 1891 – a date that coincided with her family's celebration of Yom Kippur, the Jewish "day of atonement." Edith's father died when she was just two years old, and she gave up the practice of her Jewish faith as an adolescent. As a young woman with profound intellectual gifts, Edith gravitated

toward the study of philosophy and became a pupil of the renowned professor Edmund Husserl in 1913. Through her studies, the non-religious Edith met several Christians whose intellectual and spiritual lives she admired.

After earning her degree with the highest honors from Gottingen University in 1915, she served as a nurse in an Austrian field hospital during World War I. She returned to academic work in 1916, earning her doctorate after writing a highly-regarded thesis on the phenomenon of empathy. She remained interested in the idea of religious commitment, but had not yet made such a commitment herself.

In 1921, while visiting friends, Edith spent an entire night reading the autobiography of the 16th century Carmelite nun St. Teresa of Avila. "When I had finished the book," she later recalled, "I said to myself: This is the truth." She was baptized into the Catholic Church on the first day of January, 1922.

Edith intended to join the Carmelites immediately after her conversion, but would ultimately have to wait another 11 years before taking this step. Instead, she taught at a Dominican school, and gave numerous public lectures on women's issues. She spent 1931 writing a study of St. Thomas Aquinas, and took a university teaching position in 1932.

In 1933, the rise of Nazism, combined with Edith's Jewish ethnicity, put an end to her teaching career. After a painful parting with her mother, who did not understand her Christian conversion, she entered a Carmelite convent in 1934, taking the name "Teresa Benedicta of the Cross" as a symbol of her acceptance of suffering.

"I felt," she wrote, "that those who understood the Cross of Christ should take upon themselves on everybody's behalf." She saw it as her vocation "to intercede with God for everyone," but she prayed especially for the Jews of Germany whose tragic fate was becoming clear.

"I ask the Lord to accept my life and my death," she wrote in 1939, "so that the Lord will be accepted by his people and that his kingdom may come in glory, for the salvation of Germany and the peace of the world."

After completing her final work, a study of St. John of the Cross entitled "The Science of the Cross," Teresa Benedicta was arrested along with her sister Rosa (who had also become a Catholic), and the members of her religious community, on August 7, 1942. The arrests came in retaliation against a protest letter by the Dutch Bishops, decrying the Nazi treatment of Jews.

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross died in the concentration camp at Auschwitz on August 9, 1942. Blessed John Paul II canonized her in 1998, and proclaimed her a co-patroness of Europe the next year.

SAINT LAWRENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR FEAST DAY AUGUST 10th

*"Sheltered under the name of Jesus Christ,
I do not fear these pains, for they do not last long."*

*"Learn, unhappy man, how great is the power of my God; for
your burning coals give me refreshment but they will be your
eternal punishment."*



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
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Parish Offertory Progress Report

Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception
\$15,673 of \$175,000 (9%)
Sacred Heart/St. Joseph
\$3,715 of \$44,500 (8%)



Thank you for your generosity!



\$50K Match In Support of Our Priests & Seminarians

The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena is filled with hope because generous donors have offered a \$50,000 match for donations given to the Foundation's Priestly Formation and Development Endowment. This fund supports our seminarians, priestly formation and retirement.

Timing is critical! We need more priests; we are all feeling the shortage, but we are not powerless. We can support the 15 seminarians who have answered God's call!

Please help us receive this match. Make your donation by September 1st. Go online to fdoh.org to make an online contribution or send your check to:

FDOH | PO Box 1729 | Helena, MT 59624.

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If you would like to know how your donation can maximize your Montana tax savings, please reach out to Executive Director Daniel Thies at dthies@diocesehelena.org or call (406)389-7051.



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to ensure that future generations within our
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(406)389-7051 dthies@diocesehelena.org.