



Madonna del Latte
Lippo Memmi (1291-1356)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

This week I want to revisit, as I do at least once or twice a year, a topic that frequently weighs heavy on my mind; sickness, death and funerals. And the reason why this weighs on me at times has to do with the difficult and sometimes awkward situations that I find myself in on occasion. And so, I want to offer a few items for you to consider and to take to heart.

Let me preface my remarks by briefly stating the reality of the situation that we find ourselves in. We have a fairly large Baby Boomer population that has more or less remained faithful well into their golden years and they have more or less kept the promises they made when they had their children baptized, and that was to raise and educate them in the faith. However, the children that they raised, making sure that they received all of the Sacraments at the proper time, have left the practice of the faith in astonishingly large numbers, and now those children are sadly unprepared and properly formed when it comes to handling the sacramental care of their aging parents. This results in misunderstandings, hurt feelings, confusion, and sometimes neglect when it comes to the sacramental care and proper burial of our parish faithful.

Now, in the interest of fairness, I do have to say that the majority of my experiences with the un-churched folks that I deal with when it comes to the sacramental care and proper burial of their parents are very positive. The children may no longer practice the faith, but they have a fundamental respect for the order of things and are pleasant to work with. But there are also the exceptions, and that is what I want to discuss with you this week.

What I am now going to say I wish to say to you all so that we can be very clear because this is not only a generational issue, it can affect all people in one way or another. The first thing is this; please, please, please, communicate clearly to your loved ones that if something were to happen to you and you are not able to care for yourself, (stroke, accident, etc.) to *immediately* call a priest in order to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Give your loved ones this important instruction and stress the word *immediately*.

Since I am on the topic of sickness I would be

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Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 5 November 2023

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

Fr. Kevin Christofferson, Pastor
Fr. Robert Brooks, Pastoral Associate

Parish Office

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This week's office hours:

Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 pm; Wed & Fri 10 am-12 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 6:00 pm

Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

Rosary is prayed at 5:30 pm

Sunday

Sacred Heart at 9:00 am

Immaculate Conception at 11:00 am

Rosary is prayed at 10:30 am

Wednesday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm

Confessions are heard at 11:30 am and again after Mass during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.



Parish Breakfast to Welcome Fr. Brooks

Sunday, November 12th

Immaculate Conception following 11:00 am Mass

On the Menu: Pumpkin spice waffles with "boozy" whipped cream, sausage, eggs, and fruit!

Sunday, November 19th

Sacred Heart Parish Hall following 9:00 am Mass

On the Menu: Sherry's Breakfast Casserole!

Everyone is welcome!



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remiss if I did not say this to everyone and in a general way, if you are ever diagnosed with some illness, or your health has seriously deteriorated, again, call a priest immediately. I honestly cannot count the number of times that I have been called to someone's beside at the last hour only to find out that that person has been ill for a year or sometimes two or more. For the length of their illness that person has gone without the sacramental grace Christ to support them in their suffering and strengthen them in their weakness. Ordinarily, a person needs to be alert and in possession of their faculties so that they may make a good confession and participate in the Sacrament of the Sick.

Sadly, and this is where I also need a lot of help, it happens fairly often that a member of the parish faithful just seems to fall off the planet, and while some may notice few ever ask why. So often these folks are faithful, but their children have left the practice of the faith, and it does not occur to them to call the parish in a timely manner and let us know that their parents are homebound, in a hospital or nursing home, and in need of sacramental care. We really do need to keep tabs on each other and make inquiries when something seems amiss.

On the topic of funerals and the proper burial of the Christian faithful, you know the standard. Cremation never replaces the Rite of Christian Burial with the body present, and one may be cremated before the rites for a very good reason, i.e., death by car accident. "The family can't get together until next June," is not a good reason. Ordinarily funerals take place within a week of one's passing, and after the full rites have been

celebrated, one may be cremated if that is what is desired, and *all* of your cremated remains must be buried.

When it comes to your final arrangements, please communicate these things clearly to your family and indicate your desire that everyone cooperate with the executor that you have chosen. Also, and this would not be a bad idea, you might want to consider pre-planning your final arrangements with the funeral home of your choice and the parish. And finally, leave the parish a generous stipend for Masses to be offered after your funeral, or make arrangements with a religious order to do the same. Do not take for granted or assume that your loved ones will remember to do these things.

As I conclude my remarks I ask for and hope that I can have your understanding in these matters. I am a priest after all, and I serve the People of God in the Church by doing the things that Christ told the priests of the Church to do. As the world we live in becomes a bit more complicated with each new year and with each new generation, things can get a little confusing and situations can become difficult and awkward. Let the people you love know how much the faith means to you and what you hope for from the Church when you are in need. Please don't assume and leave these things to chance. Plus, and this is a big plus, the less time I have to spend trying to convince your loved ones about the right and proper thing to do, the more time I would have to spend with them asking why they have left the practice of the faith, and is there a way that I might show them a path back? Think about that one.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson



Mary Angeline Lloyd
(maiden name Shepard)

Passed away to her eternal rest on Monday,
October 16th in Elko, Nevada.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on
Tuesday, November 7th, at 10:00 am, at
Sacred Heart in Ronan.

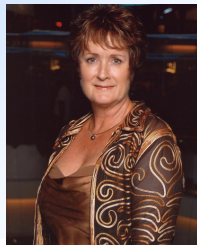
Burial at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson
followed by a luncheon at Immaculate
Conception.

Rest in Peace

Cheryl Maldonado

Passed away to her eternal rest on
Monday, October 16th.

A Memorial Mass will be offered on
Saturday, November 11th, at 10:00 am at
Immaculate Conception.



Humbly asking for your prayers

Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Kate Shrider Olsen, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Heather Stocki, Betty Bjork, Vicki Weiss, Jason Avison, Floyd Smith, Nash Niemeyer, Richard Call, Bud Cheff, Jr, Donna Radtke, Bill Rueth, Monte Jenkins, Brady Hout, Mauri Morin, Chris Skinner.

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 November

For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Please pray for our seminarians!

Dillon Armstrong, John Cooney, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Anthoney Olmes, James Semling, Jamie Severson, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, Matt Keck.

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 4th

Vigil of the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish All Souls' Intentions*

Sunday, November 5th

The 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intentions of William Lambert, rb Rita Rehbein/

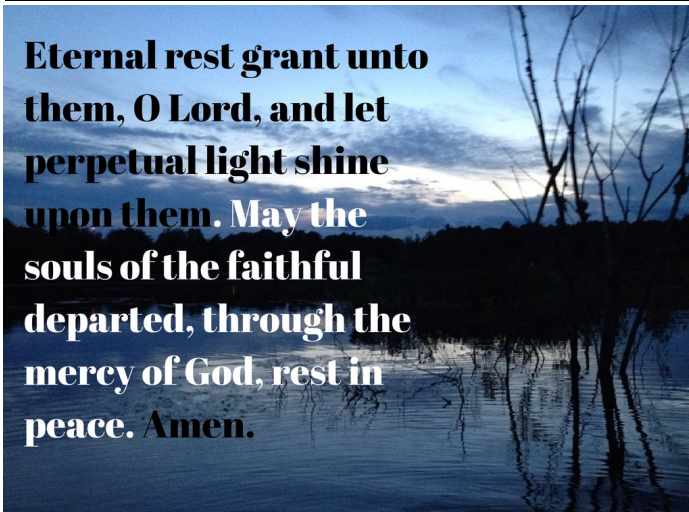
Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Wednesday, November 8th

Intentions of Nick Marquardt, rb Sheila Marquardt

*Your intentions for All Souls will also be remembered at every Mass during the month of November.





POPE SAINT LEO THE GREAT
Memorial November 10th

Pope Leo I

Virtue is nothing without the trial of temptation, for there is no conflict without an enemy, no victory without strife.

AZ QUOTES

Food Pantry Necessities

Peanut butter and cereal are a constant need; as well as oats, flour and rice. 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.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
 FUNDING THE MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF HELENA
diocesehelena.org/aca2023

ROSARY GROUP
St. Joseph Hospital Chapel
Friday at 9:00 am

DIVINE MERCY RADIO
90.7 FM
DMR is a locally owned, listener supported non-profit 501(c)3

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



Daylight Savings Time ends:

Sunday, November 5th, at 2:00 am!

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance:

*Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!*

Collect:

*Almighty and merciful God,
by whose gift your faithful offer you
right and praiseworthy service,
grant, we pray,
that we may hasten without stumbling
to receive the things 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: Mal 1:14b-2:2b,8-10
RESPONSORIAL: Ps. 131:1,2,3;
R. *In you, Lord, I have found my peace.*
SECOND READING: 1 Thes 2:7b-9,13
ALLELUIA: *You have but one Father in heaven and one master, the Christ.* - Mt 23:9b,10b
GOSPEL: Mt. 23:1-12

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

Prayer as God's gift

"Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or "out of the depths" of a humble and contrite heart? He who humbles himself will be exalted; humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that "we do not know how to pray as we ought," are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer. "Man is a beggar before God." (CCC 2559)

Parish Offertory Progress Report
Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception
\$60,772 of \$175,000 (35%)
Sacred Heart/St. Joseph
\$12,964 of \$44,500 (29%)

I.C. Building Fund Progress:
\$3,636 of \$20,000 (18%)



Thank you for your generosity!

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

All Souls' Day, November 2023

Mass will be offered this day for the following and all the faithful departed and they will be remembered at all Masses during the month of November.

For the Repose of the Souls of...

Requested by Brian & Lisa Havlovick:

-Carol Simon
-Frank Simon, Sr.
-Frank Simon, Jr.
-Joseph Havlovick
-Mary Havlovick
-Arnie Armstrong

Requested by Virginia Dubuque:

-Don Dubuque
-Lansing & Bernardine MacIntyre
-Bruce MacIntyre
-Len & Nicole Dubuque

Requested by Nick & Katie Devlin:

-Ward & LaVere Devlin
-Thomas Devlin
-Gregory Devlin
-Karen Jore (Devlin)
-Patrick Devlin
-Robert & Jean Carter
-Michael Neis
-John & Regina Neis
-Raymond Minette
-Joseph & Annie Minette
-Glenn Haas
-Eileen Evans
-Dawn Gass
-Tammie Gass
-John & Michelina Patch
-Denise Nygaard

Requested by Myrna Holley:

-James Holley
-Marie Holley
-George Farrell
-Delia Farrell
-Thomas Farrell
-Addison Farrell
-Joseph Farrell (infant)

Requested by Thomas Humbach:

-Frank & Chloe Humbach
-Anton & Elizabeth Humbach
-Thomas & Barbara Broadhead
-Bill & Jean McCrossin
-John & Mary Magill
-Anthony Humbach
-Harry & Cheryl Snitkin
-Tony Humbach
-Herman Hall
-Rosanne Hall
-Alec Humbach
-Trevor Cunningham

-George Zimmerman
-Zeph Kingsley
-James Willis
-Jerry Peterson
-Blanche Rohrenbach
-John Dibble

Requested by Jeri Evans:

-Vernon Evans
-Marvis Evans

Requested by Carrie Irvine:

-Leroy Irvine
-Hazel & Wilbur Ducharme
-Victoria Mandelas
-Ralph Ducharme
-Debbie Butt
-Diana Ducharme

Requested by Phil & Betty McMillen:

-Hazel & Tene Brooke
-Mary Brooke Moes
-Bob Moes
-Helen Katherine Brooke
-Martha Brooke Pegram
-Anna Updegraff
-Jack Sleeman
-Alyce & Beryl McMillen
-Larry McMillen

Requested by Teri Daigneault:

-Chris Haigh
-Connie Egan
-Lynn Walker
-Bea Kruse
-Marcy Bishop
-Chuck & Wanda Gordon
-Dirk Davis
-Richard Amos, Jr.
-Mike Sumner

Requested by Caryl McElwee:

-Rodney McElwee
-Shawn McElwee
-Eugene Bosse
-John & EmmaLee Smith
-Donald Bosse
-Sharon McLees
-Orie McElwee

Requested by Al & Joan Sampson:

-Joe & Anna Solf
-Charles Solf
-Leo Solf
-Dallas Davis

-Other family relatives

-Charles & Gladys Sampson
-Genevieve Ringgold
-Alfred & Mary Ellen Sampson
-Jerry & Ann Olszewski
-Evie Sampson

Requested by Rosemary Ekstrom:

-Dar Ekstrom
-Johnna Martens
-Stan Martens
-Ann Dundar
-Thomas Sestrich
-Dora Sestrich
-Cleo Seaman
-Wally Atkinson

Requested by Jessica Edwards:

-Shanen Eyman
-Barry Flannigan
-Kirby Gidle
-Dale Laird
-Bob Clarke
-Stacey Good
-Ivan Thompson
-Matt, Liam, and Levi Pruchnik
-Harry, George, and Sidney Murphy
-Benjamin & Romalie Murphy
-Ware & Betty King
-Bill & Marge Patterson

Requested by John Winegart & Lisa Bertoglio:

-Edward & Ruth Winegart
-Virginia Chisum
-William Heppell
-Lee Bertoglio
-Charles Marron
-Frank Molly Marron

Requested by Dawn Pedersen:

-Gene & Dorothy Allard
-Leslie & Edith Grant
-Joseph & Adeline Allard
-Frank & Mabel Grant
-Doug Allard
-Julia Alstad
-Gary Roeder
-Kurt Jovin
-Albert & Ethel Jovin

Requested by Mike & Sharon Lambrecht:

-John & Irene Lambrecht
-Linda White
-Bob Melone
-Dick & Adell Kendall
-Bill & Sandy Cole
-Matt Hopkins
-Thomas Driver
-Georgia Harris
-Caryl & Chet McMahon
-Jack & Cleona McMahon
-Hazel Mazna

Requested by Felix Moran:

-Felix & Eunice Moran
-Felix & Grace Moran
-John & Bette Hoyer
-John & Ella Wingard
-Monya Strom
-Bill Fabian
-Felix Fabian
-Felix & Amy Fabian

Requested by Gino & Mary Frances Caselli:

-Kerby Ann Gleeson
-Rosa Caselli
-Francis X Marotta
-Barbara S. Marotta
-Maria Wanamaker
-Catherine Marotta
-Samual Marotta
-Mary Mills
-Fabrizio Ferruzzi

Requested by Sheila Marquardt:

-Ron Marquardt
-Shirley Sheridan
-Charles Sheridan
-Clarence & Beatrice Robertson
-Darilyn & Peggy Keller
-Olga & Charlie Sheridan
-Carl, Alvin, and Mary Nelson
-Norbert, Esther, and Gary Marquardt
-Sharon Samson
-Frydenlund family
-Bernice Hovland
-Harley Hovland

Requested by Henrietta Taylor:

-Mark Blackcrow Sr.

Requested by Tami Avison:
-Ken Avison
-Darrell Sutton
-Deacon Wes Vert
-Tom Vert

Requested by Lois Peterson:

-Don & Larry Lehto family
-Jerry Peterson
-Meyer family
-Andrlik family

Requested by Julie Hille:

-Irvin Rozmiarek

Requested by Debra & Raymond Seward:

-Ingeberg family
-Kraemer family
-Seward family

Requested by Renae Cornelius:

-Kenneth Cornelius
-Lorraine Cornelius
-Lawrence Cornelius
-Dallas Davis
-Leo Solf
-Charlie Solf
-Dorothy Salomon

Requested by Laurel Cheff:

-Mr. & Mrs. Ira Kopelman
-Mr. & Mrs. Bud Cheff Sr.
-Cheri Cheff
-Mick Cheff
-Cheryl Cheff
-Sandy Cheff

Requested by anonymous:

-Joseph & Irene Tessieri
-Roy Vallejo
-Fr. Andrew Maddox
-Fr. Bernard Burns
-Fr. Olson Brown
-Lloyd McAvoy
-Dennis White
-Kenny & Diane Linder
-A.J. Tressel

And for the Intentions of...

Stephen & Angela Hardy

Edgar Maldonado

Richard & Sherlee Santorno

And for all those intentions not listed here.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.