



Noah's Thanksoffering
Joseph Anton Koch (1768-1839)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

As you could very well imagine I field an awful lot of questions about what to do for Lent. When it comes to Lent many people are simply at a loss which can be another question for another day, but let's approach the question from this angle as at least a place to begin, an examination of the precepts of the Church. The precepts are the positive laws of the Church that constitute at least the very bare minimum that one would need to do to consider themselves to be a card carrying Roman Catholic. Below are the precepts as they are found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Take some time and thoughtfully and prayerfully review the precepts and then form specific resolutions asking God for the grace to make good on those resolutions. As I said, it is a place to start and next week we will look at some thoughts regarding confession and how to make a good confession.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

The Precepts of the Church

2041 The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. the obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor:

2042 The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.") requires the faithful to participate in the Eucharistic celebration when the Christian community gathers together on the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord. The second precept ("You shall confess your sins at least once a year.") ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness. The third precept ("You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season.") guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy.

(Continued on page 2)

First Sunday of Lent 18 February 2024

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

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

Parish Office
PO Box 1477 Polson, MT 59860
Phone: 406-883-2506
Cell: 406-594-0474

Email: lakecountyromancatholic@gmail.com
Website: www.lakecountyromancatholic.org

This week's office hours:

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at 6:00 pm

Confessions are available at 5:00 pm
Rosary is prayed at 5:30 pm

Sunday at 11:00 am

Rosary is prayed at 10:30 am

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday-Friday at 12:10 pm

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

SACRED HEART MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday at 9:00 am

Friday at 9:00 am

Mass is followed by a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

Mass is offered at St. Joseph Mission in Charlo every **third weekend** of each month, **Saturday** at 4:00 pm



Welcome

Alexander William Marshall

Baptized February 18, 2024,
at Immaculate Conception

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT

6:00 pm—Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph Mission
Meatless/fish dinner served immediately following Stations in Polson* **This Friday fish fillet sandwiches will be served!**
**Community dinner served at 5:00 pm each third Friday of the month at Immaculate Conception*



THE CATHOLIC COWBOY WAY: A LENTEN PARISH MISSION

Sacred Heart Church
Presenter: Father Bryce Lungren of the
Diocese of Cheyenne

SUNDAY, February 25

5:00 pm: Dinner, followed by presentation at 6:00 pm

MONDAY, February 26

6:00 pm: Presentation, with refreshments to follow

TUESDAY, February 27

6:00 pm: Presentation, with refreshments to follow

(Continued from page 1)

2043 The fourth precept ("You shall keep holy the holy days of obligation.") completes the Sunday observance by participation in the principal liturgical feasts which honor the mysteries of the Lord, the Virgin Mary, and the saints. The fifth precept ("You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence.") ensures the times of asceticism and penance which prepare us for the liturgical feasts; they help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart. The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to his abilities.

The Catholic Cowboy Way

by Fr. Bryce Lungren

Books on sale this weekend! \$15 each*

*cash or checks only please

Pick up your book after Mass this weekend to start reading before our Lenten Mission at Sacred Heart next weekend! (February 25-27)



SEVEN SISTERS Apostolate is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest. The goal is to have someone praying for each priest everyday for one Holy Hour and ideally prayed in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

It takes 7 people committing to this ministry for Father Kevin and 7 people committing to this ministry for Father Bob. You may have a substitute when you are sick or unable to do this.

If you would like any information pamphlets or guide books for your Holy Hour, please stop in the parish office. **Please contact Linda Dorrington at 406-596-1460 to sign up or ask questions.**

One Holy Hour † One Priest † Once per Week

(you choose what day of the week and keep that particular day) -- *Five remaining slots open!*

Priest Testimonials:

"My homilies are stronger and my Masses more reverent."

"I smile to know that someone is praying a Holy Hour for me."

Humbly asking for your prayers

Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Heather Stock, Betty Bjork, Vicki Weiss, Jason Avison, Floyd Smith, Nash Niemeyer, Richard Call, Bud Cheff, Jr, Donna Radtke, Bill Rueth, Monte Jenkins, Chris Skinner, Ryan Johnson, Vicki Whalen, Natalie Champoux.

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 February

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



Please pray for our seminarians!

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

At the church entrances you will find foldable charity collection containers for the season of Lent.

Prayerfully consider giving to one or more worthy organizations this Lent. Below are just a few examples of good charitable organizations to consider:

Local:

Polson Loaves & Fish Pantry ♦ Helping Hands ♦
Catholic Social Services of Montana ♦
Hope Pregnancy Ministries

National:

St. Jude Hospital ♦ Special Olympics ♦ PreBorn

International:

Aid to the Church in Need
Pontifical Good Friday Collection for Franciscans in the Holy Land

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Sacred Heart & St. Joseph Mission

Saturday, February 17th *Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent*

Repose of the Soul of Jackie Byrnes, rb Bryan Byrnes

Sunday, February 18th *First Sunday of Lent*

Intentions of Charlie Freshour, rb Rita Rehbein

Friday, February 23rd

Saint Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

Intentions of Susan Kary, rb Rita Rehbein

Immaculate Conception

Saturday, February 17th *Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent*

Intentions of Bishop Vetter

Sunday, February 18th *First Sunday of Lent*

Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Tuesday, February 20th

Intentions of Mary Roberts, rb Rita Rehbein

Wednesday, February 21st

Saint Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Intentions of Trudy McMenamin, rb Rita Rehbein

Thursday, February 22nd

The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

Intentions of Pope Francis

Friday, February 23rd

Saint Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

For the Unity of All Christians

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



If you require a statement of your 2023 charitable donations to Sacred Heart or Immaculate Conception, please contact the parish office (see contact info on page 1) or stop in during office hours. Your statement can be mailed or emailed according to your preference. Note that donation records for parishioners who registered mid-year may be incomplete. Giving data can also be accessed through your Flocknote account at any time.

Thank you for your generosity!

First Sunday of Lent

Entrance Antiphon:

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.*

Collect:

*Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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: Gn 9:8-15

Responsorial: Ps 25:4-5,6-7,8-9

R. *Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

Second Reading: 1 Pt 3:18-22

Gospel: Mk 1:12-15

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

The evangelists indicate the salvific meaning of this mysterious event: Jesus is the new Adam who remained faithful just where the first Adam had given in to temptation. Jesus fulfills Israel's vocation perfectly: in contrast to those who had once provoked God during forty years in the desert, Christ reveals himself as God's Servant, totally obedient to the divine will. In this, Jesus is the devil's conqueror: he "binds the strong man" to take back his plunder. Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father. (CCC 539)

ROSARY GROUP

St. Joseph Hospital
Chapel



Fridays 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



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

TRIVIA

What does salt symbolize in the Sacrament of Baptism?

See next week's bulletin for the answer!

Last week's answer:

Holy Chrism, used for the administration of certain sacraments, is a mixture of olive oil with small amounts of balm.

ST. PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH FEBRUARY 21ST



Peter Damian

The best penance is to have patience with the sorrows God permits. A very good penance is to dedicate oneself to fulfill the duties of everyday with exactitude and to study and work with all our strength.

AZ QUOTES



Do not be depressed. Do not let your weakness make you impatient. Instead, let the serenity of your spirit shine through your face. Let the joy of your mind burst forth.



The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy:

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Visit the prisoners
Bury the dead
Give alms to the poor



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.

The Food Pantry also utilizes plastic grocery bags!



Parish Offertory Progress Report

Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception

\$119,584 of \$185,000 (65%)

Sacred Heart/St. Joseph

\$24,851 of \$44,500 (56%)

I.C. Building Fund Progress:

\$16,895 of \$20,000 (84%)



Thank you for your generosity!



BECAUSE
HE FIRST
Loved
US...

A CAMPAIGN FOR CATHOLIC LIFE

Campaign Prayer

O Lord, my God, teach my heart this day
where and how to see You, where and how to find You.

You have made me and remade me,
and You have bestowed on me
all the good things I possess, and still I do not know You.
I have not yet done that for which I was made.

Teach me to seek You,
for I cannot seek You unless You teach me,
or find You unless You show Yourself to me.

Let me seek You in my desire;
let me desire You in my seeking.
Let me find You by loving You;
let me Love You when I find You.

AMEN

— St. Anselm

REMEMBER THE PARISH IN YOUR WILL.

Most adults do not have a legal will.
Write your will today by visiting
MyCatholicWill.com.

This Lent, protect those you love
most in under 15-minutes through
the online, easy-to-use form.

Leave a legacy of faith by including
the parish in your will.

www.MyCatholicWill.com
Use code: **PARISH20** to save 20%



CSSM
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
of Montana

Mental Health Services

NEW Counseling Program Available!

Catholic Social Services of Montana is excited to announce the launch of its new mental health counseling program. We are actively accepting new clients. Below are more details:

- We have licensed counselors available to talk or listen.
- No topic is too big or too small for us to address. If we can't tackle it, we'll work with you to provide a referral.
- You can meet with us from your computer, cell phone, or any other online mobile device. If you live in or want to travel to Helena, you can meet in-person with us.
- We're Catholic. Faith can be a part of our conversation if you'd like, but that is not required. We are here for everyone.
- Your first session is free. If you choose to schedule another session, we accept insurance and private pay and offer reduced private pay rates if you meet qualifying standards.

To get started, you can call (406)442-4130 or visit www.cssmt.org.



Introducing STRIVE

**A Free, and Anonymous 21-Day Porn Detox
for Men Brought to You By Covenant Eyes!**

Why STRIVE:

- Narrated by Matt Fradd, an expert, best selling author, & active public voice on the effects of pornography.
- Full of videos, resources, & exercises for men
- Proven results for over 28K men
- Supportive & helpful community

Text STRIVE to 66866 to Join Today!

