



**Jesus Chasing the Merchants from the Temple**  
Raymond Balze (1818-1909)

#### A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

*Fear of the Lord is a necessary part of our relationship with God and one that is often misunderstood and sometimes interpreted to the extreme of not being fear at all to a scrupulosity that is pitiless and unrelenting. The Scriptures tell us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Prov. 9:10) which suggests that there is more to it than meets the eye. This past week in the Office of Readings from the Divine Office St. Hilary gave us a great reflection on this good and necessary fear. St. Hilary was the bishop of Poitiers in the 4<sup>th</sup> century and so what he has to say represents how the early Church thought about the topic. The following is from his treatise on the Psalms.*

*Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. Notice that when Scripture speaks of the fear of the Lord it does not leave the phrase in isolation, as if it were a complete summary of faith. No, many things are added to it, or are presupposed by it. From these we may learn its meaning and excellence. In the book of Proverbs Solomon tells us: If you cry out for wisdom and raise your voice for understanding, if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord. We see here the difficult journey we must undertake before we can arrive at the fear of the Lord.*

We must begin by crying out for wisdom. We must hand over to our intellect the duty of making every decision. We must look for wisdom and search for it. Then we must understand the fear of the Lord.

"Fear" is not to be taken in the sense that common usage gives it. Fear in this ordinary sense is the trepidation our weak humanity feels when it is afraid of suffering something it does not want to happen. We are afraid, or made afraid, because of a guilty conscience, the rights of someone more powerful, an attack from one who is stronger, sickness, encountering a wild beast, suffering evil in any form. This kind of fear is not taught: it happens because we are weak. We do not have to learn what we should fear: objects of fear bring their own terror with them.

But of the fear of the Lord this is what is written: *Come, my children, listen to me, I shall teach you the fear of the Lord.* The fear of the Lord has then to be learned because it can be taught. It does not lie in terror, but in something that can be taught. It does not arise from the fearfulness of our nature; it has to be acquired by obedience to the commandments, by holiness of life and by knowledge

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Third Sunday of Lent

### 3 March 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: lakecountymancatholic@gmail.com

Website: www.lakecountymancatholic.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** 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

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH

**6:00 pm—Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph Mission**  
Meatless/fish dinner served immediately following Stations in Polson

**Thank you to everyone that provided delicious desserts for the Catholic Cowboy Way Mission. It was greatly appreciated!**

Mark your calendar!

**Laetare Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Brunch will be served after the 11:00 am Mass to celebrate "Mothering" Sunday.

*Beef stroganoff will be served.*

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of the truth.

For us the fear of God consists wholly in love, and perfect love of God brings our fear of him to its perfection. Our love for God is entrusted with its own responsibility: to observe his counsels, to obey his laws, to trust his promises. Let us hear what Scripture says: *And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you except to fear the Lord your God and walk in his ways and love him and keep his commandments with your whole heart and your whole soul, so that it may be well for you?*

The ways of the Lord are many, though he is himself the way. When he speaks of himself he calls himself the way and shows us the reason why he called himself the way: *No one can come to the Father except through me.*

We must ask for these many ways, we must travel along these many ways, to find the one that is good. That is, we shall find the one way of eternal life through the guidance of many teachers. These ways are found in the law, in the prophets, in the gospels, in the writings of the apostles, in the different good works by which we fulfill the commandments. Blessed are those who walk these ways in the fear of the Lord. Continue to have a blessed Lent!

Fr. Kevin Christofferson

PS. Super 1 has frog legs!

Dear Lake County Catholics,

Thank you so much for your kind hospitality. It was a joy for me to come up and share with you the way the Lord has led this cowboy. In return, it was great to see the many ways God is leading you. Keep up the Good work.

Fr. Bryce

## TRIVIA

**What are best described as outward signs of inward grace, instituted by Christ for our sanctification?**

**See next week's bulletin for the answer!**

**Last week's answer:**

The sacrament of Confession is characterized in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

### Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

#### Sacred Heart & St. Joseph Mission

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** *Third Sunday of Lent*

Repose of the Soul of Elmer Ingraham, rb Linda Dorrington

**Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

*Saint John of God, Religious*

Repose of the Soul of Randy Dorrington,

rb Linda Dorrington

#### Immaculate Conception

**Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** *Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent*

Repose of the Souls of the Cardinals in Purgatory,

rb Teri Daigneault

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** *Third Sunday of Lent*

Intentions of the Parish Faithful

**Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

Repose of the Souls of Charles & Shirley Sheridan,

rb Sheila Marquardt

**Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

Repose of the Soul of Danny Zupan, rb Teri Daigneault

**Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Saints Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs*

Repose of the Soul of Ron Marquardt, rb Sheila Marquardt

### 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!



### 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 Stocki, 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 March

**For the new martyrs:** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



### 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.

### Third Sunday of Lent

Entrance Antiphon:

*My eyes are always on the Lord,  
for he rescues my feet from the snare.  
Turn to me and have mercy on me,  
for I am alone and poor.*

Collect:

*O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,  
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving  
have shown us a remedy for sin,  
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,  
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,  
may always be lifted up by your mercy.  
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:

Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3,7-8,12-17

Ps 19:8,9,10,11

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1 Cor 1:22-25

Gospel: Jn 2:13-25

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

Jesus went up to the Temple as the privileged place of encounter with God. For him, the Temple was the dwelling of his Father, a house of prayer, and he was angered that its outer court had become a place of commerce. He drove merchants out of it because of jealous love for his Father: "You shall not make my Father's house a house of trade. His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'" After his Resurrection his apostles retained their reverence for the Temple. (CCC 584)

The Ronan Chamber of Commerce puts on a free agriculture appreciation dinner at the fairgrounds every year where they host a big beef dinner and a cash bar. This year the event has been scheduled on Good Friday. Make no mistake; this is indeed a sacrilegious act.

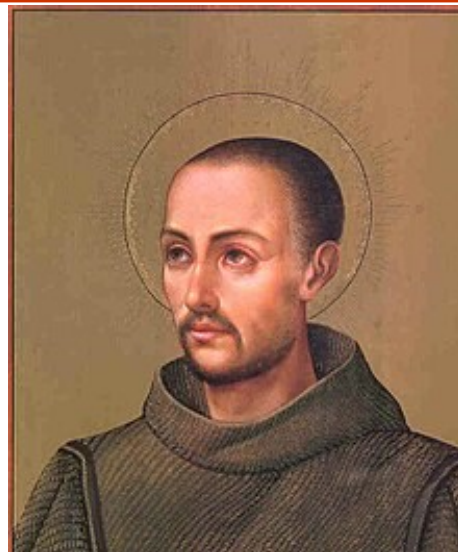
Please reach out to the Ronan Chamber of Commerce to urge them to change the date of this event, and encourage them to avoid scheduling this event during all Fridays of Lent for this year and future years as well.

Please remember to be respectful in your dialogue—remember that you represent Christians!

Ronan Chamber of Commerce Contact Info:

Phone: 406-676-8300

[www.ronanchamber.com/contact-us](http://www.ronanchamber.com/contact-us)  
To send them an email.



"The first (virtue) is faith,  
believing all that holy mother church  
believes and holds,  
keeping and putting into practice  
what she commands"

St JOHN of GOD

Anastasi

## Daylight Savings Time Begins March 10th



### 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.

### Parish Offertory Progress Report Fiscal Year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Immaculate Conception

\$125,394 of \$185,000 (68%)

#### Sacred Heart/St. Joseph

\$26,590 of \$44,500 (60%)

#### I.C. Building Fund Progress:

\$17,095 of \$20,000 (85%)



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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cssmt.org).*

## DIOCESE OF HELENA EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS



**MARCH 22-24, 2024**  
**CARROLL COLLEGE | HELENA, MT**

ENCOUNTER THE LORD | ENTER INTO HOLY WEEK |  
PROCLAIM HIS LOVE

— FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE —

DR. JOHN BERGSMAN | CHIKA ANYANWU | CHRIS MUELLER |  
SR. FAUSTINA MARIA PIA, SV | SR. ANTONIANA MARIA, SV

LEARN MORE &  
REGISTER AT: [diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress](http://diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress)