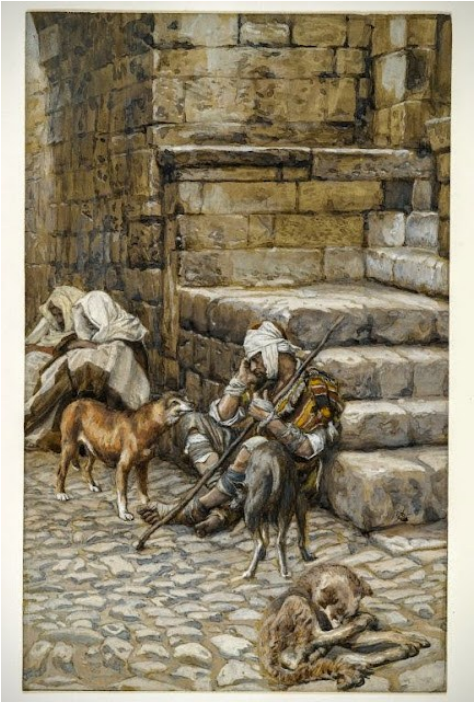


***The Poor Lazarus at the Rich Man's Door***
James Tissot (1836-1902)

**A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR**

Living a Catholic life is a life that is deeply sacramental. Stepping way back and taking the broadest possible view, that sacramental life begins with the acknowledgement that all creation has something to say about the God who created it. *The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. (Ps. 19:1)* and, *Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. (Romans 1:20).* Nature itself, as something visible, proclaims and reveals something of the God that we cannot see, and that is at the very essence of what we mean by "sacrament" in the most general of terms. There is something here that also gives us a great departure point in exploring an authentic Catholic ecology and our concern for caring for our common home, planet Earth.

I suppose that from this same departure point we can also look back and recognize in hindsight what a great disaster to the faith the industrialization and urbanization of the West have been. The loss of contact with creation does indeed have an effect on faith, especially when more and more we lose ourselves in the marvels of our *own* creation and delight and find great satisfaction with our *own* intelligence and ingenuity at the expense of the awe and wonder that spontaneously leads us to adore the God who made the bee.

The human person itself draws us even further into the great mystery of God. Each human person is created in the image and likeness of God, which fundamentally means that we are intelligent and free. And granted, this can be a bit abstract and hard to connect to until we consider that we have been created *male* and *female*, a reality that manifests the complementarity of our design. New human life only arises from a union of a man and a woman, who otherwise on their own are incapable of generating another unique and unrepeatable human life. It is natural, and not something beyond our reasoning power, to realize that a union of man and woman that results in the generation of new human life also at the same time requires a union of that same man and woman in a stable and committed relationship for the good and the proper upbringing of children. In his Letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul draws back the veil from the visible union of a man and a woman to reveal its sacramental dimension, the "mystery" of Christ's love for the Church, which is His bride. *In the Greek language, the word "mystery" is the same word that is translated as "sacramentum" in Latin, therefore he says, "This is a*

*(Continued on page 2)*

# *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
## 28 September 2025

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

**Fr. Kevin Christofferson, Pastor**
**Fr. Robert Brooks, Pastoral Associate**
**Nate McNeil, Director of Faith Formation**
**Katie Devlin, Office Manager**

**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:**
Monday & Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am—12:00 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*

**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, followed by a Holy Hour
**First Saturday** at 9:00 am, followed by the Rosary

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

Coffee and Donuts will be served in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall after 9:00 Mass on Sunday, September 28th. All are welcome!

**On Friday, during the 12:10 pm Mass,** Garrett Nicely and his family will be baptized and received into the Church. Also making a profession of faith and being received into the Church is Claire McNeil. All are welcome to attend. Please note the Mass will be more lengthy than usual.

*Congratulations to the Nicely & McNeil families!*

**Next Polson Knights of Columbus meeting: Sunday, October 5th, at 9:00 am.**

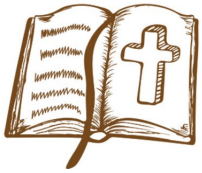
*(Continued from page 1)*
*great mystery (sacrament), and I am applying it to Christ and the church" (Eph 5:32)* As we press the sacramental reality of marriage beyond the love of Christ and the Church and His union with Her, we see also something of the mystery of the inner life of the Blessed Trinity, a union of Father and Son in a bond of love Whose love brings forth *the Lord, the giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. (Nicaean Creed)*

Jesus Christ himself is the very sacrament of God. *Jesus answered: Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? (Jn 14:9-10)* Everything about the human nature of Christ, united to His divine person, was charged with the power of an omnipotent God; His gaze, His saliva, His voice, His touch, even His clothing, and most importantly His blood, all gave witness to and revealed His divine power and His oneness with the Father. Even in death, Jesus did not discard His body, but took it up again, and in that same body showed Himself plainly alive to His disciples, and in that we see the permanent and enduring reality of the Incarnation. We are flesh, and it is in His flesh that we touch and have contact with the divinity of Jesus, the Word made flesh.

The Church herself is something of the sacrament of the Kingdom of God, a visible society, taught, governed, and sanctified by visible shepherds who stand in the place of the Chief Shepherd who cannot be seen. *Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me. (Lk 10:16),* and to St. Peter, *Feed my sheep. (Jn 21:17)* Together with the shepherds, the vast multitude of the lay faithful and the religious begin forming their union with the Communion of the Saints by way of anticipation by living lives of deep faith, hope, and charity, *until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. (Eph 4:13), that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us (Jn 17:21),* and form *a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, (Rev 7:9),* and again, *you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God. (Eph. 2:19-22).*

This is the reality of things. This is the essence of our identity as a parish in both our life and worship.

Peace,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson



## OCIA

(Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

**Begins October 12**

2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Immaculate Conception Parish Hall

9:15—10:30 am

*blessed is she* *blessed conversations*

**Seeking those who may be interested in laid-back Sunday morning women's group for young moms!**

No homework! Babysitting available!
Would meet at Immaculate Conception on Sundays around 9:00 am, frequency to be determined.
Please contact the parish office to indicate your interest!

**Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions**

**Sacred Heart & St. Joseph Mission**

**Sunday, September 28th**
*Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Sick & Shut-Ins of the Parish
**Friday, October 3rd** *First Friday of the Month*
TBD
**Saturday, October 4th** *First Saturday of the Month*
TBD

**Immaculate Conception**

**Saturday, September 27th**
*Vigil of the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Repose of the Soul of Kathy Collicot, rb Katie Devlin
**Sunday, September 28th**
*Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
**Wednesday, October 1st**
Repose of the Soul of Kathy Collicot, rb Katie Devlin
**Thursday, October 2nd**
Repose of the Soul of the Deceased Priests of Our Diocese
**Friday, October 3rd**
See announcement on Page 1.

***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, Heather Stocki, Betty Bjork, Jason Avison, Nash Niemeyer, Richard Call, Bud Cheff, Jr, Bill Rueth, Monte Jenkins, Chris Skinner, Ryan Johnson, Vicki Whalen, Laurel Cheff, Zane Kelly, Rod Clairmont, David Jenkins, Bruce Simpson, Debbie Tschida, Doug Morigeau, Grace Shafer.

*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 October**

**For collaboration between different religious traditions:** Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

***Please pray for our seminarians!***

Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Jamie Severson, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, Jake Smith, Ryan Frampton, Liam Aippersbach, Mason Yochum.

# LEGENDARY NEEDS LOGS

FORTIFY THE LEGEND. EXPAND THE MISSION

Bishop's *Gala*

OCTOBER 10, 2025
5:00 PM
CARROLL COLLEGE

**This October 10th, the Bishop's Gala returns** with all proceeds to benefit Legendary Lodge. This will not be your usual Gala. Be prepared for camp sights and sounds, tastes and smells! Our theme is **"Western Glamping"**, so get creative dressing the part with cowboy hats and fun accessories.

**Get your tickets, or reserve your table, today!**

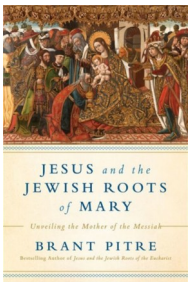
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Helena

WWW.DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/
BISHOPSGALA

# Life Chain

Please plan on attending the Life Chain in Polson on Saturday, October 18th, at 12:45 p.m. We will meet at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and march to Highway 93 for one hour of prayer and public witness to end abortion in Montana.

## Ladies' Study Group




All women are invited to gather on Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the Immaculate Conception Parish basement to study Brant Pitre's book: **Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary.** Books are $5.00. First meeting will be a Meet & Greet introduction on

Thursday, October 2, at 10:30.

Questions? Call Sheila LeBrun:

406-208-5788.

**Don't forget to bring your food pantry items for our local charities!**

Polson Loaves & Fishes
904 1st St E, Polson

Ronan Bread Basket
10 6th Ave SW, Ronan
(across from St. Luke's Hospital)

Find donation bins at the churches' entrances.

**PARISH WEBSITE**

**DIOCESE OF HELENA WEBSITE**

Download the **myParish app** on your App store or Google Play store on your iOS or Android!

myParish

**ROSARY GROUP**

St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Fridays at 9:00 am

**DIVINE MERCY RADIO**
90.7 FM

EWTN GLOBAL CATHOLIC NETWORK

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

YouTube

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

2025-2026

# SEMINARIANS
## FOR THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

*Please Continue to Pray for Our Seminarians*

## FROM 9/24/2025 TO 11/2/2025!

**You can protect mothers and children** by joining this worldwide mobilization effort to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers!

**With God's help,** here are the proven results in previous coordinated campaigns:

- **Over 16,500 babies** saved from abortion
- **Over 250 abortion** workers converted
- **150 abortion centers closed**

**Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:**

- **Vigil location:** Outside BLUE MOUNTAIN CLINIC – 610 N. California St. (near the corner of W. Broadway & California St.), Missoula
- **Vigil hours:** 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Mon. – Sat.)
- **Local contact:** Brad Tschida (406-546-4349) betschida54@gmail.com /
- Diane Rotering (406-274-3639) roteringd@gmail.com
- **Learn more** … get involved … and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

**PLEASE VISIT:** 40daysforlife.com/Missoula

- **Vigil location:** Outside ALL FAMILIES HEALTHCARE – 737 Spokane Avenue, Whitefish
- **Vigil days:** Monday through Saturday
- **Local contact:** Mike Hanson (406-314-7826) mikester55@hotmail.com
- Find information for this campaign and more events at the web address below:

**PLEASE VISIT:** 40daysforlife.com/Whitefish

**restore** communication
**rekindle** romance
**renew** commitment

**Oct. 3-5, 2025**
**Missoula, MT**

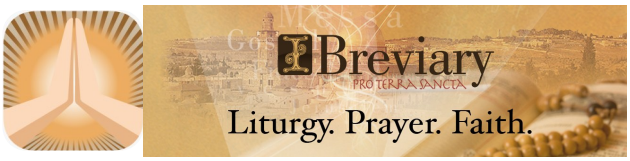
For more information or to apply visit: **www.wwme.org**
Or call: **Paul & Tracy at** 307-689-2820

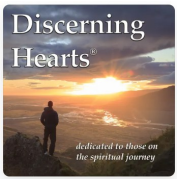
PROLIFE PROVIDERS

**ProlifeProviders.com**

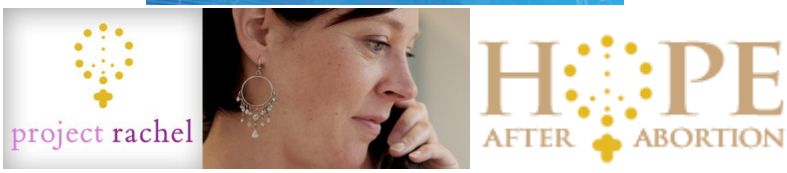
PRAY as you GO

PrayAsYouGo.org is a daily online resource that offers guided prayer sessions to help individuals grow in their spiritual life. Each session typically includes scripture, reflective music, and prompts for prayer, making it easy to integrate spiritual reflection into your day. Designed for those on the go, it provides a simple way to stay connected to God amidst daily activities. Whether at home, work, or on the move, Pray As You Go supports deepening your relationship with God through accessible, reflective prayer.






**Discerning Hearts Catholic Podcasts**
**Available on your favorite podcast streaming apps!**




Visit HopeAfterAbortion.com for more information.

Call **406-442-4130** or visit **www.cssmt.org/mental-health/** to get started today!

give central

Payments to **Immaculate Conception** may be made online at **GiveCentral.org** (click on the big orange "Find Your Charity" button and type in our zip code, 59860).

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

**Immaculate Conception**
$48,290 of $183,150 (26%)
**Sacred Heart/St. Joseph**
$10,731 of $48,393 (22%)

**I.C. Building Fund Progress:**
$575 of $12,000 (5%)
**S.H. Building Fund Progress:**
$1,120 of $1,349 (83%)

***Thank you for your generosity!***