

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

219 W. PINE ST.

P.O. BOX 68

RAWLINS, WYOMING 82301

Email.....stjosephrlns@dcwy.org

Website.....stjosephsrawlins.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 6 - 7

Sat 4:15 p.m. Parishioners of St. Joseph's

Sun 9:30 a.m. +Ben Sanchez

Sun 1:30 p.m. (BAGGS) +Sadie Smelker

Dec 8 - 14

***Immaculate Conception***

Mon 9:00 a.m. (BAGGS) Parishioners of Our Lady of the Sage

12:00 Noon Parishioners of St. Joseph's  
5:30 p.m. +Souls in Purgatory

Tues 12:00 Noon The Homebound

Wed 12:00 Noon +Estevan & +Josephine Romero

Thurs 12:00 Noon +Art & +Connie Romero

***Our Lady of Guadalupe***

Fri 5:30 p.m. Parishioners of St. Joseph's

Sat 4:15 p.m. +Anne Marie (Mimi) Kirsch

Sun 9:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Joseph's

Sun 1:30 p.m. (BAGGS) +Lonnie Hedges



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

We light the second candle of the Advent wreath today. It is a purple candle and represents PEACE.

PASTOR Father Hiep Nguyen (307) 324-4631  
In case of emergency (307) 851-7531

Church Office 9:00 am -12:00 Noon M-F  
Enter on east side of church. Office is now located off the meeting room.

**Elissia Petersen**  
**Director of Religious Education (405)778-9795**  
stjosephparish317@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

**Saturday 4:15 PM**  
**Sunday 9:30 AM**

**Daily Tuesday thru Friday 12:00 Noon**  
**NO MASS ON MONDAY**

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15 – 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptisms: Scheduled by appointment  
Marriages: Please contact Father Hiep at least six months before proposed wedding date

FUNERALS

Before announcing plans, please call the office to make arrangements and verify with Father.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry (307) 324-7002

Suicide & Crisis Hotline Dial 988

Project Rachel (307) 222-8430  
(Healing after abortion) (call or text)

**HOUR OF ADORATION**  
**THURSDAY EVENING 7:00 – 8:00**

**December 7 , 2025**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

*The cow and the bear shall feed;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.*

*Isaiah 11:7*

Let us now reimagine the animals as people. We think of the different natures, behaviors, and instincts of animals, and the same can be true of people. People have many various faults, traits, habits, and personalities. How to reconcile them all in such a way that all eight billion of us can live together in peace? This continues to be a challenge, but Jesus has given us a road map. Turn the other cheek, forgive each other, love your neighbor, care for the least of your brothers and sisters. If we can see Jesus in the faces of those in need, we can see the kingdom when we serve them.

••Monday is **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. At 9:00 am there will be mass at Our Lady of the Sage in Baggs, followed by 2 masses here at St. Joseph's, 12:00 Noon and 5:30 pm. Hopefully one of these times will fit your schedule.

••Friday is the **Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe**. Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 pm followed by a fun celebration/dinner in the school gym. There will be no noon mass that day.

•Remember the added confession time on Sunday's from 8:15 to 9:00 am.

•And gluten free hosts are available. Just be sure to let Father know BEFORE mass that you will need one.

Would you like to help decorate the church for the various seasons? Father Hiep could use your ideas and help!! Your fellow parishioners will also appreciate you sharing your decorating skills by allowing our church to reflect the beauty of each season. Just give Father a call or visit with him before or after mass.

The **Advent** calendar in your bulletin last week has some great ideas for each day of Advent. Don't forget the special shopping cart at the back of the church in which to place non-perishable items for St. Vincent de Paul. PLEASE NO OUTDATED ITEMS.

If you need a Christmas food basket, the distribution will be on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. More information is available on flyers located at the entrances to the church.

*Living and Giving in Christ 2025*

(As of 12/1/2025)

	<u>St. Joseph's</u>	<u>Our Lady of the Sage</u>
Goal	\$28,770	\$2,341
Pledges	<u>(\$14,820)</u>	<u>(\$1,700)</u>
	\$13,950	\$ 641

\*\*The Diocese was closed for Thanksgiving , these numbers should update this coming week.\*\*

**And a Note from Father Hiep:**

Your contribution whether it is small or big, it will help us to achieve the goal of Living & Giving in Christ 2025 in the days to come. Please take the envelopes which are on the entry way home (English or Spanish) and prayerfully consider to share your blessings and be united as one family of faith so that we can achieve the goal together!

Sus contribuciones son muy importantes si son pequeñas o grandes porque ellas van a ayudarnos para lograr nuestra tema de Vivir y Dar en Cristo 2025. Tomen los sobres en la mesa de entrada y oren antes de compartir sus gracias para nosotros podamos lograr la tema de Vivir y Dar en Cristo 2025 juntos. Muchas gracias y Que Dios los bendiga!

*Thank you for your generous support, and may God return to you abundantly.*

**November 29 and 30 Collections**

**First Collection: \$1,962.00**

**Second Collection: \$ 503.00**

**(Building Fund)**



## Will You Notice the Shoot?

ANN M. GARRIDO

**T**oday's first reading from the prophet Isaiah offers a familiar Advent image: the shoot sprouting from the stump of Jesse. The verses immediately preceding speak of God walking through the forest with an ax: "The tall of stature shall be felled, and the lofty ones shall be brought low" (Isaiah 10:33). But now, amidst all the destruction, a tiny sign of new life emerges, and the Spirit of God descends upon it, bearing many gifts—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, delight.

So often, when we scroll through the news, our attention is captured by violence and war and the "mighty" who make great noise when they fall. "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees," echoes John the Baptist in today's gospel. If we are looking



SCAN TO  
LEARN ABOUT  
AUTHOR ANN  
M. GARRIDO

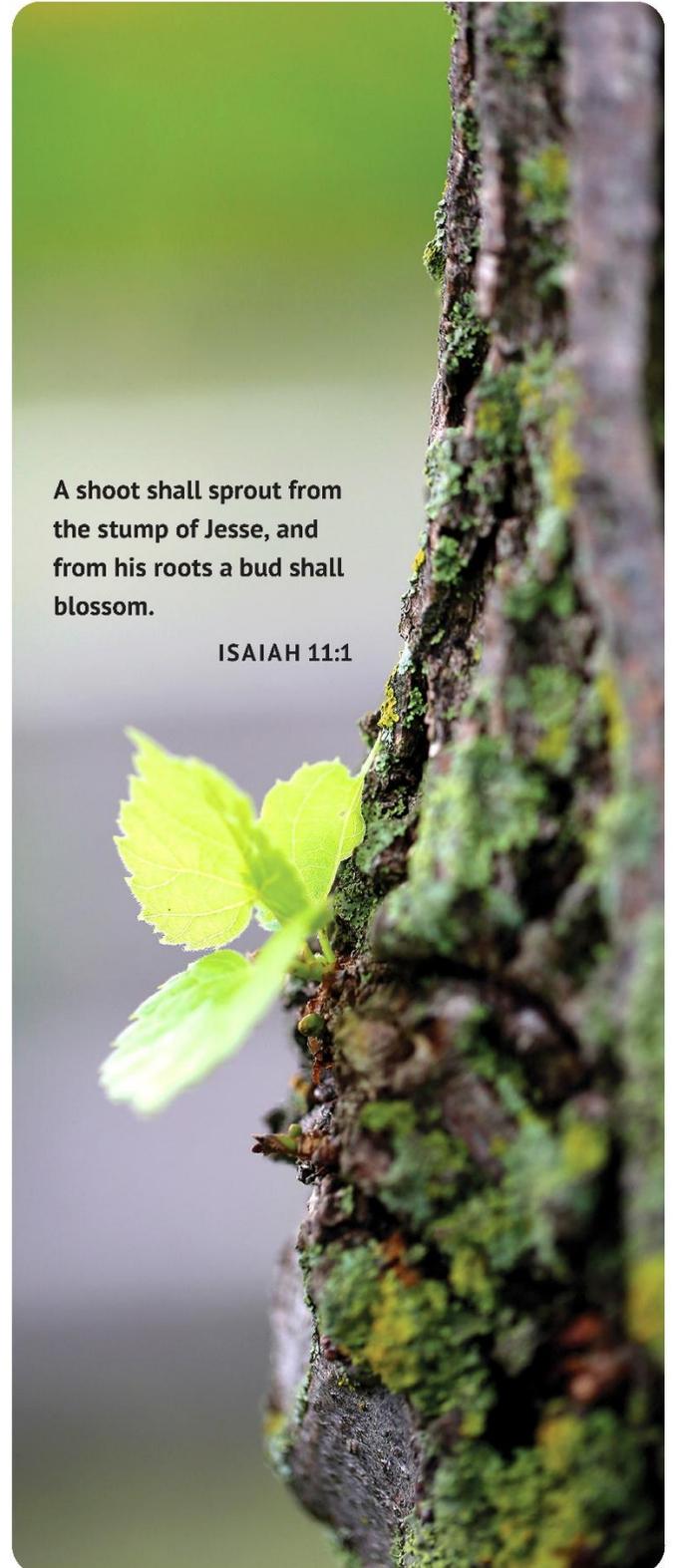
for where God's Spirit can be found, however, Isaiah reminds us we will need to look elsewhere. We will need to attend to the quiet, fragile resurrections taking place below the surface when it appears as if all has been lost. If we seek wisdom, understanding, counsel,

strength, knowledge, awe, and delight, we will need to look where the little ones of the earth are found. We must have our eyes open for the shoots.

The gospels emphasize that Jesus was one such little one. Although the glory days of his people seemed to have come to a crashing close, they have not. In him, we glimpse the truth that life is stronger than death. We see that the future has not been erased, no matter how terrible the past. In him, we find our hope. ●

### Reflect

***Are my eyes open to the small signs of God's work in the world, or am I too distracted to notice?***



**A shoot shall sprout from  
the stump of Jesse, and  
from his roots a bud shall  
blossom.**

ISAIAH 11:1

# Dear Padre,

## *Do non-Catholics go to heaven?*

Yes, they do, because of the grace of God at work in his people. To suggest otherwise would seem to imply that Catholics somehow have a “golden ticket,” or some kind of right that simply does not exist.

The Incarnation of Jesus healed the division between heaven and earth, a division established by the “sin of Adam” and confirmed by our own lives of sin. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, all has been restored to the manner that the Father first envisioned through his Creation. The division was between humanity and divinity, not between religious practices and divinity. Catholics believe and celebrate that God accepts all people of a good heart and a good spirit. God is not blinded by the labels that sometimes blind his people to the bigger reality.

When Catholics, or people of any religion, proclaim exclusivity and specialness, particularly when it concerns eternal life, all people should be very cautious about what they assume. To assume a certain type of arrogance—to yourself and to your belief and life of faith—that excludes others or separates another as “not one of us” simply has no place in the kingdom of God. ●



PASCAL HUOT / SHUTTERSTOCK

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org*

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
December 8 <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 Eph 1:3–6, 11–12 Lk 1:26–38	December 9 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:1–11 Mt 18:12–14	December 10 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:25–31 Mt 11:28–30	December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 41:13–20 Mt 11:11–15	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 Mt 17:9a, 10–13	December 14 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 35:1–6a, 10 Jas 5:7–10 Mt 11:2–11

**Do you have a question for the Padre?**  
Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



### **A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV**

*With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made “restless” by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.*

**HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025**

## HOURS

To apply for grants to help our parish we need data. This data includes **ALL VOLUNTEER HOURS** spent in service to our parish. Examples are lectors, ushers, servers, food pantry volunteers, funeral dinner helpers, maintenance, money counters, CCD teachers and helpers, and on and on.

Record your name, the activity and number of hours. Either email to or turn into the church office on a weekly or monthly basis. Thank You!

If you have not done so, and have changes to your name, address, phone or email...or if you are a new parishioner.... **please** fill out an **information form** found at either entrance to the church. We are doing our best to have an accurate, updated list of St. Joseph parishioners!

Thank you to those who leave food in the basket at the back of the church for St. Vincent's. Your help is always appreciated, and especially so during these trying times.

**Please note that the mailing address for St. Vincent de Paul is  
PO Box 1654, Rawlins, WY 82301.**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

**\*CONTACT: ELISSIA PETERSEN\***

**(405)778-9795 or [stjosephparish317@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephparish317@gmail.com)**

(ALL CLASSES ARE IN THE SCHOOL)

**CCD (Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup>)**

Wednesdays 5:00-6:30 pm

**Youth Group (Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup>)**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 5:00-6:30 pm

+

**Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>)**

Sundays 3:30-4:30 pm

**Confirmation..Year 2**

Sundays 3:30-4:30 pm

**Secondary Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>)**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 4:45 - 5:45 pm

+

**Adult Formation**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 pm

### Hurricane Melissa

The full extent of Hurricane Melissa's destruction is becoming clear after the powerful storm swept across Jamaica, Haiti and Cuba. In Jamaica, which suffered the greatest impact, the Catholic Church, through Caritas Antilles and local dioceses, is leading emergency response coordination with Catholic Relief Services. More than 2,000 kits—including water, sanitation, hygiene supplies and essential items—were prepositioned by CRS in St. Lucia for a crisis just like this. Trained volunteers are now deployed in shelters and communities to provide assistance. Your generosity is needed to support these efforts.

### WAYS TO HELP:

Donate **online**: [crs.org/donate/hurricane-melissa](https://crs.org/donate/hurricane-melissa)

Donate by **phone**: 1-877-HELP-CRS

Donate by **check**: Catholic Relief Services, Hurricane Melissa P.O. Box 5278, Tipton, IA 52772-0517

### ***Please Pray for Migrants and Refugees***

Our Catholic faith teaches that every person is created in the image and likeness of God and deserves to be treated with dignity, including migrants. Jesus taught us to be like the Good Samaritan who looked with compassion on an unknown man stripped, beaten, and left for dead (*Lk. 10:33*). He said, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me." (*Mt. 25:40*). Many members of our communities are living in fear of being separated from family members and friends. We invite all people to pray for migrants and refugees, and for a spirit of hospitality and compassion for our neighbors.

***Lord Jesus, teach us to look on your brothers and sisters with compassion. Inspire us to be near to all who travel uncertain paths. Bless migrants and refugees with protection, hope, and welcome. Fill us with compassion, courage, and peace. Amen.***