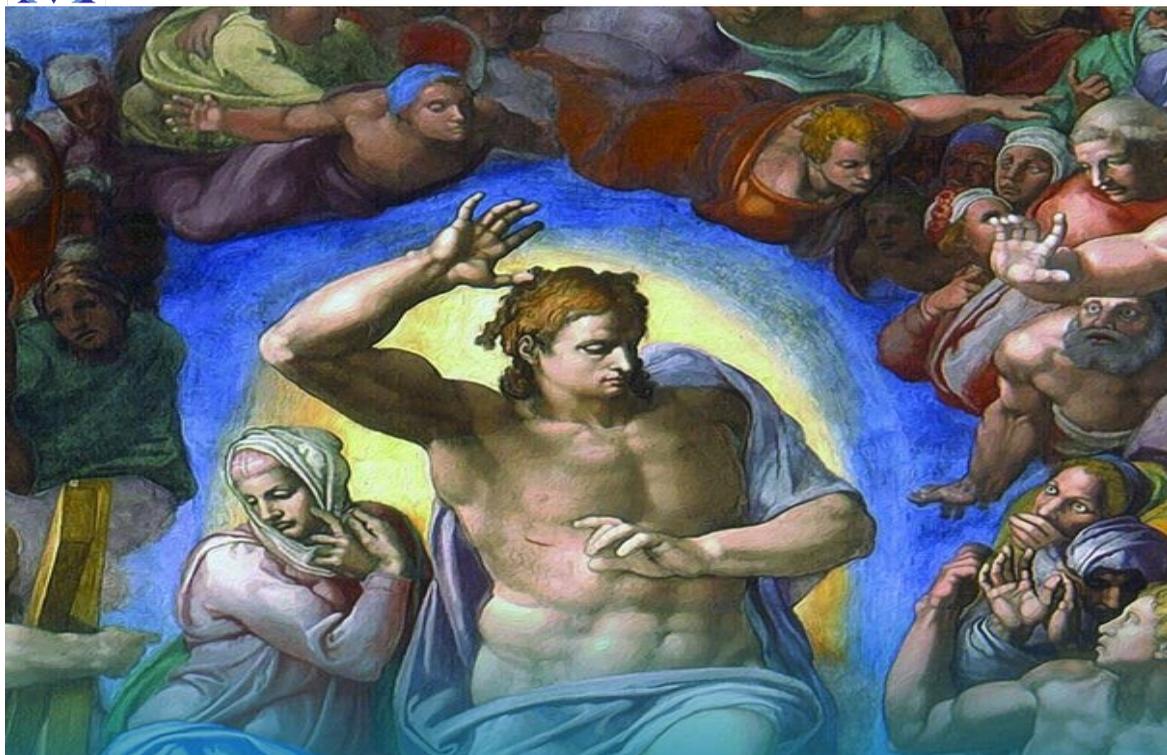




St. Mary's Catholic Church



**1st SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning.” - Mk 13:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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November 29, 2020

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Fr.felixnayak@yahoo.in
Fr. Felix Nayak- Pastor

Mass Schedule and Intentions

11/30: Malta - To Be Announced

12/1: Malta - 5:30 PM: Constante Family ^{r/b} Knights of Columbus

12/2: Malta - 8:30 AM: Sherman Doucette ^{r/b} Bruce & Darlene Cummings

12/3: Malta - 8:30 AM: Demarais Family ^{r/b} Julie & Gary Howell

12/4: Malta - 8:30 AM: Michelle Muri ^{r/b} Maynard & Mary LaFond

12/5: Malta - 4:00 PM: Repose Mikel Perraut ^{r/b} Helen DePuydt

12/6: Dodson - 8:30 AM: Special Intentions ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

Malta - 10:00 AM: For all Parishioners;

Saco— 12:00 PM: Repose of Sally Demarais Smith ^{r/b} Julie & Gary Howell

Confession Schedule

Fr. Felix will be in the Confessional at St. Mary's Church **Friday's 9:00-10:00,**
Saturday from 11:00 A.M.—Noon; and by appointment.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday from 9 to 10 AM after Daily Mass.



Contact Fr. Felix for Home Visits, Distribution of the Sacraments, Home Blessings and Counseling of any type.



Knights of Columbus
Council 2124

Parish Council of Catholic
Women

Meets **First Tuesday** of the month

Meets **Second Sunday** of the month

Daily Scripture Readings

11/29: 1st Sunday of Advent; Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7; Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

11/30: St. Andrew, Apostle; Romans 10:9-18; Psalms 19:8-11; Matthew 4:18-22

12/1: Tuesday in the first week of Advent; Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Luke 10:21-24

12/2: Wednesday in the first week of Advent; Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalms 23:1-6
Matthew 15:29-37

12/3: St. Francis Xavier, Priest; Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalms 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

12/4: Friday in the first week of Advent; : Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9:27-31

12/5: Saturday in the first week of Advent; Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalms 147:1-6; Isaiah 30:18; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5, 6-8

12/6: 2nd Sunday of Advent; Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalms 85:9-14; Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to possess You within my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

New to the Parish?

Welcome! We're glad you will be joining us. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket. You may bring it by the parish office or send it to us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

You may also use this form for a change of address. Thanks!

Sacraments

Confessions: See page 2 of this week's bulletin for schedule or by appointment.

Baptism: Normally celebrated at weekend Masses. Parental sessions are required.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Fr. Felix as soon as possible for anointing.

Marriages: Six month couple preparation period required. Please meet with Fr. Felix before scheduling marriage date.

Please Pray For

Ann Clouse, Chayten Pippin, Jim Nieber, Hi-Line Retirement Center, Deb Taylor, Terry Idler, Jack Lind, Marshal Kline, Paul LaBrie, Jacob LaBrie, and those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of Jack Lind, Dale McNamara, Donald Ereaux, the Poor Souls in Purgatory, and for comfort and peace for their families.

Anyone who needs to have prayers said for someone can call Jean Niebur at 654-2822. Names will be listed in the bulletin for one month unless specified.

Everyday Stewardship

In the Unexpected

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don’t seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become

mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Thank you for all your prayers and financial support! Although we’re not “passing the basket”, we still need your generous donations. You can drop off your donations at the baskets in the front of the church, mail them to Box 70, Malta, MT 59538.

There is no longer online giving. Direct deposits from your account into your parishes account is available. Please contact Mariah for routing numbers

Pope Francis’ Intention

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Fr. Felix

Advent I [B]: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

The theme of today's readings is Jesus' warning to us to be alert, watchful and prepared because Christ's Second Coming, coinciding with the end of the world, can occur at any time. People, in general, used to have a paranoid fear about the end of the world. They expected it in A.D. 204, 999 and 2000. But Jesus, in today's Gospel, gives us the assurance that we need not be afraid of the end of the world, Christ's Second Coming and the Last Judgment if we remain alert and prepared. The Church invites us on this first Sunday of Advent to prepare for Christ's Second Coming, first by properly celebrating during this Christmas season the fond memory of Christ's first coming 2000 years ago, second, by experiencing Christ's daily advent or coming in the Eucharistic celebrations, in the Holy Bible and in the worshiping community, and third, by preparing for Jesus' Second Coming which, for us, will happen at the moment of our deaths or at the end of the World.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah prays for God's active presence so that the Jewish community, returned from Babylonian exile, may remain faithful to their God. In the second reading, St. Paul prays for the reconversion of Christians in Corinth who have misused their gifts and charisms and remain ill-prepared for Christ's Second Coming. In today's Gospel, using the short parable of the

servants and gatekeeper of an absentee master who could return at any time, Jesus instructs his followers to be alert and watchful while doing their Christian duties with sincerity. The gatekeeper and the household servants are expected to be ever vigilant because their master is sure to return. Although the time of his return is uncertain, but the reward or punishment is sure and certain.

The message of today's Scripture is that we should live in the living presence of Jesus every day waiting for his Second Coming. We can experience Christ's living presence in the Holy Eucharist, in the Holy Bible, in our worshiping community in our parish, in our family, in our own souls and in everyone around us. The early Christians experienced it, and that is why the mutual greeting among Christians was not "Hi!" or "Good Morning!" but the Aramaic, "Maran Atha" which means "Come, Lord Jesus." This greeting acknowledged Jesus present in each of them and about to return. May God bless us and keep us ever prepared for Christ's second coming.

PCCW Happenings

PCCW will be doing cookie trays to parish members and shut-ins immediately following Mass on Sunday, December 6th in the church basement. Each band is asked to bring 4 dozen cookies or items for the trays (wrapped purchased candies or treats, diabetic candy, homemade cookies that transport well and don't melt) and everyone is invited to join us in singing Christmas carols. Please wear a mask as we will spread out and try to be socially distant.

RCIA Classes. If anyone is interested in RCIA classes please contact Tom DePuydt. First class December 3rd. (Contact information can be found on page 10 in the Bulletin)

Faith Formation Study on Salvation

In these study sessions of **LECTIO**, you will discover the profound importance, meaning, purpose, and beauty of Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, as seen through the eyes of the Church.

The study sessions begin on

Monday, November 30th

6:00 -7:30

Religious Education Center.

Contact: Crystal Mears 654-7307 or Brenda Rummel 301-0936

December 8th—Holy Day of Obligation:
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December 10th—Finance Council Meeting

December 20th—Youth Mass

Christmas Eve—4:00 Vigil Mass

Christmas Day—Regular Sunday Schedule

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Gospel Meditation

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is

important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us.LPi

Posture Change for Mass Directed

By Bishop Michael Warfel

"After consultation with the Diocesan Worship Commission and with members of the Priests' Council on this question, the normal posture following the Lamb of God at Mass will be kneeling until the beginning of the Communion procession. The effective date in which all parishes are to return to the kneeling posture following the Lamb of God is the First Sunday of Advent."

Bishop Michael has asked that all the faithful of Eastern Montana pray the "Prayer to the Holy Family for the First Synod of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings". Priests have been asked to pray this prayer at every Mass beginning on Sunday, November 29th, the First Sunday of Advent, and continue until the conclusion of the Synod in September 2021.

Mass Intentions

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of having Masses celebrated for those we offer up in prayer. The Mass is the ultimate form of prayer, and each Mass is celebrated for an intention. We ask \$10.00 per mass intention.

Please consider having Masses celebrated for

family and friends on special occasions and anniversaries, as well as those who are in need of prayers. Masses are also encouraged in memory of those loved ones who have died, especially on the anniversaries of their deaths. Please contact Fr. Felix for more information.

Online giving is no longer available. I apologize for any inconvenience that may have occurred for my not removing the item from the bulletin in a timely fashion. Brenda



	Goal	Remaining	Past Due
Malta:	\$15,520.00	\$7,620.00	92,305.91
Dodson:	\$3,204.00	\$1,584.00	\$0.00
Saco:	\$2,525.00	\$0.00	\$4,466.41

Sacrificial Giving for 11-22

	11-22	Needed	Online
Malta:	\$1,319.75	\$3,879.78	\$1,100.00
Dodson:	\$200.00	\$416.18	\$0.00
Saco:	\$287.00	\$470.96	\$87.00

Finance Council

Charlie Mears 654-7006, cmears@itstriangle.com

Regina Webb 319-491-7607, auntregina@gmail.com

Lance Hould 406-539-5772, lanceh_99@hotmail.com

Mike Ereaux 658-2613 (H), 654-7803 (C), mfe7195@itstriangle.com

Scott King 654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Lana Fortin 654-4811, lanafortin03@gmail.com

Please send bulletin announcements to **office@SaintMarysMalta.org** by Thursday evening. Thanks!

Word of Life from the USCCB

“Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society.”

Weekly Reflection from Priests for Life

Active Waiting...

The Second Vatican Council reflects upon the relationship between the coming of Christ and our activity to prepare for it. In the Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, we read, "Far from diminishing our concern to develop this earth, the expectancy of a new earth should spur us on, for it is here that the body of a new human family grows, foreshadowing in some way the age which is to come....When we have spread on earth the fruits of our nature and our enterprise --

human dignity, brotherly communion and freedom -- according to the command of the Lord and in his Spirit, we will find them once again, cleansed this time from the stain of sin, illuminated and transfigured, when Christ presents to his Father an eternal and universal kingdom...." (#39). In other words, the spirit of Advent should naturally bolster our pro-life efforts, and the progress we make in promoting human dignity becomes the "building blocks" for the eternal kingdom.

Parish Council

Alora Snider— 399-1675, alora_lynn_09@hotmail.com (Malta)

Shawn Bleth— 654-7303, shawn.bleth@gmail.com (Malta)

Cliff Merriman— 654-4391, merrimanclifford@gmail.com (K of C)

Wilma Mavencamp—654-1346, maven100@itstriangle.com (PCCW)

Tom DePuydt—674-7060, 4bard@itstriangle.com (Saco)

Leona Kienenberger—383-4459, leona_kienenberger@yahoo.com (Dodson)



BECOME A KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

www.kofc.org/joinus

Code: MCGIVNEY2020

Faith, Family, Community, Life

Join the Knights online for free until December 31, 2020.

Join now and receive a 2020 Knights of Columbus Christmas ornament*

**Ornament supplies are limited, so join now!*



Join us in praying the Rosary before Mass.

Tuesdays at 5:10 p.m.

Wednesday—Friday at 8:10 a.m.

Saturday—3:40 p.m.

Sunday— 9:40 a.m.

First Sunday of
ADVENT

