

Saint Anthony Catholic Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Great Falls—Billings



Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5:30 pm
 Sunday 8:45 am, 11:00 am

Daily Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 5:30 pm
 Wed – Sat 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday 7:45 – 8:30 am
 Tues & Sat 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Before & After Daily Mass

OR By Appointment

Pastor: Rev Bart Stevens

406-697-1912

OR paduapriest@gmail.com

Contact Us

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Religious Education @ 628-7484

OR paduareoffice@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Tues, Thurs, Fri 10 am – 2 pm
 Wed 10 am – 5 pm

Mailing Address:

317 W 7th St

Online:

www.saintanthonycatholicchurch.org
[facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel)

[saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel](http://saintanthonycatholicchurchmontanalaurel.org)

Secretary: Michelle Lopez

Bookkeeper: Kathy Manders

Religious Ed: Rita Baeten

Please remember to contact the office if you or someone in your family is hospitalized or enters a care facility.

Third Sunday of Advent



"The liturgy of today's Mass repeats the words of Saint Paul in which he urges the first Christians of Philippi: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice.* And the Apostle goes on to give the basic reason for this profound happiness: The Lord is at hand.

This is also the joy of Advent, and that of every day: Jesus is very near us. He is nearer every day. And Saint Paul gives us the key to understanding the origin of any unhappiness we may feel: it comes from our putting a distance between ourselves and God, through our sins, through tepidity.

Our Lord always brings us joy and not affliction. *His mysteries are all joyful mysteries, the sorrowful mysteries we bring on ourselves.*

Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you, said the Angel to Mary. It is the nearness of God which makes the Virgin rejoice. And the nearness of the Messiah will make the unborn Baptist show forth his joy in the womb of Elizabeth. And the Angel will say to the shepherds: *Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Savior...* Joy is to possess Jesus; unhappiness is to lose Him."

(In Conversation with God, Francis Fernandez)

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

*Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi!***Blessing of Wine** on the Feast of Saint John the Apostle

Sacraments are visible signs given by Christ to give grace to souls. **Sacramentals** are visible signs given by the Church to give grace to souls. We all know the great power of the 7 Sacraments to give grace, but do we realize the great power and help of the sacramentals of the Church? Through His Church, our Lord Jesus Christ has given us dozens of sacramentals to help us grow in grace: holy water, the Brown Scapular and a blessed Saint Benedict medal are a few examples.

A sacramental opportunity is coming up in the week following Christmas, on the Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist. Although Saint Peter was chosen by Christ to be the first and leader among the 12 Apostles, Saint John was called 'the Beloved Disciple.' John demonstrates His love for our Lord in that he was the only apostle who stood at the foot of the cross. We see another image of the love between our Lord and John at the Last Supper, when John is reclining on our Lord's chest, so close to the Sacred Heart.

Sometime after Christ's ascension into heaven, enemies tried to kill Saint John by putting poison in his wine. When he blessed the wine a serpent came out of the chalice and he drank it without any ill effect! In honor of Saint John the Beloved, the Church now provides a blessing that any priest can invoke over wine on his feast day, December 27th. Here's a text-byte of that blessing:

"If it please you, Lord God, bless and consecrate this vessel of wine by the power of your right hand; and grant that, through the merits of St. John, apostle and evangelist, all your faithful who drink of it may find it a help and a protection. As the blessed John drank the poisoned potion without any ill effects, so may all who today drink the blessed wine in his honor be delivered from poisoning and similar harmful things. And as they offer themselves body and soul to you, may they obtain pardon of all their sins; through Christ our Lord."

There is an ancient tradition of gathering with family and friends on the Feast of Saint John for a special meal in which all are invited to share in the blessed wine. Raising a glass, the host says, "I drink you the love of Saint John," to which they reply, "I thank you for the love of Saint John." Yet another easy way to bring our Catholic Faith into our homes and family life, and a real blessing for help and protection for body and soul!

I invite you to bring wine to Mass on Thursday, December 27th, which I will bless following the Mass. If you are unable to be there for the 9 AM Mass, you could bring it to the sacristy the day before and pick it back up later—just make sure you label it!

Pax.

Fr Bart

Catholic Women's Retreat**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL***"Our Guidance & Hope in Times of Confusion"***SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019**

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Saint Anthony Catholic Church, Laurel, MT

Ladies, in the new year, let's gather for a day of prayer, fellowship, and inspiring talks by **Fr. Bart Stevens** and **Fr. Garrett Nelson**. Most of us are familiar with the image of Our Lady of Good Counsel, but have you heard the miraculous story behind the Madonna image? It's truly an inspiring message of people with great personal courage, who remain faithful and devoted to Our Lady in very challenging times. Invite a friend and join the women of the parish to start 2019 off right!



Cost: Free Will Offering

Lunch: Provided by Saint Anthony PCCW

**Christmas Dinner**

The women of Saint Anthony CCW gathered at the Hall for their annual Christmas potluck and everyone brought their favorite dishes for all to share. May Magnus provided entertainment with her musical group and all enjoyed a wonderful evening of fun and games.

Support the Knights of Columbus annual Christmas Card sale. They will have cards available for purchase in the Narthex after Mass.



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Poinsettias are coming! For only \$10 you can help beautify our church for the Holy Christmas Season. Sign up In the Narthex to have one reserved in your name.

The Christmas Season Mass Schedule is as follows:

Monday, Dec 24th 6 pm Vigil Mass
 12 am Midnight Mass
 Tuesday, Dec 25th 10 am Christmas Day
 (1 hour later than regular daily
 Mass time of 9 am)
 NO 5:30 pm Mass
 (Solemnity of Mary —Holy Day of Obligation)
 Monday, Dec 31st New Year's Eve Vigil
 6 pm High Mass
 Tuesday, Jan 1st 9 am New Year's Day

Fr Bart will be away with his family and there will be no Mass celebrated Jan 2nd and Jan 3rd. He will be back to celebrate Daily Mass on Friday, Jan 4th.

Carroll College is again offering a prospective student from Saint Anthony Parish a Carroll College scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000. The recipient must be a student planning to attend Carroll for the first time in the fall of 2019. If you would like more information about the scholarship please contact the office.

Please note: 2019 Donation Envelopes have been labeled with names and placed in the Narthex for our parishioners. Please take your box home. If you do not see your name please contact the office to be sure that your information is updated and correctly listed in ParishSoft.

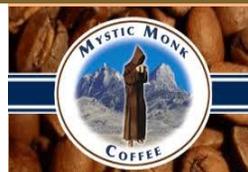


Have you ever thought of becoming a lector? This ministry is so important and we are in need of a few more persons to assist in this area. There is minimal training and commitment. If you are interested or would just like more information inquire at the office or contact Jack Auzqui.

Attention Lectors It is time to compile the next schedule for lectors, which will cover February 2nd through August 4th. In addition to regular weekend Masses, we will also have Ash Wednesday (3/6) and Holy Week (4/18-21). Please review your schedules and notify Jack Auzqui (jmauzqui@gmail.com) by December 15th of any scheduling conflicts you may have. Thank you for participating in this most important parish ministry! God Bless.

Lector Schedule

Saturday, December 15th	Sunday, December 16th
5:30 pm Melody Deyle	8:45 am Baylie Redman
	11:00 am Van Hagestad



YES Youth Ministry would like to thank all those who supported their annual Christmas Mystic Monk Coffee Fundraiser.

NO RE classes December 19—January 2. See you January 9th!

Saint Anthony Stewardship Report

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$80,635.06
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	97,920.00
	(\$17,284.94)
Income Week of December 9	\$ 3,943.90
Weekly Budget	4,080.00
	(\$ 136.10)

Thank you for supporting your Saint Anthony parish!

A Friendly Reminder—Year End Charitable Giving

Charitable contributions are tax deductible (for those who itemize) in the year the gift is made. For your charitable gifts to be credited in 2018, please note: Donation checks date—and the postmark date—must be before midnight on December 31. Contributions given online are deductible in 2018 as long as you make the gift online before midnight on December 31.

Prefer online donation?

Secure online giving is available on our website!

Go to www.saintanthonicatholicchurch.org

Care & Share 2018

Assessment	\$35,889.00
Less Contributions	\$26,332.36
& Outstanding Pledges	\$ 3,348.00
Remaining Balance	\$ 6,208.64

Parish Council of Catholic Women



PCCW President Tracy Chechet 426-8526
 December 16 Coffee & Rolls St Bridget
 December 23 NO Coffee & Rolls
 December Altar Cleaning St Joan

No December monthly meeting—Christmas Potluck

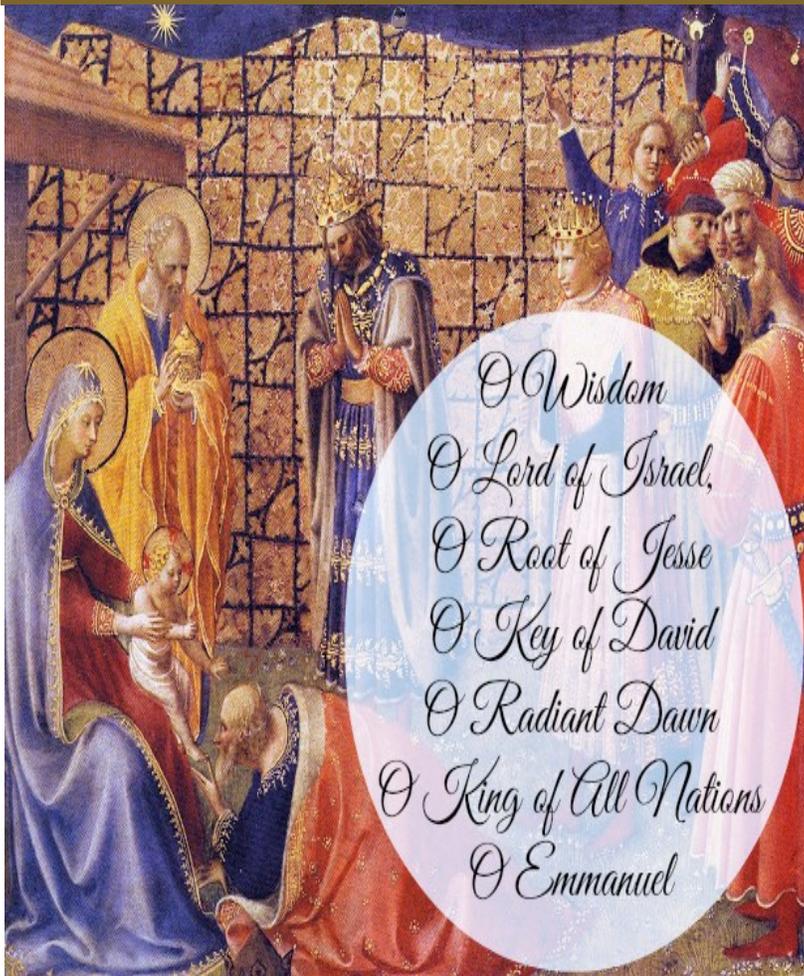
Ready to get involved in the parish?

Join the **Knights of Columbus!**

Knight of the Month - Bob Lanaghan
 Knight Family of the Month - Jason & Mandy O'Connor

Monthly meeting held 3rd Monday, December 17, at 7:00 pm
 Knights 5th Sunday Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast, Dec 30.





O Wisdom
 O Lord of Israel,
 O Root of Jesse
 O Key of David
 O Radiant Dawn
 O King of All Nations
 O Emmanuel

THE "O" ANTIPHONS

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are prayed immediately before the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours (or the Divine Office). Each antiphon begins with the exclamation "O", thus earning their popular name of the "O Antiphons." They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, from Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Vespers of the Christmas Vigil.

THE PROPHETIC TITLES OF JESUS

The O Antiphons are special because each one emphasizes a different prophetic title of the soon-to-be-born King of Kings as foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah: *Wisdom, Lord of Israel, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of All Nations, and Emmanuel.*

Additionally, the ancient monks who first assembled the O Antiphons were very creative with the order in which they are prayed. If one takes the first letter of each antiphon (in the Latin) starting from the last to the first, the word ERO CRAS is formed which translates, "Tomorrow I will come."

I encourage you to make a new tradition this year to pray these antiphons on the eight nights before Christmas to help you welcome the newborn King.

Weekly Mass Schedule

We gather to pray the Holy Rosary 1/2 hour before every Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Tuesday is excepted: we pray the Perpetual Help Devotion 15 minutes before Mass and follow Tuesday's Low Latin Mass with the Marian Movement of Priest's Cenacle group meeting. We pray the holy rosary and share a reading from the Blue Book with discussion after. Please join us! We need to pray for our Priests and our Pope!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Offered By</u>
Monday, 17th	9:00 am	Liturgy of the Hours			
Tuesday, 18th	5:30 pm	Low Latin Mass		Priestly Fraternity of Saint Joseph	
Wednesday, 19th	9:00 am	Daily Mass		Ken Berestecky & Family	
Thursday, 20th	9:00 am	Daily Mass		Steve Skyler & Family	
Friday, 21st	9:00 am	Daily Mass	✠	Homer Woolsey	Chris & Jahna White
	6:00 pm	Benediction		Eucharistic Adoration!	Sign up now!
Saturday, 22nd	9:00 am	Daily Mass		Holy Vocations to the Priesthood	Saint Anthony Parish
	5:30 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass		Vern & Margie Davis	
Sunday, 23rd	8:45 am	Solemn Mass		Pro Populo	
4th Sunday of Advent	11:00 am	Sunday Mass		Holly Olszewski	Glenn Bliss Family

