

## Weekly Calendar

**Sun., Jan 18:** Adult Catechism class, 4:00 pm  
**Mon., Jan 19:** Knights of Columbus monthly meeting, church basement, 6:00 pm  
**Wed., Jan 21:** Children's Catechism class, 3:45pm  
**Wed., Jan 21:** Mass and Adoration, 5:30 pm  
**Sun., Jan 25:** "Growing in Faith" program after Mass in the church basement.

## Mass Intentions

**Sun., Jan 18:** For the People  
**Mon., Jan 19:** No Mass  
**Tues., Jan 20:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Wed., Jan 21:** †For Connie Medhus by Lowell Medhus  
**Thurs., Jan 22:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fri., Jan 23:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sat., Jan 24:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Offertory Collections:** **Month of Nov. 2025**  
**St. Joseph's** Income: \$ 9,432.87  
**Sat., Jan 10:** \$ 571.00 **Expenses:** \$ 11,027.86  
**Sun., Jan 11:** \$ 1,368.00 **Loss** (\$ 1,594.99)  
**St. Mary's**  
**Sun., Jan 11:** \$ 95.00

## Pastoral Staff Volunteers

**Parish Bookkeeper:** Colleen Schaak  
**Parish Secretary:** Celeste Geier, 406.679.1679  
**Bulletin:** Patty Kepp, 406.665.5257  
**Website Editor:** Julie O'Dell, 406.665.5178  
**Director of Religious Education:** Celeste Geier

## Mass Servers

<u>Commentator</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>
Sat., Jan 17 Julie O'Dell	Richelle Link	Celeste Geier & Patty Kepp
Sun., Jan 18 Liezel Ferido	Candy Wells	Visencia Ramirez & Sue Seykora
Sat., Jan 24 Richelle Link	Celeste Geier	Patty Kepp & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Jan 25 Angela Ramirez	Visencia Ramirez	Sue Seykora & Candy Wells
Sat., Jan 31 Patty Kepp	Celeste Geier	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Feb 1 Sheila Mae Pocadol	Genne Taganahan	Angela Ramirez & Visencia Ramirez



Did you know the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana has more than 200 endowments that support Catholic churches, schools, and ministries all throughout the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings? By supporting these endowments, you can help ensure the Church remains strong for generations to come. To learn more, visit [www.catholicfoundationmt.org](http://www.catholicfoundationmt.org) or call (406) 315-1765.



**The 2025 Tax Statements have been mailed. Please contact Celeste Geier, 406.679.1679, if your record of contributions show different from the statement.**

**God is good all the time:  
All the time God is good!**



**Mass Server Volunteers Needed!  
Extraordinary Ministers,  
Lectors, Commentators**

Training will be held after Mass in the church on **Saturday, January 17th and Sunday, January 18th.** The training will take less than 30 minutes of your time. Please step forward and volunteer, we need you!



**Beginning in February**  
Bible studies will be held every other Tuesday in the church basement. The first Bible study will be Tuesday, February 10th at 6:00 p.m. **Everyone is invited!**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24	January 25
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agnes, Virgin	Day of Prayer	Weekday	St. Francis de	Third Sunday in
1 Sm 15:16-23	1 Sm 16:1-13	and Martyr	for the Legal	1 Sm 24:3-21	Sales, Bishop	Ordinary Time
Mk 2:18-22	Mk 2:23-28	1 Sm 17:32-33,	Protection of	Mk 3:13-19	and Doctor of	Is 8:23-9:3
		37, 40-51	Unborn Children			the Church
		Mk 3:1-6	1 Sm 18:6-9;	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-17		1 Cor 1:10-13,
			19:1-7	12, 19, 23-27		Mt 4:12-23
				Mk 3:7-12		or 4:12-17

## Good News!

January 18, 2026  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 / 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 / John 1:29-34

ANN M. GARRIDO

Of the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20-28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—take a moment to savor these words anew. ●



Randy & Belinda Malensek

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## St. Joseph's Catholic Church

710 N Custer Avenue

Hardin, MT 59034

Father Callistus Igwenagu

406.665.1432

Website: stjosephparishhardin.org

Email: stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com

Facebook: St Joseph Catholic Parish—Hardin

Reconciliation: Saturday from 5:00-5:30 pm

For Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick,  
please contact Father Cally

All questions—Father Cally, 406.665.1432

## Dear Padre,

*I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.*

You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully.

Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ●

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



## Mass Schedule

St. Joseph's Church—Hardin

Sunday Mass - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday Mass - 5:45 p.m.

Daily Mass - 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday—Friday

Exceptions: Wednesday Mass

and Adoration—5:30 p.m.

First Friday Healing Mass—5:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Mission—Custer

Sunday Mass - 11:00 a.m.



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