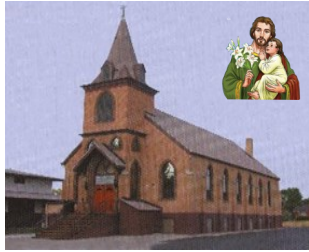


**Octave Day of Christmas: Mary, the Holy Mother of God: January 1—7, 2023**



**St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

**710 N Custer Avenue  
Hardin, MT 59034**

**Father Callistus Igwenagu  
406-665-1432**

**Website:** [stjosephparishhardin.org](http://stjosephparishhardin.org)  
**Email:** [stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com)  
**Facebook:** St Joseph Catholic Parish—Hardin

**Pastoral Staff Volunteers**

**Parish Bookkeeper:** Colleen Schaak  
**Parish Secretary:** Deb Johnson  
**Bulletin:** Patty Kepp  
**Website Editor:** Julie O'Dell  
**Religious Education:** Celeste Geier & Bethany Fuchs

**Mass Intentions**

**Sun., Jan 1:** For the people  
**Mon., Jan 2:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Tues., Jan 3:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Wed., Jan 4:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Thurs., Jan 5:** +For Connie Medhus  
by Lowell Medhus  
**Fri., Jan 6:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sat., Jan 7:** For recovery of Lorraine Kuntz  
by Joe & Elaine Malensek



**Offertory Collections:** **Month of Nov., 2022**  
**Sat., Dec 24:** \$ 1,948.00 **Income:** \$ 7,271.82  
**Sun., Dec 25:** \$ 1,149.00 **Expenses:** \$ 8,732.96  
- \$ 1,461.14

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

**Mass Servers**

	<b>Commentator</b>	<b>Lector</b>
Sat., Dec 31	Julie O'Dell	Patty Kepp
Sun., Jan 1	Candy Wells	Visencia Ramirez
Sat., Jan 7	Chris Fuchs	Bethany Fuchs
Sun., Jan 8	Sue Seykora	Candy Wells
Sat., Jan 14	Katie Fuchs	Richelle Link
Sun., Jan 15	Visencia Ramirez	Candy Wells
Sat., Jan 21	Christy Morse	Larry Johnson
Sun., Jan 22	Angela Ramirez	Sue Seykora


**Mass Schedule**

**St. Joseph's Church – Hardin**  
**Sunday Mass – 9:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday Mass – 5:45 p.m.**  
**Weekday Mass – 8:00 a.m. M-F**  
**St. Mary's Mission – Custer**  
**Sunday Mass – 11:00 a.m.**

**Reconciliation: Saturday from 4:45-5:30 pm**  
**For Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick, please contact Father Cally**  
**Contact Numbers:**  
**Father Cally, 406-665-1432: all questions**  
**Patty Kepp, 406-665-5257: bulletin**

**Calendar**

**Wed., Jan 4:** Religious Education class, 3:45 pm  
**Wed., Jan 4:** Mass, Adoration and Divine Mercy prayer, 5:30 pm  
**Fri, Jan 6:** First Friday of the month Healing Mass, 5:30 pm  
**Sat., Jan 7:** Rosary Novena #5 of 9 led by the Catholic Daughters, 5:20 pm  
**Mon., Jan 9:** Catholic Daughters monthly meeting 6:00 pm, church basement  
**Tues., Jan 10:** Parish Council meeting, church basement, 6:00 pm



**Eucharistic Revival 2023: May 5-6**  
**at Billings Central Catholic School**  
**Please visit [diocesegfb.org/revival](http://diocesegfb.org/revival)**  
**to purchase your ticket.**

Every Parish family can have unlimited access to life changing Catholic content that will enrich your life. Formed is an online platform that provides 24/7 access to the best movies, ebooks and video based studies from a trusted provider like the Augustine Institute. As a parishioner of St. Joseph's, you will have the opportunity to learn more about Formed and how to get started for free in the next couple of weeks.

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD**

Today is the first day of the year 2023. It's a day of gratitude to God for allowing us to see another year. To him be all the glory and honour for ever and ever. Amen.

Today the church celebrates the solemnity of Mary, the mother of God. This feast is placed on this first day of the year because Blessed Virgin Mary played a very important role in the salvation of mankind. She is the door through which God the son, the light of the world entered the human world. St. Paul mentioned that in the second reading (Gal 4:4-7) when he said that God the Father sent his son born of a woman so that we might receive adoptions as God's children. God the son took flesh in the womb of Blessed Virgin Mary. She gave birth to him on December 25th. That was the feast we celebrated 7 days ago.

As the mother of Jesus, Mary is also our mother since we are adopted children of God. We are brothers and sister of Jesus Christ. She is a loving and a caring mother. She is a great intercessor. At wedding in Cana of Galilee (John 2:1-11) through her intercession wine was supplied to the wedding couple. She just spoke to her son who is God, and the miracle was done. Mary is very close to her son. In fact, nobody is closer to Jesus than his mother Mary. She knows him more than any other person. She can reach him easier and faster than any other person. Therefore, devotion to Mary is very highly encouraged. Whoever wants to get to Jesus easily and faster should go through his mother.

The church invites us today to draw closer to Mary the mother of God so that we can receive in abundance God's New Year blessings. At the beginning of every year God blesses his children. These blessings are contained in the first reading (Num. 6: 22-27) of today. And I declare these blessings to you at this Mass: May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace; May God bless you in his mercy. Amen. It's my prayers that this year will be a year of divine visitation to each of us; a year of uncommon favours from the Lord; a year of breakthrough. When God gave Sarah the wife of Abraham a child in her old

age, Sarah exclaimed 'God has given me a cause to laugh and all who hear this good news will laugh with me'(Gen.21:6). This year God will give you a cause to laugh and to be abundantly happy. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of God and our mother continues to intercede for us.

On a day like this we are reminded of the need to make New Year resolutions. It is a renewed commitment to serve God better in the New Year. May God help us in our resolves.



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience:**

Are you tired of making New Year's resolutions that fade into the sunset? Consider a resolution this year to do something positive for your marriage – one thing – a weekend alone together, a private and prayerful experience with your spouse. \$100 Application fee. You need only show up Friday night and we will take care of everything else. Upcoming WWME Experiences are Feb 3-5 in Billings, MT and April 21-23 at The Historic Elk Mountain Hotel. For more information or to register call Dan and Clare: 406-697-3275 or visit our website: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org)

**Cum Christo Weekends**

**Men's Weekend Dates:**  
Feb 9 - 12, 2023  
Rector: Dean Mindt 406-687-3818 [mindtdean@gmail.com](mailto:mindtdean@gmail.com)  
Scripture Theme: "I go to prepare a place for you"  
**Women's Weekend Dates:**  
Feb 16 - 19, 2023  
Rectora: Wendy Wiltzen 406-480-9845 [wwiltzen@gmail.com](mailto:wwiltzen@gmail.com)  
Scripture Theme: "Be not afraid, I am with you always"  
More information on the table at the entrance of the church.

