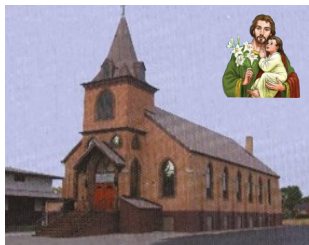


Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time: November 19—25, 2023



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](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephCatholicParishHardin)

Pastoral Staff Volunteers

Parish Bookkeeper: Colleen Schaak

Parish Secretary: Deb Johnson

Bulletin: Patty Kepp

Website Editor: Julie O'Dell

Director of Religious Education: Celeste Geier

Mass Intentions

Sun., Nov 19: For the People

Mon., Nov 20: No Mass

Tues., Nov 21: +For Caroline Reile-Renz
by Jim & Sue Seykora

Wed., Nov 22: +For Connie Medhus
by Lowell Medhus

Thurs., Nov 23: Anthony T Cacchione family
(St Labre Benefactor)

Fri., Nov 24: Anthony T Cacchione family
(St Labre Benefactor)

Sat., Nov 25: +For Sheri Printz
by Larry & Deb Johnson



Offertory Collections

Sat., Nov 11 : \$ 163.00

Sun., Nov 12: \$ 1,133.00

Month of Sept., 2023

Income: \$ 8,981.00

Expenses: \$ 7,149.97

\$ 1,831.03

Fiscal Year ending 6.30.23

Income: \$ 96,416.60

Expenses \$ 104,547.68

\$ (8,131.08)

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

Mass Servers

| | Commentator | Lector | Eucharistic Ministers |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sat., Nov 18 | Deb Johnson | Larry Johnson | Deb & Larry Johnson |
| Sun., Nov 19 | Angela Ramirez | Sue Seykora | Visencia Ramirez & Candy Wells |
| Sat., Nov 25 | Celeste Geier | Julie O'Dell | Celeste Geier & Patty Kepp |
| Sun., Nov 26 | Genne Taganahan | Candy Wells | Angela Ramirez & Visencia Ramirez |
| Sat., Dec 2 | Patty Kepp | Celeste Geier | Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell |
| Sun., Dec 3 | Sue Seykora | Angela Ramirez | Visencia Ramirez & Candy Wells |

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

St. Mary's Mission – Custer

Sunday Mass – 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday from 5:00-5:30 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

Mon., Nov 20: Knights of Columbus monthly meeting, 6:00 pm, church basement

Wed., Nov 22: No Religious Education class, Thanksgiving break from school

Wed., Nov 22: Mass & Adoration, 5:30 pm

Thurs., Nov 23: Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9:00am

The Knights of Columbus are selling Christmas Trees this year for \$25.00. Delivery will be available after Nov 28th. The sign up sheet is on the table at the entrance of the church.

OCIA OCIA classes have begun on Tuesday's at 4:00 p.m. in the church basement. This class is for adults who would like to be baptized, confirmed or receive First Holy Communion, or those who would like to know more about the Catholic faith.

*thanksgiving
gather
thankful family
blessed grateful
together
blessings
november*

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

In this parable (Matt.2:14-15,19-21), the man who gave out the talents to the servants represents God. The servants represent all human beings. The talents are the natural and supernatural gifts of God to us. God gives us talents differently according to our abilities. There are some people who have more gifts than others. That is the way God wants it. In today's gospel for instance someone was given five talents, the other person two and the third person one. What matters is not the number of gifts or the type of gifts you have but how you use the gifts. The person who received five talents in today's gospel parable made effort and produced extra five. Likewise, the person who received two produced extra two but the person who received one did not use it at all. This last person made no effort to put his gift into use. That was why the master blamed him and punished him.

This parable teaches us that whatever gifts we have, little or big should be used for the service of God and humanity. Someone who has a talent and exercises it will grow and develop it more. Just like the organists/singers: the more they play/sing the more they learn and grow in it. This is applicable to other gifts we have. In using them we grow in them. But if you fail to exercise it, you will inevitably lose it. That is what Jesus meant when he said that 'the one who has more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away'.

As human beings we have the tendency to be envious or jealous of others' gifts. Envy is a sin against the justice and love of God who in justice and love created us the way we are and gave us all that we have. Appreciate your own gift, use it and you will grow in it. Don't be envious or jealous of other's gifts. The third servant in the parable was envious of the other two because they had more talents than he had. Because he was envious, he became lazy too. The one talent he had he couldn't put it into use.

In this parable Jesus said that "After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled account with them". The language "after a long time" has to do with our lifetime on earth. We have a long time from birth to death to use our talents to serve God. At the end of our life, we must give account before God. Note that the Lord may come suddenly like a thief in the night as St.

Paul warns us in the second reading (1Thess.5:1-6). Let us thus constantly put our talents into use just like the virtuous woman in the first reading (Prov.31:10-31) so that when the Lord comes, he will find us worthy and will say to us "Well done, good and faithful servants, come and join in your master's happiness".



Save the Date!
Holiday Soup & Salad Luncheon
Wed., Dec 6th
Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters

Bishop Warfel, now Bishop Emeritus, invites all area Marriage Encounter couples to a gathering at Mary Queen of Peace Parish Center, 120 South 34th St. in Billings (formerly Little Flower School) at 1 PM on Sunday, December 3rd. Having participated recently at the World Council for World Wide Marriage Encounter, Bishop Warfel will share how Marriage Encounter is enriching the domestic church around the world. The gathering will also provide an opportunity to extend congratulations to Bishop Warfel upon his transition as the Bishop of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings to Bishop Emeritus. Participants are asked to bring a snack or a dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.

Did you know that free and professional charitable estate planning services are available to you through the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana? Sometimes the hardest part of planning is knowing what questions to ask and who can help you. You are not alone if you don't know where to start. Do you have a vision about what you could do for the Church through your Will? It may be worth determining how to include the Catholic Church in your plans. Just talk to Father Cally or contact Judy Held, President of the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana, at: judy@catholicfoundationmt.org or 406-315-1765.