

Weekly Calendar

Sun., Sept 7: Adult Catechism class, 4:00 pm, church basement  
Mon., Sept 8: Catholic Daughters monthly meeting, 6:00 pm, church basement  
Wed., Sept 10: Mass & Adoration, 5:30 pm  
Mon., Sept 15: Knights of Columbus monthly meeting, 6:00 pm, church basement

Mass Intentions

Sun., Sept 7: For the People  
Mon., Sept 8: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tues., Sept 9: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wed., Sept 10: †For Connie Medhus by Lowell Medhus  
Thurs., Sept 11: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fri., Sept 12: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sat., Sept 13: \_\_\_\_\_



No Offertory Collections will be posted from August 31 thru Sept 7. They will be posted in the bulletin including those weekends on Sept 14.

Month of July, 2025	Fiscal Year ending 6.30.25
Income: \$ 8,237.09	Income: \$ 96,494.29
Expenses: \$ 9,389.41	Expenses \$ 110,434.86
\$ (1,152.32)	Net Loss \$ (13,940.57)

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

	Commentator	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers
Sat., Sept 6	Richelle Link	Celeste Geier	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Sept 7	Liezel Ferido	Sue Seykora	Angela Ramirez & Candy Wells
Sat., Sept 13	Julie O'Dell	Richelle Link	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Sept 14	Candy Wells	Sheila Mae Pocdol	Visencia Ramirez & Sue Seykora
Sat., Sept 20	Celeste Geier	Julie O'Dell	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Sept 21	Genne Taganahan	Candy Wells	Angela Ramirez & Sue Seykora

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(Lect. 129—Year C)

A single word in today's Gospel makes its lesson difficult to accept. Jesus tells the crowds that no one can be his disciple without first hating all their own family members. How could Jesus, who had just taught them to love their neighbor, say such a thing? Bible scholars suspect that Jesus may be employing Semitic exaggeration here, choosing an overly strong word instead of renouncing or refusing. Jesus' lesson is that discipleship demands total commitment: a willingness to carry one's cross, to renounce one's possessions, to put Jesus first. After all, the first disciples left their families to follow Jesus, sharing in his ministry and becoming his family. In the second reading, Saint Paul, having converted Philemon and then his runaway slave Onesimus, urges Philemon to accept Onesimus, not as a slave, but as a brother in Christ, serving the gospel rather than himself. As his disciples now, we too are called to put Christ first, even as we serve our neighbor, our spouse, our parent. Loving our family is great, but building up the kingdom of God is greater. Participating in this mission as Jesus' disciple is our most important calling.

What should you renounce or sacrifice in order to share in Christ's mission more fully?

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



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If you need assistance contact Celeste at 406 679-1679

Good News!

September 7, 2025  
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
Wisdom 9:13-18b / Philemon 9-10, 12-17 / Luke 14:25-33  
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

There is so often a cost to being a follower of Jesus, to doing the right thing. During our country's Civil War, southern plantation owners came face to face with the gospel's imperative to accept slaves as human beings who have the right to be free, though that would then bring about the collapse of the cotton economy. For them, it was live the gospel or save the economy. Sometimes, the gospel seems to put us in a lose-lose situation.

President Lyndon B. Johnson was confronted by the Vietnam War. By continuing a war he knew was unwinnable, it would cost human lives. If he ended the war, he would be labeled as the president who lost a war. For him, it was lose-lose. Do the right thing or save face. A person may be confronted by a job that demands unjust and immoral decisions when the refusal to make such decisions would cost that person the job necessary to support his or her family. A student may be faced with the prospect of either cheating or receiving a poor grade. Living the gospel is fraught with costs.

Today, our nation faces the difficulties of immigration. On the one hand, there is the gospel's command to love the poor and so to accept immigrants seeking to escape violence and terror and drought, conditions that make it impossible to live. On the other hand, there is the need for our nation to deal with uncontrolled migration. The question of "What would Jesus do?" is never without consequences. ●

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## St. Joseph's Catholic Church

710 N Custer Avenue

Hardin, MT 59034

**Father Callistus Igwenagu**

**406.665.1432**

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Email: [stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com](mailto: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



**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.

## Dear Padre,

**Why is RCIA now called OCIA? And why do people have to go through that process anyway? Can't they just talk to the priest if they want to be Catholic?**

The reason why Christian Initiation for Adults is now identified as the "Order" rather than the "Rite" is that the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) changed the name in November 2021. The name change more accurately reflects the English translations of the Latin texts and emphasizes the ongoing development of participants in the faith. Within the Order are different rites, such as the Rite of Entrance to the Catechumenate, the Rite of Sending, the Rite of Election, the Scrutinies, and the Rites of Initiation.

Although it is still possible to become a baptized Catholic or a confirmed Catholic after a simple conversation with a priest or a catechist, the preferred way is the communal encounter. The Christian community plays an important role in calling us to faith, enabling our practice of the faith, and helping us persevere in our baptismal call to faith. We are not alone; we are part of the people of God. We are the community that is called into life by the Spirit of God and that is nourished by the Eucharist we share and the sacraments we celebrate. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org**



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