



Leaving Room for the Unexpected

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

The Father is the reckless Sower. He sows not only in the good soil, where a harvest might be anticipated, but also in the difficult soil, where nothing seems to take root. He sows with abandon, seemingly wasting good seed, for no other reason than to experience the joy of creation and the endless possibilities of expecting to be surprised.

There is nothing wrong with well-laid-out plans and careful, methodical use of the resources available. However, planning should not exclude the possibility of the creative manifestation of the power of God in an unanticipated manner. Our planning should not restrict and constrict but rather enable and encourage. We have all experienced the unexpected flower that somehow lives surrounded by pavement. Or the hardy tree that clings to the side of the mountain. They should not be there. It should not be possible. Nothing can grow there. Yet, there they are, doing the impossible and proclaiming the improbable.

Thankfully, we serve a God who sees more than we are ever able to see. Who imagines for us more than we have ever dreamed possible. Who not only sows but also tends and waters, enabling stupendous growth, until it is time for the abundant harvest. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

Have you ever been surprised by grace? Could you have missed it?

[God said,] So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it.

ISAIAH 55:11





**Immaculate Conception &
St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

509 N 12th Ave, PO Box 166
Forsyth, MT 59327

email: immaculateconceptionforsyth@gmail.com

<http://www.immaculateconceptionforsyth.com/>

Fr. Rob Oswald (Parish Priest)

email: roswald2@juno.com

Deacon Jim Rodgers 406.426.8254

Office phone: 406.346.9239



Mass Schedule – Forsyth

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule – Hysham

Sunday at 10:30 AM

Sunday at 12:30 PM

Office hours: By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

Religious Education: Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

Confession: Saturdays @ 2 PM.

Baptism: Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

Anointing of the Sick: If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Funerals: When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob before finalizing the arrangements.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob.

Homebound & Sick: If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain: For requests, call Cherie Heser at 406.351.9048.

Mass & Liturgy Schedule:

Sunday	07/12	8:30 AM	Mass Forsyth for Ray Dubois from the Kennedy Family
Sunday	07/12	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Bob Ouren from Joan Thibault.
Tuesday	07/14	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for the Wigen Family from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Friday	07/17	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for the Silvernagel Family from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Saturday	07/18	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for the Silvernagel Family from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Sunday	07/19	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Chris Kennedy from the Kennedy Family.
Sunday	07/19	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for the People of the Parish.

✠ Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.

✠ Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.

✠ Bible Study in Forsyth is Friday morning after Mass.

✠ CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.

✠ Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 8:30 AM.

✠ CCW meeting the 2nd Sunday after Mass.

Announcements:

The Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph parish picnic will be held the last weekend of August and hosted by the Knights of Columbus. We need a portable canopy to provide shade. If anyone has a portable canopy that we can use for the picnic, please contact Brian Sullivan or Bill Anderson. Thank you!

Fr. Rob will be out of town after Mass on Friday, July 17th through Sunday, July 19th. Deacon Jim will have Communion services at all three churches at the usual time. Thank you!

Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 07/05/2026

Immaculate Conception – Forsyth		St. Joseph – Hysham	
Loose Cash	361.00	Loose Cash	75.00
Loose Checks	15.00	Loose Checks	175.00
Envelope Cash	60.00	Envelope Cash	40.00
Envelope Checks	1641.00	Envelope Checks	275.00
Other (Bathroom)	0.00	Other (Stipend)	0.00
Music	0.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection (Stipend)	0.00	Special Collection (Peters Pence)	0.00
Special Collection (Peters Pence)	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 2077.00	TOTAL:	\$ 565.00

Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 07/19/2026

Forsyth:			
	Time	Service	Names
	Mass at 10:30 AM	Eucharistic Ministers	Steve Fay & Ryan Silvis
		Cross Bearer	Steve Fay
		Lector	Molly Fay
		Ushers	Steve & Abby Fay
		Gifts	Steve & Abby Fay
		Col. Counters	Ryan Silvis & Frank Smith
		Sacristan	Joan Duffield
Hysham:			
	Mass at 12:30 PM	Eucharistic Ministers	Del Warren & Joan Thibault
		Lector	Mary Mitchell

Dear Padre,

I look at what's going on in our world today, and I start to lose faith. How can I keep my faith strong in a time that seems faithless?

Evil isn't a new phenomenon. The Book of Judges, for example, presents a faithless time that may rival what's happening in our world today. Judges' twenty-one chapters are so full of vandalism and war, murder and assassination, fratricide and suicide, that it makes a grim statement on the worst of humanity. Judges reminds us of humanity's need for salvation. In *A Catholic Guide to the Bible*, author Oscar Lukefahr writes, "Left to itself, humanity degenerates into a frightful caricature of what we ought to be. We see such lessons repeated in recent history.... In the Book of Judges, we see our need for God." It's easy to lose faith when our focus is on how bad the world is rather than on how we can do our part to make it holy. Pope St. John Paul II wrote in *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, "Awareness of our own sinfulness, including that which is inherited, is the first condition for salvation; the next is the confession of this sin before God, who desires only to receive this confession so that he can save man. To save means to embrace and lift up with redemptive love, with love that is always greater than any sin." Don't lose Christian hope! While Christ already triumphed over sin and death, the reality of evil remains until God's kingdom is fully realized on earth as it is in heaven. (See 1 John 5:18–20.) ●

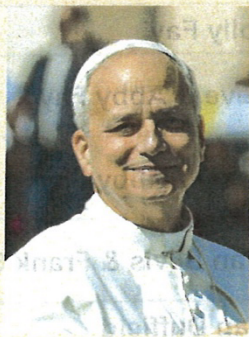


JUSTIN PRADU / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Mission is not so much about "departing," but instead "remaining" in order to proclaim Christ through hospitality and welcome, compassion and solidarity. We are to remain...so as to look upon those who arrive from lands that are distant and violent; to remain and open our arms and hearts to them, welcoming them as brothers and sisters, and being for them a presence of consolation and hope.



HOMILY, ROME, OCTOBER 5, 2025

The quotations from Pope Leo XIV are printed with permission, copyright © Dicastero per la Comunicazione—Libreria Editrice Vaticana. All rights reserved.

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

Monday

July 13
Weekday
Is 1:10–17
Mt 10:34–11:1

Tuesday

July 14
St. Kateri Tekakwitha,
Virgin
Is 7:1–9
Mt 11:20–24

Wednesday

July 15
St. Bonaventure,
Bishop and Doctor of
the Church
Is 10:5–7, 13b–16
Mt 11:25–27

Thursday

July 16
Weekday
Is 26:7–9, 12, 16–19
Mt 11:28–30

Friday

July 17
Weekday
Is 38:1–6, 21–22, 7–8
Mt 12:1–8

Saturday

July 18
Weekday
Mi 2:1–5
Mt 12:14–21

Sunday

July 19
Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Wis 12:13, 16–19
Rom 8:26–27
Mt 13:24–30 or
13:24–30