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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm 85: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
 and grant us your salvation.

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis December: For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Mass Intentions For This Week:

Second Sunday Of Advent

Saturday Dec 9 7:30 p.m. Russell Special Intentions req. by Irene Deschamps
 Sunday Dec 10 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
 + Yvonne Bisson req. by Gerard & Florence Mangin families
 + Rita Fleury req. by family
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn For all parishioners by Father Paul
 Monday Dec 11 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba
 Tuesday Dec 12 Fr Paul req. by Lynda & family
 Wed. Dec 13 + Frank Mangin req. by Funeral Mass offering
 Thurs. Dec 14 **Reconciliations in Brandon / No Mass in Rossburn Thursday**
 Friday Dec 15 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
 9:00 a.m. Mass + Jo-Ann Lundgren req. by Doug and Donalda Wishart



Third Sunday Of Advent

Saturday Dec 16 7:30 p.m. Russell + Duncan Spurway from Funeral Mass offering
Fr Paul's 18th Anniversary of Ordination
 Sunday Dec 17 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
 For all parishioners by Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req. by Rose & family



THANK YOU to everyone who attended our **PARISH ADVENT POTLUCK PARTY** last Saturday at St Joseph! What a great time, starting with our Eucharistic celebration which included the blessing and lighting of our advent wreath. After Mass, young and not so young parishioners gathered together downstairs to celebrate the beginning of our church advent season with delicious food, lots of fun games, beautiful Christmas carols (Filipino & English – with Fr. Paul playing the guitar), and some dancing thrown in! It was truly heartwarming to see so many children there and all of them with eyes filled with joy!

Gifts and Socks (unwrapped) of all sizes and colors are also needed! Bring those to the church by Sunday, December 10th, and place them under the Stewardship Tree.

If you are unable to drop off gifts/socks at the church, you may also drop off at Bev & Jim Roszell's at 328 Mather St. E. Russell (phone 204-773-3998)

Thank you for all who attended St. Theresa's Parish Advent Potluck Party & Birthday Bash.

Five (surprising) Places to Find God

Great opportunities for spiritual growth

Many of us fall into the subtle trap of thinking the only place to find God is at church. If we're not expecting to find God everywhere, we might just miss great opportunities for help, healing, and spiritual growth. Here are five places where God awaits you:

1. At Work

The relationships you have, the results you achieve, the quality and mindfulness with which you do your work can all be the stuff of holiness. Plus, the money you earn to support your family and the esteem you hold as a contributor to the world can either help serve the kingdom or be an impediment to it. Each day we "suit up and show up" at work we get opportunities to learn more about ourselves and to contribute our gifts to the good of the world.

2. In Difficult Relationships

It's easy to love other people when everything's going well. But when there are hurt feelings, mistrust, or clashing wills, relationships don't feel very much as though they are of God. Yet it is at just those times, that we can witness the movement of God in our lives, leading us to healing, trust, and cooperation. These can be opportunities to let go of character defects and to exercise virtues.

3. In Our Failings

We all like to be heroes. But it's a given that each of us will fail in our lives. Nevertheless, when we hit our limits or even when we sin, we can turn to God for acceptance, mercy, and the strength to make amends and sin no more. In that turning to God and in our opening ourselves up to God's grace and forgiveness, we become better people.

4. In Loneliness

Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, O God. Rather than trying to fill the emptiness with mindless entertainment or indulging our cravings, sit still and find God in the emptiness. It takes patience and courage and humility, but you will hear the "still small voice" of God even in the midst of your emptiness responding to your loneliness and restlessness with the only love that fully satisfies.

5. In Pleasure

Many people seem to think that if something's fun, it must be at least partially wrong. Yet God gives us the world to live in and enjoy. In the words of St. Irenaeus, the "glory of God is a human being fully alive." Therefore, pleasure is a place to meet God, whether it be the pleasure of nature, of playing, of loving one another, of beauty, or of the occasional overwhelming conviction that we are loved by God.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/ignatian-spirituality/finding-god-in-all-things/five-surprising-places-to-find-god>

Reconciliations:

Russell December 18th at Saint Joseph's 4-5, 6-as needed
Rossburn December 20th at Sacred Heart 4-5, 6-as needed
Saint Lazare December 21st at Saint Lazare 3:30-5, 7-as needed

Advent Prayer: God of this day's needs, teach us to be grateful. Jesus taught us to pray for our daily bread. For most of the world, this means asking for enough to eat. For us, it means praying for just enough. Not too much, not to be greedy, not to hoard. We pray for daily bread. Help us to keep our lives simple, to appreciate each mouthful, to be satisfied until tomorrow, to leave room for hope. Amen.



Dear Padre,

Do Catholics have to marry in the Church? If a couple decides to marry outside of the Church, are they still allowed to receive Communion and other sacraments?

Catholics are obligated to follow the laws of the Church, including those laws regarding marriage. If a Catholic marries outside the Church, meaning that they did not follow Church law, then they may not receive the other sacraments until their marriage has been witnessed by the Church.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony for the couple, but it is also a ceremony for the Church. The Christian community is called upon to witness the ceremony, with the bishop, priest, or deacon called upon to bless the union in the name of the Church. The Church can dispense from the form, that is, the place of the wedding, for good cause, and does so when necessary. When a dispensation from the law is granted, then the person has followed the marriage laws of the Church and is free to receive the sacraments.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony in which a sacrament is conferred. While the park may be pretty or the church down the street may be bigger, neither is a sufficient reason to ignore marriage law and marry outside the Church. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



MIDY EDWARDS / SHUTTERSTOCK

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	December 15 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	December 16 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	December 17 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the Bible [conversion] means, first and foremost, to change direction and orientation; and thus also to change one's way of thinking. In the moral and spiritual life, to convert means to turn oneself from evil to good, from sin to love of God. And this is what the Baptist was teaching.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 6, 2020



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Mark 1:1-8



When Will We Be Satisfied?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In 1992, *Forbes* magazine published an issue titled "Why Do We Feel So Bad When We Have It So Good?" It featured articles by such luminaries as newsman Dan Rather, President George H. W. Bush, and author John Updike. Many of the writers reflected upon our passion for more and our hunger to live in affluence and how that fails to satisfy. In so many ways, we as a nation find ourselves seeking distractions from living with ourselves lest we be confronted by our ultimate loneliness. As a nation we are addicted to entertainment and smartphones, to drugs and pornography, to finding something new. We are confronted by rising suicide rates and a pervasive, deep-seated anger. Why are we not satisfied?

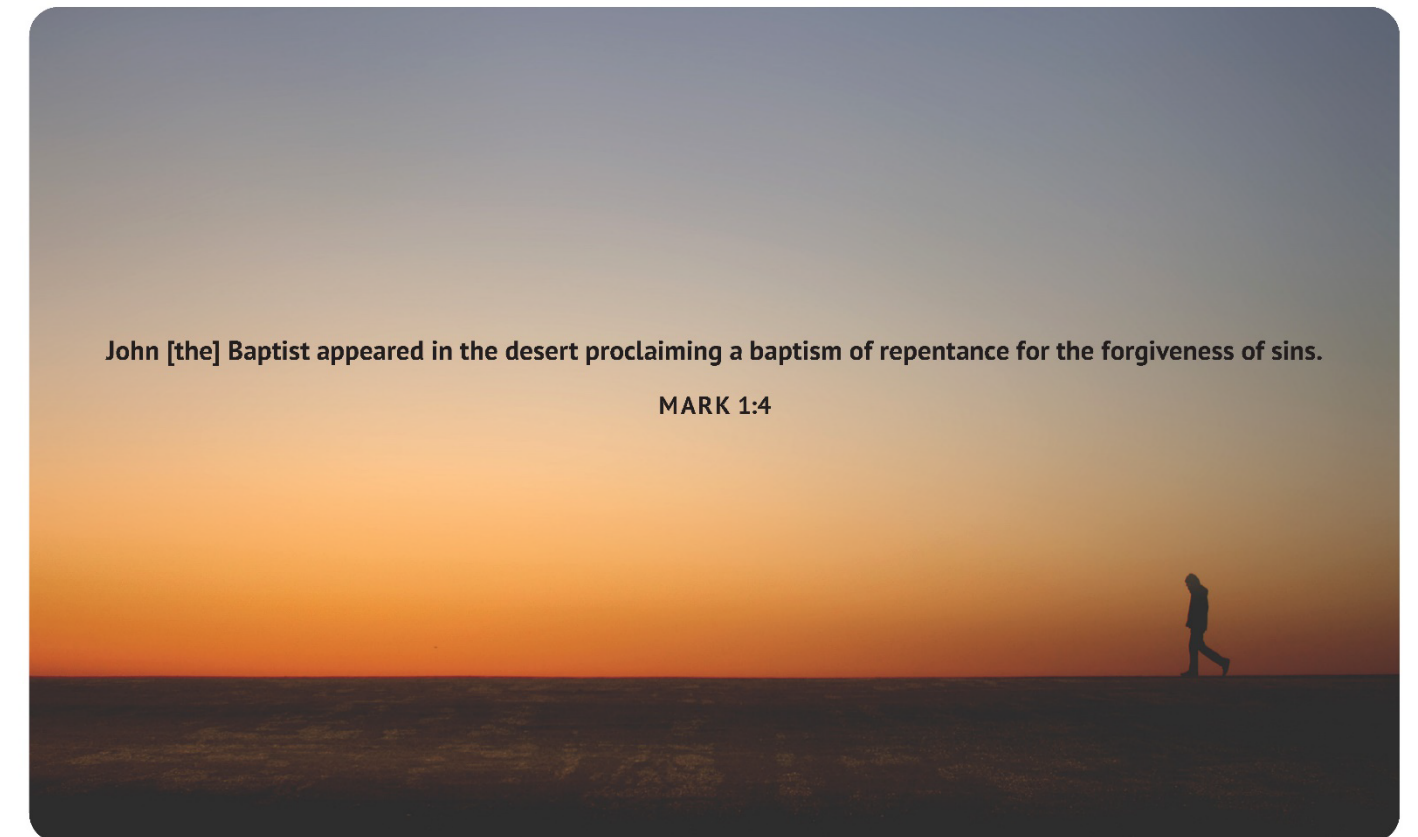
John the Baptist called the people of his day to repent, which is another way of asking them—and us—to look at life differently. Advent is really about getting in touch with our deep longing for more, a part of our human condition that ultimately is only satisfied by God. We have been created to long for more, a longing that feels like loneliness, a longing that seeks to be satisfied. In the end, we can only find a sense of peace in the midst of such longing by accepting that it can never be fully satisfied in this life. Like the spirituality of Alcoholics Anonymous, accepting rather than fleeing from our human reality becomes a path to new life. ●

Reflect

How do you deal with loneliness and a longing for more out of life?

John [the] Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

MARK 1:4



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