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

**Responsorial Psalm 146:** "Lord, come and save us."

### **St. Theresa's Parish News:**

**If anyone** has any personal petitions, you can place them in the box at the back of the church. They will not be individually read but prayed for generally.

St. Theresa's Finance Report 2019		Month of December	
REVENUES:		EXPENSES:	
Dec 1 collection	\$984.00	Hydro	\$501.00
Dec 8 collection	\$825.00	Cemetery subdivision expenses	\$407.38
		Parish potluck supplies	\$21.99
		SGG remittance	\$870.00
		Postage & Church supplies	\$25.28
Year To Date Revenues	\$71,710.92	Year To Date Expenses	\$73,441.56

For a donation envelope set contact Raymond Lysyshin at 204-859-2409 or 204-859-2134

### **St. Joseph The Worker Parish News:**

**Consider this your invitation to join** together to help decorate our church for Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 22 at 1:00 p.m.. Everyone is welcome to join. Any question please phone Bev Roszell, 204-773-3998.

**Thank you to all you supported/attended the Annual Community Carol Sing - Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at the George P. Buleziuk Centre in Russell**, donations were given to Russell & District Food Connections.

#### **Parishioners please pick up:**

- your 2019** Religious calendars
- **Advent Reflection Booklets** available for pick-up!
- Sunday Missal** (2018-2019) now available! \$4.00 each – at back of church!
- your 2019 parish donation envelopes** – are now available for pickup at the back of the church, **please do not use these until the new year!**

**Community Christmas Supper:** Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, Russell George Bulezuik Centre (sponsored by the Russell & Dist. Ministerial). Doors open at 4:30 p.m., supper at 5:00 p.m. Adult, \$10 ages 6-14, age 5 & under free. Tickets available at Reavies until Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Poster at back of church.

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** will be the last children's liturgy before Christmas. We'll start back up January 12<sup>th</sup>. Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas! Enjoy your holidays. Glenda

### **Mass Intentions For The Week:**

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

Saturday Dec. 14 7:30 p.m. Russell: +Jean Stadnyk req. Mike, Glenda & Family

Sunday Dec. 15 9:00 a.m. Russell: For all parishioners req. Father Paul  
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Marilyn Robb req. Bernadine Brown

Monday Dec. 16 **No Mass**

Tuesday Dec. 17 **9:00 a.m.** Russell: +Delbert & Dennis Deschamps  
req. Irene & Family

Wed. Dec. 18 **No Mass** *Confessions in Roblin*

Thursday Dec. 19 9:00 a.m. Russell: Mass  
10:30 a.m. Rossburn: Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Friends of suffering souls in Purgatory  
req. Joe, Rose & family

Friday Dec. 20 8:30 a.m. Russell: Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
9:00 a.m. Russell: For vocations to the priesthood req. Ellen Carels

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Saturday Dec. 21 7:30 p.m. Russell: Sister Myriann req. Mike, Glenda & Family

Sunday Dec. 22 9:00 a.m. Russell: For all parishioners req. Father Paul  
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Laurence Osadec req. David Woychyshyn & Family

**THANK YOU to all our parish children in St. Theresa's & St. Joseph's for the coins they put in the treasure chest each Sunday.**

#### **Parish Volunteer Opportunity**

A group from our parish is planning to drive to Brandon, assisting the "Helping Hands Soup Kitchen", to serve those in need, Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. We will leave Russell at 8:30 am. and return in the afternoon. This is an opportunity for ministry of service with Social Justice, and for parishioners to work together. If you have questions/those interested, please call Deacon Darin Douglas or Carlene Douglas, 532-2157 (Hm.). Numbers of individuals going, needs to be known before Sun Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>.

**1 Peter 4: 10-11** Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Christmas Schedule**

#### **Christmas Eve December 24**

Russell: 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

#### **Christmas Day December 25**

Rossburn: 11:00 a.m.

### **New Years**

#### **New Years Eve December 31st**

Russell: 7:30 p.m.

#### **New Years Day January 2020**

Russell: 9:00 a.m. Rossburn: 11:00 a.m.



# Dear Padre,

The Church is steeped in symbolism, tradition, and “living metaphors,” but it sometimes forgets common sense. Why smell up the church with incense? Why gussy up the Mass with horns, flutes, and guitars, at times turning holy Mass into a pseudohootenanny?

The Mass is our high point of worship. All other sacred actions and activities of the Christian life “are bound up with it, flow from it, and are ordered to it” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 16). The dignity and importance of worshiping the Father in and through Christ at Mass is expressed in communion with fellow believers, and ideally through a full sensory experience with all our heart, mind, and soul. In short, if something is worth doing, it’s worth doing well—especially if “doing” opens us to the mystery of God’s presence through what we see, hear, smell, touch, and taste. “In the liturgy the sanctification of women and men is given expression in symbols perceptible by the senses and is carried out in ways appropriate to each of them” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [Sacrosanctum Concilium]*, 7).

Not all Mass occasions call for “smells, bells, toots, and flutes,” but the visual beauty of the sacred surroundings, the sounds of sacred music, and the sacred words and actions that connect us to our traditions and to Christ’s memorial institution, are intended to elevate us in our collective prayer to God. At times, such a sublime experience of the transcendent may be inhibited by sheer practicality, efficiency, and mundanity!

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



LOIA MUKHAMAEVA/SHUTTERSTOCK



## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Your music and your song are a true instrument of evangelization insofar as you witness to the profoundness of the Word of God that touches the hearts of people, and allows a celebration of the sacraments, especially of the Holy Eucharist, which makes one sense the beauty of paradise.

—INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF CHOIRS, NOVEMBER 24, 2018

## Calendar

**Monday**  
DECEMBER 16  
Advent Weekday  
Nm 24:2–7, 15–17a  
Mt 21:23–27

**Tuesday**  
DECEMBER 17  
Advent Weekday  
Gn 49:2, 8–10  
Mt 1:1–17

**Wednesday**  
DECEMBER 18  
Advent Weekday  
Jer 23:5–8  
Mt 1:18–25

**Thursday**  
DECEMBER 19  
Advent Weekday  
Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a  
Lk 1:5–25

**Friday**  
DECEMBER 20  
Advent Weekday  
Is 7:10–14  
Lk 1:26–38

**Saturday**  
DECEMBER 21  
Advent Weekday  
Sg 2:8–14 or  
Zep 3:14–18a  
Lk 1:39–45

**Sunday**  
DECEMBER 22  
Fourth Sunday  
of Advent  
Is 7:10–14  
Rom 1:1–7  
Mt 1:18–24

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

**December 15, 2019**  
Third Sunday of Advent (A)  
Is 35:1–6a, 10  
Jas 5:7–10  
Mt 11:2–11

## The Splendor of God

“Here is your God!” Who wouldn’t run to see this marvel? Isaiah 35 tells us what to look for: nature will explode with excitement and splendor, and the hardships of life will no longer hold us captive. Is this really possible, or is it merely hopeful poetry? Jesus tells the disciples of John the Baptist that it’s possible. In fact he, Jesus, is the one who has ushered in the kingdom of heaven. Since that is true, why don’t you and I see it?

The reading from James sheds light on this. There is something truly wondrous about earth bringing forth “precious fruit” (James 5:7). Our understanding of how the development and emergence of fruits occur does not make the fact of natural growth any less wondrous. Farmers know this well. They also know that such growth will occur only when human labor cooperates with the laws of nature designed by God. In other words, the farmer provides the labor while God provides the life-giving sun and rain.

If our world does not resemble Isaiah’s astonishing portrait or the healing that Jesus was able to accomplish, might it be that we have not done what we can to remedy the hardships of life that hold so many captive? When God enters our lives, he provides us with the power we need to change our world, but we must be willing to allow that power to work through us. If we are open to God in our midst, our world will be rich with life and healing, and everyone will know that God is really here.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God,  
he comes with vindication;  
With divine recompense he comes to save you.

ISAIAH 35:4



JEN KSHUTTERSTOCK

## FOR Reflection

- ★ On what ways might you enrich the life of another?
- ★ What can you do to heal broken relationships in your life?