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

Responsorial Psalm 80: Restore us, O God; let your face shine,
 that we may be saved.

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:

First Sunday Of Advent

Saturday Dec 2 5:00 p.m. Russell Mass **Zoom on-line Mass 5:00 p.m.**
Advent Christmas Party St Joseph

Sunday Dec 3 9:00 a.m. Russell For all parishioners by Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Suffering Souls in Purgatory & Fr Paul's Birthday
 req by Rose & family
Advent Potluck lunch St Theresa's

Monday Dec 4 + Duncan Spurway from Funeral Mass offering

Tuesday Dec 5 10:30 Council of Priest Meeting Winnipeg
 Fr Paul's birthday req. by Jean Goba

Wed. Dec 6 9:30 a.m. Mass & Music Russell Personal Care Home
 Fr Paul req. by Lynda & family

Thurs. Dec 7 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration
 11:00 a.m. Mass + Anne Palmer req. by David & family

Friday Dec 8 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
 9:00 a.m. Mass For all parishioners by Father Paul
 10:15 a.m. Mass & Music Rossburn Personal Care Home
 + John Ryshtylo & all the Souls in Purgatory req. by Lynda & family

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
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn For all parishioners by Father Paul

St. Theresa's Parish News:

-If anyone would like to bring mitts, scarves and toques in all sizes (new only) for the Christmas Cheer Board tree, these are for the gift packages to be distributed December 13th. Thank you.

-There will be an Advent Potluck lunch on Dec 3, 2023 following mass all are welcome.



Would you like to provide a gift this Christmas for a child in your community?

The Russell & Area Food Connections is asking for your help for a child's gift, limit of \$35 - with no batteries. It will be distributed in the annual Christmas food hampers in our area. Just take a "Gift Tag" from the Stewardship Tree, which should be up shortly in St. Joseph The Worker Church. When you bring your un-wrapped gift with attached Gift Tag - place it in the hamper next to the tree. Deadline is Sunday, Dec. 10th.

Socks (unwrapped) of all sizes and colors are also needed! Bring those to the church by Sunday, December 10th, and place them in the basket 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)

If anyone would like to **help with decorating** St Joseph's church for Christmas, you are more than welcome to stay after 9 a.m. mass on December 24th to help. The more hands that help the quicker it will be. Thank you.

We are looking for someone who **would like to shovel snow** 😊 for St Joseph the Worker Parish to clear sidewalks through out the winter. This is a paid position. Please call office or Gary Petz for more information.



Happy birthday to Father Paul whose birthday is on December 5th!

Journey Through Advent: Video Series From the CCCB - First Week of Advent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is releasing a series of videos this Advent! Each video in the series serves as an introduction to the liturgical season of Advent and will present reflections on the Gospel readings for each Sunday leading up to Christmas. This year's spiritual reflections are delivered by the Most Rev. Jon Hanse, C.Ss.R., Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith (in English), and the Most Rev. Alain Faubert, Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal (in French). To watch the first week of Advent reflection video, click [here](#) (for English) or [here](#) (for French)!

[Journey through Advent - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops \(cccb.ca\)](http://www.cccb.ca)

Penance

Every Catholic is invited to celebrate the sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation or, as we have traditionally said, "go to Confession," on a regular basis. There can be no better way to make progress on our spiritual journey than by returning in humble repentance and love to God. The Sacrament of Penance frees us from our sins but it also challenges us to have the same kind of compassion and forgiveness for those who sin against us. We are liberated to obtain new insight into the words of the Prayer of St. Francis: "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned."

Penance is an experience of the gift of God's boundless mercy.

Jesus entrusted the ministry of reconciliation to the Church. The Sacrament of Penance is God's gift to us so that any sin committed after Baptism can be forgiven. In confession we have the opportunity to repent and recover the grace of friendship with God. It is a holy moment in which we place ourselves in his presence and honestly acknowledge our sins. With absolution, we are reconciled to God and the Church. The Sacrament helps us stay close to the truth that we cannot live without God. "In him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

The sacrament of Penance is Christ's gift to the Church to ensure the forgiveness he so generously extends will be made available to every member of the Church. "This ministry and power to forgive sins, conferred by Christ on the Apostles and their successors, there developed in the church an awareness of the sign of forgiveness, conferred through the Sacrament of Penance. It is the certainty that the Lord Jesus himself instituted and entrusted to the Church - as a gift of his goodness and loving kindness to be offered to all-a special Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism" (Reconciliation and Penance, 3).

Dear Padre,

Why are the Gospels Matthew and Mark so alike? Why did the Church keep both Gospels when so much of Mark seems to be a mirror image of Matthew?

The Gospels were written over time and used by the faithful when they gathered for worship. They read the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus collected by Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

The Christian communities were often great distances from one another. A community may have had access to only one of these accounts. There is considerable similarity because the Gospel writers depended on one another. All three Gospels include some of the same incidents. Each also has incidents or details unique to that Gospel.

These were not the only accounts written about the life and ministry of Jesus. At some point, the Church had to decide which should be considered the inspired word of God. There were four accounts that were widely used: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. With their similarities and differences, the Church accepted these four accounts as Gospel—the Good News. ●



This first page of the Gospel of Mark is from a fourteenth-century Armenian illuminated manuscript painting by Sargis Pitsak.

The Redeptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7	December 8	December 9	December 10
Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Advent Weekday	Second Sunday of Advent
Is 2:1–5	Is 11:1–10	Is 25:6–10a	Is 26:1–6	Gn 3:9–15, 20	Is 30:19–21, 23–26	Is 40:1–5, 9–11
Mt 8:5–11	Lk 10:21–24	Mt 15:29–37	Mt 7:21, 24–27	Eph 1:3–6, 11–12	Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8	2 Pt 3:8–14
				Lk 1:26–38		Mk 1:1–8

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[Jesus] ...is at the door to our heart. He knocks. Do you know how to listen to the Lord...who has come today to visit you...? He came to Bethlehem, he will come at the end of the world, but every day he comes to us. Be attentive, look at what you feel in your heart when the Lord knocks.

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent (B)
Isaiah 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7 / 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 / Mark 13:33–37



How Has God Shaped You?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks. Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them. About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long. Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town. By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy. What's going on? Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along. ●

Reflect

What did you learn in your last ten-year block of life?