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

Responsorial Psalm 96: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

St. Joseph's Russell needs volunteers to read and usher on Sunday Morning Mass, please choose which Sunday and sign up on the Ministry Schedule – found on the table where the donation envelopes are located. Thank you!

Did you Know! The National Catholic Broadcasting Council offers Sunday & Daily TV Mass on the Web, visit the website at www.dailytvmass.com or www.youtube.com/dailytvmass to watch Mass each day.

Zoom Along with Us you can use it on your computers, tablets, i-pads & smart-phones

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, January: *For educators:* We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Three Reasons You Should Make Friends With The Saints

The Catholic Church is one big spiritual family. And we don't mean just here on earth — although we are more than a billion strong worldwide. The saints in heaven are also united to us in the Mystical Body of Christ.

The saints are aware of us and our needs. Don't think of them as merely historical figures, but as ever-present spiritual companions.

Here are a few reasons why you should make friends with the saints.

1. They are the best role models.

Saints are people who made it to heaven. That makes them the best role models for us. After all, that is our ultimate goal, right?

If you were baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church, then you likely took the name of a saint in each sacrament. You should pray to these saints a lot, for you are under their patronage.

Another awesome thing about the saints is that you can find them in every state of life. Sure, there are more officially canonized saints who are priests and religious. But there are also married saints who show that holiness is within reach of those living ordinary lives in the world.

Plus, there are more saints in heaven than those who are officially recognized as such by the Church. This means there are likely a TON more married saints we've never heard of!

2. They show that we all have a role to play in God's plan.

God wants to involve us in His plan of salvation. That includes you! But it may often feel like you're too insignificant to matter to God.

The saints show this to be false. Many saints came from humble backgrounds and were not great by the world's standards. Some suffered from chronic illness and pain. Yet God used them to bring people back into communion with Him.

You don't have to be a missionary or martyr to be a saint. You simply have to follow God's will in your vocation.

If you're faithful, God will do amazing things through you!

3. Their intercession is powerful before God.

The saints know what it's like to see God face to face. They want you to do the same and stand ready to intercede for you.

Find a few saints that you're especially drawn to and pray to them. Definitely include your patron saints, but also consider saints that shared the same vocation or line of work as you during their lifetime.

The saints now live with perfect charity, so God hears their prayers. Take advantage of this!

Let's face it, many people feel lonely. Despite our connections via social media, they feel like there's no one to look after them.

But the saints are always watching us. They love us and want to accompany us on our life's journey. We need their help, so let's joyfully embrace it! [3 Reasons You Should Make Friends With the Saints - Pints with Aquinas](#)

Mass Intentions For This Week:

Nativity of the Lord - Vigil Mass

Saturday Dec 24 **4:00 p.m.** Rossburn + Nellie & Frank Kaskiw req. by Kaskiw family

Zoom on-line Mass 6:00 p.m. & YouTube after 7:15 pm

6:00 p.m. Russell Mass + Rita Ross req. by Florence Shwaluk

8:00 p.m. Russell Mass + Duncan Spurway req. by Funeral Mass offering

Christmas Day Mass

Sunday Dec 25 9:00 a.m. Russell Mass For all parishioners by Father Paul

11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Nellie & Frank Kaskiw req. by from the Kaskiw family

Monday Dec 26 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba

Tuesday Dec 27

Wed. Dec 28

Thurs. Dec 29 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration

11:00 a.m. Mass + Norma Kaskiw req. by Vince Kaskiw

Friday Dec 30 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration

9:00 a.m. Mass + Emilienne Mangin req. by
George Mangin & family



Mary, The Holy Mother of God World Day Of Peace

Saturday Dec 31 7:30 p.m. Russell Mass + Jutta Leven req. by Anne & Ubald Deschambault

Sunday Jan 1 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 Mass + Nellie & Frank Kaskiw req. by Kaskiw family

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Many of us this year, hoped for an image from our Christmas past, of gathering together as family and friends. However, we cannot live in the past, weather has disrupted travel plans for many, health has made it impossible for some to travel as they would like, and our work and labours has set us in danger of neglecting ourselves and families.

No matter what our age we look forward to gifts and reunion with our families but from a stirring hope for an even deeper joy a Christmas of profound peace and intimate divine friendship. God created us and wants to have a relationship with us. As on the first Christmas, God gave himself to us out of love.

I wish to thank you for the many kindnesses, invitations, cards, prayers and gifts that you have offered me and to the community. May God richly bless you, with hope, happiness, and peace during this Christmas season and throughout the coming New Year.

Sincerely,

Father Paul Bisson, Pastor



Dear Padre,

I haven't been to Mass in a long time, but lately I feel drawn to come again. Can you help me better understand the Mass?

Welcome home! To learn more about the Mass, you might consider participating in your parish's program for those who are thinking about joining the Catholic Church. Meanwhile, we can offer five principles that form the foundation for what happens at Mass.

Participation rather than passive attendance: Mass is a time of prayerful activity—listening intently, praying fervently, reflecting quietly, singing and worshipping joyfully.

Gratitude for God's mercy as we acknowledge our sinfulness: There are several occasions during Mass when we are called to acknowledge that we sin, but also that mercy and forgiveness are offered freely to all who acknowledge their imperfections and sinful behavior.

Word and sacrament: The liturgy comprises the Liturgy of the Word (penitential act, Scripture readings, homily, and prayers of the faithful) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (presentation of gifts, eucharistic prayer, and Communion rite). Both are important.

Christ's Real Presence: Under the forms of bread and wine (the Eucharist), the Real Presence of Christ retains a prominent place in the Mass. Christ is also present—in different ways—in the words of Scripture, in the presence of the priest, and in the assembly gathered in his name.

A celebration of family and community: Jesus fostered a sense of family among his disciples. Parish liturgies should be a time when young and old, rich and poor, families and single people join together to experience unity in Christ Jesus. ●



SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS
The great mystery of our faith is shown in this simple sign of the Nativity scene....God loves us to the point of sharing our humanity and our lives. He never leaves us alone; he accompanies us with his hidden, but not invisible, presence. In all circumstances, in joy as in pain, he is the Emmanuel, God-with-us.

HOMILY, SHRINE OF GRECCIO, RIETE, ITALY, DECEMBER 1, 2019

MONDAY December 26 <i>St. Stephen, First Martyr</i> Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59 Mt 10:17–22	THURSDAY December 29 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:3–11 Lk 2:22–35	SATURDAY December 31 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:18–21 Jn 1:1–18
TUESDAY December 27 <i>St. John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 1 Jn 1:1–4 Jn 20:1a, 2–8	FRIDAY December 30 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</i> Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or Col 3:12–21 or Col 3:12–17 Mt 2:13–15, 19–23	SUNDAY January 1, 2023 <i>Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God</i> Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21

Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.
Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 25, 2022
Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) (A)
Isaiah 52:7–10 / Hebrews 1:1–6 / John 1:1–18 or John 1:1–5, 9–14



The Jesus Stories of Christmastime

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Every year, pundits lament the glitter of our commercialized Christmases. Beneath all such trappings, however, our cultural Christmases are really disguised and unrecognized celebrations of God-made-flesh.

"'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse" is really the story of a Santa-type God who slips into our lives with great generosity, though we seldom notice as we go through life half asleep. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" is about a misfit reindeer with a "wrong-colored" nose who is rejected by the other reindeer and not welcomed into their games. But then he becomes the means of saving a foggy Christmas Eve with his shining light of a nose. Rudolph is like the stone rejected by the builders that becomes the cornerstone—Jesus, who saves us not only at Christmas but all year long. Frosty the Snowman brings happiness to boys and girls for a time, but then he begins to melt, only to promise he'll come again another day—all a hint of the hope offered by Jesus, who continues to come in resurrection and life. And Ebenezer Scrooge, whose withered and crusty spirit is transformed into generosity and love in *A Christmas Carol*, all without his ever realizing what is taking place until, of course, it happens. Then he proclaims he will honor Christmas in his heart the whole year long—a transformation that God brings about in each of us.

Christmas celebrates God-made-flesh in Jesus, something that took place then and echoes now for all of time and in all of life. ●

Reflect
How do you experience God-made-flesh during these Christmas days?



"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."
LUKE 2:10