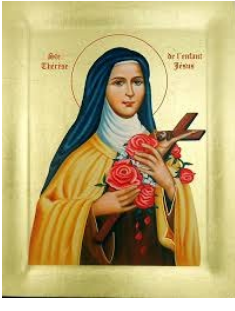




Served By: Fr. Paul Bisson
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Phone Office: 204-773-2924
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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 72): Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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 Leo January: *For prayer with the Word of God:* Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Mass Intentions For This Week:

Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday Jan 3 11:00 a.m. Rossburn **Immaculate Heart Of Mary**
7:30 p.m. Russell For Fr Paul req by Florence & Walter Shwaluk
Sunday Jan 4 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.**
For all parishioners req by Father Paul
11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Michael Kostecki req by St. Theresa's parish
Monday Jan 5 Health of Family & friends req by Jean Goba
Tuesday Jan 6 No Mass
Wed Jan 7 No Mass - Treatments
Thurs Jan 8 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration
11:00 a.m. + For Charlie Le req by Holly & Tony Doan
Friday Jan 9 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
9:00 a.m. For Fr Paul req by George Mangin & family
10:15 a.m. Mass & Music at Rossburn Personal Care Home

Baptism of the Lord

Saturday Jan 10 7:30 p.m. Russell For Irene Deschamps req by Brad & Brenda Robin
Sunday Jan 11 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.**
For all parishioners req by Father Paul
11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family

****Confirmation classes will begin again at St. Joseph's after Christmas on January 7th, 2026. Thank you!**

St. Theresa's Rossburn

At our Pastoral Council meeting it was decided that we would extend the hours of Eucharistic Adoration. For the time being we will have silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 1pm-5pm on Thursdays. For January 8th 2026, on January 15th, and January 23nd. We extend a gentle invitation to anyone who might be interested to call Lynda at 204 859 2760 if you have any questions or feel Jesus calling you for a quiet visit with Him! Thank you.



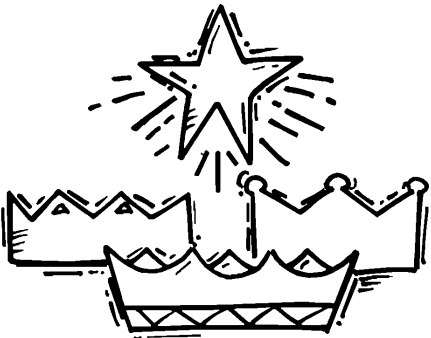
The envelopes for 2026 are ready to be picked up at the entrance of the church. Please pick up your envelopes. If there is not a box of envelopes for your family and you want envelopes, please contact the church office (204-773-2924) or Gary Petz (204-773-3198). A reminder: Do not to use your 2025 envelopes in 2026. Also, for the families on Direct Deposit there will not be envelopes for you. Every year more families are going to the Direct Deposit method. The concern we hear the most is "Once I start Direct Deposit is it difficult to stop?" This should not be a concern, if you contact Gary Petz before the 20th of the month you can stop the next month's Direct Deposit. If you have other questions about Direct Deposit, call the Parish Office or Gary Petz. Thank you for supporting St. Joseph the Worker Parish.

Russell & Area Food Connection's Basket is located at the church entrance for your food donations. Please help those less fortunate in our communities.

Helping Hands is extremely grateful and thankful for our volunteers. Day in and day out they work tirelessly, from the good of their hearts, to help those in Westman struggling with food insecurity. Thank you to all our volunteers for your dedication to Helping Hands. Together in 2025 we have served over 51,000 meals to those in need. Thank you **From Helping Hands Centre of Brandon Inc.**

Life Messages

Like the Magi, let us offer to Jesus God's Own gifts to us on this feast of Epiphany. (a) The **first** gift might be **friendship with God**. After all, the whole point of Christmas is that God's Son became one of us to redeem us and call us friends. God desires our friendship in the form of wholehearted love and devotion. (b) A **second** gift might be altruistic, genuine **friendship with others**. This kind of friendship can be costly, for the price it exacts is vulnerability and openness to others. The Good News, however, is that, in offering friendship to others, we will receive back many blessings. (c) A **third** gift might be the **gift of reconciliation**. This gift repairs damaged relationships. It requires honesty, humility, recognition of our own part in the damage done by our sins to those around, understanding of others, forgiveness, and patience. (d) The **fourth** gift of this season is the **gift of peace**: The only way we can receive this offered gift is by seeking God's Peace in our own lives through prayer, the Sacramental life, and daily meditation on the Word of God. It is out of humble gratitude that we give Him from our deepest heart our gifts of worship, prayer, song, possessions, talents, patience, and time through our humble, loving service of those we encounter. As we give our small, seemingly insignificant gifts to God, the Good News is that God accepts them! Like the Magi offering their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, we offer what we have, from our deepest heart as we respond to the Divine Gift that Child offers us – Himself.



An epiphany in the airport. We spot what looks like a mom, a dad, and three teenage daughters. The girls and their mom are each holding a bouquet of roses. We are wondering what the story is. Whom are they expecting? The dad keeps looking at his watch. The mom keeps turning her head to make sure she hears each airport announcement. Finally, the door opens. First come the "rushers"—men and women in suits with briefcases and bags over their shoulders, rushing towards phones, bathrooms, and their cars or rent-a-cars. We're still wondering and watching to learn whom this family we've been studying is there to meet. Then out come a young Marine, his wife, and their obviously brand-new baby. The three girls run to the couple and the baby. Then Mom. Dad. Hugs. Kisses. Embraces. "OOPS! The flowers!" But the baby is the center of attention. Each member of the family gets closer and closer to the mother and each opens the bundle in pink to have a first peek at this new life on the planet. We're seeing it from a distance. It's better than the evening news. Then we notice several other smiling people also watching the same scene. There are many other hugging scenes, people meeting people, but this is the big one. — We're smiling too. A tear of joy. What wonderful moment we are photographing into our memory! We're thinking, "*Family! Children! Grandchildren!*" This is what life is all about. We're experiencing an epiphany. Life is filled with them. Praise God!

Epiphany of a drummer: Consider a true story of a young man named Tony. He travelled all over the world, appearing widely on stage and on television as a drummer in a world-famous music group. Then one day Tony felt called to the priesthood. When he resigned from the music group to enter a seminary, some people thought him to be a fool. — The story could end here. And if it did, some would consider it to be a sad story. It would be the story of a young man who let a dream slip through his fingers. But the story doesn't end here. Tony is now a priest in the diocese of Dallas. And he's tremendously happy. Jesus will someday say to him what he said to Artaban: "You've been helping me all your life, Tony. What you did for your Parishioners, you did for me." (*Mark Link in Sunday Homilies*)

Dear Padre,
I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, “Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...”) weren’t successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

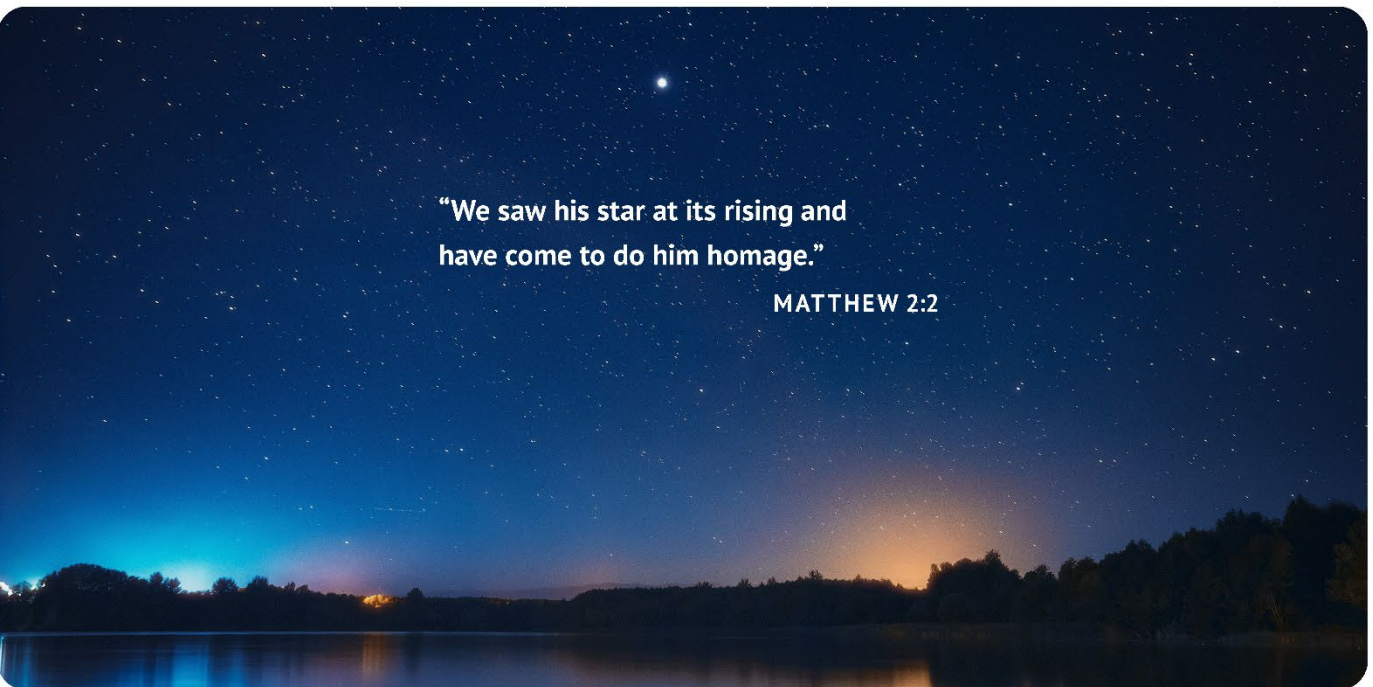
A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV
Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.
REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



YANDRY FERNANDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOPIC

Our Parish
COMMUNITY

January 4, 2026
The Epiphany of the Lord (A)
Isaiah 60:1–6 / Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6 / Matthew 2:1–12



Following Jesus Without
a Star to Guide Us

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage” (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God’s universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God’s grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—“in the weeds,” so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more “gray” than “black and white.” There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God’s grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God’s will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●

Reflect

How can I resolve to look for God in the unplanned, the unexpected, the interruptions?



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY