

This Week’s Scripture Readings

Fourth Sunday in Advent

	Isaiah 7:10-14	Ps 24:1-6	Romans 1:1-17	Matthew 1:18-24
Week 4 Mon	1Samuel 1:24-28	1Samuel 2:1,4-8abcd		Luke 1:46-56
Week 4 Tues	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24	Ps 25:4-5ab,8-10,14		Luke 1:57-66
Week Wed	2Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16	Ps 89:2-5,27,29		Luke 1:67-79
Week Thurs	Isaiah 52:7-10	Ps 98:1-6	Hebrews 1:1-6	John 1:1-18
Week Fri	Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10,7:54-59	Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc,17		Matthew 10:17-22
Week Sat	1John 1:1-4	Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12		John 20:1a,2-8
The Holy Family Jesus				
Mary & Joseph	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14	Ps 128:1-5	Colossians 3:12-21	Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Holy Fathers Prayer Intentions December: For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Praying for Our Clergy: Sunday, December 21st Fr John Wilebski, Monday, Dec 22nd, Fr David Blume, Tuesday, Dec. 23rd Fr. Tom Niehaus, Wednesday, Dec. 24th Lawrence Wirries, Sem, Thursday, Dec. 25th Fr. Jon Ston, Sem, Friday, Dec. 26th Fr. Westin Gouneau, Sem, Saturday, December 27th Pat Sagsveen, Sem, Sunday, December 28th Phil Hodapp, Sem..

THE HIDDEN PROPHECY ABOUT MARY BURIED IN GENESIS Most Catholics think Marian prophecy begins in the New Testament, with Gabriel’s greeting, Elizabeth’s cry, or Mary’s own Magnificat. They’re wrong.

The very first prophecy about Mary is whispered on page one of Scripture... in the middle of the fall of Adam and Eve... spoken directly by God Himself.

And most Christians read right past it. “I will put enmity between you and the woman...” (Genesis 3:15)

This is not poetry. It is the first Gospel ever preached, the Protoevangelium, the “First Good News.” And it appears immediately after humanity falls. But here is the part almost no one notices: God does not speak about a woman. He speaks about The Woman. A future mother. A future Son. A future victory. Why “The Woman” is a title... not just Eve. In Scripture, “the Woman” is a prophetic identity. Revelation 12 uses the same title.

Jesus uses it at Cana and at the Cross. And Genesis introduces it the moment sin enters the world. “The Woman” is the one who would be totally and permanently opposed to the serpent, “enmity”, not half-enmity, not partial struggle. Complete opposition. No alliance with sin. No compromise with the serpent. No darkness within her.

This is the biblical root of the Immaculate Conception. Not as a privilege invented later,

but as part of the earliest prophecy ever spoken. “...and her Seed” In the Bible, lineage is traced through the father. But here, something shocking happens: God speaks of a Woman’s Seed. A Son with no earthly father. A Son born of a Woman alone. A Son who will crush the serpent’s head. This is why the early Church Fathers unanimously called Genesis 3:15 the first prophecy of Christ and His Mother. Mary is present, in seed form, before Abraham, before Moses, before David, before the prophets. Right at the beginning.

Because God always planned salvation through a Woman and her Child. The prophecy fulfilled: At the Annunciation: The Woman stands before Gabriel. At Bethlehem: Her Seed enters the world. At Calvary: The serpent strikes His heel. But in the very blow, his head is crushed. And in Revelation 12, the Woman reappears, not crushed by the dragon, but crowned. Why this matters today: Mary’s role is not an optional devotion.

It’s part of the original blueprint of human salvation. At the beginning of the Bible, she is prophesied. At the Incarnation, she is overshadowed. At the Cross, she is given to us. At the end of Scripture, she is victorious. Genesis to Revelation, Mary’s presence frames the entire story. The first prophecy in Scripture is not about judgment. It’s about a Mother and a Son who will not allow darkness to have the last word.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ASSUMPTION

206 Dakota Street

(218) 375-



De-

CATH-

Callaway, Min-

assumptioncal@gmail.com

Sacramental Emergency
Line*: (218) 209-2686

CLERGY

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Deacon Pete Bellavance deacon-
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SECRETARY & BOOKKEEPER

Virginia McDougall assumption-
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*Thursday 8-2:30 -Parish Office in Calla-
way (218) 375-3571*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDI-
NATOR

Kristi Foltz assumption-
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PARISH TRUSTEES

Bill Steffl & Karen Klarer

MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL
AND FINANCE COUNCIL

From the desk of Fr. Hamness:

Today in the Gospel reading we spend a little time with St. Joseph, who was a good, decent man caught off guard by events he never expected. Joseph had plans for a simple life with Mary, and suddenly everything seemed to fall apart. When he learned Mary was with child, his heart must have been heavy with fear and confusion. He didn’t know what to think, but he knew he didn’t want to hurt her. Sometimes fear shows up quietly, in sleepless nights and worried thoughts.

That’s when God met Joseph right where he was...in a dream. The angel’s message was plain and comforting: “Do not be afraid.” Those words changed everything. Joseph learned that God was at work in ways far bigger than he could see, and that he had an important role to play. The fear didn’t vanish magically, but it no longer had the final say.

When Joseph woke up, he didn’t make a speech or ask for proof. He simply got up and did what God asked; he took Mary into his home and trusted the road ahead. Joseph shows us that faith doesn’t always look bold or dramatic. Sometimes it looks like getting up the next morning and doing the right thing.

As Christmas draws near, may Joseph remind us that God often speaks softly, and that trust, one step at a time, can carry us through our fears.

LITURGICAL DAY	WEEK-	DATE	TIME	SERVICE/INTENTION	CONFES-
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sunday	December 21	10:30am	Mass: + James Fairbanks	10:10am
Christmas Eve	Wednesday	December 24		No Adoration & Benediction	
Christmas Eve	Wednesday	December 24	6:00 pm	Mass People of Assumption & Sacred Heart	
Holy Family of Jesus Mary & Joseph	Sunday	December 28	10:30am	Mass: + Glenise Donley	10:10am

If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24 hour confidential number) Diocesan Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator: Cindy Hulst // Confidential Line - 218.281.7895 // chulst@crookston.org

4th Sunday of Advent

“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.”

MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Questions of the week?

What small act of mercy can I carry out this fourth week of Advent?



Advent Carols and Vespers

A peaceful Holy Hour with Adoration Sing to stir up our longing for the coming of the Lord.
Sacred Heart Church in Frazee
Sunday, December 21st
4:30 p.m.

Website: formed.org Parish Access Code 38HAZ8V

Prayer Requests:

The following people or their family has asked us to pray for them:

Lord, we pray for your loving support for the people listed below and their families as they deal with their illness. Guide the doctors who are seeking answers and making decisions about care/treatment. We pray that their illness is at a stage favorable for effective treatment. Enable their bodies to respond well to care treatment and their souls to experience comfort and peace in you. Make this an experience that draws them and their loved ones closer to you as well as to one another. We commit them to your mercy.

Rick Bakken, Randi Bernard, LaMae & Ken Blattenbauer, Colleen Borgrud, LaVaun Borgrud, Jerry Braaten, Peggy Braaten, Charlie Crommett, Shane Donley, Jodi Eidschink, Leon & Dorothy Flottemesch, John Gerulli, Sharon Greminger, Irene Hazelton, **LeAnn Hazelton**, Pat Hilber, Nancy Johnson, Dan Kapphahn, Tracy Loreth, Delores Manning, Betty & Jim Matter, Kate Matter, Margaret McDougall, Chris Murray, Leslie (Flottemesch) Murray, Kelly Olson, Ken & Rita Pearson, Mary Seaberg, Jonell Richards, Greg Ronning, Carol Scherzer, George Scherzer, Dennis Schouviller, **Joe Solmon**, Shirley Spry, Jeff VanHecke, Erv Wiebolt

Bold are new this week, or need extra prayers!

Please Pray for our Students.....

Madeline Abbott, Julia Steffl, Megan Stalberger, Ellie Steffl, Grace Helm, Maria Foltz, Luke Helm, Freddie Steffl, Caleb Rodewald, Nathan Loreth, Kaitlyn Loreth, Molly Rodewald, Jake Helm, Colby Rodewald, Savan-

[Our Sympathy to family and friends of Mariella “Sugar” Teiken Welle. Mariella passed away on December 13th, and her funeral was in Fingal ,ND on Friday, December 19th.](#)

No Birthdays on file this Week



Sunday, December 14, 2025

Adult Envelopes \$1,010.00

Loose Plate \$ 311.00

Retired Religious

Adult Envelopes \$745.00, Loose Plate \$301.00

Immaculate Conception Adult Envelopes \$50.00

Christmas Flowers \$251.00

Ministry Schedule for Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025 6pm

Altar Server: Nathan Loreth

Lector: Bill Steffl

Presentation of Gifts: Roger & Sharon Winter

Eucharistic Ministers: Max Klarer & Colleen Schmit

Ushers: Roger & Nate Foltz

Music: Avis Flottemesch

If you know that you will not be here please find a substitute.

Ministry Schedule for Sunday, December 28, 2025

Altar Server: Jake Helm

Lector: Don Tietz

Presentation of Gifts: Damian & Carol Zurn

Eucharistic Ministers: Kristi Stalberger & Lori Stalberger

Ushers: Gary & Luke Helm

Music: Tonia Clark

Retirement Fund for Religious

Heartfelt gratitude for your generosity!!

“Thank you very much for your donations, always,” says Sister Olivia Bellegante, 93, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis ,Missouri. Your gift directly impacts thousands of senior religious, providing the support they need in their later years. Learn more at retiredreligious.org

Bemidji March for Life

The St. Gianna’s Group of St. Phillip’s in Bemidji will be hosting the annual Bemidji March for Life on Saturday, January 24, 2026 beginning at Noon in front of the Beltrami County Courthouse. The local March for Life is sponsored by the St. Gianna’s ministry and the Bemidji Knight of Columbus.

Upcoming.

• Christmas Eve Mass 6PM ! No Christmas Day Mass!

- Tuesday, January 13th KC meeting at Holy Rosary
- Sunday, January 18th, Christian Mothers Meeting After Mass
- Wednesday, January 22nd 11am, Church cleaning followed by potluck lunch

Upcoming Fellowship



December 21st Rick & Ginny McDougall Lunch

December 28th No Fellowship

January 4th OPEN

January 11th Lions Pancake Breakfast

January 18th OPEN

January 25th OPEN

February 1st OPEN

The Fellowship Calendar for 2026 is up on the Bulletin Board. Please take a turn serving Fellowship. If you have any questions Please let me know.

2026 Envelopes are available on the table in St Joseph Fellowship Hall.

2026 Living Faith Devotional Books are available on the table in the entry of the church.

It is time to get your mass intentions on the calendar. Masses are \$10.00 each.