MY PARISH FAMILY

Immaculate Conception (Colville) – Sacred Heart of Jesus (Kettle Falls) Pure Heart of Mary (Northport)

December 17, 2023: Third Sunday of Advent



MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 19

5:00 p.m. Confessions (Colville) 5:30 p.m. Mass (Colville)

Judy Dorr +

Wednesday, December 20

7:15 a.m. Mass (Colville)

Ellen Maddaloni

Thursday, December 21

7:15 a.m. Adoration/Confessions 8:30 Mass (Colville)

Pat Smith

11:30 a.m. (Republic)

Patricia Wood +

Friday, December 22

7:15 a.m. Mass (Colville)

7:45 a.m. Adoration

Fr. Terry Franklin +

Saturday, December 23

3:00 p.m. Confessions

4:00 p.m. Mass (Colville)

Evelyn Romo +

6:00 p.m. Mass (Kettle Falls)

Dave Hewes birthday

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Mass (Colville) Lk 1: 26-38

Pro Populo

No 12:30 p.m. Mass (Curlew 4th Sunday)

No 4:00 p.m. Mass (Republic)

See page 2 for Christmas schedule

PARISH STAFF

and a date for the baptism.

PastorFather Kenneth St. Hilaire
pastor@myparishfamily.org
Office Manager Pam Milliette-Gotham
info@myparishfamily.org
Custodian (SHJ) Dawna Parazoo
Facilities Supervisor (ICP)Greg Rainer
Parish Office Hours T-W-Th 9-3 p.m (509)-684-6223
PARISH MINISTRIES
Pastoral Councils Contact Cindy Campbell
Finance Council
Joe Fazzari (ICP), Dave Hewes (SHJ), Art Paine (PHM)
Knights of Columbus Randy Carstens
AdorationCecily Van Cleave
Prayer Line- 680-4673 JoHanna Andrews
Prayer Line- 680-4673 JoHanna Andrews
Prayer Line- 680-4673 JoHanna Andrews Funeral LuncheonsJaney Kuh
Prayer Line- 680-4673
Prayer Line-680-4673
Prayer Line-680-4673

Sacrament of Penance: As scheduled or by appointment.

Marriage: Schedule an appointment with the pastor at

least 6 months prior to setting a wedding date.



Dear parishioners and guests,

I'm about ready to start wrapping up this long series of bulletin columns dealing with the question of why people part ways with the Catholic Church. Hopefully, I can put together a conclusion within the next

couple of weeks. Or, if I take a hiatus to write a couple of columns that are more Christmas-themed, that conclusion might come sometime in the first couple weeks of January.

We left off last time saying that some people leave the Church because they cannot agree with her teachings or they find them too hard to accept. We know that a lot of Catholic teachings are unpopular. Topics like the all-male priesthood and clerical celibacy are perennial subjects of debate. The Church's stances on abortion, the death penalty, premarital sex, marriage, contraception, in vitro fertilization, embryonic stem cell research, and divorce – along with many others – are widely challenged by modern people.

Similarly, the Church's adherence to the scriptural and traditional understanding of human nature and her nuanced position on contemporary gender issues are found offensive to many. Perhaps the Church is perceived as being out of touch with reality, too nostalgic for a bygone time, or simply stuck in an outdated worldview.

Whatever the case, I wonder sometimes how thoroughly people understand the Church's rationale on these issues before they make the decision to leave. Have they read what the *Catechism* has to say on these topics? Have they read any of the Church's other official documents that give context to her teachings?

I realize there are some who make an honest effort to align their perspective with the Catholic perspective, praying, reading, studying, and conversing with experts, and in the end cannot bring themselves to accept it. But my gut tells me that the majority of people who leave the Church do not fit into this category. That leads me to the conclusion that perhaps most of the people who leave the Church for doctrinal reasons do not even really *know* the Church they are leaving.

It also leads me to the conclusion that, if we really want to keep people in the Church, we need more widespread understanding of her teachings. And, moreover, we need to understand not only what those teachings are, but also the *reason* the Church holds onto them. It's not guaranteed to keep everyone in the Church, but it would surely help.

Fr. Kenny St. Hilaire, Pastor

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK Please pray for our Colville, Kettle and Northport Parishes: Harold Rothwell, Mert Graham, Donna Norman, Palin Driver, Suzan Andrew, James Rowland, Elaine Huff, Lisa Huff, Roger Bresnahan, Diane Hess, Jim Miller, Loretta Bowling, Ella Sprangers & family, Father Charles Klutz, Bonnie Priest, Karen Hamel, Kenzie Sackman, Mick, Greg, and Luke McCrea. (Please remember, the list rotates each week.) If you or someone you know are sick or homebound and would like to receive a visit, Holy Communion, or anointing of the sick, please call the Parish office.

Weekly Contributions: December 9-10

Colville (Immaculate Conception): \$2,956.00
Colville (ICP) Holy Day: \$384.00
Kettle Falls (Sacred Heart): \$1,022.00
Kettle Falls (Sacred Heart) Holy Day: \$949.00
Northport (Pure Heart of Mary): \$150.00
ICP Capital Improvements: \$25.00
Social Outreach: \$75.00



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Fridays: 7:45 a.m.-6:00 p.m. All other Fridays: 7:45 a.m.-8:45 a.m. Every Thursday: 7:15 a.m.-8:15 a.m.





You are warmly invited to attend "Lessons and Carols" at Sacred Heart Church this Thursday evening, December 21, at 7:30.

The presentation consists of alternating readings of Scripture and singing of carols. It will be a beautiful way to make final preparations for Christmas!



Poinsettias for Christmas

The congregation is invited to honor or remember loved ones with a donation for poinsettias. Suggested donation is \$10.00. Please write down the names of your loved ones

on the provided sheets in the gathering area, and their names will be in the December 24 bulletin as an insert.



The McGivney Pie auction raised over \$2,000.00! Thank you to everyone who attended. The Knights are planning a breakfast fundraiser in January, 2024. Check the

bulletin for dates and times.

The Immaculate Conception Pastoral Council met on **November 28. The Sacred Heart of Jesus Pastoral Council met on December 9.** The minutes from the meetings can be found on the parish website under the Pastoral Council tab. Father gave updates to both councils on the Annual Report, his acceptance into a Spiritual Direction program and an Amazing Parish update. Father is completing the Annual Report. It will be done in-house this year. It will be two pages with pie charts of the financials and a letter from Father. It will go as an insert into the weekly bulletin. Father was accepted into a Spiritual Direction program offered by the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF). As Father does Spiritual Direction for Bishop White seminarians, Father Barnett suggested that this might be an opportunity to get additional support and formation for Spiritual direction. IPF is in Omaha, Nebraska, but the Spiritual Direction program will be hosted in Chicago at the Mundelein Seminary. One of the three sessions each year is a retreat. The cohort of 9-12 priests meets Sunday evening through Friday midday three times each year for three years. The first session is Sunday, April 28 – May 3rd. Father will most likely have a substitute for Sunday Masses these weeks due to flight times to Chicago. Father updated the councils on the Amazing Parish. He identified four individuals to be on the Parish Leadership Team (PLT), which has met weekly for the past couple of months. The primary focus of those meetings has been an overview and initiation into what the Amazing Parish's mission is and how they can assist our parish. More information will be provided to parishioners in the very near future. Next week's bulletin will have an update on the projects that were discussed at the council meeting.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHRISTMAS COLLECTION



FEED the hungry.

HEAL the hurting.

WELCOME the stranger.

As we enter this Advent season, anticipating the birth of our Lord Jesus, Catholic Charities is asking us to support their annual Christmas collection. You may have received a brochure in the mail; if not, brochures are available in the church gathering area, or you can donate on their secure website: cceasternwa.org/donate

Catholic Charites wishes to thank you for your assistance!

"We could not do our work supporting our fragile
neighbors without your support."











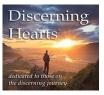
Mystery of Faith Series:

We are taking a hiatus from Mystery of Faith during December and will resume Mystery of Faith on Tuesday, January 9th.



Friendship Feast needs a little help with canned vegetables and fruits. If you have extra to donate, you can drop them off at the church gathering area or the parish hall. Thank you for your generosity!





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Bulletin Cover curtsey of: Young Catholic Art Gallery



visit our Parish website at: www.myparishfamily.org

Advertiser of the week – Thank you!

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