

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OUR LADY OF LORETTO (LODGE GRASS), ST. CHARLES BORROMEO (PRYOR),
ST. DENNIS (CROW AGENCY), ST. FRANCIS XAVIER (ST. XAVIER), ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA (WYOLA)

3rd Sunday of Advent

OPENING SONG

On Jordan's Bank #41

SCRIPTURE READINGS begin on page 39

MASS PARTS Mass of Creation #885-889

CLOSING SONG

Jesus baapem daloowialeesh



SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

9:00 AM Saint Dennis
10:30 AM Saint Charles Borromeo
12:30 PM Our Lady of Loretto
4:00 PM Saint Francis Xavier

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

6:00 PM Saint Dennis

FRIDAY

6:00 PM Our Lady of Loretto

CONFESSIONS

Before mass and on request.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS

6:00 PM Sewing Group
Meeting Room in Small Hall
(St. Dennis)

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

look inside

Bro. Mike Dorn OFM Cap. Administrator/Pastor • Phone: (406) 620-7500
Bro. Thomas Skowron OFM Cap. Assoc. Pastor • Phone: (406) 425-2567
Bro. Jerry Cornish OFM Cap. Youth Ministry

76 Highway 1, P.O. Box 57, Crow Agency, MT 59022

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This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the

Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come



again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means “rejoice,” is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday’s Mass. This theme is echoed in today’s second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Family Connection

In family life, we learn to trust other people for protection and care. This experience of trust within the family enables children to believe us when we testify about our faith in Jesus. John the Baptist was believed by those who heard

him because he helped them to recognize Jesus in their midst. In our family life, we hope and pray that we lead one another to recognize Jesus’ presence in our world.

As you gather as a family, recall that during the Advent season we are invited to pay particular attention to the signs of Jesus’ presence in our world. Consider some of the signs of Jesus’ presence that you have experienced. During Advent, we remember how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Read together today’s Gospel, John 1:6-8,19-28. Discuss the signs of Jesus’ presence in our world that you named and explain what these signs tell us about God and God’s love for us. Pray together that your family will be led to recognize that Jesus is present among us. Read and pray together the psalm for today’s Mass, the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sunday, December 24th

10 am St. Dennis

CHRISTMAS EVE
Sunday, Decemeber 24th

4 pm St. Xavier
7 pm St. Charles
8 pm St. Dennis
11 pm Our Lady of Loretto

CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday, Decemeber 25th

10 am St. Dennis

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT OUR LADY OF LORETTO CHURCH

After the 12:30pm Mass today, parishioners are welcomed to assist with the decorations inside the church.

Thank you in advance for your help!

CONFIRMATION, FIRST COMMUNION

Sacrament classes for children who are at least 7 years old & baptized will begin on **Sunday, Feb. 4th** at both **St. Dennis** and **Our Lady of Loretto** after Mass. Classes will run about 30 minutes.

There is a sign-up sheet to begin the registration process.

NEXT BAPTISM CLASS

Our next class for parents/godparents is on Saturday, Jan. 6th at 10:30am at St. Dennis with baptisms to follow for families having theirs done inside the chapel. Other dates and locations will be scheduled accordingly.

Please visit crowcatholicparishes.com or

contact one of the priests to register.

ST. DENNIS SEWING GROUP TO RESUME IN JANUARY

The sewing group will be taking a break for the remainder of the year. We'll let you know when it resumes in January.

CLOSING SONG



Je - - sus WE - LA - HE - HE-LE



Baa-pemda-loo - wi-a-leesh bii_i - chaa - ki-kaa - wa-ku HE-LE
The day when you are coming allow me to be ready (for it).

Dii-leen bii áa - le - dí-a - wa-kuh Ak-baa - tat - dí-a HE-LE
You will lead me by the hand, dear God.

Je - - sus WE - LA - HE - HE-LE

Baa-pem bii da - la - sash bi-a-leesh bii_i - chaa-ki-kaa-wa-ku HE-LE
That day when you will call my name, allow me to be ready (for it).

Dii-leen bii áa - le - dí-a - wa-kuh Ak-baa - tat - dí-a HE-LE
You will lead me by the hand, dear God