

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 in Ordinary Time

OPENING SONG

As We Gather at Your Table #316

SCRIPTURE READINGS begin on page 61

MASS PARTS Mass of Creation #885-889

CLOSING SONG

Akbaatatdía lláaxbaaxpeesh

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)

DIocese OF GREAT FALLS-BILLINGS



MARCH 16TH AND 17TH
ST. LEO CATHOLIC CHURCH
LEWISTOWN, MT

Keynote Speaker
Dan Harms



Mass celebrated with
Bishop Fleming



Breakout Speakers include: Father Martin Ezeihuaku,
Daria Haney, and Sean Khan



Please use the QR Code to sign up!
Cost: \$35.00 per registrant
For high school students and their chaperones
Priests attend free-please contact at jbrown@diocesegfb.org

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

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Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like

John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

Family Connection

Today's Gospel describes how Jesus called his first disciples and the immediacy with which these men dropped everything to follow him. We can only begin to imagine what Jesus' presence must have been like to invoke such a response in these first disciples. While a few of us might relate to such a radical conversion, many of us would find such a

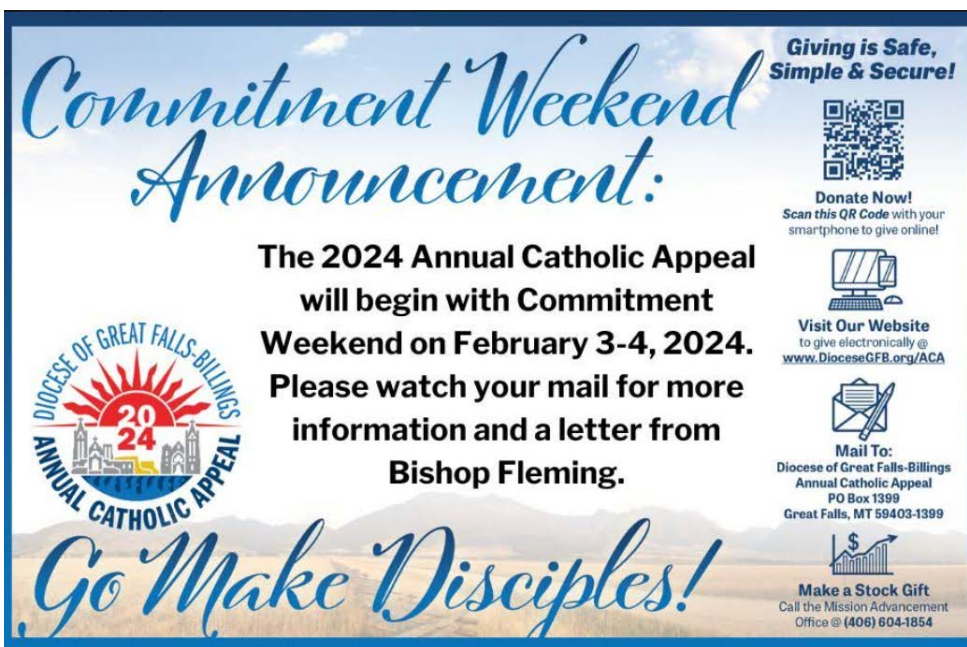


sudden change in ourselves or in another person unsettling. There are few things for which we would willingly drop everything. And yet this is the immediacy with which these first disciples responded to Jesus. These first disciples were willing to drop everything in order to make Jesus and the Kingdom of God the most important things in their lives.

Gather as a family and talk about circumstances in which you have had to “drop everything.” (the call to pick up a sick child from school, the cry of a hurt or angry child) How did you feel about having to change your plans in each of these situations? How

do we feel when someone asks us to drop everything to help him or her? For many of us, it is not easy to drop everything to respond to the needs of another.

Read today’s Gospel, Mark 1:14–20. Invite your family to imagine what Jesus’ presence and invitation to these first followers must have been like that they responded by leaving their livelihood to become his disciples. How might our life change if we understood the Kingdom of God to be as important and immediate in our lives? Ask God to help you experience the Kingdom of God with such immediacy. Pray together the Lord’s Prayer.



Commitment Weekend Announcement:

The 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal will begin with Commitment Weekend on February 3-4, 2024. Please watch your mail for more information and a letter from Bishop Fleming.

Go Make Disciples!

Giving is Safe, Simple & Secure!

Donate Now!
Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to give online!

Visit Our Website
to give electronically @ www.DioceseGFB.org/ACA

Mail To:
Diocese of Great Falls-Billings
Annual Catholic Appeal
PO Box 1399
Great Falls, MT 59403-1399

Make a Stock Gift
Call the Mission Advancement Office @ (406) 604-1854

NEXT BAPTISM CLASS — SATURDAY, FEB. 3RD, 10:30AM @ ST. DENNIS

Our next class for parents/godparents is on Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 10:30am at St. Dennis with baptisms to follow for families having theirs done at St. Dennis. Other dates and locations will be scheduled accordingly. Please visit crowcatholicparishes.com or contact one of the priests to register.

EUCHARIST/COMMUNION PYX

If you had received a pyx from one of the priests at some point to bring Communion to sick family or friends unable to attend Mass but are no longer in need of it, please return it to Br. Mike or Thomas so that they can make them available for others as the need arises. Thank you!

SACRAMENTAL PREP (CONFIRMATION & 1ST COMMUNION CLASSES)

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 at both St. Dennis & Our Lady of Loretto.

If your child is 7 or older but isn't baptized and you want them to enter the sacrament classes, then they **must be baptized prior to Ash Wednesday, February 14th** as the church does not allow baptisms during Lent which runs from Feb. 14th to March 30th this year.

COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

Thank you in advance for your help in either bringing something to share with others or for cleaning up after the socials following Mass!



Jesus does not mince words in the Gospel as he calls us to conversion. Truth be told we are a work in progress and our marriage likewise is ever-changing. The Marriage Encounter Experience is an opportunity to look at our expectations for marriage, our roots and formation and to plot a mutual course forward. You learn the language of feelings, how to listen beyond the words spoken, to let go of defenses and to be non-judgmental. It is a conversion of 2 hearts and a melding into one.

Join us in **Billings, Feb 2-4** or **Elk Mountain, WY, April 12-14.**

To learn more, watch bit.ly/wwme2024, visit our website wwme.org or apply today by calling 307-215-9444.

CLOSING SONG



Ak-baa-tat-dí - a I - láax baax-peesh a-lá-kaa - ssaa -la-htaa
God's Holy Spirit, even if you don't see Him,



Dáh-ka - la-tche-lak ii baa koot-kaá-sheesh koók. HE HE-LE
If you believe in Him, then all things are possible.