

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)

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### OPENING SONG

I Heard the Voice of Jesus #464

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** begin on page 63

**MASS PARTS** Mass of Creation #885-889

### CLOSING SONG

Akbaatatdía dii báakukkoonnahtaa

### 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](mailto: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

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

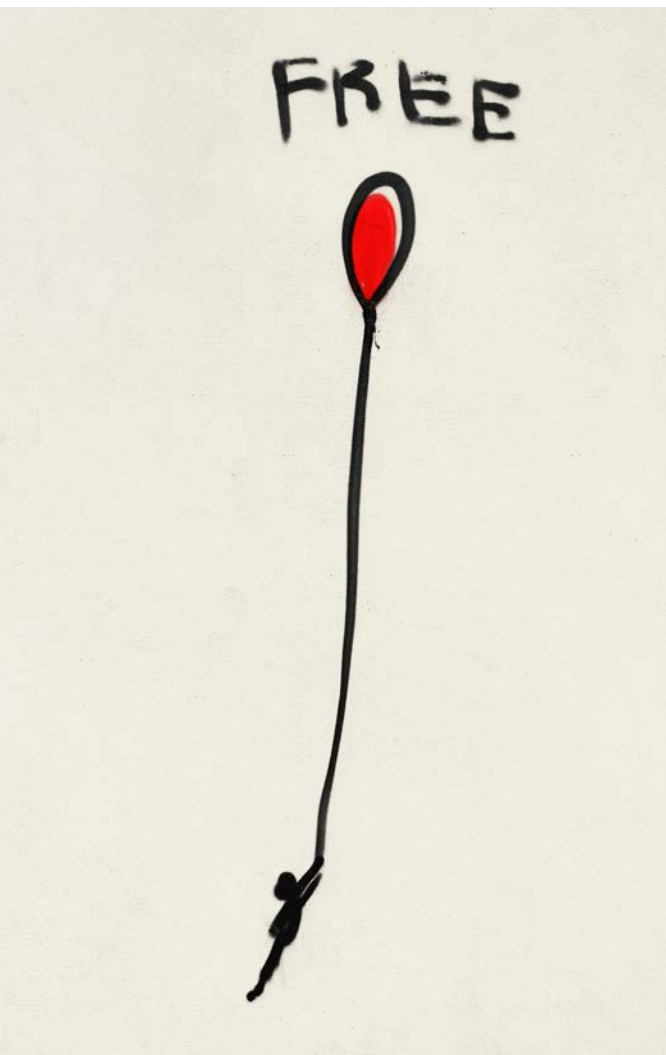
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Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes'. Early in Mark's Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.



After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.

### **Family Connection**

The people who heard Jesus teach and saw him heal in today's Gospel were said to have been astonished and amazed by the authority of his teaching. So compelling were Jesus' words and actions that the news about him could not be contained; it

spread quickly throughout all of Galilee. Two thousand years later, the news about Jesus continues to spread. We are called to participate in sharing the Good News of Jesus with others in our words and in our deeds.

Gather as a family and try to name some amazing things, events, or people. In today's Gospel we hear that the people were astonished and amazed by their experience of Jesus. Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:21-28. What did the people who saw and

heard Jesus find so amazing? (In Jesus, the people heard and saw the power and authority of God at work.) People should see in our lives the power and authority of God at work. Can you name any modern examples of people in whom you have seen the power and authority of God at work? Conclude in prayer together that we will experience wonder at the work of God in our world today. Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 28th - Feb. 3)



*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!*

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

  
**Make a Stock Gift**  
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## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK (1/28-2/3)

This past Friday, Bishop Jeff Fleming celebrated Mass at both Pretty Eagle Catholic Academy & St. Charles in preparation for Catholic Schools Week.

We give thanks to God for the many donors across the country who make a tuition-free Catholic education possible for the students of the St. Labre school system.

We also thank the administrators, teachers, staff for their dedicated work and for the students & their families for choosing a Catholic education.

## BAPTISM CLASS AT 10:30AM ON SATURDAY, 2/3 @ ST. DENNIS No Baptisms during Lent 2/14-3/31

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](http://crowcatholicparishes.com) or contact one of the priests to register.

