

Father Paul H. Wander, Pastor
Office: 962-3214 Cell: 208-940-1226
fpwander@triparishchurches.com

Deacon Ryan Uhlenkott RyanU@awssteel.com
Office: 962-3214 Cell: 208-791-0492

Deacon Eric Wassmuth hickfarm6@gmail.com
Office: 962-3214 Cell: 208-983-8839

Vicki Shears, Secretary/Bookkeeper
smrectory@triparishchurches.com
Office 962-3214 Cell 208-792-1138

Heather Uhlenkott, DRE
CEC: Heather's cell 208-507-0971
pffpdre@gmail.com www.pffpkids.com

Sarah Walsh, Youth Minister
Office 962-3214 Cell 208-507-0528
sarahwalsh_YM@triparishchurches.com

LAY VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Choir - St. Mary's: Sally Rehder 208-507-1171
Choir - St. Anthony: Laurie Karel 208-507-0363
Eucharistic Adoration: Marcella Goeckner 208-962-3491
Ferdinand Women Group: Judy Forsman 208-962-5906
Greencreek Altar Society: Michelle Sonnen 208-507-1760
Greencreek Cemetery: Conrad Arnzen 208-983-7295
Greencreek Hall Reservations- Adam Forsmann 208-507-1774
Grow In The Spirit: Rachel Gehring 208-791-3089
Guilds - St. Mary's/Holy Cross co-chairs: call 208-451-4067
to reach Della Gehring or Maureen Munger 208-816-1578
Healing/Prayer Ministry: Charlene Rehder 208-962-7324
Homebound Ministry: Marilyn Uhlenkott 208-507-1744
Knights of Columbus: Emmett Wilson 208-507-2188
Lazarus Committee: St Mary's- Brandy McElroy 208-553-5628
Lazarus Committee: St Anthony- Sue Sonnen 208-507-3040
Lazarus & Choir AP: Judy 962-5906, Bertie 208-553-3879
Mass Ministry Scheduler (SM): Jim Rehder 208-507-0536
Mass Ministry Scheduler (SA): Alea Wassmuth 208-451-6049
Mass Ministry Scheduler (AP): Judy Forsman 208-962-5906
OCIA - Joel & Taylor Wimer 208-451-3695
Prayer Chain: Karen Lustig 208-507-0993 dklustig@idaho.net
Project Ministry: Jim Rehder 208-507-0536
Pro-Life Help/Sources for help: Kerry Uhlenkott 208-983-7275
Regnum Christi: Leah Prigge 208-553-5111
Stewardship Committee: Roy Uhlenkott 208-962-3847
St. Anthony Society: Doug Lustig 208-507-3844
St. Anthony Cemetery Board: Conrad Arnzen 208-983-7295,
Steve Sonnen 208-507-1020 and Joe Baerlocher 208-983-7420

Collection received from last weekend Masses:

Collection Budget	Received	Gift/Other
St. Mary's	3153.00	3598.00
St. Anthony	1211.00	1948.00
Assumption	754.00	909.00
		106.00

SATURDAY
5 pm - Assumption Church, Ferdinand

SUNDAY
7 am - St. Mary's, Cottonwood
8:15 am - St. Mary's, Cottonwood
10:00 am - St. Anthony, Greencreek
Holy Cross - not until summer of 2026

WEEKDAY MASS
Monday - No Mass
Tuesday, 6:30 pm - St. Mary's, Cottonwood
Wednesday, 8 am - St. Anthony, Greencreek
Thursday, 8 am - St. Mary's, Cottonwood
Friday, 8 am - Assumption, Ferdinand
First Saturdays, 8 am - St. Mary's

RECONCILIATION
St. Mary's: Saturday 2:30—4 :00pm
Or by appointment during the week

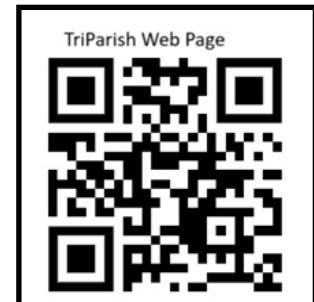
EUCARISTIC ADORATION
ST. MARY'S

Every Tuesday: 7 am - 6:30 pm.
Third Thursday: 7 pm - 7 am Friday
Every Wednesday—4-6 pm
First Friday: 7 pm Thurs. - 7:50 am Saturday

www.triparishchurches.com

Find us on Facebook: Tri-Parish Catholic Church
Formed.Org <https://triparishchurches.formed.org>

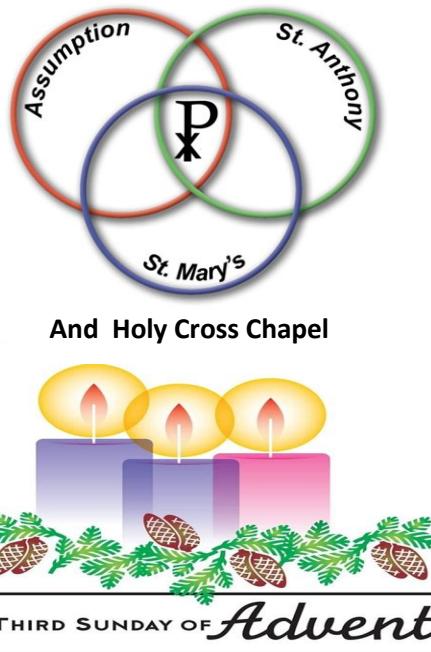
PO Box 425, Cottonwood, Idaho 83522



TRI-PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

St. Mary's	Assumption	St. Anthony
Ron Rehder	Stephen Goeckner	Conrad Arnzen
Term ends Jul 2026	Term end Jul 2026	Term ends Jul 2026
Shelley Schlader	Cara Uhlenkott	Joe Baerlocher
Term ends Jul 2027	Term ends Jul 2027	Term ends Jul 2027
Ned Waters	Annmarie Schwartz	Norm Sonnen
Term ends: Jul 2028	Term ends: Jul 2028	Term ends: Jul 2028
Holy Cross		
	Diana Graning	
	Term ends Jul 2027	

December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent



Father's Corner...
Origin of the Twelve Days of Christmas
You are familiar with the Christmas song "The Twelve Days of Christmas." To most it is a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music, but it had quite a serious purpose when it was written. It is a great deal more than just a repetitive melody with a list of strange gifts.

Catholics in England during 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics, were prohibited from ANY practice of their faith - by law - either privately or public. It was a Crime to be a Catholic.

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written in England as one of the "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith - a memory aid - when to be caught with anything in *writing* indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged, or shortened by a head, or drawn and quartered, all very ghastly punishments.

The songs' gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings for the faith. The "True Love" mentioned in the song refers to God Himself. The "Me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The "Partridge in a Pear Tree" is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song Christ is symbolically presented as a mother Partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldest not have it so ..." (Matthew 23:37)

The other symbols mean the following:
2 Turtle Doves - The Old and New Testaments
3 French Hens - Faith, Hope and Charity, the three Theological Virtues (also represents the Trinity)
4 Calling Birds - The four Gospels and/or the four Evangelists
5 Golden Rings - The first five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of humanity's fall from grace.
6 Geese A-laying - the six days of Creation
7 Swans a Swimming - the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Seven Sacraments
8 Maids A-milking - the Eight Beatitudes
9 Ladies Dancing - the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
10 Lords A-leaping - the Ten Commandments
11 Pipers Piping - the Eleven faithful Disciples
12 Drummers Drumming - the Twelve points of the doctrine of the Apostles Creed. .

Father Paul Wander

Poinsettias will now be here on **Tuesday, December 16th**, please pick yours up in the back of St. Mary's Church. Youth Ministry still has a few they can sell since we are required to pre-order a certain number. Please call or text Sarah to order. Or you may contact the Parish Office.

If you pre-ordered a photo directory when your pictures were taken . . . Please stop at the Tri-Parish Office or at Weber Photography and pick yours up. Cost is \$16.96. We still have a few that were pre-ordered but have not been paid for and were not picked up. Thank you.

Youth Ministry Calendar of Events

Dec 14: Youth decorating Tree, St. Anthony, 10 Mass
Dec 15: Attend Penance Service at St. Mary's 6:00pm, following Penance Service we will move to the back rooms for **CONFIRMATION** class.
Dec 16: Poinsettias arrived - back of St. Mary's Church

Tri-Parish Calendar of Events

Dec 14: KC Breakfast, KC Hall, 7-10 am
Dec 15: Penance Service at St. Mary's, 6:00 pm
Dec 16: Poinsettias arrived - back of St. Mary's Church
Dec 16: Mass at Noon at St. Mary's, no evening Mass
Dec 17: Patriotic Rosary, 4 pm, St. Mary's Church with Eucharistic Adoration 4-6 pm.
Dec 17: St. John Bosco Nativity Play, 6:30 pm
Dec 17: OCIA Class, St. Mary's, 6:45-8:15 pm
Dec 18: Stewardship Committee meet, 11 am, Office
Dec 18: Third Thursday Adoration, St. Mary's begins 7 pm through to 7 am on Friday
Dec 20: SAS Christmas Party, begins 5:00 pm
Dec 21: Special visit with Santa at the Greencreek Hall following the 10:00 Mass at St. Anthony
Dec 24: Patriotic Rosary 9 am since it is Christmas Eve and Adoration will continue until 11 am - St. Mary's
Dec 24-28: Parish Office closed for Christmas
Dec 27: NO Confessions

If you have heard of **Exodus 90** your first thought is likely cold showers during lent, but Exodus 90 is so much more than that. Beginning **January 5th** we will embark on a journey that will lead us both spiritually and physically closer to God. We will meet weekly to pray and encourage each other. For more information or to register go to exodus90.com or you can contact **Levi Wassmuth** at piowassmuth@gmail.com or 208-451-3615.

Prairie girls and boys basketball teams will be hosting the PHS Alumni Game Fundraiser on Friday, December 26 at the high school gymnasium. The women's game will tip off at 6pm followed by the men's game at 7pm. Alumni who would like to play in the game can pay \$10 at the door, spectators will be \$5 with all proceeds going to our girls and boys basketball programs. If you can't make the game it will be streamed live on our NFHS network.

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/prairie-high-school-cottonwood-id>

Happy Birthday!

Dec 14: Casey Chavez, Kasandra Dinning, Vern Gehring
Dec 15: Chad Latimer, Eve Pfefferkorn, Raiden Ross, Lonnie Schaeffer, Jared Higgins, Delmer Wassmuth
Dec 16: Wayne Forsmann, Ken Geis, Lillian Rehder, Michelle Sonnen
Dec 17: Wyatt Duclos, Tom Wimer
Dec 18: John Kaschmitter, Linda Nida
Dec 19: Brylie Forsmann, Ron Lightfield, Thomas Rose, Taylor Roy, Ellea VonBargen
Dec 20: Bridget Barga, Mike Duclos, Dylan Prigge, Philip Spencer, Nicole Schumacher, Hudson Verdino

Penance Services before Christmas

all to be held **6:00 pm**
December 15 St. Mary's, Cottonwood
December 16 St. Mary's, Moscow
December 17 All Saints, Lewiston
December 19 Holy Trinity, Nezperce

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - December 24, 2025

4:00 pm St. Mary's
6:00 pm St. Anthony
8:00 pm Assumption
11:00 pm St. Mary's - Mass ends about midnight

Christmas Day - December 25, 2025

10:00 am St. Mary's

New Year's Day Mass Schedule

December 31, Wednesday Assumption, 5:30 pm
January 1, Thursday St. Mary's, 8:00 am
January 1, Thursday St. Anthony, 10:00 am

St. John Bosco Academy has **all your favorite gift cards** stocked in the school office year-round (or can order them in!). Feel free to stop by the school Monday through Thursday 8 am to 4 pm to pick up what you need. Or call/text Lynn 208-507-2286, and she would be happy to help you get the gift cards you want for the Christmas season. Thank you for your support!!

Thank you to KC's for setting up Christmas Manger scene and lights at St. Mary's. Thank you to High School PFFP class for putting up all the railing lights at St. Mary's. Thank you SAS and Connie Killmar for decorating outside at St. Anthony. Thank you Tom & Millie Wimer for outdoor decorating at Assumption.

St. John Bosco Nativity Play: "Santa Lucia- A Celebration of Light" Presented by PreK-12th Grade Students, St. John Bosco Academy, to be held in the St. John Paul II Theatre, Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6:30 pm

St. Mary's Ministry

All Sundays 7:00 am:

Please come early and volunteer

Dec 14, Sunday 8:15 am:

Greeters: Joe Didier, Felix Nuxoll
Servers: James/Oliver Lustig, Orrin Lustig
Lectors: Rachel G., Sherry N. **Child Lit:** Denise
EM: Glenn, Brad, Noelle, Rick/Rose

Dec 21, Sunday 8:15 am:

Greeters: Jake & Marlene Forsmann
Servers: Emil/Fulton/Ignatius
Lectors: Sarah, Heather **Child Lit:** Grace
EM: Dylan, Heath, Alaina, Lillianne, Nolan

Dec 24, Christmas Eve 4:00 pm:

Please sign-up on the Ministry forms on bulletin board

Dec 24, Christmas Eve 11:00 pm:

Please sign-up on the Ministry forms on bulletin board

Dec 25, Christmas Day 10:00 am:

Please sign-up on the Ministry forms on bulletin board

St. Anthony Ministry

Dec 14, Sunday 10:00 am:

Greeters & Gifts: Roberto & Rachel Hernandez and Family
Lector: Laurie **Servers:** Nathan, Aiden, Javier
EM: Tanya, Shane, Levi **Sacristan:** Molly

Dec 21, Sunday 10:00 am:

Greeters & Gifts: Phil & Rhonda Schmidt
Lector: Garrett **Servers:** Jordan, Evan, Sam
EM: Adam, Nate **Sacristan:** Rhonda

Dec 24, Christmas Eve 6:00 pm:

Greeters: Matt & Sarah Warren and Family
Lector: Joe **Servers:** Decklan, Gabe, Liam
EM: Shawn, Johanna **Sacristan:** Arlene

Assumption Ministry

Dec 13, Saturday 5:00 pm:

Servers: Ben, Micah
Lector: Jennie **EM:** Cara, Millie

Dec 20, Saturday 5:00 pm:

Servers: Hailey, Liam
Lector: Gwen **EM:** Dorothy

Dec 24, Christmas Eve 8:00 pm:

Servers: *please come early and volunteer*
Lector: Mason **EM:** Ryan McHugh, volunteer

Several of you have paid \$20.00 for Idaho Catholic Register - Thank you very much! Annual Subscription rate is \$20.00 you may send to the Diocese or you can make your check payable to your parish, mark it for the ICR, and place it in the collection basket. Thank you.

Mass Intentions for the Weekend

Dec 13, Sat	ASSUMPTION	5 pm:
+Lee & Sharon Uhling		
Dec 14, Sun	ST. MARY'S	7 am:
+Ted Schumacher	+Vera Schumacher, bd 12/12	
Dec 14, Sun	ST. MARY'S	8:15 am:
For healing for Zane Prigge and for the Prigge Family		
Dec 14, Sun	ST. ANTHONY	10:00 am:
All Tri-Parish Parishioners		
Dec 15, Mon	No Mass	
Dec 16, Tues	St. Mary's	12 NOON:
+Stacy Jacksha by Elsie Reichlin		
+Sally Nuxoll		
Dec 17, Wed	St. Anthony	8 am:
+Frances Schmidt	+Pauline Schlader	
Dec 18, Thurs	St. Mary's	8 am:
+John W. Seubert, da 12/21	+Mary Lee Mager	
Dec 19, Fri	Assumption	8 am:
+Eugene McHugh	+Joseph Enneking	
Dec 20, Sat	ASSUMPTION	5 pm:
+Cecil Uhling, da 12/17	+Viola Uhling	
Dec 21, Sun	ST. MARY'S	7 am:
+Curt & Joan Terhaar		
Dec 21, Sun	ST. MARY'S	8:15 am:
+Jed Fitch and for the Fitch Family (by HS PFFP Class)		
Dec 21, Sun	ST. ANTHONY	10:00 am:
All Tri-Parish Parishioners		

The Pro-Life Advent Tree is in the back of the main body of St. Mary's Church and is decorated with tags for cash donations which will help support the local Pregnancy Resource Centers in Lewiston, Grangeville and Kamiah. Donations will also help support the billboard in Grangeville which includes the Help Line for Mothers in need. Parishioners are invited to take a tag and bring back your gift and place it in the tree or put it in the Sunday collection. Thank you in advance for your generosity to mothers and unborn babies.

If you get an email from "Virtus" . . . it is from the Diocese's Office for Safe Environment. It is a legitimate email and it is sent to give you the information you need to renew your Safe Environment training. Virtus is the Diocese new program for Safe Environment. If you do not remember your sign-on information from the old program: cmgconnect, please contact Vicki or Sarah at the parish office and they will help you reset your password. The renewal training online is now good for two years. Questions - please call parish office 208-962-3214.