



Holy Cross Parish

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 24, 2025

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mass: Monday and Tuesday 9:00a

Adoration: Monday 9:30a

Weekend Schedule:

Confession: Sunday 3:30-4:15p or by appointment

Mass: Sunday Mass 4:30p

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30a to 12:00p

Fr. Cody Williams, Pastor Email: frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org

Office: 406-266-4811

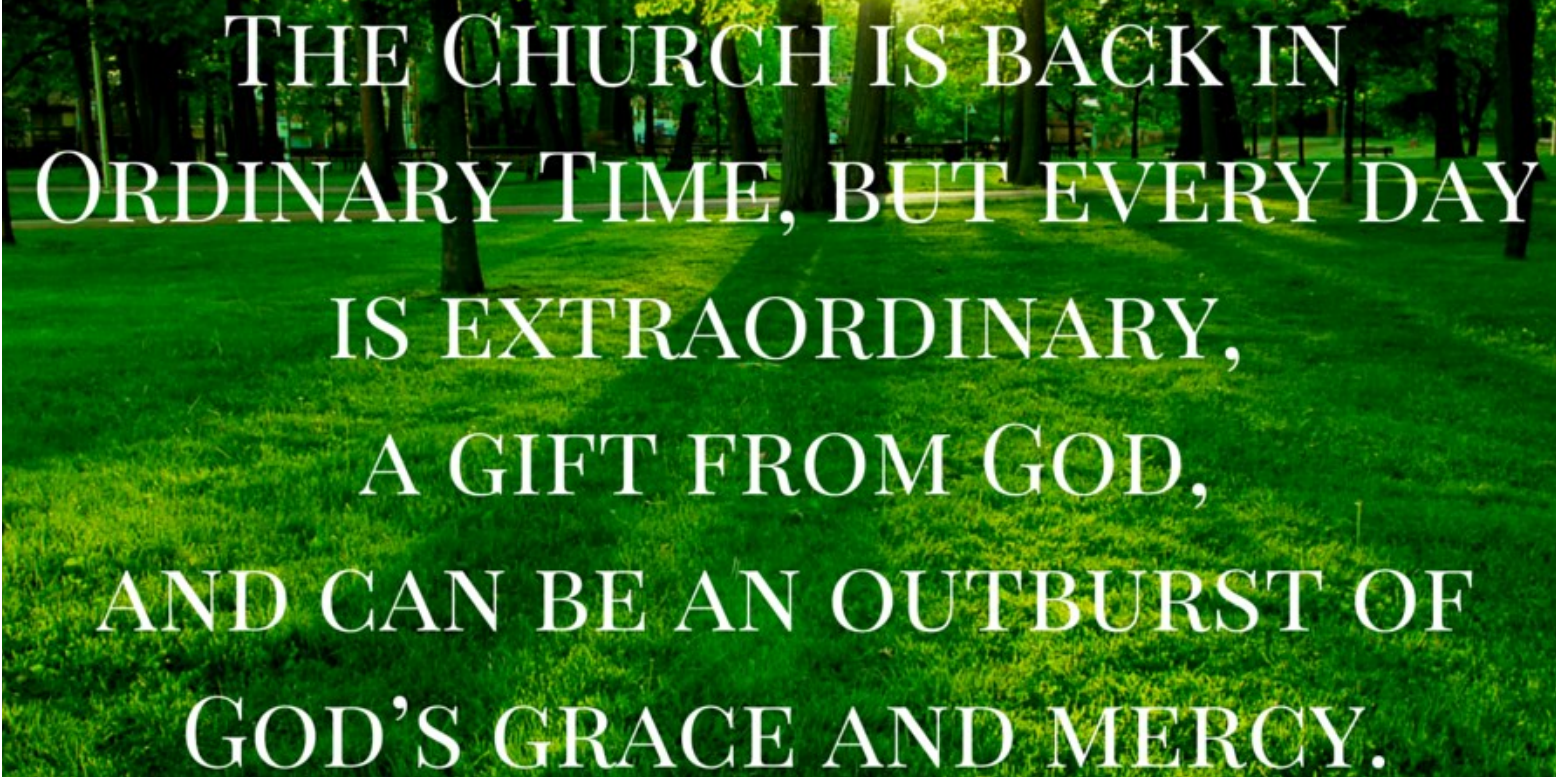
Email: office@holycrossmt.org

Shawna: RE@holycrossmt.org

Website: holycrossmt.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)

Townsend, Montana 59644



THE CHURCH IS BACK IN
ORDINARY TIME, BUT EVERY DAY
IS EXTRAORDINARY,
A GIFT FROM GOD,
AND CAN BE AN OUTBURST OF
GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY.

TIMOTHY CARDINAL DOLAN

Ordination Rite of Deacons

The Ordination Rite for deacons is very similar to those of the other two rungs of Holy Orders. Yet, I want to focus on the diaconate ordination rite for this session.

At this point in his life, the deacon-to-be has received at least three years of formal studies and education and has been installed to the office of lector and acolyte. As an installed acolyte, he has a place in the opening procession, namely the same place as the other servers. Thus he processes in with the other ministers behind the servers and ahead of the deacons; his rightful place in the procession. Since he is still a layman and not an ordained minister, he is seated in the pews with the rest of the people (ideally in the front pew).

The rest of the Mass is quite similar to any other Mass. The readings are specific to the ordination of a deacon including readings like the institution of the diaconate in the Acts of the Apostles, readings which emphasize service, or those about God calling a man to service. Following the readings is a minor change. Instead of the homily following the proclamation of the Gospel, the person in charge of the formation of the deacons or the Vocations Director, gets up and asks the bishop to ordain this man to the diaconate. This tradition dates back to the early church and the calling of a person to Baptism. In the early church people were called to the Sacrament of Baptism and their godparents had to attest that they were ready for this Sacrament. Today this action is only found in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. Once the man has been called, the bishop ratifies this call by stating that he will ordain this man. This dialogue shows the intersection between a person discerning a call and the Church discerning the call. A person is not ordained a deacon or priest simply because they want it but because the Church calls this man to this service. Once the dialogue is complete, the people clap for the person who will be ordained showing their support. Often people understand this part of the rite as though we are showing our support but its meaning is far deeper. This is the moment the church ratifies this call and the people approve of the bishop's decision. If no one clapped, we have a serious issue on our hands.

The vast majority of Catholic rites which happen during Mass follow the homily. Following the homily is the Ordination Rite. It starts by calling the man forward. The soon-to-be deacon makes his promises before the bishop. These are not vows. Vows are promises given to God and revokable only by God (or the Holy See). Promises are made to the bishop who can revoke these promises. This shows the connection between the bishop and the man to be ordained. He is under the authority of the bishop who gives him his roles and responsibilities. The five promises are: The willingness to be ordained for the service of the Church, to assist the priestly order, to proclaim the faith by word and deed, if he will be ordained a priest, celibacy, to maintain a life of prayer including praying the Liturgy of the Hours, and to conform his life to Christ.

HELP NEEDED!

There are sign up sheets in the Narthex to volunteer to help with this event.

PARTY IN THE PARK

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12TH

STARTING AT 5:00 PM

HERITAGE PARK

FAMILY-FRIENDLY! ALL ARE WELCOME!!

GAMES, FOOD, MUSIC, MOVIE

TACO BAR & ICE CREAM SUNDAES

****OUTDOOR MOVIE STARTING AT 8PM!!**

SPONSORED BY HOLY CROSS CHURCH

NO COST!!

CALLED TO
 CARE

All across Montana, children in crisis are praying for safety, love, and belonging.

Catholic Social Services and Child Bridge are raising up families grounded in Christian compassion.

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me." Matthew 18:5

Could God be calling you to step in?

LEARN MORE TODAY
 childbridgemontana.org



Come learn about the life of
 Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk

Speaker: Deacon William J. White,
 Postulator for Cause of Canonization for Nicholas Black Elk

Tuesday, September 23 @ 5:30 pm
 St. Mary Catholic Community Social Center

A light dinner will be served
 A free will offering would be appreciated

Sponsored by: Saint Mary's Catholic Community and Our Lady of the Valley Church



August is Make-A-Will Month
 Make YOURS for FREE!

The future begins with you! Our parish is excited to offer you a free estate-planning resource from The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena called FreeWill so you can invest in the future of your family AND your faith, starting now.



With FreeWill, you can write your will online today. Having a will allows you to:

- Protect your loved ones and ensure their future well-being.
- Express your values and the principles that define your life.
- Begin your legacy that supports the causes you hold dear.



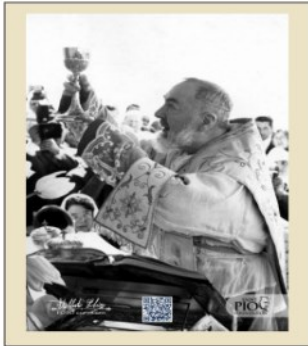
Make a plan today with FreeWill at
 freewill.com/fdoh



All it takes is 20 minutes to create your will and start your legacy.



The Relics
 of Saint Padre Pio
 of Pietrelcina
 to visit
 St. Francis Xavier Parish
 August 25 - 26, 2025



Monday, August 25th Veneration from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Tuesday, August 26th Veneration from 11:00am to 8:00 pm

Mass in honor of Saint Pio at 6:00 pm
 with Bishop Jeffrey Fleming of the Diocese of Great Falls - Billings



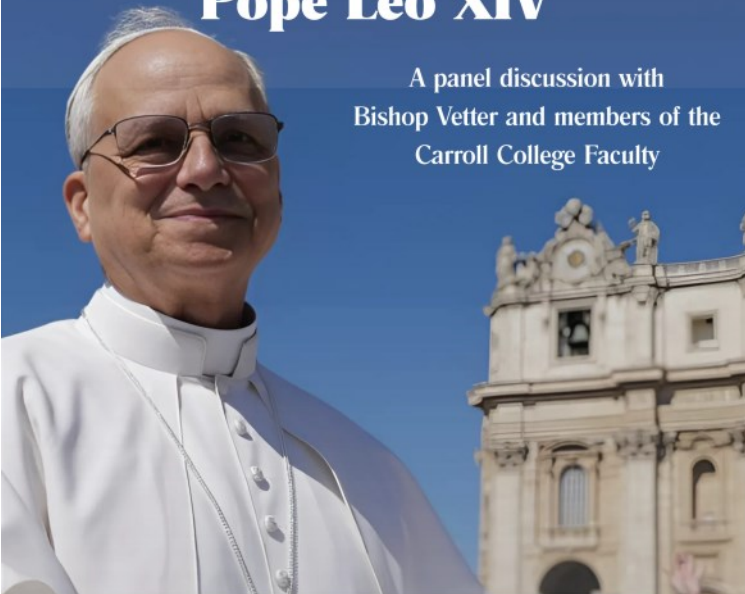
Sponsored by



saintpiofoundation.org

St. Francis Xavier 420 West Pine Street Missoula, MT 59802 406.542.0321
 sfxmissoula.org

The First 100 Days of
 Pope Leo XIV



A panel discussion with
 Bishop Vetter and members of the
 Carroll College Faculty

Aug. 28 | 7-8:30 p.m.
 Lower Campus Center

Sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs,
 the Department of Theology, and the
 Department of Philosophy/Catholic Studies

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending August 17

Envelopes \$1,802.00

Loose \$150.52

Online \$340.34

Total Weekly Contribution \$2,292.86

Total Weekly Goal \$2,629.31

Monthly Summary

Week 1 \$2273.27

Week 2 \$1,514.78

Week 3 \$2,292.86

Week 4

Total Monthly Contribution \$6,080.91

Total Year to Date \$17,530.46

Yearly Goal \$140,000.00

Thank you for your generosity

Scripture Readings



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

08-31-2025

Reading 1: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Psalm: 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11

Reading 2: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Every time we come before the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus He touches the heart of all humanity! The Blessed Sacrament is the heartbeat of evangelization."

- Excerpts from "The Sacred Eucharistic

Mass

Schedule

Monday
 August 25
 Mass 9:00a
 Judy Olsen rb Bob and Sharon McKay
 Adoration 9:30a

Tuesday
 August 26
 Mass 9:00a
 Mary Upton rb Dan and Donna Upton

Wednesday
 August 27

Thursday
 August 28

Friday
 August 29

Saturday
 August 30

Sunday
 August 31
 Confession 3:30p
 Mass 4:30p
 Parish Family

Pray for our Seminarians

Lord Jesus, we ask your special blessing on those preparing for the priesthood in our seminaries. We pray that they will grow in faith, hope and love. Give them courage and perseverance and be their constant companion as they prepare to serve you and your people with the fire of your love. Make them holy as you are holy. Amen.

John Cooney, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, and Jake Smith.

Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Prayer Chain

Unless otherwise requested, after one month prayer request names will be removed from the prayer chain

John Clark, Martin and Margy Clark, Marilyn Lane, Shanna Montonario, Kadence Saxton, Kammy Law, Richard Majszak, Repose for the soul of Marilyn Gagen, Mary Garman, Don and Jenny Schaubert

Ministry Schedule

Sunday August 31, 2025

4:30pm

Greet:

Karen Susag

Lector:

Julie Lethert

Gifts:

John and Missy Rauser

EM:

Fran Wright and Debbie Miller

Money Counters:

Tom and Julie Lethert

Faith Night

Ask A Priest

Got a question you would like to ask a priest?

We've got an event for you.

Dinner at 6 pm. Presentation beings at 6:30. Q&A at 7:00.

Holy Cross Church, Townsend—I01 S .Walnut St.

First 2 Topics

Sept 22—Are all Saved?

Oct. 20—Faith vs. Science

Faith Formation

2025-26 RE classes will begin after mass on Sunday, September 7th, starting with dinner at 5:30. Prayer begins at 6:00 and then everyone will be separated into family groups that consist of youth from each age group and adult RE leaders. Each family group will participate in an activity together until 6:45 and then each grade level will separate into their individual classes for further discussion and activities. This year our focus is on the Sacraments, the Mass, and prayer. Once again, we invite parents and other parishioners to participate in the adult group at the same time to learn the same material that the youth will be learning.

To register for RE, scan the QR code below or contact Shawna Wickens. There is a registration fee of \$50 per child/\$150 per family max. There are funds available to help with registration costs if needed. Contact Father Cody or Shawna Wickens with any questions@ 406-266-4811 or



We are looking for volunteers to provide dinner after mass on some Sundays prior to RE. If you are interested in helping please contact Shawna Wickens or scan the sign up genius QR code to the right. Thank you for supporting our parish youth!



Parish potlucks

Every 4th Sunday of the month we have a parish potluck where anyone can bring a dish or come down and enjoy some good food. As part of the desire for the circles to be more active in the parish, I am assigning a circle to each potluck as the point group for the potluck. They're responsibility is to set-up, clean-up, and help make sure there is enough food. Anyone is welcome to bring food and help. The circle's responsibility is to facilitate the potluck. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Fr. Cody.

August 24: Hope

September 28: Love

October: Compassion

Do you know that we have Catholic Radio in Montana? KNEH, 97.3FM in Helena is an affiliate of Relevant Radio, which has 220 radio stations broadcasting across the US. You can listen LIVE to KNEH on the My Parish app by clicking on the Radio microphone icon or listen LIVE at www.kneh.org

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY SUNDAYS @ 4:00

AUGUST 3 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

AUGUST 10 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

AUGUST 17 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

AUGUST 24- GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

AUGUST 31 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

The Food Pantry needs our help! Twice a month the Food Pantry is open to provide food for those who need some extra assistance. Due to limited support for the weeks the Food Bank is open, Holy Cross will now help out during the months of February, June, and September. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, sign up sheets will be available on the table in the Narthex during those months or you can contact Paul VanHoudt. The Food Bank has returned to it's normal location.

Please mail monetary donations directly to the Food Pantry. The address is:

Broadwater Food Pantry

PO Box 1164

Townsend, MT 59644

Thank you for your generosity!



Blessing bags available in the Narthex. Please take and share them with someone in need.