



Holy Cross Parish

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 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



Ordinary Time
is not so
Ordinary

Basics of Catholicism part 77

Growth in virtue

As I end this section on sin and prepare to move to the next part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I want to take some time to fill in the whole picture of the value of fighting against sin, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and growth in virtue. Often people can fall into two camps. Either sin is a serious issue and spend a great amount of energy fighting it to the exclusion of grace or people think sin doesn't matter and spend their lives assuming they are good people who don't need God's forgiveness. Both are serious issues.

Let's start with the first camp in which people spend considerable time and energy fighting against sin. The good side of this issue is that these people realize the importance and gravity of sin. Sin mars our well-being, changes our attitude and relationship with God, and harms relationships with other people. Our dignity is marred by our sins. On one level we should be fighting against the sins in our lives and working towards growth in virtue and freedom from sin. On many levels this is impossible. The only way we can truly fight against our sins and overcome them is through God's grace. Yet, we need to comply with God's grace and accept his help in our lives if we want to overcome sin and live in true freedom. Those who are overly obsessed with sin assume they can fight it themselves or that they can never be free of sin. The proper belief is that God supplies the grace of forgiveness, gives us a fresh start, and allows us to be free from sin. Everything centers on our compliance with his grace and forgiveness.

The second camp are those who believe that they have no sins, sin isn't worth fighting, or they have no need for forgiveness. These ideas are equally if not more problematic than the first camp. People who believe they do not sin or are not in need of forgiveness have made God a liar and completely ignore his grace. Everyone sins and is deprived of the glory of God. All people need God's grace and forgiveness in order to be good and holy people. On another level, think about the effects of these ideologies on our relationships. If a person is prone to anger and hurts people in their wrath, that person believes that this attitude cannot change. If a person speaks poorly of others and hurts their reputation but sees no wrong in this action, what chance does this person have in living well with the people around them? Sin causes far more harm than we realize. The more we are able to understand its character and choose against it, the better we are as human beings, the better our relationship with others, and the stronger our relationship with God.

Fighting against sin is a life-long process. We will never be fully free from sin until we die and are immersed in God's grace. We can, however, work against these sinful inclinations and become better people, help those around us, and make the world a better place. Accepting God's grace in the midst of our weaknesses and challenges builds our faith and makes God's action in our lives more apparent. God doesn't forgive us just because we need help. He does it because it shows himself to us and bolsters our faith. Seeking God's forgiveness makes our faith meaningful and shows God's presence to us. Do not be afraid to be real about your sins and to bring them before God. We want his love and mercy and the only way we receive them is through honest examinations of our consciences and lives.

Fr. Cody

Blessed be the Lord!
With grateful hearts, we share the results of the
Because HE First Loved US
CAMPAIGN FOR CATHOLIC LIFE

\$31,518,243 PLEDGED

\$11,076,104 PLEDGED TO COMBINED CAMPAIGNS
FOR RESURRECTION (BOZEMAN), CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA, ST. MARY (STEVENSVILLE)

\$48,287,300 ESTATE GIFTS

\$90,881,647
TOTAL GIFTS PROMISED

This amazing result was achieved thanks to the faithful and supportive people in our Diocese. Whether you gave financially or in prayer, our goal was reached-and exceeded-because of YOU!

These gifts are already being distributed to parishes and missions to meet their individual campaign purposes and to the Diocese to build evangelization efforts, provide for seminarian education and clergy senior status retirement, and help provide for the restoration of the Cathedral of St. Helena.

All Glory to God for the graces He has given and the faithful, loving, prayerful people who contributed to the success of this campaign!

Learn more about the campaign at fdoh.org.

Blessed be the Lord!
With grateful hearts, we share the campaign results for

Holy Cross Parish
Goal: \$198,688
Total Amount Pledged: \$163,650
Household Participation: 21%

The parish portion of these funds will be used
40% for evangelization efforts,
40% for capital needs,
20% to build our endowment.

All Glory to God for the faithful, loving, prayerful people of our Diocese.
The Lord is calling us to do great things!

Learn more about the campaign at fdoh.org

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

IN A JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE
MARCH 21-23, 2025
CARROLL COLLEGE, HELENA

— FEATURING —
Charles Camosey | Hannah Hemphill | Jimmy Mitchell |
Sr. Anne Catherine Burleigh, OP | Sr. Marianna Thayer, OP

AN ALL-AGES EVENT
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
CYC CONVENTION

REGISTER NOW:
[DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/
EUCCHARISTICCONGRESS](http://DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/EUCCHARISTICCONGRESS)

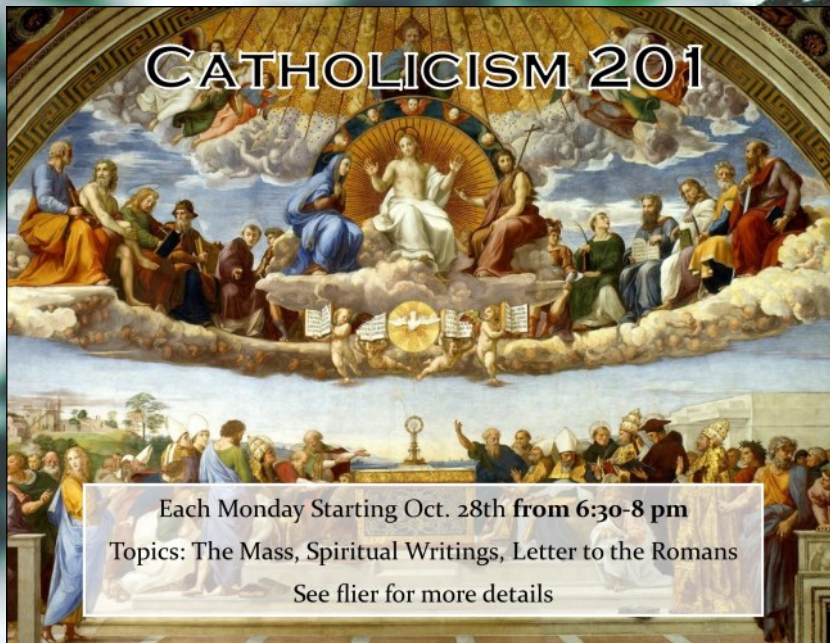
LEARN MORE

Registration is now open!

On behalf of Holy Cross Parish I want to thank Meagan Poe for her many years of service to our parish as office manager and in communications as she concludes her employment with us. We wish her the best in her next endeavors.

Fr. Cody

THANK YOU!



CATHOLICISM 201

Each Monday Starting Oct. 28th from 6:30-8 pm
 Topics: The Mass, Spiritual Writings, Letter to the Romans
 See flier for more details

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.

- February 23: Circle of Hope
- March 23: Circle of Love
- April 27: Parish Easter Party- No Potluck

Scripture Readings



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

03-02-2025

- Reading 1: Sirach 27:4-7
- Psalm: 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16
- Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
- Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

| MASS | Schedule |
|--------------------------|---|
| Monday February 24 | No Mass or Adoration No Catholicism 101 |
| Tuesday February 25 | No Mass |
| Wednesday February 26 | |
| Thursday February 27 | |
| Friday February 28 | |
| Saturday March 1 | |
| Sunday March 2 | Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p |

YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

The annual Virtus safe environment lesson with the youth that is required by the diocese will take place during RE class on 3/2/25.

Mark your calendars:

- The RE ski day is scheduled for **Friday, March 14th**. Please let us know if you would like to go by Tuesday, March 11th.
- High schoolers are encouraged to take part in the CYC Convention/Eucharistic Congress **March 21-23**.

JOIN FR. CODY WILLIAMS AND HOLY CROSS PARISH ON A SPECIAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO
FATIMA, LOURDES & BARCELONA
 OCTOBER 6-17, 2025

PILGRIMAGES BY CORPORATE TRAVEL
 41780 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100
 Northville, MI 48168
 866.468.1420 | info@ictscentral.net
 www.pilgrimagesbycts.com

The **CHOSEN** Movie Night

2ND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
 7-8:30 PM

FREE MOVIE, POPCORN AND SNACKS.
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

SPONSORED BY: HOLY CROSS CHURCH
 101 S. WALNUT STREET

All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to bulletin@holycrossmt.org. Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed. Bulletin deadline is Monday at 10a
TWO weeks in advance

Faith Night

Exploring the issues of our times in the context of faith



The next topics:
 Mar 17th—Immigration
 May 19th—Poverty and Homelessness

For all ages. Free dinner

Bishop Vetter has promulgated the indulgences and Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year of Hope. You can go to the Diocesan website at <https://diocesehelena.org/jubilee2025/> or see the letter on the bulletin board.

The new email address for any information for the bulletin or advertisements is bulletin@holycrossmt.org

Ministry Schedule

Sunday March 2, 2025 4:30pm


| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Greet: | Larry and Buffy Woodring |
| Lector: | Debbie Miller |
| Gifts: | Tom and Julie Lethert |
| EM: | Karen Simonich and John Bleile |
| Money Counters: | Juanita Bray and Karen Susag |



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off several months ago with our parish goal of \$21,900. So far we have raised \$10,650. Please consider donating to this important campaign raising money for the important functions of our Diocese.


LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY
FOR THE POPE, CHURCH,
PRIEST, FAMILIES,
CHILDREN & FOR
THE WHOLE WORLD

THE ROSARY IS A PRICELESS
TREASURE WHICH IS
INSPIRED BY GOD". HE ALSO
SAID THAT THE ROSARY IS A
WEAPON AGAINST THE EVILS
OF THE WORLD.



SUNDAYS @ 4:00

MAR. - 2 GLORIOUS MYSTERIES
MAR. - 9- JOYFUL MYSTERIES
MAR. -16 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES
MAR. - 23 SORROWFUL MYSTERIES
MAR. - 30 GLORIOUS MYSTERIES



St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity to the Irish people.

No Mass or Adoration Monday, February 24th, Tuesday, February 25th, and Monday, March 3rd

No Catholicism 201 on Monday February 24th and Monday, March 3rd

No Adoration and Confession Saturday, March 1st




Catholic Mental Health Counseling

CSSM's counseling program has served clients from over 20 communities in Montana and is ready to serve you!

- Our counselors are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of any counseling session, although it does not have to be. They have experience with clients from many different backgrounds, cultures, and ages. We are here for everyone.
- We specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship/marriage, and perinatal concerns.
- You can meet with us from your computer, tablet, or cell phone from anywhere in Montana. If you're in Helena or Billings, you can meet in-person with a counselor.
- We want to be a good match, so the first session is free. If you choose to continue, we accept insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and private pay, with a sliding fee scale and other discounts available.

To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2' or send us a message at www.cssmt.org.



**Ash
Wednesday**

Wednesday, March 5th
Mass at 6:30 pm

**Holy Cross Parish
Finances**

Week ended February 16th

Total Weekly Budget \$2900.00

Variance

Year to Date

Total Budget Variance

THANK YOU FOR
your generosity

Please consider a memorial for your loved ones to the Holy Cross Cemetery instead of flowers.

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"When you have received Him, stir up your heart to do Him homage; speak to Him about your spiritual life, gazing upon Him in your soul where He is present for your happiness; welcome Him as warmly as possible, and behave outwardly in such a way that your actions may give proof to all of His Presence."

- St. Francis de Sales

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.

Dcn. Dillon Armstrong, 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

Beginning September 29 bulletin 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, Suri Kitt, Ellen Marie Osborne, Matthew Redeagle, Repose of the soul of Bill Lane, Repose of the soul of Harold Lassiter



IGNATIAN RULES OF DISCERNMENT

Presented by
TERESA CHABOT

CATHOLIC LAY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR FOR WOMEN- ST MATTHEW'S PARISH, KALISPELL, MT

Thursday Evening ~ Sunday Morning
March 13-16, 2025

THE SYCAMORE TREE CATHOLIC RETREAT CENTER
21592 SYCAMORE TREE LANE ~ SWAN LAKE, MT
www.sycamoretreeretreat.org

*Cost: \$395
3 nights lodging (1 person) @ \$100/night = \$300
Conference fee \$75 / Meals \$20
Includes three meals and a book.
Scholarship available.

For more information or to register, please email Michelle Jenkins at email@sycamoretreeretreat.org or call (406) 754.2429

Holy Cross recommends that the following be respected:

Christian Burial:
Notice should be made with the priest before arrangements are made with the funeral director.

Social Hall:
Our Social Hall and kitchen may be rented out for special events.

Please call the office for information for any of the above notices: 406-266-4811.

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

Pastoral Council:

Jesse Swenson
Mary Ellen Schnur
Karee Eichinger
Michael Fisette
John Bleile

Finance Council:

John Rauser
Tim McAlpine
Tacy Swanton
Pat Miller
Monica Benton