

# Stewardship

2/11-12/2023

Holy Cross

## Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$2,253.00
Loose	\$179.05
Reimbursement	\$297.63
Restricted	\$80.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,809.68</b>

## Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-January

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$134.97
MT Energy Alliance	\$2,688.17
NorthWestern Energy	\$833.31
MT Department of Labor	\$72.00
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$2,468.09
Geisser Services	\$2,370.00

## Cemetery

### Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term	\$100.00
Long Term	
Grave Sites	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

### Cemetery Expenses-January

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

*THANK YOU!*



### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, You are always with us, "yesterday and today, and the same forever!" (Heb 13, 8). Always the same in eternity by the immutability of Your divine Person; always the same in time, by the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

- from *Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

### 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.

Dillon Armstrong, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, John Cooney, Jamie Severson, Alex Olmes, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, Matt Keck, Jack Reed and Dcn. Kyle Tannehill.

Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

### Prayer Chain



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

Joanie Pritchard, Elaine Graveley, Marie Hoeffner, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Jackie Kynett, Shanna Montonario, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Mary Pat Sullivan, Gene Determan, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Connie Rezendes, William Hart, Kim Schaubert, Paul Friend, Amy Ghorsen, Frank and Sally Majszak, John Clark, Don Larsen, Carl Lorentzen, Dan and Marie Stover, Roy, Mary McWhorter, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, John Woodring, Julie Whitman, Nancy Martin, Nicki Ito, Karen Susag, Kadence Saxton, Bob Graveley, Laura Toeckes, David Kearns, Lisa Larson, Tom Arensmeyer, Jana Melling

### Did You Know ?

During the Middle Ages the Church debated some of the minutest details of Church practice. When it came to the prohibition of eating meat on Fridays of Lent, many in the Church wanted a more specific definition. The question surrounded animals that live in the water. If fish live in the water, could other animals that live in the water be considered "not meat?" The Church said yes, and allowed people to eat beaver on Fridays of Lent since they were aquatic animals.

**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.**



# Holy Cross Parish

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2023

### Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mass: Wednesday and Thursday 9:00a

Adoration: Wednesday 9:30a

### Weekend Schedule:

Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:45p

Sunday 7:30-7:45a or by appointment

Mass: Saturday Mass 5:00p Sunday Mass 8:00a

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





Morality part 66

Sexual Ethics

Homosexuality

Common misconceptions and challenges

Marriage:

As I stated in earlier parts of this series, marriage is reserved to a covenant between a man and a woman. This teaching will not change. Only a man and a woman can fulfill the ends of marriage which include care of spouses and the procreation of children. Since the procreation of children is not possible between two people of the same gender, they cannot enter into a marriage covenant. Many people feel that this definition of marriage is too limiting and therefore excludes gay marriage. This is true. This definition does exclude gay marriage on the simple fact that two men or two women cannot fulfill the ends of marriage. They contend that marriage should be about love. If love is the basis of marriage, then most marriages will fail. Eventually almost every marriage will have a moment in which the spouses do not feel love towards each other. Therefore the foundation of marriage cannot be solely about love. They argue that two men or two women can commit their lives to each other. This is true. Two men or two women can commit their lives to each other and live these lives faithfully. This relationship is not marriage. The main push is for the legal and social recognition of gay marriage. The issue at stake is not whether gay and lesbian couples love each other or can commit to one another but whether we are willing to recognize their "marriage" on an equal status to a heterosexual marriage.

Gay people are sinners:

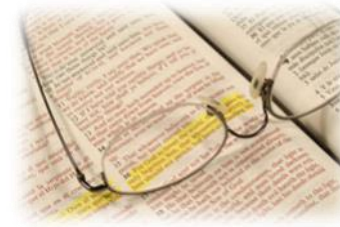
All people are sinners. Gay people cannot be judged as greater sinners than heterosexual people, which would be unjust. By stating that a person is a sinner because of a specific quality they possess divorces sin from an action. Only actions are sinful. Therefore we can say that homosexual acts are sinful but we cannot say that homosexual people are sinners because they are homosexual. All people are sinners by being people who are limited and in need of grace.

Gay people have no place in the Church:

I strongly disagree with this statement. God, in his infinite wisdom, has provided a place for all people within the boundaries of the Church. I argue that gay people have more of a place and we have more of a need for their presence, than we have for many years. With the degradation of marriage and this unhealthy obsession with the faithful trying to make matches amongst young people, gay people teach us the value of marriage as a calling and the value of celibacy. Too often today we assume that people cannot be happy unless they are married. The Church has never taught this ideology. We must reform our thoughts to the Church's way of thinking if we are to support marriage, vocations, and strive to understand God's will in our lives.

Fr. Cody

# Scripture Readings



First Sunday of Lent  
2-26-2023

Reading 1: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
Psalm: 51:3-4,5-6a,12-13,14 and 17  
Reading 2: Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12,17-19  
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11



MASS	Schedule
Monday February 20	No Mass
Tuesday February 21	No Mass
Wednesday February 22 Ash Wednesday	Mass 6:30p soup supper after mass
Thursday February 23	Mass 9a Youth History Series 7p
Friday February 24	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday February 25	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday February 26	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Coffee Hour

## Ministry Schedule

Saturday February 25, 2023

5:00pm

Greet:

Eichinger Family

Lector:

Gay Ann Masolo

Gifts:

Cathy Armstrong and Tom Aced

EM:

Monte Montonario and Karen Simonich

## Ministry Schedule

Sunday February 26, 2023

8:00am

Greet:

John and Missy Rauser

Lector:

Megan Bleile

Gifts:

Larry and Buffy Woodring

EM:

Jesus Garcia and Ryan Racht

Money Counters:

Juanita Bray and Karen Susag

All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to

office@holycrossmt.org

Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed

Bulletin deadline is Monday at 10a

TWO weeks in advance



# Ministry Highlights

## Coffee and Donut Hour:

Coffee Hours are a great opportunity for us to get together as a parish and chat while eating some good treats. I encourage everyone to join us for these parish events so that we can grow stronger as a community. A coffee hour host provides treats and cleans up after the Coffee Hour. I think some people got confused when I moved the Coffee Hours outside of the circle schedule. The goal of moving it out of the circle schedule was to allow people more freedom in getting together with some friends to host, allowing individuals to host, and give the circles more freedom to choose which times are best for them. Currently the schedule is open for anyone – Circle, individual, group, Women of Faith, etc. – who would like to host a Coffee Hour. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in hosting.

## Choir:

Music is a vital part of who we are. On major days of the year, we celebrate with festive music. Wherever we go music is playing to help set the mood and make us feel comfortable. We cannot dismiss the power of music. In the context of the Mass, music uses our voices in praise of God. The more voices that sing, the more powerful the Mass. One of my hopes is to build a choir who can enhance our music. If you are interested in joining a choir or helping with music ministry through playing the piano or singing, contact Fr. Cody.



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off. The Diocesan goal is \$2 million. Our parish goal is \$20,700. Every little bit counts. We have currently raised \$19,715.00



We are livestreaming again! If you know of homebound parishioners or other people who could benefit from a virtual Mass, let them know that it is available on our Sacraments page on the website (holycrossmt.org).

## All RE Ski Day

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting an all RE ski day. The parish will pay for lift tickets. Parents are responsible for any other gear as well as transportation to Showdown. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Cody.



# Announcements

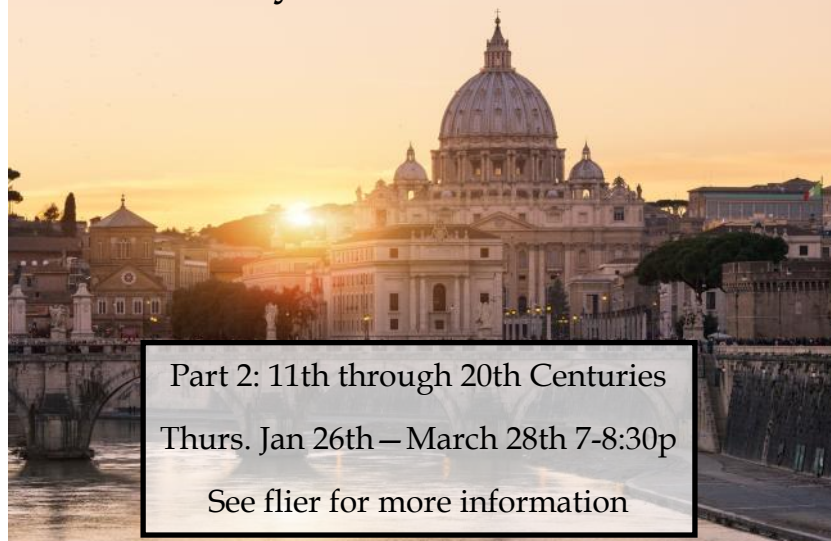
**52 SUNDAYS** Beginning January 1, 2023 a new, free online resource that can help Catholic families make the most of their Sunday worship is available. Sign up to receive a weekly email that is filled with prayers, activities, recipes and more to support and extend the lessons of each Sunday mass. More information at [www.52sundays.com](http://www.52sundays.com).

## Have A Seat!



After consultation with the Pastoral and Finance Councils as well as those who came to the parish meetings, we are moving forward with buying new pews. This project contains several parts. The first part is new pews and kneelers. In addition to the new pews, we will be adding cushioning to the pews to make them more comfortable. This part of the project will cost approximately \$75,000. As we remove the pews, the goal is remove the carpet and put in new, easier to clean flooring. This part of the project will cost \$45,000. The total amount to be raised is \$120,000. Don't let this number alarm you. Through special donations we have already raised \$25,000. I have written a few grants to help with the cost of the pews. If we get them, I will let you know. The goal is to keep working at raising money until we have enough to complete both parts of the project. If you are interested in donating to the pew project - Have A Seat! - simply write a check with "pews" in the memo line. I will keep you updated on our progress.

## The History of the Catholic Church



Part 2: 11th through 20th Centuries  
Thurs. Jan 26th – March 28th 7-8:30p  
See flier for more information



Relevant Radio out of Helena has expressed a desire to install a tower for their radio station in

Townsend. If anyone is interested in working on this project and helping to bring Relevant Radio to Townsend, please contact Fr. Cody.



In celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God, USCCB is offering a 5-video Sunday Seminar Series about Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. The videos, along with discussion/reflection questions, will be available in

English and Spanish, beginning January 22 at <https://catholic.bible/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>. Through these videos, USCCB aims to "bring people into an encounter with the Scriptures, particularly the Gospel" with the hope that God's people will be "inspired and challenged to see, understand, and engage with scripture in a new, prayerful way."



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Ash Wednesday Mass:  
Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm  
Soup Supper following Mass

Penance Service:  
March 1st at 6p  
Dinner at 6p with service to follow



### Women's Retreat

Saturday March 4th 8:30a-3p

Theme: A Day of God and Me

Topics: Mary as the living tabernacle

Us as the living tabernacle

Lunch and snacks are provided

Please RSVP by March 1 so we can get a count for food

## An Opportunity to Help Your Parish!

It's time for the **ANNUAL PARISH ENDOWMENT MATCH** program!

**\$300** is how much the FOUNDATION will give each parish endowment.

**\$300** If a parish receives \$300 worth of gifts to the church endowment by March 31, 2023, the church will receive another . . .

**+\$300** matching gift from the FOUNDATION!

**\$900** Will be added to your parish endowment to help perpetuate our faith for generations to come!

*Last year the FOUNDATION gave \$30,000 to our parishes through these grants and matches!*



FOUNDATION  
for the Diocese of Helena

Mail your tax deductible donation to **FDOH, PO Box 1729, Helena, MT 59624** and put the name of your parish on the memo line, or **donate online at [fdoh.org/giving](https://fdoh.org/giving)**. Questions? Contact the Foundation at 406-389-7050.

*Match donations must be postmarked by March 31, 2023.*

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

SPRING 2023 | FEB 22 - APR 2



**SAVE THE DATE** for Eucharistic Revival 2023, "Cultivating Eucharistic Amazement." Join us May 5 & 6, 2023 at Billings Central Catholic H.S. with special guests Dr. Scott Hahn, Archbishop Alexander Sample and musical guest Jaime Thietten. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength — the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Join the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings in the movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery – The Most Holy Eucharist. We'll explore what the Eucharist means in each of our lives, how this Sacrament is meant to be adored, how we cultivate Eucharistic amazement in our lives and how we, as the Body of Christ, become Eucharistic people. Ticket prices start at \$15. Visit [diocesegfb.org/revival](https://diocesegfb.org/revival) to learn more or register. Seating is limited!



# Thank YOU!



**We are so grateful for all who participated in our Change for Life Campaign.**

Together we stand for

LIFE

HOPE

FAMILIES



If you forgot to return your baby bottle, please swing it by Options Clinic, or bring it to the church as soon as possible

**Options**  
clinic

Offering Hope. Building Families.  
100 Partridge Pl., Ste. 1, Helena, MT 59602  
406 422 1011

## Help for those in Turkey and Syria

In response to those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, Bishop Vetter has asked us to hold a second collection to help out. Below are two Catholic organizations who have already established online giving portals to assist:

- Catholic Near East Welfare Association has launched an emergency campaign to shelter survivors and provide bedding, food, medicines, nursing formula, diapers, and clothing to more than 2,000 families for three months in the Aleppo and Hama areas of northern Syria. Anyone who would prefer to mail a check rather than give online can mail it to: Catholic Near East Welfare Association, 1011 First Avenue, New York, NY 10022-4195 (they should indicate it is for earthquake relief on the check).
- Catholic Relief Services, If you would prefer not to give online, their address is Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 5200, Harlan, IA 51593-0700 (please indicate it is for earthquake relief on the check).

March 25-26






## Eucharistic Congress & CYC Convention

An all-ages event designed to ignite and inspire our faith. Families and people of all ages are invited to this inspiring, faith-filled weekend centered around the Eucharist and our theme: "Called to the Truth."

**Details**

- ✓ Location: Carroll College
- ✓ Who: All-ages
- ✓ Cost: (Includes all meals and programming)
  - Adults: \$100
  - College Student: \$50
  - High School Youth (Grade 9-12): \$100
  - Children in Grades K-8: \$30

(No family pays more than \$250)

**DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/EUCHARISTICCONGRESS**