

Stewardship

2-4-2024

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$1,593.00
Holy Day	\$25.00
Loose	\$165.75
Total	\$1,783.75

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-December

City of Townsend	\$173.41
NorthWestern Energy	\$631.97
Geisser Services	\$1,115.00
Montana Energy Alliance	\$1,838.15
Spectrum	\$144.97
Flocknote	\$36.00
MT Department of Labor	\$72.00
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$1,356.52

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Grave Sites
Short Term
Long Term
Open & Close Gravesite
Memorial
Total

Cemetery Expenses-December

Geisser Services	\$875.00
------------------	----------

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

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"I no longer take pleasure in perishable food or in the delights of this world. I want only God's bread, which is the Flesh of Jesus Christ, formed of the seed of David, and for drink I crave His Blood which is love that cannot perish."

- St. Ignatius of Antioch

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, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, and Matt Keck

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:



Elaine Graveley, Bob Masolo, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Shanna Montonario, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Kadence Saxton, Tom Grewell and family, Alex Bakken, Millie Sullivan, JL and Janet Jones, Vince Boster, Paulette Obrigewitch, Nicole Ito, John Clark, Lynette Swetye and Ryder

Did You Know!

The Season of Lent was added during the 4th century to accommodate the huge influx of people who wanted to join the church. Before 313, a person who wanted to join the Church could wait up to 10 years to enter the Church. The formal process took between 2 to 6 years to ensure that the person was ready to make this decision, willing to accept the challenges that come with Christianity, and wouldn't turn the Christians into the Roman government. The process was shorted to 40 days following the Edict of Constantine which became the Season of Lent. The process was expanded to 9 months in the 20th century to better prepare people for the Christian life.

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.



The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Holy Cross Parish

February 11, 2024

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

Basics of Catholicism part 26:

The Liturgical Year: Living Jesus' Life

As we are about to enter into some of the most important church seasons of the year, I want to take the next several parts of this series to express the importance and value of the church year, the seasons, the feasts, and help you celebrate the life of Jesus. Most of you are aware of the seasons of the year, or at least Christmas and Easter. We celebrate these seasons with a varying levels of décor and joy. Yet, these seasons and the church yearly cycle have a point: to celebrate the life of Jesus. Through the course of one year, we will celebrate all the major events in Jesus' life. We start with Advent and the prophecies that announced the birth of the Messiah. Then Christmas with the joy of his birth and God becoming Man. As we enter Lent we begin a time of preparation and special focus on the central events in the life of faith. The year reaches a high point with the Easter season celebrating Jesus' Resurrection and the birth of the Church. Although these seasons grab our attention and help us focus on the most central events of Jesus' life, the rest of the year is full of the same focus and drive. Throughout these next several parts of this series I want to help you explore the seasons, know the different feasts, and find joy in our liturgical calendar.

Celebrating the Life of Jesus

The church year cycles around the central events of the life of Jesus. Although we could have a thirty-year or three-year cycle, we don't. Every event in the life of Jesus is celebrated each year. If the cycle was too long, we would forget these central events that led to our salvation. If the cycle was too short, we would miss parts of the life of Jesus. A one-year cycle encompasses all the major events while meshing with our solar seasons and solar calendar.

The main events of the year are the easiest to understand: Christmas and Easter. Some people only experience these two events in the life of Jesus. Christmas reminds us that Jesus, God made man, out of his great love for us, came to dwell with his creation. Easter reminds us of the reason why he came: to free us from sin and death and to bring us into the life of God. These two central feasts become the hinge points of our year and the celebrations through which the rest of the year makes sense. The rest of the year fills in the story. On each of the Sundays of Ordinary Time, we read another event in the life of Jesus from one of the Gospels so that each Sunday becomes a chance to enter into his life. The other pivotal seasons prepare us to understand the mysteries of Christmas and Easter. The Church in her wisdom created these cycles so that we continually keep in mind the events of Jesus' life, reflect upon them, find spiritual and practical wisdom for our life, and follow Jesus in our daily living.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



First Sunday of Lent
2-18-2024

Reading 1: Genesis 9:8-15
 Psalm: 25:4-5ab,6-7bc,8-9
 Reading 2: 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Gospel: Mark 1:12-15



MASS	Schedule
Monday February 12	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 101 7p
Tuesday February 13	No Mass Knights Meeting
Wednesday February 14	Mass 6:30p
Thursday February 15	Mass 9a
Friday February 16	No Mass
Saturday February 17	No Mass
Sunday February 18	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family No RE Sweetheart Dinner Blessing table in the narthex

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 Schedule	
Sunday February 18, 2024	4:30pm
Greet:	Bev Determan
Lector:	Mary Duede
Gifts:	Eichinger Family
EM:	John Bleile and Alex Estrada
Money Counters:	Bernadette Swenson and Sara Holmes



Hey kids, want some candy? Fr. Cody has a challenge for you. Using the bingo cards, once per Mass, if you recognize one of the words on the Bingo card from the Mass, show it to Fr. Cody and he will give you a stamp. If you get a bingo, you get candy. Bingo cards are available on the info table in the narthex.

Out of a desire to use our faith and our parish to help the world, I would like to start a program to support needs throughout the world. These acts of support will come from the parish resources and will not be a second collection or another appeal. If you have causes or people throughout the world that you would like to support, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.



The Diocesan Capital Campaign has kicked off. The goal is to raise \$30 million as a Diocese in 5 years. These funds will create endowments for seminarian education and promotion of vocations, retired priests, spreading our faith, and supporting parishes. We get back 40% of all money raised in this parish. Please take a prayer card and pray for the success of the campaign. Fr. Cody will be calling everyone and setting up meeting to discuss this campaign and hear your desires for our parish.

On the third Sunday of each month a blessing table will be set up in the entrance of the church. You are welcome to bring any objects of devotion that you would like blessed and Fr. Cody will bless them after Mass. This will be available each third Sunday of the month.

Blessings



Wednesday, February 14, 2024

40 Days for Life Spring Prayer Vigil Rally
At Planned Parenthood

Please join us at our prayer vigil at the Helena Planned Parenthood from 9am-3pm. 40 Days for Life Leader, Cheryl Wilson, will be on-site during these hours with warm beverages, signs and other resources to assist with providing a productive and meaningful day of prayer. Please feel free to contact Cheryl at Cheryl40days4life@gmail.com with any questions.

The Eucharistic Congress is quickly approaching.

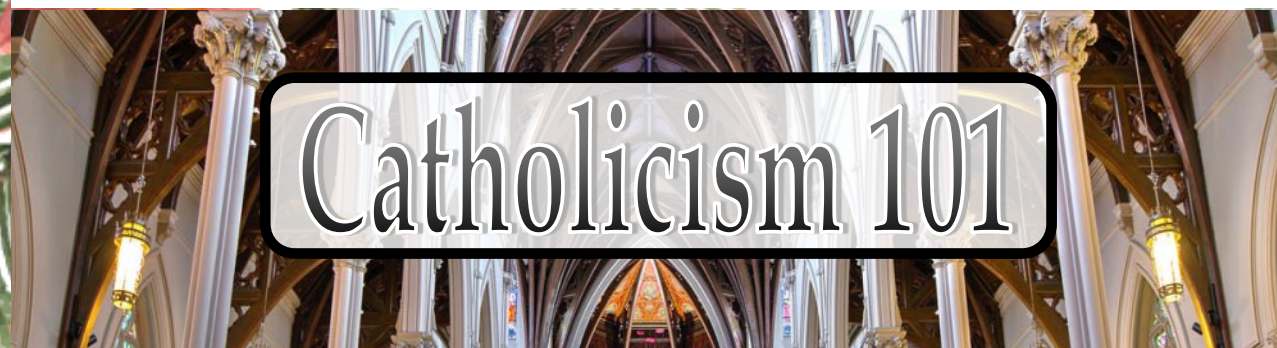
Scholarships are available to help pay for registration costs.



Book Sale: Karen Simonich is hosting a book sale on the 1st Sunday of each month. You are welcome to look through them and see if you are interested in any of them.

Mondays 7-8:30

The next topic is "Sacraments Part 3: Sacraments of Vocation" on Monday, February 12th. The notes are posted on the website and a livestream version is available. If you would like to join the livestream version, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.



Catholicism 101

Do you know someone who is interested in learning about Catholicism? Would you like to know your faith a little better? Then, this series is for you!

Mondays 7-8:30

Schedule of the topics on the bench in the entryway.

A livestream option for Catholicism 101 will be available on Mondays from 7-8:30 and on Thursdays from 6:30-8. Please invite your friends and family members who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. All are welcome!



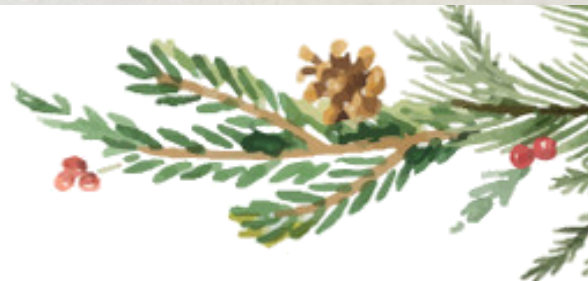
Every 4th Saturday of the month, we will have Adoration and Confessions from 9 am to noon. This is a great opportunity to spend some time with Jesus who is present in bodily form in the Eucharist as well as celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You are welcome to come for as little or as much time as you wish. Resources will be available to help you pray and make the most of the time you have. I encourage everyone to come and use this opportunity.

Next Holy Hour February 24th



Have A Seat!

We have raised all the money we need to proceed with the project. After talking with several groups of people and pondering our space, I plan to make a few minor changes as part of this update. The full list of changes is on the doors to the church. I am planning to make the following changes: increase the area for handicap seating and decrease the space to accommodate more handicap seating, decrease the length of the pews to allow more space on the outside aisles, move the baptismal font to the center near the doors to the church, add server benches in replacement of the chairs to accommodate more servers, create a music area to help the music team, and replace the ambo with one that matches the pews. I plan to contact the companies in a few weeks and make arrangements for this project to be completed this summer.



CREATED GOOD

Townsend Community Family Night

DINNER PROVIDED



FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Let's explore the goodness of our humanity through activities and events that focus on being created in God's image.

<p>When: 1st Sunday of every month 5:45-7:00 pm</p> <p>Where: Holy Cross Parish Center 101 S. Walnut St.</p>	<p>Jan. 7th: Christmas Party</p> <p>Feb. 4th: What do I do with my life?</p> <p>March 3rd: What does it mean to be forgiven?</p> <p>April 7th: Easter Party</p> <p>May 5th: How do I make strong relationships?</p>
--	---

FREE EVENT



The Annual Catholic Appeal is in full swing. Our goal is to raise \$21,100 for the purpose of the Diocese, the parishes of the Diocese, and the mission of the Diocese. Please consider and make a donation to the ACA. We are currently at 78% of our goal with only \$5,100 remaining. If you have yet to donate for the good of our Diocesan church, please consider making a donation.

Change for Life Options clinic

As you leave today, please pick up a baby bottle. These bottles are a fundraiser for Options Clinic, our local pregnancy medical clinic offering life-affirming services to those facing an unintended pregnancy.

With the help of your generosity, we are offering...

- FREE clinical grade pregnancy tests
- FREE options education
- FREE early ultrasound
- Low-Cost STD testing & treatment
- FREE KidSmart parenting classes
- Free/Low-Cost well-woman care
- FREE supplies for new parents
- Free after-abortion recovery

Please return bottles to church in 3 weeks. OR Give Here

Together, we are Offering Hope & Building Families.

Options Clinic is a 501(C)3. For more information, visit OptionsHelena.org or call 406.422.1011. Thank you. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

RE Ski Day on Feb. 19th for Presidents day. Parents are responsible for transportation to Showdown. The church provides lift tickets and lunch for youth. Parents are encouraged to come.



Super Bowl Party

Knights of Columbus are hosting a Super Bowl party after mass Sunday February 11th. They will be providing pizza, chips, and drinks. All are welcome to attend.



Food Pantry Needs Your Help

The Food Pantry is looking for additional help in February.

When: Friday Feb. 16th

Saturday Feb. 17th

Time: 8:45a-10:45a

If you are able to help there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

The food pantry is also in need of meat donations. The meat needs to be commercially processed.



Sweetheart Dinner

Presented by Holy Cross Youth Group

February 18, 2024
Cost: \$35/plate
Seating times:
5:45 pm or 6:30 pm

Tri tip steak dinner with elegant appetizers, salad, potato & vegetable side, and delicious dessert

For Reservations contact Shawna Wickens at 406-594-3714 or the Parish Office by February 12th at 12 pm. Or use the QR codes below:



5:45pm



6:30pm

A quilt made by the Holy Cross quilters will be available for silent auction bids the night of the event

Childcare available

UPCOMING EVENTS

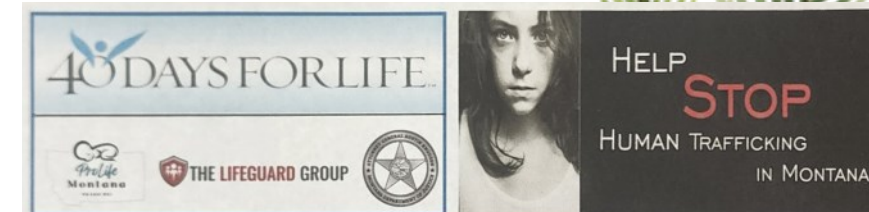
Mass on Monday, Feb. 12th

No Mass on Tuesday, Feb. 13th

Mass at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 14th

Mass at 9 am on Thursday, Feb. 15h.

Lenten Penance Service March 5th at 6:30p



40 Days for Life Spring Kick Off Rallies Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Prolife Montana is hosting an event for the 40 Days for Life Kick off rally that focuses on the reality of human trafficking in Montana. We are honored to have both Attorney General Austin Knudsen and Founder of The Lifeguard Group, Lowell Hochholter, join us for this event to discuss the ramifications this "industry" is having within the borders of our very own state as well as resources and information that can provide guidance and hope to identify potential victims of this horrendous crime and the resources to help rescue human trafficking victims.

This event will be held at Helena First Youth Building; doors open at 6pm.