

# Stewardship

2/4-5/2023

Holy Cross

## Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$2,060.00
Loose	\$57.22
Other	\$240.00
Total	\$2,357.22
<b>Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-January</b>	
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
Long Term
Grave Sites
Total

### 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

"Christ held Himself in His hands when He gave His Body to His disciples saying: 'This is My Body.' No one partakes of this Flesh before he has adored it."

- St. Augustine

### 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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 12, 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



The Church's teaching on homosexuality seems to cause confusion amongst both the faithful and the people of the world. In this first part I will explore the teaching of the Church related to homosexuality as explained in the Catechism. In the next part I will explain some of the common misconceptions and challenges to the Church's teaching.

The Church's teaching on homosexuality is summarized in three paragraphs (2357-2359). The Church makes a strong distinction between homosexual acts and same-sex attraction. Same-sex attraction is the feeling of sexual attraction to a person of the same gender. Although our society merges the attraction with the acts, the Church keeps them separate. The Catechism states the origins of same-sex attraction are unknown yet contrary to the natural law. The natural order is that all animals are attracted to those of the opposite sex for the purpose of procreation. Therefore same-sex attraction is unnatural. Even though same-sex attraction is considered unnatural, it is not sinful. A sinful behavior requires the person to make a choice and to perform an action. Same-sex attraction is neither a choice nor an action and therefore is not sinful. Homosexual acts, in contrast, are considered sinful. Sexual acts are limited to the context of marriage. Since homosexual acts cannot be performed in the context of marriage, they are sinful.

With this distinction in mind, the Catechism continues to explain not just the moral nature of homosexuality but also our response as people of faith. With this unnatural desire placed upon them, the Church recognizes the challenges these people face and requires us to respond with charity and love. The trials these people face in being understood by society and the people of the Church, their own conflict between their natural desires, and the requisite call to celibacy, must be responded to with "respect, compassion, and sensitivity." No unjust discrimination should be shown to them. Hence Pope Francis' latest statement that criminalizing homosexuality is a sin. The Church is called to walk with people in their struggles and those facing same-sex attraction are not excluded. Instead, the call of the Church is to help them live the call to celibacy and self-mastery so that they may enjoy interior freedom.

Fr. Cody

## Scripture Readings



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

2-19-2023

Reading 1: Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18  
 Psalm: 103:1-2,3-4,8 and 10,12-13  
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
 Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48



MASS	Schedule
Monday February 13	No Mass
Tuesday February 14	No Mass Women of Faith 6:30p Knights of Columbus 7p
Wednesday February 15	No Mass No Adoration RE-prek-5th grade 5-6:30p MS-HS 6:15-8p
Thursday February 16	No Mass No History Series
Friday February 17	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday February 18	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday February 19	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Sweetheart Dinner

### Ministry Schedule

Saturday February 18, 2023

5:00pm

Greet: Don and Max Peace  
 Lector: Debbie Miller  
 Gifts: Fisetbe Family  
 EM: Shari Toney and Marilyn Vandersloot

### Ministry Schedule

Sunday February 19, 2023

8:00am

Greet: David and Laurie Stropes  
 Lector: Claudette Hohn  
 Gifts: John and Missy Rauser  
 EM: [Redacted]  
 Money Counters: Karee Eichinger and Kristi Gersch

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

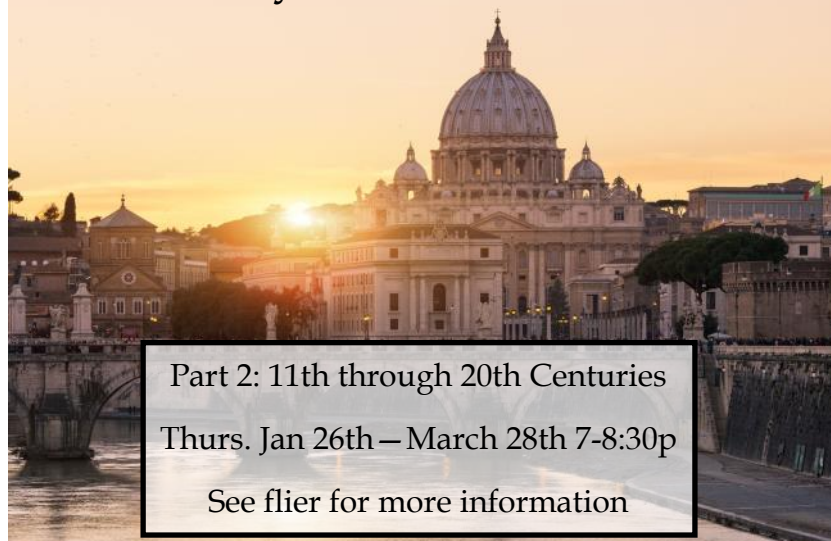
**52 SUNDAYS** Beginning January 1, 2023 a new, free online resource that can help Catholic families make the most of their Sunday worship is available. Sign up to receive a weekly email that is filled with prayers, activities, recipes and more to support and extend the lessons of each Sunday mass. More 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.

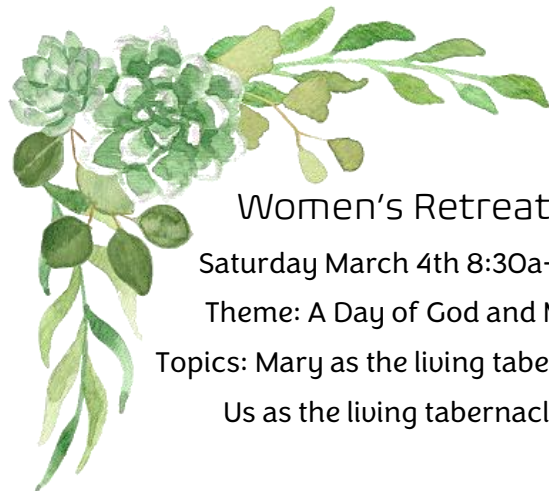


In celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God, USCCB is offering a 5-video Sunday Seminar Series about Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. The videos, along with discussion/reflection questions, will be available in English and Spanish, beginning January 22 at <https://catholic.bible/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>. 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



**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](http://diocesegfb.org/revival) to learn more or register. Seating is limited!



## SWEETHEART DINNER

Holy Cross youth will be hosting the annual Sweetheart dinner on Sunday, February 19, 2023 with three dine-in seating options at 5:00pm, 5:45 pm and 6:30 pm. Dinner will include your choice of stuffed salmon or steak with salad, bread, sides and dessert. Cost of the meal is \$35/person. If you would like to attend please contact the parish office or Shawna Wickens at 406-594-3714 no later than noon on February 9th. Childcare will be available. The sweetheart dinner is a fundraiser to support the youth of our parish to be able to assist in the cost of many youth activities such as attendance at Legendary Lodge as well as other events. Thank you for your support!



# 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



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

## 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](http://fdoh.org/giving)**. Questions? Contact the Foundation at 406-389-7050.

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



**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](http://DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/EUCHARISTICCONGRESS)