

Stewardship

12/24-25/2022

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$3,278.00
Loose	\$124.00
Christmas	\$1,305.00
Other	\$608.57
Total	\$5,315.57

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-December

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$134.97
MT Energy Alliance	\$3,426.37
Geisser Services	\$1,450.00
NorthWestern Energy	\$748.51
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$1,254.02
Diocese of Helena-Special Collection Funds	\$592.00

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term	\$100.00
Long Term	
Grave Sites	
Total	\$100.00

Cemetery Expenses-December

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

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"How beautiful she is, Our Lady of compassion! How dear! How utterly unselfish! How filled with joy for Him - and us - in the depths of her own agony and desolation!"

- St. Alphonsus Ligouri

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, Marj Kohn, Kim Schaubert, Paul Friend, Amy Ghorsen, Frank and Sally Majszak, John Clark, Margaret's prayer request, Don Larsen, Joann Shindoll, Carl Lorentzen, Laura Obert, CoraLee Horne, Dan and Marie Stover, Roy, Mary McWhorter, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, John Woodring, Julie Whitman, Nancy Martin, Nicki Ito, Chris Wright, Karen Susag, Kadence Saxton, Bob Graveley

Did You Know ?

The Song the "12 Days of Christmas" was originally written during the English persecution of the Catholics to teach their children the tenants of the faith.

The "12 days" are the days between Christmas and Epiphany (traditionally celebrated on January 8th). Each of the 12 days represents a tenant of the faith: 1 God, 2 Testaments, 3 Theological Virtues, 4 Gospels, 5 Book of Old Testament Law (first five books of the Bible), 6 days of Creation, 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit, 8 Beatitudes, 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit, 10 Commandments, 11 faithful Apostles, 12 points of the Apostles Creed.

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.



Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Holy Cross Parish

January 1, 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

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Townsend, Montana 59644



Mary, Mother of God Reflection

We often dismiss the last part of the octave of Christmas as New Year's Day or as a separate holiday independent of Christmas. The Church teaches us that the end of the second most holy week of the year, the Octave of Christmas, is bounded by two events of immense importance in our lives: The Birth of Jesus and Mary, the Mother of God.

Mary is not only the mother of Jesus and given the title of Mother of God by extension. She is also our mother. We often forget the immense value that Mary can have in our lives. On a quick historical note, how often has Mary appeared to us over the last four centuries? Over hundreds. The most prominent of these apparitions include Lourdes, France and Fatima, Portugal. At each apparition, and in many throughout history, Mary always introduces herself as our mother. She appears because she cares about us like a mother caring for her children.

Why does this matter to us? Mary is immensely close to God. Not only did she "house" God in her womb but God in his great love took her to himself. As someone deeply loved by God but also deeply in love with God, she mediates God's graces upon us and continues to pray for us in ways we will never understand. If we want to recognize God's graces flowing into the world, we should turn to Mary. If we want to begin to understand God's will for us or his desires for us, we should turn to Mary who understands God in human terms like us. If we want to know what its like to chose God above all things and to feel him dwelling within us, we should turn to Mary who understood this better than anyone every will.

These images are not simply spiritual fancies. These images reflect Mary's motherhood in our life. She wants to be our mother and care for our needs. She wants us to understand God's grace through her intercession and care in our lives. We need to take some time and realize the power of Mary's motherhood, one of the highest Marian feasts of the year. Turn to Mary and listen to her. She has one desire: pray. She wants us to pray the Rosary and she wants us to pray for the needs of the world. These two desires illustrate her motherhood better than anything else.

Fr. Cody



Scripture Readings



The Epiphany of the Lord

1-8-2023

Reading 1: Isaiah 60:1-6
 Psalm: 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13
 Reading 2: Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6
 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



MASS	Schedule
Monday January 2	No Mass
Tuesday January 3	No Mass
Wednesday January 4	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Youth Christmas Party 6p
Thursday January 5	Mass 9a For the intention of the extension donor
Friday January 6	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday January 7	Adoration 12-4p Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday January 8	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Knights Breakfast after mass

Ministry Schedule

Saturday January 7, 2023

5:00pm

Greet:

Harold and Laura Gibbs

Lector:

Debbie Miller

Gifts:

Dan and Bernadette Swenson

EM:

Shari Toney and Missy Cox

Ministry Schedule

Sunday January 8, 2023

8:00am

Greet:

John and Missy Rauser

Lector:

Mary Duede

Gifts:

Eichinger Family

EM:

Buffy Woodring and Megan Bleile

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

Holy Hour Ministry:

Introducing the Holy Hour Ministry. On the 1st Saturday of each month, we are going to offer extended times of Eucharistic Adoration for 12-4 pm. Anyone can sign-up to come and pray for an hour or you can come and spend as much time as you wish before our Eucharistic Lord. This opportunity is open to everyone and prayer book and extra materials will be available if you wish to use them. This new event will begin on January 7th.



Choir and Music Ministries:

As an introduction to this ministry, I want to thank all those who help provide music for our Masses, in a special way our pianists and singers. The service provided adds an incredible amount of beauty and life to our celebrations. Music Ministry reminds of the value of the song. We hear music almost everywhere we go as a way to bring out our emotions and help us reflect on life. The use of music in the Mass helps us to sing praise to God and reflect on what God has done. If you are interested in joining the choir for a season, to help out at Mass, or would like to learn more, contact Fr. Cody.



Announcements

Attention all Liturgical Ministers

The process of scheduling liturgical ministers is immensely complicated given all the variety of schedules of all the ministers. As a way to help ensure that you are able to minister and the schedule works with your schedule, I am asking all liturgical ministers, lectors, eucharistic ministers, money counters, greeters and gift bearers to schedule themselves. On the info table at the front of the church will be the schedule for the upcoming months. Please indicate the times you would like to serve. If you choose not to sign up on the sheet on the info table, then we will schedule you regardless of your schedule unless you tell us otherwise. After the schedule is posted, all ministers will be required to find their own replacements in the case they cannot serve on a scheduled day. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Cody.



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.



All Parish Christmas Party!!!

Wednesday, January 4th at 6 pm. Come one, come all to celebrate Jesus' birth as a parish. Games, food, trivia and more!



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



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



Upcoming Mass Changes

No Mass or Adoration January 11th and 12th

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.

Please join us to listen to guest speaker Mayra Rodriguez, Planned Parenthood whistleblower turned Hispanic pro-life leader who comes to us to detail clinic corruption, patient endangerment, planted drugs, and going from Planned Parenthood Employee of the year to being **FIRE**d within a year.

She took on Planned Parenthood and **WON!**

Also we have Guest Speaker & Montana girl, Sarah Hosa to speak out about the value of life, gratitude to her birth mother for choosing adoption, and the hardships she has faced with premarital and high risk pregnancies, and the pressure by doctors to abort her baby. She chose **LIFE!**

Last, but not least, Montana Attorney General, Austin Knudsen, joins us to give his perspective on what is happening here in Montana.

Montana State March For Life

Friday, January 13, 2023

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Montana State Capitol Rotunda (Indoors)



#WHYWEMARCH



@ Lewis and Clark Brewing

The Cathedral of St. Helena is sponsoring a belated New Year's Date Night!

We've reserved a room at the Lewis and Clark Taproom for our couples and will provide FREE childcare at the Brondel Center from 5:30-8:30pm on January 27th.

Take advantage of this opportunity to get in some one-on-one time after the busyness of the holiday season. We will offer a few conversation starters so that you can take on the new year as a couple with a plan. First beer is on us!

What are YOU looking for?

Join us for a Catholic Journey Spiritual Weekend All are Invited. All are welcome!

Looking for a weekend to deepen your spirituality? Give yourself a 3-day Christmas gift! No cooking or cleaning, all that is done for you. All you do is enjoy your connections with other faith filled women and the Lord.

The new Catholic Journey is for Catholics who are seeking a deeper understanding and commitment to their role as laity in the church. We also invite non-practicing Catholics, non-Catholics of other Christian denominations, and even those of non-Christian faith or no faith to attend. It is an opportunity to experience a weekend of Catholic spirituality as lived in a group of Catholic laity, who share with them the Catholic Community, reflections on the Catholic faith, and Catholic prayer and spirituality.

Weekends will be held at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, East Helena, MT

*Women's weekend - January 12-15, 2023 (Contact Mary Munger at (406) 949-1870)

*Men's weekend - February 16-19, 2023 (Contact Darwin Eckert at (406) 594-6055)

Weekends begin at 7:00 PM Thursday evenings and end about 4:30 PM on Sunday afternoons.

ALL ARE WELCOME