



Holy Cross Parish

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14, 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

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Townsend, Montana 59644

14 SEPTEMBER - FEAST

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17

The Rite of Ordination of a Priest

The Rite of Ordination of a deacon and priest are very similar. At the beginning of the Mass, the only main difference is that the man-to-be-ordained a priest (father-to-be), processes in behind the deacons and not behind the servers. Once a deacon, always a deacon. His current status in the Church is as a deacon. Therefore, he is situated with deacons while wearing the attire of a deacon (deacon stole from shoulder to hip).

The first parts of the rite are the same. Following the proclamation of the Gospel, the man is called to orders. Everyone, hopefully, claps as a sign of their assent to his ordination. The Bishop preaches. Following the homily, the man makes his priestly promises. These promises are very similar to the ones for deaconate while adding to them the promises specific to the priest including offering Mass, forgiving sins, and celebrating the Sacraments according to the Rites of the Church. Then the man is called forward, lies prostrate on the cathedral floor while the Litany of Saints is sung. The Prayer of Ordination that follows is quite intricate and long. The prayer draws upon Old Testament imagery of Moses and Aaron, the first priests, and their role. Then it follows through salvation history making the point that God called men to the priesthood to continue the priesthood of Christ and to bring people to salvation. At this moment, he is a priest. His soul is configured to Jesus Christ the high priest.

Now the first significant change. After the Prayer of Ordination and the laying on of hands, the other priests come forward and lay their hands on the newly ordained priest. I have been asked what we say at this moment. The answer is nothing. We do not say anything. We just lay our hands on his head inducting him into the presbyteral order.

Once the laying on of hands concludes, he is vested in priestly vestments. He takes off the deacon stole to assume his new role. The priestly stole, a sign of the office of priest, drapes around the neck and hangs down the front of the man. The chasuble, a sign of the Mass, fully covers the man to show that he is covered in Christ. The chasuble is open on the sides to allow movement but is far more restricting than the deacon's dalmatic. The chasuble usually has only one stripe down the front.

One of the most important differences happens next. The bishop, taking the Sacred Chrism Oil, anoints the hands of the newly ordained priest consecrating his hands for the sacred ministry of celebrating the Sacraments. This is the only rite in the Church during which the hands are anointed with Chrism Oil. Since his hands are now oily and he is about to touch some precious items, a server brings him a towel called a manutergium. Manutergium is just the Latin word for hand towel. This towel is given to his mother. The tradition holds that she is buried with this towel so that when she goes before God she can say "See Lord, I gave you a priest."

Fr. Cody



THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all the parishioners who helped with our parish community event on Friday evening! It was a great opportunity to reach out and be present in our community!

LEGENDARY NEEDS LOGS

FORTIFY THE LEGEND. EXPAND THE MISSION



Bishop's
Gala

OCTOBER 10, 2025



5:00 PM

CARROLL COLLEGE

To register for the Bishop's Gala go to
diocesehelena.org/bishopsgala

Director of Financial Services & CFO

The Diocese of Helena is seeking an experienced, creative, and operationally-minded financial professional. Competitive salary, generous benefits, fulfilling mission. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to serve the Catholic Church in Western Montana!

Sept. 15 priority

Full description & application details:
www.diocesehelena.org/employment

Come learn about the life of
Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk

Speaker: Deacon William J. White,
Postulator for Cause of Canonization for Nicholas Black Elk

Tuesday, September 23 @ 5:30 pm
St. Mary Catholic Community Social Center

A light dinner will be served
A free will offering would be appreciated

Sponsored by: Saint Mary's Catholic Community and Our Lady of the Valley Church

Please call the Parish Office at (406) 442-5268 to RSVP

The Food Pantry needs our help! Twice a month the Food Pantry is open to provide food for those who need some extra assistance. Due to limited support for the weeks the Food Bank is open, Holy Cross will now help out during the months of February, June, and September. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, sign up sheets will be available on the table in the Narthex during those months or you can contact Paul VanHoudt. The Food Bank has returned to its normal location.

Please mail monetary donations directly to the Food Pantry. The address is:

Broadwater Food Pantry

PO Box 1164

Townsend, MT 59644

Thank you for your generosity!



Welcome Niki Weiss!

Niki has accepted the job of Commercial Cleaner. We welcome her to this role and thank her for her service to our church. She is responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of our building and taking care of general cleaning.

Magnificats

It's that time of year again to start planning for next years Magnificat subscriptions. They offer regular print and large print. Regular print is \$39 each and large print is \$69 each. Please order and pay at the parish office. Orders are due by October 31st.

THANK YOU!

- A special thank you to Karee Eichinger for her service as our Commercial Cleaner. We express our gratitude for your years of service cleaning our building and wish you the best in your next endeavors.
- A profound thank you to Geiser Services for their many years of service to our church. As a way to maintain the care of our building, I hired a maintenance manager to take the role of lawn care, snow removal, and general maintenance. Geiser Services will still be responsible for the care of the lawn at the cemetery. We thank them for the years of service to 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. Please keep all your items to be blessed with you until the end of Mass. Once Mass is ended, Fr. Cody will come to the entrance of the Church and bless any of the objects that are on the table. Those objects that are on the table belong to the people who want them blessed and are not free for the taking.

Blessings

Welcome the Circle of Peace

Two of our circles are rather small and would like to merge. Therefore the Circles of Compassion and Understanding are merging into the Circle of Peace. If you have concerns about this merge or would like to join this circle, please contact Fr. Cody. The current circle members are as follows:

Circle of Love

Bakken Family, Bleile Family, Boylan Family, Bill & Mary Duede, Estrada Family, Terri & Emmalin Fischer, Jill Flynn, Marge & Lewayen Kroeger, Kucinski Family, Pat & Debbie Miller, Iwy & Sharon Obrugewitch, John & Missy Rauser, Rachelle Rauser Family, Karen Simonich, Carol Taylor, Weiss Family, Scott & Shawna Wickens Family

Circle of Hope

Eichinger/Reiman Family, Fisetta Family, Larry & Kristi Gersch, Holmes Family, Richard Majszak, Chuck & Carole Plymale, Poe Family, Janet Riddle, Dan & Bernadette Swenson, Jess e& LaReissa Swenson Family, Karen Susag, Swanton Family, Montey & Mary Ellen Schnur, Rich & Cyrilla Vetsch, Vince & Phyllis Vogl, Arnold & Lorraine Woodring, Larry & Buffy Woodring

Circle of Peace

(formerly Compassion & Understanding)

Missy Cox, Mike & Miscese Gagen, Harold & Laura Gibbs, George & Brigid Jenkins, Steve & Jay Kitt, Bob & Gay Ann Masolo, Tim & Jan McAlpine, Fran & Iris Wright, Juanita Bray, Barb DeMartin, Jack & Mary Garman, Marilyn Lane, Tom & Julie Lethert, Terry Love, Julie Van Camp

If you are a parishioner not listed in a circle and would like to join one please contact Fr. Cody or the parish office.

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending September 7th

Envelopes	7762.00
Loose	167.63
Online	446.42
Total Weekly Contribution	8376.05
Total Weekly Goal	\$2,629.31
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	8376.05
Week 2	
Week 3	
Week 4	
Total Monthly Contribution	30589.25
Total Year to Date	30589.25
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Mass	Schedule
Monday September 15	Mass 9:00a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a
Tuesday September 16	No Mass
Wednesday September 17	
Thursday September 18	
Friday September 19	
Saturday September 20	
Sunday September 21	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p - 7:30p Dinner provided by Knights of Columbus

Blessing table in the narthex

Scripture Readings



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

09-21-2025

Reading 1:	Amos 8:4-7
Psalm:	113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8
Reading 2:	1 Timothy 2:1-8
Gospel:	Luke 16: 1-13

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.

Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, Jake Smith, Ryan Frampton, and Mason Yochum

Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Prayer Chain

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, Kammy Law, Mary Garman, Don and Jenny Schaubert, Judy & Franklin Silifka



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration with exposition needs a great push. People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?' My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in holy hours of prayer."

- Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Ministry Schedule

Sunday September 21, 2025

4:30pm

Greet:	Bill and Mary Duede
Lector:	Debbie Miller
Gifts:	Fisetta Family
EM:	Tacy Swanton and Alex Estrada
Money Counters:	Juanita Bray and Karen Susag

Faith Night

All our welcome!
Activities for both kids and adults!

Faith Formation

Ask A Priest

Got a question you would like to ask a priest?
We've got an event for you.

Dinner at 6 pm. Presentation begins at 6:30. Q&A at 7:00.
Holy Cross Church, Townsend—101 S. Walnut St.

First 2 Topics

Sept 22—Are all Saved?
Oct. 20—Faith vs. Science

2025-26 RE classes began after mass on Sunday, September 7th, RE will be every Sunday after mass starting with dinner at 5:30. Prayer begins at 6:00 and then everyone will be separated into family groups that will consist of youth from each age group. Guided by RE leaders each family group will participate in an activity together until 6:45 and then each grade level will separate into their individual classes for further discussion and activities. This year our focus is on the Sacraments, the Mass, and prayer. Once again, we invite parents and other parishioners to participate in the adult group at the same time to explore the same material that the youth will be learning.

To register for RE, scan the QR code below or contact Shawna Wickens. There is a registration fee of \$50 per child/\$150 per family max. There are funds available to help with registration costs if needed. Contact Father Cody or Shawna Wickens with any questions@ 406-266-4811 or re@holycrossmt.org



We are looking for volunteers to provide dinner after mass on some Sundays prior to RE. If you are interested in helping please contact Shawna Wickens or scan the sign up genius QR code to the right. Thank you for supporting our parish youth!



Anointing of the Sick Mass
Sunday, September 28th
4:30 pm



We will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on this day. If you or someone you know could use the graces of this Sacrament, please contact Fr. Cody. Only those who have talked with Fr. Cody before mass will be anointed.

There will be no Mass on Tuesday, September 16th

Ministry Sign Ups



As a new year begins, so do we continue to need more ministers. Please prayerfully consider ways in which you can help your church. Simply, fill out the ministry sign-up sheet with your name and phone number, indicate the ministries that you are willing to commit to for the next year or the ones you would like to learn more about, and either put them in the offertory basket or drop them by the office. We will not transfer names from the previous year. If you would like to continue in your current ministry, you need to sign up again. Thank you for your service to our church.

We need more homebound ministers. If this is a ministry that you are interested in or curious about, please contact Fr. Cody.

We need more money counters. If you are willing to help count the collection, please sign up on the ministry schedule.

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY SUNDAYS @ 4:00

SEPT 7 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

SEPT 14 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

SEPT 21 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

SEPT 28 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES



Attention Adults

Join us for an adult group that will meet after mass on Sundays during RE class times. The adult group will discuss and explore the same topics as the youth. This year's focus is on Sacraments, the Mass, and prayer. Parents that join can continue the discussion and learning at home with their children.

Is there someone or something you would like to pray for?

Well, our pilgrimage group is willing to take your prayers with us to these holy sites. If you would like us to bring your prayers to Fatima, Lourdes, or Santiago de Compostela, write your prayer on a small piece of paper and put it in the appropriate envelope on the info table in the Narthex. You have until October 5th to submit your prayers.



Youth Highlights

9/14/25 : RE Class (Eucharist)

9/21/25: RE Class (Confirmation)

9/28/25: RE Class (Anointing of the Sick)

10/5/25: RE Class (Penance)

Thanks to all the youth, parents, and grandparents who participated in our summer youth events. Not only did we have participants from our parish, but some from White Sulphur, Three Forks, and even Louisiana. We spent a day fishing at park lake, a day exploring baptism and playing in the water at Canyon Ferry Lake, and a day hiking to Memorial Falls where we discussed the Transfiguration and even got to celebrate mass on the mountain.

