

Stewardship

4/8-9/2023

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$1,865.00
Loose	\$169.87
Easter	\$1,606.00
Restricted	\$70.00
Total	\$3,710.87

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-March

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$144.97
NorthWestern Energy	\$789.23
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$2,470.04
Geisser Services	\$720.00
Montana Energy Alliance	\$1,144.08

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term
Long Term
Grave Sites
Total

Cemetery Expenses-March

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

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"My greatest happiness is to be before the Blessed Sacrament, where my heart is, as it were, in its center."

- St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

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, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, Marie Hoeffner, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Jackie Kynett, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Shanna Montonario, Gene Determan, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schauber, Kadence Saxton, Laura Toeckes, David Kearns, Lisa Larson, Tom Arensmeyer, Jana Melling, Wally Johnston, Kay Clark

Did You Know!

Although our Paschal Candle is usually hidden in the back corner, this candle is one of the great symbols of Easter. The light of the candle that illumines the darkness reminds that Jesus' Resurrection cast out the darkness of this world. The Paschal Candle is blessed during, and only during, the Easter Vigil. The blessing involves several steps. The first step is to mark the candle with the five wounds of Jesus corresponding to the five points of the cross (one being in the middle), then the alpha (Greek letter A), the omega (the Greek letter W or the last letter), and the year the candle is blessed. All of these are symbols of Christ. The five points – five wounds on the Cross, the A and W – the beginning and the end, the year reminds us that God comes in time at this specific moment of time. The candle is then lit with the Easter Fire and solemnly processed in to illumine the dark church. The candle is blessed during the baptismal rite when it is dunked in the Baptismal font three times to symbol new life coming from the font and the breaking of the seal on the font. The Paschal Candle is used during the Easter Season, for baptisms, and for funerals. All moments that recall the Resurrection.

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.



Divine Mercy Sunday

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

Holy Cross Parish

April 16, 2023

Fr. Cody Williams, Pastor Email: frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org

Office: 406-266-4811

Email: office@holycrossmt.org

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Townsend, Montana 59644



Over the last 10 years the status quo of affirmative action has been challenged by several schools in several states. The original intention behind affirmative action was to overcome the economic and social challenges that prevent those in minority groups from entering college. Throughout the last century, immigration followed by effects from camps and slavery led many in minority groups to lack the educational credentials and financial support to enter college. Therefore, affirmative action attempted to correct the low numbers of minorities entering the more education-based fields by lowering the entrance standards for these minority groups and giving them financial incentives.

For years this program increased the number of minorities entering higher education and the number of minorities entering the education-based job market. In the last 10 years, however, the affirmative action program has come under numerous challenges for several reasons. The most recent, and notable one, came from Harvard University and the University of North Carolina where they implemented a negative score adjustment for Asians. Asians have been outperforming every other racial group for decades and entering universities at much higher number. These universities decided to attach a negative modifier to Asian applicants to the scores across the entrance requirements. This led to a huge debate that went before the Supreme Court.

The Catholic Church is clear on the issue of race: no person or groups of people should face discrimination that causes them to seem less than human. All people should be treated with the same dignity, respect, and equality. Therefore affirmative action would violate the Church's stance on the dignity of human beings by assuming that certain races of people are not as qualified as others and therefore need extra assistance. The more ethical approach to this issue would be to address the individual needs of a specific person and look at their credentials as well as their life as a way of promoting the good of anyone in a lower economic class or who faced challenges in their upbringing. Ideally we would find a way to encourage the good of all individuals and find ways to encourage those who are disadvantaged to rise from their challenges. Choosing the qualifier of race is racism. Therefore affirmative action is immoral.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Third Sunday of Easter

4-23-2023

Reading 1: Acts 2:14,22-33
 Psalm: 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8,9-10,11
 Reading 2: 1 Peter 1:17-21
 Gospel: Luke 24:13-35



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

MASS	Schedule
Monday April 17	NO MASS
Tuesday April 18	NO MASS
Wednesday April 19	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Youth RE-Prek-5th grade 5-6:30p MS-HS 6:15-8p
Thursday April 20	Mass 9a
Friday April 21	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday April 22	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday April 23	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Coffee hour after mass

Ministry Schedule

Saturday April 22, 2023

5:00pm

Greet: Monte and Cathy Armstrong
 Lector: Marilyn Vandersloot
 Gifts: Fisetbe Family
 EM: Karen Simonich and Missy Cox

Ministry Schedule

Sunday April 23, 2023

8:00am

Greet: Larry and Buffy Woodring
 Lector: Mary Ellen Schnur
 Gifts: Larry and Buffy Woodring
 EM: Jesus Garcia and Ryan Racht
 Money Counters: Bernadette Swenson and Sara Holmes



Devotions on Draft

April 18th

@Missouri River Brewing Co

7p



FOOD PANTRY

We are looking for a new coordinator for our Food Bank. Doris Mingay has chosen to step down and we thank her for her service to the Food Bank and our church. This person would advertise and help encourage people to help the Food Bank during our month which is June. If you are interested in helping to coordinate our efforts to help the Food Bank and those in need, please contact Fr. Cody.



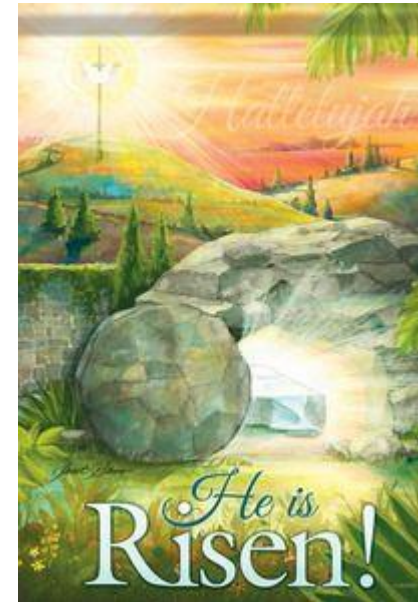
Have A Seat!

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 \$35,000. 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.



Announcements



The Foundation of the Diocese of Helena is offering grant money up to \$15,000 for any parish who is working to evangelize their local community. I would like to apply for this grant and working towards evangelization. I am appealing to the parish for ideas of way we can reach out to our community and share our faith. If you have any ideas, please contact Fr. Cody. Thank you.



FOUNDATION
for the Diocese of Helena



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 to learn more or register. Seating is limited!

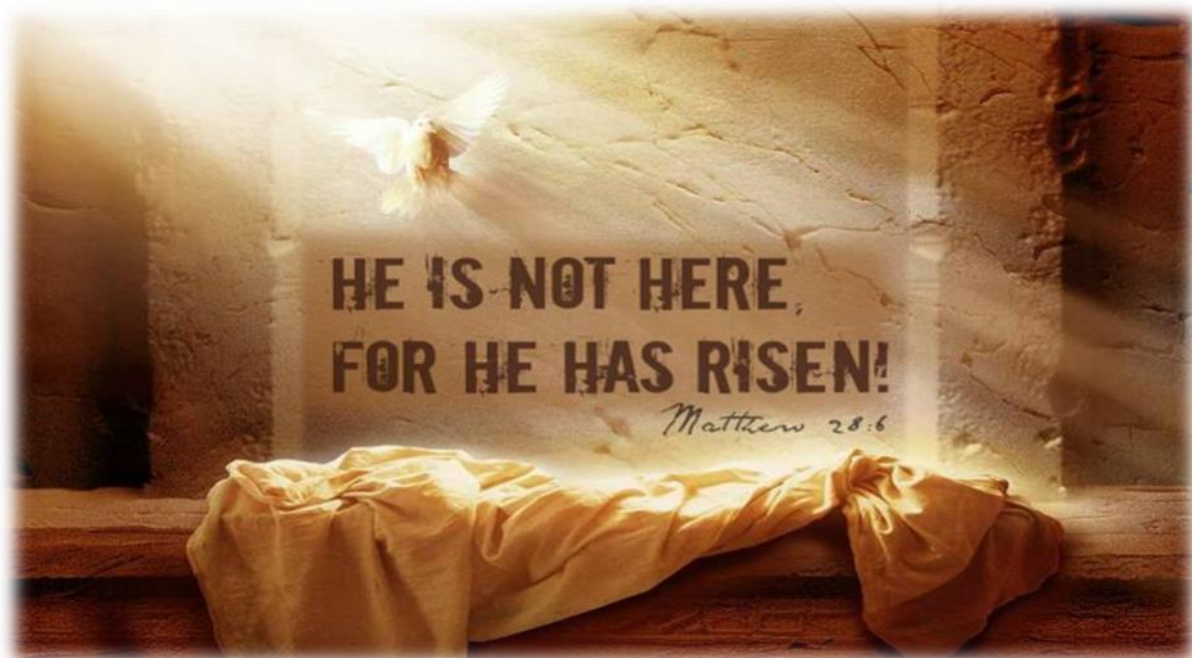


We are livestreaming again! If you know of homebound parishioners or other people who could benefit from a virtual Mass, let them know that it is available on our Sacraments page on the website (holycrossmt.org).



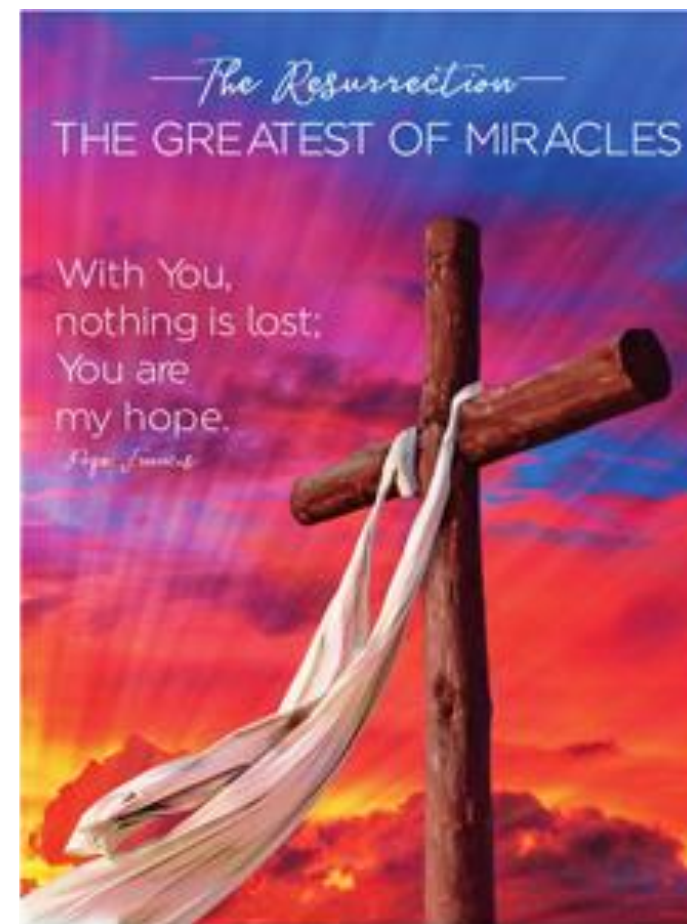
thank you

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and the Women of Faith for planning and providing two fish fries during Lent. This was a great event that brought people from around our community together to have a nice meal. Thank you for all your work.



This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday was established by St. Pope John Paul II to emphasize the importance of God's mercy in our lives. We often don't realize the incredible amount of mercy that God wants to shower upon us because we are not fully open to that great gift. Karen Simonich is trying to establish a group to focus on realizing that gift of God's mercy in our

lives. She has established a mini library with resources from St. Faustina, found various talks that promote the value of God's mercy, and is looking to establish a group to focus on this topic. More information about these events and opportunities are on the bulletin board.



Catholic Social Services of Montana

will host its 24th Annual charity golf tournament on July 14th, 2023, at Bill Roberts Municipal Golf Course in Helena. All funds raised benefit CSSM's adoption and family support ministries across Montana. Teams of 4 can register before July 7th. The registration fee includes 9 or 18 holes of golf, lunch, player gifts, a small donation to CSSM, and a fun day at the course with opportunities to win great prizes! For more details, including online registration, visit <https://cssm-golf-tournament.perfectgolfevent.com>.

Come have fun playing a round of golf and support a wonderful Catholic charity serving Montana!



Thank you all who donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal. We have reached our goal and even surpassed it! The more exciting news is that 40% of the parish participated this year. We have the second highest participation in the Helena Deanery. I want to thank you all for your generous contribution to the good of the church in the Diocese of Helena.



Jesus, I Trust in You