



Holy Cross Parish

Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 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

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

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Townsend, Montana 59644



The third principal part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the only one that requires a priest. We can acknowledge our sin and be contrite. God can even choose to forgive anyone he wants at any time. Yet, the Sacrament exists because of our need for the assurance of being forgiven and to be honest with ourselves. Therefore, the third principal part is the Prayer of Absolution. The Prayer of Absolution is the prayer that defines this Sacrament and gives it its character. Without this prayer, the Sacrament would be nothing more than a chat session or a counseling session. Once this prayer is said, all the sins the person confessed are absolved. They are gone. The person is no longer held accountable for those sins in the eyes of God. Due to the power of this prayer and its value in forgiving sins, priests are very careful when and how they say this prayer. The Church has an option called "General Absolution." General Absolution functions very similarly to a normal Confession except that the only part of this event is the Prayer of Absolution. In extreme cases, when it is either not possible or not pastorally prudent to hear everyone's confession, the priest can say the Prayer of Absolution and absolve everyone of their sins. This is the power of this prayer. I will come back to issues regarding General Absolution and its limitations later. For now, I use this example to show the incredible power of this prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus gave the power of forgive sins on his behalf to his priests who use this power for all of you. Through the Prayer of Absolution we can hear the words that we are forgiven, know with certainty about our absolution, and be able to feel confident and healed leaving the Sacrament.

Which leads us to the fourth principal part of the Sacrament: Satisfaction. The most common way that the Church explains the importance of "satisfaction" as part of this Sacrament is through the penance. The penance that the priest gives the person is a simple way through which we can help to overcome our sinful behaviors, recognize God's goodness, and return to the Lord. These penances aren't meant to be severe or overly difficult lest we believe that we cause our own forgiveness. Instead, they are a movement of the heart towards God saying "Lord, I want to do better for you." Thus the first way to understand the character of satisfaction is through our gift of a penance with the hope of bringing good into the world out of our evil. The second way to understand satisfaction is the feeling of being forgiven. Often, especially for people who frequently receive absolution, people don't necessarily feel forgiven after leaving the confessional. This is not a problem. If we limit satisfaction to a feeling, we dismiss the power of this part of the Sacrament. Satisfaction is the fundamental belief that we have been forgiven, a new life has dawned for us, Jesus has shown us the power of his death and Resurrection, and now we are in God's good graces. These statements of belief should be enough to encourage everyone to go. We need to fundamentally believe that we are forgiven, that God is merciful, that we have been fully forgiven, and that we are not bound to our sins anymore for the full effect of satisfaction to transform our lives.

Fr. Cody

Celebrating MARRIAGE WITH BISHOP AUSTIN VETTER

CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA

MASS // INDIVIDUAL BLESSING OF COUPLES //
RECEPTION //

BISHOP VETTER EXTENDS A WARM INVITATION TO ALL MARRIED COUPLES, FROM THE NEWEST OF NEWLYWEDS TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMMEMORATED OVER SIX DECADES, TO A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION.

EVENT DETAILS

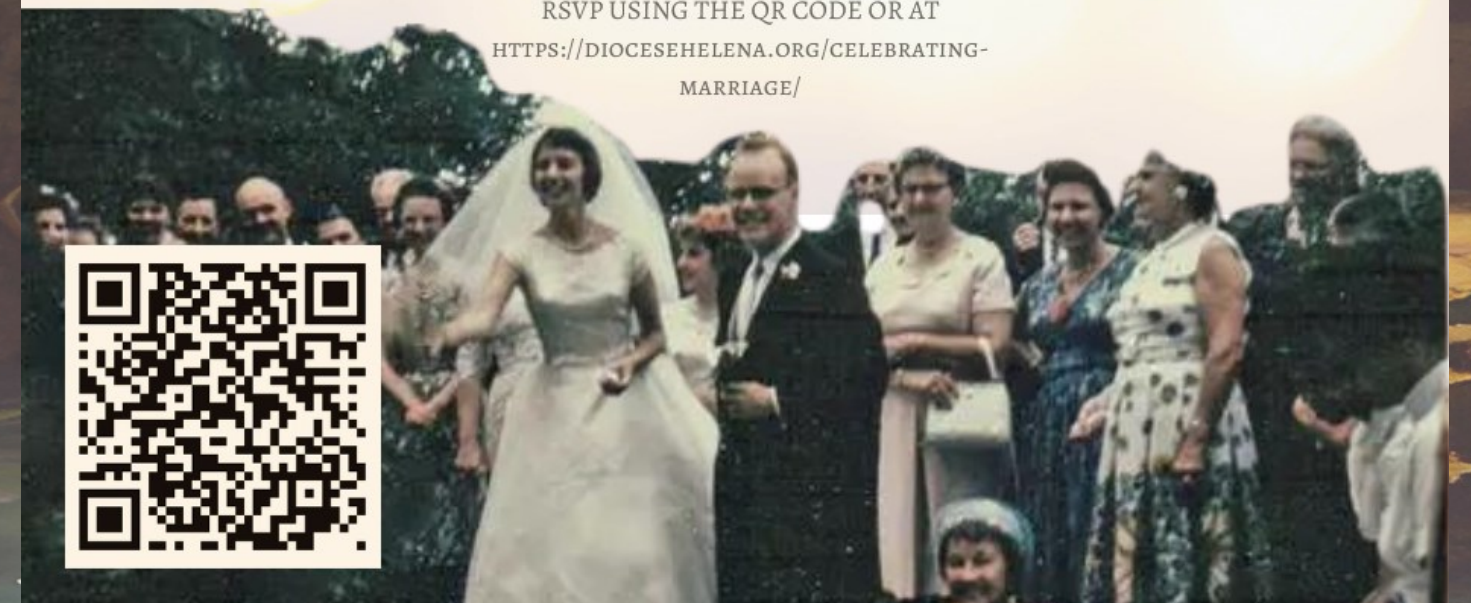
FEBRUARY 14TH // BEGINS WITH 6:00PM MASS // RECEPTION TO FOLLOW // HEAVY APPETIZERS AND DESSERT INCLUDED // SEMI FORMAL ATTIRE // \$25 PER COUPLE

CHILDCARE

CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE AT NO ADDITIONAL COST WHILE SPACES LAST.

February 14th

RSVP USING THE QR CODE OR AT
[HTTPS://DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/CELEBRATING-
MARRIAGE/](https://diocesehelena.org/celebrating-marriage/)



CATHOLICISM 201

Each Monday Starting Oct. 28th from 6:30-8 pm
 Topics: The Mass, Spiritual Writings, Letter to the Romans
 See flier for more details

We are in need of volunteers to help with RE dinner. Dinners will feed all ages of the youth and their families, therefore, we should plan on feeding around 80 people every Sunday. Please consider either providing a full meal (planning, purchasing food & cooking) or simply preparing/cooking a meal with food that the parish purchases, either help would be greatly appreciated. We encourage you to partner up with another member/family of the parish to help ease the burden of feeding that many people.



Faith Night

Exploring the issues of our times in the context of faith

The next topics:
 Feb 17th—Prisons
 Mar 17th—Immigration
 May 19th—Poverty and Homelessness

For all ages. Free dinner

Parish potlucks

Every 4th Sunday of the month we have a parish potluck where anyone can bring a dish or come down and enjoy some good food. As part of the desire for the circles to be more active in the parish, I am assigning a circle to each potluck as the point group for the potluck. They're responsibility is to set-up, clean-up, and help make sure there is enough food. Anyone is welcome to bring food and help. The circle's responsibility is to facilitate the potluck. The rotation of the circles is as follows:

Sunday, Jan. 26th – Circle of Understanding
 Sunday, Feb. 23rd – Circle of Hope

We will cycle through the circles following the above schedule for the rest of the months of the year. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Fr. Cody.

JOIN FR. CODY WILLIAMS AND HOLY CROSS PARISH ON A SPECIAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO

FATIMA, LOURDES & BARCELONA

OCTOBER 6-17, 2025

PILGRIMAGES BY CORPORATE TRAVEL
 41780 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100
 Northville, MI 48168
 866.468.1420 | info@ctscentral.net
 www.pilgrimagesbycts.com

Scripture Readings

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 01-19-2025

Reading 1: Isaiah 62:1-5
 Psalm: 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 9-10a and c
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
 Gospel: John 2:1-11

The CHOSEN Movie Night

2ND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
 7-8:30 PM
 FREE MOVIE, POPCORN AND SNACKS.
 ALL ARE WELCOME!
 SPONSORED BY: HOLY CROSS CHURCH
 101 S. WALNUT STREET

All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to bulletin@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 January 13	Mass 9a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 6:30p
Tuesday January 14	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday January 15	
Thursday January 16	
Friday January 17	
Saturday January 18	
Sunday January 19	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p

The new email address for any information for the bulletin or advertisements is bulletin@holycrossmt.org

Ministry Schedule

Sunday January 19, 2025 4:30pm

Greet:	Tom and Julie Lethert
Lector:	Karen Simonich
Gifts:	John and Missy Rauser
EM:	Debbie Miller and Emmalin Fischer
Money Counters:	Juanita Bray and Karen Susag



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off several months ago with our parish goal of \$21,900. So far we have raised \$7300. Please consider donating to this important campaign raising money for the important functions of our Diocese.



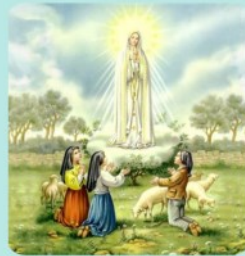
Catholic Mental Health Counseling

CSSM's counseling program has served clients from over 20 communities in Montana and is ready to serve you!

- Our counselors are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of any counseling session, although it does not have to be. They have experience with clients from many different backgrounds, cultures, and ages. We are here for everyone.
- We specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship/marriage, and perinatal concerns.
- You can meet with us from your computer, tablet, or cell phone from anywhere in Montana. If you're in Helena or Billings, you can meet in-person with a counselor.
- We want to be a good match, so the first session is free. If you choose to continue, we accept insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and private pay, with a sliding fee scale and other discounts available.

To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2' or send us a message at www.cssmt.org.

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY
FOR THE POPE, CHURCH,
PRIEST, FAMILIES,
CHILDREN & FOR
THE WHOLE WORLD



"The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and a theologically rich in Biblical content. I beg you to pray it."

St. John Paul II

SUNDAYS @ 4:00

JAN 12 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

JAN 19 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

JAN 26 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

FEB 2 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES



The Holy Cross Quilters would like to remind parishioners of the Baby Essentials that were collected, along with a large donation of diapers, wipes & rash creams from Catholic Social Services of Helena.

If you know of someone in the community who could use a gift basket of these items, please contact the Holy Cross office:

(406) 266-4811



Holy Cross Parish
Finances

Week ended January 5th

Total Weekly	\$2,796.96
Budget	\$2900.00
Variance	-\$103.04

Year to Date

Total	\$70,994.92
Budget	\$78,300.00
Variance	-\$7,305.08

Thank you for
your generosity



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"My sweetest Joy is to be in the presence of Jesus in the holy Sacrament. I beg that when obliged to withdraw in body, I may leave my heart before the holy Sacrament. How I would miss Our Lord if He were to be away from me by His presence in the Blessed Sacrament!"

- St. Katharine Drexel

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.

Dcn. Dillon Armstrong, John Cooney, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, and Jake Smith.

Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Prayer Chain

Beginning September 29 bulletin unless otherwise requested after one month prayer request names will be removed from the prayer chain



John Clark, Martin and Margy Clark, Bill and Marilyn Lane, Shanna Montonario, Kadence Saxton, Suri Kitt

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.

Pastoral Council:

Jesse Swenson
Mary Ellen Schnur
Karee Eichinger
Michael Fisette
John Bleile

Finance Council:

John Rauser
Tim McAlpine
Tacy Swanton
Pat Miller
Monica Benton

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

THANK YOU!

2025
LEGENDARY LODGE
DATES & RATES

June 15-20 Junior High #1	June 22-27 High School #1	June 29-July 1 Family Camp	July 6-11 Junior High #2	July 13-18 High School #2	July 20-25 5th/6th Grade Boys	July 27-August 1 5th/6th Grade Girls
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CAMP RATES
Early Bird Rate:
(Register in January)
\$400
Standard Rate:
\$425

REGISTRATION OPENS
January 3rd at Noon for families who live within the Diocese of Helena
January 8th at Noon for families who live outside the Diocese of Helena

legendarylodge.org

Do you know that we have Catholic Radio in Montana? KNEH, 97.3FM in Helena is an affiliate of Relevant Radio, which has 220 radio stations broadcasting across the US. You can listen LIVE to KNEH on the My Parish app by clicking on the Radio microphone icon or listen LIVE at www.kneh.org