

Stewardship

4/15-16/2023

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$2,146.00
Loose	\$166.00
Easter	\$240.00
Reimbursement	\$710.03
Restricted	\$20.00
Total	\$3,282.03

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	\$100.00
Long Term	
Grave Sites	
Total	\$100.00

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

"It is happiness to be in heaven, no doubt, because it is to be with Jesus, but have we not almost the same happiness here? Do we not possess Him in the Most Holy Sacrament? Did we but know how to profit by His Divine Presence, we should in some way have no reason to envy the inhabitants of the Heavenly City"

- Marie Estelle Harpain (1814-1842)

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.



Third Sunday of Easter

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



April 23, 2023

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

Office: 406-266-4811

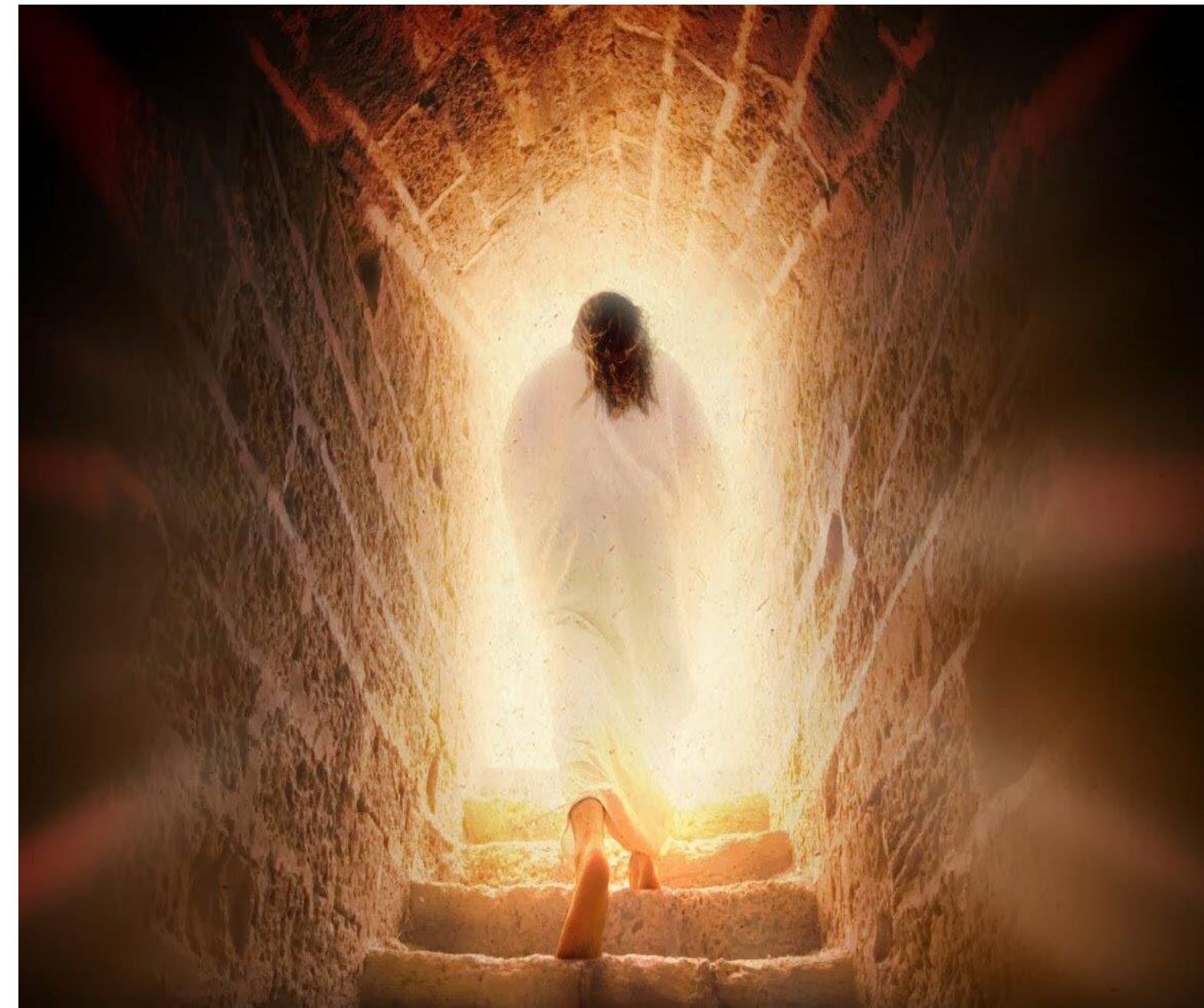
Email: office@holycrossmt.org

Shawna: RE@holycrossmt.org

Website: holycrossmt.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)

Townsend, Montana 59644



Morality part 74:

Social Ethics

Environmentalism

The word "environmentalism" sparks a lot of controversy in our modern society. Some argue that environmentalism is the only way to protect humanity and save the planet. Others argue that environmentalism is a liberal mentality used to degrade human society. These camps, however, are so extreme and polar opposite to each other that they become devoid of meaning. What do we mean by environmentalism? Environmentalism is a theory and belief that protecting and caring for the environment is a necessary social good. Modern day environmentalists make news headlines through more extreme actions and beliefs. Many people associate environmentalists with people like the University of Berkley professor who advocated that all people should leave modern society and return to nature. Or like those environmentalists who chain themselves to trees and advocate an entirely plant based diet. The other extreme of anti-environmentalism is characterized by major cooperations who advocate the necessity of cheap products and our dependence on the environment for our basic needs like oil, gas, and wood. Neither of these two extremes nor their viewpoints are the way the Church understands environmentalism.

No Catholic source better describes the Catholic view on environmentalism better than the title of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si, On the Care of our Common Home*. Pope Francis spent this letter encouraging the world to focus on the environment and the necessity of caring for the only planet that we can live on. Instead of ascribing to either position as indicated above, he advocated for all people to realize the effects of capitalistic greed on our planet and work towards reform and care. Pope Francis called this a necessary social good since the destruction of the planet harms the poor more than the rich. The most commonly quoted passage to indicate this command to care for our environment comes from Genesis 2. God gave Adam and Eve dominion over the creatures of the earth. What does this mean? A more accurate translation of the Hebrew words makes God's command to "care for" and "protect." Our goal as humans is to care for this planet and protect the one planet that God gave us, to be good stewards of the gift he gave us. The ultimate challenge is agreeing on the actions associated with that challenge. Throughout this section on environmentalism, I want you to ponder our involvement with the planet, what actions are associated with caring for it and protecting it, and how we as Catholics can use our faith to understand the proper way to live for and care for our common home.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Fourth Sunday of Easter
4-30-2023

Reading 1: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm: 23:1-3a,3b-4,5,6
Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10



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 24	NO MASS
Tuesday April 25	NO MASS
Wednesday April 26	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Youth RE-Prek-5th grade 5-6:30p MS-HS 6:15-8p
Thursday April 27	Mass 9a Homebound
Friday April 28	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday April 29	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday April 30	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family

Ministry Schedule

Saturday April 29, 2023

5:00pm

Greet: Monte and Cathy Armstrong
Lector: Gay Ann Masolo
Gifts: Dan and Bernadette Swenson
EM: Monte Montonario and Marilyn Vandersloot

Ministry Schedule

Sunday April 30, 2023

8:00am

Greet: Bleile Family
Lector: Caleb LeLacheur
Gifts: John and Missy Rauser
EM: John Bleile and Alex Estrada
Money Counters: Juanita Bray and Karen Susag



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!



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



Holy Cross is responsible for staffing the Food Bank in June. Doris Mingay, who lead our efforts to find people to help serve, has stepped down as our coordinator. We thank her for her work in helping the Food Bank and coordinating with our parish. We are still looking for someone who would like to be our liaison with the Food Bank and help to coordinate our efforts to support those in need. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Cody.

Mass schedule change proposal:

Last weekend I announced my proposal to change the Mass schedule in Townsend to celebrating only one Mass on a weekend. The one Mass would be on Sunday at 4:30 pm.

The reasons why I am proposing this change are as follows:

1. Our Mass attendance is so low that we can all fit into one Mass with space to spare.
2. This would give us the chance to celebrate together as a community and have events after Mass together including the Knights meals and Family Night.
3. I am struggling to get ministers to cover both Masses.
4. Its late enough that you would drive home in the light most of the year and could do fun activities likes sports and vacationing and still be back in time for Mass.
5. I need Saturdays for a lot of other events and opportunities in our community and Diocese.

If you can think of a better schedule that includes Mass times and driving for White Sulphur, Harlowton, and Townsend, please let me know.





The final Family Night of the year is on Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:00 pm. Come celebrate Easter and explore the Resurrection and Pentecost. There might even be a Easter themed Jeopardy competition.



Karen Simonich is starting a Divine Mercy group to help us explore and grow our devotion to God's immense mercy for us. The next group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16th at 7 pm. Come watch and discuss the movie Divine Mercy and how you can increase your sense of God's mercy in your life.



Mark your calendars for vacation bible school. Kids age preschool - 5th grade are invited to attend Holy Cross's Stellar VBS program on June 12th, 13th & 14th. Time schedule and more details to come. As always there are a variety of things that need to be done in planning and executing a successful program. If you are willing to help with VBS in any way please contact Shawna Wickens at the parish office, via email at re@holycrossmt.org or calling or texting 406-594-3714.



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).



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!



Legendary Lodge is offering a family camp this summer and registration is now open. For more information and to register visit legendarylodge.org/familycamp/