



Holy Cross Parish

The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 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

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



Ordinary Time
is not so
Ordinary

Basics of Catholicism part 74

Conditions for a mortal sin

A sin is considered a mortal or grave sin if the following three conditions are met.

The sin is of grave matter. Not all sins are grave matter for instance forgetting to pray for a day is considered a sin and dishonors God but is not serious. The classification of a grave or serious sin can be tricky. The most common tool used to understand grave sins is the 10 Commandments. These 10 Commandments summarize the nature of truly serious matter. A sin of grave matter deeply harms our relationship with God and those around us. The most common examples of mortal sins include intentionally missing Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, using the Lord's name in vain, dishonoring the sabbath, adultery, fornication, pornography, theft, murder, envy, jealousy, pride, gluttony, revenge, vengeance, desecration of the Sacraments, apostasy, schism, and more.

The person must understand that the sin is mortal. God is immensely merciful and realizes the extent of our knowledge and abilities. Often people, for a variety of reasons, do not realize that a particular action is wrong. For instance if I grew up in a gang neighborhood, I might believe that violence is the way to solve disputes including murder. The Church teaches that the responsibility of every person is to inform their conscience so that they know what is right and wrong. The ability to discern well a good from an evil action is a necessary part of living well. Therefore, there are two parts to this condition. First, we must know which sins are mortal and of serious matter. We also are required to avoid them and strive for a life of virtue. The more we know about the gravity of a sin, the more we are held accountable to its effects and can be punished. Second, often people are misinformed about the gravity of sins. The most commonly misunderstood mortal sin is missing Mass on Sunday. We are held accountable to the extent we understood the gravity of our actions but the sin is still grave matter regardless of our understanding or knowledge of its consequences.

We must have full consent of the will. This last condition is tricky. The basic idea is that we freely choose to do the action that is sinful. Some argue that we are never truly free when making decisions. Such conditions like habits, addictions, feelings, the condition of the world hinder our ability to choose. Although some of this is true. I argue that we have far more consent when we make decisions than we often realize. Even a person who habitually commits the sin may be given a moment of grace or worked to put blocks against that sin yet still fought against that grace and those block to commit the sin. This is an example of full consent of the will. We sell ourselves short on the incredible gift of our free will and the power that God has given us. We have far more strength in fighting against sin and temptation so that we can make good choices that we realize. Some conditions do reduce the gravity of the sin and should be mentioned. These include habits, addictions, external factors forcing our decisions, and coercion. The quality of the sin as grave does not change instead we are less culpable for the sin because our free will is hindered. I encourage you to ponder the gift of free will and your ability to exercise it in decision making. Knowing the power of our free will gives us incredible strength in choosing and knowing the good.

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

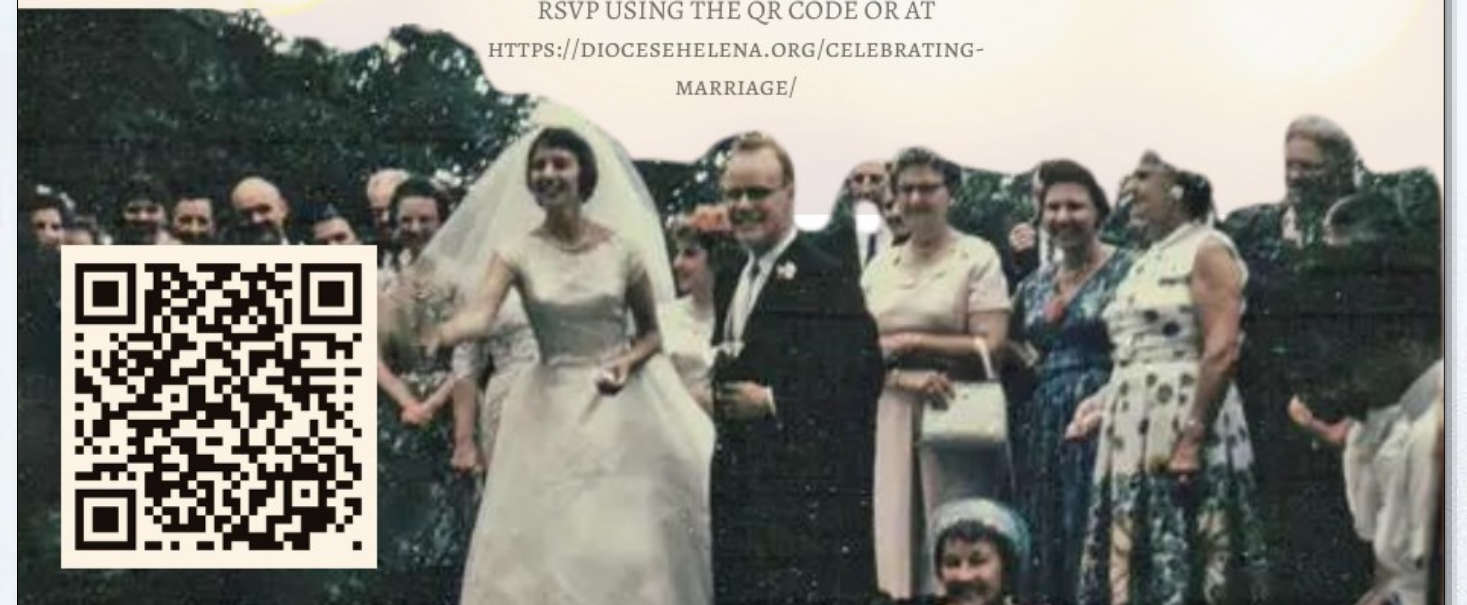
FEBRUARY 14TH // BEGINS WITH 6:00PM MASS // RECEPTION TO FOLLOW // HEAVY APPETIZERS AND DESSERT INCLUDED // SEMI FORMAL ATTIRE // \$25 PER COUPLE

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

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. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Fr. Cody.

February 23: Circle of Hope
 March 23: Circle of Love
 April 27: Parish Easter Party- No Potluck

The early registration deadline for the pilgrimage to the Marian shines in extended by a week to February 7th. If you are interested in going, please register by the end of February.

JOIN FR. CODY WILLIAMS AND HOLY CROSS PARISH ON A SPECIAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO
FATIMA, LOURDES & BARCELONA
 OCTOBER 6-17, 2025

4780 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100
 Northville, MI 48168
 866.468.1420 | info@ctscentral.net
 www.pilgrimagesbycts.com

Holy Cross Parish will be helping out at the Townsend Food Pantry on February 1, 14, 15 and 28. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you are interested in helping out at the Food Pantry. These are on Friday and Saturday mornings 9:30 am

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

The Funeral Mass for Bill Lane is on Wednesday, February 5th at 11 am. The viewing will start at 10 am.

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

Scripture Readings

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 02-09-2025

Reading 1: Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8
 Psalm: 138:1-2a,2b-3,4-5,7c-8
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or 15:3-8,11
 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

No Catholicism 201 on Monday February 24th and March 3rd

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

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

MASS	Schedule
Monday February 3	Mass 9a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 6:30p
Tuesday February 4	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday February 5	Funeral for Bill Lane 11a
Thursday February 6	
Friday February 7	
Saturday February 8	Chosen Movie 7p
Sunday February 9	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family Super Bowl Party after mass

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

Ministry Schedule

Sunday February 9, 2025 4:30pm

Greet:	Pat and Debbie Miller
Lector:	Julie Lethert
Gifts:	Eichinger Family
EM:	Tom and Julie Lethert
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.

Mark your calendars: The RE ski day is scheduled for Friday, March 14th. Please let us know if you would like to go by Tuesday, March 11th.

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

IN A JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

MARCH 21-23, 2025
CARROLL COLLEGE, HELENA

FEATURING

Charles Camosey | Hannah Hemphill | Jimmy Mitchell | Sr. Anne Catherine Burleigh, OP | Sr. Marianna Thayer, OP

AN ALL-AGES EVENT
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
CYC CONVENTION

REGISTER NOW:

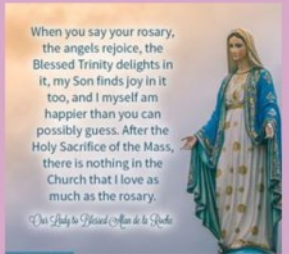
[DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/
EUCCHARISTICCONGRESS](http://DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/EUCCHARISTICCONGRESS)



LEARN MORE



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



SUNDAYS @ 4:00

FEB 2 GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

FEB 9- JOYFUL MYSTERIES

FEB 16 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

FEB 23 SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Change for Life
Options
clinic

As you leave today, please pick up a baby bottle. These bottles are a fundraiser for Options Clinic, our local pregnancy medical clinic offering life-affirming services to those facing an unintended pregnancy.

With the help of your generosity, we are offering...

- FREE clinical grade pregnancy tests
- FREE options education
- FREE early ultrasound
- Low-Cost STD testing & treatment
- FREE KidSmart parenting classes
- Free/Low-Cost well-woman care
- FREE supplies for new parents
- Free after-abortion recovery

Please return bottles to church in 3 weeks.

OR

Give Here



Together, we are Offering Hope & Building Families.

Options Clinic is a 501(C)3. For more information, visit OptionsHelena.org or call 406.422.1011. Thank you. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended January 26th

Total Weekly	\$2,150.83
Budget	\$2900.00
Variance	-\$749.17

Year to Date

Total	\$78,960.39
Budget	\$84,100.00
Variance	-\$5,139.61

THANK YOU FOR
your generosity

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

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"What wonderful majesty! What stupendous condescension! O sublime humility! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble Himself like this under the form of a little bread, for our salvation"

"...In this world I cannot see the Most High Son of God with my own eyes, except for His Most Holy Body and Blood."

- St. Francis of Assisi

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, Ellen Marie Osborne



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Super Bowl party February 9th after mass. All are welcome to join.



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

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