



Holy Cross Parish

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 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



Satisfaction

The last part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is satisfaction. By the very nature of this word I imagine that you are a little confused. Satisfaction has two parts to it. The part that the Church emphasizes is the penance given by the priest. The second part of satisfaction is the feeling of being freed from sin.

The penance: however much this word is used in a negative context in modern society, it is not meant to have negative connotations in the Church. A penance is an act of devotion given to God for the sake of healing or to subdue the passions so that we can more faithfully follow God's will. Often people think of penances like the actions seen in movies from the Middle Ages where a man whips himself bloody or they go for long periods of time fasting on bread and water. The Church teaches that all penances are meant to be done in moderation so that the person doesn't lose sight of the purpose of the penance which is to grow closer to God. The penance given during the Sacrament of Reconciliation is supposed to promote healing and a greater closeness to God. Basically, you do the action so that you are participating in the healing you want to receive from God resulting from the damage done by sin. These penances are supposed to be small and easily accomplished. If the penance is too long or harsh, then we think that we are saving ourselves. The penitent is required under pain of mortal sin to complete their penance as assigned by the priest.

A few notes on the penance given by the priest and its required completion by the penitent. The priest has limitations on the type of penance he can assign to a penitent. The priest cannot give a penance which requires the person to relay, convey, or relate any information from their confession. For instance if a person confessed that he murdered someone, I cannot give the penance for the person to turn himself in. The confession is sealed and by requiring the person to convey that information to the authorities, I would be breaking the Seal of the Confessional. The person, on their own accord, could choose to turn themselves in but I cannot force or require them to. Similarly, the penance needs to be something possible and helpful. If I required the person to give \$10,000 to the Church, this might leave the person destitute or in a dire financial situation. Therefore, the priest needs to be careful that the penance given helps the person grow closer to God, is completable and clear, as well as doesn't require the person to convey information that was part of their confession. On a final note, the priest is allowed to give no penance as the penance. Technically it's a loophole. The penance is no penance. The Church doesn't encourage it neither does she forbade it. Think about this type of penance. Too often we assume that we are the principal actors in our spiritual lives. I need to make time for God, I need to do these exercises and penances to grow in faith, my spiritual life depends on me. Receiving a "no penance" as a penance is a reminder of God's action in bringing us healing and forgiveness. This type of penance requires us to recognize God's mercy and be grateful for this free gift. In the event that the priest assigns a penance that would break the seal or cause undue harm to the person, the penitent is not required to complete the penance. More on this next time.

Fr. Cody

QUILTING LADIES
2ND ANNUAL

BABY BASKET DRIVE

COLLECTION
SUNDAYS
APRIL 6-27

The Quilting Ladies are creating Baby Gift Baskets for expecting mothers and new mothers in our community. The gift baskets will be filled with essential baby and mother needs as well as fun items for the babies. Please donate only the items listed below.

NEW ITEMS ONLY.

A collection box marked "Baby Basket Drive" is in the narthex during the month of April. Sunday April 28 is the last Sunday for collecting items for the baskets. We will present the Baby Baskets on Mother's Day.

ITEMS WE'RE COLLECTING ARE:
(New items only)

BABY BOTTLES	BABY SPOONS
SIPPY CUPS	BIBS
BABY WIPES	BABY HAND SANITIZER
PETROLEUM JELLY	NAIL CLIPPERS
BABY BOARD BOOKS	SAFETY OUTLET PLUGS
CHILDREN'S BOOK	BABY BODY WASH
BABY BATH TOYS	BABY SHAMPOO
RUBBER DUCK	BABY BATH TOWELS
PACIFIER	THERMOMETER
DIAPER RASH CREAM	TEETHING RINGS
INFANT SOCKS	ONESIES
BAB WASHCLOTHS	BURP CLOTHS
BABY DISH SET	HOODED TOWEL PONCHO
BABY LOTION	FOLDABLE BABY PLAY MAT
BABY BLANKET	NASAL ASPIRATOR
NIGHT LIGHT	SOUND MACHINE




So, how many of you actually read this bulletin? I am thinking of changing the format of bulletin distribution to an email sent through Flocknote. Let us know if you would like this option by sending an email to: bulletin@holycrossmt.org.

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

Bishop Vetter has promulgated the indulgences and Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year of Hope. You can go to the Diocesan website at <https://diocesehelena.org/jubilee2025/> or see the letter on the bulletin board.



UNITED IN GENEROSITY AS ONE GLOBAL FAMILY

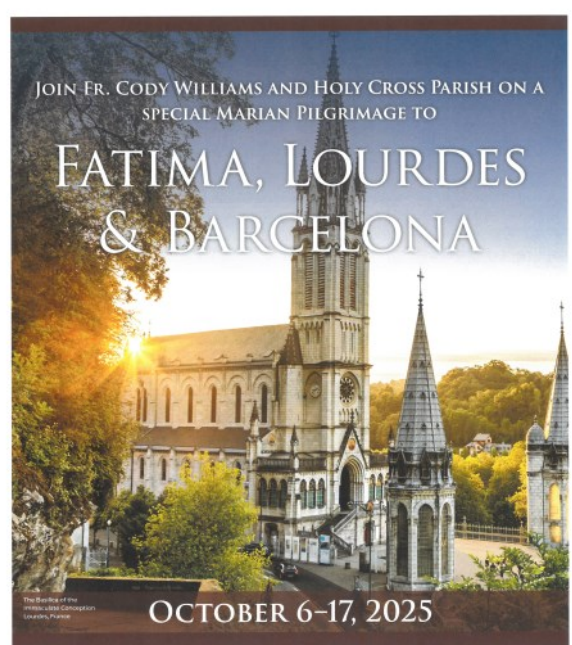
Amid the harsh conditions of the Sahel region's 1976 drought, millions faced hunger. That same year, Catholics worldwide gathered at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, focusing on "The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family."

As Lent draws to a close, let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting and almsgiving can help ensure no one goes hungry in the middle of today's global food crisis. Visit csrricebowl.org/week-5 to learn more.

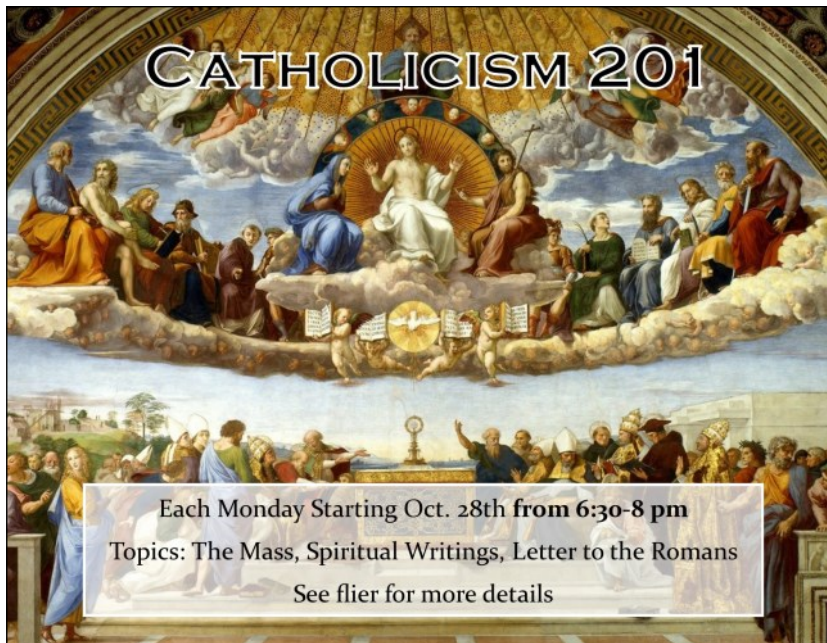
JOIN FR. CODY WILLIAMS AND HOLY CROSS PARISH ON A SPECIAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO

FATIMA, LOURDES & BARCELONA

OCTOBER 6-17, 2025



4770 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100
Northville, MI 48168
866.468.1420 | info@pilgrimagesbycts.com
www.pilgrimagesbycts.com



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.

April 27: No Potluck
 May 25: Memorial Day Weekend—No Potluck
 June 22: Compassion

Scripture Readings

Palm Sunday
 04-13-2025

Reading 1: Isaiah 50:4-7
 Psalm: 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
 Reading 2: Philippians 2:6-11
 Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56

MASS	Schedule
Monday April 7	Mass 9:00a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 6:30p
Tuesday April 8	Mass 9:00a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday April 9	Stations of the Cross 6:00p Soup Supper 6:30p
Thursday April 10	
Friday April 11	
Saturday April 12	Chosen Movie Night 7:00p
Sunday April 13	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p

YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

4/13/25 : Stations of the Cross for youth during RE class time

4/20/25: Easter Sunday – **NO RE**
 Easter Egg Hunt after mass on parish lawn

4/21/25: Day retreat for confirmation candidates
 9:00am - 3:00pm

4/27/25: Divine Mercy Sunday – **NO RE**

TRIDUUM

Mass of the Lords Supper: Thurs. 4/17 @ 6:30 pm
 Stations of the Cross: Fri. 4/18 @ 12:00 pm
 Liturgy of Lord's Passion: Fri. 4/18 @ 6:30 pm
 Easter Vigil: Sat. 4/19 @ 9:00 pm
 Easter Sunday: Sun. 4/20 @ 4:30 pm

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

Stations of the Cross
 Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm
 March 12th—April 9th
 Soup supper to follow!



Easter Party!!!

Monday, April 28th
 6-7:30 pm

Festive Food, Easter themed games, trivia...
 Fun for the whole family!
 Come celebrate Easter with us!

No Catholicism 201 on Monday, April 28th

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

Ministry Schedule

Sunday April 13, 2025 4:30pm

Greet:	[Redacted]
Lector:	Charles Ringenberg
Gifts:	[Redacted]
EM:	Tom and Julie Lethert
Money Counters:	Tacy Swanton and Bernadette Swenson



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off several months ago with our parish goal of \$21,900. So far we have raised \$10,650. Please consider donating to this important campaign raising money for the important functions of our Diocese.

Mass of Healing

for Survivors of Abuse and Trauma

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH, 5:30PM
CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA

This special Mass is an opportunity for prayer, healing, and hope for all who have experienced abuse or trauma in any form, as well as for their families and loved ones. It is open to the public, and the entire community is invited to intercede for those in need of healing and peace.

Together, we will pray for all survivors, for those who work to protect children and the vulnerable, and for the Holy Spirit to guide efforts toward justice. This Mass is also a meaningful opportunity to renew our shared commitment to safeguarding the most vulnerable and fostering a culture of care, accountability, and restoration.

Following the Mass, Bishop Vetter will be available for prayers and individual blessings of those who desire it.

WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS

PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday, April 23rd at 6:30pm

Meet downstairs in one of the classrooms
Coffee, tea & snacks will be offered.

WE'LL HAVE THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION:

- What are your expectations?
- What do you want from a prayer meeting?
- What are your favorite prayer devotions?
- Do you have any prayer requests?

An Evening FOR THE SEPARATED & DIVORCED

SUPPORT & HEALING

Are you or someone you know struggling with the pain of separation or divorce?

You are not alone. We invite you to *An Evening for the Separated & Divorced*, a free event offering hope, healing, and community for those facing separation or divorce.

Date: April 22 **Time:** 7 pm EDT **Location:** Virtual via Zoom

Presenters:
• Carolyn Klika, Catholic Divorce Healing Coach, Abounding Joy Ministry
• Bob Babecka, Witness to Marriage

Topics Include:
✓ Coping with anger, guilt, shame, loneliness, fear, identity & more
✓ Healing spiritually & emotionally

REGISTER TODAY
Sign up at: www.aboundingjoyministry.com/events
→ You will receive the Zoom link or access recording afterward

For questions, contact Carolyn@AboundingJoyMinistry.com
Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Witness to Marriage & Abounding Joy Ministry



Spring BAZAAR

Please considering volunteering to help with this fundraiser for our parish. There are sign ups in the Narthex for all the ways you can help.

Thank you!

Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended March 30th

Total Weekly	\$1,321.31
Budget	\$2,900.00
Variance	1,578.69

Year to Date

Total	\$44,956.88
Budget	\$107,300.00
Variance	\$12,343.12

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

"It is there in His Eucharist that He says to me: "I thirst, thirst for your love, your sacrifices, your sufferings. I thirst for your happiness, for it was to save you that I came into the world, that I suffered and died on the Cross, and in order to console and strengthen you I left you the Eucharist. So you have there all My life, all My tenderness."

- Mother Mary of Jesus, foundress of the Sisters of Marie Reparatrice

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

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, Judy Butler, Brian Roher and family, Isaac Hyde, Bob Masolo, Marj Kohn, Kris Sullivan, Kammy Law

Spring BAZAAR

Saturday, April 26 4-7 PM

Ham dinner with scalloped potatoes and green beans, relish tray and dessert!

Cost: \$30.00 for immediate family

\$15.00 for single adult

\$10.00 for students

Under 4 Free

Raffle Tickets \$5 Each or 5 for \$20:

Raffle Prizes: 26" Heyride E-Bike, Airhead Airhead Towable Wake Shocker, Blast Towable Tube, Fiji Float Non-Towable,



River Otter River Tube

Silent Auction,

Gift Certificate Table,

Activity area for children



KEEP CALM
PRAY
FAST
GIVE ALMS

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