

# Stewardship

12/17-18/2022

Holy Cross

## Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$2,445.00
Loose	\$87.25
Christmas	\$720.00
Reimbursement	\$1,394.36
Other	\$10,040.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,686.61</b>

## Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-November

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$134.97
MT Energy Alliance	\$1,586.55
Broadwater County Treasurers Office	\$1,766.16
NorthWestern Energy	\$ 699.88
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$5,885.69

## Cemetery

### Cemetery Weekly Income

### Cemetery Expenses-November

NorthWestern Energy	\$ 6.55
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Short Term

Long Term

Grave Sites

Total

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, Marie Hoeffner, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Jackie Kynett, Shanna Montonario, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Mary Pat Sullivan, Gene Determan, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Connie Rezendes, William Hart, Marj Kohn, Kim Schaubert, Paul Friend, Amy Ghorsen, Frank and Sally Majszak, John Clark, Margaret's prayer request, Don Larsen, Joann Shindoll, Carl Lorentzen, Laura Obert, CoraLee Horne, Dan and Marie Stover, Roy, Mary McWhorter, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, John Woodring, Julie Whitman, Nancy Martin, Nicki Ito, Chris Wright, Karen Susag, Kadence Saxton

### Did You Know ?

The Song the "12 Days of Christmas" was originally written during the English persecution of the Catholics to teach their children the tenants of the faith. The "12 days" are the days between Christmas and Epiphany (traditionally celebrated on January 8<sup>th</sup>). Each of the 12 days represents a tenant of the faith: 1 God, 2 Testaments, 3 Theological Virtues, 4 Gospels, 5 Book of Old Testament Law (first five books of the Bible), 6 days of Creation, 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit, 8 Beatitudes, 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit, 10 Commandments, 11 faithful Apostles, 12 points of the Apostles Creed.

**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.**



The Nativity of the Lord

# Holy Cross Parish

December 25, 2022

### 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

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



## Christmas Reflection

We often don't think of God as humble. More often we would describe God as powerful, almighty, all-knowing, or greater than everything. But one of the greatest attributes of God is His humility. The events of Jesus' birth express the humility of God in ways that should cause us to pause and wonder at the mystery of God with us.

Remember: God created the world; the world is His. He has every right to be in the world and control the world at His leisure. Did He? No. He prepared a way for him to enter the world through Mary. Although God set Mary aside to receive a special honor of giving birth to His Son, he waited for her response. God, who is all-powerful, chose to be invited into the world He created. Mary's "yes" response to God's invitation allowed God to enter the world. He would not have wanted to enter a world that didn't want him as John's Gospel proclaims so boldly (See John 1:10.)

After awaiting Mary's "yes" to God's invitation, he didn't come into the world riding the clouds with lightening and fire in his wake. Instead He was born in a small, insignificant country in a stable in the middle of a field. Those who were at His birth included His parents and an assortment of animals. God was humble enough to allow His entry into our world to be marked by simplicity and insignificance.

Following His birth, God allowed human parents to take care of Him and attend to His every need. God's own created creatures had to feed, clothe, and clean Him. Then he had to learn how to be human and to integrate into society. Although God created everything including human society, He wanted to be like us in all things but sin.

God teaches us the value of humility and the depth of His love for us. He was willing to debase Himself and enter our world in simplicity just so that we would not be scared to approach Him. Let this Christmas season be one of simplicity and humility so that we may encounter the God who came to be with us.

Fr. Cody



## Scripture Readings



Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God  
1-1-2023

Reading 1: Numbers 6:22-27  
Psalm: 67:2-3,5,6 and 8  
Reading 2: Galatians 4:4-7  
Gospel: Luke 2:16-21



MASS	Schedule
Monday December 26	No Mass
Tuesday December 27	No Mass
Wednesday December 28	No Mass No Adoration <b>NO RE</b>
Thursday December 29	No Mass Youth
Friday December 30	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday December 31	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday January 1	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family

### Ministry Schedule

Saturday December 31, 2022 5:00pm  
Greet: Monte and Cathy Armstrong  
Lector: Gay Ann Masolo  
Gifts: Fisetbe Family  
EM: Karen Simonich and Marilyn Vandersloot

### Ministry Schedule

Sunday January 1, 2023 8:00am  
Greet: Bleile Family  
Lector: Claudette Hohn  
Gifts: Larry and Buffy Woodring  
EM: Tom and Julie Lethert  
Money Counters: Bernadette Swenson and Sara Holmes

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

# Ministry Highlights

## Holy Hour Ministry:

Introducing the Holy Hour Ministry. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, we are going to offer extended times of Eucharistic Adoration for 12-4 pm. Anyone can sign-up to come and pray for an hour or you can come and spend as much time as you wish before our Eucharistic Lord. This opportunity is open to everyone and prayer book and extra materials will be available if you wish to use them. This new event will begin on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

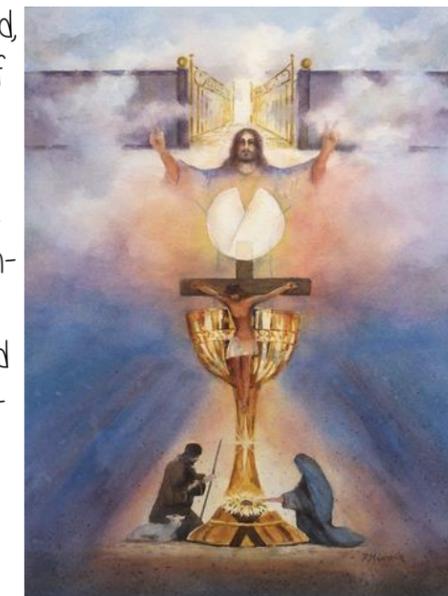
## Choir and Music Ministries:

As an introduction to this ministry, I want to thank all those who help provide music for our Masses, in a special way our pianists and singers. The service provided adds an incredible amount of beauty and life to our celebrations. Music Ministry reminds of the value of the song. We hear music almost everywhere we go as a way to bring out our emotions and help us reflect on life. The use of music in the Mass helps us to sing praise to God and reflect on what God has done. If you are interested in joining the choir for a season, to help out at Mass, or would like to learn more, contact Fr. Cody.



# Announcements

Bishop Vetter has allowed us to distribute the Blood of Christ during Mass for the faithful to consume starting the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. In preparation for reinstating Communion under the Precious Blood, I want to draw your attention to this part of our Mass. Consuming both the Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord better expresses his command to us to "take and eat" and "take and drink." The fullness of Jesus Body and Blood, however, are present in the Consecrated Host and Consecrated Wine. Each of them of their own contains the fullness of Jesus' Body and Blood. The faithful are not required to consume both the Precious Body and the Precious Blood. Even with the restriction rescinded, you still have the option to only receive the Consecrated Host and fully receive Communion. As this part of the Mass is reinstated, I encourage you to reflect on the great gift that Jesus has given us of his Body and Blood, signs of his love for us, his Body which enters our Body and brings transformation into himself. Jesus Body and Blood in form of the Consecrated Host and Consecrated Wine is the most precious gift the Church has and the greatest sign of God's ever presence with us.



## 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 \$25,000. 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.



## Upcoming Mass Changes

No Mass or Adoration December 28th and 29th

No Mass or Adoration January 11th and 12th



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off. The Diocesan goal is \$2 million. Our parish goal is \$20,700. Every little bit counts. We have currently raised \$19,715.00



## All Parish Christmas Party!!!

Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Come one, come all to celebrate Jesus' birth as a parish. Games, food, trivia and more!

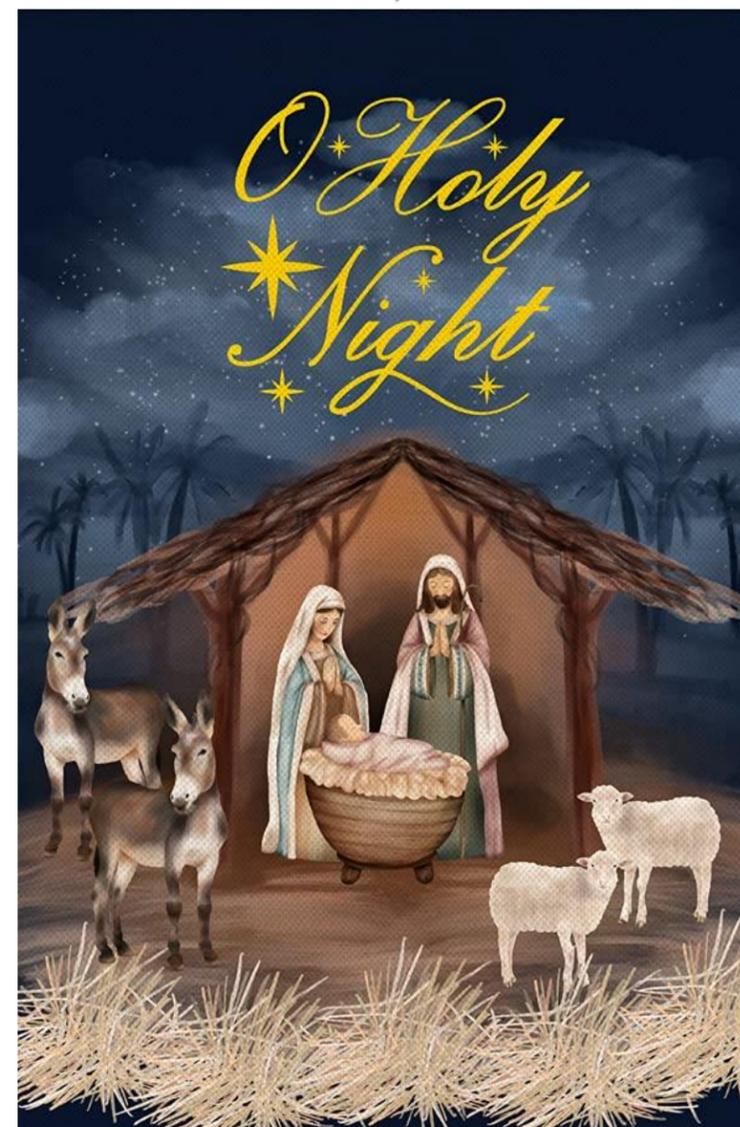


Please join us to listen to guest speaker Mayra Rodriguez, Planned Parenthood whistleblower turned Hispanic pro-life leader who comes to us to detail clinic corruption, patient endangerment, planted drugs, and going from Planned Parenthood Employee of the year to being **FIRE**d within a year. She took on Planned Parenthood and **WON!**

Also we have Guest Speaker & Montana girl, Sarah Hosa to speak out about the value of life, gratitude to her birth mother for choosing adoption, and the hardships she has faced with premarital and high risk pregnancies, and the pressure by doctors to abort her baby. She chose **LIFE!**

Last, but not least, Montana Attorney General, Austin Knudsen, joins us to give his perspective on what is happening here in Montana.

**Montana State March For Life**  
Friday, January 13, 2023  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
Montana State Capitol Rotunda (Indoors)  
**#WHYWEMARCH**



What are YOU looking for? Join us for a Catholic Journey Spiritual Weekend All are Invited. All are welcome!

Looking for a weekend to deepen your spirituality? Give yourself a 3-day Christmas gift! No cooking or cleaning, all that is done for you. All you do is enjoy your connections with other faith filled women and the Lord.

The new Catholic Journey is for Catholics who are seeking a deeper understanding and commitment to their role as laity in the church. We also invite non-practicing Catholics, non-Catholics of other Christian denominations, and even those of non-Christian faith or no faith to attend. It is an opportunity to experience a weekend of Catholic spirituality as lived in a group of Catholic laity, who share with them the Catholic Community, reflections on the Catholic faith, and Catholic prayer and spirituality.

Weekends will be held at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, East Helena, MT

\*Women's weekend - January 12-15, 2023 (Contact Mary Munger at (406) 949-1870)

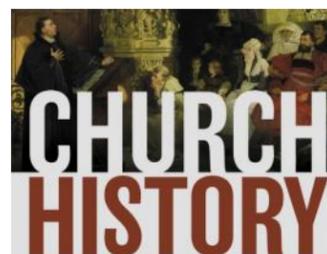
\*Men's weekend - February 16-19, 2023 (Contact Darwin Eckert at (406) 594-6055)

Weekends begin at 7:00 PM Thursday evenings and end about 4:30 PM on Sunday afternoons.

# ALL ARE WELCOME



The last 1000 years of Church history will continue starting on January 26<sup>th</sup> and concluding on March 28<sup>th</sup>. See the info table for more information.



## Attention all Liturgical Ministers

The process of scheduling liturgical ministers is immensely complicated given all the variety of schedules of all the ministers. As a way to help ensure that you are able to minister and the schedule works with your schedule, I am asking all liturgical ministers, lectors, eucharistic ministers, money counters, greeters and gift bearers to schedule themselves. On the info table at the front of the church will be the schedule for the upcoming months. Please indicate the times you would like to serve. If you choose not to sign up on the sheet on the info table, then we will schedule you regardless of your schedule unless you tell us otherwise. After the schedule is posted, all ministers will be required to find their own replacements in the case they cannot serve on a scheduled day. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Cody.