



# Holy Cross Parish

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 10, 2024

**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](mailto:frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org)

Office: 406-266-4811

Email: [office@holycrossmt.org](mailto:office@holycrossmt.org)

Shawna: [RE@holycrossmt.org](mailto:RE@holycrossmt.org)

Website: [holycrossmt.org](http://holycrossmt.org)

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

Townsend, Montana 59644

# Ordinary Time



Answering the challenges to Pro-life stances part 2

Abortion and Adoption




The most common solution given to those who are claiming that we have another solution besides abortion will give adoption as an answer. Adoption is a decent answer. It favors the life of the child over its death, provides a sense of hope that the child could have a good upbringing, and values the dignity of life. However much we want to use this argument to support our pro-life claims, I want to shed some light on the reality of adoption.

Some adoption agencies work to provide good, loving homes to these children. They screen prospective parents, provide programs to assist the adoption process, and work for the well-being of the child. These agencies also strive to provide excellent care to the children in their care while these children await adoption. Other agencies showcase the horrors we can inflict on children. Some agencies realize that they can make money running an adoption agency. Each child provides them with money so they reduce the care for the children to a minimum, discourage adoption, and strive to make as much money as possible. If you think these agencies don't exist in our state, think again. I know of a few. These agencies harm our claim that adoption is a better option. Their disregard for the well-being of the children under their care supports the abortion activists claims that death is better than these children's quality of life.

Adoption is more than a care-facility where children are housed until adopted. How many people have adopted children? How many pro-life activists are willing to tell a mom to put her child up for adoption but unwilling to adopt a child? Let me be frank. Adoption is incredibly challenging. Any parent who is willing to adopt a child must go through an intensive screening process following by lots of paperwork and legal challenges. Once they have overcome these hurdles, adopted children tend to have higher levels of mental, emotional, and spiritual needs compared to other children. Most foster parents do not have the skills nor provided with ways to gain these skills to work with these challenges. Although adoption can be a beautiful and life-giving experience for a child, it can also be an incredible challenge. We need to be real about this process and its challenges.

I write this column to challenge you. If we are going to stand on the pro-life claim that adoption is better than abortion, which it is, we also need to support adoption clinics, encourage adoption, and support parents who are willing to adopt children. Similarly, we cannot stand on the conclusion that adoption is better than abortion and then wash our hands of the issue. If we are going to make this claim, then we also need to support the claim through our actions. I challenge you to revisit our pro-life claims and find a way that you can further support human life in all its aspects. We are not political activists seeking a moral change. We are people of faith who strive to live the example of the beauty and dignity of all human life.

Fr. Cody



Diocese of Helena

MONTANA CATHOLIC  
CONFERENCE

Diocese of Great Falls-Billings

11/06/2024

Montana's Catholic Bishops on the Passage of Constitutional Initiative 128

Dear People of God,  
Today marks a significant and tragic setback for babies, women, and parents in Montana. We grieve the passage of Constitutional Initiative 128 (CI-128), which negates existing safeguards for minors and limitations on late-term abortion in our state. We believe many voters approved this measure without fully understanding the heightened risks it brings to minors, parental rights, and babies that are viable outside the womb. However, we remain hopeful. By continuing to share the truth about each person's intrinsic dignity, we envision a future where measures like CI-128 are no longer misrepresented as women's healthcare, and where abortion itself is not misleadingly regarded as a fundamental right.

As Catholics, we hold that every person is created in the image of God and possesses an inherent dignity that is neither self-derived nor replaceable. Each one of us is a unique masterpiece of God's creation. We recognize that the right to life is foundational, the fundamental right upon which all other rights rely. Life deserves the utmost respect from conception to natural death. In honoring the dignity of each person, we strive to build a just society that cares for the most vulnerable, including women who need our support and unborn children who cannot speak for themselves.

Catholics throughout Montana remain committed to assisting and advocating for women in need. Regardless of background, beliefs, or life circumstances, women will find compassion, guidance, and pathways to a hopeful future through any Catholic church in our state.

As we work toward a more just society and embody compassion and charity for others, Catholics are encouraged to support the growing programs and ministries of Catholic Social Services of Montana. Through volunteer service or financial support, you can help CSSM provide adoption services, resources for mothers and young families, and counseling services. Together, we will continue working toward a future in which every life is valued, and every woman is supported. Learn more at <http://www.cssmt.org>.

May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn, pray for us.  
In Christ,

+ Austin A. Vetter  
Most Rev. Austin A. Vetter  
Bishop of Helena

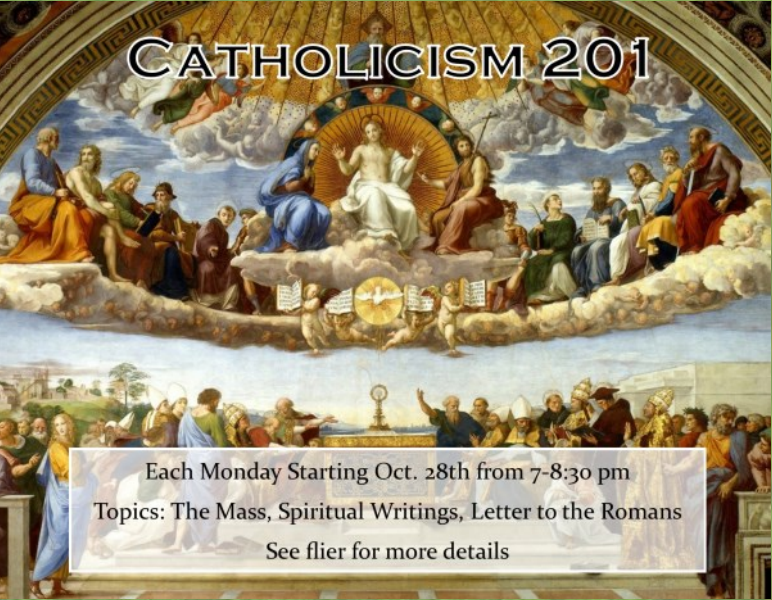
+ Jeffrey M. Fleming  
Most Rev. Jeffrey M. Fleming  
Bishop of Great Falls-Billings

Michael W. Warfel  
Most Rev. Michael W. Warfel  
Bishop Emeritus of Great Falls-Billings

P.O. Box 1708 • Helena, MT • 59624  
630 N Last Chance Gulch • Suite 2200 • Helena, MT • 59601  
(406) 442-5761 • [director@montanacc.org](mailto:director@montanacc.org) • [www.montanacc.org](http://www.montanacc.org)



# CATHOLICISM 201



Each Monday Starting Oct. 28th from 7-8:30 pm  
Topics: The Mass, Spiritual Writings, Letter to the Romans  
See flier for more details

Catholicism 201 has begun! The sessions are on Mondays from 7-8:30 pm. You can also join a livestream version on Thursdays from 6-7:30. If you would like to join, send an email to Fr. Cody.

As a reminder: now that election season is over, we will no longer pray the three prayers after Mass for the defeat of CI-128 and you do not have to fast from meat on Wednesdays.


## Special Intention Masses

**Mass of Remembrance and Healing** for those who have suffered a miscarriage, the loss of a child, or infertility  
Thursday, October 10th at 5:30 PM

**Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Adoption**  
Thursday, November 21st at 5:30 PM

**Mass of Remembrance** for those who have lost a spouse, followed by a luncheon in the Brondel Center  
Tuesday, November 26th at Noon

All Masses will be held at the Cathedral of St. Helena





### CSSM

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES  
of Montana

#### Mental Health Services

#### 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](http://www.cssmt.org).**



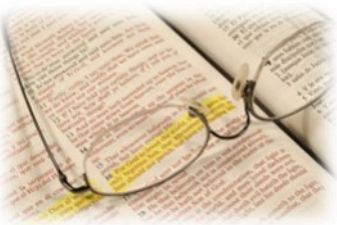
## The CHOSEN Movie Night

**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**

## Scripture Readings



### Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

11-17-2024

Reading 1: Daniel 12:1-3  
Psalm: 16:5 and 8,9-10,11  
Reading 2: Hebrews 10:11-14,18  
Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

Mass	Schedule
Monday November 11	Mass 9a Jay + Colleen Meyer family RB Masolo family Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 7p
Tuesday November 12	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday November 13	
Thursday November 14	
Friday November 15	
Saturday November 16	
Sunday November 17	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](mailto:bulletin@holycrossmt.org)

All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to [bulletin@holycrossmt.org](mailto: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 November 17, 2024 4:30pm

Greet: Larry and Buffy Woodring  
Lector: Karen Simonich  
Gifts: Wickens Family  
EM: Shawna Wickens and [Redacted]  
Money Counters: Bernadette Swenson and Sara Holmes





The Annual Catholic Appeal has kicked off to raise money for the yearly expenses of the Diocese. Our parish goal for this year is \$21,900. Donation envelopes are available on the information table at the front of the church or you can donate online by going to [diocesehelena.org](http://diocesehelena.org).

**Faith Night**  
Sponsored by Holy Cross

Monday, November 18, 2024  
6:00-7:30pm  
101 S. Walnut St.

# Exploring Culture

FREE EVENT  
DINNER PROVIDED

How do different culture see the world?  
What can the cultures teach us?  
  
Presentation by Judiann McNulty followed by open discussion.

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.



Donation Price Match

September 1st through November 30th, Town Pump will match any donations to our Broadwater Food Pantry dollar for dollar!

How Can You Donate?

- Drop off at the Food Pantry on Broadway first or third Fridays 9:30-11a or Saturday 9-10:45a.
- Donation boxes at Bob’s Supermarket
- Mail in to PO Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644
- Come to our booth at Fall Fest, October 4th-6th

The Food Pantry is in need of grocery bags

People can drop off meat at Tizer Meats and the food pantry pays for the processing

We are going to print new parish directories soon. If you have a new phone number or address, please contact the parish office so that we can have correct information.

**Help needed:**

The following tasks are some areas around the church that need attention. If you are willing to work on or complete these tasks, please contact Fr. Cody.

**Repainting the parking stripes and stop bars**

**Trimming the hedge**

## Holy Cross Parish

### Finances

Week ended November 3rd	
Total Weekly	\$4,100.82
Budget	\$2902.00
Variance	\$1,198.82
Year to Date	
Total	\$46,123.55
Budget	\$52,200.00
Variance	-\$6,076.45

## Thank you for your generosity

As the prices for everything continue to rise, so do the expenses of the Church. I strongly encourage everyone to consider the ways they can continue to support our church. One great way to support the parish is through increasing your offering, Every little bit counts. The second way is by providing support through time and talent. We have many projects that need to be completed and we either have to hire someone to do it or find someone with the expertise. Regardless, our goal is to at least break even with our expenses by the end of the fiscal year.

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

THANK YOU!

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

"O Lord, we cannot go to the pool of Siloe to which you sent the blind man. But we have the chalice of Your Precious Blood, filled with life and light. The purer we are, the more we receive."

- St. Ephraem

### 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

**Did you know?**

Cologne Cathedral in Cologne Germany is managed by 12 canon priests, priests who live in community and take care of the church. Since the 8<sup>th</sup> century, these canon priests are allowed to select their own bishop. The pope sends them three candidates of his approval and then they select on of those candidates as the next bishop. This is one of the few places in the world where the authority to select a bishop is outside the Vatican. This authority was given during the time of the Holy Roman Emperor who was crowned in Cologne and the city was given special prestige due to this status.

**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