



Holy Cross Parish

All Souls Day

November 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

ALL SOULS DAY

*“May the souls
of the faithful
departed, through
the mercy of God,
rest in peace,
Amen.”*

The value of the Sacrament of Holy Orders

The Sacraments

I find it odd today that we need to justify part of the Church as though we seem to know better than times past. One of the most widely used arguments for the necessity of the priesthood is the Sacraments. This argument has a few challenges, which is why I began with the statement that we need to justify our faith. What is the value of the Sacraments? Many people today are moving further away from the experience of the Sacraments, and especially our youth. These rites and rituals that dominated the experience of the Christian faith are losing their value on people today. As their perceived value wanes, so does the role of the priest in the lives of the faithful. Now the priest is a figure head, a leader, a teacher, a coach, or a guide. Why such a movement away from the Sacraments? This answer should not shock anyone: we are moving away from God and a desire for graces from God. Today we believe more in our power and our ability to overcome challenges and less in the power of God. Why would we want expressions of God if we don't really need him in our lives?

God established his Church with priests so that we would be constantly reminded of our need for him. We need to pray for priest since they are called not hired. The priesthood is necessary if we want the graces that come through the Sacraments. The priesthood is necessary if we want physical and spiritual signs of God's presence in our world. Without priests, there are no Sacraments.

You may then ask, why did Jesus require priests for the celebration of the Sacraments? Priests stand in a special place in the celebration of the Sacraments. They are not just ministers of the Sacraments or a person through whom they are done. The priest is the person of Jesus during the celebration of the Sacraments. He is a constant reminder that the works being done are not of human origin but of spiritual origins; we didn't create these events, we mediate them. The role of the priest is two-fold in the Sacraments. 1. He stands in for Jesus so that we know that Jesus is the one performing the action. 2. He assures us that this Sacrament is the will of God and that God will give us the graces we seek.

We should not be surprised that our Protestant brethren no longer have both priests and Sacraments. The only Sacraments they maintained are baptism and sometimes a form of Eucharist. No priests, no Sacraments. They understand this truth even if we don't realize the profoundness of this truth.

God wants his graces to flow into our lives and he chose to create a group of the faithful, priests, who would mediate these graces. He wants us to have assurance in his graces being poured into our lives by giving us physical expressions of his will and rites to guide us. God knows that the priesthood is more than a functional role, it is largely a spiritual role for the sake of the faithful.

Fr. Cody

HABEMUS PAPAM



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicks off this weekend. Our goal is to raise \$21,300. Many people are unsure of the value and importance of the Annual Catholic Appeal. Let me guide you to understand the importance of this appeal using the new image on the poster. To maintain the function of the church, we have three parts that need support. The parishes are an essential part of the church. Through the parishes, the people come to know God, desire to follow him, receive the Sacraments, and have a place to live their lives of faith. Yet, parishes cannot sustain themselves. They need support from the Diocese for administrative needs, clergy, and to connect them to the larger church as a reminder that we are part of Jesus' Church not our own. The Annual Catholic Appeal supports the education of priests, the ministries of the Diocese, administrative help to the parishes, and maintains our Catholic identity. Another aspect of the Church is the global aspect. We are not just a group of churches in Montana but part of the global Catholic Church. Recognizing our identity through these three aspects is necessary for understanding who we are. When all three of these aspects of the Church are understood, supported, and lived out, then we can understand who we are and our role in the Church of Jesus.



CATHOLIC JOURNEY EXPERIENCE: ALL ARE INVITED!

This is your opportunity to attend a 3-day weekend retreat seeking guidance by the Holy Spirit into a deeper experience of Christian community, prayer, discussion, reflection and enlightenment!

**Women's Weekend held at St Cyril and Methodius, East Helena
January 15-18th, 2026**

Contact: helenacatholicjourney.women@gmail.com 406-431-7577

**Men's Weekend held at St Cyril and Methodius, East Helena
February 12-15th 2026**

Contact: Helenacursillorector@gmail.com 406-431-7544



Blessing bags are available in the Narthex. Please take and share them with someone in need.



Helena Catholic
Women's Conference

Save the date for the next
Helena Catholic Women's Conference

April 10-11, 2026
Helena Civic Center

Theme: "There Is No Place Like Home"
Visit helenacwc.org for more information

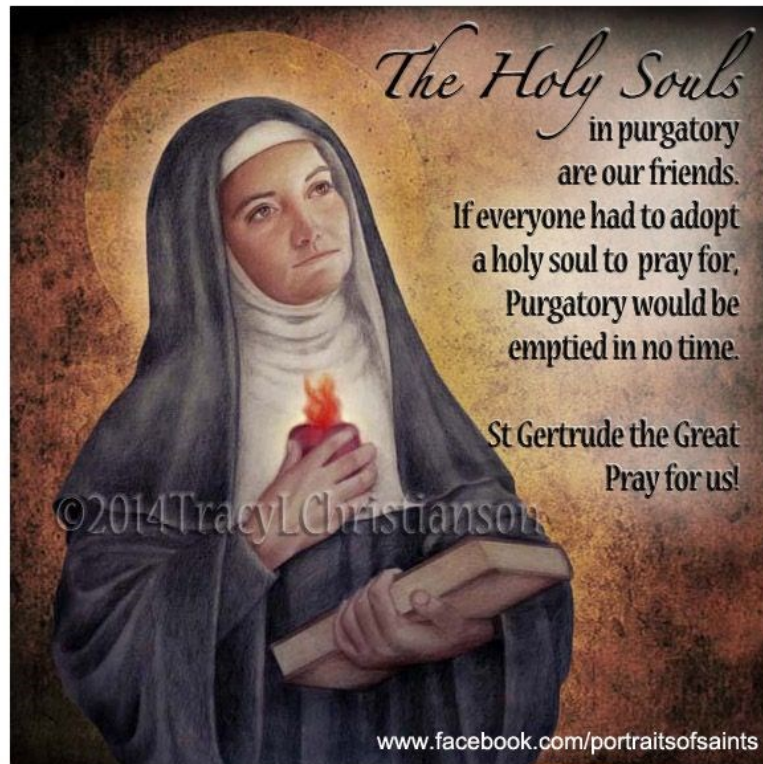
Parish potlucks

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.

November 23: Hope

December 28: Love

January 25: Peace



Thank you to all the parishioners who volunteered at the Broadwater Food Pantry in September. Your kindness to our community is such a blessing!

Town Pump is matching monetary donations given to the food pantry from September thru November.

Please mail monetary donations directly to the Food Pantry. The address is:

Broadwater Food Pantry

PO Box 1164

Townsend, MT 59644



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

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending October 26th

Envelopes	\$2,768.00
Loose	\$555.00
Online	\$687.44
Total Weekly Contribution	\$4,010.44
Total Weekly Goal	\$2,629.31
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	\$1,927.22
Week 2	\$1,623.38
Week 3	\$2,378.89
Week 4	\$4,010.44
Total Monthly Contribution	\$9,940.93
Total Year to Date	\$59,288.04
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

MASS	Schedule
Monday November 3	Mass 9:00a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a
Tuesday November 4	Mass 9:00a Homebound
Wednesday November 5	
Thursday November 6	
Friday November 7	
Saturday November 8	
Sunday November 9	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p - 7:30p

ANNUAL FAITH & REASON LECTURE

HOW IS THE BIBLE TRUE?

Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson

Professor Emeritus, Emory University

Join us for the annual Carroll College Faith & Reason Lecture on Wednesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Campus Center. Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson will present *How Is the Bible True?*

Lower Campus Center

NOVEMBER 5TH

7:00 P.M.



All bulletin information requests need to be submitted by email to

bulletin@holycrossmt.org

Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed

Bulletin deadline is Monday at 10a

Scripture Readings



Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

11-09-2025

Reading 1:	Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
Psalms:	46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17
Gospel:	John 2:13-22



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.

Deacon Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Jamie Severson, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, Jake Smith, Liam Aippersback, Ryan Frampton, and Mason Yochum

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, Kammy Law, Don and Jenny Schaubert, Judy & Franklin Slifka, Mike McGonigal, Bob Moodry

Ministry Schedule

Sunday November 9, 2026

4:30pm

Greet:

Tacy Swanton

Lector:

Julie Lethert

Gifts:

Mike Gagen and John Bleile

EM:

Megan Bleile and Emmalin Fischer

Money Counters:

Tacy Swanton and Bernadette Swenson

Faith Formation

A Year with the Church Fathers

Mondays from 6:30-8 pm
 Starting Monday, Oct. 27th
 Explore the lives of the fathers.
 Read their theology and writing.
 Come to understand their value in the Church.
 See flyer for more information.



LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

SUNDAYS @ 4:00

- NOV. 2 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES
- NOV. 9 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES
- NOV. 16 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES
- NOV. 23 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES
- NOV. 30 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES



**"The Rosary is a weapon for these times."
 - Saint Padre Pio**

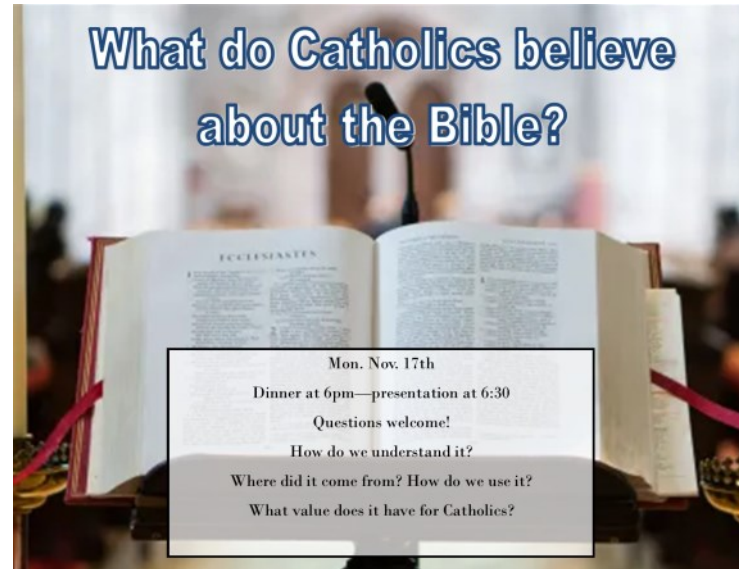
Youth Schedule

- 11/2/25: RE Class (Rite of visiting a cemetery on All Souls day)
- 11/9/25: RE Class (Praying with the Liturgy)
- 11/16/25: RE Class (Ritual as part of life)
- 11/23/25: Pilgrimage presentation & RE youth Virtus lesson

Attention Adults

Join us for an adult group that will meet after mass on Sundays during RE class times. The adult group will discuss and explore the same topics as the youth. This year's focus is on Sacraments, the Mass, and prayer. Parents that join can continue the discussion and learning at home with their children.

What do Catholics believe about the Bible?



Mon. Nov. 17th
 Dinner at 6pm—presentation at 6:30
 Questions welcome!
 How do we understand it?
 Where did it come from? How do we use it?
 What value does it have for Catholics?

Upcoming Community Events

- 12/5/25 - "Rest in the Busyness"
- 2/6/25 - "The Struggle is Real"

Join us for an evening of food, real life stories and a discussion on finding God amidst the struggles and the busyness of life.

6:00 – 8:00pm
 The Lodge
 131 S. Spruce,
 Townsend

Free Event
 Dinner Provided
 Childcare Available



Sponsored by Holy Cross

WHAT IS ALL SAINTS' DAY?

All Saints' Day is a day where we honor all of the saints who have died and gone to heaven. We celebrate All Saints' Day by going to mass and praying.

WHAT IS ALL SOULS' DAY?

All Souls' Day is a day we honor those who have died, but have not yet reached heaven. We can say prayers for all of the souls in purgatory to reach heaven.



2026 Summer Camp Season

CAMPS SCHEDULE

- June 14-19 Junior High #1
- June 21-26 High School #1
- July 5-10 5/6th Grade Boys
- July 12-17 High School #2
- July 19-24 Junior High #2
- July 26-31 5/6th Grade Girls

Registration for **families who live within the Diocese of Helena** opens **Jan 5th**. Opens for all other registrants Jan 9th.



Join us for Family Camp!

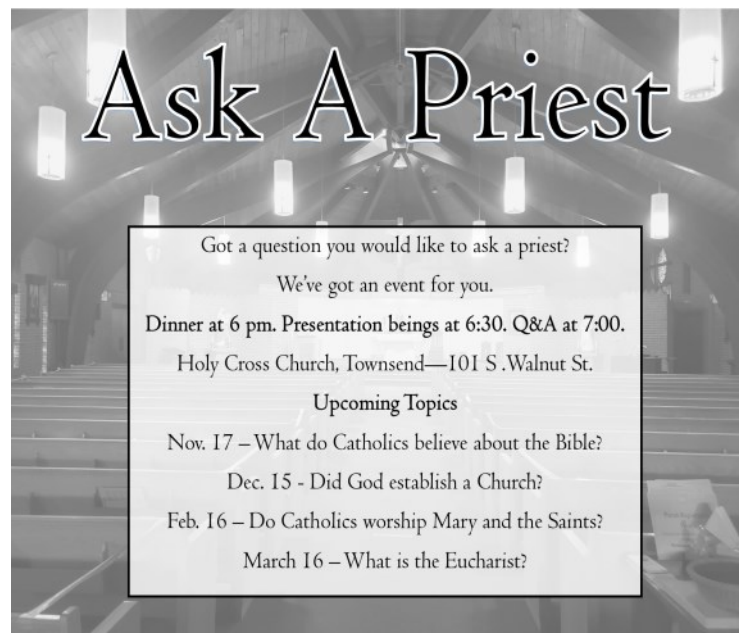
June 28-30

Registrations open March 2nd, 2026

Camp Rates

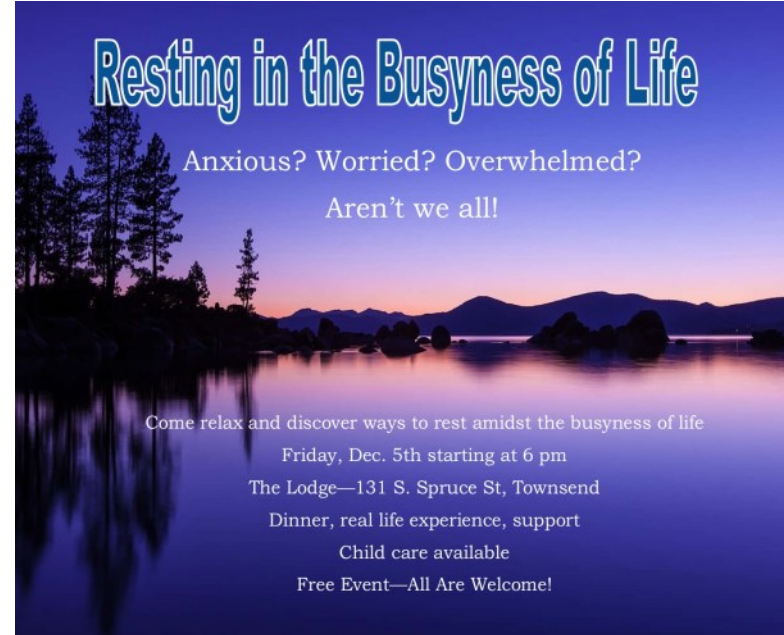
Early Bird
 (Register before Jan 25th)
\$425
 Standard Rate:
\$450

Ask A Priest



Got a question you would like to ask a priest?
 We've got an event for you.
 Dinner at 6 pm. Presentation beings at 6:30. Q&A at 7:00.
 Holy Cross Church, Townsend—101 S. Walnut St.
 Upcoming Topics
 Nov. 17 – What do Catholics believe about the Bible?
 Dec. 15 - Did God establish a Church?
 Feb. 16 – Do Catholics worship Mary and the Saints?
 March 16 – What is the Eucharist?

Resting in the Busyness of Life



Anxious? Worried? Overwhelmed?
 Aren't we all!

Come relax and discover ways to rest amidst the busyness of life
 Friday, Dec. 5th starting at 6 pm
 The Lodge—131 S. Spruce St, Townsend
 Dinner, real life experience, support
 Child care available
 Free Event—All Are Welcome!

We are looking for volunteers to provide dinner after mass on some Sundays prior to RE. If you are interested in helping please contact Shawna Wickens or scan the sign up genius QR code. Thank you for supporting our parish youth!

