



# Holy Cross Parish

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18 2026

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

Townsend, Montana 59644



### Marriage

Before we venture into the degradation of marriage caused by the fall, we need to examine God's specific words about the true nature of marriage found within our first parents. God created Eve to be a special partner for Adam, different from all the other creatures. How? By taking part of Adam to make Eve, God established a bond which is "bone from my bone and flesh from my flesh." Adam's exclamation proclaims Eve's incredible value to Adam and the uniqueness of their relationship. Eve is the same substance as Adam, they share the same body, they are wed and one. This oneness gives a new dimension to their relationship. Their relationship is unlike any other creation and unlike any other relationship they can have with any creature. Now, their mission. We cannot ignore the detail that God took Adam's rib. He could have taken an arm, leg, piece of skin, hair, anything else. Some would have been inconsequential. God didn't; he took a rib. A bone that encases and protects the heart. Adam's job was to protect Eve's heart and keep her safe in the Garden. From what? From all temptations and challenges. Eve was given the task to be Adam's helper. The only other time the word "helper" is used is in relation to God to humanity. Note this incredible detail: Eve took the place of God to Adam in this relationship. Adam and Eve were now tasked with caring for the Garden and each other.

We know what happened next. Yet, we don't take the time to realize how this affected their relationship and marriage. When Eve ate the fruit of the tree and thus incurred the first sin, where was Adam? Right next to her watching the whole event unfold. The one who was tasked with protecting her heart failed in his job. Thus, the marriage relationship entered into a sorry and pitiable state. God told them what was about to happen. Adam would have dominance over his wife and Eve would pine for Adam. They could no longer be in an equal and mutualistic relationship. Marriage took a dark and sinister turn.

With this introduction in mind, we can now appreciate Jesus' words to the Pharisees about marriage. Marriage from the beginning was meant to be a state of equality between husband and wife. It was meant to be a state of mutual help and care. It was meant to be a place of encounter with God and a calling to protect each other so that God could remain in their relationship. Jesus reminds us of these core values through which God founded the covenant of marriage.

For us, however, we do not believe that marriage is simply a covenant or pact but a Sacrament. How do we get from the covenant of marriage enacted with Adam and Eve to a Sacrament that expresses the will of God and the ministry of Jesus to the world?

Fr. Cody



You're Invited to Our  
*Fireside Gala*  
Saturday,  
January 24, 2026  
101 S. Walnut St., Townsend  
Holy Cross Church.

Enjoy a cozy night out!

Steak dinner with appetizers,  
salad, main course, and dessert.  
\$50/plate

Seating times:  
4:00pm, 5:00pm, or 6:00pm  
Bring your own beer or wine!

For reservations  
call: 406-266-4811  
or scan the QR code

Proceeds go to Holy Cross Church



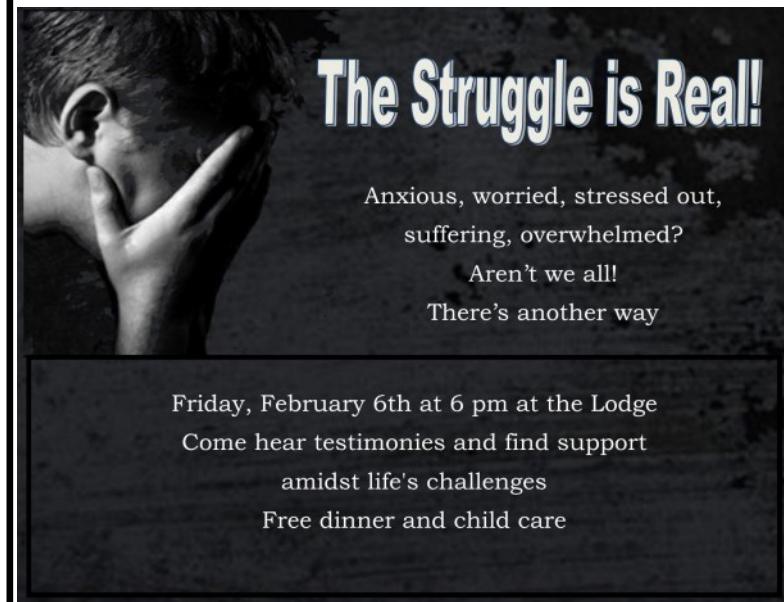
## Parish potlucks

Every 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Their 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.

January 25: Peace

February 22: Hope

March 22: Love



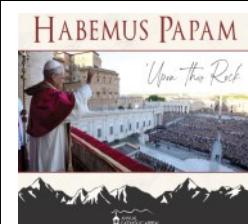
## CATHOLIC JOURNEY EXPERIENCE: ALL ARE INVITED!

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!

Men's Weekend  
St Cyril and Methodius, East Helena

February 12-15th 2026

Contact: [Helenacursillorector@gmail.com](mailto:Helenacursillorector@gmail.com) 406-431-7544



## Annual Catholic Appeal

### Holy Cross Parish Goal:

**\$21,900.00**

We have currently reached 39% of our parish goal, with \$13,325 to go!

All bulletin information and mass announcements requests need to be submitted by email to

[bulletin@holycrossmt.org](mailto:bulletin@holycrossmt.org)

Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed

Bulletin deadline is Tuesday at 10a



## Men's SKI RETREAT

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1

Join Fr. Cody Williams and other men for a weekend of prayer, skiing/snowboarding, and fraternal time. For more information go to [holycrossmt.org/skiretreat](http://holycrossmt.org/skiretreat)

**\$50**  
(covers food & lodging; lift ticket not included)



## Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending January 11th

Envelopes	\$1,155.00
Loose	\$129.26
Online	\$374.98
<b>Total Weekly Contribution</b>	<b>\$1,659.24</b>
Total Weekly Goal	
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	\$1,890.61
Week 2	\$1,659.24
Week 3	
Week 4	
<b>Total Monthly Contribution</b>	<b>3,549.85</b>
Total Year to Date	\$108,866.61
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00

## Schedule

Mass	Mass 9:00a
Monday	Seminarians
	Adoration 9:30a
Tuesday	Mass 9:00a
	Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Youth Ski Day
Saturday	Fireside Gala
Sunday	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family 5:30 - Parish Potluck (hosted by Circle of Peace) 5:30p - 7:30p RE

## 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 Alppersback, 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 Schauber, Judy & Franklin Silifka, Mike McGonigal, Bob Moody, Mary Garman, Bakkum family, Karen Simonich

## Scripture Readings



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

01-25-2026

Reading 1:

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm:

27:1, 4, 13-14

Reading 2:

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel:

Matthew 4:12-23

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration with exposition needs a great push. People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?' My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in holy hours of prayer."

- Mother Teresa of Calcutta

## Ministry Schedule

Sunday January 25, 2026

4:30pm

Greet:

Larry and Buffy Woodring

Lector:

Michael Fisette

Gifts:

Bleile Family

EM:

Niki Weiss and Tacy Swanton

Money Counters:

Karee Reiman and Kristi Gersch

**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.



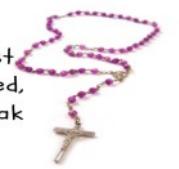
**The Spring Series begins 1/26/26**

**LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY SUNDAYS @ 4PM**

JAN 4 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES  
JAN 11 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES  
JAN 18 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES  
JAN 25 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES  
FEB 1 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

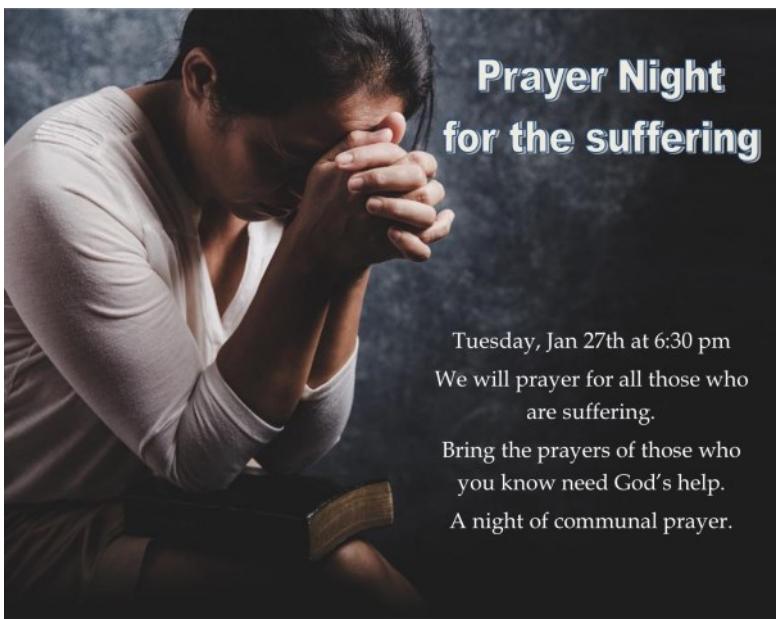


We need someone to lead the rosary on Sunday at 4pm at least once a month. If you're interested, please contact the office, or speak with Shawna.



**Prayer Night for the suffering**

Tuesday, Jan 27th at 6:30 pm  
We will pray for all those who are suffering.  
Bring the prayers of those who you know need God's help.  
A night of communal prayer.



**All women invited to come!**

**You can make a difference!**

- Grab a baby bottle.
- Fill it with cash, check, or change.
- Return it to church.

Return by February 8th

**Options clinic**  
Change for Life



Learn more or give online!



It was decided at the women's meeting last Monday to hold a planning meeting to discuss future social events for the women of the parish. It will be held

**Monday**  
**January 19th at 6:00pm**  
**Parish Center**

**Celebrating MARRIAGE**  
With BISHOP AUSTIN VETTER

MASS // INDIVIDUAL BLESSING OF COUPLES // RECEPTION //

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH  
CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA  
6:00PM

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**  
BEGINS WITH MASS // RECEPTION TO FOLLOW // HEAVY APPETIZERS AND DESSERT INCLUDED // SEMI FORMAL ATTIRE // FREE CHILDCARE WHILE SPACES LAST // \$25 PER COUPLE



# Faith Formation

## Youth Schedule

1/18/26: RE Class (Coming to prayer with God's word)

1/25/26: RE Class (God's gift to us: The Eucharistic Prayer)

2/1/26: RE Class (Eucharistic Prayer Part 2)

2/8/25: **NO RE** (Superbowl Sunday)

## 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.

**Holy Cross Youth Ski Day**

Friday,  
January 23rd  
Showdown Ski Hill

Join us for a fun day of skiing. Holy Cross will pay for the youth's lift ticket and lunch. Any child younger than 6th grade needs to be accompanied by a parent. Please scan the QR code to register. Contact Father Cody or Shawna with any questions.



**HIGH SCHOOL SKI RETREAT**  
WHITEFISH, MT



**JANUARY 23-25, 2026**

We invite high school youth in grades 9-12 and their adult chaperones to join us in a fun weekend of skiing, faith, and fellowship!

**Location:** Whitefish, MT - We will stay at St. Charles Borromeo Parish and ski at Whitefish Mountain.

**Cost:** \$50, plus cost of lift ticket, ski rentals, etc.

**REGISTRATION AND INFO AT** [diocesehelena.org/skiretreat](http://diocesehelena.org/skiretreat)



**Legendary Lodge 2026 CAMPS SCHEDULE**

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

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

**Join us for Family Camp!**  
June 28-30  
Registration opens March 2nd, 2026

**Camp Rates**  
Early Bird:  
(Register before Jan 25th)  
**\$425**  
Standard:  
**\$450**



Holy Cross Parish is offering assistance for the cost of Legendary Lodge that can be used at the time of registration. If you are interested in a scholarship for your child to attend camp, please contact the parish office before registration begins.

Visit [Legendarylodge.org](http://Legendarylodge.org) for camp registration.

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!**

