



# Holy Cross Parish

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 22, 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

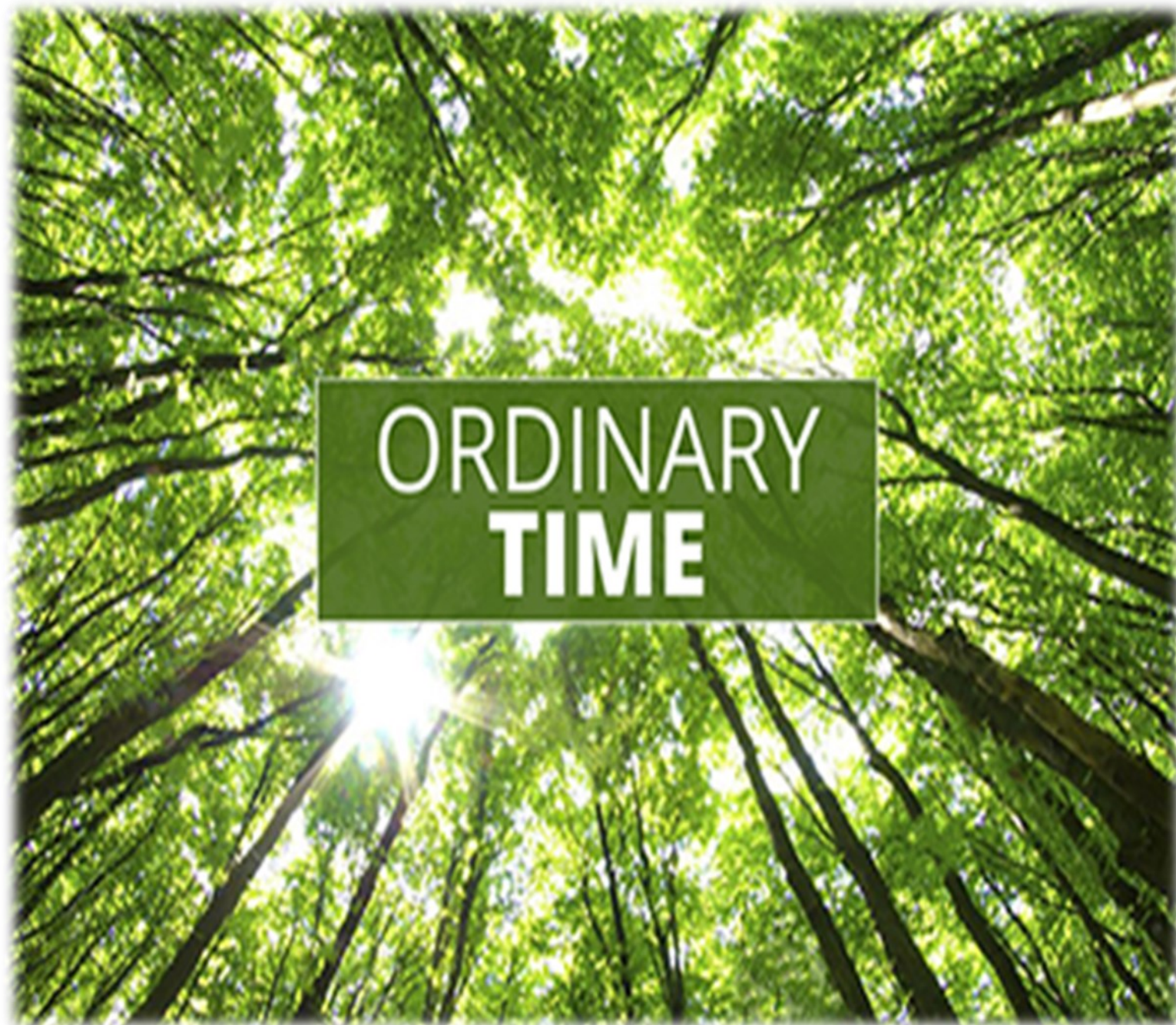
Email: [office@holycrossmt.org](mailto:office@holycrossmt.org)

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



## The Eucharist

With an introduction to the Sacraments of Initiation out of the way, let's dive more deeply into this very important Sacrament. The Eucharist is largely misunderstood by Catholics. We often think of this Sacrament as the final part of the Mass or a symbol. Some argue that it shouldn't be a Sacrament or that everyone should receive Communion. Some argue that Jesus inaugurated something new and therefore it has no reference to the Jewish faith. All of these are wrong. Throughout the next four parts of this series, I will address all these points and bring out the beauty and centrality of this Sacrament for our lives and the life of the Church.

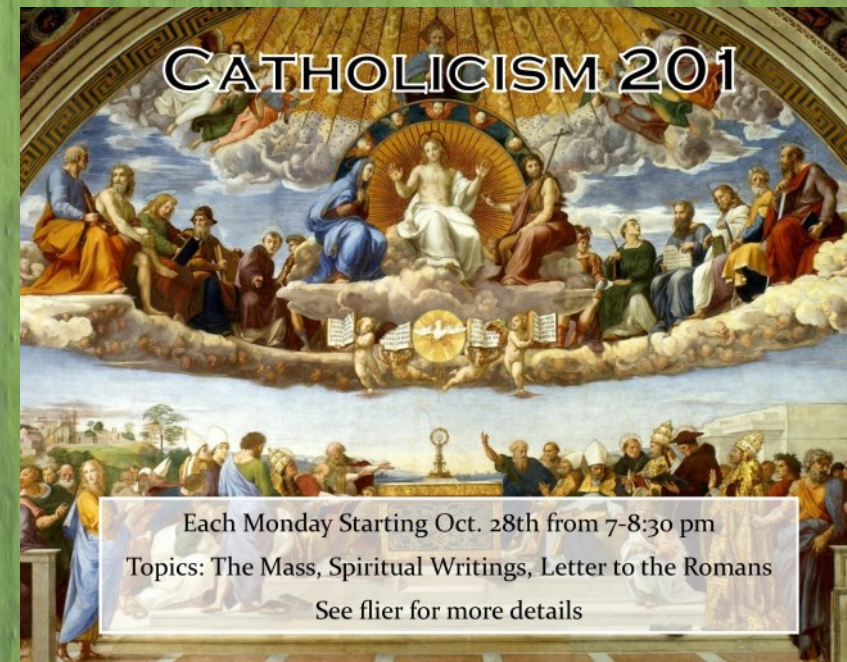
### Biblical Foundations

When most people think of the Old Testament in relation to the Eucharist either images of bloody sacrifices or the Passover come to mind. Although these images are central for understanding the Eucharist, they are far from complete. The first indications of the Eucharist come during the time of Abraham. Abraham met a man named Melchizedek who is the king of Salem. Melchizedek offered God a gift of bread and wine. Abraham recognized this man as a priest, which should seem strange to us, and gave him a tenth of everything. Something about the offering of bread and wine far surpassed the bloody animal sacrifices of Abraham. Next, in the Book of Exodus, Moses takes the 70 elders up the Mountain of God. After their visions, they make a point that these men could still eat and drink. A mere two paragraphs later, Moses instructs the people to keep an altar with bread and wine in the Meeting Tent at all times as a sign of God's presence. Only the priests could eat this bread and drink the wine. The bread was called the "show bread" or "The bread of the Presence."

Clearly the event of Passover is one of the most critical events of all the Old Testament events since Jesus used this event to inaugurate the Eucharist. The original Passover required the eating of a meal, the recitation of a ritual that explained the importance of this event and their escape from slavery in Egypt, and the sacrifice of a three-year old male lamb. We should not be surprised that the earliest Christians patterned their worship with these essential characteristics: eating a meal – usually the Mass was preceded by a meal; the telling of the story – reading and expounding upon Scripture; and the sacrificial lamb – since Jesus was the lamb, the sacrificial lamb was Jesus symbolized by bread and wine. The long tradition from Passover and the events of the Temple were fulfilled in Jesus' sacrifice and the continual re-representation of that event in the Mass.

The final events that bring all of these examples together is in the New Testament. We often like to think of the New and Old Testaments as stand-alone books. But, the New Testament builds off the Old Testament and clarifies its themes. The earliest Christians gathered each Sunday for the re-representation of the sacrifice of Jesus in the Mass even though they continued their normal prayer times and visits to the Temple. They understood that the new rite Jesus gave them was not new but a completion of the Old Testament covenants and prophecies. In the Book of Revelation we read strong allusions throughout the entire book to a final meal at the end of time. This final meal is a combination of the eating of the Sacrificial Lamb, the eating from the Tree of Life, and the heavenly banquet. No one should be surprised by this point that the major action of our worship of God, coming to know him, and the way we receive him has been alluded to throughout Scripture and fulfilled by Jesus.

Fr. Cody



## Montana Catholics For Life

For Babies For Mothers For Families

CI-128, a dangerous abortion initiative, is being falsely promoted as a citizen-led effort to "keep the government out of our personal lives" and protect "women's healthcare decisions." However, beneath these slogans lies a troubling reality—CI-128 is designed to dismantle pro-life efforts in Montana by rendering abortion regulations—past, present, and future—unconstitutional. Out-of-state interests are pouring millions of dollars into Montana to push this agenda, with no mention in the media of its true impact on our state.

When voters take a closer look at CI-128, they quickly realize the text is misleading and dangerous. Through the careful use of vague and undefined terms, it would revoke parental notification of abortion for girls under 16 and allow the termination of unborn babies well beyond fetal viability. This initiative isn't about protecting rights—it's about stripping away current and future safeguards.

Help defeat CI-128. Share the truth about its deceptive language, out-of-state funding, and the loss of crucial protections like parental notification and post-viability safeguards. Share the videos, full text, and fact sheet found at the QR code and at <https://mcc-sa.org>



Join our Bishops as we stand for every child's right to life, the dignity of each mother, and the sanctity of the family.

"Mother of Life" is by nationally known artist, Nellie Edwards. All Rights reserved. See story of artwork: [www.PaintedFaith.NET](http://www.PaintedFaith.NET)

## Saving Unborn Babies

A FREE Pro-Life Training to Equip YOU for Such a Time as This

October 15th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

@ Mountain Family Fellowship in Helena

RSVP to [info@reasonforlife.org](mailto:info@reasonforlife.org)



with attorney & speaker  
Samuel D. Green  
of Reason for Life

40 DAYS FOR LIFE  
THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

A generous donor has decided to give \$5000 a year to help us reach our goal for the Diocesan Capital Campaign. Additionally, this generous donor is willing to give an additional \$5000 year if the parish can collectively raise an additional \$5000 a year pledge to the campaign. If we succeed at raising the additional \$5000, we will reach \$125,000 for the campaign and an additional \$30,000 in money will come back to the parish to help with building projects, faith formation, and our endowments with the Diocese. Please consider making a gift to the campaign if you have not already made a pledge.

The campaign ends October 11th

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS  
TO LEAD THE

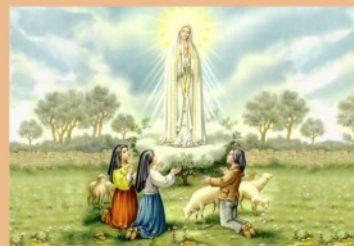
## SUNDAY ROSARY

@ 4:00 BEFORE MASS  
ONE SUNDAY A MONTH

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT KAREN AT:  
[karen.simonich@gmail.com](mailto:karen.simonich@gmail.com)  
406 410 7347

### Magnificats

It's that time of year again to start planning for next years Magnificat subscriptions. They offer regular print and large print. Regular print is \$39 each and large print is \$ 69 each. Please order and pay at the parish office.



SUNDAYS @ 4:00

SEPT. 7 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

SEPT. 8 - LUSTROUS MYSTERIES

SEPT. 15 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

SEPT 22 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

SEPT 29 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY  
FOR THE POPE, CHURCH,  
PRIEST, FAMILIES,  
CHILDREN & FOR  
THE WHOLE WORLD



"The Rosary is the  
Weapon."

SAINT PADRE PIO



### Scripture Readings



Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9-29-2024

Reading 1: Numbers 11:25-29  
Psalm: 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14  
Reading 2: James 5:1-6  
Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

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

Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed

Bulletin deadline is Monday at 10a

TWO weeks in advance

MASS	Schedule
Monday September 23	Mass 9a Elaine Graveley RB Sam and Margorie Hams Adoration 9:30a Faith Night 6-7:30p
Tuesday September 24	Mass 9a Mary Alice Upton RB David Kearns
Wednesday September 25	No Mass
Thursday September 26	No Mass
Friday September 27	No Mass
Saturday September 28	No Mass
Sunday September 29	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30-7:15p

### Ministry Schedule

Sunday September 29, 2024

4:30pm

Greet:

John and Missy Rauser

Lector:

Debbie Miller

Gifts:

Wickens Family

EM:

Karen Simonich and Alex Estrada

Money Counters:

Juanita Bray and Karen Susag



### 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).**

Reminder: The Bishops of Montana have asked us to abstain from meat or some other pleasure on Wednesday until the end of election season as a way to reject CI-128. If you have any questions about this, please let me know.



Mass will be downstairs in the parish center for the next three weekends. If you are available to help with set-up and clean -up after Mass, we could use some extra help.

## Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended September 15th

Total Weekly	
Budget	\$2902.00
Variance	

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

This year the Finance Council approved a budget with a much higher amount of income needed to sustain the parish. This needed increase in income is largely due to increased in costs such as insurance premiums and needed supplies for the parish. As a way to clarify our need for more income, I will list in each bulletin the amount of money we brought in through the offertory and the amount deficit or surplus from our goal. The goal for the year is \$148,000 with an average amount each week of \$2902. I realize that reaching this goal seems like a challenge. But I believe we can achieve this goal and provide for the good of our parish. After hearing from several people about the financial column, I decided that listing the expenses became too confusing. Therefore, in September, I am going to publish the annual budget that the Finance Council approved in the bulletin so that everyone can see the annual expenses and the way we spend our money. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Cody or speak with one of the Finance Council members.

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

*THANK YOU!*



*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

"Our Redeemer ever present in the most Blessed Sacrament, extends His hands to everyone. He opens His heart and says, 'Come to Me, all of you.'"

- *St. Raphael Kalinowski, O.C.D.*

### 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 requested otherwise after one month prayer request names will be removed from the prayer chain:



Bob Masolo, Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Martin and Margy Clark, Shanna Montonario, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Kadence Saxton, Tom Grewell and family, Millie Sullivan, JL and Janet Jones, Vince Boster, Paulette Obrigewitch, Nicole Ito, Bill and Marilyn Lane

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. The following dates are needed: 9/29/24, 10/13/24, 11/3/24, 11/10/24, 12/1/24 & 12/8/24



RE will continue to be on Sunday evenings following mass with dinner from 5:30-6:00p and prayer time & class to follow which will conclude at 7:15p for ages preschool - 5th grade. Middle school and high school youth will end with additional prayer time to conclude at 7:30p. Cost of RE this year is \$50/child with a family max of \$150. We want all youth involved in RE and do not want the registration fee to be a burden so please contact Father Cody with any concerns about payment. Scan the QR code to register your child online.



### Ministry Sign-ups

In the pews are ministry sign-up sheets. I encourage everyone to read through the various ministries offered by our parish and choose at least one to participate in this next year. We need a lot of help in a variety of ways including lectors, eucharistic ministries, laundry, and greeters. Please consider a way that you can serve God and your parish. If you are interested in something that is not on that sign-up sheet, contact Fr. Cody. Please return all forms by the end of September.

## 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.

- Spraying for bugs
- Repainting the parking stripes and stop bars
- Weeding around the building or spraying for weeds
- Trimming the hedge
- Cleaning the gutters
- Replacing the rusted sleeve on the vent

### Did you know?

In Cameroon a civil war has ravaged the country killing around 6000 and displacing over a million people. In the midst of this conflict Eucharistic Adoration has surged. Although the streets are patrolled and controlled by guerrilla warfare, people have boldly left their homes, endured the harassment, and the threat of violence just to come to the churches for Adoration. Catholics, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Pentecostals fill every hour of the day with adorers.

Fr. Etim Lambert says "Especially in this time because there are so many corpses that they see, there is so much hatred thrown around, and they ask "God, where are you?" And in the Sacrament of Eucharist, the Bamenda man can actually find God in a certain still, calm way."

**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.**