

Stewardship

12-31-2023

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$3,275.00
Christmas	\$1,395.00
Holy Day	\$25.00
Pews	\$16,110.00
Loose	\$623.30
Total	\$21,428.30

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-November

City of Townsend	\$173.41
NorthWestern Energy	\$631.97
Geisser Services	\$1,115.00
Montana Energy Alliance	\$1,838.15
Spectrum	\$144.97
Flocknote	\$36.00
MT Department of Labor	\$72.00
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$1,356.52

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term	\$400.00
Long Term	
Grave Sites	\$350.00
Total	\$750.00

Cemetery Expenses-November

Geisser Services	\$875.00
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Please consider a memorial for your loved ones to the Holy Cross Cemetery instead of flowers.

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"What happiness do we not feel in the Presence of God, when we are alone at His feet... Redouble your fervor; you are alone to adore your God; His eyes rest upon you alone,"

- St. John Vianney

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, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, and Matt Keck

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:



Elaine Graveley, Bob Masolo, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Shanna Montonario, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Kadence Saxton, Tom Grewell and family, Alex Bakken, Millie Sullivan, JL and Janet Jones, Vince Boster, Paulette Obrigewitch, Nicole Ito, John Clark

Did You Know!

The Catholic Church gives priests and deacons the power to bless created things for the sake of prayer and devotion. We are allowed to bless created things that are then set apart for the use in prayer and worship of God. Through the blessing of objects, these objects for seeking and praising God. The Church allows for blessing objects such as homes, places of worship, places of work, things we use such as prayer beads and metals, fishing equipment and more.

Holy Cross recommends that the following be respected:

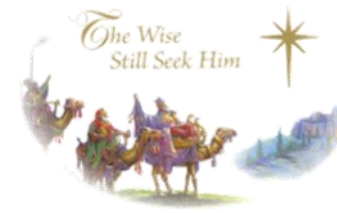
Christian Burial:

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 Epiphany of the Lord

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

Holy Cross Parish

January 7, 2024

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



Basics of Catholicism part 22

Redemption and Salvation part 3

Theory 3: the Ransom or Satisfaction theory

This theory was best expressed in the work of C. S. Lewis in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. When Edmond sells out his friends and became a traitor, the witch gets her satisfaction by sacrificing him. In this analogy, sin requires a punishment. Every time we sin, the world is changed for the worse and needs a sacrifice to bring it healing, i.e. when something is killed, something has to die. Thus the sin we caused created a debt between us and God that needed repayment. In the Old Testament this repayment was the sacrifice of animals. Jesus, however, became the ultimate repayment as the one sacrifice that could end all sacrifices and be the perfect gift to God.

Although this theory is true to an extent, it makes Jesus sacrifice simply a repayment of the debt. Jesus' sacrifice is more than the repayment of the debt. He opens Heaven for us and becomes our judge. He frees us from all sin and the finality of death. He built a relationship with us through his suffering and death and brought life and meaning to our own suffering. We cannot simplify the gravity of Jesus' sacrifice to the mere act of repaying our debt so that we do not need to suffer the effects of our sins. On another note, if Jesus' repayment cancelled out all sins, why do we still have sin and its effects in our world?

The other side of ransom theory we often hear is that Jesus saved us from the clutches of the Devil. The main idea of this side of ransom theory is that the effects of sin bind us. On one level we are binding ourselves due to our attraction to sin. On the other level we are bound because we cannot undo the effects of sin. As one action spirals outward, its effects continue to grow. Take for instance the simple example of gossip. One person gossips about another and ruins that person's reputation. Now the reputation of that person will be affected by everyone who hears that lie/gossip. How would we ever be able to undo the damage done by one act of gossip?

This side of ransom theory works. We were caught in the clutches of the Devil and the desire for sin. We were caught in the effects of sin without a way out. Jesus found us a way out. He took on the effects of our sins that we could not undo and brought healing. He gave us a pathway, a route, through which we could choose righteous deeds and not sin. Jesus overcome the effects of the Devil in our lives and *ransomed* us from his power.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1-14-2024

Reading 1: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Psalm: 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 6: 13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel: John 1:35-42



MASS	Schedule
Monday January 8	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 101 7p
Tuesday January 9	Mass 9a
Wednesday January 10	No Mass
Thursday January 11	No Mass
Friday January 12	No Mass
Saturday January 13	No Mass
Sunday January 14	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30-7:15p Knights Dinner

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

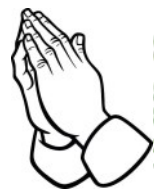
TWO weeks in advance

Ministry Schedule	
Sunday January 14, 2024	4:30pm
Greet:	Harold and Laura Gibbs
Lector:	Karen Simonich
Gifts:	John and Missy Rauser
EM:	John Bleile and Alex Estrada
Money Counters:	Juanita Bray and Karen Susag



Hey kids, want some candy? Fr. Cody has a challenge for you. Using the bingo cards, once per Mass, if you recognize one of the words on the Bingo card from the Mass, show it to Fr. Cody and he will give you a stamp. If you get a bingo, you get candy. Bingo cards are available on the info table in the narthex.

Out of a desire to use our faith and our parish to help the world, I would like to start a program to support needs throughout the world. These acts of support will come from the parish resources and will not be a second collection or another appeal. If you have causes or people throughout the world that you would like to support, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.



Blessings

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.



The Diocesan Capital Campaign has kicked off. The goal is to raise \$30 million as a Diocese in 5 years. These funds will create endowments for seminarian education and promotion of vocations, retired priests, spreading our faith, and supporting parishes. We get back 40% of all money raised in this parish. Please take a prayer card and pray for the success of the campaign. Fr. Cody will be calling everyone and setting up meeting to discuss this campaign and hear your desires for our parish.

Mondays 7-8:30

The next topic is "The Liturgical Year: Celebrating Jesus' life" on Monday, January 8th. The notes are posted on the website and a livestream version is available. If you would like to join the livestream version, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.

Catholicism 101

Do you know someone who is interested in learning about Catholicism? Would you like to know your faith a little better? Then, this series is for you!

Mondays 7-8:30

Schedule of the topics on the bench in the entryway.

A livestream option for Catholicism 101 will be available on Mondays from 7-8:30 and on Thursdays from 6:30-8. Please invite your friends and family members who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. All are welcome!



Every 4th Saturday of the month, we will have Adoration and Confessions from 9 am to noon. This is a great opportunity to spend some time with Jesus who is present in bodily form in the Eucharist as well as celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You are welcome to come for as little or as much time as you wish. Resources will be available to help you pray and make the most of the time you have. I encourage everyone to come and use this opportunity.

Next Holy Hour January 27th

Have A Seat!



Our match for the Pews has been met! Due to a few generous donations, we have reached the goal meaning that we have gained an extra \$30,000 for our pews. Once I have signed some contracts, I will give you exact numbers for the remainder of the cost. We will have new pews next summer!

The 2024 Calendars are available on the information table in the entrance area of the church. There are also new church directories available.

Montana State March for Life 2024

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
MONTANA STATE CAPITOL
HELENA, MT

We Are Stronger Together



We could still use some help in the following ministries:

- Prayers of the Faithful
- Newcomers welcome group
- Livestream Group
- Environmental Group



Book Sale: Karen Simonich is hosting a book sale on the 1st Sunday of each month. You are welcome to look through them and see if you are interested in any of them.



The Annual Catholic Appeal is in full swing. Our goal is to raise \$21,100 for the purpose of the Diocese, the parishes of the Diocese, and the mission of the Diocese. Please consider and make a donation to the ACA. We are currently at 76% of our goal with only \$5,100 remaining. If you have yet to donate for the good of our Diocesan church, please consider making a donation.

~A gift at Christmas~



The book *Beautiful Eucharist* is available on the table in the vestibule for each household of Holy Cross Parish. Please take one for you and your family to read and better understand the true meaning of the season now and always. Merry Christmas!

UPCOMING EVENTS

No Mass, Adoration, or Catholicism Series Monday and Tuesday January 15th and 16th

CREATED GOOD

Townsend Community Family Night

DINNER
PROVIDED



FOR THE
WHOLE
FAMILY

Let's explore the goodness of our humanity through activities and events that focus on being created in God's image.

When: 1st Sunday of every month

5:45-7:00 pm

Where: Holy Cross Parish Center

101 S. Walnut St.

Jan. 7th: Christmas Party

Feb. 4th: What do I do with my life?

March 3rd: What does it mean to be forgiven?

April 7th: Easter Party

May 5th: How do I make strong relationships?

FREE EVENT



2024 SUMMER SEASON CAMPS SCHEDULE

JUNE 16-JUNE 21 JUNIOR HIGH #1

JUNE 23-JUNE 28 HIGH SCHOOL #1

JULY 7-JULY 12 5TH/6TH GRADE BOYS

JULY 14-JULY 19 HIGH SCHOOL #2

JULY 21-JULY 26 JUNIOR HIGH #2

JULY 28-AUGUST 2 5TH/6TH GRADE GIRLS

Registration for camp opens January 1, 2024

Early Bird Pricing: Save \$20/camper when you register by January 31st!



FAMILY CAMP JUNE 30-JULY 2

Registration opens
March 1, 2024



LEGENDARY ADVENTURE CAMP

Session #1 JULY 14-19
Session #2 JULY 21-26

Registration details coming soon

legendarylodge.org | Find Us on Facebook