

Stewardship

11/26-27/2022

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$2,183.00
Loose	\$23.00
Reimbursement	\$550.61
RE	\$10.00
Other	\$100.00
Total	\$2,866.61

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-November

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$134.97
MT Energy Alliance	\$1,586.55
Broadwater County Treasurers Office	\$1,766.16
NorthWestern Energy	\$ 699.88
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$5,885.69

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term	\$100.00
Long Term	
Grave Sites	
Total	\$100.00

Cemetery Expenses-November

NorthWestern Energy	\$ 6.55
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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

"God is everywhere, in the very air I breathe, yes everywhere, but in His Sacrament of the Altar He is as present actually and really as my soul within my body; in His Sacrifice daily offered as really as once offered on the Cross,"

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

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, Alex Olmes, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, Matt Keck, Jack Reed and Dcn. Kyle Tannehill.

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:

Joanie Pritchard, Elaine Graveley, Marie Hoeffner, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Jackie Kynett, Shanna Montonario, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Mary Pat Sullivan, Gene Determan, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Connie Rezendes, William Hart, Marj Kohn, Kim Schaubert, Paul Friend, Amy Ghorsen, Frank and Sally Majszak, John Clark, Margaret's prayer request, Don Larsen, Joann Shindoll, Carl Lorentzen, Laura Obert, CoraLee Horne, Dan and Marie Stover, Roy, Mary McWhorter, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, John Woodring, Julie Whitman, Nancy Martin, Nicki Ito

Did You Know ?

Of the 265 popes (263 to be exact because Pope Benedict IX, during the dreadful medieval fights between popes and anti-popes, was elected three times) 205 were Italians, (of whom 106 were Romans), and 57 foreigners; comprised of 19 Frenchmen, 14 Greeks, 8 Syrians, 6 Germans, 3 Africans, 2 Spaniards, 1 Austrian, 1 Palestinian, 1 Englishman, 1 Dutchman, and 1 Pole.

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.



Second Sunday of Advent

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mass: Wednesday and Thursday 9:00a

Adoration: Wednesday 9:30a

Weekend Schedule:

Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:45p

Sunday 7:30-7:45a or by appointment

Mass: Saturday Mass 5:00p Sunday Mass 8:00a

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30a to 12:00p

Holy Cross Parish

December 4, 2022

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

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



We are in an age where we are advocating for the breakdown of relationships. My words may seem strange or harsh, so let me explain. Many people adopted and are advocating for new stances to relationships in which open relationships or relationships with multiple partners become the norm. These people are not simply falling into temptations or allowing their emotions to get the best of them but are advocating for the abolition of standard monogamous and commitment relationships. As more people jump on this new trend of open relationships, many people are left adrift feeling as though they cannot love, be loved, or feel committed to anything, a serious problem for our modern era. The most fundamental place where these new mentalities are shifting the sentiments of people are in sexual relationships.

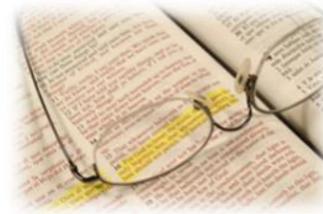
The Church has always held that monogamy and sex in its proper context is good for the ordering of society and good for the individuals. The ability to make a commitment and have an organization (society, church, state) that supports and encourages our commitments is good and healthy for individuals. These structures help us to make good commitments and also help us when the situations turn bad, which is common today. Similarly, monogamous relationships help us know who loves us and how we ought to be loved. Monogamous relationships guide us to gives ourselves entirely to another person and not float between many individuals. We need to know who loves us and how to love.

Adultery and fornication are two different sides of the same coin. These two issues show the breakdown of commitment and committed love. Adultery is when a married person has a sexual relationship with someone he or she is not married to. Fornication is when a non-married person has a sexual relationship with someone. Both of these situations stem from either an emotional response or a lack of desire for commitment. Not only do sexual relationships outside of marriage harm the ability for a person to make a commitment but they also challenge the ability for the individual to feel loved. When we divorce sex from its two ends of supporting the spouse and the creation of children, then we lose the other parts associated with the relationship: self-gift in love, committing to the good of the other, and committing to a special love for one person.

If you are wondering why many young adults fear commitment and struggle to commit, the over abundance of improper sexual relationships is part of the issue. Coupled with that issue is the inability to feel loved and cared for, to feel that there is no one dedicated to my good, feeling lost amid the cares of the world without being ground in the ability to love one person. Improper sexual relationships cause more than social issues, they harm the mentality of those who engage in it.

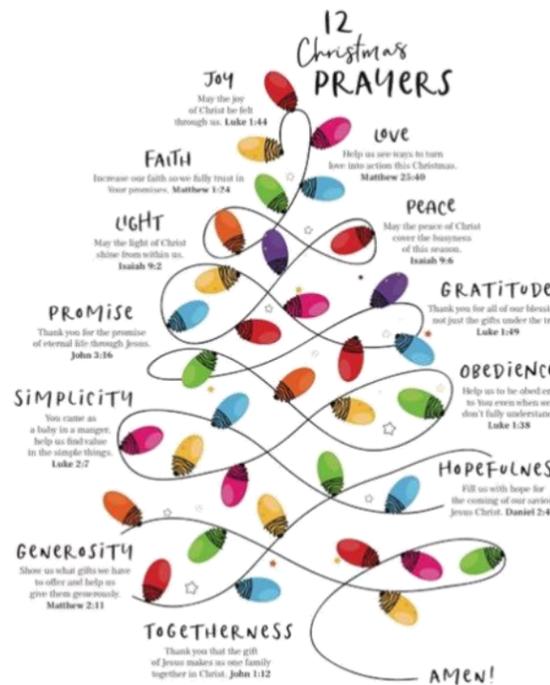
Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Third Sunday of Advent
12-11-2022

Reading 1: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
Psalm: 146:6c-7,8-9a,9bc-10
Reading 2: James 5:7-10
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11



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

MASS	Schedule
Monday December 5	No Mass
Tuesday December 6	No Mass
Wednesday December 7	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a For the intention of the extension donor Immaculate Conception Mass 6p dinner and activity to follow
Thursday December 8	Mass 9a Fr. Bob Hall No Church History Series
Friday December 9	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday December 10	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday December 11	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Knights coffee hour after mass

Ministry Schedule

Saturday December 10, 2022

5:00pm

Greet:

Eichinger Family

Lector:

Gay Ann Masolo

Gifts:

Tom Aced and Cathy Armstrong

Ministry Schedule

Sunday December 11, 2022

8:00am

Greet:

David and Laurie Stropes

Lector:

Caleb LeLacheur

Gifts:

Bleile Family

Money Counters:

Juanita Bray and Karen Susag

Ministry Highlights

Funeral Committee:

The funeral committee is a group of people who help with the funeral luncheon. Each funeral is assigned to one person on the committee who heads the luncheon for that funeral. The person who heads the funeral can call anyone in the parish asking for assistance with that funeral. The goal of the funeral committee is to provide a space and some food for the grieving family.

Cooks for RE:

Our youth are the future of the church. They learn the ways of Catholicism from their teachers, parents, and the parish community. Part of our service to the youth is to provide them with meals at RE. Many of our high schoolers come directly from practice to RE and need something to eat. The meal also provides them down time in the church. If you are interested in making or providing a meal for our RE kids, please contact Shawna Wickens at RE@holycrossmt.org.



SAVE THE DATE for Eucharistic Revival 2023, "Cultivating Eucharistic Amazement." Join us May 5 & 6, 2023 at Billings Central Catholic H.S. with special guests Dr. Scott Hahn, Archbishop Alexander Sample and musical guest Jaime Thietten. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength — the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Join the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings in the movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery – The Most Holy Eucharist. We'll explore what the Eucharist means in each of our lives, how this Sacrament is meant to be adored, how we cultivate Eucharistic amazement in our lives and how we, as the Body of Christ, become Eucharistic people. Ticket prices start at \$15. Visit diocesegfb.org/revival to learn more or register. Seating is limited!

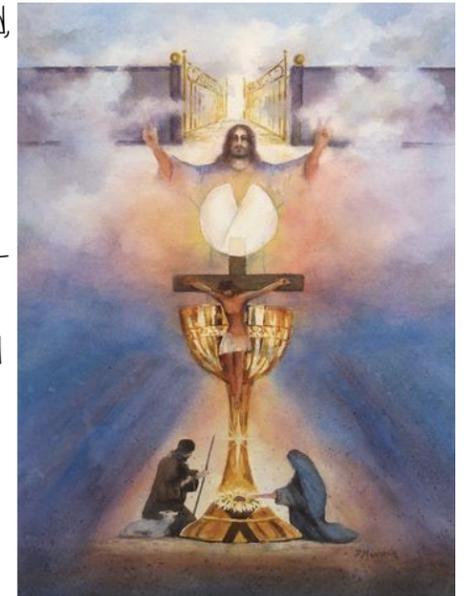


Family Advent Calendars are available on the table in the vestibule as well as copies of the book Holy Moments by Matthew Kelley. Please feel free to take one per household as an Advent and Christmas Season gift from Women of Faith.



Announcements

Bishop Vetter has allowed us to distribute the Blood of Christ during Mass for the faithful to consume starting the 1st Sunday of Advent. In preparation for reinstating Communion under the Precious Blood, I want to draw your attention to this part of our Mass. Consuming both the Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord better expresses his command to us to "take and eat" and "take and drink." The fullness of Jesus Body and Blood, however, are present in the Consecrated Host and Consecrated Wine. Each of them of their own contains the fullness of Jesus' Body and Blood. The faithful are not required to consume both the Precious Body and the Precious Blood. Even with the restriction rescinded, you still have the option to only receive the Consecrated Host and fully receive Communion. As this part of the Mass is reinstated, I encourage you to reflect on the great gift that Jesus has given us of his Body and Blood, signs of his love for us, his Body which enters our Body and brings transformation into himself. Jesus Body and Blood in form of the Consecrated Host and Consecrated Wine is the most precious gift the Church has and the greatest sign of God's ever presence with us.



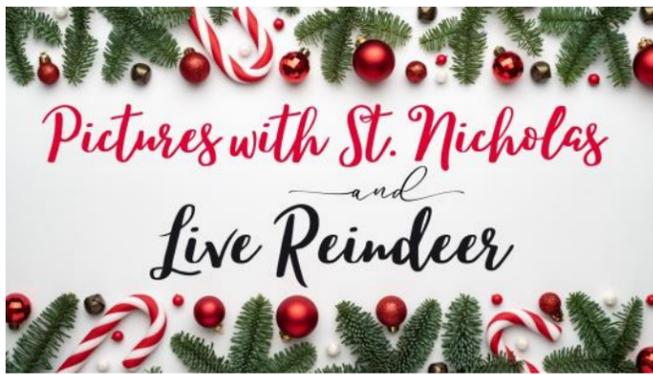
TECH CREW NEEDED!

A new laptop was donated to our church to help with livestreaming Masses. I need a few people who are willing to run the livestream for Mass. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Cody.



Have A Seat!

After consultation with the Pastoral and Finance Councils as well as those who came to the parish meetings, we are moving forward with buying new pews. This project contains several parts. The first part is new pews and kneelers. In addition to the new pews, we will be adding cushioning to the pews to make them more comfortable. This part of the project will cost approximately \$75,000. As we remove the pews, the goal is remove the carpet and put in new, easier to clean flooring. This part of the project will cost \$45,000. The total amount to be raised is \$120,000. Don't let this number alarm you. Through special donations we have already raised \$25,000. I have written a few grants to help with the cost of the pews. If we get them, I will let you know. The goal is to keep working at raising money until we have enough to complete both parts of the project. If you are interested in donating to the pew project - Have A Seat! - simply write a check with "pews" in the memo line. I will keep you updated on our progress.



**December 4th from 5p-7:30p
at the Cathedral of St. Helena**

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas and create new family traditions with friends and neighbors. This FREE event includes live reindeer, photos with St. Nicholas, hot chocolate, and the opportunity to serve our Helena community and spread hope this holiday season!

As part of this event, we've created our own "St. Nick's Wishlist."

This list includes items desperately needed at God's Love and Our Place during these cold winter months. We encourage anyone who comes to this event to spend time as a family thoughtfully collecting a few of these items. Please package them in a shoebox and bring them with you on December 4th! At our St. Nicholas Celebration, your family will have the opportunity to write and color cards of encouragement that can be included in your shoebox.

*If you would like to donate any of these items but can't make it to the event, feel free to drop items off at the Cathedral office. Thank you for your generosity!

Mass Celebrating the Immaculate Conception will be on Wednesday December 7th at 6p with dinner and an activity to follow



St. Nick's Wishlist:

- Socks
- Hats
- Gloves
- Hand warmers
- Boots
- Slim Jim
- Individually packaged trail mix
- Reusable water bottles
- Fleece blankets
- Rain Ponchos
- Coffee grounds
- Creamer
- Sugar

COFFEE HOUR

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting coffee hour Sunday, December 11th after mass.



Enjoy weekly video advent reflections on Formed with Fr. John Burns and discover the life God invites us to in Advent - one that brings us to a deeper and fuller way of living.

A special thank you from Mary Alice Upton to everyone for their prayers and kind thoughts. She greatly appreciates each and every one of you.



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
FUNDING THE MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off. The Diocesan goal is \$2 million. Our parish goal is \$20,700. Every little bit counts. We have currently raised \$16,035.

Montana
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
"Come to Me" *Matt 11:28*
April 15, 2023 – Civic Center, Helena, MT
www.helenacwc.com / 406.422.1719



Lord Jesus, thank you for the constant love you have for me. Thank you for the gift of life and the gift of faith. Today, take me into your Sacred Heart and renew me. I open my heart to your grace, to be healed where healing is needed. Replace any wounds or worries with your peace and joy. Send your Holy Spirit into my whole being: body, mind, and soul. Guide me to be the woman you have created me to be: your beloved daughter, disciple, and friend. Please remove any obstacles that keep me from living this way. Make me a woman of faith, hope, and charity. Lord, pour out your grace upon the upcoming Catholic Women's Conference, upon the planning efforts, and upon many women that they may hear your invitation and say "yes." May the conference be a time of spiritual renewal, healing, reconciliation, and joy for all who attend. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for all this, I pray in your sweet name. **Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!**



Mother of Divine Grace, we salute you. You are an ever-shining light, the crown of virginity, an indestructible temple, the place that held Him whom no place can contain. Mother and virgin, because of you the Holy Trinity is glorified and adored. Ever in kindness, strengthen and sustain us, lightening our burden with a mother's blessing, that we may share the Father's life and splendor. God whose goodness crowned you Queen of Creation, and gave you to us, pray for us.

St. Gemma Galgani intercession
O bright flower of heaven, St. Gemma, mirror of purity and penance, obtain for us the grace of purity and help us against all temptations of the flesh. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



**What are YOU looking for?
Join us for a Catholic Journey Spiritual Weekend
All are Invited. All are welcome!**

Looking for a weekend to deepen your spirituality? Give yourself a 3-day Christmas gift! No cooking or cleaning, all that is done for you. All you do is enjoy your connections with other faith filled women and the Lord.

The new Catholic Journey is for Catholics who are seeking a deeper understanding and commitment to their role as laity in the church. We also invite non-practicing Catholics, non-Catholics of other Christian denominations, and even those of non-Christian faith or no faith to attend. It is an opportunity to experience a weekend of Catholic spirituality as lived in a group of Catholic laity, who share with them the Catholic Community, reflections on the Catholic faith, and Catholic prayer and spirituality.

Weekends will be held at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, East Helena, MT
*Women's weekend - January 12-15, 2023 (Contact Mary Munger at (406) 949-1870)
*Men's weekend - February 16-19, 2023 (Contact Darwin Eckert at (406) 594-6055)
Weekends begin at 7:00 PM Thursday evenings and end about 4:30 PM on Sunday afternoons.

ALL ARE WELCOME

