


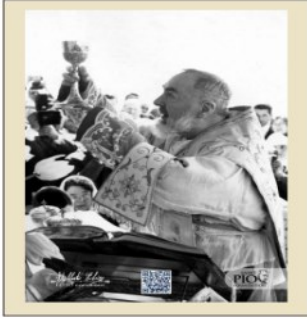
Welcome Pat Miller! We have hired Pat Miller as our maintenance manager. His role is to care for our building and grounds. Please welcome him to our team.

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





The Relics of Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina to visit St. Francis Xavier Parish August 25 - 26, 2025



The Relics of Padre Pio

Monday, August 25th Veneration from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Tuesday, August 26th Veneration from 11:00am to 8:00 pm
Mass in honor of Saint Pio at 6:00 pm
 with Bishop Jeffrey Fleming of the Diocese of Great Falls - Billings

Sponsored by   saintpiofoundation.org

St. Francis Xavier 420 West Pine Street Missoula, MT 59802 406.542.0321 sfxmissoula.org

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY SUNDAYS @ 4:00

AUGUST 3 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

AUGUST 10 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

AUGUST 17 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

AUGUST 24 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

AUGUST 31 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

August is Make-A-Will Month **Make YOURS for FREE!**

The future begins with you! Our parish is excited to offer you a free estate-planning resource from The Foundation for the Diocese of Helena called FreeWill so you can invest in the future of your family AND your faith, starting now.

With FreeWill, you can write your will online today. Having a will allows you to:

- Protect your loved ones and ensure their future well-being.
- Express your values and the principles that define your life.
- Begin your legacy that supports the causes you hold dear.

Make a plan today with FreeWill at freewill.com/fdoh

All it takes is 20 minutes to create your will and start your legacy.



FOUNDATION for the Diocese of Helena
 PO Box 1729 | Helena, MT 59624
 (406) 389-7050 | fdoh.org

Holy Cross Parish

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 10, 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

 **Calling all Parents!** 

Please join us at Holy Cross Parish for a parent's meeting for all families who would like their children to participate in RE this year.

Sunday, August 17th @ 5:30 pm
 (following 4:30 pm Mass)

We want to hear from you on how we can help support you and make RE a positive experience for you kids. We also will be discussing the upcoming year's RE program and schedule.

 **Attention Men of Holy Cross Parish!** 

Our local Knights of Columbus Council # 2360 is hosting a "Men of the Parish" barbeque and you are invited. Join us for food, drink and fellowship on August 16th beginning at 1400. The bbq will be held at Tony Van Houdt's house located at 7 Spencer Drive (north of Townsend – near the Silos). Drinks, hamburgers, brats and steaks will be provided. Please bring a side dish or desert to share. For planning purposes, if you plan to attend, please RSVP using the attached QR Code.



SCAN ME

THE CHURCH IS BACK IN ORDINARY TIME, BUT EVERY DAY IS EXTRAORDINARY, A GIFT FROM GOD, AND CAN BE AN OUTBURST OF GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY.

TIMOTHY CARDINAL DOLAN

The Diaconate

The Sacrament of Holy Orders has three rungs: deacons, priests, and bishops. These three rungs build upon one another both sacramentally, practically, and theologically. The first step or rung in the Sacrament of Holy Orders is the diaconate. Once a man is a deacon, he could become a priest. Likewise, once a man is a priest, he could become bishop. Before I move on from this topic, I want to point out that both cardinals and popes are not on this list. Cardinals are an honorary title given to a person whom the Pope has called to advise him on matters of the church. The Pope, although the highest person in the physical church, is a bishop. The Pope is elected from amongst his fellow cardinal-bishops to become their leader.

Throughout the next several parts of this series, I want to take some time to explore each of the rungs of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, how they apply to the church, their ordination rites, and their functions starting with the deacons.

The diaconate, aka the Order of Deacons, began very early on in the church. After several years of preaching the Gospel and creating many converts, the Apostles realized that the work entrusted to them was too much for them to handle. Therefore, they decided to ordain men to help serve the church in a sacramental role. These early deacons were responsible for caring for widows and orphans, bringing Communion to the sick, and assisting at the Sacraments such as baptisms and the Mass.

A deacon is ordained to serve. Their principal roles include sacramental assistance at baptisms, funerals, and weddings, distributing Communion to the faithful both during Mass and those who are sick, preaching, and administration. Notice a few key aspects of their role. Each of the Sacraments they can celebrate are either necessary for salvation or they act as a witness. Funerals are not sacraments but rites. The celebrants of the Sacrament of Matrimony are the couple. The priest, deacon, or lay person simply witnesses to the exchange of vows. In all of these sacraments and rites, the deacon serves as a witness or leader in the rites.

On a final logistical note, deacons can be married. Often those called to the diaconate choose to be ordained later in life after their kids are grown and the family has settled down. In order to be ordained a deacon the man must apply for the diaconate training program through his diocese, complete the formation to the diaconate, and then be called to the diaconate by his bishop. A deacon must be married before he is ordained a deacon. Once ordained he cannot be remarried even after the death of his wife.

The formation program for deacons varies depending on the diocese. Usually it takes between 3-5 years and his wife must accompany him through the classes and agree to this new role. Throughout the process, they are taught theology on a master's degree level. They also spend those years discerning and listening to God's invitation as the church also discerns this call. After the process is complete, the bishop can call the man to the diaconate and then he is ordained.

Fr. Cody

Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on Friday, August 15th at 6:30 pm.

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending August 3

Envelopes	\$1812.00
Loose	\$151.35
Online	\$309.92
Total Weekly Contribution	\$2,273.27
Total Weekly Goal	\$2,629.31
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	\$2273.27
Week 2	
Week 3	
Week 4	
Total Monthly Total	
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Scripture Readings



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

08-17-2025

Reading 1:	Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10
Psalms:	40:2, 3, 4, 18
Reading 2:	Hebrews 12:1-4
Gospel:	Luke 12:49-53

The next parish potluck is Sunday, August 24th.
The Circle of Hope is responsible for set up and clean up.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Trust all things to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to Mary Help of Christians and you will see what miracles are."

- St. John Bosco

Mass	Schedule
Monday August 11	Mass 9:00a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a
Tuesday August 12	Mass 9:00a Homebound
Wednesday August 13	
Thursday August 14	
Friday August 15	Mass 6:30p Feast of the Assumption of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
Saturday August 16	
Sunday August 17	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family 5:30p RE Parents meeting followed by RE teachers meeting

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.

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 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, Richard Majszak, Repose for the soul of Marilyn Gagen, Mary Garman, Don and Jenny Schaubert

Ministry Schedule

Sunday August 17, 2025 4:30pm

Greet:	Pat and Debbie Miller
Lector:	Megan Bleile
Gifts:	Wickens Family
EM:	Tom and Julie Lethert
Money Counters:	Tacy Swanton and Bernadette Swenson