



# Holy Cross Parish

The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 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](mailto:frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org)

Office: 406-266-4811

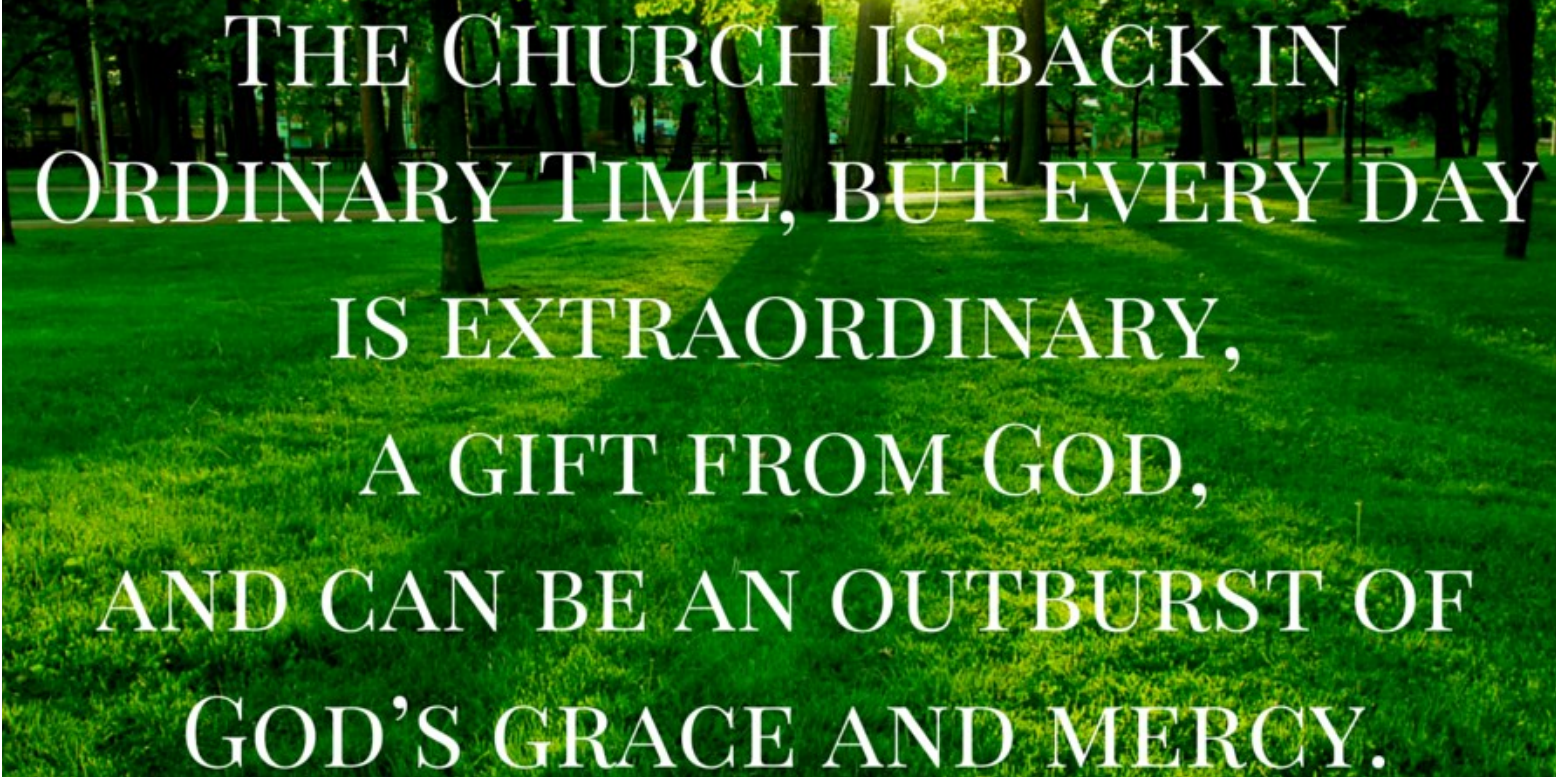
Email: [office@holycrossmt.org](mailto:office@holycrossmt.org)

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 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



What is the value of the Sacrament of Holy Orders?

After the previous lengthy discussion on the Ordination Rite and the responsibilities of the rungs of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, you may ask questions like, “so what?” What is the value of these authority figures? Why not just have pastors? Why can’t we have married or women clergy? Why is this Sacrament so valuable compared to our Protestant analogues? These questions are very important and cut to the core of the purpose of this Sacrament. Over the next several parts of this series, I am going to explore the question of the value of this Sacrament focusing on the practical side of it for all of you.

Leadership

Honestly, this reason is the most widely used and the most obvious. Someone needs to lead the church. Someone needs to be the decision maker, the guide, to call the shots, or whatever you may call it. Leadership is an essential part of any well-run organization. Most often people assume the role of the priest or bishop is one of leadership and therefore the Sacrament of Holy Orders is a glorified version of calling someone to leadership. Although there is some truth to this statement, it fails to express the truth of the leadership aspect of this Sacrament.

On a practical level, all bishops and most priests hold a leadership role in their respective churches or dioceses commonly called “pastor.” Like our Protestant brethren, a pastor is responsible for maintaining the functioning of the church and leading the people. Priests and bishops take on the same role. They deal with finances, personnel, building maintenance, volunteer coordination, care of the people, and many more administrative functions. Most people are familiar with this idea.

Yet, we differ very strongly from Protestant pastors on the leadership aspect of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. When a Protestant pastor leaves his role as pastor of a church, he or she is no longer a pastor. They may remain in the status of “ordained” but they no longer use those abilities. Catholic clergy, in contrast, are always priests or bishops regardless of whether they are head of a church or diocese and still maintain their Sacramental and pastoral roles, just in a different way. Catholic clergy offer leadership to the faithful in a more spiritual way than administrative. The vast majority of Catholic clergy do not desire leadership when they enter seminary. Many have mediocre to poor administrative skill and yet they are still pastors. The main leadership aspect of a priest or bishop is to lead to the flock to God. Leadership with the Sacrament of Holy Orders is designed to set aside a group of people to know and understand God so as to help the faithful more assuredly to come to know him and follow him.

Fr. Cody





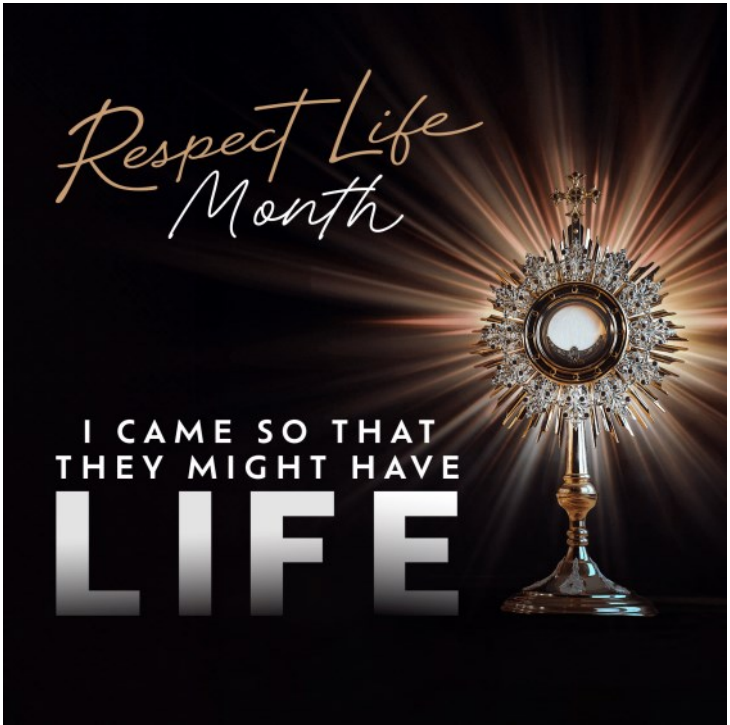
Parish potlucks

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. They're 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.

October 26: Peace

November 23: Hope

December 28: Love




Thank you to all the parishioners who volunteered at the Broadwater Food Pantry in September. Your kindness to our community is such a blessing!

**Town Pump is matching monetary donations given to the food pantry from September thru November.**

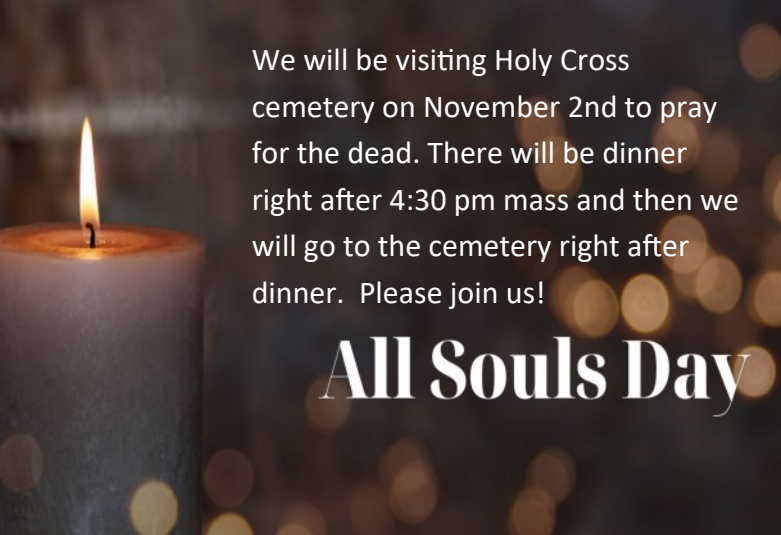
Please mail monetary donations directly to the Food Pantry. The address is:

**Broadwater Food Pantry**  
**PO Box 1164**  
**Townsend, MT 59644**



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. Orders are due by October 31st.



 **\$1,420.00** Helena Catholic Women's Conference

Save the date for the next Helena Catholic Women's Conference

April 10-11, 2026  
Helena Civic Center

Theme: "There Is No Place Like Home"

Visit [helenacwc.org](http://helenacwc.org) for more information

All bulletin information 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 Monday at 10a**


Holy Cross Parish Contributions	
Week ending October 19th	
Envelopes	\$1,420.00
Loose	\$254.87
Online	\$705.02
Total Weekly Contribution	\$2,378.89
Total Weekly Goal	\$2,629.31
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	\$1927.22
Week 2	\$1623.38
Week 3	\$2,378.89
Week 4	
Total Monthly Contribution	\$5,930.49
Total Year to Date	\$55,277.60
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00
Thank you for your generosity	

*Scripture Readings*



All Souls Day  
11-02-2025

Reading 1:	Wisdom 3:1-9
Psalms:	23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6
Reading 2:	Romans 5:5-11
Gospel:	John 6:37-40

 *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

"The Eucharist, behold the Christian's treasure, his delight on earth. Since Jesus is in the Eucharist for him personally, his whole life ought to be drawn to it like a magnet to its center."

- St. Peter Julian Eymard

Mass	Schedule
Monday October 27	Mass 9:00a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a Church Fathers series 6:30p
Tuesday October 28	Mass 9:00a Homebound
Wednesday October 29	Trick or Treat so others can eat 7:00p
Thursday October 30	
Friday October 31	
Saturday November 1	All Saints Mass 9:30a Adoration + Confession 2:00-4:00p
Sunday November 2	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p – 7:30p (Visit cemetery after dinner to pray for the dead)

**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 Aippersback, 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 Schaubert, Judy & Franklin Slifka, Mike McGonigal, Bob Moody

**Ministry Schedule**

Sunday November 2, 2026 4:30pm

Greet:	Pat and Debbie Miller
Lector:	Charles Ringenberg
Gifts:	John and Missy Rauser
EM:	Missy Cox and Fran Wright
Money Counters:	nKaree Eichinger and Kristi Gersch



# Faith Formation

## 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.



## LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

### SUNDAYS @ 4:00

NOV. 2 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

NOV. 9 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

NOV. 16 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

NOV. 23 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

NOV. 30 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES



**"The Rosary is a weapon  
for these times."  
- Saint Padre Pio**

## Upcoming Community Events

12/5/25 - "Rest in the Busyness"

2/6/25 - "The Struggle is Real"

Join us for an evening of food, real life stories and a discussion on finding God amidst the struggles and the busyness of life.

6:00 – 8:00pm

Location to be determined  
Dinner provided  
Free Event

More info coming soon!  
Sponsored by Holy Cross Church



Blessing bags are available in the Narthex. Please take and share them with someone in need.

## HABEMUS PAPAM



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicks off this weekend. Our goal is to raise \$21,300. Many people are unsure of the value and importance of the Annual Catholic Appeal. Let me guide you to understand the importance of this appeal using the new image on the poster. To maintain the function of the church, we have three parts that need support. The parishes are an essential part of the church. Through the parishes, the people come to know God, desire to follow him, receive the Sacraments, and have a place to live their lives of faith. Yet, parishes cannot sustain themselves. They need support from the Diocese for administrative needs, clergy, and to connect them to the larger church as a reminder that we are part of Jesus' Church not

our own. The Annual Catholic Appeal supports the education of priests, the ministries of the Diocese, administrative help to the parishes, and maintains our Catholic identity. Another aspect of the Church is the global aspect. We are not just a group of churches in Montana but part of the global Catholic Church. Recognizing our identity through these three aspects is necessary for understanding who we are. When all three of these aspects of the Church are understood, supported, and lived out, then we can understand who we are and our role in the Church of Jesus.

## Youth Schedule

**10/26/2025: RE Class (Feasts/Season Liturgical Year) - Bishop Austin Vetter here for Mass**

**10/29/2025: Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat Night (Middle and High school youth only) 5:30-8:30p**

**11/2/25: RE Class (Rite of visiting a cemetery on All Souls day)**

**11/9/25: RE Class (Praying with the Liturgy)**

**11/16/25: RE Class (Ritual as part of life)**



## So Others Can Eat

Attention all middle school and high school youth of the parish! The annual Trick or Treat so Others Can Eat night is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29th. Come join the middle/high school youth from the other churches in town to collect food for the Broadwater Food Pantry!

5:30-6:45 – Dinner (Holy Cross dining room)

6:45-7:00– Prayer & Instructions

7:00-8:00– Trick or Treating for canned food (No Costumes)

8:00-8:30– Pick up of youth by parents at food pantry

## 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.



### 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).**



**Fun Fact:** Religious orders wear long rosaries hanging down their side from their belts. Why? Because it is a weapon! This is the way that knights once carried their swords. And it is so much more powerful than a sword.

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!

