



Holy Cross Parish

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 11, 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

Office: 406-266-4811

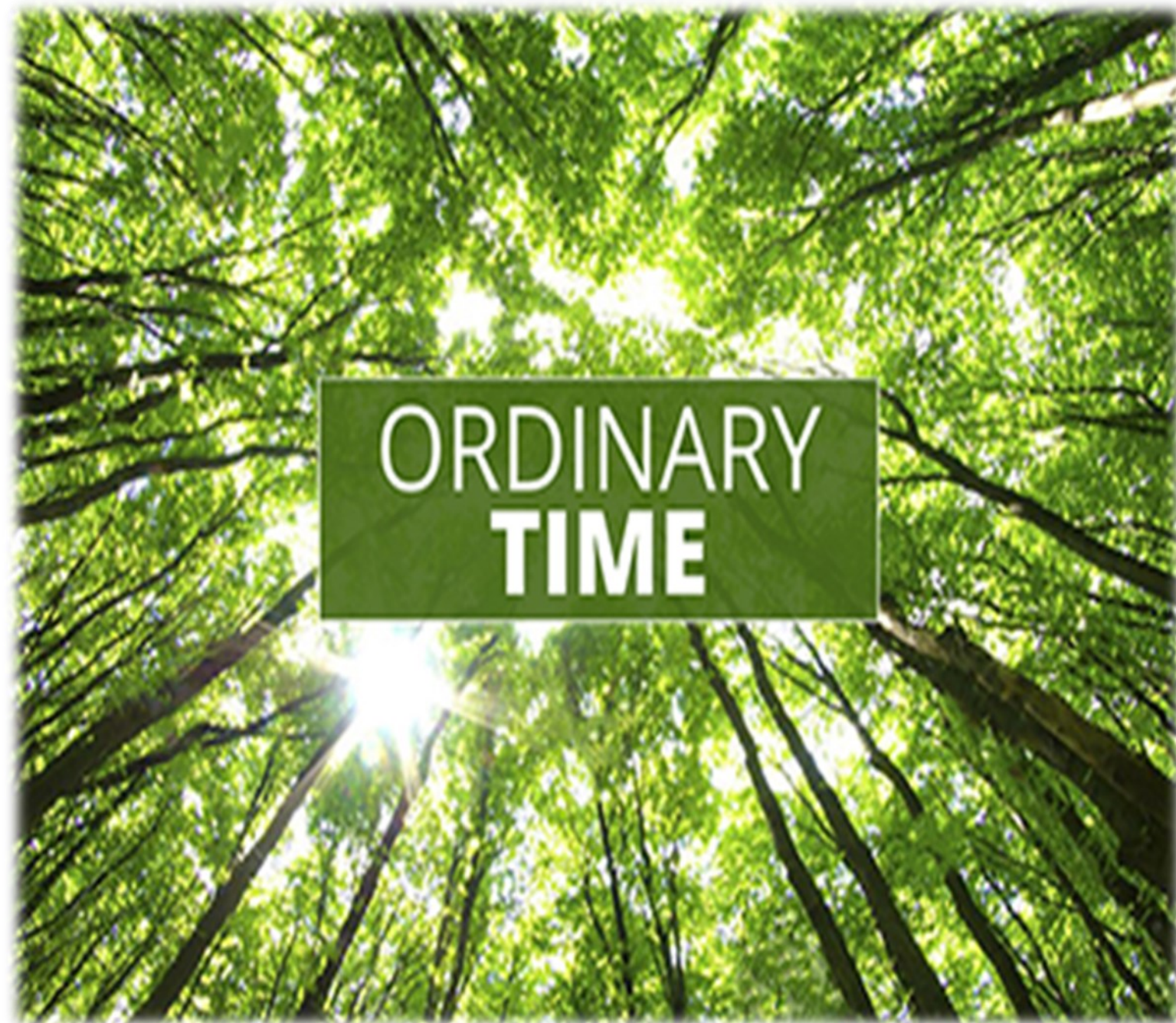
Email: office@holycrossmt.org

Shawna: RE@holycrossmt.org

Website: holycrossmt.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)

Townsend, Montana 59644



Confirmation

Although we don't often celebrate the Sacraments in this order, the Sacrament of Confirmation is the second Sacrament of the Sacraments of Initiation. Confirmation is also one of the most misunderstood of the Sacraments. For this reason, I am going to slowly walk through the basics of Confirmation to give it its due weight.

The history of the Sacrament of Confirmation is one of the most complicated of all the Sacraments. In the early Church most people entered the Church as adults. As adults, the process is very different from the process for children. When an adult is baptized, they are confirmed as part of the initiation rites of the Church. We maintain this structure at the baptisms at the Easter Vigil. First the person confesses their faith in God and the Church. Then the person is plunged in the water completing the Sacrament of Baptism. After they have been baptized, the next part is to be sealed with those graces using the Sacred Oils in the Sacrament of Confirmation. The final step of initiation is to receive the Eucharist.

For three centuries this was the process for initiating a new member into the Church. After Christianity became legal under the Edict of Constantine in 313, the number of people who wanted to enter the Church exploded. More people desired baptism and entrance into the Church than the Church could handle. Thus, the amount of time to prepare a person was reduced to 4 months and the standard Sacrament for initiation was baptism. The Sacrament of Confirmation has always been considered the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit. The bishop is the principal sign of the Holy Spirit since he is a successor of the Apostles. Therefore, even though baptism was given to priests, the Sacrament of Confirmation remained with the bishops. As the number of youth and converts grew, the bishops simply couldn't be present for each baptism. Therefore, the Sacrament of Confirmation moved away from the moment of baptism and was received at a later age.

By the Middle Ages, the Sacrament of Confirmation was connected with the age of reason. At one point this age was 10 and then Pope Pius X moved it to 7. Pope Pius X was so amazed by the faith of a young girl, that he changed the age of reason to 7 to accommodate those children who wanted to receive the Sacraments earlier. Thus the age of Confirmation became 7 years old. Only in the last 50 years the church, mostly in America and Europe, moved the Sacrament of Confirmation to high school age. The prevailing thought was that high schoolers were more mature and able to make a decision about choosing their faith than a 7 year old. Thus, the Sacrament of Confirmation was connected with choice, graduation, and completion of a Catholic education. Soon you will realize the tragedy that fell upon the Sacrament of Confirmation because of this change.

Final RE Game Day of the summer Tuesday, August 13th from 5-7p



Parish Picnic
Sunday, Aug. 18th
After 5:30 Mass

Bring a side or just come
All are welcome!

A meeting for all parents who want their kids to participate in RE this year will be on Sunday, August 25th after Mass.

Mass for the Assumption of Mary is on Wednesday, August 14th at 6:30 pm.

There will be a RE teacher's meeting following mass on Sunday, August 11th

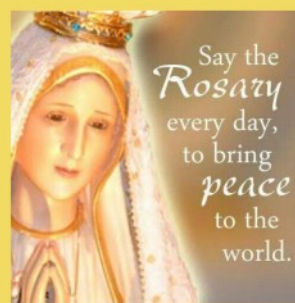
Mass for the week of August 19th will be on Tuesday August 20th at 9 am and Thursday August 22nd at 9 am with Adoration after Mass on Thursday. No Mass, adoration, or retired group on Monday, August 19th.

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.

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

SUNDAYS @ 4:00

AUGUST 4- JOYFUL MYSTERIES
 AUGUST 11 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES
 AUGUST 18 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES
 AUGUST 25- GLORIOUS MYSTERIES



Scripture Readings

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8-18-2024

Reading 1: Proverbs 9:1-6
 Psalm: 34:2-3,4-5,6-7
 Reading 2: Ephesians 5:15-20
 Gospel: John 6:51-58

MASS	Schedule
Monday August 12	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners Adoration 9:30a Retired Group 10:30a
Tuesday August 13	Mass 9a Kit Moldenhaver RB The Duede Family Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 3-5p RE Game Day 5-7p
Wednesday August 14	Mass 6:30p
Thursday August 15	NO MASS
Friday August 16	NO MASS
Saturday August 17	NO MASS
Sunday August 18	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family Parish Picnic

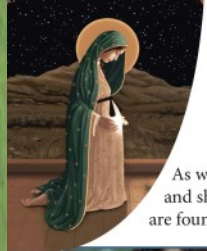
All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to office@holycrossmt.org
 Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed
Bulletin deadline is Monday at 10a
TWO weeks in advance

Ministry Schedule
 Sunday August 18, 2024 4:30pm

Greet:	Harold and Laura Gibbs
Lector:	Robin Kirscher
Gifts:	Tom and Julie Lethert
EM:	Missy Cox and Monte Montonario
Money Counters:	Karee Eichinger and Kristi Gersch

Pews on Sale!

First come, first serve. If you would like to buy a pew here are the stipulations. Each pew, regardless of size is \$200, for the full length. The office will mark down the pews bought and collect money. The pew must be picked up on the date that we are removing them from the church, Sept 16th. Any unclaimed pews will be tossed.



Montana Catholics For Life

For Babies For Mothers For Families

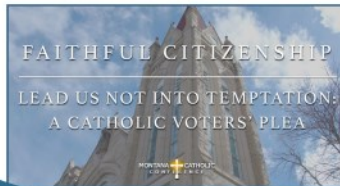
As we continue to answer our Montana Bishops' call to defend life and reject the radical abortion initiative CI-128, please watch and share the videos below. May they bless us and all who watch them as we promote the beauty and sanctity of life. Both videos are found at the link and QR code below.



INTO LIFE
- LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING -

Into Life Series: *Hope & Fear: Understanding the Heart of a Pregnant Woman*

The video reveals the power of perfect love in overcoming the fear that plagues women facing unplanned pregnancies. It emphasizes the importance of relating to mothers who feel alone, inadequate, and unsupported by the baby's father or family. When we offer genuine understanding through Christ, He can transform a woman's experience from fear and isolation to strength and hope. As we commit to providing emotional and practical support to help a mother believe in her own strength and capacity to love, her great dignity, found in Jesus, becomes evident. This dignity shows that both she and her unborn child deserve better than abortion.



FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP
LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION:
A CATHOLIC VOTERS' PLEA

Faithful Citizenship Series: *Lead Us Not Into Temptation*

In this insightful video, MCC Executive Director Matt Brower highlights the moral challenges and temptations voters face, namely that all issues are not morally equivalent and that moral distinctions can be misused, ignoring other serious threats to human life and dignity. He explains that the voting process impacts us deeply and that voting is a moral act that reflects and shapes our conscience. For Catholics, voting can and should be done in a way that draws us closer to Jesus Christ and His Church.

Find these, and more life-affirming resources at montanacc.org/montana-bishops-defend-life, or by scanning the QR code.



Dear Women of Holy Cross Church,

We are having a gathering to discuss the future of Women of Faith

Tuesday, August 27th at 7 pm

This is open to all women of Holy Cross Church



Women make the world more beautiful, they protect it and keep it alive. They bring the grace of renewal, the embrace of inclusion and the courage to give themselves to others. Peace, then, is born of women, it rises and is rekindled by the tenderness of mothers. Therefore, the dream of peace becomes reality when we look to women.

- Pope Francis

Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended August 4th

Total Weekly	\$2,157.09
Budget	\$2,902.00
Variance	-\$744.91

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

"The shepherds - simple souls - came to adore the Infant Savior. Mary rejoiced at seeing their homage and willing offerings they made to her Jesus... How happy is the loving soul when it has found Jesus with Mary, His Mother! They who know the Tabernacle where He dwells, they who receive Him into their souls, know that His conversation is full of divine sweetness, His consolation ravishing, His peace superabundant, and the familiarity of His love and His Heart ineffable."

- St. Peter Julian Eymard

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:



Elaine Graveley, Bob Masolo, Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, 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

Do you know?

Heresy: a heresy is a teaching about the Christian faith which is erroneous or contradictory to the truth of the faith. A heretic is a person who obstinately holds a belief that is declared contrary to the faith.

Schism: a schism is a separation from the Church. This separation can be in the form of starting a new church, rejection of unity with the pope, or rejecting central events of the church like a council. A schismatic is someone who remains in separation from the church even after being corrected or informed of their separation.

Apostasy: apostasy is the formal act of rejecting the church or formally renouncing the religion.

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.