



Holy Cross Parish

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

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



All-male priesthood

What do we do?

The saddest part of the debate over the priesthood in our modern times is that it turned the people of the church away from their responsibilities towards the church. We spend so much time and energy frustrated that the Church does not adapt to our beliefs and desires that we end up hurting the church through our resentments. Nothing shows this pain more than the current priest shortage. What caused the priest shortage? Decades of members of the church deciding to stop promoting vocations to the priesthood. Since the 2nd Vatican Council, many within the church simply believed that there would always be priests or that we can await the time in which the church "updates" to our modern views of the world. This clearly didn't happen and now we are in a great struggle. So, what do we do?

Supporting priests and the priesthood

The Church's stance on an all-male celibate priesthood is not going to change but our attitude can. Where do priests come from? They come from our families. Good, strong Catholic families know this reality. They know they need to support vocations to the priesthood in their families. Every time we have a new vocation to the priesthood that means that a mother gave up her hopes for grandchildren from her son and gave her son to the church. Each new vocation comes from our families. Without the support of families to provide new priests, we won't have any priests and more churches will close for lack of priests. We need to change our attitude both to our families and the priesthood. Anyone who is currently not willing to either support young men in discerning the priesthood, all young in discerning a vocation, supporting seminarians, or supporting families in the church want the church to die. We should not be surprised that parishes with Adoration, strong Catholic families, parishioners who support vocations, and who emphasize discernment also have vocations to the priesthood coming from their parishes. This is our role. Our role is to support vocations to the priesthood.

We need a revival in our understanding of the Church

Let's make my point clear: the Church has not changed nor is it going to change. What has changed is our attitude towards the Church. Prior to our modern age, it was very common to have many groups within our churches that would support charitable causes, have small groups, or groups who assisted with the work of the church. Many of these groups are gone because we focus on our own lives and our "essential" needs. If we want a revival in the church, it starts with a revival in our understanding of our role as church. The ideal vision of the church is that the pastor works together with his people to build up the kingdom of God in their place. The priest and the people work as a unit who understand the essential mission of the church and orient their efforts to the same direction. This is not a fictitious idea; this is the model of the Church. It is time for us to reclaim our identity and build this vision anew. We need a revival in our churches.

Fr. Cody



You're Invited to Our
Fireside Gala
Saturday,
January 24, 2026

101 S. Walnut St., Townsend
Holy Cross Church.

Enjoy a cozy night out!

Steak dinner with appetizers,
salad, main course, and dessert.
\$50/plate

Seating times:

4:00pm, 5:00pm, or 6:00pm
Bring your own beer or wine!

For reservations
call: 406-266-4811
or scan the QR code

Proceeds go to Holy Cross Church

Parish potlucks

Every 4th 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. Their 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.

January 25: Peace

February 22: Hope

March 22: Love



CATHOLIC JOURNEY EXPERIENCE: ALL ARE INVITED!

This is your opportunity to attend a 3-day weekend retreat seeking guidance by the Holy Spirit into a deeper experience of Christian community, prayer, discussion, reflection and enlightenment!

Women's Weekend held at St Cyril and Methodius, East Helena

January 15-18th, 2026

Contact: helenacatholicjourney.women@gmail.com 406-431-7577

Men's Weekend held at St Cyril and Methodius, East Helena

February 12-15th 2026

Contact: Helenacursillorector@gmail.com 406-431-7544

HABEMUS PAPAM



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicks off this weekend. Our goal is to raise \$21,900. 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. **We have currently reached 35% of our parish goal, with \$14,175 to go!**



SAVE THE DATE

MARCH for LIFE
January 16, 2026
11:30am at the State Capitol Rotunda

This year's Keynote Speaker is Kristan Hawkins, CEO of the Pro-Life Generation and President of Students for Life of America and Students for Life Action. She is a frequent speaker and analyst on the topics of abortion, feminism and disability advocacy. She has spent nearly two decades building a national network of more than 1500+ campus Students for Life groups in all 50 states.

She hosts "The Kristan Hawkins Show" weekly and discusses trending news items from a pro-life perspective. Her writings and interviews have appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Fox News, CNN, CBS, NBC, ABC, Newsweek, and NPR.

In addition to what is sure to be an informative and inspiring presentation by our Keynote Speaker, additional speakers will provide updates on Planned Parenthood facility closures and the latest developments regarding dissemination of the Abortion Pill. There are also plans to honor the life and legacy of Charlie Kirk.

This event is sponsored by: 

For the latest updates on this event, please scan this QR code to go to the Prolife Montana EVENT page 

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending December 28th

Envelopes	\$6,347.00
Loose	\$954.42
Online	\$888.74
Total Weekly Contribution	\$8,190.16
Total Weekly Goal	\$2,629.31
Monthly Summary	
Week 1	\$5,084.06
Week 2	\$2,133.92
Week 3	\$5,060.08
Week 4	\$8,190.16
Total Monthly Contribution	\$20,468.62
Total Year to Date	\$105,316.76
Yearly Goal	\$140,000.00

MASS

Monday January 5 Mass 9:00a
Seminarians
Adoration 9:30a

Tuesday January 6 Mass 9:00a
Homebound Parishioners

Wednesday January 7

Thursday January 8

Friday January 9

Saturday January 10

Sunday January 11 Confession 3:30p
Mass 4:30p
Parish Family
5:30p - 7:30p RE

Schedule

Scripture Readings



The Baptism of the Lord

01-11-2026

Reading 1:	Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Psalm:	29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10
Reading 2:	Acts 10:34-38
Gospel:	Matthew 3:13-17



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Like Mary, let us be full of zeal to go in haste to give Jesus to others. She was full of grace when, at the annunciation, she received Jesus. Like her, we too become full of grace every time we receive Holy Communion. It is the same Jesus whom she received and whom we receive at Mass. As soon as we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, let us go in haste to give Him to our sisters, to our poor, to the sick, to the dying, to the lepers, to the unwanted, and the unloved. By this we make Jesus present in the world today."

- Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

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 Schauber, Judy & Franklin Silifka, Mike McGonigal, Bob Moody, Mary Garman, Bakkum family, Karen Simonich

Ministry Schedule

Sunday January 11, 2026 4:30pm

Greet:	Tacy Swanton
Lector:	Mary Ellen Schnur
Gifts:	Fisette Family
EM:	John Bleile and Megan Bleile
Money Counters:	Juanita Bray and Karen Susag

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.

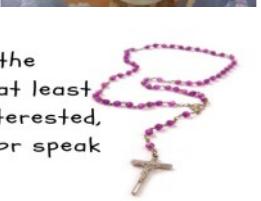


1/5/26 will be the last session for the fall series

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY
SUNDAYS @ 4PM

JAN 4 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES
JAN 11 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES
JAN 18 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES
JAN 25 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES
FEB 1 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

We need someone to lead the rosary on Sunday at 4pm at least once a month. If you're interested, please contact the office or speak with Shawna.



Calling All Women

Are you interested in participating in a women's group?

Fr. Cody is calling all women of the parish who are interested in participating in a women's group to a meeting to discuss possible groups like the Daughters of Isabella and gauge interest in starting a new group. Hope to see you all there.

Due to lots of scheduling conflicts and the holidays, Father Cody has moved the Women's meeting to

Monday, January 12th at 6pm.

GET THE WINTER WIGGLES OUT

...Moms ... & Littles
Friday 1/16/26

11AM -12PM
Piano & Songs

Moms with kids 4 and under

Come meet other Moms and get your little ones out of the house during winter. Enjoy piano sing along songs and lots of space to play.



Contact Natalie with questions/RSVP
949-200-2315
Location: Holy Cross Catholic Church (Basement event space)
101 S Walnut, Townsend

All bulletin information and mass announcements requests need to be submitted by email to

bulletin@holycrossmt.org

Requests submitted by texts or calls can not be guaranteed

Bulletin deadline is Tuesday at 10a

Faith Formation

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.

Youth Schedule

1/4/26: Parish Christmas Party

1/11/26: RE Class (Liturgy of the Word and praying with Scripture)

1/18/26: RE Class (Coming to prayer with God's word)

1/25/26: RE Class (God's gift to us: The Eucharistic Prayer)

Holy Cross Youth Ski Day

Friday,
January 23rd
Showdown Ski Hill

Join us for a fun day of skiing. Meet at the church at 8:00 am to carpool or on the hill at 9:30 am. Church will pay for the youth's lift ticket and lunch. Any child younger than 6th grade needs to be accompanied by a parent. Please contact Father Cody or Shawna if your child needs a ride.

Legendary Lodge 2026 CAMPS SCHEDULE

June 14-19	Junior High #1	July 12-17	High School #2
June 21-26	High School #1	July 19-24	Junior High #2
July 5-10	5/6th Grade Boys	July 26-31	5/6th Grade Girls

Registration for families who live within the Diocese of Helena opens Jan 5th. Opens for all other registrants Jan 9th.

Join us for Family Camp!
June 28-30
Registration opens March 2nd, 2026



Camp Rates

Early Bird:
(Register before Jan 25th)
\$425

Standard:
\$450

Holy Cross Parish is offering assistance for the cost of Legendary Lodge that can be used at the time of registration. If you are interested in a scholarship for your child to attend camp, please contact the parish office before registration begins.

Visit Legendarylodge.org for camp registration.

HIGH SCHOOL SKI RETREAT
WHITEFISH, MT



JANUARY 23-25, 2026

We invite high school youth in grades 9-12 and their adult chaperones to join us in a fun weekend of skiing, faith, and fellowship!

Location: Whitefish, MT - We will stay at St. Charles Borromeo Parish and ski at Whitefish Mountain.

Cost: \$50, plus cost of lift ticket, ski rentals etc.

REGISTRATION AND INFO AT diocesehelena.org/skitreat



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!

