

The Food Pantry needs our help! Twice a month the Food Pantry is open to provide food for those who need some extra assistance. Due to limited support for the weeks the Food Bank is open, Holy Cross will now help out during the months of February, June, and September. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, sign up sheets will be available on the table in the Narthex during those months or you can contact Paul VanHoudt. The Food Bank has returned to it's normal location.

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

Broadwater Food Pantry

PO Box 1164

Townsend, MT 59644

Thank you for your generosity!



CALLED TO CARE

All across Montana, children in crisis are praying for safety, love, and belonging.

Catholic Social Services and Child Bridge are raising up families grounded in Christian compassion.

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me."
Matthew 18:5

Could God be calling you to step in?

LEARN MORE TODAY
childbridgemontana.org



CHILD BRIDGE


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. 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.

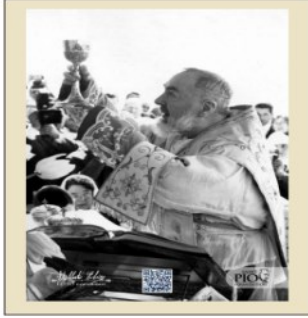
August 24: Hope

September 28: Love

October: Compassion





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



Holy Cross Parish

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 17, 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

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 minor orders

Since I will be referencing the minor orders through the rest of this part of the series, I want to take some time to explain and help you understand their role in the modern day Catholic Church as well as some changes implemented by Pope Francis.

Prior to the 2nd Vatican Council, the process of becoming a priest involved a few more steps called the minor orders. These “minor orders” are ancient roles taken by various people throughout the church who perform roles of service that are not sacramental. The four minor orders are exorcist, lector, acolyte, and subdeacon. If you ever visit a church built before 1960 and notice the stairs leading into the Sanctuary, some of these churches built into the church the theology of the minor orders. The stairs leading in the Sanctuary can, but not always do, have two sets of stairs with three landings. The first landing is at the base of the stairs and emphasizes the People of God who await at the base of the altar for the gifts of God. The first set of stairs will have four steps. Each step represents one of the minor orders. At a Traditional Latin Mass, those men who are serving at the Mass and have received at least one of the minor orders would kneel on the step of the highest order they have received or their role for that Mass. The rank of the minor orders is as follows from least to greatest: exorcist, lector, acolyte, and subdeacon. The second landing represents the distinction between the minor and major orders separated by ordination. The next set of stairs will have three steps representing the three levels of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Deacons kneel on the lowest step, priests on the middle step, and bishops on the highest step. The final landing is the base of the altar.

The minor orders were stepping stones to prepare for ordination and thus they were restricted to men. In our modern church, the minor orders still exist. Any man who is seeking ordination to the diaconate or priesthood has to be installed as a lector or acolyte first. The minor orders of exorcist and subdeacon have been suppressed if not eliminated. Since lectors and acolytes are not sacramental roles, the person installed is now considered a trained lector or acolyte for the whole church. Most churches have ministries like Lector or Eucharistic Minister to help in the Mass. These roles are specific to their own church. Those instituted as lectors and acolytes by a bishop perform this role for the whole church and can serve in any church.

Since the minor orders were suppressed by the 2nd Vatican Council, many wanted to further open these ministries to the faithful who are not seeking ordination. Pope Francis changed the laws around these orders to allow men and women to be installed as lector or acolyte. The rites have not been revised as of writing this. The role of lector is more than reading at Mass. The role of the lector is to assist at Mass by proclaiming the readings and to assist the faithful in the study of Scripture. The role of the acolyte is more than a glorified altar server. Acolytes can assist in the distribution of Communion, help with the purification of the vessels after Mass, act as Sacristan, be the Master of Ceremonies for the Mass, and assist the priest in the celebrate of the Mass.

Fr. Cody

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending August 10

Envelopes \$1002.00

Loose \$51.14

Online \$461.64

Total Weekly Contribution \$1514.78

Total Weekly Goal \$2,629.31

Monthly Summary

Week 1 \$2273.27

Week 2 \$1514.78

Week 3

Week 4

Total Monthly Contribution \$3788.05

Monthly Goal \$11667.00

Total Year to Date \$15237.60

Yearly Goal \$140,000.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Scripture Readings



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

08-24-2025

Reading 1: Isaiah 66:18-21

Psalm: 117:1, 2

Reading 2: Hebrews 12::5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"The Eucharist had so powerful an attraction for the Blessed Virgin that she could not live away from it. She lived in it and by it. She passed her days and her nights at the feet of her divine Son.... Her love for her hidden God shone in her countenance and communicated its ardour to all about her."

- St. Peter Julian Eymard

Mass

Schedule

Monday

August 18

Mass 9:00a

Mary Alice Upton rb Avila Family

Adoration 9:30a

Tuesday

August 19

Mass 9:00a

Homebound

Wednesday

August 20

Thursday

August 21

Friday

August 22

Saturday

August 23

Sunday

August 24

Confession 3:30p

Mass 4:30p

Parish Family

5:30p Parish Potluck- Hosted by Circle of Hope

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 24, 2025

4:30pm

Greet:

Tacy Swanton

Lector:

Charles Ringenberg

Gifts:

Mike Gagen and Karen Susag

EM:

Karen Simonich and Nikki Weiss

Money Counters:

Juanita Bray and Karen Susag