

Stewardship

1-21-2024

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$3,363.00
Stole Gift	\$600.00
Restricted	\$100.00
Loose	\$8.00
Total	\$4,071.00

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-December

City of Townsend	\$173.41
NorthWestern Energy	\$631.97
Geisser Services	\$1,115.00
Montana Energy Alliance	\$1,838.15
Spectrum	\$144.97
Flocknote	\$36.00
MT Department of Labor	\$72.00
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$1,356.52

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Grave Sites	
Short Term	
Long Term	
Open & Close Gravesite	
Memorial	\$50.00
Total	\$50.00

Cemetery Expenses-December

Geisser Services	\$875.00
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Please consider a memorial for your loved ones to the Holy Cross Cemetery instead of flowers.

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"If we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ's love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude."

- St. Angela of Foligno

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.

Dillon Armstrong, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, John Cooney, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, and Matt Keck

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, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Shanna Montonario, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Kadence Saxton, Tom Grewell and family, Alex Bakken, Millie Sullivan, JL and Janet Jones, Vince Boster, Paulette Obrigewitch, Nicole Ito, John Clark, Lynette Swetye and Ryder



Did You Know!

The Catholic Church gives priests and deacons the power to bless created things for the sake of prayer and devotion. We are allowed to bless created things that are then set apart for the use in prayer and worship of God. Through the blessing of objects, these objects for seeking and praising God. The Church allows for blessing objects such as homes, places of worship, places of work, things we use such as prayer beads and metals, fishing equipment and more.

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.



Holy Cross Parish

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 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

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Townsend, Montana 59644

Ordinary Time

Redemption and Salvation

In the previous part we begun to explore other theories of our salvation and redemption in Jesus that were not consequences of Adam's sin and the fall.

Theory 5: Embrace theory

Jesus' coming into the world was an expression of God's love for the world. God, the author and fullness of love, wanted to *embrace* the world, he wanted to be in it and a part of it. He wanted to be so close to the world as to be able to touch and hold it. Yet, the world would not understand God's love for it unless it both had the choice to choose against it and chose against God's will. Thus God created a world in which the world would choose against God and feel the effects of the separation. Jesus coming into the world created a sharp contrast between the fallenness of the world and the joy of God coming to be with his creation. Thus God *embraced* the world through his coming to visit the fallen world and show his love by redeeming it.

The Embrace theory has many problems. The first, and most glaring problem, is that God didn't give his creatures free-will but only the semblance of it. The world was supposed to fall into sin; God made it fall into sin so that he could show it his love. The other way to look at this problem is that the world needed to be fallen in order to experience God's love. The second problem is that the experience of God's love necessitates sin. Heaven is the prime counter example. Those in Heaven experience God's love without sinning. Only in our temporal world does sin become a means through which we can experience God's mercy. Sin is not the only avenue to experience God's mercy. God can show his mercy to whomever he wants.

Theory 6: The Scapegoat Theory

This last theory of our salvation and redemption is not a theory but a fulfillment of Scripture. In the Book of Exodus when the ritual of atonement begun, the High Priest would take two goats. One of the goats was sacrificed as an appeal to God for the forgiveness of sins. The priest put his hands on the second goat symbolically giving it all the sins of the Israelites to the goat. Then the High Priest would drive the goat out of the camp symbolically driving away the sins of the people into the desert. Jesus is the fulfillment of this ritual. All the sins of the world were placed upon him and he was killed to show the offering of the Son to the Father, the effects of sin, and the sacrifice that brought forgiveness of sin. This theory illustrates the connection between Old Testament ritual and its meaning fulfilled in Jesus. It doesn't explain why Jesus was crucified nor the reason God sent his Son into the world.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2-4-2024

Reading 1: Job 7:1-4,6-7
Psalm: 147:1-2,3-4,5-6
Reading 2: I Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39



MASS	Schedule
Monday January 29	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 101 7p
Tuesday January 30	Mass 9a
Wednesday January 31	No Mass
Thursday February 1	No Mass
Friday February 2	No Mass
Saturday February 3	No Mass
Sunday February 4	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family Family Night

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 February 4, 2024	4:30pm
Greet:	Pat and Debbie Miller
Lector:	Marilyn Vandersloot
Gifts:	Harold and Laura Gibbs
EM:	Karen Simonich and Nikki Weiss
Money Counters:	Juanita Bray and Karen Susag



Hey kids, want some candy? Fr. Cody has a challenge for you. Using the bingo cards, once per Mass, if you recognize one of the words on the Bingo card from the Mass, show it to Fr. Cody and he will give you a stamp. If you get a bingo, you get candy. Bingo cards are available on the info table in the narthex.

Out of a desire to use our faith and our parish to help the world, I would like to start a program to support needs throughout the world. These acts of support will come from the parish resources and will not be a second collection or another appeal. If you have causes or people throughout the world that you would like to support, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.



The Diocesan Capital Campaign has kicked off. The goal is to raise \$30 million as a Diocese in 5 years. These funds will create endowments for seminarian education and promotion of vocations, retired priests, spreading our faith, and supporting parishes. We get back 40% of all money raised in this parish. Please take a prayer card and pray for the success of the campaign. Fr. Cody will be calling everyone and setting up meeting to discuss this campaign and hear your desires for our parish.

The 2024 Calendars are available on the information table in the entrance area of the church. There are also new church directories available.

Mondays 7-8:30

The next topic is "Sacraments Part 1: Sacraments of Initiation" on Monday, January 29th. The notes are posted on the website and a livestream version is available. If you would like to join the livestream version, send an email to frcwilliams@holycrossmt.org.

Catholicism 101

Do you know someone who is interested in learning about Catholicism? Would you like to know your faith a little better? Then, this series is for you!

Mondays 7-8:30

Schedule of the topics on the bench in the entryway.

A livestream option for Catholicism 101 will be available on Mondays from 7-8:30 and on Thursdays from 6:30-8. Please invite your friends and family members who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. All are welcome!



The Four Chaplains Ceremony will be at the Trailhead Church on Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 11 am

Every 4th Saturday of the month, we will have Adoration and Confessions from 9 am to noon. This is a great opportunity to spend some time with Jesus who is present in bodily form in the Eucharist as well as celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You are welcome to come for as little or as much time as you wish. Resources will be available to help you pray and make the most of the time you have. I encourage everyone to come and use this opportunity.

Next Holy Hour February 24th

Have A Seat!



Our match for the Pews has been met! Due to a few generous donations, we have reached the goal meaning that we have gained an extra \$30,000 for our pews. Once I have signed some contracts, I will give you exact numbers for the remainder of the cost. We will have new pews next summer!



Wednesday, February 14, 2024

40 Days for Life Spring Prayer Vigil Rally
At Planned Parenthood

Please join us at our prayer vigil at the Helena Planned Parenthood from 9am-3pm. 40 Days for Life Leader, Cheryl Wilson, will be on-site during these hours with warm beverages, signs and other resources to assist with providing a productive and meaningful day of prayer. Please feel free to contact Cheryl at Cheryl40days4life@gmail.com with any questions.

CREATED GOOD

Townsend Community Family Night

DINNER PROVIDED



FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Let's explore the goodness of our humanity through activities and events that focus on being created in God's image.

When: 1st Sunday of every month
5:45-7:00 pm
Where: Holy Cross Parish Center
101 S. Walnut St.

~~Jan. 7th: Christmas Party~~
Feb. 4th: What do I do with my life?
March 3rd: What does it mean to be forgiven?
April 7th: Easter Party
May 5th: How do I make strong relationships?

FREE EVENT



The Annual Catholic Appeal is in full swing. Our goal is to raise \$21,100 for the purpose of the Diocese, the parishes of the Diocese, and the mission of the Diocese. Please consider and make a donation to the ACA. We are currently at 78% of our goal with only \$5,100 remaining. If you have yet to donate for the good of our Diocesan church, please consider making a donation.

Change for Life



As you leave today, please pick up a baby bottle. These bottles are a fundraiser for Options Clinic, our local pregnancy medical clinic offering life-affirming services to those facing an unintended pregnancy.

With the help of your generosity, we are offering...

- FREE clinical grade pregnancy tests
- FREE options education
- FREE early ultrasound
- Low-Cost STD testing & treatment
- FREE KidSmart parenting classes
- Free/Low-Cost well-woman care
- FREE supplies for new parents
- Free after-abortion recovery

Please return bottles to church in 3 weeks.

OR

Give here



Together, we are Offering Hope & Building Families.

Options Clinic is a 501(C)3. For more information, visit OptionsHelena.org or call 406.422.1011. Thank you. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

Blessings

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.



Book Sale: Karen Simonich is hosting a book sale on the 1st Sunday of each month. You are welcome to look through them and see if you are interested in any of them.

Spaghetti Dinner

TB's diner is hosting a special Spaghetti feed on Wednesday, January, 31st from 11 am to 8 pm. \$10 for a plate of spaghetti, salad, and a roll. This dinner supports two local families in need.

Food Pantry Needs Your Help

The Food Pantry is looking for additional help in February.

When: Friday Feb. 2nd
Saturday Feb. 3rd
Friday Feb. 16th
Saturday Feb. 17th

Time: 8:45a-10:45a

If you are able to help there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

The food pantry is also in need of meat donations. The meat needs to be commercially processed.

FEBRUARY 9TH

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

WITH BISHOP AUSTIN VETTER

EVENT DETAILS
MASS // INDIVIDUAL BLESSING OF COUPLES // RECEPTION @ THE MONTANA CLUB // FREE CHILDCARE

HELP STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MONTANA

40 Days for Life Spring Kick Off Rallies

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Prolife Montana is hosting an event for the 40 Days for Life Kick off rally that focuses on the reality of human trafficking in Montana. We are honored to have both **Attorney General Austin Knudsen** and **Founder of The Lifeguard Group, Lowell Hochholter**, join us for this event to discuss the ramifications this "industry" is having within the borders of our very own state as well as resources and information that can provide guidance and hope to identify potential victims of this horrendous crime and the resources to help rescue human trafficking victims.

This event will be held at Helena First Youth Building; doors open at 6pm.