



Holy Cross Parish

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 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

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Basics of Catholicism part 128

Conditions that invalidate a marriage

Now that we have discussed the process of declaring a marriage invalid, called an annulment, I want to take some time to discuss the conditions that the judges and lawyers are looking for to declare a marriage invalid. The Church has quite a lofty ideal for marriage. For a valid marriage, both persons of the couple come to the marriage fully understanding the vows they are about to exchange, the implication of the vows, and come with full consent of the will. This means that anything that strays from this ideal would be grounds for an invalid marriage. What exactly does this look like?

Lack of Form: Catholics are required to be married in the Catholic Church. Once someone is baptized in the Catholic Church, they are expected to also have their marriage validated by the Church. When this doesn't happen, the marriage is declared invalid. Many situations prompt this case. The most common situation is when two people are married by a Justice of the Peace or by a friend. These marriages didn't happen in the church and are therefore invalid. A few exceptions exist. A couple can ask for permission to have their marriage celebrated by a Protestant minister instead of a Catholic witness. The Church can grant this permission when asked for in advance. Since the minister is merely a witness of the vows, we can allow for Protestant ministers and even lay Catholics to witness the marriage. This permission is never allowed for Justices of the Peace or non-ordained persons from other religions.

Radical Sanation: An exceptionally rare case to the Lack of Form situation is when a couple gets married outside the Church for political, social, or other extenuating circumstances but would have been married in the Church had these situations not existed. For instance, let's say the couple wanted to get married in the Catholic Church but the parents were vehemently opposed to it. What are they to do? In cases in which the couple would have been married in the Church given normal circumstances but couldn't, the Church can heal that marriage immediately without any public process to allow the couple to be able to participate in the Sacraments without causing public scandal.

Previous Marriage: Another very common situation that immediately invalidates a marriage is if the person was previously married. In the event that someone is married and then marries another person without being granted an annulment from the previous marriage, the second marriage is automatically invalid. Jesus makes it clear that you can only be married once.

These situations are some of the easiest to work with because their situations are very clear. Did you get married in the Church as a Catholic or not?

Fr. Cody

Western Montana Catholic Women's CONFERENCE

"COME TO ME" MATTHEW 11:28



Sister Jacinta Phipps



Celeste Bebe



Jessica Echeverry

There Is No Place Like Home

Friday, April 10, 2026 ~ Cathedral of St. Helena

5:30 pm Mass and Rosary ~ All are welcome

Saturday, April 11, 2026 ~ 7 am check-in

Women's Conference, Speakers, Confessions, Vendors, Fellowship

(including special "Montana Strong" speakers: Allison Bell, Kaylyn Lybeck, Lynnette Nilan)



Helena Civic Center

visit HelenaCWC.org



Patrick Conley, host of The Inner Life on Relevant Radio, will be the honored guest speaker for our KNEH Catholic radio fundraiser banquet on **Saturday, April 18th at Carroll College Campus Center**.

Reception at 5pm, banquet at 6pm. Tickets online at www.kneh.org or call 406-410-0968.

Buy 7 tickets and get one free plus your own reserved table for eight. Thanks for your support!

You can listen to KNEH on the myParish app (click on the microphone icon) or at 97.3FM.



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

Western Montana CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

"Come to Me" Matt 11:28

April 11, 2026 - Civic Center, Helena, MT

www.helenacwc.org / 406.603.0175

Lord Jesus, thank you for the constant love you have for me. Thank you for the gift of life and the gift of faith. Today, take me into your Sacred Heart and renew me. I open my heart to your grace, to be



healed where healing is needed. Replace any wounds or worries with your peace and joy. Send your Holy Spirit into my whole being: body, mind, and soul. Guide me to be the woman you have created me to be: your beloved daughter, disciple, and friend. Please remove any obstacles that keep me from living this way. Make me a

woman of faith, hope, and charity. Lord, pour out your grace upon the upcoming Catholic Women's Conference, upon the planning efforts, and upon many women that they may hear your invitation and say "yes." May the conference be a time of spiritual renewal, healing, reconciliation, and joy for all who attend. Thank you Lord Jesus for all this, I pray in your sweet name. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!

Mother Mary, Gate of Heaven



Gate of Heaven, you are the sweetest, the tenderest, the kindest of mothers, constantly watching me with eyes of love as I travel my weary way through this same valley of tears that was once marked by your own blessed footsteps. How surely does devotion to you open the heavenly portals to numberless souls! Be the Gate of Heaven to me by obtaining through your prayers all the graces I need to live a holy life and to enter the gates of heaven. Amen.

St. Monica intercessor

Blessed Monica, mother of St. Augustine, we give thanks to our Father in Heaven who looked with mercy upon your tears over your wayward son. His conversion and heroic sanctification were the fruit of your prayers.

Dear St. Monica, we now ask you to pray with us for all those sons and daughters that have wandered away from God, and to add your prayers to those of all mothers who are worried over their children. Amen.



Mother Mary, Gate of Heaven, pray for us.
St. Monica, pray for us. Amen.

FEBRUARY 18-MARCH 29, 2026
INFORMAL KICKOFF 1:30PM
ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026
1500 CANNON STREET, THIS
CAMPAIGNS OPEN HOURS ARE 7AM
TO 7PM. SIGN UP FOR YOUR
PREFERRED TIMES AT
40DAYSFORLIFE.COM/HELENA

40 DAYS
FOR LIFE



WE CHOOSE
PRAYER OVER
DESPAIR. PEACE
OVER SILENCE.
COURAGE OVER
COMFORT

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.

March 22: Love

April 26: Peace

May 24: **No Potluck** (Memorial Day Weekend)

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. Please keep all your items to be blessed with you until the end of Mass. Once Mass is ended, Fr. Cody will come to the entrance of the Church and bless any of the objects that are on the table. Those objects that are on the table belong to the people who want them blessed and are not free for the taking.

Blessings



HOLY CROSS PARISH BOOK STUDY
IMITATION OF CHRIST
 by Thomas a Kempis
 WE'LL MEET ON THE FOLLOWING
 THURSDAYS AT 9AM - 11AM

| | |
|----------|----------|
| March 5 | April 23 |
| March 19 | May 7 |
| April 9 | May 21 |

Open to men and women
Drop-ins are welcome
 Meet downstairs in the quilting room..
 For more info: Please contact
 Marge Kroeger 406-293-0514

The Holy Cross book study of the Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis will meet again on **Thursday, April 9th** We are discussing a variety of excerpts from the book. The study is open to all, including drop-ins.

We meet in the classrooms downstairs.

Contact Marge Kroeger at 406-293-0514 with any questions!



Please join us in praying the
Divine Mercy Chaplet
 on
Sunday, April 12th
4:00pm
 which is known as
Divine Mercy Sunday

Holy Cross Parish Contributions

Week ending March 8th

Envelopes \$24,487.00

Loose \$259.00

Online \$260.34

Total Weekly Contribution \$25,006.34

Total Weekly Goal \$2,629.31

Monthly Summary

Week 1 \$1,674.38

Week 2 \$2,016.24

Week 3 \$25,006.34

Week 4

Total Monthly Contribution \$28,696.96

Total Year to Date \$152,436.57

Yearly Goal \$140,000.00

Scripture Readings



Palm Sunday

03-29-2026

Reading 1: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm: 22:18-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Reading 2: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Lord, I shall see you no more with the eyes of the flesh..."

- St. John of the Cross (to the Host which had been brought to him)

| Mass | Schedule |
|-----------------------|---|
| Monday March 23 | Mass 9:00a Leona Watson and Jenkins Family rb Friendship Prayer Group Adoration 9:30a |
| Tuesday March 24 | Mass 9:00a Homebound Communal Penance Service 6:30p |
| Wednesday March 25 | Stations of the Cross 5:30p |
| Thursday March 26 | |
| Friday March 27 | |
| Saturday March 28 | |
| Sunday March 29 | Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family 5:30p - 7:30p RE |

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, Don and Jenny Schaubert, Judy & Franklin Silfka, Repose of the soul of Mary Garman, Karen Simonich, Stover family, Daylene Hanson

Ministry Schedule

Sunday March 29, 2026 4:30pm

Greet: John and Missy Rauser

Altar Servers: Lucas Bleile, Alex Weiss, and Brendon Estrada

Lector: Alex Estrada Gospel Reader: [Redacted]

Gifts: [Redacted]

EM: Niki Weiss and Joy Haggard

Money Counters: Tacy Swanton and Bernadette Swenson



Annual Catholic Appeal

Holy Cross Parish Goal:

\$21,900.00

We have currently reached 49% of our parish goal, with \$11,075 to go!

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 @ 4PM

MAR. 1 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES
 MAR. 8 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES
 MAR. 15 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES
 MAR. 22 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES
 MAR. 29 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES



Youth Schedule

3/22/2026: RE Class (Making time for prayer)
 3/29/2026: Last RE Class (Finding God in daily life and Stations of the Cross)
 4/5/2026: Easter Sunday (NO RE)
 4/12/26: Parish Easter Party

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.

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays during Lent

5:30pm

No Meal will follow



TRIDUUM

Mass of the Lord's Supper—Thurs. April 2nd @ 6:30 pm
 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion—Fri. April 3rd @ 6:30 pm
 Easter Vigil—Sat. April 4th @ 8:30 pm
 Easter Sunday—Sun. April 5th @ 4:30 pm

No Mass, Adoration, or Confession on Saturday, April 4th

EASTER Party

Please join us for our potluck parish Easter party Sunday, April 12th 5:30pm (after mass)
 Ham provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share! We will also have cake to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday!

BABY BASKET DRIVE

COLLECTION ON SUNDAYS APRIL 5-26

ITEMS WE'RE COLLECTING ARE:
 (New items only)

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| BABY BOTTLES | BABY HAND SANITIZER |
| SIPPY CUPS | NAIL CLIPPERS |
| PETROLEUM JELLY | SAFETY OUTLET PLUGS |
| BABY BATH TOYS | BABY BODY WASH |
| PACIFIER | BABY SHAMPOO |
| DIAPER RASH CREAM | BABY BATH TOWELS |
| BABY WASHCLOTHS | THERMOMETER |
| BABY DISH SET | TEETHING RINGS |
| BABY LOTION | ONESIES |
| BABY BLANKET | BURP CLOTHS |
| NIGHT LIGHT | HOODED TOWEL PONCHO |
| HAND MITS | FOLDABLE BABY PLAY MAT |
| RATTLES | NASAL ASPIRATOR |
| BABY SPOONS | SLEEPERS |
| BIBS | SWADDLES |

QUILTING LADIES
 3RD ANNUAL

Please join us in praying the DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET 9-DAYS NOVENA

Begins on Good Friday, April 3, & Concludes on Saturday, April 11
 Starts each day at 3pm

It is not required to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet novena at 3 p.m. everyday. While 3 p.m. is recognized as the "Hour of Great Mercy" (commemorating Jesus' death) and is highly recommended, the prayers can be said at any time of day and anywhere (e.g.: at home, in the car or in church)

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

PENANCE SERVICES

Tuesday, March 24th at 6:30 pm



Knights of Columbus



When: March 27th

Time: 5-7p

Menu: Fish, Clam Chowder, Mac & Cheese, Potatoes, and Coleslaw

Prices: \$20 per plate. \$18 per plate without clam chowder

Please reach out to Richard Majszak 406-980-1447 for any questions