

Stewardship

4/28

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$1,276.00
Loose	\$49.20
Online Giving	\$580.00
Reimbursement	\$3,619.71
Stipend	\$25.00
Total	\$5,549.91

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-April

City of Townsend	\$173.41
NorthWestern Energy	\$699.54
Spectrum	\$144.97
Flocknote	\$36.00
Geisser Services	\$325.00
Special K Plumbing & Heating	\$1,500.00
MT Elevator Company	\$2,052.50

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Grave Sites	
Short Term	\$100.00
Long Term	
Open & Close Gravesite	
Memorial	
Total	\$100.00

Cemetery Expenses-April

Please consider a memorial for your loved ones to the Holy Cross Cemetery instead of flowers.

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"It was love that motivated His self-emptying, that led Him to become a little lower than angels, to be subject to parents, to bow His head beneath the Baptist's hands, to endure the weakness of the flesh, and to submit to death even upon the cross,"

- St. Bernard

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, 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. Monte Schnur, Jonathan LaCunza



Do you know?

Where do the seven gifts of the Spirit come from in the Bible?

There are two places: Isaiah 11:2 and 1 Corinthians 12.

What biblical event was reversed by Pentecost?

The Tower of Babel

What new feast, begun by Pope Francis, follows the day after Pentecost?

The Feast of Mary, the Mother of the Church which is always celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost.

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.



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Cross Parish

May 5, 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



The Easter Season

I recall years ago some friends asked the question, what did Jesus do during the 40 days between him rising from the dead and ascending into Heaven? The answer is simple: he met with people, he preached, and he made known to them that he had risen from the dead. The Gospels relate parts of this story. They mention that Jesus appeared to his disciples and then he appeared to over 5000 people at once. Jesus made a lot of appearances. The Easter Season is our time to reflect on these mysteries. Jesus didn't rise from the dead for his sake but for ours. He wanted the people to know and experience the effects of his rising from the dead not to just accept it by faith. The Easter Season is the season where God proves to us the validity of his words. Hence, the Season is marked by the four major events: the Resurrection, Divine Mercy Sunday, the Ascension, and Pentecost.

The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven:

Forty days after Jesus rose from the dead Jesus ascended into Heaven. The only account of this event is found in the Acts of the Apostles. Forty days later Jesus was with his disciples and a dark cloud came and took him from their sight. As the disciples stared up at the sky in wonder over what had just happened, the angels chastised them for staring at the sky. Nevertheless, the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven is one of those pivotal moments in the life of Jesus. As John's Gospel tells us, Jesus came down from Heaven to do his Father's work and then he went back up to Heaven. The descending and ascending of Jesus is a necessary part of his ministry. Not only did he need to return to the Father but by returning to the Father he could send the long-awaited Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God upon us.

Pentecost:

The Feast of Pentecost is one of the oddest of the Easter events. The Feast of Pentecost is a Jewish holiday commemorating the 40 days that Moses was up on the mountain and the receiving of the law of God by the people. Therefore the Feast of Pentecost was not a surprise in some ways. The feast always came 50 days after Passover marking the time Moses was on the mountain and the time to relay the laws. Jesus, however, also sent the Holy Spirit upon his disciples on this day as he had promised. Between Ascension and Pentecost is nine days, the origins of the novena. These nine days are marked by a time of prayer and preparation for the descent of the Holy Spirit and the giving of these incredible graces by God. The coming of the Holy Spirit was predicted as far back as Moses and the great desire of God that all may come to know him by his Spirit. Therefore we should not be surprised by the gift of God's Spirit at Pentecost. Neither should we be surprised that this is the culmination of the Easter mysteries and the completion of God's plan of giving himself to us. We need to spend some time realizing anew the graces of Pentecost and its value in our daily lives. We have God's Spirit in us in a profound and powerful way. We need to use this gift for our good and the good of the world.

Fr. Cody



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 June 22nd

The application process for the evangelization grant through the Diocese is open. If you have an idea of how to spread the message of Jesus to our community through our church, please give your ideas to Fr. Cody. I would like us to apply for this grant again this year.

Mondays 7-8:30p

The next topic is "Ecumenism and Catholic response to other faiths" on Monday, May 6th. 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!

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Our parish dedication day is May 19th. In celebration of our 59th anniversary, we are going to have a parish potluck after Mass
- The Mass to celebrate our graduates is Sunday, May 19th
- The final night of RE is Sunday, May 19th
- The Holy Hour and Confession time is cancelled for Saturday, May 25th
- The potluck for Sunday, May 26th is cancelled due to Memorial Day weekend
- There will be no mass or adoration Monday, May 27th and Tuesday, May 28th



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

Scripture Readings



The Ascension of the Lord
5-12-2024

Reading 1: Acts 1:1-11
Psalm: 47:2-3,6-7,8-9
Reading 2: Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7,11-13
Gospel: Mark 16:15-20



Mass	Schedule
Monday May 6	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 101 7p
Tuesday May 7	Mass 9a Seminarians
Wednesday May 8	No Mass
Thursday May 9	No Mass
Friday May 10	No Mass
Saturday May 11	No Mass Rosary for Mothers 10a
Sunday May 12 Mother's Day	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:45-7p Knight's Mother's Day Dinner after Mass

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 May 5, 2024

4:30pm

Greet:

Tom Aced

Lector:

Debbie Miller

Gifts:

Harold and Laura Gibbs

EM:

Abby Wickens and Emmalin Fischer

Money Counters:

Juanita Bray and Karen Susag

If anyone has skills with sprinkler systems, please contact Fr. Cody. We are in need of someone who can manage our sprinkler system.

 **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**
FUNDING THE MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

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 80% of our goal with only \$3,640 remaining. If you have yet to donate for the good of our Diocesan church, please consider making a donation.



Dillon Armstrong, who served our parish last summer, will be ordained a deacon on Friday, May 31st at 3 pm at the Cathedral in Helena. I encourage everyone to go and support him as well as experience a deaconate ordination.

Who would like to go on a pilgrimage?

I would like to lead a pilgrimage for any parishioners who would like to go. I would like your input. If you are interested in going on a pilgrimage, let me know which location you would prefer.

1. Rome and Italy
2. The Holy Land
3. Greece and Turkey to follow the route of St. Paul
4. Spain and the way of St. James
5. Mexico and Our Lady of Guadalupe
6. Wisconsin and the only approved Marian apparition in the US as well as the sites of the martyrs in the northeast.
7. Ireland



Diocese of Helena



Diocese of Great Falls-Billings

May 3, 2024

A Letter from the Catholic Bishops of Montana on the Abortion Amendment Constitutional Initiative (CI-128)

Dear People of God,

As Catholics, we treasure life as a precious gift from God and recognize our sacred duty to nurture and protect every human life from the moment of conception through natural death. Created in the image of God with a dignity not of our own making, each person is a unique and unrepeatable masterpiece of God's creation. This recognition of the infinite dignity enjoyed by all persons informs our understanding of the basic rights and protections to which all human beings are entitled. When those rights are threatened, the Church must speak up with clarity and boldness.

At this very moment, there is a coordinated effort underway to gather signatures to place an extreme amendment to our State's constitution on the November ballot. Constitutional Initiative 128 (CI-128) would greatly expand the practice of legalized abortion in Montana abolishing the limited restrictions currently in place and opening the door to a host of practices that violate fundamental rights to life and dignity.

CI-128 is being promoted simply as a protection for women's rights, when in fact, this initiative seeks to enshrine legal authorization for the following:

- Late-term abortion of babies who will feel pain
- Abortion of babies who have been partially delivered
- Abortion by dismemberment of children growing in the womb

Moreover, this proposal would eliminate current parental notification requirements that apply when minors obtain an abortion. This would:

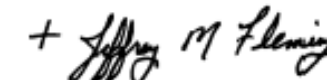
- Impose a culture of secrecy that would undermine families.
- Expose underage mothers to exploitation
- Provide cover for those who would victimize underage women by committing abuse, human trafficking, and other crimes

Faced with this unprecedented threat to human life, we urge all people of goodwill to decline to sign the petition to place this dangerous amendment on our ballot. Trusting in God, we invite all Montanans to pray for the defeat of this Constitutional Initiative and stand in defense of women, children and all those threatened by this extreme proposal.

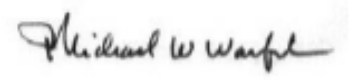
May Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the unborn, pray for us.
In Christ,



Most Rev. Austin A. Vetter
Bishop of Helena



Most Rev. Jeffrey M. Fleming
Bishop of Great Falls-Billings



Most Rev. Michael W. Warfel
Bishop Emeritus of Great Falls-Billings