

Stewardship

1/28-29/2023

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Weekly Income

Envelopes	\$4,825.00
Loose	\$33.66
Reimbursement	\$1,480.18
Restricted	\$10.00
Other	\$150.00
Total	\$6,498.84

Holy Cross Monthly Expenses-January

City of Townsend	\$173.41
Flocknote	\$36.00
Spectrum	\$134.97
MT Energy Alliance	\$2,688.17
NorthWestern Energy	\$833.31
MT Department of Labor	\$72.00
Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena	\$2,468.09
Geisser Services	\$2,370.00

Cemetery

Cemetery Weekly Income

Short Term
Long Term
Grave Sites
Total

Cemetery Expenses-January

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

THANK YOU!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"Mary adored Jesus as the Bridegroom of souls. Union is the final purpose of love. Jesus by the gift of His substance in the Eucharist unites Himself with our souls as with His dear spouses. As a Bridegroom, He gives them all His possessions, His name, His heart, His whole Self, but on the condition that the soul reciprocates. The soul, His spouse, shall live for Him only,"

- St. Peter Julian Eymard

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, Alex Olmes, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, Matt Keck, Jack Reed and Dcn. Kyle Tannehill.

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:

Joanie Pritchard, Elaine Graveley, Marie Hoeffner, Chris and Fran Wright, Ed and Jean Boucher, Mary Alice Upton, Jackie Kynett, Shanna Montonario, Martin and Margy Clark, Clara Boster, Mary Pat Sullivan, Gene Determan, LaReissa Swenson, Jenny Schaubert, Connie Rezendes, William Hart, Kim Schaubert, Paul Friend, Amy Ghorsen, Frank and Sally Majszak, John Clark, Don Larsen, Carl Lorentzen, Dan and Marie Stover, Roy, Mary McWhorter, Bob Masolo, Dave Welch, John Woodring, Julie Whitman, Nancy Martin, Nicki Ito, Karen Susag, Kadence Saxton, Bob Graveley, Laura Toeckes, David Kearns, Lisa Larson, Tom Arensmeyer

Did You Know ?

The Church set a minimum requirement for what it means to be a practicing Catholic. Although some of these may surprise you, these come directly from the Catechism and are called the "5 Precepts of the Church"

- 1) To attend Mass on Sundays and Holy days of obligation.
- 2) To fast and abstain on the days appointed.
- 3) To confess one's sins at least once a year.
- 4) To receive Holy Communion during the Easter time.
- 5) To tithe/ contribute to the support of the Church.

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 5, 2023

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mass: Wednesday and Thursday 9:00a

Adoration: Wednesday 9:30a

Weekend Schedule:

Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:45p

Sunday 7:30-7:45a or by appointment

Mass: Saturday Mass 5:00p Sunday Mass 8:00a

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

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Website: holycrossmt.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)

Townsend, Montana 59644



Morality part 64

Sexual Ethics

Abortion part 2

Common arguments for abortion or misconceptions

Argument #1: Abortion is about a fetus not a human being

This argument begs the questions: what is a fetus? A group of cells, a cancer, a by-product of a pregnancy? All of these ideas are ludicrous for a very obvious reason: what does a fetus become? I have never gone up to a pregnant woman and asked her, what are you having? We all know the end of a pregnancy is a baby, a human life. Fetuses have no other option that to be a human life. They cannot become any other creature and therefore we must consider them human, since they are in every way.

Argument #2: abortion should be allowed due to complicated pregnancies in which the mother's life is in danger.

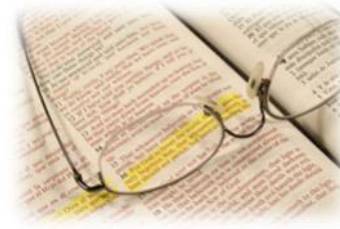
This argument fits into the fallacy of special case: a situation in which a special case justifies making the action normative. For instance, if some people need medical marijuana to help their chronic condition, then everyone should be able to have marijuana. From a basic starting point, because a woman might die in childbirth, does not justify the ability for all women to abort their children. Similarly, the Church does have a stance on this issue. Recall: an abortion is the intentional act of killing a fetus. In the event that the mother's life is in danger, the doctors could try to induce labor, surgically remove the child, or attempt other medical procedures that might save both lives. In the event that they chose to remove the fetus before the end of the pregnancy, the goal would be to try to keep the baby alive. Do you see the difference? An abortion is the intentional act of killing the fetus whereas the surgical removal has the intention of saving both lives even though the child may die.

Argument #3: abortion prevents more unwanted pregnancies and prevents more unwanted children.

This argument could also be categorized as the "population control argument." I first find it sad that we use language of "unwanted children" and justify killing children because we "don't want them." Regardless this argument hinges on many social problems: overabundant use of birth control, a desire for independence and a diminishing desire for children, a desire for sex without consequences. The only way to stop unwanted pregnancies is to have less sex or to be more conscious of our bodies and the natural cycle of fertility and infertility that is part of the menstrual cycle. On another note, if we have built a society that sees children as bad or unwanted, what does this type of argument tell us about the health of our society? We need to spend some time with the implications of this argument and how it affects our society.

Fr. Cody

Scripture Readings



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2-12-2023

Reading 1: Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm: 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34
Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a,27-28,33-34a,37



MASS	Schedule
Monday February 6	No Mass
Tuesday February 7	No Mass
Wednesday February 8	Mass 9a Adoration 9:30a Marion and Al Oldham RB Debbie Miller RE-prek-5th grade 5-6:30p MS-HS 6:15-8p
Thursday February 9	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners History series 7p
Friday February 10	OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday February 11	Confession 4-4:45p Mass 5p First Responders
Sunday February 12	Confession 7:30-7:45a Mass 8a Parish Family Knight's breakfast after mass

Ministry Schedule

Saturday February 11, 2023

5:00pm

Greet:

Eichinger Family

Lector:

Karen Simmonich

Gifts:

Harold and Laura Gibbs

EM:

Monte Montonario and Missy Cox

Ministry Schedule

Sunday February 12, 2023

8:00am

Greet:

Bleile Family

Lector:

Caleb LeLacheur

Gifts:

Larry and Buffy Woodring

EM:

Alex Estrada and John Bleile

Money Counters:

Bernadette Swenson and Sara Holmes

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 Highlights

Sacristan:

Sacristans play an important background role in the celebration of the Mass. Everything from putting out the vessels, turning on the lights, adjusting the amount of host and wine, and various other tasks are part of the role of the Sacristan. They also help during the Mass if the priest needs something.

Small Groups:

when we think of small groups, we tend to think of support or self-help groups. The newest wave of Catholic thought is trying to revive small groups from their medieval pinnacle. The goal of a small group is for a small number of people to get together and support each other on the walk of faith. Small groups can meet for time with the focus of reading a book, studying a topic, or praying together. Or they can have continual meetings and continue to develop their practice of the faith. If you would like to join a small group (given that we have few at the parish), contact Fr. Cody

Announcements

52 SUNDAYS Beginning January 1, 2023 a new, free online resource that can help Catholic families make the most of their Sunday worship is available. Sign up to receive a weekly email that is filled with prayers, activities, recipes and more to support and extend the lessons of each Sunday mass. More information at www.52sundays.com.

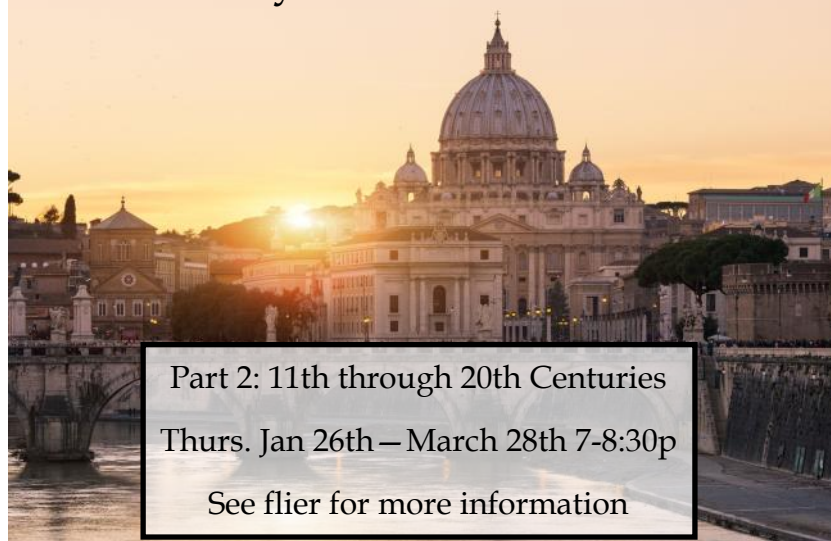
Have A Seat!



After consultation with the Pastoral and Finance Councils as well as those who came to the parish meetings, we are moving forward with buying new pews. This project contains several parts. The first part is new pews and kneelers. In addition to the new pews, we will be adding cushioning to the pews to make them more comfortable. This part of the project will cost approximately \$75,000. As we remove the pews, the goal is remove the carpet and put in new, easier to clean flooring. This part of the project will cost \$45,000. The total amount to be raised is \$120,000. Don't let this number alarm

you. Through special donations we have already raised \$25,000. I have written a few grants to help with the cost of the pews. If we get them, I will let you know. The goal is to keep working at raising money until we have enough to complete both parts of the project. If you are interested in donating to the pew project - Have A Seat! - simply write a check with "pews" in the memo line. I will keep you updated on our progress.

The History of the Catholic Church



Part 2: 11th through 20th Centuries

Thurs. Jan 26th – March 28th 7-8:30p

See flier for more information



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off. The Diocesan goal is \$2 million. Our parish goal is \$20,700. Every little bit counts. We have currently raised \$19,715.00



We are livestreaming again! If you know of homebound parishioners or other people who could benefit from a virtual Mass, let them know that it is available on our Sacraments page on the website (holycrossmt.org).



Relevant Radio out of Helena has expressed a desire to install a tower for their radio station in

Townsend. If anyone is interested in working on this project and helping to bring Relevant Radio to Townsend, please contact Fr. Cody.



In celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God, USCCB is offering a 5-video Sunday Seminar Series about Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. The videos, along with discussion/reflection questions, will be available in

English and Spanish, beginning January 22 at <https://catholic.bible/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>. Through these videos, USCCB aims to "bring people into an encounter with the Scriptures, particularly the Gospel" with the hope that God's people will be "inspired and challenged to see, understand, and engage with scripture in a new, prayerful way."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ash Wednesday Mass:
Feb 22nd at 6:30 pm
Soup Supper following Mass

Penance Service:
March 1st at 6p
Dinner at 6p with service to follow



Women's Retreat

Saturday March 4th 9a-4p

Theme: A Day of God and Me

Topics: Mary as the living tabernacle

Us as the living tabernacle

Lunch and snacks are provided

Please RSVP by March 1 so we can get a count for food



SAVE THE DATE for Eucharistic Revival 2023, "Cultivating Eucharistic Amazement." Join us May 5 & 6, 2023 at Billings Central Catholic H.S. with special guests Dr. Scott Hahn, Archbishop Alexander Sample and musical guest Jaime Thietten. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength — the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Join the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings in the movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery – The Most Holy Eucharist. We'll explore what the Eucharist means in each of our lives, how this Sacrament is meant to be adored, how we cultivate Eucharistic amazement in our lives and how we, as the Body of Christ, become Eucharistic people. Ticket prices start at \$15. Visit diocesegfb.org/revival to learn more or register. Seating is limited!



SWEETHEART DINNER

Holy Cross youth will be hosting the annual Sweetheart dinner on Sunday, February 19, 2023 with three dine-in seating options at 5:00pm, 5:45 pm and 6:30 pm. Dinner will include your choice of stuffed salmon or steak with salad, bread, sides and dessert. Cost of the meal is \$35/person. If you would like to attend please contact the parish office or Shawna Wickens at 406-594-3714 no later than noon on February 9th. Child-care will be available. The sweetheart dinner is a fundraiser to support the youth of our parish to be able to assist in the cost of many youth activities such as attendance at Legendary Lodge as well as other events. Thank you for your support!



Options Clinic Baby Bottle Drive

January 22 - February 12



Did you know that during times of stress and uncertainty, women are FAR more likely to choose abortion? By filling a baby bottle with your cash, check, or change, or giving online, you are helping women in crisis hear a message of life, hope and family despite the challenges of our world. Together, we can make a big impact for LIFE.

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

- FREE clinical grade pregnancy tests
- FREE early ultrasound
- FREE kidsmart parenting classes
- FREE supplies for new parents
- Low-Cost STD testing and treatment
- FREE options education

As you leave today, be sure to pick up a baby bottle and return it to the church by February 12th

OR

Give Here



Offering Hope. Building Families

Options Clinic is a 501©3. For more information, visit optionshelena.org or call 406-422-1011. **Thank You. Your generosity truly makes a difference!**

"Come to Me"

~ Matt 11:28



Catholic Women's CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023 - 5:30 PM
ROSARY & MASS OFFERED FOR FAMILIES
FOR ALL MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2023

CIVIC CENTER ~ HELENA, MONTANA

helenacwc.com

SPA DAY FOR THE SOUL

Join women from Montana and beyond for prayer, speakers, music, fellowship, and more! Our "Spa Day" includes Mass.

An Opportunity to Help Your Parish!

It's time for the **ANNUAL PARISH ENDOWMENT MATCH** program!

\$300 is how much the FOUNDATION will give each parish endowment.

\$300 If a parish receives \$300 worth of gifts to the church endowment by March 31, 2023, the church will receive another . . .

+\$300 matching gift from the FOUNDATION!

\$900 Will be added to your parish endowment to help perpetuate our faith for generations to come!

Last year the FOUNDATION gave \$30,000 to our parishes through these grants and matches!



FOUNDATION
for the Diocese of Helena

Mail your tax deductible donation to **FDOH, PO Box 1729, Helena, MT 59624** and put the name of your parish on the memo line, or **donate online at fdoh.org/giving**. Questions? Contact the Foundation at 406-389-7050.

Match donations must be postmarked by March 31, 2023.