



Holy Cross Parish

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 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

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Townsend, Montana 59644



Ordinary Time
is not so
Ordinary

Types of sins

The Catholic Church teaches that there are two types of sins: mortal and venial. In the 1st Letter of St. John he speaks about deadly and not deadly sins. Non deadly sins can be healed through prayer and working with the person. He claims that deadly sins cannot be helped. Although we would argue that he is wrong, I want to expand upon his reasoning and the challenges with mortal and venial sins.

What is a mortal sin? A mortal sin or deadly sin is often described as “breaking our relationship with God.” There is some truth to this definition. We must remember, however, God never breaks his relationship with us. He can’t. His love for us is so great that should he cease to love us or to break off his relationship with us, we would cease to exist. Therefore we can never assume that any sin we commit would sever our relationship with God from God’s perspective. From our perspective it gets far more serious. When we commit a mortal sin, several changes happen in our relationship with God. The first change is that we lost communion with God. We have done something to violate our relationship with God and therefore can no longer be in communion with him. Although we speak of excommunication as a serious condition the Church can place upon a person, the reality is that we put ourselves in that state and the Church acts to show the gravity of our action. All mortal sins are excommunications; they take us out of communion with the people around us, the Church, and God. The second change is with our faith lives. Mortal sins damage our willingness to follow God’s will, cause prayer to become less desirable and sometimes even excruciatingly hard, damages our relationship with others and the Church, and can greatly limit the amount of grace that comes into our lives. When our souls are tainted with the effects of mortal sins, we block the graces and things of God causing us to pull away from him. I hope through this explanation that you realize the gravity and power of a mortal sin.

Mortal sins usually fall into a few different categories. Yet, the most important starting point is the feeling of the damage in our relationship with God caused by the sin. Most people have not built a spiritual life strong enough to realize the effects of these sins. Other characteristics may indicate a mortal sin plaguing a soul. Behaviors such as a refusal or strong distaste for anything that deals with God, a pulling away from the Church, spiritual people, or a strong resentment to the Church and increasingly sinful behaviors or a continual turning towards sinful behaviors or things that are against God.

The vast majority of mortal sins can be summed as a violation of the 10 Commandments. Other mortal sins include, physical harm to a priest, bishop, or the pope, desecration of the Sacraments, or gross violation of a church. This list does not exhaust the possibilities but should help you start pondering mortal sins. In the next part I will go into more detail on the specific conditions that lead to a mortal sin.

Celebrating MARRIAGE WITH BISHOP AUSTIN VETTER

CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA

MASS // INDIVIDUAL BLESSING OF COUPLES //
RECEPTION //

BISHOP VETTER EXTENDS A WARM INVITATION TO ALL MARRIED COUPLES, FROM THE NEWEST OF NEWLYWEDS TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMMEMORATED OVER SIX DECADES, TO A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION.

EVENT DETAILS

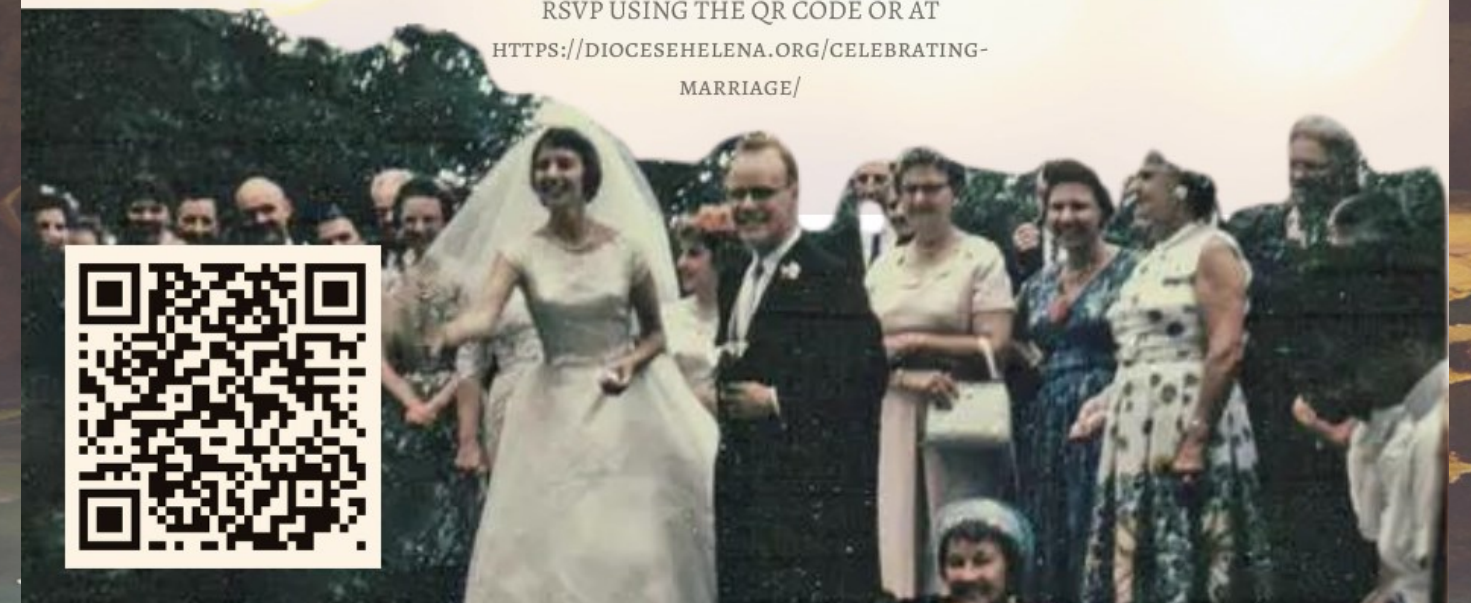
FEBRUARY 14TH // BEGINS WITH 6:00PM MASS // RECEPTION TO FOLLOW // HEAVY APPETIZERS AND DESSERT INCLUDED // SEMI FORMAL ATTIRE // \$25 PER COUPLE

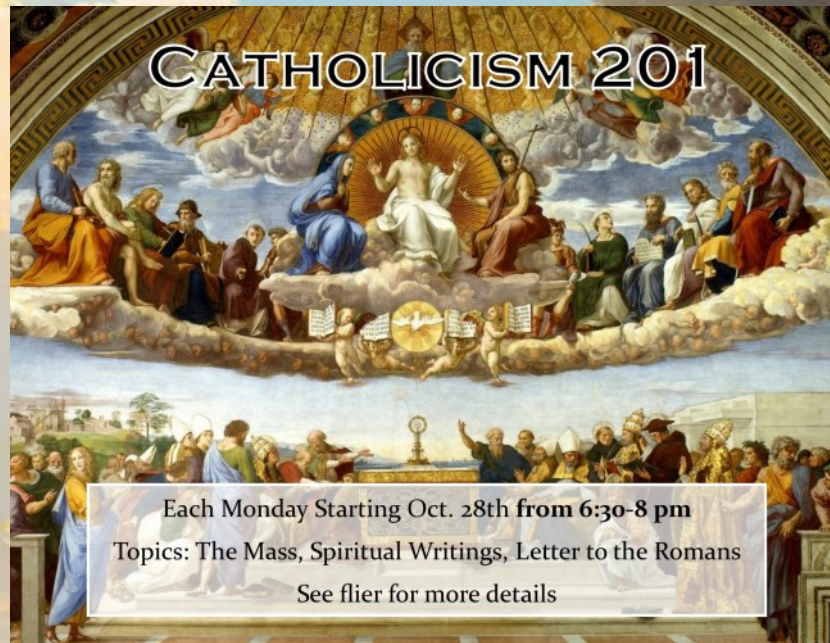
CHILDCARE

CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE AT NO ADDITIONAL COST WHILE SPACES LAST.

February 14th

RSVP USING THE QR CODE OR AT
[HTTPS://DIOCESEHELENA.ORG/CELEBRATING-
MARRIAGE/](https://diocesehelena.org/celebrating-marriage/)





CATHOLICISM 201

Each Monday Starting Oct. 28th from 6:30-8 pm
 Topics: The Mass, Spiritual Writings, Letter to the Romans
 See flier for more details

We are in need of volunteers to help with RE dinner. Dinners will feed all ages of the youth and their families, therefore, we should plan on feeding around 80 people every Sunday. Please consider either providing a full meal (planning, purchasing food & cooking) or simply preparing/cooking a meal with food that the parish purchases, either help would be greatly appreciated. We encourage you to partner up with another member/family of the parish to help ease the burden of feeding that many people.



Faith Night

Exploring the issues of our times in the context of faith



The next topics:

Feb 17th—Prisons

Mar 17th—Immigration

May 19th—Poverty and Homelessness

For all ages. Free dinner

Parish potlucks

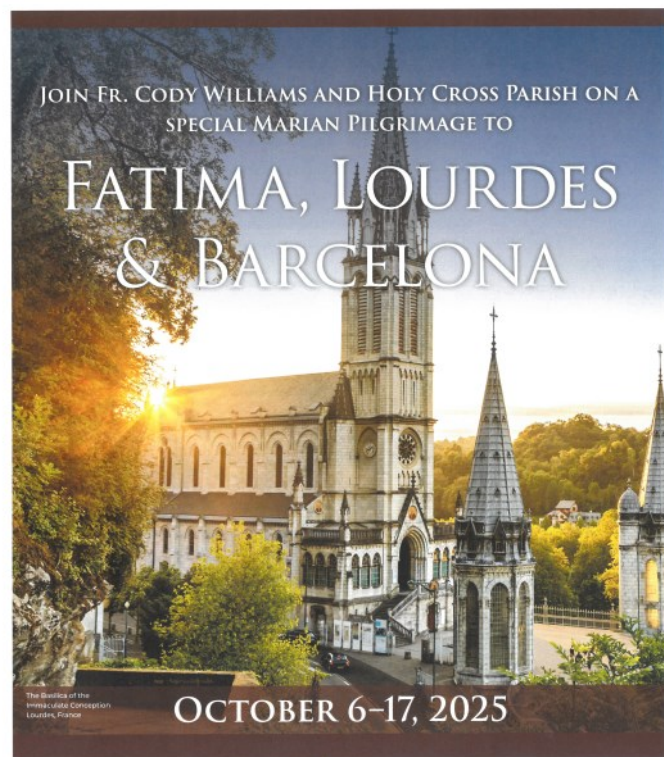
Every 4th Sunday of the month we have a parish potluck where anyone can bring a dish or come down and enjoy some good food. As part of the desire for the circles to be more active in the parish, I am assigning a circle to each potluck as the point group for the potluck. They're responsibility is to set-up, 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.

February 23: Circle of Hope

March 23: Circle of Love

April 27: Parish Easter Party- No Potluck

The deadline for early registration for the Fatima/ Lourdes Pilgrimage is Friday, January 31st. If you would like more information, please contact Fr. Cody.



Holy Cross Parish will be helping out at the Townsend Food Pantry on February 1, 14, 15 and 28. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you are interested in helping out at the Food Pantry. These are on Friday and Saturday mornings 9:30 am

Scripture Readings



The Presentation of the Lord

02-02-2025

Reading 1: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19
 Psalm: 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 or 13:4-13
 Gospel: Luke 4:21-30



2ND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
 7-8:30 PM
 FREE MOVIE, POPCORN AND SNACKS.
 ALL ARE WELCOME!
 SPONSORED BY: HOLY CROSS CHURCH
 101 S. WALNUT STREET

The new email address for any information for the bulletin or advertisements is bulletin@holycrossmt.org

MASS	Schedule
Monday January 27	Mass 9a Bob Masolo RB Harold and Laura Gibbs Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 6:30p
Tuesday January 28	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday January 29	
Thursday January 30	
Friday January 31	
Saturday February 1	Mass 9:20a Adoration and Confession 2p
Sunday February 2	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p

All bulletin information requests need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance and by email to

bulletin@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 2, 2025 4:30pm

Greet: Bleile Family
 Lector: Charles Ringenberg
 Gifts: Pat and Debbie Miller
 EM: Shawna Wickens and Abby Wickens
 Money Counters: Karee Eichinger and Tacy Swanton



The Annual Catholic Appeal kicked off several months ago with our parish goal of \$21,900. So far we have raised \$7300. Please consider donating to this important campaign raising money for the important functions of our Diocese.



Catholic Mental Health Counseling

CSSM's counseling program has served clients from over 20 communities in Montana and is ready to serve you!

- Our counselors are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of any counseling session, although it does not have to be. They have experience with clients from many different backgrounds, cultures, and ages. We are here for everyone.
- We specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship/marriage, and perinatal concerns.
- You can meet with us from your computer, tablet, or cell phone from anywhere in Montana. If you're in Helena or Billings, you can meet in-person with a counselor.
- We want to be a good match, so the first session is free. If you choose to continue, we accept insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and private pay, with a sliding fee scale and other discounts available.

To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2' or send us a message at www.cssmt.org.

Do you know that we have Catholic Radio in Montana? KNEH, 97.3FM in Helena is an affiliate of Relevant Radio, which has 220 radio stations broadcasting across the US. You can listen LIVE to KNEH on the My Parish app by clicking on the Radio microphone icon or listen LIVE at www.kneh.org

2025 DATES & RATES

June 15-20 Junior High #1	July 6-11 Junior High #2	July 27-August 1 5th/6th Grade Girls
June 22-27 High School #1	July 13-18 High School #2	CAMP RATES Early Bird Rate: (Register in January) \$400 Standard Rate: \$425
June 29-July 1 Family Camp	July 20-25 5th/6th Grade Boys	

REGISTRATION OPENS
 January 3rd at Noon for families who live within the Diocese of Helena
 January 8th at Noon for families who live outside the Diocese of Helena

legendarylodge.org

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY
 FOR THE POPE, CHURCH,
 PRIEST, FAMILIES,
 CHILDREN & FOR
 THE WHOLE WORLD



"The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and a theologically rich in Biblical content. I beg you to pray it."

St. John Paul II



SUNDAYS @ 4:00

JAN 12 - JOYFUL MYSTERIES

JAN 19 - LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

JAN 26 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

FEB 2 - GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Change for Life Options clinic

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!

Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended January 19th

Total Weekly	\$4,041.70
Budget	\$2900.00
Variance	\$1,141.70

Year to Date

Total	\$76,809.56
Budget	\$81,200.00
Variance	-\$4,390.44

THANK YOU FOR your generosity

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

THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Super Bowl party February 9th after mass. All are welcome to join.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

"O what a wonderful and intimate union is established between the soul and You, O lovable Lord, when it receives You in the Holy Eucharist! Then the soul becomes one with You, provided it is well disposed by the practice of the virtues, to imitate what You did in the course of Your life, Passion, and death,"

- St. Mary Magdalen dei Pazzi

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.

Dcn. Dillon Armstrong, 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

Beginning September 29 bulletin unless otherwise requested after one month prayer request names will be removed from the prayer chain

John Clark, Martin and Margy Clark, Bill and Marilyn Lane, Shanna Montonario, Kadence Saxton, Suri Kitt, Ellen Marie Osborne



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.

Pastoral Council:

Jesse Swenson
 Mary Ellen Schnur
 Karee Eichinger
 Michael Fisette
 John Bleile

Finance Council:

John Rauser
 Tim McAlpine
 Tacy Swanton
 Pat Miller
 Monica Benton