



Holy Cross Parish

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 19, 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

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



Ordinary Time
is not so
Ordinary

Basics of Catholicism part 72

Confession of sins

Now that I have covered the four principal parts of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: confession, contrition, absolution, and satisfaction, I want to address these four parts in greater detail.

The confession of sins is the one action that makes the Sacrament of Reconciliation operate. Without any sins confessed, the Sacrament doesn't do anything. What sins can a person confess? This may seem like an odd question, but I get asked it a lot. The Church requires you to confess any mortal sins you have committed that you haven't already confessed. I will discuss the difference between mortal and venial sins later. Mortal sins are those sins whose consequences affect our hope for salvation and cause great offense to God. They greatly damage our relationship with God. Beyond "what is required" anyone can confess any sins they have committed. However, a person cannot confess someone else's sins or sins they think someone else should confess. The confession is for the sake of the person who comes in and must be their sins and only their sins. The sins absolved include those whom the person confessed as well as any sins he/she intended to confess but forgot. Forgetting to confess a sin is not the same as choosing not to tell the priest. If you chose not to tell the priest a sin or intentionally withhold it, the sin is not forgiven. The Sacrament is not magic. God is the author of the Sacraments and the one who forgives sins is not the priest. Therefore, God knows the character of your heart. If you think you can deceive God by not confessing a sin, you cannot. He knows.

Some people struggle with past sins and various spiritual and mental issues. Past sins are a little complicated. In as much as these sins have not been confessed and are still plaguing the person's soul, the person can confess them. They should, however, not confess them again. Once the sin has been confessed, the sin is gone forever. We can get into the really bad habit of believing that we did not confess the sins, didn't confess them well enough, or still feel the effects of the sin after confession and believe that we need to confess it again. This is wrong. These feelings mean that the person has not fully accepted God's mercy and fail to believe that God has forgiven. Even though God has forgiven our sins, we may not be ready and willing to be forgiven. This example illustrates both the limitations and the challenges of this Sacrament. If we don't want to be fully forgiven, God won't force us. If we want to hold on to the effects of our sins, God will respect our desires. A major part of both the effectiveness and power of this Sacrament is the faith of the person who comes desiring God's mercy. Spiritual and mental issues are usually not sins. Many people can struggle with addictions, habits, tendencies, and personality quirks that cause them distress or challenges. Sins are actions; they are things we do. If we willfully act on these mental and spiritual issues or let them control us, then this could be a sin. Generally, mental and spiritual issues are for professionals or spiritual counseling and not for the confessional.

Fr. Cody

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

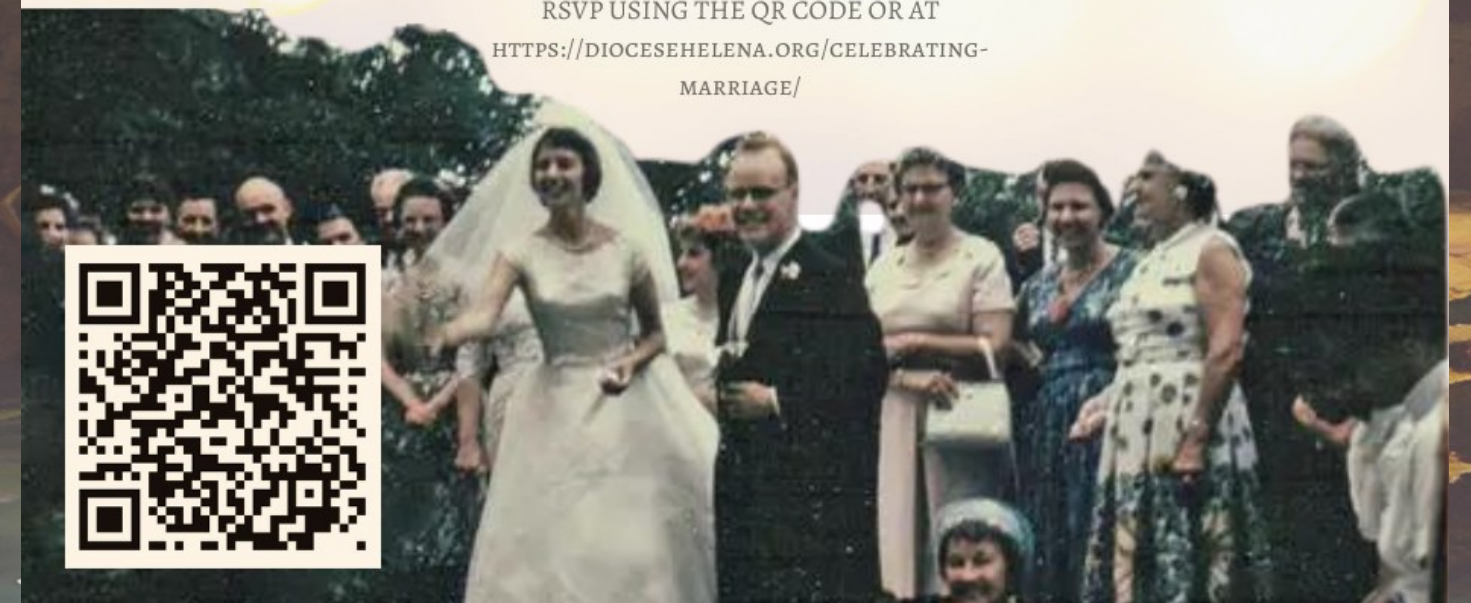
FEBRUARY 14TH // BEGINS WITH 6:00PM MASS // RECEPTION TO FOLLOW // HEAVY APPETIZERS AND DESSERT INCLUDED // SEMI FORMAL ATTIRE // \$25 PER COUPLE

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


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. The rotation of the circles is as follows:

Sunday, Jan. 26th – Circle of Understanding
 Sunday, Feb. 23rd – Circle of Hope

We will cycle through the circles following the above schedule for the rest of the months of the year. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Fr. Cody.

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.



JOIN FR. CODY WILLIAMS AND HOLY CROSS PARISH ON A SPECIAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO

FATIMA, LOURDES & BARCELONA

OCTOBER 6-17, 2025

41780 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100
 Northville, MI 48168
 866.468.1420 | info@ctscentral.net
 www.pilgrimagesbycts.com

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

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

Scripture Readings

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 01-26-2025

Reading 1: Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10
 Psalm: 19:8,9,10,15
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14,27
 Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

MASS	Schedule
Monday January 20	Mass 9a Seminarians Adoration 9:30a Catholicism 201 6:30p
Tuesday January 21	Mass 9a Homebound Parishioners
Wednesday January 22	
Thursday January 23	
Friday January 24	
Saturday January 25	
Sunday January 26	Confession 3:30p Mass 4:30p Parish Family RE 5:30p Parish Potluck

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

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 January 26, 2025 4:30pm

Greet:	Eichinger Family
Lector:	Megan Bleile
Gifts:	Larry and Buffy Woodring
EM:	Nikki Weiss and Missy Cox
Money Counters:	Tom and Julie Lethert



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.



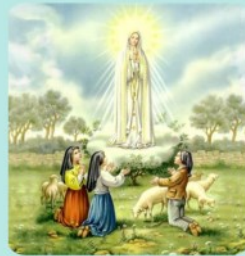
Catholic Mental Health Counseling

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.

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



The Women of Holy Cross will be meeting on Friday February 21 at 4:30 pm in the Parish Center. All women of Holy Cross are invited to this meeting. The survey taken at the December meeting will be discussed. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Van Houdt.

Holy Cross Parish Finances

Week ended January 12th

Total Weekly	\$1,734.94
Budget	\$2900.00
Variance	-\$1,165.06

Year to Date

Total	\$72,767.86
Budget	\$78,300.00
Variance	-\$5,532.14

THANK YOU FOR
your generosity



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Do you know what Mass is? In the Church it is what the sun in our world, it is the soul of our faith, the center of our religion, the end and center of all the ceremonies, rites and sacraments. In a word it is the summary of all that is beautiful and good in the Church of God."

- St. Leonard of Port Maurice (1676-1751)

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



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



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 Holy Cross Quilters would like to remind parishioners of the Baby Essentials that were collected, along with a large donation of diapers, wipes & rash creams from Catholic Social Services of Helena.

If you know of someone in the community who could use a gift basket of these items, please contact the Holy Cross office:

(406) 266-4811



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