



Holy Cross Parish Bulletin
P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)
Townsend, Montana 59644

****Our Lady of the Lake Canyon Ferry**
8375 Canyon Ferry Rd., Helena, MT 59602

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20, 2015

Father Sean Raftis: 406-465-2984 Office: 266-4811 OLL 475-9500

Quote of the Week:

"Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration."

--Blessed Theresa of Calcutta

Email: holycrossmt@gmail.com

Website: holycrossmt.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Bulletin Deadline: Thursday Noon

Mass Schedule

Monday, December 21,	NO MASS Father's Day Off
Tuesday, December 22,	Daily Mass 8:30 am Buzz Field RB Terry & Shellie Hanken
Wednesday, December 23,	Daily Mass 8:30 am Cookie Schaefer RB Constance Miller
Thursday, December 24,	Christmas Eve Vigil 5 pm Pat Hooks RB Mary Hooks
Friday, December 25, Office Closed	Christmas Mass HC 10 am OLL 12:30 pm Jill Menard RB Constance Miller
Saturday, December 26,	NO CONFESSIONS Holy Cross Mass 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 27,	Mass: 10:00 am Holy Cross Intentions For the Parish Family

Announcements:

- Please join the RE Program Sunday December 20 at 5 pm in the Parish Center for our Christmas program, and potluck dinner to follow. The meat will be provided by the RE program. The following is a suggested list of what to bring for the potluck. If your last name begins with A-H salad or vegetable, I-P, dessert, and P-Z, bread.
- The box for memorial donations toward the Christmas Poinsettia's is on the table in the Narthex. Please make all poinsettia donation checks out to Holy Cross CCW, with flowers in the memo.
- **Christmas Eve Vigil will be at 5 pm**
- **Christmas Mass will be at 10 pm.**
- The Knights' will be hosting Coffee Hour on December 27 following Mass.
- January is Holy Cross's month to help out at the Food Pantry. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex to volunteer your time helping out on Friday and/or Saturdays in January.
- **Elderly man offering one bedroom, one bath, basement apartment with heat and lights in exchange for some assistance. Close to hospital and school. Call 521-0445.**
- The new Lector Workbooks are in the Parish Office.
- The New Ministry Schedules are on the table at the back of the Church.

- Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

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.

Mount Angel Seminary, St. Benedict, OR, Joseph Paddock, Aidan Toombs, Joe Paddock, Deacon Cody Williams, St. John Vianney Seminary, Denver, CO, Michel Dirkson, Tyler Frohlich, Kirby Longo, Deacon Bryce Lungren, Deacon Andy Morrow, Oliver Santin, and Nathan Scheidecker.

Spirituality Year St. John Vianney Seminary, Denver; Matthew Christiaens, Jared Howes, Codi Krueger, Andrew Nistler & Jeffery Walton.

North American College, Rome Father Christopher Lebsock (Continuing Stud-

- **ACA Goal: \$20,900.00**
- **Pledged: \$13,493.00**
- **Paid \$10,330.00**
- **% of Goal 65%**
- **% Participation 58.16%**



Our Lady of the Lake:

Friday December 25, 12:30 pm

Ministry Schedule
Thursday December 24, 2015

Greeters: The Masolo Family
Lector : Felicia Head
Gifts: Paul & Donna Latka
EM: Don & Max Peace
Servers: Ruby & Eli Hohn
Music Mary Garman

Ministry Schedule
Friday December 25, 2015

Greeters : The Eichinger Family
Lector : Chris Wright
Gifts: John & Missy Rauser
EM: Jill Menard & Buffy Woodring
Servers: Jade Martin & Kennedy Vogl
Music: Jill Flynn
Home Ministry: Jill Menard

Ministry Schedule
Saturday December 26, 2015

Greeters : Clara & Vince Boster
Lector : Brian Hohn
Gifts: Clara & Vince Boster
EM: Missy Cox & Terry Love
Servers: Braden Racht & Riley Richtmyer

Ministry Schedule
Sunday December 27, 2015

Greeters : Jade Martin & Shari Toney
Lector : Robin Kirscher
Gifts: The Masolo Family
EM: Tom & Julie Lethert
Servers: Sierra Slyker & Zoey Wickens
Music: Dawn Blair
Home Ministry: Juanita Bray
Money Counters: Jill Menard & Judy Riddle

Notes from Fr. Sean!

The Holy Father will declare Blessed Theresa of Calcutta a saint, "canonize" her. Please pray for Blessed Theresa's intercession for all of us here at Holy Cross and Our Lady of the Lake parish.

Mr. Dan Wing of Alliance Neon and Sign in Helena, has given us an estimate for the repair of the spire and the new cross to be installed. His estimate is just under \$1,500.00 Recently, two anonymous benefactors have donated \$1,500.00 for the repair of the spire and the installation of the new cross! Our Lord always outdoes our imagination for his generosity, and at Christmas-time as well! Special thanks to our anonymous benefactors!

We will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas after the 10 a.m. Mass this Sunday, December 20th. Anyone who wishes to help or to be here for the decorating is welcome.

Please pray for a dear friend of mine's son, Ryan Heffner. He is being hospitalized for meningitis. His family is a benefactor of Holy Cross.

As we approach the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, please let us keep one another in prayer and be sure to make room in our hearts for Our Lord to reign in our lives.

Scripture Passage of the Week:

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

-Luke 1:41-45

Stewardship of Treasure
December 12 & 13, 2015

Holy Cross	
54 Envelopes	\$2,055.00
Loose	\$ 13.00
7 Youth	\$ 7.00
3 Holy Day	\$ 90.00
1 Sacristy	\$ 50.00
1 Stipend	\$ 40.00
1 Restricted gift	\$ 500.00
1 Campaign 4 Hum Dev	\$ 50.00
14 Religious Retirement	\$ 370.00
4 OLL	\$ 125.00
Total HC	\$3,300.00
Our Lady of the Lake	
Total Donations	\$3,300.00
Cemetery Fund 12/03/2015	
Pledge	\$1,400.00
Grave sites	\$ 00.00
Short Term	\$ 00.00
Long Term	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 30.00
Cemetery Fund to Date	
Foundation	\$1,200.00
Gravesites	\$1,900.00
Short Term	\$10,189.50
Long Term	\$19,930.00
Total	\$33,219.50
Cemetery Endowment Fund	
June 29, 2015	\$18,470.00
ACA Goal	
Pledged to 12-18	\$20,900.00
	\$ 13,493.00



"The K of C proudly supports Holy Cross and Our Lady of the Lake."





ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Anyone that uses the Parish Center is asked to please, turn down the water heater if you turned it up, shut off the fan above the stove if it was used, make sure the gas is turned off for the range if it was used, unplug the coffee pot. Generally, please make sure that everything is as good or better than when you started, thank you and God Bless.

On Christmas Day, the Townsend community of churches will host its 9th annual community-wide Christmas dinner at the Broadwater Schools Multi-Purpose Room. This is a gift of love to the community from the churches of Townsend, and all are welcome. There will be a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings including dessert for anyone who needs a place to go on Christmas Day. If you need a meal or family on Christmas Day, come to the Multi-Purpose Room where members of the Townsend community of churches will join you in celebrating this joyous season. The *free dinner* will be offered from 2-4 p.m. on Friday, December 25, 2015 at the Broadwater Schools' Multi-Purpose Room. If you're not able to be with your family this year, please join us. If you are disabled, handicapped, or do not drive and would prefer a meal to be delivered, please contact Sheila Heavirland @ 422-6043. We are also looking for volunteers for this event. If you're searching for the meaning of Christmas, here is an opportunity to find it by giving of yourselves. Teens and adult volunteers from all faiths are needed to help with cooking, serving, cleaning up, and delivering meals to those who can't get out of their homes. Please contact Sheila Heavirland @ 422-6043 for questions or to volunteer.

The Knights of Columbus want to thank the Parish members for their ongoing support of our recent fund raisers, including Christmas card sales, pasty sales, chicken wings at the stroll and the Knight's breakfast. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to make recent donations to the long term fund for the Cemetery and a significant donation for phone cards for veterans staying at Fort Harrison Veteran Hospital. We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas season.

Joan Groh and Marj Kohn have partnered-up to make hats and mittens for an orphanage in need. They have 140 plus kids to start. Does anyone have any extra yarn to donate for the cause? You can leave it in the Church office when you come to

Carroll College is again offering a prospective student from our parish a \$1,000.00 Carroll College scholarship, named in memory of the deceased priest of the Diocese of Helena and the Diocese of Great Fall-Billings.

Holy Cross high school seniors if you plan to attend Carroll College next year, please stop by the Parish Office and pick up an application. The completed application needs to be back to the office by January 20, 2016.

ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES!!! The next Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend is January 29-31, 2016 in Great Falls. Sign up now!! Information and registration is available online at WWW.GREATFALLSCEE.ORG. Deadline for registration is January 21st. Call Brenda or Bill Chafin at [406-771-8658](tel:406-771-8658) for more information.

A Wedding is a Day: A Marriage is a Lifetime!

Holy Cross / Our Lady of the Lake and Helena Area Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve : December 24

Holy Cross 5:00 pm

SS Cyril & Methodius 4 & 6 pm Family Mass with homily for children and 8 pm

St. John the Baptist in Clancy 5 pm

St. Mary Catholic Community 5:30 and 10 pm

Our Lady of the Valley 4, 6 & 9 pm

Cathedral of St. Helena 5 pm & 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day: December 25

Holy Cross 10 am

Our Lady of the Lake 12:30 pm

SS. Cyril & Methodius: East Helena 9:30 am

St Mary Catholic Community 9 am

Our Lady of the Valley 9 am

Cathedral of Helena 9 and 11 am



Prayer Chain

Gene Determan,
Jerri Woodring Thueson,
Karen Lebahn, Joanie Pritchard,
Doug Thomas, Brad Flesch,
Mona Maddox, Mary Ann Jensen,
Brandon Schaff, Louise Sullivan,
Sharon Wall, Karen Hall,
Brittany Powley, Trent Paccurian,
Kevin Ellis, Claudette Hohn's Father,
Carol Chapin, Scott Chapin,
Kacy Ritter, Sarah Vogl Mendelsohn,
Jane Damuth, Kate M,
Matt, Clara Zabrocki
Greg Weber, Troy Helmick,
Joey Overstreet, Ryan Heffner

