



Holy Cross Parish Bulletin

P.O. Box 610 (101 S. Walnut)
Townsend, Montana 59644

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2017

Fr. David Severson, Pastor

Fr. Micah Bagayang, Parochial Vicar

Office: 266-4811 Email: holycrossmt@gmail.com Website: holycrossmt.org

Weekend Mass Schedule: Holy Cross

Confession: Saturday 4:15—4:45 pm; Sunday 8:30-8:45 am or by appointment

Saturday Mass 5 pm

Sunday Mass 9 am

Thought of the week: And the angel said to them. "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people." — Luke 2:10

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
9:30am to 2:30pm; Friday 9:30am-1:30pm

Bulletin Deadline: Thursday 10 am

Holy Cross Mission Statement

Holy Cross parish is a Roman Catholic Parish that serves Christ the King, under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Intercession of the communion of Saints. We are in union with the Roman Pontiff and the Bishop of Helena. Our faith, hope and love flow from the center of our parish family's life: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. From there we are compelled to love God, love our neighbor as ourselves and "Go make disciples..." (Matt 22:37 and 28:19-20)

Announcements:

- **Father Micah's** mailing address is Father Micah Bagayang, PO Box 422, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645.
- **Christmas flower donation** envelopes are on the table in the back next to the bells and stars for those that would like to give a memorial donation for poinsettias. Place the donation in the envelope and place in the collection basket.
- **Christmas Cards** for Father Byrne. there will be a basket in the Narthex to place cards for Father Byrne. On Christmas day the cards will be given to Father Byrne.
- **New lector workbooks** are available in the office. If you can't make it in during office hours, please call and we will put the book in the file holder on the outside of the office door.
- **Mary, Mother of God January 1st—No scheduled Mass** Since this falls on Monday; Holy Day Obligation is suspended
- **Thank You** from the Knights of Columbus for Holy Cross's outstanding support of our "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sales. We sold out this year for the first time.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



It is there in His Eucharist that He says to me: "I thirst, thirst for your love, your sacrifices, your sufferings. I thirst for your happiness, for it was to save you that I came into the world, that I suffered and died on the Cross, and in order to console and strengthen you I left you the Eucharist. So you have there all My life, all My tenderness." - *Mother Mary of Jesus, foundress of the Sisters of Marie Reparatrice*



Mass	Schedule
Monday Dec 25, 2017 Office Closed	CHRISTMAS MASS 10 AM Jill Menard RB Connie Miller
Tuesday, Dec 26, 2017	No Scheduled Mass
Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017	No Scheduled Mass
Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017	Mass 9 AM Weather Permitting
Friday, Dec. 29, 2017	Mass 9 AM Weather Permitting
Saturday, Dec. 30, 2017	Vigil Mass 5 pm Meri Berberet RB Helen Granmoe
Sunday Dec 31, 2017	Confession 8:30-8:45 am Mass 9:00 am Parish Family

December 24, 2017

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16 (11b)

Psalms 89:2-4, 4-5, 27, 29

Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Stewardship of Treasure
12/16-17/2017

Holy Cross	
61 HC Envelopes	\$ 3,260.50
Loose	\$ 125.00
Youth	\$ 0.00
1 Sacristy	\$ 25.00
1 Stipend	\$ 25.00
1 Restricted Gift	\$ 1,000.00
1 Religious Retirement	\$ 20.00
Total HC	\$4,455.50

Holy Cross Parish Endowment Fund:
\$21,491.83 as of 09/30/17

Cemetery

Cemetery	12-19-2017
Outstanding Pledges	\$1,150.00

Cemetery Fund Donations	
Beginning Balance	\$ 12.44
Misc. Donations	\$ 319.50
Gravesites	\$ 3,700.00
Donations	\$36,877.00
Don. Direct to Found.	\$ 1,700.00
Total Donations	\$42,608.94

Total in Cemetery Acct \$2,596.87

Cemetery Endowment Fund
to 09/30/17 \$32,933.71

ACA 2017	11/15/2017
Goal	\$22,900
Pledged	\$ 11,480
ACA PD	\$ 8,915

The Office will be closed on
Mondays, December 25, and
January 1.

December 31, 2017

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 15:1-6;21:1-3 (17b)
Psalms 105:1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9
Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19
Gospel Luke 2:22-40, or
2:22, 39-40

Ministry Schedule
Saturday December 30, 2017
5:00 pm

Greeters : Anne Inghram
Lector: Robin Kirscher
Gifts: Monte & Pat Montonario
EM: Terry Love & Debbie Miller
Servers: Carson LeLacheur & Riley Richtmyer

Ministry Schedule
Sunday December 31, 2017
9:00 am

Greeters : The Bakken Family
Lector : Carole Plymale
Gifts: Jerry Solwey
EM: Missy Cox & Claudette Hohn
Servers: Emmalin Fischer & Aspen Slyker
Music : Mary Garman
Home Ministry: Juanita Bray
Money Counters: Paul Latka & Karen Susag



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, Shannon Augare.

St. John Vianney Seminary, Denver, CO, Matthew Christiaens, Tyler Frohlich, Codi Krueger. Nathan Scheidecker, and Kyle Tannehill.

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, West MA, T. Aidan Toombs

Pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Holy Cross recommends that the following be respected

Infant Baptism:

Parents are to be registered, active, practicing parishioners. Parents are required to attend a baptism preparation class offered by the parish. Dates are to be confirmed by the parish office prior to making any arrangements.

Weddings:

Six months notice required. Wedding date availability are to be confirmed by the priest prior to booking any reception venues.

Christian Burial:

Notice should be made with the priest before arrangements are made with the funeral director. A funeral Mass will replace the daily scheduled Mass.

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 members: Mary Garman, Bernadette Swenson, Shari Toney, Shawna Wickens & Chris Wright

Finance Council members: Juanita Bray, Brian Hohn, Steve Visocan, Vince Vogl



Prayer Chain

Gene Determan,
Father Byrne, Jerri
Thueson, Joanie
Pritchard, Elaine
Graveley, Madison
McCauley, Pat Mon-
tonario's grand-
daughter Zoe, Marie Hoeffner Fran
Wright, Kelly Flynn, Elliot Weakland,
Troy Helmick, Jenny Schaubert, Bill
Fitzgerald, Martin Clark, Kathryn,
Heidi Hill,

Reflections for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

No Room in the Inn

Mary is now with child, awaiting birth, and Joseph is full of expectancy as he enters the city of his own family. He searched for a place for the birth of him to whom heaven and earth belonged. Could it be that the Creator would not find room in his own creation? Certainly, thought Joseph, there would be room in the village inn. There was room for the rich; there was room for those who were clothed in soft garments; there was room for everyone who had a tip to give to the innkeeper.

But when finally the scrolls of history are completed down to the last word of time, the saddest line of all will be: "There was no room in the inn." No room in the inn, but there was room in the stable. The inn was the gathering place of public opinion, the focal point of the world's moods, the rendezvous of the worldly, the rallying place of the popular and the successful. But there's no room in the place where the world gathers. The stable is a place for outcasts, the ignored and the forgotten. The world might have expected the Son of God to be born in an inn; a stable would certainly be the last place in the world where one would look for him. ***The lesson is: divinity is always where you least expect to find it. So the Son of God made man is invited to enter into his own world through a back door.***

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God never does anything for us without great preparation. He made a garden for Adam, as only God knows how to make a garden beautiful. Then, when the Jews came into the promised land, he prepared the land for them. He said he would give them houses full of good things, houses which they never built. He said that he would give them vineyards and olive trees which they never planted. just so, he goes to prepare a place for us. Why? Simply because we were not made for heaven; we were made for earth.

Man, by sin, spoiled the earth, and God came down from heaven in order to help us remake it. After having redeemed us, he said that he would now give us heaven, so we got all this: the earth, and heaven too.

- Archbishop Fulton Sheen

