



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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 22, 2018

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; or by appointment

Saturday Mass 5 pm

Sunday Mass 9 am

Thought of the week: "My Secret is Simple—*I Pray*" - Saint Mother Teresa

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

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday 10 am

Mass	Schedule
Sunday July 22, 2018	Mass 9am
Monday July 23, 2018	No Scheduled Mass
Tuesday, July 24, 2018 Office Closed	Rosary Daily Mass 6 pm The Seminarians
Wednesday, July 25, 2018	Rosary Daily Mass 9 am Jill Menard RB Connie Miller
Thursday, July 26, 2018	Rosary Daily Mass 9 am The Unborn
Friday, July 27, 2018	Rosary Daily Mass 9 am Dave Meyer RB Harley & Marie Hankins
Saturday July 28, 2018	Mass 5:00 pm The Parish Homebound
Sunday July 29, 2018	Mass 9:00 am Parish Family

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:

- The Circle of Compassion is meeting following Mass Sunday July 22, 2017 to discuss the 2018 Parish Bazaar. All members of the Circle of Compassion and all Circle contacts are requested to attend.
- There is a sign up sheet for workers for the Ice Cream Booth at the County Fair. The Circle of Hope is hosting the Ice Cream Booth.
- Parish picnic will be held on Sunday August 26th.
- Welcome: Brantley Poe the newest member of our Parish Family.
- The new Ministry Schedules are on the table at the back of the Church.



**ADORATION OF THE
 BLESSED
 SACRAMENT**

How many of you say:

I should like to see
 His face, His garments,
 His shoes.

You do see Him.

You touch Him.

You eat Him.

He gives Himself to you, not only that you may see Him, but also to be your food and nourishment.

- St. John Chrysostom

Sycamore Tree Retreat Center

The Father spoke one Word, who was His Son, and this word He is always speaking in eternal silence. It is in silence that the soul must hear it." - Saint John of the Cross
 The Sycamore Tree Catholic Retreat Center exists to provide solitude and silence, where one enters into a deeper personal encounter with Christ. To find out more please visit <http://sycamoretreeretreat.org/>.

Scripture Readings 7-22-18

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 23:1-6 (107B)

Psalms 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

Ephesians 2:13-18

Gospel Mark 6:30-34

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the annual St. Mary Peak Pilgrimage Hike on Sunday, August 19, 2018. Participants will meet at St. Mary's Parish in Stevensville at 7:00AM for carpooling to the trailhead. The rosary will be prayed at designated locations along the trail. Mass will be celebrated at the peak with Father David Severson, celebrant. The hike is about 7.5 miles round trip with 2400' of elevation gain. Participants should be well-prepared for changing weather conditions and have sturdy boots, water, lunch and snacks.
 The Knights of Columbus Council

STEWARDSHIP

07-14-15/2018

Holy Cross

45 HC Envelopes	\$ 2,113.70
Loose	\$ 177.00
1 Sanctuary Remodel	\$ 500.00
1 Stipend	\$ 50.00
1 Reimbursement	<u>\$ 1,228.76</u>
Total HC	\$ 4,069.46

Holy Cross Parish Endowment Fund:
03/31/2018 \$61,163.34

Cemetery

Cemetery 06-29-2018
Outstanding Pledges \$1,050.00

Cemetery Fund

June Balance	\$3,041.22
July Donations	\$ 430.00
July Gravesites	\$ 100.00
Expenses	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
Total in Cemetery Acct	\$3,571.22

Cemetery Endowment Fund
03/31/18 \$33,679.17

THANK YOU!

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

**Ministry Schedule
Saturday July 28, 2018
5:00 PM**

Greet: Harold & Laura Gibbs
Lector : Chris Wright
Gifts: Monte & Pat Montonario
EM: Missy Cox & Debbie Miller
Servers: Braden Racht & Riley Richtmyer

**Ministry Schedule
July 29, 2018
9:00 am**

Greet: Karee & Rowan Eichinger & Peyton Vogl
Lector : Carole Plymale
Gifts: Dan & Bernadette Swenson
EM: Tom & Nora Bazuin
Servers: Jade Martin & Kennedy Vogl
Music : Choir
Home Ministry: Jill Menard
Money Counters: Juanita Bray & Kristi Gersch



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.

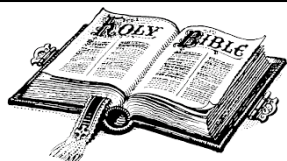
Social Hall:

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.

Finance Council members: Juanita Bray, Brian Hohn, John Rauser-Chair, Steve Visocan, Vince Vogl, meet quarterly.

Pastoral Council members: Bernadette Swenson-Chair, Shari Toney, Shawna Wickens & Chris Wright, meet first Wednesday of the month, Sept-May.

Cemetery Committee: Paul Latka, Terry Love, Rich Majszak-Chair, Gay Ann Masolo, Doris Mingay, Don Peace, and Missy Rauser.



Scripture Readings 7-29-18
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kings 4:42-44 (110B)
Psalm 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18
Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel John 6:1-15
Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits. OR
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.

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, Deacon Nathan Scheidecker, and 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

Gene Determan, Father Byrne, Joanie Pritchard, Elaine Graveley, Marie Hoeffner, Fran Wright, Kelly Flynn, Jenny Schaubert. Elaine Severson, Ed Boucher, Anita Kearns, LaReissa Swenson, Shirley Helmick, David Plymale

Put Your Faith in Christ, Not in Feelings

CONSTANCE T. HULL



Rather frequently, I hear people make arguments about aspects of the spiritual life, the Church, morality, or relationships that are predicated upon a particular individual's feelings. Some will complain that the Mass doesn't make them "feel" good or the Church's teaching doesn't cause a flood of the emotions they are looking for in their lives. I've had friends tell me that their relationship with Jesus requires them to "feel good" on some level.

The problem is, our emotions or "[feelings](#)" — as we call them colloquially — are an unruly taskmaster and a dangerous guide in the spiritual life. It is true that our emotions are an aspect of being a human person, but they are in no way meant to overrule our intellect or our will. It is not uncommon for our emotions to lead us into temptation and take us down paths that are destructive.

When an individual tells me how essential it is for them to "feel" the presence of God or to experience Him subjectively in the Mass or in prayer, I tend to ask them some questions. First, I ask them how many times a day they experience an emotion? Do those emotions always comport with what is going on in reality? Do our bodies impact our emotional state e.g. level of sleep, stress, even what we've eaten? Is God our emotions? Does God cease to love us if we don't "feel" good on a given day? What about the very real dark night experiences of some of the holiest souls in our Tradition? Can our emotions be impacted by our encounters with other people? There are a lot of other questions that should and can be considered when it comes to deciphering how much our emotions can impede our ability to understand reality, love and serve God properly, love our neighbor as we ought, and progress in holiness.

Part of the spiritual life is learning to temper, control, or discard our emotional states. We can't always control our emotions, so at times we are called to endure until an emotional state passes. Much of the time an emotion we experience in a given situation is irrelevant to what is actually happening outside of ourselves. The Mass is a good example.

The celebration of the Mass — through which we offer right praise to God and participate in the eucharistic sacrifice as a priestly people through the ministerial priesthood — is an objective reality outside of ourselves. Heaven and earth meet and Our Lord is made bodily present to His people whether we "feel" it or not. The Mass is not meant to give us warm-fuzzy feelings. That's not what it is designed for. If that is what we want out of the Mass (and if we *must* have that experience), then we are not seeking to worship God, we are seeking an emotional high. That doesn't mean we won't experience powerful feelings from time-to-time at Mass, but it does mean that we can't be overly dependent on how we feel at Mass. We praise God regardless of our emotional state.

Many of the great spiritual masters of the Church note that as we progress in holiness, God seeks to free us of those things we depend upon outside of Him. One of these dependencies is our emotions. There will be periods, especially after consolations, in which God will seem to withdraw from us and we will no longer "feel" His presence. In fact, St. Ignatius of Loyola points out that we are in desolation more often than consolation in this life. .

Continued on the next page

Put Your Faith in Christ, Not in Feelings: continued

We may experience aridity, darkness, numbness, and confusion. It is not that God has abandoned us, rather, He is seeking to purify our love for Him. We are not meant to rely on the good feelings that can come from a consolation or an experience of Him at an emotional level. If we constantly seek an emotional response to God, we often become trapped in a type of idolatry in which we worship our feelings over God.

The question we must ask ourselves in the spiritual life is: Who do I want? Do I want God or do I want me? If we want God, then we must learn to temper, control, and discard our emotional states and no longer remain dependent upon them. When we learn to recognize our emotional responses to situations we can see very quickly how our emotions can entangle us in temptations and lead us to sin. This is a prevalent issue in our culture and it is something we have to fight against by the grace extended to us through the Sacraments and regular prayer.

The mantra of our culture is, "If it feels good, then do it." This is problematic and destructive in the spiritual life. It leads us to justify and commit sinful behavior. We can quickly become enslaved by alcohol, drugs, gambling, wrath, food, greed, pornography, or other forms of lust. Often adultery is predicated upon the notion that a person "feels" romantic love, attraction, or attachment to someone other than their spouse. We cannot truly love someone through sin and having an emotional response to another human being does not mean we should act upon it. What is required of us is to properly order that emotion to what is good, holy, and true. This is true of every aspect of our lives. A lot of people use their emotions and the argument that God wants them to be "happy" in order to indulge in sinful behavior. God wants us to become saints and our happiness can only come from living in accordance with His designs.

We are meant to move past our emotions as the starting point of our faith journey. They serve their purpose in the beginning by moving us towards God, but they are the shallow end. We are meant to swim into the great depths of God's mystery and love through the gift of faith and our use of reason. We can't truly come to know God and allow Him to live within us fully if we would rather worship our good feelings over Him. Christ doesn't promise that the spiritual life will be rainbows and sunshine. He promises that it will be blessed and lead us to the ultimate happiness we are made for at the end of the journey. In fact, there will be very dark valleys that we must walk through.

We can't persevere if we don't understand that our spiritual life isn't reliant upon feeling good. It is wholly dependent on Jesus Christ and our willingness to move forward in faith following Him no matter what. There will be much that we are asked to endure, some of which will be brutal, but our hope is in Him, not how we feel about what is asked of us. The greatest joy, the deepest peace, and the most intense love is found in the Holy Trinity and we enter into the communion of the Divine Persons when we let go of our counterfeits and embrace reality Itself. In order to do so, we must be willing to accept that our emotions are not God and that our faith journey is not dependent upon how we feel.

Constance T. Hull is a wife, mother, homeschooler, and a graduate with an M.A. in Theology with an emphasis in philosophy.

<https://catholicexchange.com/emotions-unruly-unreliable-guide>

4th Annual Eucharistic Conference

August 5-10, 2018 / Each Evening at 5:30 pm.

Saint Anthony Parish is please to announce the Eucharistic Conference will be held in Laurel, MT, August 5-10, 2018. The theme is "The Splendor of Truth", celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae: God's Vision of Marriage, Love, and Life*. Special guest speakers include Bishop Michael W. Warfel of Great Falls/Blgs., and many distinguished presenters from the Priestly Fraternity of St. Joseph. Now is the time to unleash the power of this teaching for the healing of our society.

The Eucharistic Conference promises to be intellectually, liturgically, and spiritually enriching, Experience the Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form, Sacred Music, enjoy activities planned just for them!