



Holy Cross Parish Bulletin

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 19, 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

"We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves." - Apostolic exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate of Pope Francis, section 14

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

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday 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:

- Parish picnic will be held next Sunday August 26th. Mass will be at 10 am, with the Picnic to follow. John Rauser will be roasting a pig, please bring a side dish to share. The Parish will be accepting monetary donations for the Holy Cross Cemetery underground sprinkler system. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex to set up before the picnic and clean up after the picnic. **Let's celebrate being a family.**
- Remember to pray the 54 day "Novena for our Nation" from August 15th to October 7th.
- The Bazaar is fast approaching, if you are contacted to help in any way, please do so willingly and with love for our Parish.
- With school starting in just a little over a week. The Parish will be starting Religious Education classes soon. If you have children who haven't participated in the past, please encourage them to deepen their faith by attending class. If you need to register your youth and/or are willing to help in any way, please contact Father David or Shawna Wickens 406-459-7273



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

"O Mary, Mother of Jesus Christ, and our dear Mother! O all ye holy angels,

who, by your adoration in our churches, make up for the little love which your God and our Saviour receives from men, obtain for us the grace to comprehend a little the love of Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament."

—St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Quote of the week

Prayer, without a doubt, is the most powerful weapon the Lord gives us to conquer evil. But we must put ourselves into the prayer. It is not enough just to say the words; it must come from the heart. And prayer needs to be continuous. We must pray no matter what kind of situation we find ourselves in. The warfare in which we are engaged is ongoing, so our prayer must be ongoing as well.

- St. Alphonsus Liguori

Mass	Schedule
Sunday August 19, 2018	Mass 9am Selection of the 11th Bishop of Helena Diocese
Monday August 20, 2018	No Scheduled Mass
Tuesday, August 21, 2018	Mass 5:30 pm The Unborn
Wednesday, August 22, 2018	Rosary Daily Mass 9 AM Seminarians
Thursday, August 23, 2018	Rosary Daily Mass 9 am Selection of the 11th Bishop of Helena Diocese
Friday, August 24, 2018	Daily Mass 9 am Adoration 9:30-10:30 am Homebound Parishioners
Saturday August 25, 2018	Mass 5 pm Jill Menard RB Connie Miller
Sunday August 26, 2018 Parish Picnic	Mass 10:00 am Parish Family

Scripture Readings 8-19-18

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs: 9:1-6 (119B)

Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

Ephesians 5:15-20

Gospel John 6:1-58

STEWARDSHIP

08-11/12-2018

Holy Cross

43 HC Envelopes	\$ 3,076.00
Loose	\$ 165.00
3 Assumption	\$ 245.00
1 Reimbursement	<u>\$ 1,968.13</u>
Total HC	\$5,454.13

Holy Cross Parish Endowment Fund:

06/30/2018 \$61,163.34

Cemetery

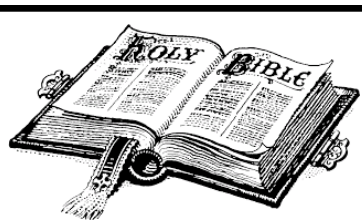
Cemetery 08/13/2018

Cemetery Fund

June Balance	\$3,041.22
July Donations	\$1,630.00
Sprinkler Sys.	\$8,180.00
July Gravesites	\$ 100.00
Forward to Foundation	-\$ 1,200.00
Expenses	<u>-\$ 1,203.26</u>
Total in Cemetery Acct	\$10,517.96
Cemetery Endowment Fund	
06/30/2018	\$34,039.50

THANK YOU!

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



Scripture Readings 8-26-18

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua: 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b, (122B)

Psalm: 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21

Ephesians: 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32

Gospel John 6:60-69

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Ministry Schedule

Tuesday August 25, 2018

5:30 pm

Greeters: Monte & Cathy Armstrong
Lector: Robin Kirscher
Gifts: Harold & Laura Gibbs
EM: Missy Cox & Debbie Miller
Servers: Zach & Zoey Wickens

Ministry Schedule

Sunday August 26, 2018

10:00 am Parish Picnic

Greet: Terri & Emmalin Fischer
Lector: Gay Ann Masolo
Gifts: Anne Inghram & Jill Menard
EM: Chris Wright &
Servers: Ryan Racht & Ty Steele
Music: Jill Flynn
Home Ministry: Jill Menard
Money Counters: Juanita Bray & Kristi Gersch



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.

Dillon Armstrong

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.

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 and Missy Rauser.

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, Diana Mell

St. Helena and the True Cross

FR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS



St. Helena is often depicted holding a cross because tradition maintains she found the true cross in Jerusalem. Before delving into this matter further, some background information is necessary.

Because of Jewish insurrections, the Roman Emperor Hadrian (reign A.D. 117-38) abolished the name of Judea and renamed the area "Syria Palaestina." He also made Jerusalem a new capital, named "Aelia Capitolina," and forbade Jews from entering the immediate area. While Jerusalem remained mostly in ruins because of the revolt in A.D. 70 (when the Temple itself was razed), Hadrian demolished the rest. While regarding Judaism as insurrectionary, Hadrian regarded Christianity the same way. To eradicate the influence of Christianity, Hadrian leveled the top of Mount Calvary and erected a temple to the pagan goddess Venus. He also cut away and leveled the hillside where Jesus' tomb stood and built a temple to the pagan god Jupiter Capitolinus. Ironically, this destruction actually preserved the sacred sites.

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The Emperor Constantine seized power in the year 312, and in the following year, legalized Christianity with the Edict of Milan. About this time, Constantine's mother, St. Helena, converted to Christianity. (She died in the year 330 at about the age of 80.) According to the early great Church historian Eusebius, she was about 63 at the time of her conversion. With the authority of her son, St. Helena went to Palestine in search of the sacred sites about the year 324. In the following years, St. Helena would build churches marking the place of the Nativity in Bethlehem, and the site of the Ascension.

True Christian zeal motivated St. Helena. Eusebius described her as follows: "Especially abundant were the gifts she bestowed on the naked and unprotected poor. To some she gave money, to others an ample supply of clothing; she liberated some from imprisonment, or from the bitter servitude of the mines; others she delivered from unjust oppression, and others again, she restored from exile. While, however, her character derived luster from such deeds ... , she was far from neglecting personal piety toward God. She might be seen continually frequenting His Church, while at the same time she adorned the houses of prayer with splendid offerings, not overlooking the churches of the smallest cities. In short, this admirable woman was to be seen, in simple and modest attire, mingling with the crowd of worshipers, and testifying her devotion to God by a uniform course of pious conduct" (*The Life of Constantine*, XLIV, XLV).

About the year 326, the temple of Jupiter Capitolinus was demolished, and the workers began to excavate the area. They discovered the remains of the tomb that was reported to be that of our Lord Jesus. They built a new shrine over the tomb, which has been modified over the centuries, but today stands in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

St. Helena and the True Cross continued. . .

...the essence of the story follows: The three crosses and the titulus were removed from the cistern. A woman, dying from a terminal disease, was brought to the spot. She touched the crosses, one by one. After she touched the third cross, she was cured, thereby identifying the true cross.

The temple of Venus was also demolished, thereby exposing the site where Christ was crucified. The Emperor Constantine himself wrote to St. Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem, ordering him to make a search for the cross on Mount Calvary. A learned Jew named Judas seemed to have some knowledge of the whereabouts, and was pressed into service. Just east of the site, three crosses were found in a rock-cistern as well as the *titulus* (the wood plaque inscribed with *Jesus Nazaranus Rex Iudaeorum*). (With the Church of the Holy Sepulcher is the Chapel of the Finding of the True Cross, marking the cistern.) The question then arose, "Which was the cross of Christ?"

While the details provided by St. John Chrysostom, St. Ambrose, Rufinus, and Socrates (not the philosopher) are lacking and sometimes contradictory, the essence of the story follows: The three crosses and the *titulus* were removed from the cistern. A woman, dying from a terminal disease, was brought to the spot. She touched the crosses, one by one. After she touched the third cross, she was cured, thereby identifying the true cross. Other sources also relate the later finding of other instruments of the Passion. Most importantly, St. Ambrose preached that when St. Helena found the true cross, "she worshiped not the wood, but the King, Him who hung on the wood. She burned with an earnest desire of touching the guarantee of immortality."

St. Cyril of Jerusalem provides some corroboration. In his letter to the Emperor Constantius (Constantine's son and successor), St. Cyril stated, "The saving wood of the cross was found at Jerusalem in the time of Constantine." In his fourth *Catechetical Lecture*, he wrote, "He was truly crucified for our sins. For if you would deny it, the place refutes you visibly, this blessed Golgotha, in which we are now assembled for the sake of Him who was here crucified; and the whole world has since been filled with pieces of the wood of the Cross."

Another point: A reader in Canada asked, "Why is there a skull and two crossed bones placed at the foot of the cross in paintings of the crucifixion?" Many of the older depictions of the crucifixion do show a skull with two crossed bones at the foot of the cross. The tradition is that Adam was buried at Calvary. When our Lord died, His Precious Blood dripped down onto His skull. Again, in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, one finds the Chapel of Adam underneath the Chapel of Golgotha.

The Feast of the Triumph of the Cross was Sept. 14. Let us remember the words of St. Francis of Assisi: "We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world."

Rev. William Saunders. "St. Helena and the True Cross." *Arlington Catholic Herald*.

(August 18th is the memorial of St. Helena, patroness of the Diocese of Helena)