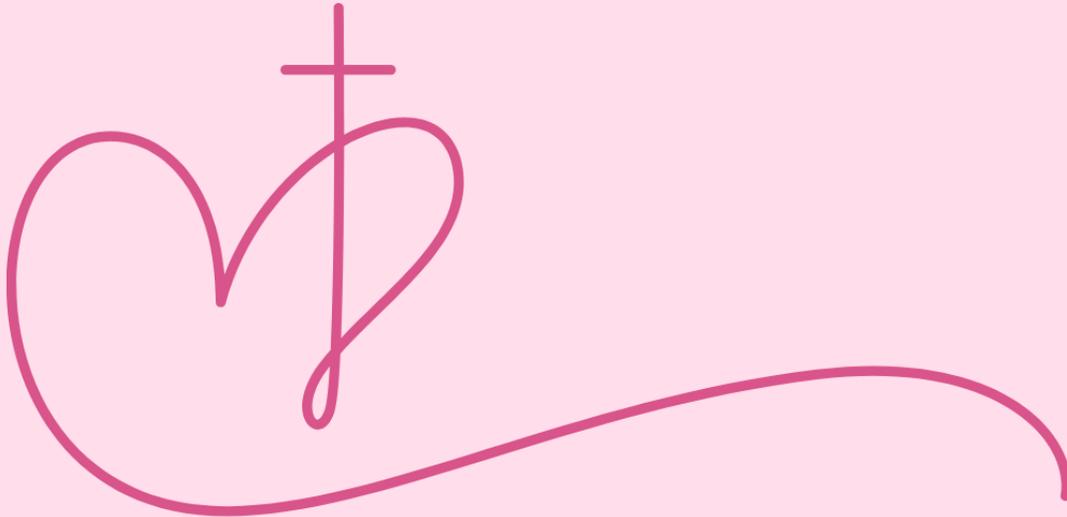


# Saint Mary Catholic Community



**February 8th, 2026**  
**The Fifth Sunday in**  
**Ordinary Time**

“Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

**Matthew 5:16**

**February 15th, 2026**  
**The Sixth Sunday in**  
**Ordinary Time**

“Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one.”

**Matthew 5:37**

**Mass Schedule:** Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 PM | Sunday Mass 9:00 AM

Weekday Masses: Tuesday & Thursday 12:10 PM

Upcoming Friday Care Center Masses: February 13 at Touchmark, February 20 at Cooney

**Adoration:** Tuesday following 12:10 p.m. Mass until 2:00 p.m.

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday 3:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m. and Saturday 2:30 p.m.— 3:30 p.m.

[Click here to signup for Flocknote \(to receive news and updates from us\)](#)

[Click here to watch our livestreams](#)

[Click here to become a parishioner](#)



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Saint Mary Catholic Community is to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, service and community, taking seriously Jesus' command to "Do This in Memory of Me."

## MASSES AT SAINT MARY

### Sunday, February 8th—The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Isaiah 58:7-10, 10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16*

**9:00 AM Mass**— for the intentions of Doris Ann Ricker  
rb: Betty Lahn

### Monday, February 9th—No Mass

*1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56*

### Tuesday, February 10th

*1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13*

**8:00 AM Mass**— for the intentions of Ann McCormick  
rb: Betty Lahn

**No Confessions**

### Wednesday, February 11th— No Mass

*1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23*

### Thursday, February 12th

*1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30*

**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Patti Casne  
rb: Lynn Maierle

### Friday, February 13th

*1 Kings 11:29-32, 12:19; Mark 7:31-37*

**11:00 AM Mass** at Touchmark for the intentions of the people at Touchmark

### Saturday, February 14th

*1 Kings 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10*

**2:30 PM– 3:30 PM Confessions**

**4:00 PM Vigil**— for Clif Caughron†  
rb: Margy Kernan

### Sunday, February 15th— The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37*

**9:00 AM Mass**— for the intentions of Michael Morrison and Family  
rb: The Cotter Family

### Monday, February 16th—No Mass

*James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13*

### Tuesday, February 17th

*James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21*

**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Ann McCormick  
rb: Diana Kulow

**3:30 PM—5:00 PM Confessions**

### Wednesday, February 18th

*Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Ann McCormick  
rb: Diana Kulow

**5:30 PM Mass**— for the intentions of the people of the Parish

### Thursday, February 19th

*Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25*

**12:10 PM Mass**— for Kat Schroeder†  
rb: Susan Wise

### Friday, February 20th

*Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15*

**10:30 AM Mass** at Touchmark for the intentions of the people at Touchmark

**5:30 PM Stations of the Cross**

### Saturday, February 21st

*Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15*

**2:30 PM– 3:30 PM Confessions**

**4:00 PM Mass**— for Mary McWhorter†  
rb: Margy Kernan

## Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ **Sunday February 8th:** 9:00 am Mass, Children's Liturgy of the Word; St. Andrews Ticket Sales following Mass; 10:00 am Altar Server Training; 10:15 am Confirmation
- ◆ **Monday February 9th:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; 1:00 pm Grief Group
- ◆ **Tuesday February 10th:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 8:00 am Mass; 1:00 pm Church History; **No Confessions**
- ◆ **Wednesday February 11th:** No Mass; 4:00 pm Valentine Tea; No Youth Group; 5:30 pm Altar Server Training; 5:30 pm Pastoral Council
- ◆ **Thursday February 12th:** 12:10 pm Mass
- ◆ **Friday February 13th:** 10:30 am Mass at Touchmark
- ◆ **Saturday February 14th:** 2:30 pm– 3:30 pm Confessions; 4:00 pm Mass; Special Olympics Ticket Sale and St. Andrews Auction Ticket Sales following Mass
- ◆ **Sunday February 15th:** 9:00 am Mass; Special Olympics Ticket Sale and St. Andrews Auction Ticket Sales following Mass
- ◆ **Monday February 16th:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; 1:00 pm Grief Group
- ◆ **Tuesday February 17th:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 12:10 pm Mass; 1:00 pm Church History; 2:00 pm Book Club; 3:30 pm– 5:00 pm Confessions; 6:00 pm Mardi Gras Dinner
- ◆ **Wednesday February 18th:** 12:10 pm Mass; 5:30 pm Mass; No RE; No Youth Group
- ◆ **Thursday February 19th:** 10:30am– 3:00 pm Quilters; 12:10 pm Mass, Blessing of the St. Joseph Display following Mass
- ◆ **Friday February 20th:** 12:10 pm Mass; 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Soup and Bread
- ◆ **Saturday February 21st:** 2:30 pm– 3:30 pm Confessions; 4:00 pm Mass



## Parish Staff at your service

Father Tim Moriarty

Phone ext. 106 ~ email: [tmoriarty@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:tmoriarty@stmaryhelena.org)

Deacon Michael Seipp

email: [mseipp@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:mseipp@stmaryhelena.org)

Dawn Brannman ~ Faith Formation Director/Youth Minister

Phone ext. 107 ~ email: [dbrannman@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:dbrannman@stmaryhelena.org)

Pastoral Care Director: Vacant

Lori Mleko ~ Elementary RE Coordinator

Phone ext. 102 ~ email: [lorimleko@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:lorimleko@stmaryhelena.org)

Danita Murray ~ Parish Bookkeeper

Phone ext. 104 ~ email: [finance@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:finance@stmaryhelena.org)

Director of Music and Liturgy: VACANT

Brandon Bloom ~ Maintenance Director

Phone ext. 112 ~ email: [bbloom@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:bbloom@stmaryhelena.org)

Keaton Pettis ~ Communications Coordinator

Phone ext. 101 ~ email: [kpettis@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:kpettis@stmaryhelena.org)

## Parish Councils at your service

**Pastoral Council Members:** Starla Blank, Jan Buyske, Ed Glowienka, John Larson, Mary Munger, Casey Molloy, Jeff Tobin, Tyson Schulte, and Marelee Cloninger

**Finance Council Members:** Bruce Baumgart, Jana Gruber, Julie Johnson, Anna Miller, Lori Murphy-Moulet, Rick Duane, and Nancy Coleman

**Pastoral Office Hours:** Mon, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. | Tuesday: 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM | Friday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Fr. Tim's Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

**Office Address:** 1700 Missoula Ave. Helena, MT 59601

**Phone:** 406-442-5268 | **Website:** [www.stmaryhelena.org](http://www.stmaryhelena.org) | **E-mail:** [smcc@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:smcc@stmaryhelena.org)

## *From Father Tim*

The words from the prophet Zephaniah say it best, “Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth; seek justice, seek humility.” If we truly seek humility, we are truly seeking holiness as we follow the Master, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.

Humility recognizes our own limitations and dependence on God because without God, as we know, we are nothing. Humility is the recognition from our hearts that our Lord is the source of all good, and that we want to follow Him with all of our hearts.

Humility also recognizes that we are sinners and we have to constantly seek the Lord for mercy and forgiveness, as even the just man sins seven times a day in thought, word, or deed. Only the Lord is perfect, truly human and truly Divine while on Earth, so we follow Him and His model of living and example every day of our lives.

A humble and contrite spirit of the Lord will not spurn. There is nothing more powerful than the love and mercy of God. The Lord wants to constantly bring us His love and mercy, but we have to be sincere, and truly sorrowful in the sins that we have committed because the Lord knows our hearts, as He knows us far better than we know ourselves. So to think that we can fool the Lord is pure foolishness.

Pope Leo the 13th stated that humility is the foundation on which all other virtues are built, and it is necessary for the salvation of our souls. St. Ambrose wrote that humility and charity are interconnected: you cannot have humility without charity and you cannot have charity without humility. “Wherefore, since humility and charity both tend alike to the destruction of pride, what has been said of one may be applied to the other.”

The Gospel from Matthew 5:1-12 is known as the Beatitudes. May all of us have the attitude of Christ in everything that we say and do.

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,” means humble dependence on God. Being in Africa 15 months ago made me aware of the poverty and oppression within Tanzania, but the people were filled with great joy. They were totally dependent on God and their families, and their smiles were second to none.

“Blessed are they who mourn.” Most of us have suffered the death of a loved one, and it is a very difficult time because grief has all kinds of avenues as we are humbled by the loss and grief that takes place. It is in those moments that God can be very present to us.

The lowly are humbled in condition or quality of life accept who they are, and are happy with the gifts they have.

Those who hunger and thirst for holiness, those who show mercy, and those who are single-hearted have one thing in mind: following God with all of their hearts, and relying on the spirit of Christ because of their humility that is firmly imbedded in their souls.

The peacemakers want not only peace worldwide, but within their souls, and in the souls of everyone they encounter. They seek peace through the humility in their hearts to total surrender to the Lord.

And those who are persecuted for holiness sake have the humility and peace to KNOW that this world is only temporary, and eternal life is forever. And they have the humility to know that laying down one’s life for Christ is the greatest gift that we can give our Lord. The saints have always said, “If you want to be a saint, seek humility, humility, humility.” Humility brings us very close to Christ because a humble and contrite heart the Lord will not spurn.

At the end of our days, may all of us hear the words of the Lord that we long to hear, “Come, good and faithful servant. Come and share in your Master’s joy!” Praised be Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh, now and forever!

**God bless all of you!**

*Fr. Tim*

## **Pope’s Intentions for February 2026**

**For prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



**As praying stewards,** we pray for families of the recently deceased and welcome their loved ones into their Heavenly Home with the funeral liturgies.

**As ministering stewards,** many parishioners brought the Eucharist to care centers, hospitals, and homes.

**As sacrificing stewards,**

**Stewardship Gifts/Ordinary Collections:**

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Received: 7/1/25 – 01/31/26	\$311,455.04
Fiscal Year 2025-25 Budgeted: 7/1/25 – 01/31/26	<u>\$290,644.00</u>
<b>(Difference: Received – Budget):</b>	<b>\$ 20,811.04</b>

**Maintenance Repair Needs and Gifts:** (FY 2025-26: 7/1/25 – 01/31/26)

Gutter Replacement/Office (Completed)	\$ 3,000
Regular Maintenance & Repair:	<u>\$17,512</u>
Current Need:	\$20,512
Maintenance & Repair Gifts Received:	\$15,741
Difference: (Received – Need):	(\$ 4,771)

Gutter Replacement Office: Completed 11/20/25; final cost: \$3,520. *Thank you Saint Mary Catholic Community for your generosity!*

As of Thursday, February 5th at 9:00 am SMCC solar panels have **produced 201.38 MWh of energy worth \$23, 159.00!**

**“Live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ!” Program**

Thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our “Live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ” Program will continue to bring life to our community. If completing your Commitment Card was not possible at Mass, you may visit our parish website at [www.stmaryhelen.org](http://www.stmaryhelen.org) and complete an electronic Commitment Card or you can mail your card to the church. Our goal is 100% participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of Saint Mary Catholic Community!

HABEMUS PAPAM, ACA  
2025-26  
73 Households with...



■ Goal ■ Committed ■ Collected



<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$ 89,600.00</b>	<b>37.45 % of Goal</b>
Committed	\$ 36,644.26	
Collected	\$ 33,419.26	

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Building a Culture of Life and Family across Montana Funded in part by the Annual Catholic Appeal, Catholic Social Services provides confidential counseling throughout our state for expectant parents who need assistance to become new parents to their baby. Additional services include adoption placement, post-adoption support, Rachael’s Hope (post abortion help), Youth Mentoring and supportive aid to birthmothers. Please help provide for these critical services. Let us share what we have in gratitude for the gifts of life and family.



# Warm Hearts

January drive for new blankets & towels  
to gift the poor on Valentine's Day

an ecumenical ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Associates of Helena



Left to right: Associates Linda McCray  
& Bobby Lavinder making towel sets.

*SCL Associates are persons who share in the spirit  
of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Community.*

## Donations Serve

God's Love  
Good Samaritan Ministries  
Family Promise  
YWCA  
The Friendship Center  
Rocky Mountain Development Center  
Helena Community Offender Reentry Program

## 2 Ways to Donate

Place your gift in our donation boxes.  
Online orders through our Amazon Gift Registry.



Look for our boxes!



Facebook



Amazon.com Gift Registry



I have loved you with an everlasting love!  
Jeremiah 31:3

# Faith Formation

## A Journey for Life

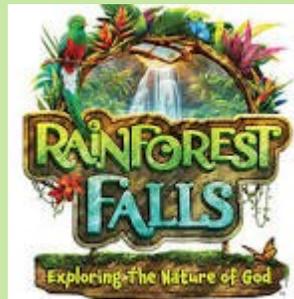
During this season of Lent, please pray for our candidates who were baptized in other faith traditions and will be received into the Catholic Church during the Easter Season and receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

### Liturgy of the Word for Children

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be offered at both the 4:00 pm and 9:00 am Masses the weekend of February 7th and 8th. There will be **NO** Children's Liturgy of the weekend of February 14th and 15th.

## Save the Date for Vacation Bible School

VBS will be **August 3-7** from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm each day!



**Who:** All youth entering kindergarten this fall through 5th Grade!

Registration will be coming soon!

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Help Needed

We are excited to be building a **new atrium for Level 2 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)**, serving our elementary-aged children. CGS is a Montessori-based approach to faith formation that nurtures the child's relationship with God through Scripture, liturgy, prayer, beauty, and silence.

An atrium is a sacred space, not a classroom, where the spiritual life can be lived. It is carefully prepared with simple, beautiful, hands-on materials such as dioramas, small figures of biblical people, and geographic materials like the map of Israel and the City of Jerusalem. Everything in the atrium is rooted in Scripture and the liturgy.

We prayerfully invite you to help prepare materials for this new atrium. We are looking for **woodworkers, sewers, painters, people with good handwriting and anyone willing to help**—no prior experience needed. Detailed instructions and Scripture for reflection will be provided. Materials are needed by the **end of August**.

Please review the list of needs [HERE](#) and sign up for an item that interests you. You will be contacted with more information and can decide if you would like to commit.

For more information, contact Dawn!

# Important Dates for Youth Group

Youth Group is **NOT** meeting on February 11th or February 18th.

We will resume on February 25th

## Confirmation Preparation

Candidates for Confirmation and their Sponsors will meet on Sunday, February 8th from 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Social Center! If your sponsor is not able to attend, please bring a parent with you!

Call Dawn at the Parish Office for more information!!!!

## Legendary Lodge Scholarship Fund

Legendary Lodge Camp is a life-changing faith experience for our youth. Each year, 25–30 teens from our parish attend camp, and many are only able to go because of the support of the **Legendary Lodge Scholarship Fund**. The cost to attend camp is \$450, and your generosity helps ensure that no youth is unable to attend due to financial hardship.

If you would like to donate or learn more, please contact **Dawn**. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our youth!



## Carroll College Parish Scholarship

\$1,000 scholarship, that requires the recipient be a student planning to attend Carroll for the first time in the Fall of 2026. A student must be full-time to maintain this scholarship.

Interested students are instructed to reach out to Dawn and request a recommendation letter by **March 15th**.



## 2026 Summer Camp Season CAMPS SCHEDULE

June 14-19	Junior High #1	July 12-17	High School #2
June 21-26	High School #1	July 19-24	Junior High #2
July 5-10	5/6th Grade Boys	July 26-31	5/6th Grade Girls

Registration for families who live within the Diocese of Helena opens **Jan 5<sup>th</sup>**. Opens for all other registrants Jan 9th.



Join us for  
**Family Camp!**  
June 28-30

Registrations open  
**March 2nd, 2026**

## Camp Rates

Early Bird  
(Register before Jan 25th)  
**\$425**  
Standard Rate:  
**\$450**

# Care for Creation

## **Lent 2026 A Time for Action**

In past years during Lent we have focused on becoming better people, creating better habits and learning ways to appreciate and help our Mother Earth. We have made an effort to recycle and compost, to eliminate single-use plastic and non-recyclable plastics both in our Church and in our homes. But the cry of the earth is becoming louder from all corners of the globe, and it is up to us to stand up and speak out. Our individual efforts are crucial today, but we must do more. All of us. Grocery stores are still packaging foods of all kinds in single use-throw away plastic. Big Oil companies are still lobbying the government to relax environmental laws to allow them more freedom to pollute, both the air and the water, and they are having great success. Even here in Montana, where we can still enjoy the beautiful outdoors, fresh air and clean water, those precious treasures are under assault by new regulations, sometimes proposed by our very own legislators. It is time for us to stand up and speak out.

This year, during the 40 days of Lent, in addition to continuing the good habits you have made in the past, explore ways to be an advocate for Montana and the earth by writing letters and emails, making phone calls and talking to people—store managers, restaurant owners, establishments that still use plastic bags, our government representatives and those who are charged with making changes for the good of our earth.

If you are hoping to combine what you know your faith teaches you with others in the Helena area who have the same strong faith and moral conviction of right and wrong, you may find solidarity and opportunities for action with Interfaith Power and Light. In the very inspiring, faith filled description of their mission we read:

'Montana Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) can provide the framework to inspire, organize, and mobilize, as people of faith and conscience, to take effective action on the climate crisis with solutions specific to Montana's needs that build a future for us all.' ([montanaipl.org](http://montanaipl.org))

There are many opportunities. Each week of Lent discover a different cause---or stick with the same one all 6 weeks. Make your voice heard. It is time for Action!

As stewards of God's creation, may we see and treat every part of the earth  
as a precious gift from God, our Father. Amen

**Care for Creation Ministry** – Pope Francis' encyclical, [Laudato Si'](#), on [Care for Our Common Home](#) and his addition of Care for God's Creation to Catholic Social Teaching inspire our ministry. Since 2019 we have written 264 full page bulletin articles to help raise awareness, educate and inspire action for God's creation in our parish. ***Our ministry is now moving towards a more flexible format with articles of various lengths from short messages to occasional full-page articles.*** We hope this new format continues to build a community that cherishes, protects, advocates and acts for our earth We thank you for your work and your care for all of creation.

# 2026 Lenten Schedule



## **Wednesday, February 18th**

- 12:10 pm Mass
- 5:30 pm Mass

## **Friday, February 20th**

- 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 pm Soup and Bread

## **Monday, February 23rd**

- 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection *at SMCC*

## **Friday, February 27th**

- 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Soup and Bread
- 5:00 pm Knights of Columbus Fish Fry at K of C Hall (1867 Washington St.)

## **Monday, March 2nd**

- 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection *at OLV*

## **Friday, March 6th**

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer
- 6:00 pm Soup and Bread

## **Monday, March 9th**

- 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection *at SMCC*

## **Friday, March 13th**

- 5:30 pm Living Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 pm Soup and Bread

## **Monday, March 16th**

- 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection *at OLV*

## **Monday, March 21st**

- 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection *at SMCC*

## **Friday, March 27th**

- 5:00 pm Knights of Columbus Fish Fry at K of C Hall (1867 Washington St.)

## **Thursday, April 2nd**

- 7:00 pm Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

## **Friday, April 3rd**

- 12:10 pm Stations of the Cross
- 5:30 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

## **Saturday, April 4th**

- 8:00 pm Easter Vigil

## **Sunday, April 5th**

- 9:00 am Easter Sunday Mass

# CALLED TO PEACE

COORDINATED BY OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY AND SAINT MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AND CARROLL COLLEGE, THIS LENTEN SERIES GUIDES PARTICIPANTS IN EXPLORING HOW SACRED SCRIPTURE, CHURCH TEACHING, AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FORM THE CATHOLIC VISION OF PEACE IN A COMPLEX WORLD.

**02/23**  
**at**  
**SMCC**

**The Bible and Peace: Dr. Cameron Ferguson & Dr. Jeanette Fregulia**

This session invites us to listen to how God speaks of peace throughout the Bible. From God's promise of shalom to Jesus' words, "Peace be with you," we will reflect on peace as God's gift — one that heals relationships and restores wholeness in our lives.

**03/02**  
**at**  
**OLV**

**Popes John XXIII and Paul VI on Peace: Dr. Elvira Roncalli & Dr. John Ries**

In times of fear, division, and global tension, the Church has continually lifted up a vision of peace rooted in human dignity. This talk explores how Pope John XXIII and Pope Paul VI called the world to peace through justice, dialogue, and care for one another.

**03/09**  
**at**  
**SMCC**

**The Just War Theory: Dr. Eric Meyer**

This talk reflects on how the Church has struggled faithfully with questions of war and peace. By examining the Just War tradition and the debates surrounding it, we are invited to consider how our conscience, faith, and hope in Christ guide us toward peace.

**03/16**  
**at**  
**OLV**

**Pope Leo XIII and Peace: Dr. John Ries**

Pope Leo XIII reminds us that peace cannot exist without justice. This session reflects on how caring for workers, respecting human dignity, and building a just society are essential steps toward a peaceful world.

**03/23**  
**at**  
**SMCC**

**Spirituality and Peace: Dr. Katherine Greiner**

Peace is not only something we seek in the world — it is something God longs to cultivate within us. This final session focuses on prayer, trust in God, and conversion of heart as the foundation for living as Christ's peacemakers.

**Time:** Mondays During Lent from 6:30pm-8:00pm  
**Location:** Will alternate between OLV and SMCC

# Fish Fry

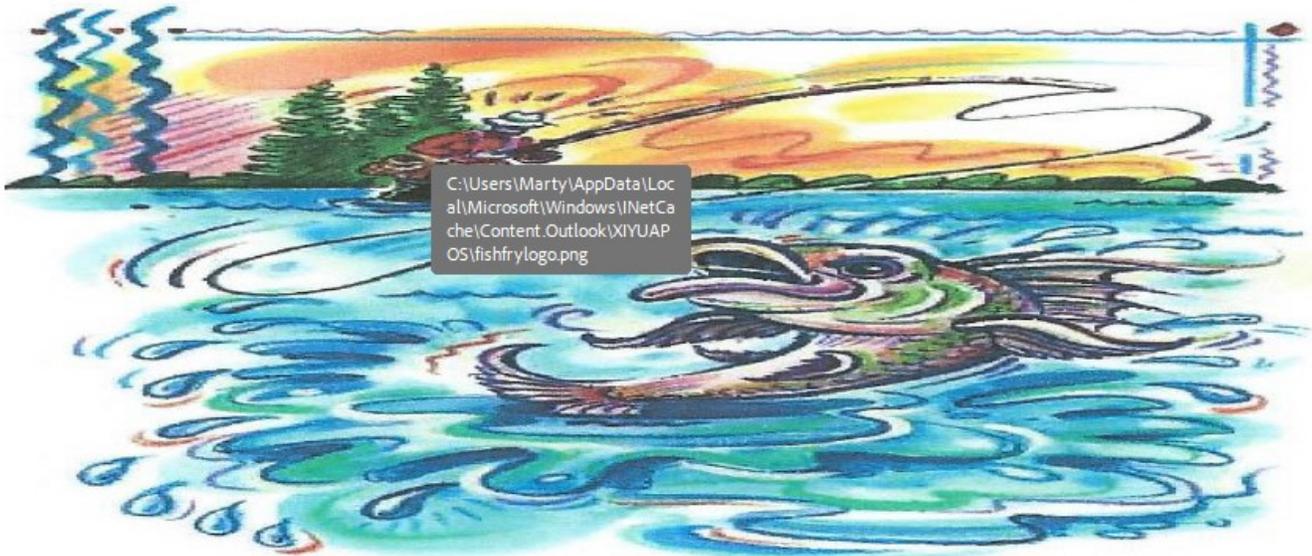


Knights of  
Columbus®

Friday Feb 27, March 13, 27 2026

5pm-7pm

KC Hall - 1867 N. Washington St - Behind Pomp's Tire



**\$17 a plate for fresh fish (Cod), coleslaw and potatoes**

**Homemade Clam Chowder \$7 - Mac & Cheese \$2**

**Bring a non-perishable food item for Helena Food Share**

**Coffee, Soda, Beer, Wine & Mixed Drinks available**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

*"Kindness Makes Miracles"*



# Carroll College

**BLESSED TO BE YOUR DIOCESAN COLLEGE**

## *News from the Hilltop*

### **INTRODUCTION FROM OUR BISHOP AND CO-PRESIDENT**

Greetings to you! It has been a joy to witness the lasting impact Carroll College has had on you. So many of you are alumni, friends, relatives, and benefactors, and have been strongly committed to Carroll's success for decades. Thank you! I am deeply grateful for your generosity and continued commitment. As our diocesan college, we Catholics of the Diocese of Helena share an important responsibility to strengthen the enduring partnership between the Diocese of Helena and Carroll College. In the coming days, you will receive a mailing from me regarding Carroll College, where I invite you to join me in thoughtfully considering Carroll College in your almsgiving this Lent. No matter the size, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Know of my prayers, and keep me in yours!

In Christ, I am

Bishop Austin Vetter



*Bishop Austin Vetter*

### **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PARISH STUDENTS**

We are pleased to once again offer a Carroll College scholarship to a prospective student from your parish, named in memory of the deceased priests of the Diocese of Helena and the Diocese of Great Falls–Billings. This scholarship is funded by Carroll College in the amount of \$1,000, with the recipient selected by your parish. Parishes are welcome and encouraged to match or add to this amount.

The Carroll-funded portion of this scholarship is available only to students entering Carroll College for the first time in Fall 2026. Parishes may continue to support currently enrolled students with parish funds, but Carroll's contribution applies solely to incoming students. If multiple awards are offered, Carroll will match them as long as they are awarded to incoming students and the parish agrees to match the funds.

Parishes are asked to submit a letter of recommendation for their selected student to Carroll College's Financial Aid Office by March 15, 2026.

### **FAITH IN YOUR FUTURE VISIT DAY: CATHOLIC VISIT DAY**

On Friday, March 20, 2026, Carroll College will also host a Faith in Your Future Visit Day, designed for high school students interested in learning more about Carroll's Catholic mission, faith life, and campus community. Scheduled alongside the Eucharistic Congress, this visit day offers a natural opportunity to explore Carroll earlier in the day and then take part in the Congress and CYC Convention activities throughout the weekend.

All high school students are welcome to attend. Individual visits may also be scheduled at [carroll.edu/visit](https://carroll.edu/visit).





## *Other Opportunities*

### **EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS AND CYC CONVENTION**

Carroll College is excited to welcome students and families to campus for the Eucharistic Congress and CYC Convention, March 20–22, 2026. This special weekend will feature Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop Emeritus of New York, widely known for his engaging presence, leadership in the Catholic Church, and thoughtful voice on faith and public life.

### **CATHOLIC ROOM GRANT**

As a Catholic, diocesan college, Carroll College believes in the value of Catholic education at all levels. We are so grateful to those who make the sacrifice to send their children to Catholic schools.

To demonstrate our appreciation, and thanks to the generosity of Carroll donors, the College is blessed to offer a Catholic High School Room Grant to eligible graduates of Catholic high schools throughout the United States as part of our commitment to the shared enterprise of Catholic education.

For 2026 graduates of Catholic high schools that apply and are accepted to Carroll by May 1, the Catholic Room Grant provides approximately 50 percent off the cost of housing for freshman year.

For eligibility and requirements, visit [carroll.edu/roomgrant](http://carroll.edu/roomgrant).

### **CARITAS TRIPS**

From March 8-14, 2026, Carroll College students will participate in Caritas Service Immersion Trips through Campus Ministry. Students will be traveling to Chicago, IL, and Browning, MT. These life-changing trips will immerse them in the realities and needs of people with economic, educational, cultural, and social challenges. Please pray for our students!

### **STUDENT RESEARCH FESTIVAL**

We would like to invite you to the Carroll College Student Research Festival (SRF) on April 24, 2026 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. We hope to see you there! This year's SRF keynote speaker is Mauricio López Oropeza. This keynote explores how *Laudato Si'*, integral ecology, and global community experiences—from the Amazon to Montana—offer a faith-rooted, hopeful path toward healing our planet and ourselves through connection, dialogue, and shared action.

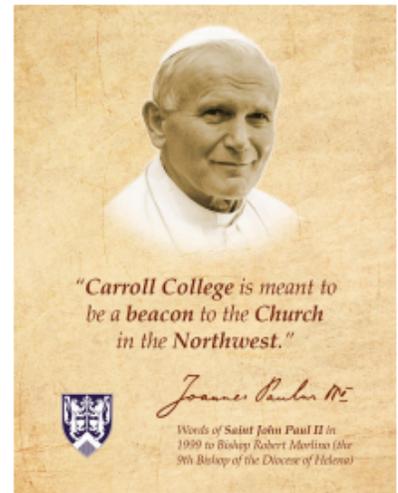
For more information visit [carroll.edu/srf](http://carroll.edu/srf).

### **CAMPUS EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Carroll College is proud of the time and care our faculty invest in hosting events that are open to the public. Upcoming offerings include *Against Tech Determinism: Change, Innovation, and the 'AI is here like it or not' argument*, and *Immigration Law and Catholic Social Teaching: A Panel Discussion*. We invite you to join us for either or both of these events. For more information, visit our campus calendar at [carroll.edu/events](http://carroll.edu/events).

For admission information, email [admissions@carroll.edu](mailto:admissions@carroll.edu). Apply at:

→ [carroll.edu/apply](http://carroll.edu/apply)



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Men's

# SKI RETREAT

F E B R U A R Y 2 7 - M A R C H 1

Join Fr. Cody Williams and other men for a weekend of prayer, skiing/snowboarding, and fraternal time. For more information go to [holycrossmt.org/skiretreat](http://holycrossmt.org/skiretreat)

**\$50**

(covers food & lodging; lift ticket not included)

INFO & SIGN UP



**MONDAY, FEB 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Dinner Served 5:30pm-8:30pm

Raffle Drawing and 50/50



**\$20  
Per Plate**

12 oz Steak,  
baked potato, salad

**STEAK DINNER**  
@ Eagles 4040



This event supports our ministry of serving Helena's most-in-need, offering a route to stability through our:

**Street Outreach Program**  
**Our Place Drop-in Center**  
**GSM Assistance Program**

Eagles 4040, 14 W Main St, East Helena

Questions? Contact Good Samaritan @ 406-442-0780

## Special Olympic Athletes



Mo Leo will be selling tickets for the Special Olympics again this year during the weekend of February 14th and 15th after each Mass in the Gathering Space! There are many prizes to win! Please cash or checks only. You can write the check to SOMT. Thank you for supporting "Special Olympic Athletes."

## St. Andrews Auction Tickets



Tickets for the St. Andrews Auction will be sold on February 8th following Mass and during the weekend of February 14th and 15th after each Mass in the Gathering Space!

## Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras dinner on Tuesday, February 17th at 6:00 catered by our own parishioner Chef Patrick Kander. The menu includes: Chicken and sausage jambalaya, smoky red beans and rice, seafood gumbo (shrimp, crab, aromatics, tomatoes, stock), tossed salad (creole mustard vinaigrette, greens, tomatoes, red onion), mac n' cheese for kids, sourdough rolls, dessert and punch. **RSVP by February 12th** by signing up on the kiosk, calling the parish office at (406) 442-6258, or online on Head of Household. The cost is \$8 per person or \$30 for a family. Come and enjoy a fantastic meal, fellowship and enjoy the special entertainment offered in the Social Center.

## Ash Wednesday Mass Times



- Saint Mary Catholic Community: 12:10 pm & 5:30 pm
  - Our Lady of the Valley: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm
  - Cathedral: 7:00 am, 12:00 pm & 5:30 pm
  - SS Cyril & Methodius: 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm
  - All Saints Chapel: 7:00 am & 4:00 pm

## Welcome!

Saint Mary Catholic Community would like to welcome new parishioners who have registered from September to present:

- Patrick and Kelly Kander
  - Rita Costello
  - Mona Baisch
- Maryann Costello and Galen Hollenbaugh
  - Brenna Van Paeppeghem
  - Tyler and Erin Maxwell
    - Lynda Camburn
  - Scott and Kelly Flaherty Settle
    - Sheila and Shawn Coker

We welcome you all to the SMCC family!





## Extraordinary Ministers: Ash Wednesday



Ashes will be available on Wednesday, February 18th for Extraordinary ministers to take to Care centers.



## OLV Chili Feed and Silent Auction



Join Our Lady of the Valley's annual Chili Feed and Silent Auction on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:15 PM! Enjoy delicious chili, great company, and support St. Andrews' furnace repair. All are welcome!

## Saint Francis Peace Through Justice

### Peace At All Costs – (Reflection 1 of 2)

*Our world sits on a razor thin line between “no war” (which is not the same as “peace”) and full-on war involving many countries.* Though we know wars are happening right now (Ukraine and Russia, others) the current global tension among countries raises the specter of the use of “targeted nuclear weapons.” There are 9 countries that possess nuclear weapons: the U.S., Russia, China, France, the UK, Pakistan, India, Israel (not confirmed) and North Korea.

In January 2021 65 countries had agreed to the *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)*. No nuclear armed countries have signed on, indicating they will keep these weapons as deterrents, though in Pope Francis's words: “mutual deterrence ends up poisoning relationships between people and obstructing... real dialogue. Pope Francis called the Treaty a “courageous vision.” He concluded by noting that disarmament treaties, including the TPNW, “are more than just legal obligations.... but also moral commitments based on trust among States ...and rooted in the trust that citizens place in their governments, with the ethical consequences for current and future generations of humanity.” Furthermore, “The Holy See has no doubts that a world free from nuclear weapons is both necessary and possible.”

#### ***ACTION - What We Can Do***

*Let us consider our own obligations as citizens who vote. May we pray that one day nuclear power will be used only for peaceful purposes.*

*St. Francis Peace Through Justice* - Information from: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2022-06/pope-francis-a-world-free-of-nuclear-weapons-is-necessary.html>

## You are Invited

**The Blessing of A Place to Celebrate Diversity  
Saint Joseph**

**Patron Saint of the Universal Church and Her Blessed Diversity**

Deacon Michael Seipp will be presiding.

Glenda Seipp will share her personal reflection.

- ~ Discover all the peoples and organizations that honor Saint Joseph as their patron saint.
- ~ Take this opportunity to discover and contemplate how Saint Joseph inspires the power of love for you in today's world.

**12:45 Thursday February 19th in the Gathering Space**  
(after the daily Mass)



# Journey Gathering

February 16, 2026

7:00 PM, *Our Lady of the Valley* Social Center

Shine as light to the world!

Join us to greet the newest members of the Journey family.

The Candidates from the Men's and Women's Journey weekends are invited to attend their first Gathering.

Come so that they may get to know what an amazing, faith-filled community they have become a part of.

*Ice cream social to follow the introductions. Bring your friends and families!!!*

Please say yes to joining us on Monday, February 16, 7 PM, *Our Lady of the Valley*

Mary's "Yes" when she responded to the Angel Gabriel, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word" (Lk1:38)

## Director of Liturgy and Music

Saint Mary Catholic Community is seeking a qualified Director of Liturgy and Music to support the operations of Saint Mary Catholic Community. The Director of Liturgy and Music will provide leadership in the planning, execution and celebration of all parish liturgical celebrations, with responsibility for preparing both liturgical and musical elements. The Director will help the parish worship and celebrate through a balance of contemporary and traditional music styles while encouraging the full, active and conscious participation of the assembly in the liturgy. As a member of the Pastoral Staff, the Director is expected to take an active role in the full life of the parish. Candidates should have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent education/experience in Liturgy, Sacred Music, Pastoral Studies, Theological Studies, or a related field. Strong organizational and communications skills are essential. This is a part-time salaried position, working 40 hours per week, with benefits. Annual salary range is \$42,500 to \$47,500, depending on experience. For a complete job description and list of qualifications for the position, please see our website at [www.stmaryhelen.org](http://www.stmaryhelen.org).

Apply by sending your cover letter, resume and three professional references to [finance@stmaryhelen.org](mailto:finance@stmaryhelen.org). This position will remain open until filled.

## Catholic Social Teaching

*The Church's social teaching shows us how to build a just society and live lives of holiness in the 21st century.*

Each person is SACRED,  
made in God's image, equal in dignity.  
Each person is SOCIAL,  
called to participate in family and community.  
All people have RIGHTS and  
RESPONSIBILITIES, the right to life and its  
necessities, and the responsibility to  
respect the rights of others and work for the  
common good.  
We care for people who are POOR and  
vulnerable, before all else.  
Workers have rights. WORK has dignity.  
We are partners with God in creation.  
SOLIDARITY is our call.  
We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers.  
We are for CREATION.  
We live in interdependence with all God has  
made.

## Blessing Box

Thank you all for your continued support  
for Saint Mary's Blessing Box.

With winter having arrived, we are in need  
for gloves/mittens, hats, scarves, and small  
blankets. And, of course, we still need food  
items that can be consumed without utensils  
as well as hygiene items. Please, do not put  
canned goods in the Blessing Box; canned  
goods should be given to Food Share.

Blessings to you all in 2026!

**Our parish is a supporter of a number of outreach organizations in town, including:**

**Catholic Social Services : 406-442-4130**



Guided by a commitment to respect for life, CSSM serves the varied needs of mothers, babies and children by building and strengthening families in Montana.

**De La Salle Blackfeet School: 406-338-5290**



Provides a quality , innovative and faith-based education to students on Blackfeet Reservation, that they may become successful learners and able participants in the shaping of their community.

**Family Promise: 406-465-9467**



Helps homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through an interfaith network of hospitality.

**Friendship Center: 406-442-6800**



Supports victims of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse with a broad range of support at no charge.

**God's Love: 406-442-7000**



Supports homeless in our community and helps provide food and shelter.

**Good Samaritan Ministries: 406-442-0780**



Supports family life in our community and enhance human dignity with services to meet the physical health, social, emotional and spiritual needs of individuals and families.

**Guatemala Mission:**



Established in 1964, our diocesan mission at Santo Tomás la Unión, Guatemala is comprised of a school, a clinic, and the mission headquarters. The mission provides essential services to poor people in the coastal highlands of the country.

**Helena Community Gardens: 406-529-1364**



Makes gardening accessible to low-income families, people with disabilities and the elderly, increasing access to healthy locally grown food. Our Jubilee Garden, which donates fresh organic produce to Helena Food Share, is a member of the Helena Community Gardens family. (www.helenagardens.org)

**Helena Food Share: 406-443-3663**



Creates a hunger free community with emergency food boxes monthly and weekly produce and breads.

**Options Clinic: 406-422-1011**



Guided by a commitment to respect for life, Options offers a wide range of health care services to men and women free of charge. (www.optionsfriends.org)

*If the good work of any of these organizations resonates with your desire to serve, please feel free to contact them—and please mention that you are from Saint Mary Catholic Community.*

**SEMINARIANS**

FOR THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

2025-2026

Shae Bills	Carter Anderson
Riley Helgoe	Matt Keck
Carson Gorton	Anthony Olmes
Jake Smith	James Semling
Jamie Severson	Kaleb Mitchell
Liam Aippersbach	Brett Rotz
Ryan Frampton	Mason Yochum

-Please Continue to pray for our Seminarians-

*Prayers for the Deceased*

Elizabeth Downs

Paul Miller

John Pupich

Kathy Sampson

*Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
Please remember in your prayers those who have  
recently died.*

When a member of your family dies and the funeral is somewhere other than Saint Mary, please call the Pastoral Office and let us know.

**We Pray for all those serving in the Military**

David Beatty	Eli Kirwan
Christopher Casne	Daniel Mattingly
Stephen Ceo	Andrew McGuffey
Jack Cotter	Nathan Mill
Tristan Anne Driessen	Nicholas T Nelson
Dillan Edgar	Marcus Peter
Tyler Eierdam	Lucas Robson
Ed Eve, Jr	Colby Smith
Cody Gleich	Natasha Walker
David Griffinberg	Andrew Welch

*By the grace of God may peace reside in every human heart and in all the world. If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the Parish Office on (406)442-5268.*

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2. Choose the hours you would like to pray at Trinity Chapel on the Carroll College campus from 5AM to 10PM.
3. Make changes or find a substitute at the same website.
4. Need two adorers scheduled per hour so that Jesus is protected and never left alone, so **SPREAD THE WORD!!!**

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**To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2'  
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