

# Saint Mary Catholic Community



**February 22nd, 2026**  
**The First Sunday of Lent**

“It is written:  
The Lord, your God, shall you  
worship and him alone shall  
you serve.”

**Matthew 4:10**

**March 1st, 2026**  
**The Second Sunday of Lent**

“But Jesus came and touched  
them, saying, “Rise, and do  
not be afraid.” And when the  
disciples raised their eyes,  
they saw no one else but  
Jesus alone.

**Matthew 17:7**

**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: March 6 at Mount Ascension, March 13 at Touchmark

**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 22nd—The First Sunday of Lent

*Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11*

**9:00 AM Mass**— for Kathleen Richard†  
rb: Jill Larson

**Monday, February 23rd—No Mass**  
*Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46*

**Tuesday, February 24th**  
*Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15*  
**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Samantha Fox  
rb: Laurie and Bryan Fox  
**5:30 PM Reconciliation Services**

**Wednesday, February 25th— No Mass**  
*Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32*

**Thursday, February 26th**  
*Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12*  
**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Taffy Cochran  
rb: Laurie and Bryan Fox

**Friday, February 27th**  
*Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26*  
**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of the  
people of the Parish  
**5:30 PM Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday, February 28th**  
*Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48*  
**2:30 PM– 3:30 PM Confessions**  
**4:00 PM Vigil**— for the intentions of Dave Anderson  
rb: Bill and Charlotte Fleiner

### Sunday, March 1st— The Second Sunday of Lent

*Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9*

**9:00 AM Mass**— for Liz Downs†  
rb: Bernie and Kathy Hubley

**Monday, March 2nd—No Mass**  
*Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38*

**Tuesday, March 3rd**  
*Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12*  
**12:10 PM Mass**— for Dolores Slovarp†  
rb: Anna Miller  
**3:30 PM—5:00 PM Confessions**

**Wednesday, March 4th—No Mass**  
*Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28*

**Thursday, March 5th**  
*Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31*  
**12:10 PM Mass**— for the intentions of Tammy Schaeffer  
rb: Jim and Barb Schaeffer

**Friday, March 6th**  
*Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46*  
**10:30 AM Mass** at Mount Ascension for the intentions of the  
people at Mount Ascension  
**5:30 PM Evening Prayer**

**Saturday, March 7th**  
*Micha 7:14-15, 18-20, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32*  
**2:30 PM– 3:30 PM Confessions**  
**4:00 PM Vigil**— for Michael O'Loughlin†  
rb: Gail and Carl O'Loughlin

## Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ **Sunday February 22nd:** 9:00 am Mass, Children's Liturgy of the Word
- ◆ **Monday February 23rd:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; 1:00 pm Grief Group; 5:30 pm Finance Council; 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection
- ◆ **Tuesday February 24th:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 12:10 pm Mass; 1:00 pm Church History; 5:30 pm Reconciliation Services
- ◆ **Wednesday February 25th:** No Mass; 3:30 pm RE; 6:30 pm Youth Group
- ◆ **Thursday February 26th:** 12:10 pm Mass
- ◆ **Friday February 27th:** 12:10 pm Mass; 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Soup and Bread
- ◆ **Saturday February 28th:** 2:30 pm– 3:30 pm Confessions; 4:00 pm Mass; Good Sam's Sock Hop Ticket Sales following Mass
- ◆ **Sunday March 1st:** 9:00 am Mass, Children's Liturgy of the Word; Good Sam's Sock Hop Ticket Sales following Mass; 10:15 am First Communion
- ◆ **Monday March 2nd:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; 1:00 pm Grief Group; 6:30 pm Lenten Reflection at OLV
- ◆ **Tuesday March 3rd:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 12:10 pm Mass; 1:00 pm Church History; 3:30 pm– 5:00 pm Confessions
- ◆ **Wednesday March 4th:** No Mass; 3:30 pm RE; 6:30 pm Youth Group
- ◆ **Thursday March 5th:** 10:30am– 3:00 pm Quilters; 12:10 pm Mass
- ◆ **Friday March 6th:** 10:30 am Mass at Mount Ascension; 5:30 pm Evening Prayer followed by Soup and Bread
- ◆ **Saturday March 7th:** 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*

“Share your bread with the hungry... shelter the homeless... clothe the naked, and do not turn you back on your own...” These are the words of the prophet Isaiah, (58:7-10), as an introduction to the Corporal Works of Mercy.

The seven Corporal Works of Mercy are Catholic traditions focusing on alleviating the physical needs of others; they are: FEED THE HUNGRY, GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY, CLOTHE THE NAKED, SHELTER THE HOMELESS, VISIT THE SICK, VISIT THE IMPRISONED, AND BURY THE DEAD.

If we do these things, our light will shine brightly because the love of the Lord is in our hearts as we help those in need.

Now you will notice that one of the Corporal Works of Mercy says BURY THE DEAD. When I was on the highline, I worked with a mortician who was a devout Mormon and a good guy. I saw him again last November at a funeral in Chester, but he said something to me once that really stuck with me, and I am paraphrasing, “You can really tell how our culture is going in the way we treat our dead.”

The teaching of the Church and the Corporal Works of Mercy tell us to BURY THE DEAD, not to spread the ashes in the countryside or keep the urn on a mantel for ten years, but to bury the dead. Because in the eyes of the Church, the ashes of the deceased in an urn need to be treated like a buried body, as we as a people await the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead. May we do what is right and just by giving the deceased the proper burial that they deserve after a life of faith, hope, and love.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are about seeing Christ in everyone: the imprisoned, the sick, the homeless, and the hungry. When we see the face of Christ in everyone we encounter, our light is shining brightly—the light the Lord put into our hearts to be the people of faith, hope, and love that we are called to be.

“Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed...” The Lord loves us with an undivided heart, and He wants us to be light to the world. When we do anything to help those in need, we not only are being a light to those in need, but it is also a healing remedy for us. All of us are in need of healing: physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual. These acts of mercy and kindness will help heal our own wounds as we continue our walk with the Lord. The Lord is the Divine Physician for all of us; the more we put our faith and trust in Him, the more that we are healed.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.” The Lord tells all of us clearly in Matthew (5:13-15) that WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. May all of us have the mind and attitude of Christ that the Lord calls us to have. Fr. Jack Murray, a priest of our Diocese for over 50 years, a staunch outdoorsman, and a wonderful world traveler who passed away a few years ago, simply stated, “IT’S ALL ATTITUDE.” We can choose to be happy or sad, angry or forgiving, loving or unapproachable, and the list goes on. The Lord has given us the tools to have His attitude in our lives: the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit: WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING, KNOWLEDGE, COUNSEL, FORTITUDE, PIETY, AND FEAR OF THE LORD. The Lord has also given us the fruits of the Holy Spirit: (Galatians 5:22-23) charity, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity. All of these gifts embrace the mind and attitude of Christ.

My mother, God rest her soul, used to say, “You cannot think a negative thought.” We cannot think a negative thought because our minds and souls are interconnected, as our souls proclaim the greatness of the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

But when we allow the human heart to come into play, doubts, fears, anger, lust, anxiety, bitterness, selfishness, and other human weaknesses can allow us to fall into traps so that darkness can invade our hearts that are meant for God alone.

We are the light of the world. The Lord has given us this command: to live and be the light of Christ and to bring the light of Christ to everyone we encounter. Because the love that the Lord put into our hearts was not meant there to stay. Love is not love until we give it away. Praised be Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh, now and forever!

**God bless all of you!**

*Fr. Tim*

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

### **For disarmament and peace**

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

**As praying stewards**, we gathered as a community to celebrate Ash Wednesday and begin our individual and joint journeys into Lent. May our journey be prayerful, fruitful, and life-giving.

**As ministering stewards**, we gathered to celebrate Valentine's Day at the Senior Valentine Tea. We also gathered to celebrate Mardi Gras with a delicious dinner prepared by parishioner Chef Patrick Kander.

**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 19th at 11:00 am, SMCC solar panels have **produced 202.66 MWh of energy worth \$23, 306.24!**

**Collection  
This Weekend!**

**Black and Indian Mission Collection**



**Collection  
This Weekend!**

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

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a final letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. We invite all faithful parishioners to complete a card as our parish goal is 100% participation! You may return your card by:

- Mailing it to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included with the letter
- Bring it to Mass next Sunday

HABEMUS PAPAM, ACA 2025-26  
73 Households with Commitments



■ Goal ■ Committed ■ Collected



<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$ 89,600.00</b>
Committed	\$ 37,509.26
Collected	\$ 34,409.26

**38.56 % of Goal**

**ASSISTING OUR PARISHES AND MISSIONS**

The 2025 ACA provides Human Resource Services and direction for Safe Environment/Protecting God's Children. Telecommunications and technology support benefits our 57 parishes and 38 missions.

**PROTECTING ALL WE HOLD DEAR THROUGH FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY**

# Fish Fry

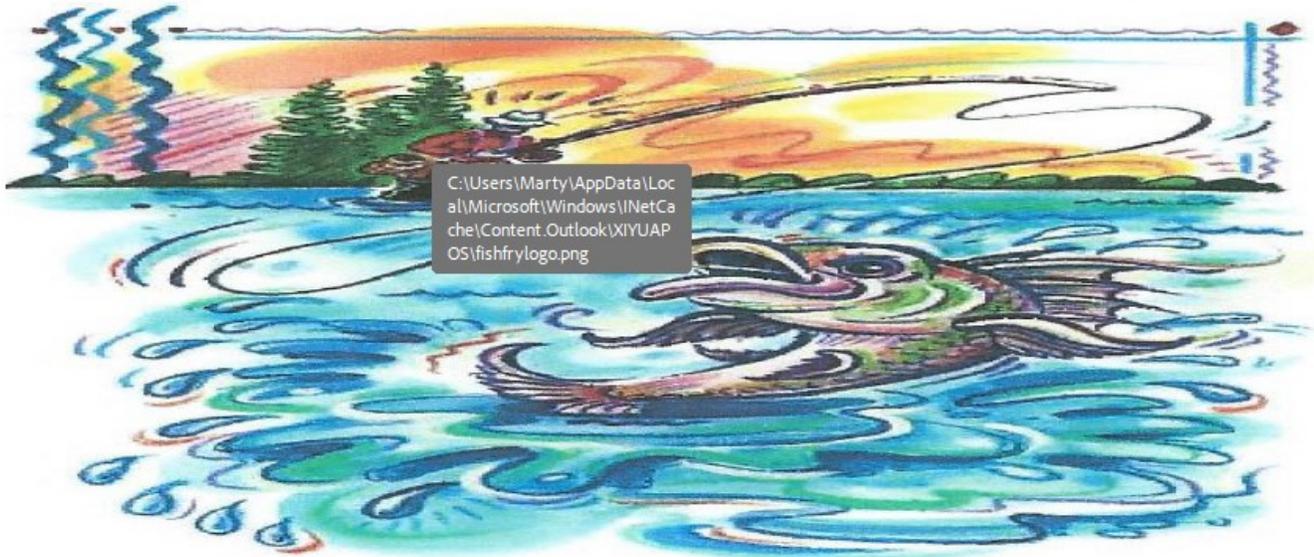


Knights of  
Columbus®

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"*



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

# Faith Formation

## A Journey for Life

### Called to Peace Lenten Reflections

Please join us **every Monday during Lent** from **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm** to reflect on how we are called to Peace!

**February 23 at SMCC: The Bible & Peace** presented by **Dr. Jeanette Fregulia and Dr. Cameron Ferguson**

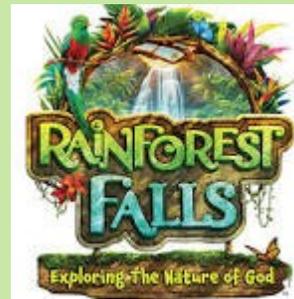
**March 2 at OLV: Pope John XXXIII and Pope Paul VI** presented by **Dr. Elviara Roncalli and Dr. John Ries**

"This Lent, I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor"

Pope Leo

### 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!

**First Communion Class** will be held on Sunday, March 1st from 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Social Center

A parent/guardian must also attend the class!

Contact Dawn or Lori for any questions!

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Help Still Needed

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

February 25: MS and HS Youth Group meets from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

March 4: MS and HS Youth Group meets from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

## 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!

## Living Stations of the Cross

Please pray with us on Friday, March 13 at 5:30 pm for a Living Stations of the Cross.

The Living Stations will be led by youth in the both the Religious Education Program and the Youth Ministry Program.



For youth who would like to participate in the stations, you can sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044FACAB2FA6FC1-62423929-living>

## 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 9<sup>th</sup>.



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**

# EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

MARCH 20-22, 2026

CARROLL COLLEGE | HELENA, MT

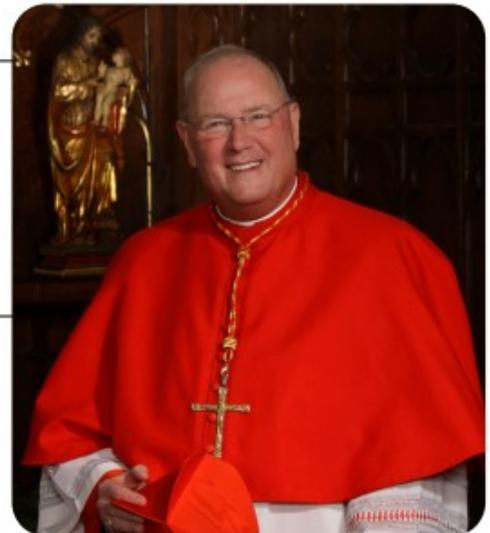


## A Weekend for Worship, Encounter, and Renewal

This year's Eucharistic Congress will be the largest gathering of its kind our diocese has hosted – an event for all ages featuring incredible speakers, dynamic breakouts, and prayer experiences, all centered around the Eucharist and the life of our Catholic faith.

WITH A KEYNOTE & MASS CELEBRATED BY:  
**CARDINAL TIMOTHY DOLAN**

Archbishop Emeritus of New York



### OTHER SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



Bishop  
Austin A. Vetter



Mother  
Mary Clare, ACJ



EVENT EMCEE  
Fr. Marc Lenneman

More information and registration at:

[www.diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress](http://www.diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress)

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## SPEAKERS & BREAKOUTS

This year we are blessed to welcome **Cardinal Timothy Dolan**, who will be our speaker on Saturday morning and will celebrate Mass on Friday night.

Other incredible speakers for the weekend include a general keynote with **Bishop Austin Vetter**, a women's session led by **Mother Mary Clare** of the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus, several high school youth keynotes, and a dynamic assortment of speakers who will host breakout sessions on Saturday afternoon.

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## AN EVENT FOR ALL AGES

With affordable childcare, dedicated junior high and high school tracks, and opportunities for every age and stage, this weekend is designed for the whole diocesan family.

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## SUNDAY MASS AND PROCESSION

The weekend culminates in a celebration of Mass at the Cathedral of St. Helena on Sunday at 11:00am, followed by a Eucharistic procession through downtown Helena from the Cathedral to All Saints Chapel at Carroll College to conclude the Congress.

**PLUS ADORATION, OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFESSION, A HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NIGHT, AND MORE!**

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## TICKET PRICING

*Register early and save!*

	Standard Registration Feb 15 – Mar 10	Late Registration Mar 11 – Mar 20
Adults & High School Youth	\$100	\$120
College Students & CYC Board	\$50	\$70
Grades K-8	\$50	\$50

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We are committed to ensuring that no one will be denied access to the event because of finances. **The maximum cost for any family to attend Eucharistic Congress is \$250.** Additional financial assistance is available for both individuals and families. Please visit our Congress webpage for details.



Scan the QR code  
to register now

or go to [diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress](https://diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress)

# Western Montana Catholic Women's CONFERENCE

*"COME TO ME"* MATTHEW 11:28



*Sister Jacinta  
Phipps*



*Celeste  
Behe*



*Jessica  
Echeverry*

*There Is No Place Like Home*

**Friday, April 10, 2026 ~ Cathedral of St. Helena**

5:30 pm Mass and Rosary ~ All are welcome

**Saturday, April 11, 2026 ~ 7 am check-in**

**Women's Conference, Speakers,  
Confessions, Vendors, Fellowship**

(including special "Montana Strong" speakers: Allison Bell, Kaylyn Lybeck, Lynnette Nilan)

*Helena Civic Center*

*visit* **HelenaCWC.org**



## Register by Mail / Rates

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 30, 2026**

### MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO

New Evangelization for the World

### MAIL COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO

New Evangelization for the World  
PO Box 775 / Helena, MT 59624

**Early Bird \$65 (closes March 16)**

**Individual \$80 (to March 30) / Student \$20 (to March 30)**

**At the Door (lunch not guaranteed), April 11 \$90**

For each additional attendee, attach on separate paper all "ATTENDEE" info as below.

For Special Rate for groups of five or more, please contact your Parish Office.



**NAME (Attendee)**

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**ADDRESS**

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**CITY / STATE / ZIP**

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**PHONE** Circle one: Home / Cell / Work

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**EMAIL**

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**PARISH** – add city/state if outside Helena

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### LUNCH SELECTION

Included if registered through March 30, 2026  
Must be chosen in advance.

- Turkey Ciabatta
- Roast Beef Parmesan Roll
- Cobb Salad
- Mandarin Orange Salad (Gluten Free)

### ONLINE

Registration available at [www.HelenaCWC.org](http://www.HelenaCWC.org)

## Speakers



### Sr. Jacinta Phipps

Sister Jacinta Phipps was born the second of eight children to a ranching family in Garfield County in Eastern Montana. Her parents were received into the church when she was about seven months old and was baptized together with them. Her first few years of education took place in a one-room country school house. She was then homeschooled up through 8th grade, after which she attended public school in Jordan, Montana. She enrolled in the community college in Sheridan, Wyoming for pre-nursing, but at the end of her second semester, she visited the Benedictines of Mary in Missouri and knew the Lord was calling her to monastic life. She joined the community in the Fall of 2014, and made her solemn profession of vows August 22, 2020.



### Celeste Behe

Known to her readers as "The Catholic Storyteller," Celeste is a Bronx-born Italian who tells tales drawn from her own experience, which ranges from a city upbringing to a turnaround life in small-town Pennsylvania. Celeste has been a regular contributor to Catholic publications for twenty-five years. Celeste's stories are relatable and always entertaining even while conveying the timeless truths of our Catholic faith. She formed the St. Monica Ministry out of obedience to her bishop, but she was convinced that she wasn't cut out to lead a ministry. Celeste gradually came to realize that the Holy Spirit would not only make up for her shortcomings but would provide everything she needed to accomplish the task that she had been given. All she had to do was follow His promptings.

For you especially, she will embrace humor laced with her talks that show there is nothing as joyful as the Catholic life.



### Jessica Echeverry

Jess is a women and family advocate, speaker, author, and podcaster. She has survived parental divorce and alcoholism, as well as emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Her testimony includes dark times of physical and sexual violence, teenage pregnancy, years of homelessness, abortion, same sex attraction, and two attempts at suicide. In 1997 she met the man she would eventually marry; this man would help her create an environment of authentic love that enabled her healing journey, her relationship with Jesus Christ, and her eventual forgiveness and love for her attackers. She converted to Catholicism in 2008. Her husband Charlie is a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Together, Deacon Charlie and Jess have five children.

# 2026 Lenten Schedule



## **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*

## **Tuesday, February 24th**

- 5:30 Reconciliation Services

## **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 XIV and Peace: Dr. John Ries**

Pope Leo XIV 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.

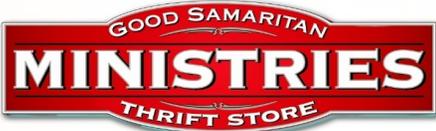
**Time:** Mondays During Lent from 6:30pm-8:00pm  
**Location:** Will alternate between OLV and SMCC

# Senior Valentine Tea



**Thank you to all who participated in the Valentine Tea:  
attendees, students, catechists, helpers and cookie bakers.  
You are very much appreciated!**





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**Good Sam's will be selling tickets in the Gathering Space following the Masses on the weekend of February 28th and March 1st!**

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INFORMAL KICKOFF 1:30PM  
ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026  
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TO 7PM. SIGN UP FOR YOUR  
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PRAYER OVER  
DESPAIR. PEACE  
OVER SILENCE.  
COURAGE OVER  
COMFORT

## Pastoral Council



Saint Mary Catholic Community Pastoral Council met on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. A variety of topics were discussed. Father Tim gave an update on parish staffing, stating that there has been one interview for the Parish Administrator position and another one to follow. Tyson Schulte gave a report on altar servers. There was a training on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> and another to follow on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Pastoral Council will host the first soup and prayer on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Anna Miller gave a Finance Council report and said that the commitment cards have been sent out as the second phase of the OSV program. There was a lengthy discussion about pew cards and information made available to parishioners and visitors. Kristi Irwin and Alissa Voeller will handle the QR codes and how to place them in the pews. Father Tim said that student safety after the middle and high school Youth Group is being taken care of by the Knights of Columbus. John Larson gave a report on the progress of the Safety Task Force committee. There have been ongoing meetings with this committee as to how to implement safety measures in the church and office. The next Pastoral Council meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.



## Life in the Spirit Bible Study



Saint Anthony's Parish, 217 Tremont Street, Missoula, in the Parish Life Center  
Saturday, April 18th 9:00 AM– 4:00 PM

All are Welcome! Bring a Bible! Lunch will be provided at noon. RSVP if possible or come at the last minute.  
RSVP at (406)543-3129 or (406)721-6599

## Funeral Reception Dishes



Funeral reception dishes are piling up! It is time to clean them out. They will be displayed in the Gathering Space the weekend of February 28th and March 1st.

Any dishes left will be taken to Good Samaritan.  
PLEASE check these to see if you might have something there!



## 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 full-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.stmaryhelena.org](http://www.stmaryhelena.org).

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





## Prayer in Motion



We will be starting "Prayer in Motion" class at starting Friday, February 27. Class will be begin at 12:00 PM and go for about 45 minutes in the Social Center. Prayer in Motion is a slow, flowing movement that is suitable for all ages. No experience is necessary. You can do this while seated or standing. We will be doing this in the context of prayer while moving. It can be helpful for arthritis and balance as well. Come check us out! A fun time is guaranteed. For further information, email Dave Krainacker ([dkrain@yahoo.com](mailto:dkrain@yahoo.com)). Hope to see you there.

### *SMCC Care for Creation Ministry*

## LENT 2026—A TIME FOR ACTION

At the national level, the organization [EarthJustice](https://earthjustice.org) is taking a stand against our government's quest to open up both the California coast and the Arctic for oil drilling. The wonderful biodiverse ecosystems that are home to rare turtles, orcas, thousands of seabirds, whales and countless other forms of marine life would all be threatened by oil and gas drilling as well as the millions of people who depend on these ecosystems for everything from food to tourism to recreation. To speak up and make your voice heard, join thousands of like-minded Americans at - <https://earthjustice.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!**

*God who breathes life into all things, cultivate in us a renewed sense of tenderness toward the earth and its relationship to our own healing.*

## Saint Francis Peace Through Justice

### Peace at All Costs – *(Reflection 2 Of 2)* A Prayer for Nuclear Disarmament

*Good and gracious God,  
we pray for a world free of nuclear weapons.*

Lift the fog of atomic darkness that hovers so pervasively over the earth.

We pray for world leaders to come to the realization that more weapons and war do not bring peace.

May financial resources be allocated to alleviate poverty, support food security, housing, health care, environment and educational programs.

*Good and gracious God,  
we pray that the deadly power of nuclear weapons never again be unleashed on people and Your creation.*

May such weapons of mass and indiscriminate annihilations be forever banned and eliminated from the face of the earth.

*Good and gracious God,  
forgive our past silence, give us the courage and strength to tireless raise our prophetic voices to work to eliminate weapons of mass destruction.*

Let us remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki as beacons as we commit ourselves to find ways to live together in peace, that we may not be just peace lovers, but peace makers. **AMEN**

*Written for Pax Christi by Sr. Diane Smith, CSJ – shared by SFPJ of SMCC*

## Mardi Gras Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended the Mardi Gras dinner and made it such a great success! Patrick Kander created an amazing feast! He was extremely generous and not only donated his time and services but also all the food. And there was plenty of that!

Thank you to the crew that decorated and made everything look so festive: Molly Somerville, Meghan Schulte, Deb Kralicek, Lori Moullet, Mary Munger, and Lana Somerville.

Thank you to the wonderful kitchen crew and servers who made the dinner run so smoothly: Doug and Deb Kralicek, Marc Buyske, Mary Munger, Lori Moullet, Sandi Ashley, Scott and Mary Buswell and Kristi Irwin. We are already looking forward to the next year and an even bigger crowd!

## For the Security of Our Parish

The signs on the church have been removed, but the church doors will still be locked 10 minutes after all weekend Masses due to recent safety concerns, so get here early!

## Hospital Communion Ministry

Please call the Parish Office if you or a loved one is in the hospital and would like a visit from a Communion Minister or Father Tim.  
(406)442-5268.

## 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)

**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-



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- Return it to church.

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**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 us at (406)442-4130 or  
Message us at [cssmt.org](http://cssmt.org).

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