

# Saint Mary Catholic Community



**December 14, 2025**  
**The Third**  
**Sunday in Advent**

“Amen, I say to you,  
among those born of women  
there has been none greater than  
John the Baptist; yet the least in  
the kingdom of heaven is  
greater than he.”

**Matthew 11:11**

**December 21, 2025**  
**The Fourth Sunday in**  
**Advent**

“For it is through the Holy  
Spirit that this child has been  
conceived in her. She will  
bear a son and you are to  
name him Jesus,  
because he will save his  
people from their sins.”

**Matthew 1:21**

**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: December 19 at Cooney, January 2 at Mount Ascension

**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, December 14th—The Third Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

9:00 AM Mass— for Tony Costello✙

rb: Maryann Costello

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

### Monday, December 15th—No Mass

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27

### Tuesday, December 16th

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32

12:10 PM Mass— Valerie Guedesse✙

rb: Nancy Coleman

3:30 PM—5:00 PM Confessions

### Wednesday, December 17th— No Mass

Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17

### Thursday, December 18th

Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25

12:10 PM Mass— for Kat Schroeder✙

rb: Susan Wise

### Friday, December 19th

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25

10:30 AM Mass at Cooney for the intentions of the people at Cooney

### Saturday, December 20th

Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38

2:30 PM— 3:30 PM Confessions

4:00 PM Vigil— for Ella Rose✙

rb: Kevin and Angie Bonney

### Sunday, December 21st— The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

9:00 AM Mass— Betty McCormack✙

rb: Rita and Mary Costello

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

### Monday, December 22nd—No Mass

1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

### Tuesday, December 23rd

Malachi 3:1-4; 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

12:10 PM Mass— for Charles Pluff✙

rb: Michael and Mary Foot

3:30 PM—5:00 PM Confessions

### Wednesday, December 24th

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79

4:30 PM Mass— for the 60th wedding anniversary of Bonnie and Gerald Hagenruber

rb: Family

9:00 PM Mass— for the Sampson and Whalen Families

rb: Mary Stordahl

### Thursday, December 25th

Isaiah 52:7-10/ Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

9:00 AM Mass— for the intentions of the people of the Parish

### Friday, December 26th—No Mass

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew: 10:17-22

### Saturday, December 27th

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

2:30 PM— 3:30 PM Confessions

4:00 PM Vigil— for the intentions of the people of the parish

## Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ **Sunday December 14th:** 9:00 am Mass, Children's Liturgy of the Word; 10:15 am First Reconciliation; 5:30 pm Advent Evening Prayer
- ◆ **Monday December 15th:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; No Grief Group; 5:30 pm First Reconciliation
- ◆ **Tuesday December 16th:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 12:10 pm Mass; No Chosen Group; 2:00 pm Book Club; 3:30 pm— 5:00 pm Confessions; 7:00 pm Giving Tree Wrapping Party
- ◆ **Wednesday December 17th:** No Mass; No RE; 7:00 pm Helena Youth Groups' Ugly Sweater Christmas Party at OLV
- ◆ **Thursday December 18th:** 12:10 pm Mass
- ◆ **Friday December 19th:** 10:30 am Mass at Cooney
- ◆ **Saturday December 20th:** 2:30 pm— 3:30 pm Confessions; 4:00 pm Mass
- ◆ **Sunday December 21st:** 9:00 am Mass; 5:30 pm Advent Evening Prayer
- ◆ **Monday December 22nd:** No Mass; 9:30 am Prayer Group; No Grief Group
- ◆ **Tuesday December 23rd:** 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group; 12:10 pm Mass; No Adoration; No Chosen Group; 3:30 pm— 5:00 pm Confessions
- ◆ **Wednesday December 24th:** No RE; No Youth Group; Office Closed; 4:30 pm Vigil; 9:00 pm Vigil
- ◆ **Thursday December 25th:** 9:00 am Mass; Office Closed; Merry Christmas!
- ◆ **Friday December 26th:** No Mass; Office Closed
- ◆ **Saturday December 27th:** 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)

Joanna Haddon ~ Finance Director

Phone ext. 104 ~ email: [jhaddon@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:jhaddon@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*

On behalf of all of the staff at the Saint Mary Catholic Community, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas filled with the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Whether you are traveling to see families and friends, or you will be with us to celebrate the joy of Christmas, may this holy season be wonderful for you and all of your families.

This time of year is a time of great joy, as it should be; as we (and the world) celebrate the birth of the Son of God into the world. It is a time of giving and reflecting; a time of enjoying being with our families and friends; and a time to take stock in our blessings in our lives.

But as we know, Christmas can also be a very difficult time for many people, as they may be grieving the loss of a loved one or one who is sick; there may be family strife, unemployment or several other factors for which the joy of Christmas is not too present in their lives. So we pray for them that the peace and healing of our newborn Savior is with them in profound ways. Because there is nothing more powerful than the love and mercy of God for all of us! And as we soon begin the New Year 2026, may all of you and your families have a holy and peaceful year as we continue to walk humbly with our God in our lives! God bless all of you, and have a very Merry Christmas!

**God bless all of you!**

*Fr. Tim*



### **Pope's Intentions for December 2025**

**For Christians in areas of conflict**

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.





**Prayer  
Ministry  
Sacrifice**

**As praying stewards,** we gathered together to participate in prayerful recollection at our Advent Prayer Service and in joyful remembrance of our Lady at the Immaculate Conception Mass. We move together as a pilgrim people through this season of Advent toward the joyful celebration of Christmas.

**As ministering stewards,** we gathered to support our youth in our annual Posada and drive-through Living Nativity. Great fun was had by all, especially the cow! We are lovingly and prayerfully supporting those in need in our community by our participation in the Giving Tree. Thank you for your generosity! We will gather for Mass and a hearty meal to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 13. Please come.

**As sacrificing stewards,**

**Stewardship Gifts/Ordinary Collections:**

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Received:	7/1/25 – 11/30/25	\$205,528
Fiscal Year 2025-25 Budgeted:	7/1/25 – 11/30/25	<u>\$210,888</u>
<b>(Difference: Received – Budget):</b>		<b>(\$ 5,360)</b>

**Maintenance Repair Needs and Gifts:** (FY 2025-26: 7/1/25 – 11/30/25)

Regular Maintenance & Repair:	<u>\$17,512</u>
<b>Current Need:</b>	<b>\$17,512</b>
Maintenance & Repair Gifts Received:	<u>\$12,279</u>
<b>Difference: (Received – Need):</b>	<b>(\$ 5,233)</b>

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

**CCHD  
Collection  
This Weekend!**

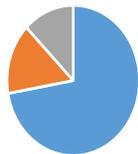


**CCHD  
Collection  
This Weekend!**

**Retirement Fund for Religious**

They gave their lives in service— now they need your help. For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation— it’s a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

HABEMUS PAPAM, ACA 2025-26  
50 Households with Commitments



■ Goal ■ Committed ■ Collected

<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$ 89,600.00</b>
Committed	\$ 18,879.00
Collected	\$ 15,529.00

**21.14% of Goal**



**SUPPORT THOSE IN MOST NEED**

The situation of poverty in rural Guatemala diminishes access to education and medical care for many indigenous people who live in the area of Guatemala’s *Boca Costa* served by the Helena Mission. At Santiago de La Asunción School, a Jesuit-sponsored group, Fe y Alegria, is providing for direct education costs. At the same time, your contribution to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal provides a boarding opportunity for young people who live at a distance, as well as building maintenance and other administrative costs. Your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal also allows the Clinica Maxeña to provide for all who come seeking medical attention, including those who cannot afford the minimal consultation fee (about \$5), and to assist with costs for those who need specialized care (such as cancer treatment) at a Guatemala City or other regional medical facility. We are grateful for your financial support, which translates into medical and educational services that begin to improve the lives of the indigenous people living in the Mission area. Please keep the work of the Guatemala Mission in your prayers.

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## INTRODUCTION FROM BISHOP VETTER

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Greetings to you! In the past days and months, I have heard from many of you from across the Diocese of Helena questions regarding immigration and the stance of the Church. I am happy to share with you our Special Pastoral Message on Immigration by the Bishops of the United States in unity with one another and with our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, issued on November 12, 2025, at our Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore. I stand behind this message 100%.

In Christ, I am



Most Rev. Austin A. Vetter  
Bishop of Helena



## STATEMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS ON IMMIGRATION

*From the Plenary Assembly in Baltimore - November 12, 2025*



As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.

Despite obstacles and prejudices, generations of immigrants have made enormous contributions to the well-being of our nation. We as Catholic bishops love our country and pray for its peace and prosperity. For this very reason, we feel compelled now in this environment to raise our voices in defense of God-given human dignity.

Catholic teaching exhorts nations to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. We bishops advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation's immigration laws and procedures. Human dignity and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together.

We recognize that nations have a responsibility to regulate their borders and establish a just and orderly immigration system for the sake of the common good. Without such processes, immigrants face the risk of trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Safe and legal pathways serve as an antidote to such risks.

The Church's teaching rests on the foundational concern for the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God (*Genesis 1:27*). As pastors, we look to Sacred Scripture and the example of the Lord Himself, where we find the wisdom of God's compassion. The priority of the Lord, as the Prophets remind us, is for those who are most vulnerable: the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the stranger (*Zachariah 7:10*). In the Lord Jesus, we see the One who became poor for our sake (*2 Corinthians 8:9*), we see the Good Samaritan who lifts us from the dust (*Luke 10:30-37*), and we see the One who is found in the least of these (*Matthew 25*). The Church's concern for neighbor and our concern here for immigrants is a response to the Lord's command to love as He has loved us (*John 13:34*).

To our immigrant brothers and sisters, we stand with you in your suffering, since, when one member suffers, all suffer (*cf. 1 Corinthians 12:26*). You are not alone!

We note with gratitude that so many of our clergy, consecrated religious, and lay faithful already accompany and assist immigrants in meeting their basic human needs. We urge all people of good will to continue and expand such efforts.

We oppose the indiscriminate mass deportation of people. We pray for an end to dehumanizing rhetoric and violence, whether directed at immigrants or at law enforcement. We pray that the Lord may guide the leaders of our nation, and we are grateful for past and present opportunities to dialogue with public and elected officials. In this dialogue, we will continue to advocate for meaningful immigration reform.

*As disciples of the Lord, we remain men and women of hope, and hope does not disappoint! (cf. Romans 5:5)*

*May the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe enfold us all in her maternal and loving care and draw us ever closer to the heart of Christ.*



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

# Faith Formation

## A Journey for Life

### First Reconciliation Class

**Sunday December 14th**

Class will be held from 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Social Center. At least one parent needs to attend the class with their child.

Contact Lori or Dawn for more information!

Please pray for our First Reconciliation Class who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Monday, December 15th!

### Exploring the Rich Story of Our Church

Beginning in January, join us for a special series on Church History. Together, we'll journey through the centuries—discovering the roots of our Catholic faith, the lives of saints and reformers, and the ways the Holy Spirit has guided the Church through challenges and triumphs.

**We will meet on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in the Social Center beginning January 13th!**

Come deepen your understanding, ask questions, and grow in appreciation for the living tradition we share.

**All are Welcome!!!!**

### Life in the Level 1 Atrium Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

It has been an amazing year so far in our Level 1 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium. The children have entered deeply into their work and prayer, discovering the beauty of our faith in quiet, hands-on ways. In recent weeks, they have received and learned the names and purposes of the articles of the altar used at Mass. They have explored the geography of the Holy Land—finding Israel on the map and locating the places where Jesus lived, was born, and offered His life for us.

The children have also come to know the vestments of the priest and the colors of the liturgical calendar and what each color means. In preparation for Advent, they have listened to three prophecies from Isaiah foretelling the coming of Jesus.

While they have learned so many beautiful truths of our faith, the greatest work happening in the atrium is in their hearts. At the very center of CGS is helping children know how deeply God loves them and encouraging them to listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd. Each week, the children spend time in prayer—talking to God, wondering about Him, and simply resting in His presence. Often we will see a child in front of the prayer table, just being with God!

As our Level 1 atrium continues to flourish, we are excited to share that we will soon begin building a **Level 2 atrium for our 6–9 year olds**. This next level will allow the children to go even deeper into Scripture, the Mass, and their relationship with the Good Shepherd. In January, we will be inviting parishioners to help us gather and prepare the materials needed for this new space. Your prayers and support mean so much as we continue to grow this beautiful ministry in our parish.

# Important Dates for Youth Group

**December 17th: Helena Deanery Ugly Sweater Christmas Party at OLV from  
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

**Next Youth Group Meeting: January 14th!**

## Helena Youth Groups' Ugly Sweater Christmas Party

When: Wednesday December 17th

Where: Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church

Time: 7:00 pm– 8:30 pm

Instead of our usual middle and high school youth group on Wednesday December 17th, we will be meeting at Our Lady of the Valley to have a night of fun and games and snacks with other youth groups in Helena. The theme is to wear your most festive, cute, ugly, colorful, Christmas sweater! There will be prizes! If you don't have one, no problem, just wear something comfortable!

Thank you to all of the youth and their families who participated in the Posada and Living Nativity! What a blessing for our parish!

Thank you to all who provided a wonderful meal for us!!!

Thank you to all who came to our Posada and Living Nativity!!!



### Advent Prayer

**God of Love,  
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest  
gift to us.**

**He is a sign of your love.**

**Help us walk in that love during the weeks of  
Advent,**

**As we wait and prepare for his coming.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen**

# **Saint Francis Peace Through Justice Ministry**

## *A Prayer at Christmas*

**Lord God, you chose to enter into the human experience  
In the person of Jesus.**

**You came not as a king, but as a humble servant,  
the suffering servant of Yahweh.**

**You entered into the world with all of its messiness.**

**Your compassion knows no bounds.**

**Your love and mercy endure forever.**

**Help us to be agents of change,**

**Bringing your joy and forgiveness,**

**Your peace and mercy to those we meet.**

**Send your Spirit so that we may be Christ's presence  
To our brothers and sisters around the world, Making known  
the message of Emmanuel,**

**GOD WITH US**

**Amen**

*Christmas Blessings to St. Mary Catholic Community*

*From St. Francis Peace Through Justice Ministry*

# Care for Creation

## *Advent is a Time to Open our Hearts and Minds*

The desert and the parched land will exult: the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. *Isaiah 35:1-2*

In the coming weeks we will light the third and fourth candle of Advent, a symbol reminding us to open our hearts and minds to the light of Christ. During this Advent season, our parish and our homes become a place to restructure our lives

and our habits in the **healing of all** creation. "I ask for the grace to look closely to see how my **life choices impact creation and the poor and vulnerable.**" *Laudato Si' Movement Prayer Book*

**Act** – "In a time that can get filled with focusing on material goods, you are invited to consider what activities or ways of being you want to prioritize during this season in preparation for Christmas.

Create an Advent BINGO board for yourself, your family, or your living community. Either print out the **provided template** or simply draw boxes on a sheet of paper. For each of the columns, insert activities related to the Advent themes: hope, peace, joy, and love (see the sample image with some ideas). **What will evoke hope, peace, joy, or love in you?** Put that on the board. Each one will be completely unique. If you complete a row or the entire board, you've already won because you've increased these gifts in your own life and the lives of those around you." (Ignatian Solidarity Network)

Advent Simplicity Bingo (IgnatianSolidarity.net) adapted for SMCC.



Ideas to use or create your own to add to or make your own Bingo card.

Seek the sacred in nature	Savor a tiny grace	Thank SMCC staff/volunteer
Phone Free Hour	Mend a quarrel	Share some treasure
Call a loved one	Our Lady of Guadalupe Dinner	Choose an earth friendly gift
Candle Hour	Advent Evening Prayer-SMCC	Light your Advent Wreath
Visit a favorite park	God's Love – Blanket/Pillow	Buy a thrift store gift
Gift an experience	Donate to Baby Boutique	

*Lord, during this Advent season let us choose less instead of more. Let us cherish, protect, enjoy and give thanks and praise to you for your beautiful creation, in Jesus' name we pray.*



# Carroll College

**BLESSED TO BE YOUR DIOCESAN COLLEGE**

## *News from the Hilltop*

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

Greetings to you! I have the joy of serving not only as your Bishop but also as Interim Co-President of Carroll College. I want to personally invite you to explore Carroll — discover our community, see what we have to offer, and prayerfully consider whether this could be the right place for you. There are numerous scholarship opportunities available to help make your college education more accessible and affordable. As you are looking for colleges, keep Carroll in mind! Know of my continued prayers for you, and please keep me in yours.

In Christ, I am

Bishop Austin Vetter



*Bishop Austin Vetter*

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

Carroll College is excited to welcome you to campus for the Eucharistic Congress and CYC Convention March 20-22, 2026! We will be offering campus tours during the event if you would like to learn more about Carroll.

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

Join us on Friday March 20, 2026, for our visit day specifically offered for students wanting to learn more about the Catholic mission and faith community on campus. You can also schedule an individual visit on our website at [carroll.edu/visit](http://carroll.edu/visit).

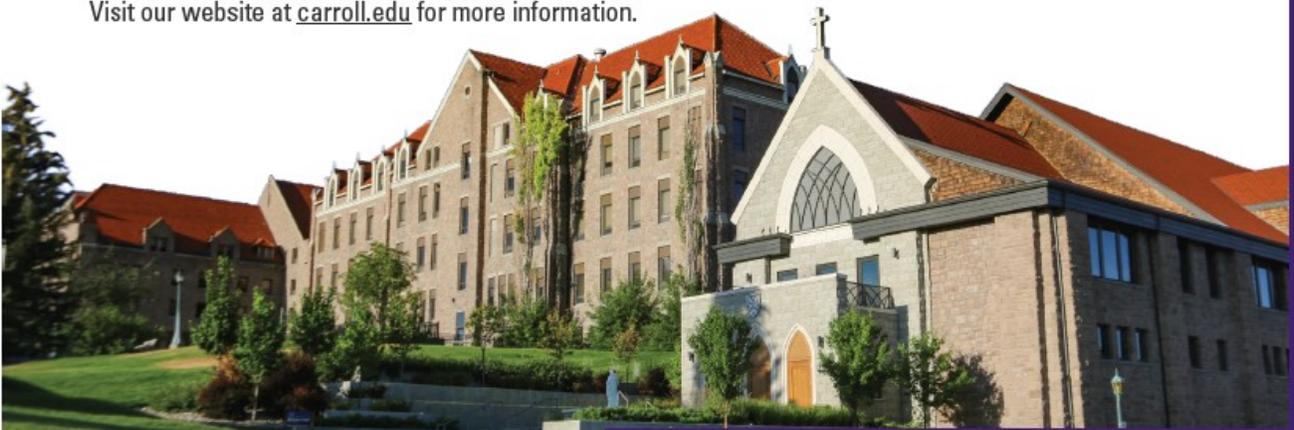
### **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PARISH STUDENTS**

Carroll College is pleased to offer a Parish Scholarship to a prospective student from your parish. This \$1,000 scholarship for 2026-2027 is funded by Carroll but your parish chooses the recipient. Your parish is asked to submit a letter or letters of recommendation by April 15. For questions, email [fao@carroll.edu](mailto:fao@carroll.edu).

### **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATES**

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 more information, email [fao@carroll.edu](mailto:fao@carroll.edu).

Visit our website at [carroll.edu](http://carroll.edu) for more information.





### *Catholic Room Grant*

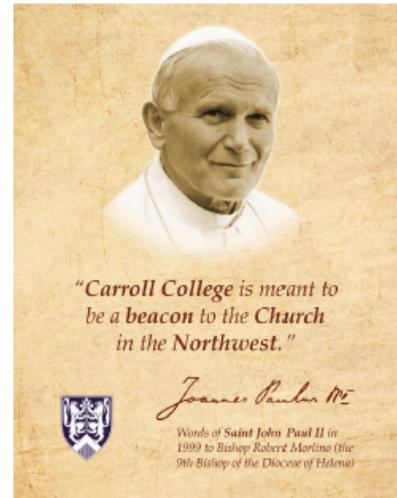
As a Catholic, diocesan college, Carroll College believes in the value of Catholic education at all levels. We are so grateful to those who make the sacrifice to send their children to Catholic schools.

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.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

As an eligible graduate of a Catholic high school, you can receive up to 50% off the cost of a double room rate (Guadalupe, Borromeo, or St. Charles Hall), which is on top of your already generous financial aid package.

- This four-year award is available for first-time freshmen only.
- Full-time enrollment.
- Only Guadalupe Hall, St. Charles Hall and Borromeo Hall qualify. Students who choose to live in other residence halls (example: Trinity, Apartments) forego the opportunity to receive this award.
- 50% off the cost of a double room occupancy (if a student chooses a single room in Guadalupe, St. Charles, or Borromeo they will pay the difference); one room grant per student.
- Study abroad students (exchange or affiliate) and tuition remission/exchange students do not qualify.
- Submit FAFSA by March 1 and receive an SAI below our cost of attendance.
- A transcript from an approved Catholic High School (part of a completed application); home school students do not qualify.
- Athletic aid is not stackable unless Junior Varsity aid.
- Remain in good academic standing at the College (2.00 cumulative GPA/SAP).
- Students will be notified of their grant award in their initial or revised aid offer.



An eligible graduate of a Catholic school is understood as one which is recognized by a competent ecclesiastical authority, keeping with the definition of a Catholic school in the Code of Canon Law (Can. 803 §1).

#### APPLY

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 more information, email [fao@carroll.edu](mailto:fao@carroll.edu). Apply at:

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





## Giving Tree

The Giving Tree wrapping party will be on December 16th at 7:00 PM in the Social Center.  
Giving Tree gifts are due December 14th!



## Advent Evening Prayer

Join the parish for advent evening prayer on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 PM.



## Longest Night Memorial Service

The Longest Night Memorial Service will be held at 4:30 PM, Sunday, December 21st, at Women's Park. The service remembers those who have died while experiencing homelessness or housing.



## Christmas Mass Schedule

**December 24:** 4:30 PM Vigil and 9:00 PM Vigil  
**December 25:** 9:00 AM Mass



## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

The Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God will be December 31st at 5:30 PM.  
*This is a holy day of obligation.*



## Warm Hearts Drive

Warm Hearts January drive for new blankets and towels to gift the poor on Valentine's Day will begin soon! This drive will collect new blankets (bedding) and new towels (washcloths, hand towels, and bath towels). More information to come!



## Save the Date: Parish Day of Reflection

Mark your calendars!

**Saturday, January 24th • 9:30am–12:30pm**

(Lunch included)

We're thrilled to welcome **Fr. Dan Shea** as this year's presenter for our **Parish Day of Reflection**, diving into the powerful theme **"Falling Upward"**

Drawing inspiration from Richard Rohr's insights, this day will explore how the very moments we experience as "falling"—our failures, losses, disappointments, and unexpected turns—can actually become the gateway to deeper spiritual growth.

Rather than seeing these moments as setbacks, Rohr teaches that God often uses them to loosen our grip on ego, open our hearts, and guide us into a more authentic, grace-filled relationship with Him. What looks like breaking down can become breaking open.

Come be renewed, encouraged, and surprised by the ways God works in our struggles to draw us closer to Himself.

**All are invited!**





## Mass of Remembrance Photos

Photos from the Mass of Remembrance Display are available to be picked up in the Parish Office!



## Meet Father Tyler Frohlich



Fr. Tyler, who is a Carroll College graduate of the class of 2012, is already a Carroll Saint and knows the campus well. He majored in history and minored in theology. Additionally, he was active in Campus Ministry and worked as a camp counselor at Legendary Lodge. Following graduation, he spent a year as a Campus Ministry intern with Fr. Marc, Katie Murray, and Dan Thies. Upon his acceptance as a seminarian for the Diocese of Helena, he was sent to St. John Vianney Theological Seminary for his seminarian studies. Fr. Tyler was ordained by Bishop Vetter in the Cathedral of St. Helena on June 24, 2022. His first, and most recent, assignment has been as the Parochial Vicar at Christ the King Parish in Missoula.

## A Learn and Grow Opportunity for the New Year!

How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? In this age of quick reactions, harsh divisions, and emotional burnout, how should we talk to our neighbors, confront injustice, tend to our own grief, and tell the truth when it is easier to stay silent?

In “The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage”, Richard Rohr turns to the writings of Jewish Prophets in the Old Testament. The Prophets’ journeys from anger to sadness to compassion and hope offer us a path forward today. Father Dan Shea and Charlotte Neill invite you to join a discussion of “The Tears of Things” and explore our shared human condition and the world’s suffering. The goal is not to escape our age of outrage, but to fully enter it with grace and love.

**January 13—February 19, 2026 (Six Weeks)**

**Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM OR**

**Thursdays, 1:30-3:00 PM**

**Our Redeemer’s Lutheran Church, Great Room**

**3580 N. Benton Ave., Helena, MT**

Contact Father Dan Shea 406-422-6674 or  
Charlotte Neill 651-587-8083 for questions.



## Parish Administrator

Saint Mary Catholic Community is seeking a qualified Parish Administrator to provide support for the day-to-day general operation and management of the parish. The Parish Administrator will direct ministries of worship, education and formation, human and social justice concerns, finance and budget, human resources and administration. The Parish Administrator works in collaboration with and under the supervision of the Pastor, and in cooperation with other parish leadership to motivate, enable, and affirm the parish community in its efforts.

The Parish Administrator supports the vision and mission of Saint Mary Catholic Community.

Candidates must be an active participant in the work of the Catholic Church, a baptized and confirmed Catholic, and be able to partake in the sacramental life of the Church. An advanced degree (Bachelor’s or Master’s) in Business Administration/Management or equivalent education/experience is requested. A degree in Pastoral Ministry is preferred. Three years’ experience in administration of an organization or program is desired.

This is a fulltime, salaried position, with benefits. Annual salary range is \$60,000 - \$63,500, 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 [jhaddon@stmaryhelena.org](mailto:jhaddon@stmaryhelena.org). This position will remain open until filled.



## Mrs. Santa's Kitchen

Thank you to all who made Mrs. Santa's Kitchen such a success. The \$805 raised went toward the Giving Tree. It was a fun day and it was all due to the following people: The Bakers - a big thank you to: Erin Buyske, the Schulte Family, Morgan Handy, Julie Johnson, Lynda Camburn, Kristi Irwin, Lori Moullet, Carolyn Nelson, Maria Foot, Angie Bonney, Claire Marty, Mary Buswell, Sandi Ashley, Bizz Browning, Molly Somerville, Jennifer Glowienka, Connie Erickson, Helen and Joe Beausoleil, Viki Garman, Colleen Carroll, Mandee Zuelke, Alissa Voeller, JoAnn Thun, Carrie Schwaller, Mary Munger, M.C. Pancich, Janel Krezowski, Kim Egeland, Tim Kelly, Leah Butkay, Tegan & Jim Kammerer, Nina Heinzinger and Dave Krainacker, Lois Menzies, Nancy Coleman, Lana Somerville, and Lori Mayernik. Without all of you wonderful cooks, there would not have been a sale. Thank you to the set up crew on Friday night who plated MANY platters of cookies: Mo Leo, Mary Munger, Connie Erickson, M.C. Pancich, Lori Moullet, Karen Miller, Lori Mayernik, Kristi Irwin, Carolyn Nelson, Lana and Scott Somerville, and Nancy Coleman. You made it possible for the people to pick their own cookies. And to Mrs. Santa's helpers on Saturday: Deb Larson, Carolyn Nelson, Maria Foot, Connie Erickson, Lori Gittens, Betsy Baumgart, Deb Kralicek, Mary Munger, and Mo Leo. You were so helpful in taking money, bagging the cookies, taking care of the coffee corner, and helping plate cookies at the end to sell after Mass.

Thank you to the kids room crew: Molly Somerville, Caedyn Kralicek, Jade McFarland, Cormac McDonald, Jaxson Lockett, Parker Russell, and Natalie Fetz. The kids that came had a great time frosting cookies, playing games and coloring. And finally, to Mrs. Santa - Lois Menzies. The kids loved you and you did such a great job handing out those candy canes! Thank you to all who came and supported this event! Plans are already in the making for the 2nd Annual Mrs. Santa's Kitchen. We hope to make it even bigger and better!



## The Parish Diversity Celebration Invites You to Celebrate Saint Joseph Patron of the Universal Church And Her Blessed Diversity

In the Gathering Space now through March 31.

For more information, read the article in the November 29, 2025 bulletin.

The blessing of this space will be announced at a later date.

## Lightly Used Sewing Materials Needed

The Margaret Stuart Youth Home is looking for two or three gently used sewing machines. If you have a machine you are looking to get rid of, please call Jan Buyske at (406) 450-0595. Thank you!

## Parish Prayer Chain

Prayer is a powerful way we practice loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call the parish office to have your prayer request put on the email prayer chain. Your request can include the person's name or be anonymous. To join the prayer chain, please call the Parish Office (406) 442-5268. If you'd like to be a part of the parish prayer chain and don't have access to email, please call Keaton at the parish office to sign up with your telephone number. As prayers are received at the parish, you will receive a phone call, making it possible for you to participate in this important prayer ministry.

## Blessing Box

We are in need of food: granola bars, trail mix, nuts, individually-wrapped jerky. Anything that can be eaten without utensils. Also, small bottles of water are welcome. Thank you so much for your continuing support of the Blessing Box.

## 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.



### 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-

### 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.*

### *Prayers for the Deceased* Shirley Reinig

*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.

## For the Security of Our Parish

Due to recent safety concerns, all doors to the church will be locked 10 minutes after Mass begins during all weekend Masses, so get here early!

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*To ensure a safe environment,  
 parents must accompany children to and from the rest rooms at all times.  
 Thank you.*



The Helena We Adore Him Team invites you to spend a Holy Hour with Jesus each week! Here's how:

1. Sign up for a free account at: [Helena.WeAdoreHim.com](http://Helena.WeAdoreHim.com)
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!!!**

Jesus wants to spend more time with you...  
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