

Saint Mary Catholic Community

Pastoral Office Hours

Monday—Friday:
8:30 AM—4:30 PM

Fr. Tim's Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday:
10:00 AM—2:00 PM

Office Address:

1700 Missoula Ave.
Helena, MT 59601

Phone and Fax:

Ph: 406-442-5268 | F: 406-449-0860

Website:

www.stmaryhelena.org

E-mail:

smcc@stmaryhelena.org

Flocknote (to receive news and updates from us): [Signup here](#)

Livestream

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQR7D-gy6Z3TmeXSQ5Sk45w/>
featured

[Click here to become a parishioner](#)

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

Reconciliation

Wednesday:

4:00—5:00 p.m.

Saturday:

3:00—4:00 p.m.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass:

4:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Tues, Wed & Thurs 12:10 p.m.

Friday Care Center Masses

Jan 5—10:30 AM Mount Ascension
Jan 12—11:00 AM Touchmark
Jan 19—10:30 AM Cooney
Jan 26—11:00 AM Hunter's Pointe

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24th, 2023

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. (...)”

Luke 1:26-38

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31st, 2023

“The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

Luke 2:22; 39-40

⇒ Dec 23: No Confessions;
4:30 PM Vigil

⇒ 4th Sunday of Advent Mass:
Dec 24 at 9 AM

⇒ Christmas Masses:
Dec 24 at 5:30 PM & 10 PM
& Dec 25 at 9 AM.

⇒ The Parish Office will be closed Dec 25, 2023 through Jan 1, 2024.

⇒ No Mass on Dec 26 through Dec 29. No Confessions on Dec 27.

⇒ Holy Family Masses:
Dec 30 at 4:30 PM &
Dec 31 at 9 AM.

⇒ Solemnity of Mary Masses:
Dec 31 at 5:30 PM &
Jan 1 at 9 AM.



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."

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

MASSES AT SAINT MARY

Saturday, December 23rd

2 Samuel 7:1-5; 8-12; 14; 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

No Confessions

11:00 AM—Funeral Mass for Lyla Tabaracci ††

4:30 PM Vigil—for Rosemary Jacoby ††
rb: Jeff & Marie Tobin

Sunday, December 24th—The Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5; 8-12; 14; 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

9:00 AM Mass—for Margale Prestipino ††
rb: Sam Prestipino

5:30 PM Mass—for Lois Phernetton ††
rb: Deb Kralicek

10:00 PM—for the People of the Parish

Monday, December 25th—The Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-5; 9-14

9:00 AM Mass—for the People of the Parish
Parish Office closed.

Tuesday, December 26th—No Mass

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

Parish Office closed.

Wednesday, December 27th—No Mass & No Confessions

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

Parish Office closed.

Thursday, December 28th—No Mass

1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

Parish Office closed.

Friday, December 29th—No Care Center Mass

1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35

Parish Office closed.

Saturday, December 30th

Sirach 3:2-6; 12-14; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:22; 39-40

3:00 PM—4:00 PM Confessions

4:30 PM Mass—for Violet Coleman ††
rb: Nancy Coleman

Sunday, December 31st

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6; 12-14; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:22; 39-40

9:00 AM Mass—for Leonard Pacht ††
rb: Danita Roy

5:30 PM Mass—for Rosemary Jacoby ††
rb: Doug & Deb Kralicek

Monday, January 1st

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

9:00 AM Mass—for the People of the Parish
Parish Office closed.

Tuesday, January 2nd

1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28

12:10 PM Mass—for the intentions of John Boyd
rb: Boyd family

Wednesday, January 3rd

1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34

12:10 PM—for Burton Boyd ††
rb: Boyd family

4:00—5:00 PM Confessions

Thursday, January 4th

1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42

12:10 PM Mass—for Rosemary Jacoby ††
rb: Catherine Ortwein

Friday, January 5th

1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51

10:30 AM Mass at Mount Ascension—for the People of Mount Ascension



**Prayer
Ministry
Sacrifice**

As praying stewards: Family and friends gathered for the funeral Mass of Lyla Tabaracci. We celebrated our Christmas Liturgy and Vigil Mass for Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

As ministering stewards: The youth of our parish sang Christmas carols for the residents of Touchmark.

As sacrificing stewards: 12/10/23 & 12/17/2023

Pew/Mail:	\$6,317	\$6,059
Direct:	\$ 620	\$1,495
Online:	\$2,549	\$2,557
Total	\$9,486	\$10,111

Stewardship Income

FY 23-4	7/1/23 – 11/30/23	\$204,541*
FY 22-3	7/1/22 – 11/30/22	\$189,165
Difference		\$ 15,376

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30

Total Monthly Income (November) \$94,227*

Average Monthly Expenses \$60,000

**Large bequest received in November.*

Praise God and Thank You for your prayers, your share in ministry, and your sacrificial giving!



Parish Staff and Parish Councils at your service

Father Tim Moriarty

Phone ext. 106 ~ email: tmoriarty@stmaryhelena.org

Deacon Michael Seipp

email: mseipp@stmaryhelena.org

Dawn Brannman ~ Faith Formation Director/Youth Minister

Phone ext. 107 ~ email: dbrannman@stmaryhelena.org

Deb Kralicek ~ Pastoral Care Director

Phone ext. 103 ~ email: dkralicek@stmaryhelena.org

Lori Mleko ~ Elementary RE Coordinator

Phone ext. 102 ~ email: lorimleko@stmaryhelena.org

Cindy Gleich ~ Finance Director

Phone ext. 104 ~ email: cgleich@stmaryhelena.org

Dr. Wendy Yuen ~ Director of Liturgical Music

Phone ext. 105 ~ email: wYuen@stmaryhelena.org

Brandon Bloom ~ Maintenance Director

Phone ext. 112 ~ email: bbloom@stmaryhelena.org

Kavida Boone ~ Pastoral Office Coordinator

Phone ext. 101 ~ email: kboone@stmaryhelena.org

Pastoral Council Members: Mary Lou Abbott, Jan Buyske, Rick Duane, Andy Galen, Ed Glowienka, John Larson, Casey Molloy, Cari Schwen and Jim Tucker, Sr.

Finance Council Members: Ann Bauchman, Dave Brown, Jerry LaChere, Lois Menzies, Anna Miller, Sam Prestipino, and Maureen Stohl.

From Father Tim

Merry Christmas everyone! The year 2023 has gone very fast, or so it seems – and we end this year – as all years – celebrating the great feast of the Nativity of our Lord; as Jesus Christ is born into the world!

Like the song says, 'It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.' Many will gather with family and friends; sometimes traveling several miles; to celebrate the beauty and power of the Incarnation; the Word made flesh; the Son of God and Son of Mary who came into the world for our salvation and redemption.

Throughout history, the prophets proclaimed the coming of a Savior; a light that no darkness could overcome; a light that can transform all human hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit. On that Christmas night 2,000 years ago, the world stood still as Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is born to the Virgin Mary in a stable in Bethlehem. The miracle of Christmas was with the whole world then, and the miracle of Christmas is with all of us in 2023. Because Jesus Christ is with us now and for all eternity, and His love and mercy is beyond human understanding.

The Son of God came into the world as a human being; an innocent and fragile infant as the Virgin Mary and Joseph, the foster-father of the Son of God, were filled with amazement, love and joy. The angels rejoiced; nature rejoiced, and the world was filled with peace as THE STAR shined brightly in the sky.

We know the rest of the story, as the Son of God would eventually die on the Cross for our salvation and redemption; and would rise from the dead three days later to prove that death has no power over Him – or over us who walk and follow the Lord in our lives.

But now, we reflect and ponder on the beauty and power of the birth of Christ. The infant who would change the course of salvation history. The Word made Flesh who dwelt among us, and who continues to be in our hearts. And the infant who brought peace to the world; a peace that the world never experienced before that beautiful night; and a peace that the world desperately needs today. May our eyes always be fixed on Christ, the King of Peace who is born to us; a Savior who is born to us! Let us rejoice and be glad! Merry Christmas everyone!

Fr. Tim

Pope's Intentions for December 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



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

Faith Formation

A Journey for Life

From Dawn

Looking Ahead

Religious Education classes resume on January 10th.

First Communion class will be held on Sunday, January 21st from 9:15am to 10:15am in the social center.

Mitten Tree

Thank you everyone who donated hats and mittens to our Mitten Tree!

We are so grateful for your generosity!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume on January 7th!

"The Chosen"

Viewing and Discussion Group will resume on Thursday, January 11th!

We will watch Season Two!

May peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!

SMCC Lending Library

Thanks to a donation of Barb Bisom's books, we now have a lending library located in the office! We have books about Saints, Prayer and Spirituality, Catholic Social Teaching, Christian Fiction and so much more! Please stop by the office and check out a book!

We do have room for some more books if you would like to add to our collection.

Please call Dawn at the Parish Office before bringing them over! We need to make sure we have enough room!



YOUTH MINISTRY AT SAINT MARY

From Dawn

Important Dates for Youth Group

December 7th: No Youth Group — Christmas Break

January 3th: No Youth Group — Christmas Break

January 10th: Ice Skating at Memorial Park from 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Confirmation Preparation

Candidates for Confirmation and their Sponsors will meet on Sunday, January 21st from 1pm to 2:30pm in the social center!

Call Dawn at the Parish Office for more information!

A Christmas List (Anonymous)

"Fear less,
hope more;
Eat less,
chew more;
Whine less,
breathe more;
Talk less, say more;
Hate less,
love more;
And all good things
will be yours."

Youth Group Ice Skating on January 10th!

Time: 6:30pm
to 8:00pm

Cost: \$2

**Bring a
Friend!**

A New Year's Prayer

*Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive
in our hearts
And cause our Spirits
to be born again
Thank you for this new year,
for all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us a
mighty flame so that in our
time, many will see the
wonders of God and live
forever to praise
Your glorious name.*

Liturgical Life

A Heartwarming Visit to Touchmark

As the holiday season envelops us in its warmth and joy, alongside members of the church choir and eight enthusiastic kids, I visited Touchmark on December 16th. We spread the joy and love of the season through carol singing.

The atmosphere at Touchmark was filled with anticipation as we gathered in the common area, adorned with festive decorations. The residents, many of whom were eagerly awaiting our arrival, greeted us with smiles that spoke volumes about the impact a simple visit could have on their spirits.

The church choir was joined with eight lively kids, each armed with boundless energy and infectious enthusiasm. All of them formed a perfect symphony of intergenerational collaboration. Two of the kids played violin and piano to accompany us to sing some of the songs. The children's eyes sparkled with excitement as they connected with the residents.

The significance of the event lay not only in the joyous music but also in the meaningful connections that were forged. Some of the residents sang with us. Their smiles on their face reminded us that the holiday spirit was not only about gifts and decorations but about coming together as a community, sharing love and joy.

As we wrapped up the carol singing, the residents expressed their appreciation, thanking us for bringing the joy of Christmas to their doorstep. The event had left an indelible mark on both the performers and the audience, creating a shared experience.

Our Christmas carol singing at Touchmark reminds us that the essence of the Christmas season lies in giving, sharing and creating moments of joy for those who may be in need of a little extra warmth. Inspired by the success of this heartwarming event, the church choir, and the kids are already planning future visits, ensuring that music continues to spread love and joy to the residents of Touchmark.

If any of you and/or your kids wish to join in this meaningful ministry, please contact Wendy.



Thoughts
from Deb

Pastoral Care

If you have been away from the Catholic Church we invite you to consider returning. It is never too late to come home...

No matter what your reason for drifting away from practicing your faith, God's mercy is so much greater. Your reason for leaving may come from great hurt. If so, the healing love of God is waiting for you. Perhaps you have questions about what returning will mean for your life?

Jesus told a story to illustrate how God the Father responds when one of his children squanders his inheritance.

In *Luke 15:20-24* we find the story of the Prodigal Son, the son who disowns his father by demanding his inheritance and then wasting it on partying and immoral living. Then a famine strikes the country where he is partying and he runs out of money. Realizing how far he has fallen he decides to return home to tell his father how sorry he is for what he has done. He practices what could be called an Act of Contrition as he prepares to approach his father and ask him to allow him to return home, not as a son, but as one of his father's servants. - *Luke 15:20-24*

God the Father's reaction when we waste our inheritance through neglect or sin is not to wave his finger and say "*I knew he would do that*" or "*Too bad she will never be able to come home now.*" No! He welcomes us with open arms and restores us as his children.

If you're a Catholic and you've been away for a while, I encourage you to talk to a priest, deacon, or parish staff to find out if there is anything you need to do and to help you connect with other members of our parish.

We'd love to have you among us as we follow Jesus!

Advent Week 4

*Lord, would you bring your strength
and peace to your people!*

*Would your presence be felt by all
who seek you in a powerful way in
this Advent season.*

*Turn the hearts of mankind towards
you. We pray that the lost turn to you
and find an unshakable peace that
nothing else in this world can offer.*

Amen.



Welcoming the New Year With Prayer

As this New Year commences, let us remember the past year and truly repent of all that has hindered us from abiding in You.

Forgive us, for the promises and resolutions we made and never fulfilled. Forgive us, for the times we neglected prayer and Your word as our focus.

Let us recall the things that hindered us from getting closer to You and keeping Your word. Help us Lord, to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

Our parish office will be closed December 25—January 1 for Christmas. If you or a loved one is in the hospital during that time, and would like a visit from a Minister or Communion, call Deb at 406-439-2319.

SAINT FRANCIS PEACE THROUGH JUSTICE MINISTRY

“If you Want Peace, Work for Justice.” — Pope Paul VI
Christmas Thoughts of Holiness and Peace

St. Pope John XXIII

**O sweet Child of Bethlehem,
grant that we may share with all our
hearts in this profound
mystery of Christmas.**

**Put into the hearts of men and women
this peace for which they
sometimes seek so desperately
and which you alone can give to them.
Help them to know one another better,
and to live as brothers and sisters,
children of the same Father.**

**Reveal to them also your beauty,
holiness and purity.**

**Awaken in their hearts love
and gratitude for
your infinite goodness.**

Join them all

together in your love.

And give us your heavenly peace.

Amen.

From Pope Francis

Christmas 2016

“On this day of joy, we are all called to contemplate the Child Jesus, who gives hope once again to every person on the face of the earth. By his grace, let us with our voices and our actions give witness to solidarity and peace. Merry Christmas to all!”

Christmas 2021

“Dear brothers and sisters, amid all the many problems of our time, hope prevails, “for to us a child is born” (Is 9:6). He is the word of

God, who became an infant, capable only of crying, and in need of help for everything. He wished to learn how to speak, like every other child, so that we might learn to listen to God, our Father, to listen to one another and to dialogue as brothers and sisters. O Christ, born for our sake, teach us to walk beside you on the paths of peace. Happy Christmas to all!”

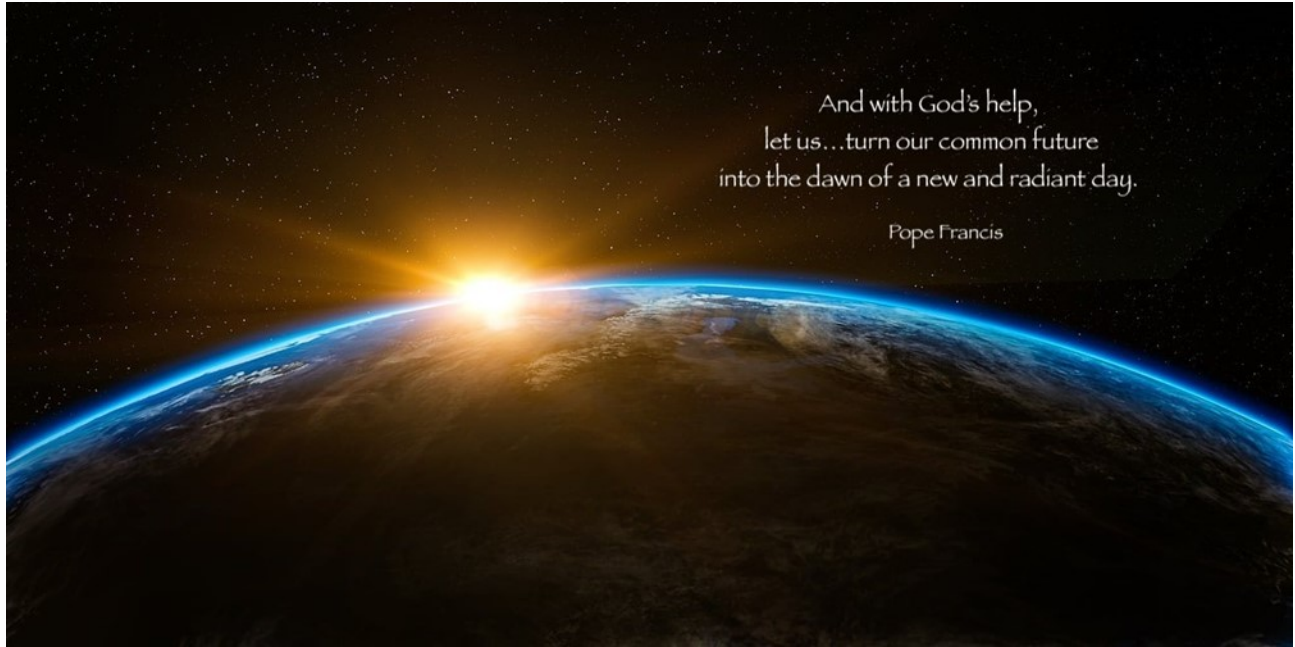
May we all rejoice in the birth of Jesus whose Incarnation testifies to the goodness of us all and of all of creation! God is One with us, and lives with us!

Christmas Blessings! Saint Francis Peace Through Justice Ministry

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/urbi/documents/papa-francesco_20211225_urbi-et-orbi-natale.html



SAINT MARY CARE FOR CREATION MINISTRY



Message of the Holy Father at the UN Climate Change Summit – Nov. 30 to Dec. 12, 2023

“Brothers and sisters, it is essential that there be a breakthrough that is not a partial change of course, but rather a new way of making progress together... Now there is a need to set out anew.

*“May the year 2024 mark this breakthrough. I like to think that a good omen can be found in an event that took place in 1224. In that year, **Francis of Assisi** composed his “**Canticle of the Creatures**”. By then Francis was completely blind, and after a night of physical suffering, his spirits were elevated by a mystical experience. He then turned to praise the Most High for all those creatures that he could no longer see, but knew that they were his brothers and sisters, since they came forth from the same Father and were shared with other men and women. An inspired sense of fraternity thus led him to turn his **pain into praise** and his **weariness into renewed commitment**. Shortly thereafter, Francis added a stanza in which he praised God for those who **forgive**; he did this in order to settle – successfully – an unbecoming conflict between the civil authorities and the local bishop. I too, who bear the name Francis, with the heartfelt urgency of a prayer, want to leave you with this message:*

“Let us leave behind our divisions and unite our forces! And with God's help, let us emerge from the dark night of wars and environmental devastation in order to turn our common future into the dawn of a new and radiant day.

Thank you.” Pope Francis

Lord, during this Christmas season let us love more. Let us cherish, protect, enjoy and give thanks and praise to you for your beautiful creation, in Jesus' name we pray.

Adult Formation

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



How are we to live as Children of God?

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd helps us answer this question and prepares adults to share the Catholic Faith with all children of God in their lives: particularly those under the age of six.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:

- ▶ Rooted in sacred scripture
- ▶ Liturgically based - the colors, the smells, the processions, you find it all in this multi-dimensional catechesis
- ▶ Utilizes a prepared environment called The Atrium
- ▶ Trained Catechist teachers who aid in the child's contemplation and awareness of God

YOU ARE INVITED to attend this Formation Training to become a Catechist. This Formation is a retreat which will help you grow in your faith as a child of God.

Where: Saint Matthew's Church, Kalispell

Dates: April 4-7, May 2-5 & June 2 - 9

Tuition: \$535 for 90 hours of Formation –
Scholarships available. Email Kim.

Contact: Kim Maes 406-752-6788
maes@stmattsaints.org

Registration and information:



Formation Leaders: Two amazing, dedicated religious sisters will lead this Formation, Sr. Mary Rose Bingham, O.P. and Sr. Christiana Marie Rene, SMMC.
Read their full bio and register here: <https://www.cgsinlandnw.org/event-details/cgs-level-1-formation-1>



Christmas Flower Offering

*A heartfelt thank you to all who donated to make our
Christmas environment so beautiful and special!
Your loved ones are remembered and honored
during this blessed season!*

In Memory of:

*Peter Miller
June Miller
Sally Hanley Jenkins
Marian Meyer
Patrick Thomas Kelly
Thomas & Jeannette Kelly
John & Emily Goroski
Jennie Casale
Dr. James & Margaret Manion
Lorraine Tucker
The People of Gaza and Ukraine
Dennis Michael Prody
Gwendolyn Carroll
Margaret Swan
Lynn Maki
Jack Whelan
Bob & Patsy Sampson
Dr. & Mrs. V.O. Ungherini
Mr. & Mrs. H.E. Downs
Maria Lee
Ella Rose Bonney
Tom Downs
John Downs
Margaret Curran
John Fleming
Ben & Rose Battani
Jim & Peg Schaeffer
Tom Miller
Ferry Miles
Mary Kelly McCue*

In Honor of:

*Margaret Miller
Maureen Nardinger
Bobbie Whelan*

New!

- twin blankets
- bath towels
- hand towels
- washcloths



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

**Please drop
off
donations
in the large
box located
in the
gathering
space!**

**Thank you
for your
generosity!**

Donations Serve

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



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



Catholic Journey Experience

This is your opportunity to experience a 3-day weekend of Christian Community, prayer, discussion, reflection, laughter and so much more!

All Are Welcome!

Men's weekend is held at St Cyril and Methodius:

January 11-14th 2024

Contact Helenacursillorector@gmail.com

Women's weekend is held at St Cyril & Methodius: February 15-18, 2024

Contact: helenacatholicjourney.women@gmail.com



DIOCESE OF HELENA
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS



MARCH 22-24, 2024
CARROLL COLLEGE | HELENA, MT

ENCOUNTER THE LORD | ENTER INTO HOLY WEEK |
PROCLAIM HIS LOVE

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE

DR. JOHN BERGSMAN | CHIKA ANYANWU | CHRIS MUELLER |
SR. FAUSTINA MARIA PIA, SV | SR. ANTONIANA MARIA, SV

LEARN MORE &
REGISTER AT: diocesehelena.org/eucharisticcongress

Family Promise

During the week of December 24—30, Saint Mary Catholic Community hosted families at our church from Family Promise.

We want to thank all of the volunteers who were generous with their time and talents as shoppers for the Day Center, those who did laundry, made meals or acted as overnight hosts for the families. The staff of St. Mary, along with Mike Collins who helped us with setting up, and assisting with many details. We appreciate your dedication to this ministry.

Volunteer Coordinators,

Sandi Ashley, Pat Bollinger, Katie Meyer, Casey Molloy, Catherine Ortwein, Nancy Robinson



Please Join **ProLife Montana** and our **Guest Speakers** for the **Annual Montana State March for Life 2024**
"We are Stronger Together!"



Deborah Tilden - Co-Creator of LifeVictory Enterprises LLC and S.M.A.R.T. Women's Healthcare—Science Matters in Abortion Related Trauma. Deborah shares from her own personal abortion experience, and the long and winding road back to wholeness out of the twisted and tangled lies of the abortion industry.



Jeff Laszloffy — former speaker Pro-Tem of the Montana House of Representatives and President and CEO of the Montana Family Foundation for the past 20 years. Jeff has spent the last 25 years working to protect and strengthen families both in Montana and at the federal level.



Emily Schneller, - author of the book *"Misled: How the Pro-Abortion Message Deceives Young Americans"*. Her book comes from her own experience as a college freshman when she discovered the pervasive promotion of abortion presented in a college textbook and realized it wasn't unique to her textbook.



Kaitlyn Ruch— Official Spokesperson for Students for Life of America and a dedicated student at Carroll College. As a proud adoptee, Kaitlyn's mission is to passionately strive to safeguard the sanctity of life in the eyes of the law from the moment of conception to natural death.

Friday, January 12, 2024 in the Capitol Rotunda 11:30am—1pm

2023 Giving Tree

Thank you to the Saint Mary Community for your generous support of the Giving Tree ministry. There were **360 tags** on the tree, **plus 18 money envelopes** which were taken and fulfilled. The **9 agencies served** were very appreciative of the gifts.

A big thank you to all who helped wrap gifts:
Mary Munger, Kristi Irwin, Kelli Casada,
James Casada, and Mo Leo.

Thank you to those who helped split, count, and box gifts: Freya Elias, Austin Mehrens, Colter Petre, Maci Mehrens, Margaret McDonald, Tyson Schulte, Dylan Schulte, Meghan Schulte, Molly Somerville, and Shane Somerville. Thank you to the St. Francis Peace Through Justice ministry for purchasing the items that Life Houses requested for the house.

A project like this cannot be done without the help of many hands! Plans are in the works for next year!

Thank you to Deb Kralicek for coordinating Adopt-a-Family and to *Kavida Boone* for handling the gifts and gift cards returned to the office.

Thank you!



Dan Fox Therapeutic Foster Care **Winter 2024** Training

Family Orientation and Foster Parent Panel

January 9th, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. (Zoom)

Family Systems and Attachment

January 11th, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. (Zoom)

Support Systems and Transitions -

February 22nd, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. (Zoom)

Informational Meetings on Youth Homes Facebook **Live:**

- November 10th, **12 pm-1 pm**
- November 17th, **4 pm - 5 pm**
- December 1st, **3 pm - 4 pm**
- December 8th, **12 pm - 1 pm**
- December 15th, **4 pm - 5 pm**
- January 5th, **3 pm - 4 pm**

Contact Bianey Ambriz at bambriz@youthhomesmt.org
or at **(406) 780-0733** for more details!

Scan below to access **Youth Homes Facebook Live**

Scan below to access **Youth Homes Instagram**



Encountering



FUNDING THE MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

You may donate to the ACA online here:
<https://www.givecentral.org/appeals-form-registration/acp651ce5f8729a5/user/guest> or
by check by placing your gift in the parish offertory basket. *Please make sure to identify it as a gift to the Diocese of Helena. If you decide to donate online, please indicate that you are from Saint Mary Catholic Community.*

Parish ACA Goal: \$94,300

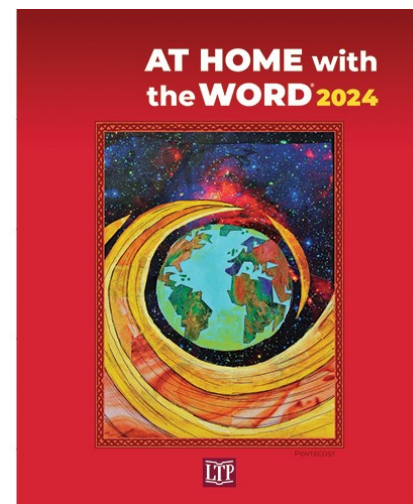
We have achieved 32% of our pledge goal received from 14% of parish households.

At Home with the Word 2024

Now available at the parish office!

Standard Print: \$10.00

Large Print: \$15.00



Grief Support Group ~ A Journey of Healing

See dates below | 1:00 PM | St. Ann's | Saint Mary 1700 Missoula Ave

Facilitator: Helen Beausoleil, LCSW

Call the Parish Office: 406-442-5268 or Helen Beausoleil 406-459-0948.

Inviting all those who have lost a loved one to share faith and hope with others who are experiencing grief. A grief support group helps in understanding the process of grief. We come together as companions in healing. Grief support provides a safe place to talk about your loss, share your story and express your grief.

Winter 2023 / Spring 2024 Sessions:

**January 8 & 22 (new), January 29 (ongoing), February 5 & 12 (new),
February 26 (ongoing), March 4, 11 & 25 (new), March 19 (ongoing).**

Ongoing group (those who have been through our "boot camp" or similar process) will meet once/month beginning September 18. Theme for our sessions: Grateful Grief. Please call Helen Beausoleil directly for more information.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Advent Reconciliation & Christmas Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, 12/23, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 12/24, 10:15 a.m.

Christmas Eve

Sunday, 12/24, 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Monday, 12/25, 9:00 a.m.

Holy Family

Saturday, 12/30, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 12/31, 8:00 & 10:15
a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, 12/31, 4:30 p.m.

Monday, 1/1, 10:15 a.m.



NEW Counseling Program Available!

Catholic Social Services of Montana is excited to announce the launch of its new mental health counseling program. We are actively accepting new clients. Below are more details:

- We have licensed counselors available to talk or listen.
- No topic is too big or too small for us to address. If we can't tackle it, we'll work with you to provide a referral.
- You can meet with us from your computer, cell phone, or any other online mobile device. If you live in or want to travel to Helena, you can meet in-person with us.
- We're Catholic. Faith can be a part of our conversation if you'd like, but that is not required. We are here for everyone.
- Your first session is free. If you choose to schedule another session, we accept insurance and private pay and offer reduced private pay rates if you meet qualifying standards.

To get started, you can call (406)442-4130 or visit www.cssmt.org.

Come and Bring Your Friends!
**REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE AND OTHER
 PLACES IN THE WORLD**

Presented by
Clay Scott

Clay Scott is an Emmy award winning journalist who has traveled extensively in Europe, Russia, the Middle East, and Africa. He is a former correspondent for ABC, NPR and the Christian Science Monitor and hosted the MTPR series "Mountain West Voices." He will share his experience traveling to Ukraine, listening to refugees, and facilitating a young woman moving to Helena and becoming a student at Carroll College. He will describe his recent experiences working with young Syrian and Turkish refugees in a school near Istanbul. Clay currently lives in Helena where he helps students at Helena High School learn to create podcasts.

**Sunday Jan. 14, 2024,
 from 9:10—10:20 am (between
 the masses) in the social center!**

Coffee and delicious food will be provided!

*Sponsored by the St. Francis Peace Through
 Justice Ministry.*

**Welcome to our 2022-2023
 parishioners!**

Erin Morgan, Erik & Liz Burke,
 Gavin & Alissa Voeller, Theresa (Resa)
 Eliassen, Dillon Eliassen & Savannah Reeves,
 Joe Thiel & Elizabeth Browning,
 Ray & Carrie Schwaller,
 Dennis & Kathleen Prody, David Hemmer,
 John & Octavia Russell, Peter Moullet &
 Lori Murphy-Moullet, Julie Johnson,
 Mary Munger, Katherine (Kay) Tutty,
 Katie Majerus, James Hammill,
 Michael & Raylee Honeycutt,
 Larry & Kristi Irwin, Carol Swanson-Frisch,
 Michael (Mike) & Lesly Blend, Frank &
 Catharine (Cathy) McCall, Linus & Kathleen
 Wehri, Nancy Coleman,
 Virginia & Reeder Eagar, Barbara Sheridan,
 Laura & Justin Wigen, Caitlin & Cory Novak,
 Kurt & Korbey Sparing

***Interested in joining our
 parish and community?
 Fill out our registration
 form here:***

**[https://www.cognitofrms.com/
 SaintMaryCatholicCommuni-
 tyHelena/RegistrationForm](https://www.cognitofrms.com/SaintMaryCatholicCommunityHelena/RegistrationForm)**

Our lady of the Valley: Advent Reconciliation & Christmas Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent one Sunday morning Mass	December 23rd December 24th	6 PM 9:30 AM
Christmas Eve Masses	December 24th	4 PM & 7 PM
Christmas Day Mass	December 25th	9:30 AM
Holy Family Mass one Sunday morning Mass	December 30th December 31st	6 PM 9:30 AM
Mary, Mother of God Vigil No Mass January 1st	December 31st	4 PM
The Epiphany of the Lord	January 6th & 7th	Regular schedule

FEBRUARY 9TH

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

WITH BISHOP AUSTIN VETTER

EVENT DETAILS

MASS // INDIVIDUAL BLESSING
OF COUPLES // RECEPTION @
THE MONTANA CLUB //
FREE CHILDCARE



Bishop Vetter extends a warm invitation to all married couples, from the newest of newlyweds to those who have commemorated over six decades, to a night of celebration. The evening will begin at the Cathedral with Mass, where Bishop Vetter will personally bless each couple. A lively reception with appetizers and dessert will follow at the Montana Club. Every couple will walk away with a special photo capturing their blessing with Bishop Vetter.

Date & Location

Friday, February 9th // 6:30 PM Mass at the Cathedral of St. Helena (530 N. Ewing St., Helena, MT 59601) // Reception following Mass at the Montana Club (24 W 6th Ave, Helena, MT 59601)

Event Details

Appetizers and Dessert included // Semi Formal Attire // \$25 per couple with childcare available at no additional cost

Please RSVP in advance at <https://diocesehelena.org/family/> or using the QR code





SEMINARIANS

FOR THE DIOCESE OF HELENA

2023-2024

Dillon Armstrong	John Cooney
Kaleb Mitchell	Riley Helgoe
Brett Rotz	Anthony Olmes
James Semling	Jamie Severson
Carter Anderson	Shae Bills
Lane Buus	Matt Keck

- Please continue to pray for our Seminarians -

We Pray for all those serving in the Military

Natasha Walker	Nathan Mill
Marcus Peter	Christopher Casne
Andrew Welch	Tyler Eierdam
Ed Eve, Jr	Colby Smith
Jack Cotter	Cody Gleich
David Beatty	Andrew McGuffey
Jackson Haddon	Nicholas T Nelson
Stephen Ceo	Tristan Anne Driessen
Lucas Robson	

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

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

Lyla Tabaracci

When a member of your family dies and the funeral is somewhere other than Saint Mary, please call the Pastoral Office so that we may remember them in the Prayer of the Faithful.



HOMELESS PANTRY

Thank you so very much for your response to our parish's Homeless Pantry.

Through your generosity, we were able to keep the pantry stocked through the summer!

The Homeless Pantry continues to be a huge success with lots of individuals in need using it.

Now fall is here! We will still accept donations of food and toiletries, but we also need scarves, warm hats, bottles of water, gloves, socks.

Thank you for your generosity!



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](https://www.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...
SIGN UP TODAY!!!*

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.



Habitat for Humanity: 406-449-4663

Self-described "Christian housing ministry" is devoted to building simple, decent, affordable housing in the Helena area. (www.helenahabitat.org)



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.

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, 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.

Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 12:10 PM Mass
- ◆ Fridays: Mass *at rotating sites in local care centers.*
Coming up: Jan 5 10:30 AM at Mount Ascension; Jan 12 11:00 AM at Touchmark; Jan 19 10:30 AM at Cooney; Jan 26 11:00 AM at Hunter's Pointe
- ◆ Wednesdays: Confessions 4:00 PM—5:00 PM
- ◆ Tuesdays: Eucharistic Adoration after the 12:10 PM Mass until 2:00 PM
- ◆ Saturdays: 3:00—4:00 PM Confessions; 4:30 PM Vigil
- ◆ Sundays: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Masses

Livestream Masses available [here](#)

- ◆ Saturday Dec 23: **No Confessions**; 4:30 PM Vigil
- ◆ Sunday Dec 24: 9 AM, 5:30 PM & 10 PM Masses
- ◆ Monday Dec 25: 9 AM Mass

Parish Office closed on Dec 25 through Jan 1 for Christmas break.

No Mass on Dec 26 through Dec 28.

No Confessions on Dec 27.

No Care Center Mass on Dec 29.

- ◆ Saturday Dec 30: 3:00 PM—4:00 PM Confessions; 4:30 PM Mass
- ◆ Sunday Dec 31: 9 AM & 5:30 PM Masses
- ◆ Monday Jan 1: 9 AM Mass
- ◆ Tuesday Jan 2: 12:10 PM Mass
- ◆ Wednesday Jan 3: 12:10 PM Mass; 4:00 PM—5:00 PM Confessions; **No RE**; **No Youth Group**
- ◆ Thursday Jan 4: 10:00 AM—3:00 PM Quilters in St. Ann's; 12:10 PM Mass
- ◆ Friday Jan 5: 10:30 AM Mass at Mount Ascension
- ◆ Saturday Jan 6: 3:00 PM—4:00 PM Confessions; 4:30 PM Mass



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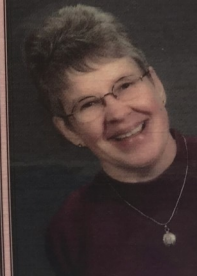
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