

Office Hours: 10 am — 3 pm Monday-Friday

Parish Office:

406-458-6114 406-458-8179

E-mail: olvoffice@olvmt.org **Web Page:** www.olvmt.org



CAUDETE Ne Joice

3rd Sunday of Advent December 14th Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

The deserts exult and burst into flower. The

hills ring with joyful song. The feeble grow

strong; the frightened take courage.

Mass Schedule

Wednesday

4:30 pm Adoration 4:30 pm Confessions

6:00 pm Mass

| Sunday | Mass at 11:00 am & 4:00 pm



you



The Lord comes to save us. 2nd Reading: James 5:7—10

"Be patient until the coming of the Lord," said the author of the letter of James. "The Judge is standing before the gates." Take the prophets as your models in facing hardship. They spoke in the Lord's name.

Parish Office Staff

Office Manager: Kelly Bond Bookkeeper: Lisa Richard

Youth Ministry

Becky Tooke (PreK-6th Grade) 406-461-2995 David Casey (7th & 8th Grade) 406-443-4750 David Casey (High School) 406-443-4750

Music Ministry

Rebecca Kagerer

Liturgical Ministers Coordinator

Dennis Mayernik 406-450-6462

OCIA formerly RCIA

Dennis O'Reilly 406-266-1181 Carleen Layne 406-594-6489

Finance Council Members

Bob Bennett, Dan Gengler, Jim McKeon, Charlotte McMilin, Jeanne Saarinen, Jim Sebestven.

Larry Thomas Chair

Pastoral Council Members

Donna Driver, Tessa McGree, Rachel Molm, Kevin Ochs, **John Ries: Chair**, Hazel Yuhas

Baptism Preparation Class

January-April-July-October

(Contact Parish Office) January 4th at 12:15 pm

Marriage Preparation 6 months' notice required (Contact Parish Office)

one

who

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10

come

Gospel: Matthew 11:2—11

John sent his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus answered them affirmatively, pointing to the blind who see, the lame who walk, the lepers who are cured, and the poor who hear from him good news of hope.



"Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation, but also an occasion for the renewal of relationships."

WHERE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IS TREASURED

UPCOMING SCHEDULE December 14— December 21, 2025

FFA-Faith Formation Area, GS-Gathering Space, CR-Conference Room

Sunday 14th 9:45 am PreK-5th grade RE *FFA*

11:00 am Live Stream Mass † for Jackie Campeau

4:00 pm Mass † for the people

Wednesday 17th 4:30 pm Adoration

4:30 pm Confessions

5:30 pm Knights of Columbus Rosary at OLV

6:00 pm Mass † for Loa Giacoma

6:30 pm OCIA *CR*

7:00 pm 7th-12th Grade Youth FFA UGLY Sweater

Thursday 18th 1:30 pm Soul Core FFA

5:15 pm Advent Reconciliation with extra priests

Sunday 21st 11:00 am Live Stream Mass † for Herb & Judy Hazen

4:00 pm Mass † for the people

The link to join 11:00 am streaming Mass is at olvmt.org

BAPTISM PREPARATION class for parents Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 12:15 pm in the Conference Room e call the Parish Office to sign up. 406-458-6114

HELPING **HANDS CHRISTMAS EDITION**

Are you interested in providing children with gifts or a personal needs basket for a Head Start family for Christmas? Or a monetary donation for groceries?

Look for envelopes at the back of the church next to the office or contact Tammy Stefanik at 406-459-2791 or Mary Heidlebaugh 406-459-1441

Advent and Christmas Schedules in Helena Area

	Advent Reconciliation With extra priests	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Mary, Mother of God
Our Lady of the Valley	December 18th 5:15 pm—6:45 pm	4:00 pm 7:00 pm	9:00 am	January 1st 9:00 am
St Mary Catholic Community	December 2nd 5:30 pm	4:30 pm 9:00 pm	9:00 am	December 31st 5:30 pm
SS Cyril & Methodius	December 10th 5:30 pm—7:00 pm	4:00 pm 6:00 pm	9:00 am	December 31st 4:30 pm January 1st 10:15 am
Cathedral		5:00 pm 9:00 pm 12:00 am	10:00 am	January 1st 10:00 am

Our Parish Stewardship Comparative Cumulative Annual Offering

offering

\$ 217,001 2025

2024 \$ 212,743 **Income Streams** Year Week 23 offering 2025 \$ 5,485

2024 \$ 9,204 2025 \$ 9,516 ACH (NOV)

2024 \$ 10,546 On-line Giving (NOV) 2025 3,314

2024 2,389

1,500 Rectory (DEC) 2025 2024 \$ 0

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS are available.

Please contact the parish office at 406-458-6114 to inquire.











Hearing devices are available

for anyone interested in using them. They are located in the drawer in the gift table.



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.

To donate through Give Central use the QR code Questions? Call the Parish Office 406-458-6114



Amount



This renewable generation Project received funding through the NorthWestern Energy As of Wednesday, December 10th at 11:30 am OLV has produced 44.6 MWh of energy worth \$6,467 CO2 Emission Saved 69,046 lb. Miles driven on Sunshine 78,368

HABEMUS PAPAM



2025 Annual Catholic Appeal

Formation for our Seminarians and Continuing Formation for our Priests

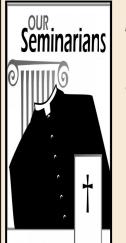
Our sacrificial gifts to the 2025 ACA help provide appropriate theological education and formation for our seminarians as well as continuing education/formation opportunities for our priests. Our prayers and generous contributions to the ACA are in response to our belief in God's call for us to be His disciples of peace, justice, faith, hope and charity. Our priests teach us about Discipleship and journey with us as we discern our calling to prayer, ministry and sacrifice.

Let us nurture vocations, sharing our gifts in service and gratitude.



Parish Goal: \$58,700
Together we care for all that has been entrusted to us by God





Please remember our seminarians, and to pray for more priestly vocations!

Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Carson Gorton, Riley Helgoe, Matthew Keck,

Deacon Kaleb Mitchell, Anthony Olmes, Brett Rotz, James Semling, Jamie Severson, Jake Smith, Ryan Frampton, Liam Aippersbach, and

Mason Yochum



Patrick Walsh Kelly Legendary Lodge Scholarship Announcement

Our Lady of the Valley is pleased to announce a number of scholarships through the Patrick Walsh Kelly endowment fund and the generosity of OLV Parishioners.

<u>Aims</u> – The principal aim is to aid those campers from 5th grade through 12th grade in need of registration fees for the 2025 camp year.

<u>Scholarship Award Amount</u> The scholarship recipients will receive a code that will cover the registration fee. This amount will cover camp if done prior to February 1. Late fees will not be covered.

<u>Basis of Award</u> – The camper must be a registered Our Lady of the Valley parishioner and have need of the scholarship.

<u>How To Apply</u> – Pick up an application at the back of the church. Send or drop off application to Our Lady of the Valley, 1502 Shirley Rd, Helena, MT 59602.

Deadline is **December 15, 2025**.

For More Information Call Lisa at the office: 406-458-6114



Catholic Journey Experience: All are welcome!

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

Women's weekend held at St Cyril and Methodius: January 15-18th

June 28-30

Registrations open

March 2nd, 2026

Contact: <u>helenacatholicjourney@gmail.com</u>

\$425

Standard Rate:

\$450

Men's weekend held at St Cyril & Methodius: February 12-15, 2026
Contact: Helenacursillorector@gmail.com



MINISTRY SCHEDULES **DECEMBER** SUN 4 PM SUN 11 AM 14th Lectors: Dennis O'Reilly Irene Strauss Aurora Sebestyen Jeanne Saarinen EMs: 1. Deacon Steve Barry 1. Karolyne Redding 2. JoAnne Canney 2. Larry Thomas 3. Peggy Pillman 3. Justin Lutgen 4. Linda Juvik 4. Mary Lutgen 5. Shirley Timmerman 5. Volunteer needed 6. Kelly Bond 7. Tessa McGree **Greeters:** Lori Mayernik Jere & Kay Hoy

DECEMBER 21st **SUN 11 AM** SUN 4 PM Bill Kearney Phil Quinn **Lectors:** Erin Bley Rhonda Malecha EMs: 1. Mary Vogl 1. Mark Deegan 2. Al Williams 2. Sue Hallsten 3. Kathie Williams 3. John Hallsten 4. Terri Temple 4. Dan Gengler 5. Teresa Sing 5. Volunteer needed 6. Volunteer needed 7. Volunteer needed

Altar Servers: Owen Molm

Greeters: Mike Casev

Altar Servers: Ireland Bley

Joey Ochs





Sheila Hill

Eddie Quinn

Beth Lutgen

Natalie Lutgen

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.

Savannah Clark

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.

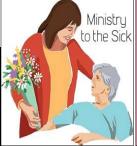
Pre-registration is not required.

Check online sources for the book.



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC

Diocese of Helena



If you are aware of a family member or friend from our parish who wishes to receive communion please call the parish office.
406-458-6114



We invite high school youth in grades 9-12 and their adult chaperones to join us in a fun weekend of skiing, faith, and fellowship!



REGISTRATION AND INFO AT diocesehelena.org/skiretreat





OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Preparation Guide
Thursday, December 18, 2025
Confessions are available 5:15 pm until 6:45 pm

All sin either wounds or destroys some aspect of a relationship: your relationship with God, your relationship with others, and/or your relationship with yourself.

Before going to Reconciliation, take the time to pray about these areas of your life.

Whatever your sins, know that Christ is waiting to heal you and restore you to holiness.

Relationship with God

How have I failed to worship God in private and communal prayer?

- Do I receive the sacraments regularly?
- ♦ Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred?
- Do I value the sacrament of reconciliation?
- ♦ Have I tried to grow in my faith through prayer and the reading of the word of God?
- Do I pray daily?
- Do I trust God's goodness and providence, even in times of crisis and doubt?

How have I failed to use the gifts of God in daily living?

- ♦ Do I respect my own body as a gift from God?
- Do I control my vices, including abuses of food and drink?
- Have I made good use of the gifts God has given me?
- Do I work too hard and too long? Do I neglect my family and health?
- Have I been lazy and given too much time to leisure or entertainment?

Relationship with Others

How have I failed in my relationships with others?

- In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the rest of my family? Am I patient? Am I loving?
- Do I treat my parents with respect?
- Am I ever angry with those I love?
- Have I been faithful in my relationships?
- Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their freedom and rights? Am I intolerant of other's ideas or needs?

- Have I perpetuated racism, prejudices and stereo types?
- Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?
- Have I indulged in reading, conversation, or entertainments that are contrary to Christian decency and respect for human life?

Relationship with Yourself and the World

Have I failed to share God's love with the world?

- Do I share my time and my treasure with others in need?
- When I saw someone hungry, did I give them food?
- ♦ When I saw someone thirsty, did I give them drink?
- When I saw someone needing clothing, did I clothe them?
- ♦ When I saw a stranger, did I welcome them?
- When someone was homebound or imprisoned, did I visit them?
- ♦ When someone was ill, did I care for them?
- Do I fail to speak out on behalf of the poor or the oppressed?
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely?

God who is infinitely merciful pardons all who are repentant and takes away their guilt. Confident in his goodness, let us ask him to forgive all our sins as we confess them with sincerity of heart.

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; and I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

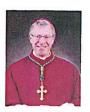


BLESSED TO BE YOUR DIOCESAN COLLEGE

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.



Bishop Austin Vetter

In Christ, I am

Bishop Austin Vetter

EUCHARISTIC 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.

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.

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.





BLESSED TO BE YOUR DIOCESAN COLLEGE

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. Apply at:



