

TWO-WEEK BULLETIN



Mass Schedule

Wednesday

4:30 pm Adoration
4:30 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Mass

***July 29th**

*No Adoration,
Confession or Mass*

Sunday

11:00 am Mass
6:00 pm Mass

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 3rd-7th:

Vacation Bible School

August 23rd:

Community Picnic

"Faith in the Field"

on North Montana property

September 13th:

Time, Talent and Treasure

"A piece of the Parish"

Ministry Fair



Do you
understand
all these
things?



Whoever
has ears
ought to
hear

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 19th Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16—19

Though powerful, the Lord judges with mercy and governs with care. God teaches people kindness, hope, and repentance.

2nd Reading: Romans 8:26—27

Paul reminded the Romans that the Spirit helps God's people in their weakness and intercedes for them.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24—43

Jesus told the crowd the parable of the wheat and the weeds, the parable of the mustard seed, and the parable of the yeast. Through parables, he encouraged his disciples, assuring them that God's saints would shine like the sun in the heavenly reign.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 26th Readings

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7—12

God appeared to Solomon in a dream and offered him whatever he desired. The king requested wisdom to govern Israel well. The Lord granted the request.

2nd Reading: Romans 8:28—30

All things work for good for people who love God. The Lord God knows, predestines, justifies, and glorifies people and calls them to share Christ's love.

Gospel: Matthew 13:44—52

Jesus said that the reign of heaven is like a buried treasure and a fine pearl. Those who find it sell all they have to attain it. God is like a householder who brings forth good things, new and old.

18th Sunday in Ordinary ~ August 2nd Readings

Isaiah 55:1—3, 16—19, Romans 8:35, 37—39, Matthew 14:13—21

July 19 & 26, 2026

Our Lady of the Valley

1502 Shirley Road

Helena, MT 59602

Parish Office: 406-458-6114

E-mail: olvoffice@olvmt.org

Website: www.olvmt.org

My parish App



Fr. Cody Williams, Pastor

Deacon Steve Barry, (Senior status)

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday

10 am – 3 pm

Parish Office Staff

Office Manager: Kelly Bond

Bookkeeper: Lisa Richard

Maintenance/Custodial:

Lee Baerlocher

Youth Ministry

PreK-6th grade

Becky Tooke 406-461-2995

7th grade through 12th grade

David Casey 406-443-4750

Music Ministry

Rebecca Kagerer

Liturgical Ministers Coordinator

Dennis Mayernik

OCIA Leaders

Dennis O'Reilly 406-266-1181

Carleen Layne 406-594-6489

Finance Council Members:

Bob Bennett, Ann Glueckert,

Jim McKeon, Mary Ellen Morrison,

Jeanne Saarinen, Jim Sebestyen,

Larry Thomas, chair

Pastoral Council Members:

Donna Driver, Tessa McGree,

Rachel Molm, Kevin Ochs,

John Ries, chair, Hazel Yuhas

Baptism Preparation Class

Offered: January, April, July, & October
(contact Parish Office)

Marriage Preparation

6 months' notice required
(contact Parish Office)

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.



Email prayer requests to **Jeanne**
jeanne1966@gmail.com

WHERE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IS TREASURED

UPCOMING SCHEDULE July 19 — August 2, 2026

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

Sunday 19th 11:00 am *Live Stream Mass † for Alan Williams*
6:00 pm Mass † *for the people*

Wednesday 22nd 4:30 pm Adoration & Confessions
 5:30 pm *Knights of Columbus Rosary at St Mary SMCC*
6:00 pm Mass

Thursday 23rd 8:00 am Soul Core FFA

Friday 24th **Office Closed**

Sunday 26th 11:00 am *Live Stream Mass † for Sharon Rae Cazier*
6:00 pm Mass † *for the people*

Wednesday 29th **Office Closed**
 **No Adoration & Confessions**
5:30 pm *Knights of Columbus Rosary at Cathedral*
No Mass

Thursday 30th 8:00 am Soul Core FFA

Sunday 2nd 11:00 am *Live Stream Mass*
6:00 pm Mass † *for the people*

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

Vacation Bible School

To Register

www.vbspro.events/p/56d78b



2026 VBS

When: August 3—7

Time:

8:00 am to 11:30 am

Cost:

Individual: \$30

Family: \$60

To pay



www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/1406/event/40477

We need supplies!

Take a leaf off the display in the overflow space and bring that item back. You can return the item to a tote by the display.

Bring supplies back by August 2nd!

July 26th Ministry Schedule

11:00 am Mass

Lectors: Pat Verzani, Aurora Sebestyen

EMs: Mary Vogl, Mary Barry, Elizabeth Barry, Terri Temple, Peggy Pillman

Greeters: Gail Zimmerman

Altar Servers: Volunteer needed

6:00 pm Mass

Lectors: Karolyne Redding, Jim Shea

EMs: Justin Lutgen, Lois Hankins, Larry Thomas

Greeters: Mary Lutgen

Altar Servers: Volunteer needed

August 2nd

11:00 am Mass

Lectors: Deidre Casey, Marianne Hamel

EMs: JoAnne Canney, Teri Flemming, Emily Frazier, Tessa McGree, Mary Vogl

Greeters: Mike Casey

Altar Servers: Volunteer welcome

6:00 pm Mass

Lectors: Bob Bennett, Ed Beall

EMs: Linda Juvik, Connie Bergum, Phil Quinn

Greeters: JoEllen Moon

Altar Servers: Eddie Quinn, Huck Quinn

Our Parish Stewardship

Comparative Cumulative Annual Offering

2027 \$ 10,248

2026 \$ 8,792

Offering up by \$ 1,456

<u>Income Streams</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Week 2 offering	2027	\$ 4,831
	2026	\$ 4,183
Week 1 offering	2027	\$ 5,647
	2026	\$ 4,609

Monthly Accumulative ~ July

Building	\$ 385
Rent	\$ 1,900
Stipends	\$ 300
VBS	\$ 60
Helping Hands	\$ 10

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



This renewable generation Project received funding through the **NorthWestern Energy As of Thursday, July 2nd at 10:45 am OLV has produced 61.4 MWh of energy CO2 Emission Saved 95.2k lb. Miles driven on Sunshine 108k**

Travel to Our

Guatemala Mission



Fall 2026
October 1-8

The Diocese of Helena invites adults (30+) to participate on a journey to the Mission, Clinic, and La Asunción School in Guatemala. The cost is \$2,500 and includes airfare, lodging, meals, and in-country transportation. Sign Up Now! Limited slots available.

Contact
Maggie Phelan:
406.389.7053
mphelan@dohmt.org



Information and Signup:
diocesehelena.org/guatemala



Don't let your
mental health
slow you down!



You are not alone. We're here for you.

Your mental health affects your spirituality, vocations, relationships, and all parts of your life. Take care of it!

- ✓ Our therapists are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of your therapy, although it is not required.
- ✓ You can meet with a therapist in-person or online.
- ✓ Therapists specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, and marriage/family.
- ✓ Therapy is completely confidential. We'll walk with you on your journey to achieve your goals.
- ✓ Your consultation is free. Insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, some EAP, and private pay (discounts are available) are accepted for additional sessions.

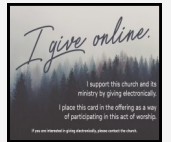


To get started:

Call us at (406)442-4130 or
Message us at cssmt.org.

I GIVE
ONLINE
cards are
available next
to the Gift
Table for those
who give
online,
by ACH or on
Give Central.

Place the card
in the basket
as you would
for a
monetary
donation.



Our Lady of the Rockies Pilgrimage August 14, 2026

Mass at St Ann's Church at 8:30 am

Meet at the Gift Shop, 1707 Continental Dr, Butte at 9:00 am

Tickets: Adult \$30.00, includes bus fare and lunch

Call 406-782-1221 or ourladyoftherockies.org to register



Help guide young
hearts as they
discover our
Catholic faith.

Join us as a teacher or
substitute for the
2026-2027 RE year

and inspire the next generation.

VIRTUS training is easy and online—
step forward
and make a difference!

Call Becky Tooke 406-461-2995

Stuff the Bus 2026

We need your help this summer!

You can NOW donate online for Stuff the Bus
school supplies this fall:

- Donate online at www.angelfundhelena.org
- By Mail: PO BOX 7436, Helena, MT 59604
- Or just use the QR code



Giving
runs
through
August 1st



FOOD SHARE—Kids need us all year!

The "Wish List" food and other items

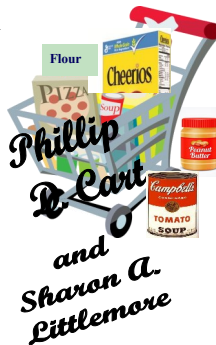
- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| -canned soups | -canned meals like |
| -canned tuna | -Spaghettios |
| -peanut butter | -chili |
| -flour | -lasagna |

ALWAYS NEEDED for Kid Packs

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| -Easy Mac cups | Low sugar: |
| -pudding cups | -juice boxes |
| -shelf stable milk | -fruit cups |
| -cereal | -granola bars |
| -Kamut | -nut butters |
| -oatmeal | |

WISH LIST—

- ♦Clorox wipes
 - ♦Tall kitchen garbage bags
- If you can help with
Wish List items please
Call Liz 406-443-3663
x104
for details



Thank you from the bottom of my cart!

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

Carter Anderson, Shae Bills,
Carson Gorton, Riley Helgoe,
Matthew Keck, Anthony Olmes,
Nathan Olmes, James Semling,
Jamie Severson, Jake Smith,
Ryan Frampton, Liam Aippersbach,
Mason Yochum



Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

Do you need to complete a sacrament?

Are you Catholic and want to deepen
your Catholic faith?

Contact the parish office
406-458-6114



Pope's Intention for July For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection
of human life in all stages, recognizing it
as a gift from God.



FAITH IN THE FIELD

A Community BBQ & Picnic

*Come share a meal and a vision
for serving the valley*

 **AUGUST 23**

 **12:15 PM**

 **7330 N MONTANA**
(not at the church)

-  Food
-  Fellowship
-  Family Activities
-  Prayer for Our Community



Hosted by Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Documentary Premiere

With the hope of celebrating a life of service and inspiring increased vocations to the priesthood, local filmmakers Nick and Jenny Greil have completed a documentary that tells the story of how Father Ed Kohler's vocation to the priesthood led him to find a home on the Blackfeet Reservation and evangelize the faith. To show your support and watch for free, search "**Life of Service - Father Ed Kohler**" or "**Cozy Garden Productions**" on YouTube and then visit Father Kohler's YouTube Channel, "**Paul Francis Ministry - Fr Ed Kohler.**"

[Life of Service - Father Ed Kohler](#)



Did you know that Good Samaritan Ministries is the social justice arm of the Catholic Church?

We provide a number of services to our unhoused or disadvantaged community members including:

- Rental, Utilities, and Auto Assistance
- Guidance for obtaining ID's, Social Security, Medicaid, etc.
- Gas cards to get to medical appointments
- On the street intervention for unhoused individuals facing addiction or mental health crises
- Provision of clothing, furniture, household goods, diapers, and formula to families in need
- Daily peer led groups for sobriety & wellness

And so much more.



More than just a Thrift Store.

Assistance Ministries | Our Place | Street Outreach
3067 N. Montana Ave. | 406-442-0780 | GoodSamHelena.org

**Did you
know that we
have Catholic
Relevant
Radio in
Montana?**

In Helena you can listen to **KNEH** at 97.3FM. You can also listen on the Relevant Radio phone app, the My Parish App just click the microphone, or on our website at www.kneh.org.



This gathering is more than our parish picnic. It is an opportunity to bring the wider community together, strengthen relationships, and share a hopeful vision for what we can build together.

By hosting the event at our North Montana property, we can help people experience the space not simply as land, but as a potential home for future growth, service, and community life.

Several of you imagined this possibility years ago. Now is the time to reawaken that vision and **invite others** to stand behind it. With shared commitment and support, this event can become a meaningful step toward the future of our parish and the broader community.

This is not a decision to build a church today; it is an invitation to imagine what God may make possible tomorrow.

Come to **Faith in the Field** with open hearts, renewed hope, and a shared willingness to see where this vision may lead.

Did You Know:

Our Lady of the Valley is no exception to cheerful giving. We give 6% of our regular offering to the following organizations. This is above and beyond Helping Hands, the Chili Feed, and the Advent Tea. With your help, we hope to increase this to 10% in the years to come.

- **Catholic Social Services**
- **De La Salle Blackfeet School**
- **Diocesan Guatemala Mission**
- **Family Promise**
- **Florence Crittenton**
- **God's Love**
- **Good Samaritan Ministries**
- **Options Clinic**

Thank you!

Fr. Cody's column

Greetings to all of you. It's a joy to finally get to meet you all, see the good that is happening in this parish, and to be your pastor. I hope I get the opportunity to meet each of you and hear more about you and your lives. For the last several years, I wrote a column for the bulletin to help you appreciate our faith, advance in your understanding of the faith, or to encourage you to a deeper relationship with God. If you have ideas of what topics you would like me to write about, please let me know. For the first series, I have chosen to write on prayer.

When I ask the question – “what is prayer?” – the most common response I get from people is – “talking to God.” This answer has some truth. Yes, prayer can be talking to God. Yet, we have to ask the question, are we talking *to* God or talking *at* God? Most people who accept prayer as talking to God limit their understanding of prayer to a one-way conversation. Prayer is far more than simply talking to God. At its core, prayer is the ascent of the mind and heart to God. Prayer is recognizing we are in the presence of God. Prayer is the encounter with the true and living God.

Take for instance the life of Jesus. Jesus spent considerable amounts of time in prayer. Often he would leave his disciples, go up a mountain, and then spend the entire night in prayer. Unfortunately for us, we have no idea what he said or what happened during these nights of prayer. Yet, we can surmise a few things. Jesus loves his Father and his Father loves him. When we love someone, we want to spend time with them. If we really love them, then we want to spend time alone with just that person. Jesus was no different. He wanted time with just him and his Father. Did he talk during this time? Absolutely. He wanted to express his thoughts and feelings. Did he listen to his Father? Absolutely. He wanted to know that they were in a relationship and to hear his Father's thought and feelings. But, part of his prayer did not involve talking but simply being there.

The example of Jesus' prayer time with his Father is a good context for us to begin this topic on prayer. Prayer is a dialogue. We want to express our desires, the issues of our lives, and to be able to talk to God. On the other side, we also should want to hear God speak to us. What does God want? What is on his heart? What might he want to say to me? Yet, we cannot limit prayer to simply talking. If we truly love God, then our greatest desire is simply to be with him: to let us be loved by him and for us to love him in return. This is prayer: the loving exchange between our hearts seeking the good of God's heart.

Fr. Cody

CAMINO LIFE

Parish Registration and Information Update

Register or Update Your Information

You can use this QR code to easily register at our parish.

Also, you may use the same QR code to update your existing information.

<https://life.onecamino.com/public/home>



A unified body of
Catholic women
working side by side with
the Knights of
Columbus

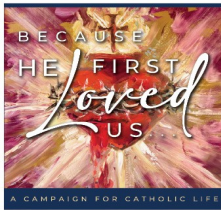
For further information
contact Dayna Benson
(253) 324-7867



MINISTRY TO THE SICK

If you know of a parish family member or friend who is homebound or hospitalized and would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office at 406-458-6114.

I was sick and you visited me. — Matthew 25:36



Blessed be the Lord!

With grateful hearts,
we share the
campaign results for

Our Lady of the Valley Parish

Goal: \$528,769

Total Amount Pledged: \$652,784

Household Participation: 21%

**The parish portion of these funds will be used
100% for an expansion study.**

All Glory to God for the faithful,
loving, prayerful people of our Diocese.
The Lord is calling us to
do great things!

Learn more about the campaign at fdoh.org



Received from Diocese \$134,284



St. Francis Xavier Church, Missoula Level 1 Formation

Part A Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026 -
Monday, Aug. 10, 2026

AND Friday, September 25, 2026 -
Monday, September 28, 2026

Part B - TBD



Jesus encourages us to remember the
mustard seed. He wants us to trust in
the goodness of the seed of faith he has
placed within us and in his Church.

He wants us to keep looking for the
green shoots of his kingdom. And he
wants us to keep asking for the grace to
nurture their growth in ourselves and
the people around us.

So don't worry! God's work often starts off small and
slow. He is faithful, and his seed will bear fruit!
—theWORD among us



Young Adult Retreat at Legendary Lodge



An overnight retreat to connect Catholics in their 20's and early 30's who are relatively new in
their professional and spiritual vocations. There will be opportunities to pray together,
worship together, celebrate Mass together, and share wisdom, experience, and insight into
how to live out your faith as a Catholic young adult.

August 14-16, 2026
Register and Info:

diocesehelena.org/youngadultretreat



Guest Speaker: Sr. Molly Bernadette Spiering, CSFN

Sr. Molly Bernadette grew up in a large family on a farm near
Cody, WY. After earning a degree in Theology & Philosophy
from Christendom College, she entered the Sisters of the
Holy Family of Nazareth. Currently in her third year of
temporary profession as a Junior Sister, God willing,
she hopes to make final vows in 2 years!

Questions? Reach out to:
Kevin Molm - kmolm@dohmt.org
Liz Wherley - lwherley@dohmt.org

August 10-11, 2026 PLANNING DAYS AT LEGENDARY LODGE



This **FREE** professional development opportunity
is for those who teach and minister to youth and
families in Catholic schools and parishes:

- Directors of Religious Education
- Directors of Faith Formation
- Youth Minister or Campus Minister
- Religion & Theology Teachers/Catechists

Topics Include:

- Spirituality of a Leader
- Strengthening Our Parents & Teens
- Skilling Up Your Toolbelt: Best Practices for Discipling Young People

Meet Our Facilitator:

GINA BAUER

www.ginabauer.com



Gina Bauer is a gifted missionary, teacher, author, and speaker
who has spent decades forming leaders, families, and young
people in the Catholic faith. Known for her dynamic style and
compassionate heart, she brings clarity and conviction to
conversations about the dignity of the human person.



REGISTER NOW FOR FREE!

diocesehelena.org/planningdays

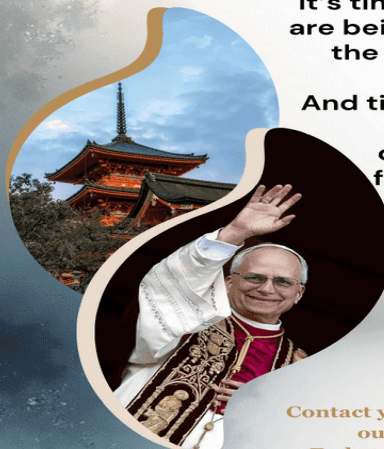
Questions? Kevin Molm: kmolm@dohmt.org | 406.389.7055
Contact: Liz Wherley: lwherley@dohmt.org | 406.916.3111

World Youth Day 2027 Seoul, South Korea Montana WYD Pilgrims



**It's time to discern whether you
are being called to be a Pilgrim to
the next World Youth Day!**

**And time to prepare our hearts,
get ready and
do some fundraising
for August 1-10, 2027!**



**Contact your Parish Youth Leader to find
out more by reaching out to
Father Cody Williams or Mandy Bell
to get your name on the list!**

Contact: Father Cody Williams or Mandy Bell
FrCWilliams@HolyCrossMT.org MT.WorldYouthDay@gmail.com



Carroll College

BLESSED TO BE YOUR DIOCESAN COLLEGE

News from the Hilltop

INTRODUCTION FROM OUR BISHOP

It has been an honor to serve as Co-President of Carroll College this past year. While I have been closely connected to Carroll since becoming Bishop, this opportunity allowed me to engage with the college in an entirely new and special way. Over the past year, I have had the joy of getting to know more of our students, faculty, staff, and administrators and to witness firsthand the incredible work taking place across campus. I leave this role even more convinced of the strength of Carroll's mission and the extraordinary people who carry it forward each day. I am also incredibly confident about Carroll's future. Dr. Jennifer Glowienka has demonstrated exceptional leadership, deep commitment to our mission, and a genuine love for this institution and its people. As she becomes Carroll's 20th president, I truly believe the college is in very good hands. Her vision, wisdom, and dedication will serve Carroll well in the years ahead. Though the Co-Presidency is coming to an end, my commitment to Carroll remains unchanged. I will continue serving as Chancellor, a member of the Board of Trustees, and a partner in advancing the college's mission and Catholic identity. Thank you for your support, your friendship, and your prayers throughout this year. Please know that you remain in mine!



Bishop Austin Vetter

In Christ, I am

Bishop Austin Vetter

OUR 2027 APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN!

We've made it easier than ever to apply. We've simplified and accelerated our process to make applying and receiving financial aid faster, clearer, and more accessible.

We welcome students who are ready to grow, explore, and lead. Guided by our Catholic mission, we are creating new pathways to a Carroll education while maintaining the academic rigor and personal attention that define who we are.



APPLY AT:

carroll.edu/apply

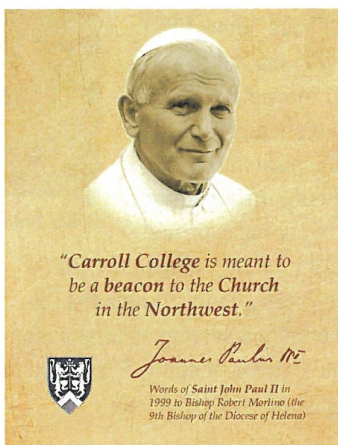


FREE MACBOOK NEO LAPTOP FOR FIRST-YEAR UNDERGRADS

Carroll College has received a transformative philanthropic commitment from Helena's Shelly Goldberg and Ryan McCauley that will provide every incoming full-time, first-year undergraduate student with a free MacBook Neo laptop, beginning with the Fall 2026 class. The *Saints Smart Start Initiative* is intended to support future incoming classes in the years ahead. Learn more at carroll.edu/neo.



In Other News...



ROME PILGRIMAGE

In May, 34 Carroll students and staff, led by Fr. Tyler Frohlich and Fr. Marc Lenneman, embarked on a two-week pilgrimage through Rome and Assisi in the footsteps of the Saints. The group found faith, growth, connection, and lifelong memories throughout their journey.

MEDICINE IN MEXICO

In January, Carroll faculty, healthcare providers, and students returned safely from another successful Medicine in Mexico outreach trip. The group was hosted at Santa María del Mexicano in Colón, Querétaro, Mexico, and provided comprehensive medical wellness exams, including optical and dental screenings, for students, faculty, staff, and religious members of the mission. carroll.edu/mim

CARITAS SERVICE TRIPS

During spring break, Carroll Campus Ministry led students on annual Caritas service immersion trips to Browning, MT, and Chicago. Students served in schools, food pantries, after-school programs, and community outreach ministries while building relationships and growing in faith. A long-standing Carroll tradition, the trips offer meaningful opportunities for service, reflection, and solidarity. carroll.edu/caritas26



STUDENT RESEARCH FESTIVAL

On April 24, Carroll held its annual Student Research Festival (SRF). This is an incredible academic event celebrating the new knowledge Carroll students are contributing to the world through student-faculty collaborative research. Learn more at carroll.edu/srf.

CARROLL THEATRE: A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD

In April, Carroll's theatre department invited the Helena community to its Spring 2026 Theatre for Young Audiences production, A Year with Frog and Toad. School-age children from around the area packed our sold-out FLEX Theatre to enjoy a whimsical show following two great friends – the cheerful, popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad – through four fun-filled seasons. The show concluded a successful 2025-26 year – learn more at carroll.edu/theatre.

