

Saint Mary Catholic Community

Pastoral Office Hours

Monday—Thursday:

9am to 4pm

Friday:

9am to 12noon

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

September 20– 10:30 Cooney

October 4– 10:30 Mount Ascension

October 11– 11:00 Touchmark

September 15, 2024 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it.”

Matthew 16:24

September 22, 2024 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

Mark 9:37



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, September 15th—Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:4c-9a/ James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

8:00 AM Mass—for the people of the Parish
10:30 AM Mass—for the intentions of John Boyd
rb: the Boyd family

Monday, September 16th—No Mass

1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33; Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday, September 17th—No Mass

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a/Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday, September 18th—No Mass

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 7:31-35
No Confessions

Thursday, September 19th—No Mass

1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50

Friday, September 20th

1 Corinthians 15:12-20/Luke 8:1-3

10:30AM Mass—at for Cooney the intentions of the People at Cooney

Saturday, September 21st

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13

3:00 PM—4:00 PM Confessions
4:30 PM Vigil—for Carole Mongelli
rb: Rocco Mongelli

Sunday, September 22nd—Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

8:00 AM Mass—for the intentions of the people of the Parish
10:30 AM Mass—for John P. Hronek
rb: Laurie and Bryan Fox

Monday, September 23rd—No Mass

Proverbs 3:27-34; Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday September 24th

Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21

12:10 PM Mass—for Everett Holm
rb: Judy and Herb Hazen

Wednesday, September 25th

Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6

12:10 PM Mass—for Rita and Al Roland
rb: Judy and Herb Hazen
4:00 PM—5:00 PM Confessions

Thursday, September 26th

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9

12:10 PM Mass—for Sandy and Jim Hayes
rb: Judy and Herb Hazen

Friday, September 27th

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22

11:00 AM Mass—healing for Sara Mayernick
rb: Judy and Herb Hazen

Saturday, September 28th

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Luke 9:43b-45

3:00 PM—4:00 PM Confessions
4:30 PM Mass—for Clif Caughron
rb: Margaret Kernan



Prayer
Ministry
Sacrifice

As praying stewards: We prayed in union with our Montana bishops for the defeat of CI-128, and prayed for catechists, volunteers and children who are being registered for religious education, which starts Oct. 2.

As ministering stewards: We hosted the Saint Francis Peace Through Justice/Jubilee Garden/Care for Creation/Parish Diversity Celebration Potluck dinner, began our fall grief support sessions for those who have lost loved ones, and began gathering our gifts of food and money for our upcoming Thanksgiving baskets for the poor and needy in our community in November.

As sacrificing stewards:

Stewardship Gifts/Ordinary Income

Fiscal year 2024-25 Received: 7/1/24 – 8/31/24: \$70,139

Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget: 7/1/24 – 8/31/24: \$78,640

Difference: (Received – Budget): \$- 8,501

Maintenance & Repair Needs and Gifts (Fiscal Year 2024-25 (7/1/24 – 6/30/25))

Church Sky Light Repair (Estimate): \$ 7,000

Regular Maintenance & Repair (i.e. cleaning, painting, etc.): \$18,720

Current Need: \$25,720

Maintenance & Repair Gifts Received: \$7,697

Difference: (Received – Need): \$-18,023

Note: Maintenance & Repair gifts can be made using the stewardship envelopes identified as Maintenance & Repair; or by indicating in the memo field of your check "M&R". All gifts can also be made online through our website, www.stmaryhelena.org. Thank you!

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

Caitlin Wagoner ~ Pastoral Care, Parish Life Director

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

Lori Mleko ~ Elementary RE Coordinator

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

Joanna Haddon ~ Finance Director

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

Dr. Wendy Yuen ~ Director of Music and Liturgy

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

Brandon Bloom ~ Maintenance Director

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

Keaton Pettis ~ Communications Coordinator

Phone ext. 101 ~ email: kpettis@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: Dave Brown, Jerry LaChere, Anna Miller, Lori Murphy-Moulet, and Maureen Stohl.

From Father Tim

Wednesday, September 11, 2024, was the 23rd anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City, the pentagon, and the heroic acts of the passengers of United Flight 93, who gave their own lives in downing a flight headed towards Washington D.C.

Many of us remember exactly where we were when we heard that ‘something’ was going on the East Coast. I was a third-year seminarian at St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. A classmate of mine came out of his room early in the morning, shouting stuff that didn’t make sense. Then we went down to the lounge and watched the events on T.V. that were taking place.

As many of us remember, flights were grounded throughout the nation over the next few days until officials could ensure safe travel. When we travel today, we are reminded of those events years ago, as we deal with tightened security that has been in place since that time.

The amazing thing I remember from those days 23 years ago is how our country came together in prayer and assistance. Over the next several weeks, there were messages on the bottom of T.V. screens that announced Prayer Service here and there – and all over the Twin Cities. Congressional leaders stood at the bottom of the stairs of the Capitol Building and prayed together for the nation. Fireman, medical personnel, and EMTs came from all over the country to aid the people of New York and Washington D.C. It was a time of great sorrow and grief. But it was also a time of unity and love – and showcased the power of prayer and love that is in our hearts. As it says in Scripture: LOVE NEVER FAILS. Never was that more apparent than in those moments we remember 23 years ago.

God bless all of you!

Fr. Tim

Pope’s Intentions for September 2024

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.



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

Faith Formation

A Journey for Life

Classroom Assistants Needed for Religious Education Program

Is God calling you to something new? Do you have a desire to serve God and your church community? Do you want the children of our parish to know how much God loves them? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then please consider how you might answer the call to be a disciple of Jesus by sharing your faith with our parish children.

We will provide training and support for you! Classes will begin October 2nd. We meet on Wednesdays from 3:45 pm to 5:00pm. We have a catechist for each grade, but still need assistants.

Please contact Lori or Dawn at the parish office (442-5268) if you are interested!



Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

OCIA classes will begin

soon for adults who are interested in becoming Catholic and adults who are interested in receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

What is OCIA? It is the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults---a process for welcoming adult newcomers into the Roman Catholic Church. The main purpose of the process is assisting prospective Catholics in their journey to become active members of the church community.

Our OCIA group will meet weekly on Monday evenings starting September 30th. Contact Dawn at the Parish Office for more information.

Registration is Open for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Grades K-5th and First Reconciliation/ First Communion

Online registration is available [HERE](#).

Cost for Religious Education is \$70 (\$95 if preparing for First Reconciliation/First Eucharist.) Financial Assistance is available! RE Classes meet on Wednesdays from 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm. Our First Class will be on October 2nd. First Reconciliation Classes begin Sunday, October 6th from 9:15 am to 10:15 am in the Social Center

CGS will meet on Mondays from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm and Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Contact Lori or Dawn if you have any questions!

The Chosen Viewing and Discussion Group Season 4

We will begin meeting on Thursday, September 26th at 1:00 pm in the Social Center! All are welcome!!!!

Important Dates for Youth Group

Wednesday, September 25th: Family Fun Event: Discovery Dash

Wednesday, October 2nd: MS and HS Youth Groups meet from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 9th: MS and HS Youth Groups meet from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Registration Open for Youth Group

Grades 6-12th

Registration is now open for youth group and for Confirmation for the 2023-2024 school year! Online registration is available on the parish website or [HERE!](#)

Cost per student is \$70. The cost is \$95 for youth preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. **Youth in grades 6 through 12 are able to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.** Financial Assistance is available, contact Dawn for more information.

This year we will combine the time that the Middle School and High School Youth Groups meet. Both groups will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Social Center.

Contact Dawn if you have any questions!

The Discovery Dash

Join us on Wednesday, September 25th for the Discovery Dash! We will begin with dinner and then families will race around Helena solving riddles, completing tasks and gathering treasures! There will be great prizes and tons of fun!!!!

We will meet for dinner at 5:15 pm in the Social Center and the evening will end by 7:15 pm!

Sign Up [HERE](#)

Contact Dawn if you have any questions!!!

The First Confirmation Class will be on Sunday, October 6th at 9:15 am in St. Ann's.

Liturgical Life

We Belong to You

Dr. Wendy Yuen

Where do we belong? Is it in our home? In our community? Is it in our church? These are questions that strike at the core of the human experience, as we all yearn for a place where we are fully accepted and loved. For many, the answer to this search for belonging transcends the physical and temporal—it is found in something spiritual and eternal. In the Christian faith, this sense of belonging is discovered in a relationship with God, the Creator who calls each of us by name. Trevor Thompson's song, *We Belong to You*, powerfully explores this truth, offering a heartfelt expression of the believer's journey toward finding their true home and belonging in God.

Trevor Thompson, a renowned liturgical composer, has a gift for creating music that speaks to the heart of Christian faith, particularly within the Roman Catholic tradition. His compositions often delve into themes of faith, unity, community, and the deep connection between God and His people. In *We Belong to You*, Thompson taps into the universal human desire for belonging, answering it with a message of divine relationship and spiritual identity.

The lyrics of *We Belong to You* are filled with themes of belonging, transformation, and the communal journey of faith. Thompson weaves together vivid imagery of God's mercy, spiritual renewal, and the shared mission of Christians. The song reflects the beauty of God's grace and the profound sense of unity that comes from being part of His family.

Yet, it is not enough to simply find a relationship with God. We are also called to spread the Gospel and live out Christ's teachings in every aspect of our lives. Sharing God's word goes beyond speaking the truth; it means embodying it in how we live, act, and interact with others. We are called to be living witnesses, reflecting the Gospel through our actions, attitudes, and relationships.

Trevor Thompson's *We Belong to You* is a deeply reflective and spiritually rich song that beautifully captures the Christian journey of faith, transformation, and community. In a world that constantly seeks belonging, this song offers a powerful reminder that we belong to a loving and merciful God who guides, strengthens, and calls us forward on our journey.

Let us sing, with hearts full of faith and assurance: Lord, *We belong to You*.



I would like to take a moment to thank and recognize our dedicated cantor, Tanya Mohr. After suffering a severe fall at home in early July, which resulted in 5 fractures in the pelvis and 6 broken ribs (2 were misplaced), Tanya underwent surgery and spent two months recovering. Despite these challenges, she has returned to cantor at the 4:30 Mass. We are so grateful for her resilience and service. I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone in the music ministry for their continued commitment and dedication in making our worship experiences so prayerful and meaningful.



If you'd like to serve in the music ministry, please let me know. Choir shall start on October 3rd at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



Pastoral Care

The Church celebrates the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on Sept. 15, calling on the faithful to reflect on the seven sorrows of Mary. These seven sorrows include: the prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35), the flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15), loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50), Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17), Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (John 19:25-30), the body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (Psalm 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37), and the burial of Jesus (Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47). Actually, the whole month of September is dedicated to the Sorrows of Mary and one way to enter more deeply into the spirit of the month is by praying the Chaplet of the Seven Dolores (also known as the Seven Sorrows Rosary). The version that I have used comes from the Jesus, Keep Me prayer book and begins with an Act of Contrition, asking our most tender and holy Mother to obtain for us the pardon of our sins, and firmly proposing to cleanse my soul by His Most Precious Blood in the Sacrament of Penance.

With hope in obtaining remission of all the punishment due my sins, I can begin with heartfelt confidence to meditate upon the first dolor, when Mary, Virgin Mother of God, presented Jesus, her only-begotten Son, in the temple. She laid Him in the arms of holy old Simeon and heard his word of prophecy, "A sword shall pierce thy own soul," which foretold the passion and death of her Son, Jesus. The second dolor of the Blessed Virgin Mary was when she had to flee into Egypt on account of the persecution of Herod, who sought to slay her well-beloved Son. The third dolor was when, after having gone up to Jerusalem with Joseph, she and her spouse missed Him in returning home to her humble dwelling and bewailed the loss of her beloved one. The fourth dolor is when the Blessed Virgin met her most loving Son, Jesus, carrying on shoulders the heavy cross upon which He was to be crucified for our salvation. The fifth dolor was when she saw her Son, Jesus, raised upon the Tree of the Cross and his blood poured forth; and after three long hours of agony, watched him die. The sixth dolor was when she saw the lance pierce the sacred side of Jesus, and then received His holy body taken down from the cross and laid in her arms. The seventh and last dolor was when she saw the holy body of her Son laid in the sepulcher.

One recommendation I can make, if anyone would like a "do-it-yourself retreat" on this topic, is to read Journey to Joy: Reflections on the 7 Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Father Daniel Brandenburg, L.C.

Yours in Christ,

Caitlin

Announcements:

Please join us for Adoration after the 12:10 PM Masses on Tuesday, September 17th and Tuesday, September 24th!

Bishop Vetter will be celebrating the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, September 21st. Please join us for a delicious catered dinner afterward in the Social Center.

I invite you to consider volunteering to pray for an hour outside Planned Parenthood on Thursday, October 17th anytime between 7 AM and 7 PM as part of the 40 Days for Life campaign. All we need is one person to cover each hour (but multiple people are allowed to come and pray together and/or sign up for the same time slot) and maintain a peaceful, prayerful presence representing St Mary Catholic Community during your assigned time slot. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Caitlin Wagoner at the Parish Office.

If you or someone you know is in the hospital and would like to receive the Most Holy Eucharist please call the Parish Office at (406) 442-5268.



SAINT FRANCIS PEACE THROUGH JUSTICE MINISTRY

Please Won't You Be My Neighbor?

*It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood
A beautiful day for a neighbor*

Would you be mine?

Could you be mine?

Won't you be my neighbor?

Many of us remember Fred Rogers, the kindly, soft-spoken gentle face on the TV screen who, while putting on his ubiquitous cardigan sweater, would always ask, "Please won't you be my neighbor?" Mr. Rogers was one of a kind. As an ordained minister, his peaceful but upbeat TV show for young children encouraged acknowledging their feelings, and showing respect and kindness to their "neighbors."

We hear a lot about "neighbors" in recent weeks. The word is sprinkled in political speeches and ads. Neighbors are touted as the unsung true heroes of life – the neighbor who helps shovel your car out of the snow-banked driveway; the person who returns your cat when she accidentally gets out; the stranger who gives you their place in line when you have only a couple items to check out.

Founder of Western monasticism, St. Benedict wrote the monastery guidebook - the "Rule of Benedict." Adhered to through the centuries, it is still followed today by committed Benedictines but by lay persons as well as a guide to a more holy life. The Rule informs a radical hospitality: ***"At the door of the monastery place a sensible person. This porter will need a room near the entrance so that visitors will always find someone there to answer them... As soon as anyone knocks, or a poor person calls out, the porter will reply, 'Thanks be to God!'"*** In other words, you are not only welcome, but thank God you have come to disturb our lives!

Scripture is replete with references to neighbors. When a scribe asks Jesus, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 10:25) Jesus returns the question asking, "What is written in the law?" The scribe correctly answers by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. To paraphrase – to love God with your whole heart and soul, and your neighbor as yourself. "Neighbor" in Greek means someone who is near, and in Hebrew, someone with a close association. To clarify (and perhaps limit) the scribe asks, "Who is my neighbor?" And to that question, Jesus gives the parable of the Good Samaritan. We are all familiar with the story of the man, beaten and robbed, left to die by the side of the road, bypassed by the priest and the Levite, both of whom would know the law. It is the scorned, despised Samaritan who stops, binds his wounds, carries him on his beast to the inn and pays the innkeeper to care for him, assuring the innkeeper that on his return, he will reimburse any additional costs.

It couldn't be more clear: Our neighbor is not an abstraction, or just the person in our group who needs care. **"Neighbor" stretches beyond, sometimes asking us to do what we never thought we could.** Serving food at the homeless shelter? **Check.** Visiting with someone we know is dying when we have no idea what to say? **Check.** Getting past our discomfort with a woman wearing a hijab? **Check.** Having a civil conversation with the person who holds very different political views? **Check.**

Jesus wants us to view all people as neighbors, even those we dislike, or who elicit discomfort, or who challenge us, as well as those in our comfortable groups (those people, too!) Then may we say with welcoming arms and heart, with the porter at the monastery door, **"Thanks be to God!" We will be able to sing with a smile, "won't you be my neighbor?" – knowing that they are, and have always been, our "neighbors."**

Family- to- Family Thanksgiving Food Boxes

If you are interested in doing a Family –to-Family Thanksgiving food Box for a family of 6 or more, please sign up here:

<https://saintmarycatholiccommuni.flocknote.com/signup/178305>

OR on the kiosk in the gathering space OR call the Parish Office 406-442-5268.

Here is a suggested list of items (but not limited to):

Flour, sugar, stuffing, potatoes, peanut butter, canned pumpkin or pumpkin pie mix, canned vegetables, canned fruit, Jell-O, rolls, olives, pudding, margarine/butter, juice, healthy cereal and soup.

Turkeys can also be a part of the boxes, but are optional. If you will include a turkey, please let us know.

Food boxes should feed a minimum of 6 family members.

Thank you!

Grief Fall Session Begins September 23rd, 2024

1:00PM in Social Center, Saint Mary's 1700 Missoula

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.

"I benefited from sharing and receiving support from the other Grief Group Members, and knowing I was not alone in my grief." (Member of past support group)

+ + +

Facilitator: Helen Beausoleil, LCSW

Call Saint Mary's Parish Office or Helen 459-0948 to register

"We can't take your pain away but we can share it."

Ongoing Grief Sessions for those who have been in prior grief support groups will begin September 16th at 1pm.

Theme this year: Grateful Hope

Buy A Basket to Fill A Basket

Our annual auction will begin on October 5th - October 13th. If you would like to make a donation either in the form of a check as a "Sponsor" or would like to donate a new or gently used item, please contact Allison Sever (406-431-5226) or Deb Kralicek (406-439-2319).

We are available to pick up if needed.

Deadline for all material donations is September 27th.

Funds received from the auction will go to buy food for the Thanksgiving food boxes. With the increase in food costs your support is more important than ever this year.

We are beginning our collection non-perishable food items for our Thanksgiving Food Boxes.

THANKSGIVING FOOD BOXES

Food items suggested for Food Drive:

Soup, canned frosting, cake mixes, canned pumpkin, or pumpkin pie mix, olives, Jello, muffin mix, tuna, spaghetti sauce, pasta, meal in a box.

Please leave food items in the gathering space.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness

The Helena Knights of Columbus Council #844 cordially invite you to our fifth Sunday Breakfast on September 29th. We will serve a great breakfast at the Knights of Columbus Hall, at 1867 N.

Washington St. We will serve breakfast from 8 AM to 1 PM, on September 29th. There is no set charge, but we ask for a free will donation. Any proceeds will go to Kindness Makes Miracles whose goal is to promote kindness, anti-bullying and healing in memory of Kelly O'Loughlin.



**JOIN US FOR THE
BLESSING OF THE
ANIMALS ON OCTOBER
6TH AT 1:00 PM IN
THE SOCIAL CENTER!**



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR:
JOIN US FOR THE
FALL PARISH
CLEAN UP ON
OCTOBER 5TH
FROM 9:00 AM TO
11:00 AM**



**DISCOVERY
DASH
FAMILY
EVENT**

**PLAY & WIN
COOL
PRIZES**

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 25**

Time: 5:15 to 7:00pm
Dinner Included
Meet at St. Mary's Social
Center

REGISTER YOUR FAMILY TODAY
Register Here



Help Others Discover Christ

**Together we have
raised
\$499, 165
60% of our \$838,000
goal**

Embracing anew the Great Commission of Jesus to "go and make disciples" **Because He First Loved Us** will provide \$4.5 million to create an endowment fund to provide ongoing support for our shared work of evangelization, so that we can more effectively reach out to all of God's people.

The number of active Catholics in the Diocese has dropped from 66,000 in 2000 to just 46,000 in 2022. Knowing this, how will we help others encounter Christ? Every disciple is baptized into the mission of evangelization.

We must learn to the the love through involvement, training, mentoring, and ongoing formation.



Please scan the QR code to learn more at the **Because He First Loved Us** website



**COMMON ROOTS, CONFLICT, HOPE
Achieving Peace in the Middle East**

Jeanette Fregulia, Ph.D.

Jeanette Fregulia, a long-standing member of Saint Mary Catholic Community, and is the Department Chair of History at Carroll College. Her Masters Degree is in Middle East Area Studies from the University of London. She has extensive experience traveling, living and conducting research in this complex region. Her expertise includes history, culture, politics, philosophy and religion. She applies her excellent culinary skill to cooking Middle Eastern food which she will generously share with us. She is a dynamic, informative, energetic, and objective presenter. Some of what we learn may help us as we seek to live in solidarity as people of peace in our own country.

The presentation is a series of 4 talks on Sunday mornings between the masses in the social center. All the presentations will be recorded and available on the parish website.

Sunday September 22 9:15-10:15 - Early Religious History

Sunday October 13 9:15-10:15 - Imperial/Colonial History

Sunday November 17 9:15-10:15 - 1914-1989

Sunday December 8 9:15-10:15 - 1967-present

Sponsored by Saint Mary Catholic Community Adult Education and Faith Formation supported by Saint Francis Peace Through Justice Ministry



CSSM
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
of Montana

Mental Health Services

Catholic Mental Health Counseling

CSSM's counseling program has served clients from over 20 communities in Montana and is ready to serve you!

- Our counselors are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of any counseling session, although it does not have to be. They have experience with clients from many different backgrounds, cultures, and ages. We are here for everyone.
- We specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship/marriage, and perinatal concerns.
- You can meet with us from your computer, tablet, or cell phone from anywhere in Montana. If you're in Helena or Billings, you can meet in-person with a counselor.
- We want to be a good match, so the first session is free. If you choose to continue, we accept insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and private pay, with a sliding fee scale and other discounts available.

To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2' or send us a message at www.cssmt.org.

Knights of Columbus #844

The Helena Council #844 of the Knights of Columbus meets the 2nd Thursday of every month. The meeting begins at 6:30 PM at the KofC hall.

Catholic Men, if you're not a member but have interest, please checkout KofC.org to learn more.

You can sign up online and you'd be very welcome in our Council.

Thinking about Separation or Divorce?

Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. Our next program begins October 18, 2024. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: at 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com Not counseling or group therapy. All contacts and names are held in strictest confidence.

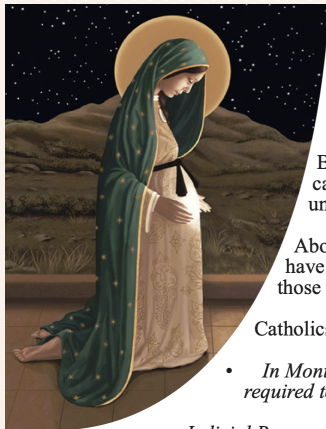
News From Family Promise

We are familiar with Family Promise in Helena as we host families at St. Mary Catholic Community four times a year, with the help of many parish volunteers.

But perhaps you aren't aware of other activities the Family Promise has engaged in. Recently, in August, Family Promise sponsored "Back to School Resource Fair", which featured immunizations by Pure View, information provided to families on community resources, and free haircut certificates to lucky winners. Family Promise also sponsored a "Kids Clothing and Accessory Exchange". At least 40 families took advantage of these two events held at First Christian Church.

Your support of Family Promise helps many families beyond our own hosting weeks. Thank you!

Volunteer Coordinators of SMCC



Montana Catholics For Life

Beyond its attempt to wrongly enshrine abortion as a right in Montana, CI-128 would eliminate parental notification of an abortion for girls under 16. The Montana Parental Notification of Abortion Act would be rendered unconstitutional if CI-128 passes. This undermines families and is extremely dangerous.

Abortion proponents say eliminating parental notification is necessary to protect girls who are unsafe at home or have a medical emergency requiring an abortion. This is simply not true; there are existing legal protections for those circumstances.

Catholics can share the facts about the Montana Parental Notification of Abortion Act and why it should be protected.

- *In Montana, at least 48 hours before performing an abortion on a girl who is under 16 years old, abortionists are required to notify her parents, with the following exceptions:*
 - *Judicial Bypass: A minor may seek permission from the court to bypass parental notification. The court grants this permission by determining that the minor is mature enough to act independently or that notifying the parents is not in the minor's best interest.*
 - *Medical Emergency cases: In cases where an abortion has been determined necessary to protect the minor's health during a medical emergency, and delaying the procedure to notify the parents would pose a serious risk, the notification requirement can be waived.*

We do not support abortion, and we don't need to agree with current law, but we have an obligation to inform others that CI-128 is incredibly divisive and dangerous because it would provide abortions to young girls and keep it a secret from their parents. The responsible decision is to protect young girls and their parents and to vote "no" on CI-128 in November.

Join our Montana Bishops as we stand for every child's right to life, the dignity of each mother, and the sanctity of the family.

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By the grace of God may peace reside in every human heart and in all the world. If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the Parish Office on 406-442-5268.

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