

ST. BARTHOLOMEW

APRIL 26, 2026

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



FATHER CODY'S NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The last Chosen Movie night is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 6th** at **6pm** at Stageline Theater. All are welcome to join!
- RE concludes Wednesday, **May 13th**.
- Our next Sunday Coffee Hour is **May 10th** after Mass.

St. Bartholomew Calendar	
Sun. 4/26/26	4th Sunday of Easter The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00am
Mon. 4/27/26	
Tues. 4/28/26	
Wed. 4/29/26	Daily Mass: 11am RE: 4pm
Thurs. 4/30/26	
Fri. 5/1/26	
Sat. 5/2/26	
Sun. 5/3/26	5th Sunday of Easter The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00am

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we ask your special blessing on those preparing for the priesthood in our seminaries. We pray that they will grow in faith, hope and love. Give them courage and perseverance and be their constant companion as they prepare to serve you and your people with the fire of your love. Make them holy as you are holy. Amen.

Seminarians

Dcn. Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, Jake Smith, Liam Aippersbach, Ryan Frampton, and Mason Yochum.

PARISH INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Cody Williams

Email: stbartholomew@gmail.com

Website: stbartholomewmt.org

Phone Number: 406-547-3737

Father Cody's Cell: 406-465-7895

Baptism: Contact Parish Office

Weddings: Contact Parish Office **at least 6 month advance notice is needed to complete marriage preparation.**

Scripture Readings

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

Reading 1: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Resp. Psalm: 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10

MASS SCHEDULE

Confessions on Sunday from 8:30—8:50 am
or by appointment

Sunday Rosary: 8:30 am

Sunday Mass: 9 am

Wednesday Mass: 11 am

This year we approved a budget that requires a much higher amount of income than we have budgeted for many years. This increase in income was due largely to the increasing costs of basic needs like insurance premiums and the costs of running a parish. Each week I will include in the bulletin the amount of money we brought in through the offertory as well as the amount we are above or below our goal for that point in the year. The annual goal is \$51,000 with a weekly average need of \$1000.

Weekly Collection totals:

2/1/26—\$910.00

2/8/26—\$1802.00

2/15/26—\$450.00

2/22/26—445.00

Thank you for your generous support of
St. Bartholomew!

Basics of Catholicism Part 132—Challenges with Divorce

For the last section on marriage, I want to focus on some misconceptions about divorce and the Catholic Church to help alleviate or clarify some of the misconceptions.

A divorced Catholic cannot receive Communion.

Not entirely true. A Catholic who is divorced can still receive Communion as long as that person has not remarried or done something to forsake their wedding vows. Divorce is a secular decree that doesn't affect the Catholic Church's rules. A divorce degree is a legal document declaring the separation of two married people. A divorced person could be divorced for economic, social, or relationship reasons while still remaining sacramentally married. In these situations, the person may feel that they are still married even though they are physically and legally separated. In this case, they are still married by Church standards even though they are civilly divorced. These people can still receive Communion. A person who is civilly divorced and remarried but has not received a declaration of invalidity from the Church, cannot receive Communion since they have entered into marriage a second time without annulling the first marriage.

The Catholic Church is against divorce.

We need to be careful with general statements like this. Many people hear a statement like this and assume that the church looks down on people who have received divorces. Especially today, we realize the many challenges that married people face and the plethora of circumstances that can lead to divorce. The Jubilee Year of Mercy inaugurated by Pope Francis was meant to change this tone and begin a movement towards support and avenues of healing for those who are divorced. Yes, the Church doesn't encourage divorce except in various circumstances. Why? Because we know of the social and relational challenges that come through divorce. But we also recognize that in these situations we need to work towards healing and reconciliation. We need to avoid language and attitudes that look down on or alienate those who are divorced. The Church is meant to be a place of healing not judgment.

Catholics have the lowest divorce rate.

Although somewhat true. The average divorce rate in the US is around 40%. The divorce rate among Catholics is around 26%. The lower divorce rate for Catholics is largely due to the amount of time and attention we spend on preparing people for marriage. The annulments in the US accounts for almost 2/3 of all annulments granted by the Church worldwide. We have a lot of work ahead of us to promote marriage, support those who are engaged and married, and work to teach about the good of marriage.