

ST. BARTHOLOMEW

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



FATHER CODY'S NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- RE for K-5th is cancelled until March 19th. Youth group for middle and high school will continue on Wednesdays from 4-5. All RE is cancelled for February 26th.
- No Mass or Catholicism 201 on Wed. Feb. 26th.
- Ash Wednesday Mass on Wed. March 5th at 4:30 pm.
- Bishop Vetter has promulgated the indulgences and Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year of Hope. You can go to the Diocesan website at <https://diocesehelena.org/jubilee2025/> or see the letter on the bulletin board.
- The next Chosen Movie night has changed schedule due to Ash Wednesday. It will now be on Wednesday, March 12th at 6:30 pm.
- The Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima still has slots available. If you would like to sign up, please sign-up soon.
- Please see the ad for Eucharistic Congress in the center page handout of the bulletin.

If you have anything to add to the announcements or bulletin please reach out to Father Cody.



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. Dillon Armstrong, John Cooney, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, and Jake

St. Bartholomew Calendar	
	7th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun. 2/23/25	Confession: 8:30—8:50 am Mass: 9:00 am
Mon. 2/24/25	
Tues. 2/25/25	
Wed. 2/26/25	No Daily Mass, Catholicism 201, or Youth Group.
Thurs. 2/27/25	
Fri. 2/28/25	
Sat. 3/1/25	
	8th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun. 3/2/25	Confession: 8:30—8:50 am Mass: 9:00 am

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

IN A JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

MARCH 21-23, 2025 | CARROLL COLLEGE, HELENA

— AN ALL-AGES EVENT —

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CYC CONVENTION



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:

1/1/25—\$204.00
1/5/25—\$826.00
1/12/25—\$665.00
1/19/25—\$1,264.00
1/26/25—\$577.00

Scripture Readings

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Feb. 23, 2025

Reading 1: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Responsorial Psalm: 103:1-3, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13
Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

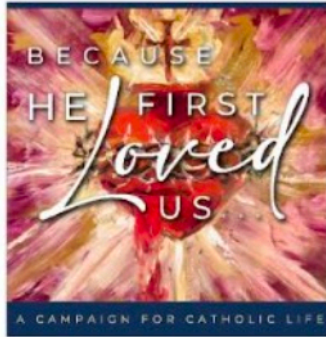
MASS SCHEDULE

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



Blessed be the Lord!

With grateful hearts,
we share the
campaign results for

St. Bartholomew Parish

Goal: \$57,784

Total Amount Pledged: \$25,630

Household Participation: 27%

*The parish portion of these funds will be used
40% for evangelization efforts,
40% for capital needs,
20% to build our endowment.*

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



FOUNDATION
for the Diocese of Helena

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.**

Basics of Catholicism part 77—Growth in Virtue

As I end this section on sin and prepare to move to the next part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I want to take some time to fill in the whole picture of the value of fighting against sin, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and growth in virtue. Often people can fall into two camps. Either sin is a serious issue and spend a great amount of energy fighting it to the exclusion of grace or people think sin doesn't matter and spend their lives assuming they are good people who don't need God's forgiveness. Both are serious issues.

Let's start with the first camp in which people spend considerable time and energy fighting against sin. The good side of this issue is that these people realize the importance and gravity of sin. Sin mars our well-being, changes our attitude and relationship with God, and harms relationships with other people. Our dignity is marred by our sins. On one level we should be fighting against the sins in our lives and working towards growth in virtue and freedom from sin.

On many levels this is impossible. The only way we can truly fight against our sins and overcome them is through God's grace. Yet, we need to comply with God's grace and accept his help in our lives if we want to overcome sin and live in true freedom. Those who are overly obsessed with sin assume they can fight it themselves or that they can never be free of sin. The proper belief is that God supplies the grace of forgiveness, gives us a fresh start, and allows us to be free from sin. Everything centers on our compliance with his grace and forgiveness.

The second camp are those who believe that they have no sins, sin isn't worth fighting, or they have no need for forgiveness. These ideas are equally if not more problematic than the first camp. People who believe they do not sin or are not in need of forgiveness have made God a liar and completely ignore his grace. Everyone sins and is deprived of the glory of God. All people need God's grace and forgiveness in order to be good and holy people. On another level, think about the effects of these ideologies on our relationships. If a person is prone to anger and hurts people in their wrath, that person believes that this attitude cannot change. If a person speaks poorly of others and hurts their reputation but sees no wrong in this action, what chance does this person have in living well with the people around them? Sin causes far more harm than we realize. The more we are able to understand its character and choose against it, the better we are as human beings, the better our relationship with others, and the stronger our relationship with God.

Fighting against sin is a life-long process. We will never be fully free from sin until we die and are immersed in God's grace. We can, however, work against these sinful inclinations and become better people, help those around us, and make the world a better place. Accepting God's grace in the midst of our weaknesses and challenges builds our faith and makes God's action in our lives more apparent. God doesn't forgive us just because we need help. He does it because it shows himself to us and bolsters our faith. Seeking God's forgiveness makes our faith meaningful and shows God's presence to us. Do not be afraid to be real about your sins and to bring them before God. We want his love and mercy and the only way we receive them is through honest examinations of our consciences and lives.

Fr. Cody
