

ST. BARTHolemew

JANUARY 25, 2026



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ORDINARY TIME

FATHER CODY'S NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The fall session of the Church Fathers series has concluded. Notes for the series are available on the table at the entrance to the church and online on our website.
 - ◊ The series will return **Wednesday, January 28th at 11:30am.**
- We have reached 53% of our ACA goal with only \$3150 left to go. If you have not made a donation to the ACA, please consider supporting the Diocesan church and our church with these funds.
- The next Chosen Movie Night is on **Wednesday, February 4th at 6 pm** at Stageline Theater.

Change for Life

Options
clinic &
education center

As you leave today, please pick up a baby bottle. These bottles are a fundraiser for Options Clinic, our local pregnancy medical clinic offering life-affirming services to those facing an unintended pregnancy.

With the help of your generosity, we are offering...

	FREE clinical grade pregnancy tests		FREE options education
	FREE early ultrasound		Low-Cost STD testing & treatment
	FREE KidSmart parenting classes		Free/Low-Cost well-woman care
	FREE supplies for new parents		Free after-abortion recovery

Please return bottles to church in 3 weeks. OR  

Together, we are Offering Hope & Building Families.

Options Clinic is a 501(C)3. For more information, visit OptionsHelena.org or call 406.422.1011. Thank you. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

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

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

January 25, 2026

Reading 1: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Resp. Psalm: 27:1, 4, 13-14

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

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:

11/30/25—\$314.00

12/7/25—\$1611.00

12/14/25—1398.30

12/21/25—705.00

Thank you for your generous support of
St. Bartholomew!

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.

St. Bartholomew Calendar

Sun. 1/25/26	Third Sunday of Ordinary Time The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00am
Mon. 1/26/26	
Tues. 1/27/26	
Wed. 1/28/26	Daily Mass: 11am Church Father's Series: 11:30am RE: 4pm
Thurs. 1/29/26	
Fri. 1/30/26	
Sat. 1/31/26	
Sun. 2/1/26	Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00am

BECOMING A MAN OF PRAYER



Men's
SKI RETREAT

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1

Join Fr. Cody Williams and other men for a weekend of prayer, skiing/snowboarding, and fraternal time. For more information go to holycrossmt.org/skiretreat

\$50

(covers food & lodging; lift ticket not included)

INFO & SIGN UP



Basics of Catholicism Part 120—Marriage

The journey from covenant to Sacrament requires one small leap: from human covenant to God covenants. The Old Testament is a beautiful collection of stories and experiences about the nature of God and his will and desire for humanity. Some of the images presented that explain God's desires are incredibly beautiful. In order to understand the Sacramentality of marriage, we need to venture into the Old Testament and connect it with the New Testament.

Starting with the journey of the Israelites in the desert, God makes a claim: "I am a jealous God... You shall have no gods before me." Why does it matter if God is jealous for his people? The only reason why a person would become jealous of another is if that person wanted the other person entirely to themselves. The same logic applies to God. He chose his people, he wanted his people, he cultivated his people, they were HIS people. This jealousy of God is the only time in religious thought throughout human history in which a god jealously guards his people. God is completely devoted to his people and no other people would suffice. Even when he threatens to destroy his people and start over, Moses intervenes and reminds him that they are his people abating his anger. The image for God's relationship with the Israelites is characterized as a mother hen guarding her chicks under her wings.

The relationship only intensifies as we head further into the Old Testament. In the Book of the Prophet Hosea, God requires Hosea to take a harlot as a wife. However odd this may seem, it makes a point: God is as a husband to Israel and Israel is as a wife to God. Israel has been unfaithful whereas God has remained faithful. Marriage imagery. The imagery only intensifies in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel. In this story (Ezekiel 16) God sees Israel as a child covered in blood and abandoned and cleans and feeds her. As the child grows, God continually cares for the child until the child is of marrying age. Then God takes the child and marries her even though she ignores her new husband. These are only a few of the many images throughout the Old Testament that indicates that God wanted and understood his relationship with Israel as a marriage.

What does this mean about marriage? Marriage is not simply a human institution. Marriage is something divine, a special relationship that God wants with his people. God didn't abandon the Israelites but instead remained faithful, one of the elements of marriage. He took Israel exclusive to himself, another aspect of marriage between only two people. God didn't assume that the marriage would end even with infidelity and other challenges, the indissolubility of marriage. The Old Testament begins to describe the incredible goal and value of marriage as we continue the discussion with Jesus and the fulfillment of marriage.

Fr. Cody