

ST. BARTHOLOMEW

MARCH 2, 2025

**8TH 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 4-5pm.
- Youth Group will move to 6:30pm starting March 26th.
- Ash Wednesday Mass on Wed. March 5th at 4:30pm.
- The Catholicism series continues on Wednesdays from 11:30-1 starting on March 5th.
- 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 6:30pm.
- Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation will be on Tuesday, March 25th at 12:00pm.
- 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	
	8th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun. 3/2/25	Confession: 8:30—8:50 am Mass: 9:00 am
Mon. 3/3/25	
Tues. 3/4/25	
Wed. 3/5/25	Ash Wednesday—Mass @ 4:30pm
Thurs. 3/6/25	
Fri. 3/7/25	
Sat. 3/8/25	
	1st Sunday of Lent
Sun. 3/9/25	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:

2/2/25—\$1302.00

2/9/25—\$642.00

2/15/25—\$959.00

Thank you for your generous support of
St. Bartholomew!

Scripture Readings

8th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Feb. 23, 2025

Reading 1: Sirach 27:4-7
Responsorial Psalm: 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16
Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

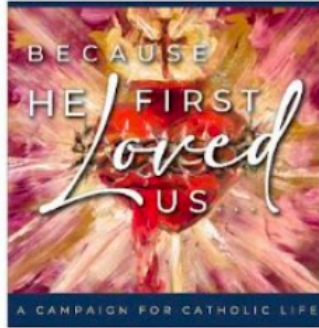
MASS SCHEDULE

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 78—Growth in Virtue

Many people are confused on the purpose of confessing sins, working to eliminate them from our lives, and the Christian life in general. One of the most common misconceptions is that the ultimate goal is freedom from sin. Although on one level this is the goal, the goal cannot be achieved until we are in Heaven. So, then, why bother working against sinful inclinations in this life and asking for forgiveness? Why not wait until we die and ask for forgiveness then? The answer is simple: the other goal of our lives is to live life well. The best expression of living life well is called virtuous living. Virtuous living requires us to be in touch with our challenges, limitations, and sinful inclinations. We cannot grow in virtue unless we have challenges that we need to overcome or parts of our lives which need refinement. This process of coming to know ourselves and working towards a good way of life is one of the goals of the spiritual life. The more we can recognize the patterns of grace and live a life close to God, the happier and more fulfilling of a life we lead.

The second misconception is that sin has so marred us that we cannot do anything good. Honestly, this is the Protestant understanding of the human person. Catholics, since the beginning, have always held that each person was created good and from that goodness we are capable of doing good. If we are created good, then why not live out this goodness through which we were created? If we are made in the image and likeness of God, why sully that through accepting shameful living and choosing against our goodness? We should live confidently knowing that we were created good, for a good purpose, and can do good for the world. This is the joy of the Christian life.

The third misconception is that we can never overcome sin so why try. We will always fail and therefore we are defeated. Defeat is from the Devil. He wants us to feel defeated because then we would never turn to God or accept his love and mercy. Defeatism keeps us from the goodness we are and the greatness that God is calling us to live. Jesus died and rose that we would never be defeated. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is necessary for combating this defeatist mentality. If each time we went to confession we left a new person, then we could never be defeated. If each time we confessed our sins, we understood the power of God in bringing us salvation, how could we ever think we lost? Jesus already won the battle against sin and death, the principalities and powers of the world, and against the Devil. We either share in his victory by accepting his mercy as we confess our sins or we share in the defeat of the Devil by believing that we cannot win and sin will always have mastery over us.

The Christian life is a life of constant growth and progress. Sometimes we grow a lot, sometime a little, and sometimes we feel that we are digressing. None of these feelings matter. The most pivotal part of our lives is believing in the victory Jesus won and the necessity of orienting our lives towards the good.

Fr. Cody