

Saint William Catholic Church-Shelby
Saint Thomas Aquinas Mission-Sunburst
 May 15, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Fr. Tim Moriarty, Pastor Cell: 406-594-1468

Fr. Peter Mikwabe, Parochial Vicar Cell: 406-475-1274

PO Box 1010, 531 Main Street, Shelby, MT 59474 Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9-11am
 Parish Phone: 406-434-2988 E-mail: saintwm@3rivers.net Parish website: stwilliamshelbymt.org

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Monday, May 16, 5:30pm at St. Margaret in Cut Bank

Tuesday, May 17, 12:10pm Mass at St. Margret in Cut Bank

5:30pm Mass at St. William († Nanna Flesch by anonymous)

Followed by Adoration

Wednesday, May 18, 12:10pm, Mass at St. William († Mary Parker by Laurie & Eric Tokerud)

No Mass at St. Margaret in Cut Bank

Thursday, May 19, 5:45pm Mass at St. Francis in Valier

Friday, May 20, 12:10pm Mass at St. William († Jim Kalbfleisch by the Millers)

Saturday, May 21, 5:30pm, Mass at St. William (Special Intention of the Herb Wichman family
 by the Rapkoch family)

Sunday, May 22, 8:30am, Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas († Mary Stevens by Shirley Kimmet family)

8:30am, Mass at St. Francis in Valier

10:30am, Mass at St. William (Special Intention of Sam Gardipee by Shirley Gardipee)

10:30am, Mass at St. Margaret in Cut Bank

Please note the time change for Wednesday Mass to 12:10pm.

During this Month of Mary, let us contemplate her **Immaculate Heart**. St. John Paul II said, "From Mary we learn to love Christ, her Son and the Son of God.... Learn from her to be always faithful, to trust that God's Word to you will be fulfilled, and that nothing is impossible with God."

When we honor the Immaculate Heart, we give ultimate honor to Jesus. As we honor the Mother, we honor the Son. In addition, the Blessed Virgin is our mother as well (see Revelation 12:17), and her mother's heart is incomparable.

St. Louis de Montfort said, "If you put all the love of all the mothers into one heart, it still would not equal **the love of the heart of Mary for her children.**"



FOUNDATION
for the Diocese of Helena

Thank you to the
St. William parishioner
who so generously donated
\$300 to our parish endow-
ment with the Foundation
of the Diocese of Helena. It
was matched and we now
have another \$600 in our
endowment. Again, thank
you very much for your
generous donation.



If you are unable to attend the Masses in our area,
 the Cathedral of Helena is livestreaming at 11:00am each Sunday, and a daily Mass at noon.

Go to Youtube.com and in the search bar type: Cathedral of St. Helena Montana

The link for Sunday and the daily Mass are there, just scroll down. There are a variety of items for viewing, such as Bishop Vetter's Friday message and story time. You can also subscribe to the Diocese Youtube channel.

Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick: call the Parish office 434-2988

Marriage: Call Fr. Tim Moriarty at least 6 months before desired date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: St. William before Sunday Masses and St. Thomas Aquinas by appointment

Ministry to the Sick and Shut-Ins: Call Marlene Howery 434-2273.

Parish Needs and Information or for an emergency: Call or text Parish Secretary Diane Abrahamson 406-450-0683.

Keep in touch with Parish news at: facebook.com/Saint-Williams-Catholic-Church and www.stwilliamshelbymt.org



The Sacrament of Marriage

A sacrament is an outward sign, instituted by Christ, to receive grace. The Sacrament of Marriage is the fundamental building block for all human relationships; yet if there is a single cause for the eroding of our moral values in this country today, it is the weakening of marriage and families. Most marriages will not succeed without God. Marriage is about unconditional sacrifice and love; the constant give-and-take in order for a marriage to flourish.

The marriage state was founded by God, because the vocation of marriage is written in the hearts of all men and women. Marriage is a real thing; a big thing; a constant process of sacrificial love for the spouse and for their children. An integral part of marriage is beauty of sexuality and the procreation of children. "God invented sex to enrich love in souls, as he intended the senses to enrich knowledge and minds." (Catholic Christianity, p. 350). Married love is only totally fruitful when God is the centerpiece of the marriage; otherwise, there are only two persons in a marriage.

"Marriage is the eternal essence of God himself... Sacred Scripture begins with the creation of man and woman in the image and likeness of God (Gen. 1: 26-27; CCC 1602) and therefore in the image of love. God's very first command to them was to marry, to "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen 1: 22) ... Finally, Scripture "concludes with a vision of the "wedding-feast of the Lamb" (CCC 1602) Marriage is an image of our ultimate destiny and heavenly joy." (Catholic Christianity, p. 351.)

God instituted the sacrament of Marriage because God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God and God in him. So marriage has to be absolute and unconditional on behalf of the spouses; a gift of one's life and one's whole life. "Holy Scripture affirms that man and woman were created for one another: 'It is not good that the man should be alone' (Gen 2:18). (Catholic Christianity, p. 352). Without the help of God, a couple cannot achieve the beautiful union for which they were created; because reliance on God within a marriage helps to overcome egoism, selfishness, and personal pleasures.

The Sacrament of Marriage is the primary example of a covenant; a relationship between God and man; a binding relationship between the married couple and God himself. The Sacrament of Marriage, as with all the sacraments, provides grace for the couple; a true presence of Christ for the individual spouses and for the married couple themselves. Within marriages, sacrifices of the individual spouses is critical; that sacrificial love that comes from God himself. The indissolubility of marriage means the permanency of marriage; until death do a couple part. "In His preaching Jesus unequivocally taught the original meaning of the union of man and woman as the Creator willed it from the beginning: permission given by Moses to divorce one's wife was a concession to the hardness of hearts." (MT 19:8; Catholic Christianity). So a marriage consummated between two baptized persons can never be dissolved.

An annulment is not a Catholic divorce. An annulment is a process that takes place beginning with a pastor of a parish and church officials to determine whether a marriage was valid from the time of the marriage vows. For example, if a baptized couple gets married in the Church, and the husband has not revealed to his wife before their marriage that he has a major gambling problem; that could be grounds for an annulment in the Church; because the validity of the Sacrament is questionable from the time of the marriage vows. If a couple, for a number of reasons gets civilly divorced, the couple, who are now civilly single, (and living a moral life) can continue to receive the Eucharist, because in the eyes of the Church they are still married. An annulment process within the Church has to be conducted with great love and care by the Church, because many times the wounds are very deep, and individual healing is critical through prayer and proper counseling.

The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is the only right place for sex. "The Church's commandment (that is Christ's commandment) against sexual promiscuity is for sexual fulfillment. And it is against contraceptive sex for the same reason: because it is for "total sex", with nothing held back." (Catholic Christianity, p. 357). The married couple give of themselves completely in the Sacrament of Marriage, with the beauty of sexuality and openness to life as critical within the Sacrament. "By its very nature the institution of marriage and married love is ordered to the procreation and education of the offspring and it is in them that it finds its crowning glory." (Catholic Christianity, p. 358).

The Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful example of unconditional love between a man and a woman who are committed to each other, who are open to new life, and who rely on Christ, the Sacraments and His Church to grow in holiness and love of the Lord and love of each other throughout their lives. We pray for all married couples, and those who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage; that the Lord will bless them and protect them, and give them great peace and joy in this life; so that they can give the Lord glory and praise in the next life.

God bless all of you! Fr. Tim.

References: United States Catholic Conference, Inc., CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1994. Kreeft, Peter, CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1997.