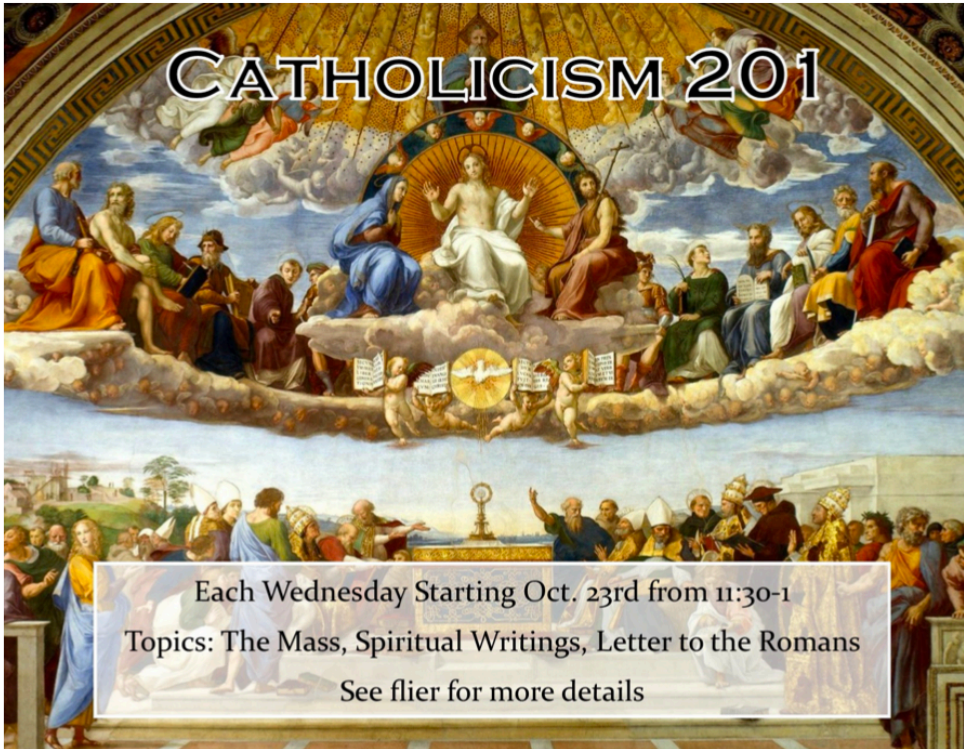


**ST. BARTHOLOMEW**

**OCTOBER 20, 2024**

**29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**





# CATHOLICISM 201

Each Wednesday Starting Oct. 23rd from 11:30-1  
Topics: The Mass, Spiritual Writings, Letter to the Romans  
See flier for more details

## **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

## **Scripture Readings**

Twenty-Ninth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Oct 20th, 2024

Reading 1: Isaiah 53:10-11

Psalm: 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 21

Reading 2: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

## The CHOSEN Movie Night

**1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
6:30-8 PM  
STARTING OCTOBER 2ND  
FREE MOVIE, PIZZA, DRINKS, AND POPCORN.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
AT THE STAGELINE THEATER  
SPONSORED BY: ST. BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH**

## 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 Smith.

<b>St. Bartholomew Calendar</b>	
Sun. 10/20/24	Confession: 8:30—8:50 am Mass: 9:00 am
Mon. 10/21/24	
Tues. 10/22/24	
Wed. 10/23/24	Mass: 11:00 am RE: 4:00 pm Youth Group: 6:30 pm
Thurs. 10/24/24	
Fri. 10/25/24	
Sat. 10/26/24	
Sun. 10/27/24	Confession: 8:30—8:50 am Mass: 9:00 am Lector training after Mass

## **Basics of Catholicism—Part 61**

### **The Eucharist—Morality and the Eucharist**

Last time I mentioned the Argentinian bishops and their challenge with the legalization of torture. I want to continue this example and show the connection between morality and the Eucharist. The Argentinian bishops helped with their example: how can a person who tortures another person and the person being tortured both receive Communion and be considered one body, united together? The simple answer: they cannot. The same idea applies in many other examples. How can someone who has murdered a person be in Communion with God? They cannot. These two examples illustrate the idea of excommunication. Many people today understand excommunication as a judgement by the Church. In order for a person to be excommunicated, the Church needs to investigate the actions by the person and declare them as outside the Church. This is not true. Excommunication is an automatic event triggered by the gravity of a person's action. Another way to describe excommunication is mortal sin. We know that when we commit a mortal sin, we should not receive communion. Why? Because the gravity of the mortal sin has broken the bonds of communion between us and God and us and the community causing an excommunication. The Church steps in and writes an official declaration when the person doesn't realize the gravity of their sin, holds obstinately to it, and is causing public scandal because of their sins.

The example of a mortal sin and excommunication illustrates the connection between morality and the Eucharist. The vast majority of us should not be worried about receiving Communion but instead reflect on the central reality that it represents so that we can better understand God's laws. The Eucharist stands as the great symbol of our unity and the example of proper morality. When we go to receive the gift of the altar, we should reflect on Jesus' words: "when you go to offer your gift and realize that you have something against your brother, leave your gift and reconcile with him first." As we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist, we should be thinking about our relationships with other people. Would I be willing to be in Communion with that person? If the answer is no, we have some work to do. If yes, then we should be glad for our unity in Jesus through the Eucharist. Have I hurt someone to the point that we cannot be civil to one another? Have I caused harm to someone's reputation to the point that we cannot be in right relationship? Have I harmed my relationship with God to the point that I am afraid of him? Am I working to fulfill what God has asked of me? These questions get to the heart of my point. The Eucharist is the great symbol of unity. Through our partaking of it, we should strive for greater unity with our brothers and sisters and God. Through our partaking of this Sacrament, we should strive to heal, repair, and build good relationships with each other so that we can live in unity. Through our partaking of the Body and Blood of Jesus, we should desire a unity with all people and a desire to live with them forever.

Fr. Cody

## **Basics of Catholicism part 62—The Eucharist**

One of the most common complaints and places of confusion in the Catholic Church is who can receive Communion. I have dealt with many people who are confused on this matter and many who simply do not care. The Catholic Church has closed communion. This means that receiving Communion in the Catholic Church is reserved to those who practice the Catholic faith and are in a state to worthily receive Communion called the “state of grace.” Although I have stated the teaching of the Church, many are confused on the exact implications of these words.

**Who is considered Catholic?** This question is becoming more important today as many people leave the Church and then return later in life. Since we have covered the Sacraments of Initiation, this is a great time to review them. A person who is validly baptized is a member of the Catholic Church. This membership is a statement of fact and a character on their soul as united with Christ and part of his Church. Yet, we know that one more step separates us from full Communion: 1st Communion. Although it is currently separated from the Sacrament of Confirmation, it still holds a binding force. Once a person has received 1st Communion, they are encouraged to continue receiving Communion with a few exceptions as listed below. Therefore, if a person has lapsed from their faith and then returned, the general rule is for the person to go to Confession and then they are welcome to receive Communion again. In the event that someone has left the Catholic Church, either by changing churches or joining another, then the person needs to go to Confession to be in right relationship with the Church again. Confirmation is not necessary for receiving Communion unless the person is in high school or an adult and has not received 1st Communion.

**Who is considered “practicing the Catholic faith”?** This question is far more complicated than it may seem. For instance, when parents want to name godparents, the godparents need to be “practicing their faith.” Generally priests set the standard at someone who participates in the life of the Church. I know, another vague idea. The Church teaches that a person who actively participates in their faith has the following qualities. 1. The person regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. 2. Contributes to the good of the Church through finances. 3. Participates in the life of the Church through ministries and other acts of service. 4. Evidences an active prayer life. 5. Lives the basic moral teachings of the Church. What does “being in right relationship with the Church” mean? Above I hinted on this condition in several places. Many people argue about the exact definition of “being in right relationship with the Church.” The following are some of the standard ways of describing this quality. 1. A member of only the Catholic Church. Some people think that we are allowed to bounce between churches and participate in any Christian denomination. The answer is yes and no. We can pray with them, worship with them, and serve with them but not receive Communion at any other Christian denomination. These churches are not in communion with us and taking communion makes a statement that you are in communion with them and out of communion with the Catholic Church. 2. Free from mortal sin. Mortal sins greatly harm (break) our relationship with God. If our relationship with God is greatly damaged, how can we be in Communion with him? This is the central issue. We need to be free of mortal sins to be in right relationship with God and his church. Some common sins that people do not realize that break communion with God include being married outside his Church, sexual sins, missing Mass on Sunday or Holy Days, using the Lord’s name in vain, stealing, murder, and the rest of the 10 Commandments. I will cover these in greater detail when we get to the Sacrament of Penance. The basic point is that Communion is more than consuming the Body and Blood of Jesus. Communion in the Catholic Church is a participation in the life of the Church, sharing in the life of God, and a statement of belief in the Church.

## **FATHER CODY'S NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Solemnity of All Saints Mass—Nov. 1 @ 12pm
- Catholicism 201 begins on Wed. October 23 from 11:30-1. Written notes are available as is a livestream version from Harlowton on Thurs. October 24 at 5pm. For info regarding the livestream or written notes please email Fr. Cody.
- The next Chosen Movie night is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the theater. Please invite your friends and family to come. We have post-cards that you can take and hand out to people.

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

## **PARISH INFORMATION**

*Pastor:* Fr. Cody Williams

**Email:** [stbartholomew@gmail.com](mailto:stbartholomew@gmail.com)

**Website:** [stbartholomewmt.org](http://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.\**

For information regarding preparation for the Sacraments please contact Fr. Cody at:

[frwilliams@holycrossmt.org](mailto:frwilliams@holycrossmt.org)

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 collections**

#### **Collection totals:**

9/29/24—\$664.00

10/6/24—\$1791.00

10/13/24—\$673.00

Thank you for your generous support of St. Bartholomew!