IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS
Business Office / Rectory ... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
Parish School ......................... 610-626-1709
Religious Education ..................... 610-626-1057
Convent ................................. 610-626-2492
Pastoral Minister ....................... 610-626-8266
Korean Catholic Center ............... 610-259-2240
Website .................................. www.holycrosscatholics.org
E-mail .................................. contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Evening: 5:15 PM
Sunday, Upper Church: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM
Holy Day: 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM
Weekday: 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS
Saturday, Lower Church: 4:00 to 5:00 PM

MARRIAGE POLICY
Arrangements are made directly with the Parish Priests, within six months before the intended wedding date. Weddings are reserved for active parishioners. Pre-Cana Session is required. Please call Rectory for appointment with Parish Priests. Our next Parish Pre-Cana day will be on October 24, 2015. To register, call Bill & Nicole @ 610-626-8486.

VISITATION TO SICK AND INFIRM
Please call the Rectory or Sister Mary Carmela, Pastoral Minister, when a parishioner is hospitalized or homebound.

REGISTRATIONS
By Appointment. All Catholics living in the parish should register at the Rectory. Please call Parish Office to make an appointment with one of the Parish Priests.

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF
Rev. John D. Gabin ............................................ Pastor
Rev. Edward B. Cahill ................................. Pastor Emeritus
Rev. H. James Hutchins ............................... Parochial Vicar
Rev. Msgr. Paul F. Curran ................................ In Residence
Deacon Robert Frankenberger
Deacon Joseph N. Gousie
Sr. Loretta Saudarg, RSM ...................... Business Manager
Sr. Mary Carmela, RSM ...................... Pastoral Minister
Mrs. Maureen Ward ........................................ Principal
Mrs. Kelly Meliti .............................. Director of Religious Education
Mr. Timothy Reilly .................................. Music Coordinator

BAPTISM POLICY
Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday, except for the first Sunday of the month, at 12:30 PM. Please call the rectory at 610-626-3321 to set up an appointment with a Priest. First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Only when Certificates of Eligibility from godparents are presented, then a date for the baptism can be set.

The Baptism Preparation Sessions are held the first Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM in the Upper Church, with registration required. To register, please call the parish secretary during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM). Registration must be made prior to the last Friday of the month. If no registrations are received, a session may not be held.

BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS
(Entrance through the middle, rear door of the Church)
Monday – Friday Only: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Closed for Lunch 12-1 PM); Closed Saturday and Sunday
PASTOR’S CORNER

As you know, the Archdiocese has approved the independent continuation of Holy Cross parish and school. With the help and guidance of our lay leaders, I have authorized a Planning Study to assess the readiness of our parish community to address certain significant structural repairs to our school. A recent evaluation by O’Donnell and Naccarato Structural Engineers has revealed necessary major work - including pointing, a new roof and some new windows.

I am happy to tell you that we have retained the services of Lynn Cummings Development Consultants to conduct this Study and to assist us with our plans. A highly regarded consulting firm, based in the Delaware Valley, LCDC is committed to churches like our own and has served over 900 during the past thirty years.

A Planning Study will provide us with the data necessary to implement a needed and successful Capital Campaign. During the course of the Study, confidential interviews will be conducted with a representative group of parishioners who will be asked to share their perceptions of our church community and the plan for our future. Questions concerning volunteer interest and financial support are included in this Study, but the interviews are not for a solicitation for funds. Your voice is important and you are invited to submit your name if you wish to be interviewed. Please call the business office during weekdays between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM for more information.

Saturday evening, September 12, will be the celebration of our parish feast day - the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. After the 5:15 PM Mass, there will be an All-American Dinner and a social in our Parish Hall. All are welcome! This is a wonderful opportunity to thank Our Lord for His saving death on the Cross and to celebrate our friendship as a parish family.

PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
AFTER 5:15 MASS
PARISH HALL
ENJOY AN ALL-AMERICAN DINNER!

WATCH THE PAPAL MASS TOGETHER
Share in the excitement of this historic event together the Papal Mass on a large screen in our air-conditioned church on September 27 beginning at 4:00 PM. Come early for the preliminaries. Bring your friends. Programs will be available to join in the celebration. No standing, walking or long waits. Bring a seat cushion for comfort in the pews. Papal flags will be available. A life-size cutout of Pope Francis will be available for pictures. Bring some food and beverages for a meal together after the Mass. Reserve a place for your group at the tables provided in the lobby next to the balcony. NO FOOD IN CHURCH. NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED. THIS DOES NOT FULFILL YOUR SUNDAY OBLIGATION. ATTENDANCE AT A PARISH MASS IS REQUIRED.

IMPORTANT
Come to the World Meeting of Families Congress!
September 22 - 25, 2015

There is something for everyone: Compelling content for Adults; fun faith formation for young people ages 6 - high school. Daycare is also available. Register at: WorldMeeting2015.org

THIS WEEK’S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE FOR A SPECIAL INTENTION
HC 0244 1
MONDAY AUGUST 31
8:30 AM Donald and Veronica Reaves

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1
8:30 AM Candeloro & Teressa Cermignani

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2
8:30 AM John Crawford

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3
8:30 AM Adele L. and N. Louis Governatore

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4
8:30 AM Virginia Drew

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5
8:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Casciano Family

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5
5:15 PM People of Holy Cross

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5
7:30 AM Rose McCloskey
9:30 AM Robert James
11:30 AM Tom and Kitty McCormick

Adele Adduci
Jane Berry
Stephen Boyle
Dorothy Cavanaugh
Edward Convery
Kim Cook
Sharon Diemer
Laura Dievharian
Jim Donahue
Cornelius Dunleavy
Dorothy Eberhard
Mary Anne Farrell
Michelle Goff
Carolyn Henderson

Carole Kime
Mary Kull
Kendall Lambert
Rose Leto
Joanne Marks
Janice MacBride
Marie McCann
George Nelson
Don Palermo
Eve Palermo
Mary Toal
Theresa Torelli
Jim Zaleta

Do you want to become a Catholic?
Are you a Catholic but have not received Confirmation and First Holy Communion?
Do you know someone who wants to become a Catholic?
Do you just want to find out something about the Catholic Faith?
If you have answered “YES” to any of the above, call Fr. Hutchins for more information (610-626-3321). This year’s program to address these issues will begin in September.

Cantors Needed
We are looking for individuals who would be willing to lead the congregational singing at the weekend Masses. If you like to sing or have an interest in music, please consider becoming a cantor. No experience necessary. The commitment is usually singing 4 hymns, Psalm/Gospel Acclamation and Mass parts. Our music director is dedicated to train and coach anyone with an interest. Please contact Tim Reilly at 215-431-2883 or holycrossmusic@outlook.com if interested.

Thank You!
SUNDAY COLLECTION - AUGUST 23
AMOUNT RECEIVED: $10,354
AMOUNT NEEDED: $13,000

Remember Our Sick
Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Exactly one month from this weekend, World Meeting of Families 2015 will begin. We’re now very close to reaching our financial goals for the event. Enthusiasm for the congress, both nationally and globally, is very strong. We hoped for 250 congress exhibitors. We now have 428. As of today, we have nearly 15,000 registered participants, and the number may finally reach 17,000. In other words, Philadelphia is already the largest World Meeting of Families in history by the number of congress registrations, and it’s double the size of the last family congress in Milan in 2012. For the visit of Pope Francis, we hope for somewhere near 700,000 for the Saturday Festival of Families and roughly 1 million for the Sunday papal Mass.

I have one main concern, and I need your help in overcoming it. The only thing standing between an enormously successful World Meeting of Families and one that’s “merely” successful is we, ourselves – and I mean the whole Philadelphia Catholic community. We can defeat ourselves by not registering for the congress, and by giving in to the anxieties and worries that go along with any major effort like this. The media have been wonderful and very positive in covering this event. We’re grateful for their help. But as we get closer to September 22, there’s always a temptation to focus on possible problems in security, logistics and transportation. And when that happens, people can begin to wonder if the effort of coming to Center City is worth the time and energy. I promise you that it is. This is a moment of grace. Nothing will stop that. Memories will be made. And the World Meeting of Families will be spectacular.

To that end, I’m happy to share some important news about transportation and logistics. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the World Meeting of Families have announced that those buses registered through GO GROUND, the bus company working with the World Meeting, will be able to access roads that are otherwise closed to traffic. Buses and public transportation will truly be the best way for groups to get to the city for the Papal Events.

Pope Francis is one of the most popular and magnetic world leaders in the past century. His visit here is an irreplaceable moment in history. It’s a moment that can spark a whole new spirit of life in our region and in our Church. But we need to own that spirit by welcoming him with our joy, our presence and our personal involvement, not just with our words. And we can do that best by joining him in the streets of Philadelphia – on Independence Mall, at the Festival of Families, and on the Ben Franklin Parkway for his Sunday Mass.

I ask all of you – I urge all of you – to personally register for and attend the family congress, and especially the papal events on the weekend of September 26 - 27. Your example is vitally important for your children, for the Church and for the wider community. Your personal involvement is crucial for the success of the efforts so many people have made on behalf of the Gospel over the past 36 months.

I’m very grateful for your generosity and your faith. May God bless all of us in the weeks ahead. And I look forward eagerly to seeing all of you at the World Meeting of Families.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

Pope Francis has declared September 1, beginning this year, an annual Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Holy Father’s recent encyclical, *Laudato si’*, on the care of our common home, highlights the duties and responsibilities of all Christians to safeguard Almighty God’s gift of creation. This annual day of prayer will be observed jointly by the Catholic and Orthodox Church. You are encouraged to pray on this day, with others at Mass and also in your personal prayers, for the protection of creation. May this day of prayer remind each of us of our role as custodians of creation.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Today, a hypocrite is not a nice thing to call someone. It is very derogatory. For the Lord Jesus, this was not exactly so. The word “hypocrite” comes to us from Greek theater, and roughly means “actor.” It meant to play a part.

Our Lord’s concern in today’s Gospel was that with such insistence on fulfilling the rituals and traditions of faith the most important elements were being neglected; that is, the practice of justice and charity. Ultimately, adherence to God’s law should lead us to both.

To some degree, we live with the same fault. We base our understanding of Christianity on how often we attend church. We, too, often gauge the success of other Catholics by their attendance at church, going to confession, whether or not they pray the Rosary, whether or not they participate in the traditions of the parish.

These are all very good – and necessary – things. But if all we do is simply DO them, and yet remained unchanged, then we, too, are in error.

Attending Mass and participating in the sacraments, Scripture classes or even volunteering for various church committees are a means to an end, but they are not the point. The point is to come and know and serve Our Lord.

Today’s 1st and 2nd readings from Deuteronomy and James want us to see God’s law as His act of love for us. Embracing that law is our act of love. The irony is that choosing God’s law is not oppressive. It is freeing.

Our Lord’s concern was that MERE ritual changed nothing in our relationship with God. Practicing justice and charity makes us imitators of God.
WE PRAY FOR THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF OUR LOVED ONES IN THE ARMED FORCES:

MAJOR PAUL ALLEN
LT. AMY CALLAHAN, USN, MD
LT. JAMES P. CALLAHAN, USN
LT. JOHN R. CALLAHAN, USN
LANCE CORPORAL JUSTIN D'ARCY
STAFF SERGEANT GERALD DE JOHN
CPL. JOHN G. LAROCHE
SRGT. ALEX RANKIN, USMC

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ARE HAVING THEIR "POT OF GOLD" RAFFLE TO BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF HOLY FAMILY HOME (5300 CHESTER AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA). AT $100 PER TICKET! PROCEEDS WILL HELP THEM TO PROVIDE A HOME, FOOD AND QUALITY NURSING CARE TO THE ELDERLY POOR. OVER $45,000 IN PRIZES! 10 LUCKY WINNERS. FIRST PRIZE IS $25,000. DRAWING WILL BE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, AT DREXELBROOK, DREXEL HILL. FOR TICKETS OR INFORMATION, CALL CONNIE OR GARY LABOWITZ AT 610-328-0599.

STUMP THE PADRE!

Is there some question you would like to ask a priest but haven’t found the time or occasion? E-mail me, Fr. Hutchins, at: stumpthepadre@gmail.com and I’ll do my best to answer your question. If I need to do some research on it, I’ll let you know and then get back to you later. Questions should be worded appropriately and concern church teaching. The e-mail is not for complaints either local or otherwise. It has been started so that you may keep yourself informed of what and why the Church teaches what it does.

Holy Cross Knights of Columbus Council #15482 will be holding their annual Flea Market on Saturday, September 19. The Flea Market will be held from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM in the Holy Cross School parking lot. Spaces 15' x 20' are available for $35. To rent a space or for more information about this event, please contact Frank Feczko at 610-259-2004 or 484-343-2703. Rain date for this event will be Saturday, October 10.

ACTIVE SENIORS

Monday, September 14, is the only regular meeting of the Active Seniors for this month. Please note it is the second Monday - because of the Labor Day holiday. Our next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 5.

The 11:30 Mass on Sunday, September 13, will be celebrated for the Deceased Members of the Active Seniors of Holy Cross.

A GIFT TO OUR BLESSED LORD

DO YOU HAVE ONE HOUR PER WEEK TO VISIT WITH JESUS IN OUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL? CAN'T SPARE AN HOUR ... MAYBE 10 OR 15 MINUTES?
WE ARE OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 6:00 AM TO 9:00 PM
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 610-623-8412, 610-328-2115, 610-284-5950, 610-544-4450
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**SEPTEMBER**

- **1 September**: 7 PM - St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- **2 September**: School begins for Grades 1-4 Full Day Back to School Night for Pre-K3 - 4th Grade 6:30 PM H&S Wine & Cheese Meet & Greet 7 PM - Liturgy Meeting
- **3 September**: School begins for Grades 5 - 8 Full Day
- **4 September**: NO SCHOOL
- **5 September**: Sunday
- **6 September**: Labor Day NO SCHOOL
- **7 September**: 7 PM - St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- **8 September**: 7 PM - St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- **9 September**: 11 AM - 2 PM - Seniors Parish Center 4:30 PM - PREP Begins 7 PM - Finance Council Meeting
- **10 September**: 7 PM - Pastoral Council Meeting
- **11 September**: 7 PM - Lectors - Extraordinary Ministers 8:30 AM - Opening School Mass
- **12 September**: Parish Feast Celebration after 5:15 PM Mass Parish Hall
- **13 September**: Back to School Night for Grades Pre-K3 - 4th Grade 6:30 PM - K of C Meeting
- **14 September**: 9 AM - 2 PM - Seniors Parish Center 4:30 PM - PREP Begins 7 PM - Finance Council Meeting
- **15 September**: 7 PM - Pastoral Council Meeting
- **16 September**: Back to School Night 5th - 8th Grade and H & S Wine and Cheese Meet & Greet 6:30 PM 7 PM - K of C Meeting
- **17 September**: 7 PM - Bible Study begins
- **18 September**: 7 PM - Bible Study begins
- **19 September**: 7 PM - Bible Study begins
- **20 September**: Back to Prep After 9:30 Mass to Noon
- **21 September**: World Meeting of Families
- **22 September**: World Meeting of Families
- **23 September**: World Meeting of Families SCHOOL CLOSED
- **24 September**: World Meeting of Families SCHOOL CLOSED 7 PM - Bible Study
- **25 September**: World Meeting of Families SCHOOL CLOSED
- **26 September**: Families Festival on the Parkway
- **27 September**: 4 PM - Papal Mass Art Museum Papal Mass on large screen in Church
- **28 September**: 7 PM - Welcoming Committee
- **29 September**: 7 PM - Welcoming Committee
- **30 September**: 7 PM - Welcoming Committee

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