



# HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

APRIL 19, 2020 • THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Parish Office / Rectory..... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322  
 Parish School .....610-626-1709  
 Religious Education..... 610-626-1057  
 Convent .....610-626-2491  
 Pastoral Minister..... 610-259-8266  
 Music Director.....215-431-2883  
 Website..... www.holycrosscatholics.org  
 E-mail .....contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Eugene C. Wilson..... Pastor  
 Rev. Edward C. Kelly..... Resident/Faculty COHS  
 Rev. Thomas J. Furey ..... St. Joseph Villa/Retired  
 Deacon Thomas L. Taylor..... Permanent Deacon  
 Deacon Robert Frankenberger..... Retired  
 Deacon Joseph N. Gousie..... Retired  
 Mrs. Theresa Carey..... Business Manager  
 Mrs. Judy Vacca ..... Pastoral Minister  
 Dr. Mary Rose Worrirow..... Principal  
 Mrs. Kelly Meliti ..... Director of Religious Education  
 Mr. Timothy Reilly ..... Music Director

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening ..... 4:30 PM  
 Sunday, Upper Church ..... 8:30 and 11:00 AM  
 Holy Day ..... As announced  
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday ..... 8:30 AM  
 Friday..... 12:15 PM

## NEW PARISHIONERS

All Catholics living in the parish should register. Our Welcome Center located in the hallway behind the sanctuary is open on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Entrance through the middle, rear door of the Church)  
 Monday-Thursday only ... 8:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 Friday..... 8:00 AM-2:30 PM  
 (Closed for lunch 12:00-1:00 PM)

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, Lower Church: 3:30 to 4:15 PM or by appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:00 PM.

First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements are to be made at least six months before the intended wedding date. Weddings are reserved for active parishioners. Pre-Cana Session is required. Please call Parish Office for more information.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish office or Mrs. Judy Vacca, Pastoral Minister, when a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound.

# G O D K N O W S

*when to send you  
exactly what you need.*

*Wow! Look! It's a young person! Anthony was riding his bike. I spotted him outside the Parish Office as I came out the door with Deacon Tom. He came over and we talked a bit respecting social distancing of course! Through the mask that I was wearing, I asked him how he was. Our teenage parishioner has had enough of "stay-at-home" and is more than ready to get back to some normalcy. I couldn't agree more. Anthony has been doing plenty of school work online, but other than that, it's kind of boring, he said.*

*There's like nothing to do. He said that he especially missed not being able to go to church on Easter. That's so strange. He's looking forward to getting back to church.*

*Aren't we all? I miss seeing Anthony, his mom, and everyone else at church. It is strange indeed, and now, in the midst of our pandemic, "stay-at-home," no public Mass restrictions, today I had the displeasure of having to formally postpone our First Holy Communion that had been scheduled for May 2nd. I actually had some hope and was offering some prayers that it would take place as scheduled, but Mr. Covid-19 dashed my hopes. Please keep our First Communicants in your prayers! I really miss those young people too and I know that they were so looking forward to making their First Communion. At any rate, my hope and my prayer is that now their hunger for Our Lord will grow even more as they look forward to that day when they can receive Holy Communion for the first time. Everything depends on when we can reopen. Politicians, both in Washington and state capitals, are now bantering publicly and privately about "conditions" for reopening states and economies. We, too, need to "banter" about "conditions" as we look forward to "reopening" our Church. I hope that our "reopening" involves more than just unlocking the doors, turning on the lights, and hoping that the AC works. I hope that our "reopening" is something more like a remodeled store's "Grand Re-opening," in which things are the same, but decidedly different. The Resurrection, itself, was something like this. Jesus, was indeed, the same Jesus that died on the Cross, but, now decidedly different to say the least. I hope that in reopening our church here at Holy Cross and in reopening our Church universally, we can capture and be imbued with just some of that "decidedly different" Spirit of the Risen Jesus. Taken away for a time, there was like nothing to do; it was so strange and kind of boring. That first Easter changed all that. Wow! Look! It's a young person! Indeed, it is Jesus, "young" as it were and freshly out of the tomb. He is Risen and "Reopened" and He is ready to engage all of us anew!*

*Remember: Pray for the sick and those that have died. Pray for a containment of the virus. Pray for a vaccine. Turn especially to Our Lady. We know that the Lord can hardly turn down a request made by His Mother!*

*Our Lady of the Holy Cross! Pray for us!*

Peace!  
Fr. Wilson

# Masses For The Week



<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 20</b>
8:30 AM	Fortunato & Albanisi Families
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 21</b>
8:30 AM	Maren Kaniewski
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 22</b>
8:30 AM	Teresa Nero Lawrence
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 23</b>
	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 24</b>
12:15 PM	Dan Morroni & Al Cortez
<b>NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 25</b>
8:30 AM	Angie & Sam Forlano
4:30 PM	Jim Flannery
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 26</b>
8:30 AM	People of Holy Cross
11:00 AM	Living and Deceased members Casciano Family

## ONLINE PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

*Pray with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament ... He is always waiting for you.*



The link below will take you to Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapels throughout the world.

<https://virtualadoration.home.blog>



*Thank You!*

*Sunday Collection, April 12*

*Amount Received \$5,026*

*Easter Collection*

*Amount Received \$7,388*

*“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.”*

*(Psalm 46:1-3)*



*Pray for the Sick  
of our Parish*

- |                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Lyndi Butler</i>            | <i>Helen Lyons</i>         |
| <i>Margaret Cook</i>           | <i>Joanne Marks</i>        |
| <i>Stephen Collins</i>         | <i>Barbara McCusker</i>    |
| <i>Samuel Dephillippo</i>      | <i>Lee Anne McGough</i>    |
| <i>Sharon Diemer</i>           | <i>Thomas Miller</i>       |
| <i>Kathleen Dixon</i>          | <i>Dan Murphy</i>          |
| <i>Janet Doherty</i>           | <i>Connie Myers</i>        |
| <i>Lillian Donahue</i>         | <i>Frances O'Callaghan</i> |
| <i>Mary Ann Farrell</i>        | <i>Charlotte O'Leary</i>   |
| <i>Terrence (Terry) Gibson</i> | <i>Paige O'Leary</i>       |
| <i>Nicola Giordano</i>         | <i>Mary Rafferty</i>       |
| <i>Donna Giorgio</i>           | <i>Ted Rudolph</i>         |
| <i>Carolyn Henderson</i>       | <i>Jim Sandusky</i>        |
| <i>Steven Henderson</i>        | <i>Rose Marie Santos</i>   |
| <i>Stefanos Karas</i>          | <i>Michael Sargent III</i> |
| <i>Carole Kime</i>             | <i>Joseph Sindoni</i>      |
| <i>Mary and Ken Kull</i>       | <i>Adele Sulpizio</i>      |
| <i>Kendall Lambert</i>         | <i>George Vrettos</i>      |
| <i>Rose Leto</i>               | <i>Lily Walker</i>         |
| <i>Patricia Lyons</i>          | <i>Nadia Waltanski</i>     |
|                                | <i>Carter Walton</i>       |

**PRAYER TO YOUR GUARDIAN  
ANGEL WHEN YOU CANNOT  
ATTEND MASS**

O HOLY ANGEL at my side,  
 Go to Church for me,  
 Kneel in my place, at Holy Mass,  
 Where I desire to be.  
 At *Offertory*, in my stead,  
 Take all I am and own,  
 And place it as a sacrifice  
 Upon the Altar Throne.  
 At *Holy Consecration's bell*,  
 Adore with Seraph's love,  
 My Jesus hidden in the Host,  
 Come down from Heaven above.  
 Then pray for those I dearly love,  
 And those who cause me grief,  
 That Jesus' Blood may cleanse all hearts,  
 And suff'ring souls relieve.  
 And when the priest *Communion* takes,  
 Oh, bring my Lord to me,  
 That His sweet Heart may rest on mine,  
 And I His temple be.  
 Pray that this *Sacrifice Divine*,  
 May mankind's sins efface;  
 Then bring me Jesus' blessing home,  
 The pledge of every grace. Amen  
 "If we only knew how God regards this  
 Sacrifice, we would risk our lives to be present  
 at a Single Mass."  
 ~Saint Padre Pio

*Prayer for the deceased  
of our Parish*

*Thomas Oscar Miller*





**In case your were wondering...Yes...our Food Pantry continues to provide food to our “Neighbors in Need” in our community.**

**For the safety of everyone, we are doing a drive-thru in the parking lot directly outside of our Community Center (in back of the school). Folks pull up with their cars, we take their names and then we put the food in their cars and they drive out the back gate. Just as all of you are doing, we are striving to be flexible during these dire times.**

**If you are able, we need the following items: peanut butter, canned meats and tuna, stews, soups, cereal, toilet paper and paper towels. If you could drop off outside the food pantry door (under the roof), at the business office or stop during our Food Pantry hours on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:00pm, that would be great.**

**God Bless All of you, affected families of the virus, our Neighbors in Need and our Volunteers. Sincerely,  
SVDP Food Pantry Team**

## **Do you or your company pay PA state taxes?**

Do you or your company pay Pennsylvania state taxes? Why not donate them to Holy Cross School? Both businesses and individuals can redirect their PA state tax dollars through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs. The application process is easy and we can work hand-in-hand with you to complete it. At Holy Cross, 100% of your donation through EITC and OSTC is used for scholarships for students and tuition assistance for our families to afford a Catholic Education.

### **Individuals**

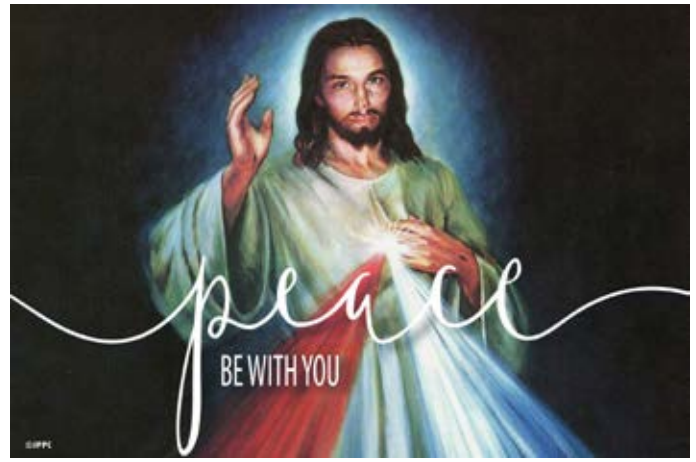
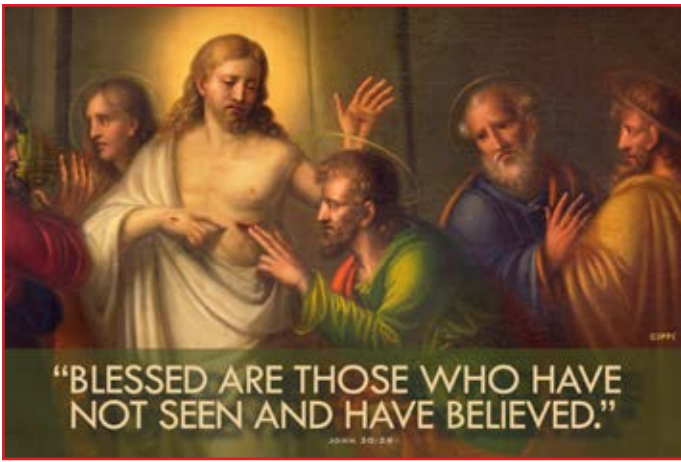
Individuals can redirect up to 100% of their personal Pennsylvania state income tax bill to Holy Cross. Donors will receive a tax credit for 90% of the EITC or OSTC contribution, which reduces their state income taxes dollar-for-dollar. Further, many individuals will also be able to claim a charitable deduction on their federal tax return for the 10% not included in the tax credit.

### **Corporations**

Corporations are also eligible to receive a 90% Pennsylvania tax credit if they are authorized to do business in Pennsylvania and are subject to one or more of the following taxes:

- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Insurance Premium Tax (excluding surplus lines, unauthorized, domestic/foreign marine)
- Title Insurance & Trust Company Shares Tax
- Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax
- Capital Stock and Franchise Tax
- Mutual Thrift Tax
- Malt Beverage Tax
- Retaliatory Fees under section 212 of the Insurance Company Law of 1921
- Personal Income Tax of corporation shareholders or Partnership partners

If you have any questions, please stop in the Business Office and we can provide assistance.



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

How many times have you thought to yourself, or said to others those three little words: “I doubt it”? The subject could be the candidate for the upcoming presidential election; or a claim by an auto dealer that none of the cars on his/her lot have any hidden markups; or the suddenly positive rating a man gives his spouse of her meatloaf. On and on such a list could go, revolving around those three little words.

Doubt can be a good thing if it fosters questions especially of complicated corollaries of our faith. The doubter here is only probing deeper into his/her faith wanting a mature answer. Lingering doubt in matters of revealed faith can be a serious problem if it is not relieved either by the direct answer of a qualified expert or good private research. Our faith has nothing to fear from sound reason.

All of this brings us to the problem of doubt that Saint Thomas had. Unfortunately, his healthy doubts got him a sad nickname that developed into a cliché, that of “Doubting Thomas.” In time, it became a popular description of anyone who questions what we tell them. Thomas represents many people in this cynical era, so in love with science and technology, as to be always wanting tangible proof before believing anything. Add the disregard many have for the supernatural, and you have the general mood of the times. So when the best of the Good News of the Gospel – the Resurrection – is presented to Thomas, his nature kicks in and he reacts: “I’ll never believe it.”

A week after this (I wonder if Thomas’ attitude changed over 7 days) Jesus reappears in His glorified Body. I imagine Him looking a wee bit stern as He calls Thomas over so that the doubter could literally probe the five scars left on that body. But I also picture a gentle smile crosses Jesus’ holy face as Thomas kneels before Him and he makes that profound act of beautiful faith: “My Lord and My God.” I can see Jesus helping Thomas up and then offering him a heartfelt hug. For all my years since ordination I have used Thomas’ words as my own as I elevate the Sacred Host at Mass.

Jesus then offers a mild rebuke to Thomas and to us, followed by one of the most consoling sentences in all of Scripture: “Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” Talk about Divine Mercy! Here is that very grace poured out an intelligent apostle, whose faith would propel him to preach about Jesus even to the people of far away India! Such great encouragement to us who have not seen but have believed! That blessing of Jesus is itself part of the very same mercy we celebrate on this Divine Mercy Sunday Pope Saint John Paul II fostered this devotion because his own strong faith told him the world needs it.

Allow me to close with a description of a “Peanuts” cartoon. Picture Lucy looking out the window at a steady downpour of rain. “Boy,” she said, “look at that rain. What if it floods the whole world?”

“It will never do that,” Linus replied confidently. In the ninth chapter of Genesis, God promised Noah that that would never happen again, and the sign of the promise is the rainbow.”

“You’ve taken a great load off my mind,” said Lucy with a relieved smile. “Sound theology,” pontificated Linus, “has a way of doing that!”

Well, I for one don’t doubt it.



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