

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

APRIL 26, 2020 • THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Parish Office / Rectory..... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
 Parish School610-626-1709
 Religious Education..... 610-626-1057
 Convent610-626-2491
 Pastoral Minister..... 610-259-8266
 Music Director.....215-431-2883
 Website..... www.holycrosscatholics.org
 E-mailcontactus@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 WorriLOW..... 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.



Plexiglas; hand moisturizer; dermatology. These are three things that are collaterals to our current, ongoing, and seemingly without end corona virus pandemic. With oil stocks and virtually every other stock, save Amazon and Netflix, tanking in this current crisis; with businesses seeking bailouts in order to hopefully survive and with schools and universities now closed, there are many questions as we look towards the future. Where does one consider making sound investment concerning banking, business and educational pursuits and endeavors? You may have noticed, as I have, the sudden appearance of Plexiglas everywhere. It is at the Wawa, the Rite Aid, and the Acme and just about any place that is allowed to be open for business right now. I read an article that suggested that for most restaurants to be open again in the near future, lacking enough space at tables for six feet of social distancing, Plexiglas cubicles might become the norm. The article even had a computer generated graphic showing what future dining out might look like with a table set for twelve and all diners encased in a transparent cough and sneeze containing box. I am wondering if future directives for returning to church and Mass might advocate some Plexiglas as well, perhaps between pews or at Communion stations. Imagine! You might want to consider investing now in some Plexiglas stock! We all know at the moment just how important hand washing is. It has been drilled into our heads such that it is our hands that are being drilled and dried out. I feel like I basically can't pass by a sink without washing my hands. Hand washing has always been important for hygiene, but it is especially important in our Covid-19 world. One of the side effects of all this hand washing, of course, is overly dry hands and brittle skin. I just opened a new bottle of Vaseline Intensive Care Lotion. My hands and dried-out skin thanked me ever so much. Some distilleries have recently converted over to temporarily making hand sanitizer (which also dries out the skin). With all this dry skin now, one can see the future tomorrow. Holy Cross Hand Cream might have a future profitability for our parish! Of course, overly dry skin might need special attention as well. It might need professional attention and so, for anyone considering future educational pursuits, the field of dermatology might be in order. I'm trying to imagine what the Last Supper would have been like with Jesus and the Apostles all enclosed in their individual plastic cubbies. They did, in fact, already have hand moisturizer in their day. Olive oil is still popular today and it's quite tasty on a salad or drizzled on bread besides. Of course, it was Jesus, Himself, Who was the Skin Specialist of His day. His miraculous cures of skin ailments caused His notoriety to spread far and wide. As we continue to endure our corona virus lockdown and start to look more anxiously to our future, we need to consider our most important investment. It is the one that will get us through this current crisis and any succeeding one. The greater an investment we make now, the greater the pay-off will be later. Then, never having any need for a bail-out, with the Skin of our Faith ever so soft and supple, we'll dine at Table with our Divine Physician social distancing no more and having removed any barriers, plastic or otherwise, between us!

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



MONDAY	APRIL 27
8:30 AM	Lorri Rudolph
TUESDAY	APRIL 28
8:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Carberry & McSwiggan Families
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 29
8:30 AM	Jay Connor
THURSDAY	APRIL 30
	NO MASS
FRIDAY	MAY 1
12:15 PM	Peter Gaudiosi, Sr.

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	MAY 2
8:30 AM	Richard Kaniewski
4:30 PM	Bill & Kate Wendel
SUNDAY	MAY 3
8:30 AM	Anthony (Tony) Tornelli
11:00 AM	People of the Holy Cross

ONLINE PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Pray with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament ... He is always waiting for you.

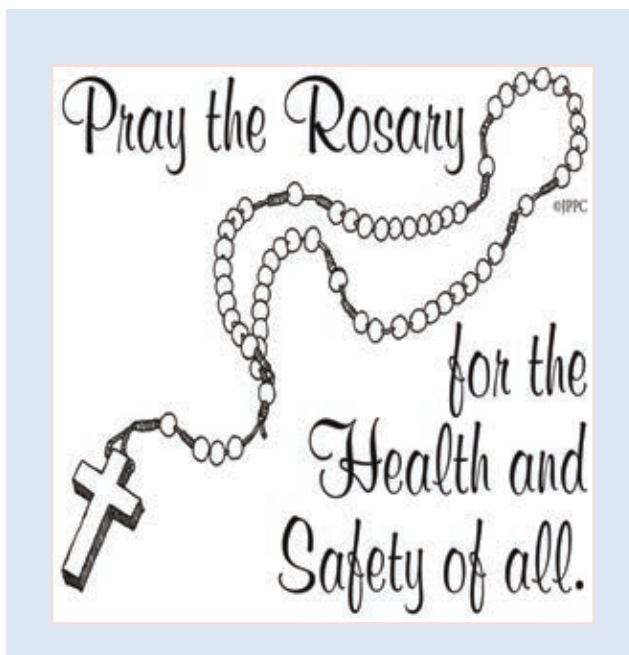


The link below will take you to Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapels throughout the world.

<https://virtualadoration.home.blog>



Thank You!
Sunday Collection, April 19
Amount Received \$ 7,300
Easter Collection
Amount Received \$ 3,113



*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*

Margaret Groux





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

Maybe there is a good form of envy. Most of the common types are bad because they exemplify an ugly discontent with regard to another's advantages, success, possessions and more. The "good envy" I am proposing is really a misnomer. It's better to call it "wishful thinking," which I best do before you conclude that I've brazenly altered the list of capital sins.

All this thinking stems from an often expressed wish to have lived back in those "happy days when Jesus walked," as the beloved spiritual puts it. Especially after reading today's Gospel, this annual retelling of what took place on the road to Emmaus on a blessed afternoon long, long ago. I daydream of joining those two early Christians. What a lifelong memory they were going to have! All of that because Jesus had suddenly walked with them and joined in their conversation.

"Is there any other reason why I'd want to have been there?" you may ask. "Yes indeed!" I say. Because aside from Christ's company I would have been able to listen in as Jesus gave an incomparable Bible study. He taught "beginning with Moses and all the prophets, and interpreted to them all that referred to Him in all the Scriptures." What a lesson! What a Teacher!

But in a more down to earth second thought, you and I both have to remember that we already have a similar Emmaus experience on the road of our lives each and every Sunday. My wishful reverie fades as I remember that we have the same Scriptures, and the same Lord present to us, although at Mass Christ is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, albeit invisibly under the appearances of bread and wine.

Granted we don't hear the Master's voice teaching. You have to endure my voice or the voices of any deacon, priest or bishop. But we also have the assurance that the Holy Spirit is present at Mass, and He can use any voice, however unworthy, to penetrate our minds with His enlightenment; and even the coldest of hearts with divine warmth, and the saddest of souls with tranquility.

I have no wish to spoil our Easter joy with gloom, but in this context I must admit that we faithful believers must deal with a sad statistic that is both shocking and sad from a Pew survey: "37% of so-called Catholics do not believe in the real presence of Christ in the consecrated Eucharistic bread and wine. The same survey revealed that "22% of Catholics reject the idea, even though they know about the Church's teaching." Reject the idea? How dare one reject the idea when we have the authentic words of the Son of God in the bible?

As for regarding the Holy Eucharist as a mere symbol, the stated belief of many non-Catholic Christian Churches, we have the earthy words of a devout mid-20th century American Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor, who put it this way: "Well, if it's a symbol, to hell with it." Blunt? Yes. Insightful? Yes. The Resurrection is really all the proof we need that everything Jesus said and did was approved by His heavenly Father. He would never raise up a fake, and I do not envy those who would dare claim He did. That is not to deny that we all need conversion from time to time when we start to doubt.

In England there is a paper factory that makes the finest stationery in the world. One day a man touring the factory asked what it was made from. He was shown a huge pile of old rags and told that the rag content was what determined the quality of the paper. The visitor would not believe it.

A few weeks later he received from the company a package of paper with his initials embossed on it. On the top piece were written the words "Dirty rags transformed." The same is true of our Christian life. It is a process of transformation from what we were into something new and wonderful.



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