



HOLY CROSS

1948 *Church* 2023

ANNIVERSARY 75TH

*Sharing our enthusiasm for our faith;
Nurturing love of others;
Leading people to Christ.*

**651 E. Springfield Road
Springfield, PA 19064
holycrosscatholics.org**

Parish and School Staff

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Steven W. Kiernan, Pastor
Deacon Thomas Taylor

PARISH OFFICE

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contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

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Donna Berg, Parish Secretary
Betty McIntyre, Safe Environment Coordinator
Andrew Ryan, Bulletin Editor

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

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Linda Ryan, Administrative Assistant

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(610)-626-1709

hcscrusaders.com

Daniel Salvatore, Principal
Ellen Spurrier, Enrollment/Tuition Manager
Sheila Moeller, Receptionist

PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY

holycrossmus@gmail.com
Grete Ingalls, Music Director

Parish Communication

To receive e-mail and text updates from the parish, text
holycrossdelco to 84576.

Mass Schedule

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am

Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 am

Holy Day & Holiday Masses

As Announced

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 3:30-4:15 pm
or by appointment

Parish Devotions

Holy Rosary

Tuesday-Friday after Mass

Adoration Chapel

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm
Chapel located in back of rectory

Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism

2nd and 4th Sundays at 12 noon
*Please call the office to schedule
the baptism of children. Parents and
godparents must attend a Baptism
Preparation Session.*

Sacrament of the Sick

Please call the parish office or
speak to the priest after Mass to
request the Anointing of the Sick.
If in a hospital or nursing home,
please ask the staff to notify the
parish that covers that facility.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples looking to get married at
Holy Cross should contact the
pastor at least six months before
the intended wedding date to
discuss marriage preparations and
schedule the wedding.

Holy Communion for the Homebound

Please call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00
Closed Fridays, Holidays and Holy Days
Office is located in the back of the church building

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

One contemporary mode of thinking about the two parts of today's Gospel passage is to call to mind both a "Jumbotron" and a cell phone. For those who need a definition, a "Jumbotron" is a very large monitor screen measured in feet, and often seen in sports stadiums or any large outdoor event with crowds of people in attendance. There happen to be several of them mounted in place in St. Peter's square at the Vatican.

I want to classify those happenings at the end of the world that Jesus describes today as a "Jumbotron event." Of course, when it will happen is known only by Jesus. He doesn't tell us. It could be 10,000 years from now or 10 days. The main point Our Lord makes clear is that history is always on the move, and never stagnant. It's heading toward some goal. That goal is Jesus Himself as King of the universe.

Now I ask your indulgence as I classify the happenings in our little lives as "cell phone events." Despite our often-inflated sense of ourselves, we are actually just a tiny part of the created world. We too are on the move, heading toward the same goal as the universe: union with Jesus as our King. The date that ends our earthly lives is also one of God's best kept secrets. We can only wonder when. All things being equal, I am a lot closer to it at 80 than I was at 18. But only our loving Creator knows for sure.

As a result of these dual mysteries, there is only one healthy conclusion that Jesus urges on both first disciples and on us: "Be prepared!" It seems to me that the biggest mistake most people make is to be unprepared. They try to avoid even thinking about their potential end.

I remember a chapter in a book of meditations for seminarians in which we were to imagine our funeral! This for guys just entering their twenties! The point was not to be macabre but mindful. In a dark chapel in the pre-dawn of a Winter morning, however, it was "heavy duty" stuff.

In her wisdom, Mother Church has presented the facts in the Scriptures of last week and today, to make sure we know that our death is not a matter of fiction. This is definitely not to scare us. Nor to belittle us. But to wake us up. Only a "drowsy" Christianity would invest all its hope in the things of this passing world. We are made for more. Much more.

If thoughts like these make you fearful, try to acquire the perspective of God's love for you. His love truly drives out fear. What proof do we have of Love's existence? It is the Holy Eucharist. That's really why we come together for it each Sunday and holy day. It is for sure to give God thanks for gifting us with Faith, Hope and Love. But it also is to renew a positive attitude toward life. It is to remind ourselves of the outlook that Holy Scripture provides for us about our destiny. What we receive for sure is a clear picture of God's love for us, giant size or small, depending on our need. How wise then it is to "Prepare and prevent instead of repair and repent."

God love you and give you His peace.

1st
Sunday
of
Advent

Reading I: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The oracles of the prophet that are presented concern the future new king who will rule Israel and produce a "just shoot," namely Jesus.

Reading II: I Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Paul offers a petition to Christ for His love to be bestowed on the community. He also urges the community to maintain good conduct.

The Gospel: Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

The cosmic disasters at the end of time will echo the destruction of Jerusalem. Jesus uses these facts to urge a sense of readiness in His disciples.

Join us for First Friday Devotions!



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:30 AM - Colomba Borrelli

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:30 AM - Vivian & George Amoroso and
Caroline & Joseph Sindoni, Sr.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:30 AM - Joseph A. Scolis

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:30 AM - Those Enrolled in the
Memorial Fund

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - Ray Costello (Living)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:30 AM - Nicole Gallo

11:00 AM - For the People of the Parish

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp
intention is for:

Church - Ted Quillen

Chapel - Forgotten Souls



COLLECTION INFORMATION

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday
the numbers for the
Sunday Collection were not
available at the time
of Bulletin Submission.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Consiglia Borrelli	Rich Meroney
Lyndi Butler	Richard McCullough
Mary Ann Carroll	Larry McCusker
George Dickinson	Francis Murray
Dawn Gibbons	Charlotte O'Leary
Carolyn Henderson	Paige O'Leary
Steven Henderson	Katherine Patrone
Ken Kull	Mary Rafferty
Mary Kull	Ronnie Sidebottom
Kendall Lambert	Joseph Sindoni
Lee Anne McGough	Adeline Sulpizio
Joann Marks	Jean Super
Maryanne McCauley	Valerie Thompson
Matthew Bannon	Betty Tomczyk
Mary Ann Nero	Madalyn Parr
Jack McGough	Carter Claire Walton
Bill Homony	Deacon Frankenberger
Mary Ellen Sweeney	Alice Markiewitz
Janice LeTourneau	Lynn Neary
Teresa O'Neill	

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

Today is the first day of Advent! Let's reflect:

"Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us. Namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the Star of Hope."

---Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Annual Cemetery Blanket/Door Wreath Sale

The Holy Cross Knights of Columbus #15482 are holding their Annual Cemetery Blanket/Door Wreath Sale beginning on Sunday, 11/24/2024 and ending on Sunday, 12/8/2024. The price is still \$35 per Blanket and/or Door Wreath.

To order call/text Andy Grajek at 610-761-9020 and leave your name, phone number and the amount you are ordering. You can also contact us by e-mail at andygra44@yahoo.com and we can send you a form. Make checks payable to "Holy Cross K.O.C. #15482"

Mail checks to :

Andy Grajek
492 Indian Rock Dr,
Springfield, Pa 19064

They will be available for pick up at the Holy Cross School Parking Lot located on North Bishop Ave on Saturday, 12/14/2024, from 8:30am until 11:00am.

Giving Trees 2024

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP DONATIONS Thank you!

Mary's side

The recipients of this tree are the clients of Delaware County Pregnancy Center. Due to a flood, DCPC will just collect unwrapped items requested by the mothers. These donations will be put into their boutique and they can choose what is needed. Thank you!

Joseph's side

The Little Sisters of the Poor are requesting unwrapped toiletries this year. Please put your items in the containers under the tree

Body wash	Body lotion
Listerine Mouth wash	Liquid soap
Kleenex tissues	Clorox surface wipes
Baby wipes	

School News



Looking forward to Advent, we are getting our Advent Wreaths ready. We will have them blessed by Fr. Keirnan on the 2nd of December. We will also set up a Jesse Tree in our Fourier. Each grade level will color an ornament, and we will learn about the ornament daily and then place it on the tree.

Students are working to complete their spiritual offering for our prayer chain that will be displayed in the Fourier and main hall. We welcome parents and the parish community to come over to the school to see it.

This month each student will have the opportunity to contribute a spiritual donation of a Work of Mercy or good deed to write down and offer up to God at the Thanksgiving Prayer Basket. This is something special for all our students to participate in, so they can have an opportunity to be closer to the Lord by offering their Work of Mercy or good deeds

Through our practice of the virtue of respect and other works this month, we are reaching out to a friend who needs to know that God loves them. We all continue to grow the family and spirit of Holy Cross School. Our faculty, staff, and students continue to pray for our school and surrounding communities and wish you a joyful and wonderful Thanksgiving.

#igivecatholic

Starting Nov. 18th- Dec 3rd

Help Support

Holy Cross School



Join Us for 3rd Annual Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 8th at 4:00 PM

At Holy Cross Church – Springfield PA 19064

Rejoice together singing Carols

Listen together to the message of God

Enjoy together refreshments after

Come and join us for an Advent Tradition of Scripture Readings and Music celebrating the Coming of Christ. What a better way to prepare and get in the Christmas Spirit then to spend a little time with your family and friends at Holy Cross. The choir will lead the congregation in carols and sing a few special anthems. There will be a light dinner following the service in the hall hosted by our Knights of Columbus. Asking those excellent bakers to bring some Christmas treats to share for dessert.

Scrip Program

Support our organization while you shop!
The easy way to raise money, buy gift cards and earn for Holy Cross School.

Start earning with the RaiseRight mobile app today or fill out a Scrip Order Form and return to the Business Office. The Scrip Order Forms are available at the entrances of the church OR Download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet or go to RaiseRight.com on your computer.

Have questions about getting started? Call the ShopWithScrip Customer Support team at 1-800-727-4715 option 3.

Food Pantry Update

Thanks to all who enabled our pantry to provide Thanksgiving turkeys / chickens and the fixings to our Neighbors in Need. There are many groups who helped with food and muscle.

- Boy Scouts Troops 512 and 503 and Cub Scouts Troop 240 collected over 500 bags of food last weekend.
- St. Francis School Students (even under all the duress of a fire in their school) collected food.
- St. Vincent dePaul Society, St. Francis Conference and...
- St. Kevins Knights of Columbus also collected food and turkeys from their parishioners.
- AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians) provided many turkeys
- Brinker Simpson's employees provided a van full of supplies.

As we all know, it takes a village to support this effort. Our Holy Cross parishioners, our Knights of Columbus folks and our tireless SVDP Food Pantry volunteers are always helping us every week throughout the year and we appreciate " All of your generosity and prayers". In case we haven't shared this lately... We are so very grateful for all of you... Just a reminder, the pantry is closed Thanksgiving week and will return on Wednesday, December 4th and our hours are 3:45 to 5:30. If you know anyone in Delco in need of food, please share that we are open every Wed.

May you and your families have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.
Love and Prayers from our SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry Volunteers

Three Parish Book Club

The Three Parish Book Club will hold its November meeting in the Parish Life Center at Holy Cross on Wednesday, December 4 at 7PM. If you would like to join the meeting or if you would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termprice@verizon.net.

November

The Rocking Chair Prophet - by Matthew Kelly

First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Please join us for the Nine First Fridays Devotion of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion will begin on Friday, October 4th and end on Friday, June 6th, fulfilling our Lord's request of nine consecutive Fridays.

The Schedule for First Fridays:

First Friday Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 am. Adoration will be in the Church from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Confessions will be held from 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm.

If you would like more information about First Friday and First Saturday devotions, pamphlets are available at the entrance of either side of the Church.

The Incredible Christmas Eucharistic Miracle of 2013

On December 25, 2013, the St. Hyacinth's Shrine in Legnica, Poland celebrated Christmas Mass.

During communion, a host fell to the floor. Following the Church's instructions to respect sacred species, the priest placed the Eucharist in a container of holy water and kept it in the tabernacle.

However, two weeks later, the priest discovered that the host turned red. He told the bishop, and a commission was established to observe the phenomenon.

Bishop Zbigniew Kerlikowski of Legnica later released a statement regarding the Forensic Medicine Department's [analysis results](#).

"In the histopathological image, fragments of tissue were found, which contained fragmented particles of striated muscle tissue. The whole image is very similar to that of a cardiac muscle ... that shows changes typical of an agony. DNA shows that the tissue is of human origin.

This Eucharistic miracle of Christmas 2013 seems to bring together three feats that Jesus accomplished for our salvation: a God incarnate and born as a little baby, a God who gives himself for us in the sacrifice of the Cross, and a God always waiting for us in the Eucharist.

ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN'T SPARE JUST ONE HOUR WITH JESUS IN OUR INTIMATE CHAPEL????

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAINTAIN OUR CURRENT SCHEDULE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT EILEEN AT 610-213-3369

FORMED

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For December, there are many resources for Advent and Christmas. Just use the Search bar to find many more selections, and of course there are movies, podcasts and audio books for the whole family!

Signing up for FORMED is EASY and FREE!

1. Just go to FORMED.org or download the FORMED app
2. Enter your ZIP code and select "Holy Cross" from the drop-down menu and press "Next"
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED. No password is needed and you will have full access to the site. ENJOY!



Mark your Calendars now so you don't miss out on any of these upcoming fun events. Tell your Family and Friends!

 **December 8**

3rd Annual

"Festival of Nine

Lessons and Carols"

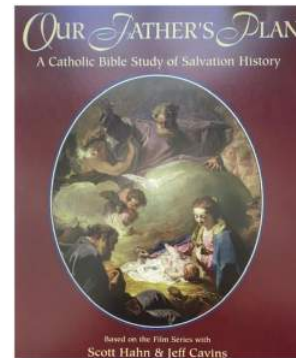
Students Excelling at Cardinal O'Hara High School

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students on the end of the 1st quarter report. We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence.

Students who have achieved first honors include: Erin Saye '26, Miley Woltanski '26, Daniel Kull '27.

Students who have achieved second honors include: Hannah Nguyen '26, Sophia Campbell '27, Hayden Ganley '27, Alyssa Zebuski '27, Sean Campbell '28, Anthony Huynh '28.

Winter Bible Study at Holy Cross



Have you ever wondered how to read your Bible, or struggled to make sense of all the different Books of the Bible? **"Our Father's Plan"** is a 13-episode program that walks through salvation history from Genesis to Revelation using the chronological narrative of the Bible. Dr Scott Hahn and Jeff Cavins present the Bible to us as a Catholic library in an easy-to-follow series that will increase your understanding and knowledge of God's plan for humanity. There will be valuable group discussions after the videos. Light refreshments will be served.

We will show this at 2 different times, so **PICK THE TIME** that is best for you.

When: **Mondays**, November 18 thru February 24 --- 7:00 – 8:30 PM - in the Holy Cross Parish Center

Or: **Wednesdays**, November 20 thru February 26 -- 9:15 – 10:45 AM – in the Holy Cross Parish Center

The Bible Study is free! A workbook is **NOT** necessary, but please bring your Bible and a highlighter. We do have a few Bibles for your use if you do not have one of your own. **Please join us and bring a friend! If you attend the Wednesday morning session, please also join us for 8:30 Mass that morning.**

Please note: We will not meet during the Christmas weeks of December 22 and 29.

To save a seat or for more information, contact Pattie Stevens at pattiejstevens@comcast.net or 484.868.8571.



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