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ANNIVERSARY 75TH

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**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

(610)626-3321

contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Theresa Carey, Business Manager
Donna Berg, Parish Secretary
Betty McIntyre, Safe Environment Coordinator
Andrew Ryan, Bulletin Editor

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

(610)-626-1057

PREPHolyCross@gmail.com

Kelly Meliti, Director of Religious Education
Linda Ryan, Administrative Assistant

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(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 10, 2023



FROM THE PASTOR

Last year, the choir wanted to do an evening of lessons and carols as a way of celebrating Advent and preparing for Christmas. So we added it to the calendar. Given that it was the first year doing it and there was some possible overlap with a football game, we really had no idea how many people to expect. In my mind, I thought we might have fifteen; we might have fifty. So, when 150 people showed up, I was beyond stunned. It was a truly wonderful evening. The choir members worked really hard, and being able to sit back and relax and listen to a combination of favorite Christmas carols and some unique and unfamiliar pieces interspersed with readings from scripture was very much needed. This month can be busy, and times to relax and savor the season can be sparse.

I say all that because **the second annual lessons and carols concert is this weekend.** If you're not doing anything at **4:00 on Sunday**, come on back to the church and enjoy the music and readings. If you have other plans, cancel them and come here instead. I'm sure you'll be glad you did.

A quick reminder for anyone looking for ideas for Christmas gifts: we still have some Holy Cross 75th anniversary merchandise for sale. A Christmas ornament or magnet might be a unique gift for someone. You can call the office or visit our website for more information.

Also, a reminder in case you're cleaning out your closet to make room for the new sweaters and clothes you'll get at Christmas: we're collecting old clothing in the green bins near the gym. The company that owns the bins and collects the clothing pays us for participating in the program, and the more we fill the bins, the better. Other proceeds from the clothing donations are used for charitable purposes as well. So if last year's ugly sweater is too ugly to wear again, toss it into the green bin and help our parish at the same time.

Lastly this week, just a reminder about extra opportunities for Confession this Advent. We have confessions Thursday mornings during Advent at 7:00 am, and we'll have an evening opportunity on Monday, the 18th at 7:00 pm.

2nd Sunday of Advent



Reading I: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

In the prophet's vision, The Lord addresses a heavenly assembly that includes himself. Someone speaks up and says that the Lord will soon lead a new exodus through the desert.

Reading II: 2 Peter 3: 8-14

The author addresses any cynics who scoff at God's seeming delay in coming. This time actually allows for necessary repentance. Still, the day of His coming remains unknowable.

The Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8th

Mark relates the promise of the Old Testament prophets to John the Baptist, and also to his divine Cousin Jesus who actually is "the One to come," the Messiah.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:30 AM - John Fabry

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:30 AM - Living & Deceased members of the Pizza & Senderoff Families

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:30 AM - Helen Collins

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:30 AM - Julia & John Grandizio and John F. Grandizio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:30 AM - Nero & Cermignani Families

11:00 AM - Bill Poppert

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church: Carole Kime

Chapel: Jeffrey Scolis



COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need	\$13,350
Weekly Collection, December 3	
Total	\$8,526
Electronic	\$2,357
Basket & Mail-Ins	\$6,169

PRAY FOR THE SICK

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Consiglia Borrelli | Richard McCullough |
| Lyndi Butler | Larry McCusker |
| Mary Ann Carroll | Francis Murray |
| George Dickinson | Charlotte O'Leary |
| Bob Frankenberger | Paige O'Leary |
| Dawn Gibbons | Katherine Patrone |
| Carolyn Henderson | Mary Rafferty |
| Steven Henderson | Ronnie Sidebottom |
| Jimmy Keating | Joseph Sindoni |
| Natalie Giorgio Kitts | Adeline Sulpizio |
| Ken Kull | Jean Super |
| Mary Kull | Valerie Thompson |
| Kendall Lambert | Betty Tomczyk |
| Alice Loftus | Rosemarie Colaberdino |
| Deacon Joe Gousie | Madalyn Parr |
| Lee Anne McGough | Carter Claire Walton |
| Joann Marks | Mike Calbertta |
| Maryanne McCauley | Alexander Passquini |
| Matthew Bannon | Melissa Dunsee |
| Mary Ann Nero | Mildred Mancini |
| Jack McGough | Susan Cortese |
| Bill Homony | Andrea Emilia Bernabey |

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

During this 2nd week of Advent we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The next time you see an image of her, pay close attention to the stars on her cloak. Astronomers discovered that the 46 stars arrayed around her cloak are configured in the exact arrangement of the constellations that appeared in the night sky when Mary visited St Juan Diego for the 4th and final time on the Hill of Tepeyac outside of Mexico City on December 12, 1531.

Blanket & Wreath Sale

The Holy Cross Knights of Columbus will be holding their Annual Cemetery Blanket/Door Wreath sale from Sunday, 11/19/23 until Sunday, 12/10/23. Blankets/Wreaths will again be \$35 each this year. Pick up will be on Saturday, 12/16/23, in the Holy Cross School parking lot at Springfield Rd and Bishop Ave from 8:30am till 11:00am. Checks are made out to "Holy Cross KOC" and can be mailed to Cemetery Blankets, c/o Andy Grajek, 492 Indian Rock Dr, Springfield, Pa 19064. Contact Andy at 610-761-9020 or andygra44@yahoo.com for any questions or more information.

We Need Some Helping Hands!

Sunday, December 17, after the 11:00 AM Mass, members of Holy Cross Parish will be assembling the Nativity scene in the Church. Anyone who is interested in helping is welcome to come. Please arrive after the 11:00 Mass. Thank You!

Giving Trees

We will have two trees again this year. On Mary's side the recipients will be the clients and children of the Delaware County Pregnancy Center in Chester. (dcpcchester.org) On St. Joseph's side, the recipients will be the elderly poor residents at the Holy Family Home which is run by the Little Sisters of the Poor. (littlesistersofthepoorphiladelphia.org) Please take an ornament with a request on it. Items can be put into gift bags with names attached. The recipients of both places were so thrilled with your gifts last year! Thank you for your generosity!

The LAST DAY FOR BRINGING GIFTS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th

Bulletin Deadlines for Christmas

Due to early submission deadlines for the bulletin over the Christmas Holidays please submit and articles for the bulletin by 4:00PM at least 10 days prior to the Sunday requested.

Bulletin	Due Date
December 17	Wednesday, December 6
December 24	Wednesday, December 13
December 31	Wednesday, December 20

Monthly Delco Pro-Life Meeting

Please join us for our monthly pro-life meeting on Wednesday, December 6, at 7 PM at St. Francis of Assisi Rectory in Springfield. Entrance is from the parking lot down the outside steps. Upcoming events: our dinner for the mothers and babies at The Mothers' Home in Darby on Monday, December 11 and Our Lady of Guadalupe Dinner on Tuesday, December 12 at Paxon Hollow Country Club. Your prayers and suggestions are welcome. Jesus, protect and save the unborn.

Holy Cross Parish and Choir
welcome everyone to its second annual

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



to be celebrated in the Church
Sunday, December 10 at 4 pm.
651 East Springfield Road
Springfield, PA 19064

Light refreshments
courtesy of the Knights of Columbus
will follow the festival in the school gym.
Admission is free.

75th Anniversary Sale

75th anniversary t-Shirts, crew sweatshirts and hoodies are available for sale in the Business Office. Prices for t-shirts range from \$16.00 - \$18.00 and sweatshirts range from \$22.00 - \$27.00 depending on size and style.

Magnets are available for \$5.00 and Christmas ornaments for \$10.00.

Pay by cash or check.

Business Office hours are 9:00am – 4:00pm Monday through Thursday, closed 12:00-1:00pm for lunch.

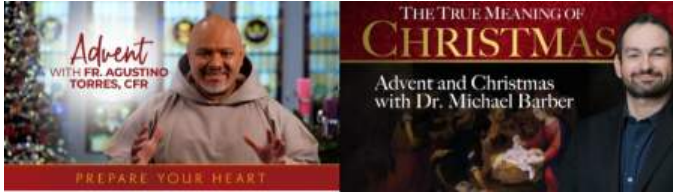
Any questions, please call the office at 610-626-3321.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Dinner

On the feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, Tuesday, December 12, please join us for dinner at 6 PM at the Paxon Hollow Country Club in Broomall. Your only cost is any donation to St. Pius X Respect Life. We celebrate Mass at St. Pius X Church at 5 PM. Priests, nuns, children and senior citizens are always free! Mark Houck, who was arrested in front of his wife and seven children by 15 FBI agents, will be our main speaker. His crime...trying to pray a rosary with his 12 year old son in front of Planned Parenthood. For reservations, call John Williamson's office at 610-446-5600 or email jpw0077@gmail.com.

FORMED

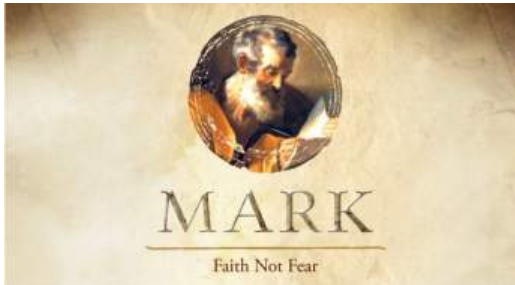
A Free Gift to you from Holy Cross Parish
PROGRAMS – MOVIES – AUDIO - BOOKS



Here are just 2 of the many programs available for December. For families with kids, we highly recommend a series that shows fun ways to incorporate our Catholic faith anytime with traditions and activities, called "Catholic All Year At Home with Kendra Tierney." 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!

Winter Bible Study



The Holy Cross Bible Study Team will present a **FREE** 14 week deep-dive into the Gospel of Mark. We will concentrate on this single book of the Bible. Workbooks will be provided for this series. There will be short videos from Dr Tim Gray and valuable group discussions. Light refreshments will be served.

We will show this at 2 different times, so PICK THE TIME that is best for you. If you choose the Wednesday morning option we begin right after the 8:30 Mass, so please consider joining us for Mass that morning. Come a few minutes early to meet others and to get your seat. Please join us and bring a friend!

When: Mondays, November 6 thru February 19, 7:00 – 8:30 **PM** - in the Holy Cross Parish Center

Or: Wednesdays, November 8 thru February 21, 9:15 – 10:45 **AM** – in the Holy Cross Parish Center

--- Note: We will take 2 weeks off during the Christmas holidays

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

School News

As we begin the season of Advent, we prepare ourselves to receive Jesus. In the business of the holiday season, I ask that you take some time to invite the Lord into your life daily. The secular world tells us to speed up and buy more stuff during the season, but our Catholic Faith tells us to slow down and be more charitable. It is a good time to think of our neighbors in poverty and those most in need of God's love and mercy.

Our students are hard at work in their academic studies and perform virtuous and charitable works to help others. At our First Friday Mass we acknowledged our students who received the Virtue Award of Respect for the Month of November. The virtue for December is Generosity: Giving without counting the cost. To help practice and strengthen this virtue, we currently have charitable opportunities writing cards for the elderly which will allow students to complete works of mercy and offer it to God.

As we wait in anticipation for the coming of our Savior, we pray for all of you to have a wonderful and joyous Advent and Christmas Season.

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](https://www.RaiseRight.com) on your computer.

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

Three Parish Book Club

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Book Parish Book Club will meet next at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at the Holy Cross Church Parish Center. Members will share reading recommendations and will discuss both the December and January selections. You need not have read the selected book(s) to attend the meeting. If you would like more information, or if you would like to join us, please contact Joy Van Berg at joyvanberg@gmail.com or at 610 328-2095.

December

This Is My Body by Bishop Robert Barron

January

My Anointing Echoes by Father Douglas McKay

February

In The School of the Holy Spirit by Jacques Phillippe

Students Excel at Msgr. Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast Catholic High School

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students for the first quarter of the 2023-24 school year. We are particularly proud of those students who have demonstrated academic excellence. The following students received first honors: Sean Erickson, Class of 2026 received First Honors Salvatore Squillacioti, Class of 2025, Sophia Megill, Class of 2026 and Zachary Hassinger, Class of 2027 all received Second Honors. Congratulations!

Students Excel 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. We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence.

Students who achieved first honors include: Harry Donnelly '24, Sophia Campbell '27, Daniel Kull '27, Alyssa Zebuski '27.

Among those earning second honors were the following students from our parish: William Donnelly '24, Rocco DiMario '27, Hayden Ganley '27.

Food Pantry Update

Thanksgiving is fast approaching... we have so much to be grateful for... all of you, Our Holy Cross CCD students, St. Francis schoolchildren (who ran a food drive to benefit our pantry just last week). We recently received a significant donation from Acme Food Stores (please Thank an Acme cashier next time you shop at our Clifton Hgts. store), Buckley Cable, Americare, Mainline BMW, Devon Mercedes, Union Local 2011, and our many anonymous donors.. you know, it takes a village...

Some important dates this month...

On Nov. 12th, St. Francis SVDP and St. Kevins Knights of Columbus (and HC KofC will help) with collecting Thanksgiving food items to help our pantry.

On Nov. 15th, we will do our turkey distribution (while supplies last), and

On Nov. 22nd, the Pantry will be closed as our volunteers prepare for our own family meals.

If you are able, we need additional turkeys or chickens, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and items you would prepare for your families for the big day... If you are able to assist and unable to drop off, please call Ellie Epperson at 610-960-6989 and we will gladly arrange for your donation pickups. You can also drop off, we have bins outside the entrance of the pantry or you can hand deliver on Wed. 11/8 or 11/15 starting at 1 p.m.

Just a reminder, if you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know we are open Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30.

In case we haven't told you lately, we Appreciate your prayers, generosity and your overall support.

God Bless All of You,

Your Friends from the SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry Team

Eucharistic Adoration



The Eucharist is described in the Catechism as the "source and summit" of our faith. Finding the time to go to Adoration can be difficult. But if you can make it happen, committing to regular Adoration with an open heart can have some surprising results.

A Holy Hour before the Most Blessed Sacrament repairs for evils of the world. (St. John Paul II)

A Holy hour makes our souls more glorious and beautiful in heaven. (Mother Teresa)

The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host. (Venerable Fulton Sheen)

I ask everyone to intensify in love and devotion to the Eucharistic Jesus. (Pope Benedict XVI)

We are in need of visitors and hourly adorers to maintain our current adoration schedule. Please consider keeping Jesus company in our intimate chapel here at Holy Cross Parish which is open weekdays 9:00am to 7:00pm. For more information, call Eileen at 610.213-3369.

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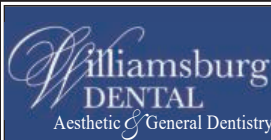
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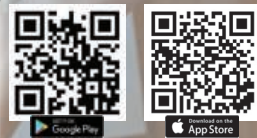
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