

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

DECEMBER 11, 2022 • THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - GAUDETE SUNDAY

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321
Parish School610-626-1709
Religious Education.....610-626-1057
Music Director..... holycrossmus@gmail.com
Website..... www.holycrosscatholics.org
E-mailcontactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Steven W. Kiernan..... Pastor
Rev. Edward C. Kelly Resident/Faculty COHS
Deacon Thomas L. Taylor..... Permanent Deacon
Deacon Robert Frankenberger..... Retired
Deacon Joseph N. Gousie..... Retired
Mrs. Theresa Carey..... Business Manager
Dr. Mary Rose Worrirow..... Principal
Mrs. Kelly Meliti Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Grete Ingalls. MM, CAGO..... Music Director

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 4:30 PM
Sunday, Upper Church 8:30 and 11:00 AM
Holy Day As announced
Tuesday through Saturday 8:30 AM
No Mass Monday

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..... Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 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 Deacon Thomas Taylor or the Parish Office when a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound.



FROM THE PASTOR

Sometimes it's good to be reminded of God's Providence at work. For a while now, just about everyone on the parish staff has been dealing with issues with their computers. They were old, slowing down, and getting to the point of being unreliable—the computers, not the staff! The server that houses the parish database was well beyond its life-expectancy, and our tech support company had been suggesting for a while that we needed to address that. Clearly, we needed some upgrades. Of course, it's easy to say what we need to do. Figuring out how to pay for what we need to do is a bigger challenge.

Not too long after we started to discuss this situation and try to decide how to proceed, we received a generous gift from the estate of a recently-deceased parishioner. That unexpected gift gave us some money to move ahead with the tech upgrades. Terry and I met with our tech support company to see what they recommended and then looked into what things would cost. The amount of that bequest turned out to be about half of what we would need—which meant we could at least upgrade the most critical machines.

And then Black Friday rolled around. Lo and behold, the computers we were looking at happened to be on a great sale. I did the math, and with the sale price, we had enough from the bequest that we could upgrade all the computers at once. Even better, they were in stock for quick delivery—a miracle unto itself it seems these days. Sold! As I'm writing this, the tech company is in the process of installing everything, and we should be in good shape with our office tech for several years. I am grateful to the deceased parishioner and the family for their generous gift to the parish, and I thank God that He had it all worked out somehow that we'd get this gift, and that it would end up being enough to meet our needs. It's not quite the loaves and fishes miracle, but God did take that bequest and multiply it enough to meet our needs and then some.

Speaking of gifts, with two weeks to go until Christmas, it's time for another reminder about the **Scrip program**. If you're giving gift cards to anyone, please consider purchasing them through us. We get a rebate from the stores, which we use for school tuition assistance. It's an easy way to support Holy Cross. Please call Terry in the office for additional details.

Have a great week! Hope to see you at Lessons and Carols Sunday Evening!

3rd Sunday of Advent



Reading I: Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10

The prophet speaks of the flowering of the southern desert, as Nature itself prepares for God's return to His people. It will bring them salvation.

Reading II: James 5: 7-10

The writer asks for patience from his readers. He actually urges them to practice this not only because of the awful injustice they have suffered, but also for the many ordinary trials that come into their lives.

The Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

John the Baptist sends his disciples to inquire of Jesus just who He is, and what is His mission? Jesus identifies Himself with the coming Messiah announced by Isaiah the prophet, a person who will bring blessings of all kinds to the world.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:30 - The Pizza Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:30 AM - The Deceased Members of the
Carberry & McSwiggan Families

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:30 AM - Nichole Gallo (12th Anniversary)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:30 AM - Bill Sidebottom

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:30 AM - John Fabry

4:30 PM - Memorial Fund Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:30 AM - Edward Ryan

11:00 AM - The People of Holy Cross

SANCTUARY LAMP



This week's Sanctuary Lamp
intention is for:

Church: Tony Carlino

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need **\$12,820**

Weekly Collection, December 4

Total **\$8,066**

Electronic **\$2,778**

Basket & Mail-Ins **\$5,288**

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Steve Austin

Consiglia Borrelli

Lyndi Butler

Mary Ann Carroll

Maryann Convery

Bill DeVuono

George Dickinson

Bob Frankenberger

Dawn Gibbons

Carolyn Henderson

Steven Henderson

Jimmy Keating

Carole Kime

Natalie Giorgio Kitts

Ken Kull

Mary Kull

Kendall Lambert

Zachary Halbing

Deacon Joe Gousie

Lee Anne McGough

Joann Marks

Maryanne McCauley

Richard McCullough

Larry McCusker

Francis Murray

Frances O'Callaghan

Charlotte O'Leary

Paige O'Leary

Katherine Patrone

Mary Rafferty

Ronnie Sidebottom

Joseph Sindoni

Adeline Sulpizio

Jean Super

Valerie Thompson

Betty Tomczyk

Rosemarie Colaberdino

Janice Mac Bride

Madalyn Parr

Carter Walton

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"What a joy and relief to know that God loves and forgives us as we cleanse our hearts in preparation for the gift of His Son. How blessed we are to have this time of Advent preparation, to contemplate both God's mercy and His justice! What can you do this week to turn back to Our Lord and to share with family and friends your own experience of Advent?"

--- EWTN Reflection

Christmas Schedule



Confessions

Thursday, December 15, 7:00-8:00 AM

Saturday, December 17, 3:30-4:15 PM

Sunday, December 18, 9:30-10:45 AM

Monday, December 19, 7:00-8:00 PM

Thursday, December 22, 7:00-8:00 AM

no confessions Christmas Eve

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: 4:30 and 8:00 PM

Christmas Day: 8:30 and 11:00 AM

New Year's Eve and Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Normal Saturday/Sunday Mass and Confession Schedule

We Need Some Helping Hands

Sunday, December 18, 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!

PLEASE JOIN US!

We are delighted to announce our Holy Cross Choir's first-ever **Festival of Lessons and Carols**. Sunday, December 11, 2022. 4 pm. in the Church.

This is a time-honored Advent/Christmas celebration of beautiful carols, choir anthems, and short readings from the Word of God which will lift your spirits and prepare you for the Savior's coming. Wonderful for families and your friends! Programs will be provided so you can follow along and join in when indicated.

Following, the generous Knights of Columbus are hosting a no-cost light supper in the gym, sure to please everyone.

Holy Cross Giving Trees

We have two trees again this year. The recipients of Giving Tree on Mary's side are the families from Delaware County Pregnancy Center in Chester (depcchester.org).

The recipients of the tree on St. Joseph's side are the elderly poor residents of Holy Family Home, 5300 Chester Ave., Philadelphia. The home is served by the Little Sisters of the Poor.

If you would like to donate to either, their requests are listed on the ornaments.

Gifts can be put into gift bags and placed under the tree.

The last day to bring a gift is Sunday, December 11th. Thank you for your generosity!

Three Parish Book Club

The Three Parish Book Club will meet on December 28 at 7:00 in the Holy Cross Parish Center. Members discuss the month's selection and offer recommendations for other spiritual reading. If you would like to join us please contact Joy Van Berg at 610 328-2095 or at joyvanberg@gmail.com. You do not need to have read the month's selection to attend the meeting.

December

[The Christmas Candle by Max Lucado](#)

January

[Daily Meditations with Saint Augustine John E. Rotelle O.S.A. ed.](#)

FORMED

There's a rich library of Advent selections to help prepare your hearts for Christmas. They're easy to find right on the FORMED homepage, just look for the banner ADVENT & CHRISTMAS.

Here's just a few suggestions:

Advent with Dr Tim Gray, The Meaning of

Christmas with Dr Michael Barber, The Days of

Advent with Brother Francis.

Enjoy this FREE GIFT to you from your parish! If you haven't already done so, go to

<https://signup.formed.org> to begin exploring.

Enter ZIP code "19064" and select "Holy Cross Parish" from the drop-down menu, press "Next."

Enter your name and email address, and you will receive an email for a link to sign in. No password is needed and you will have full access to the site.

Food Pantry Update

Thanksgiving preparation was brisk. Our Holy Cross Students, our Parishioners, Knights of Columbus, St. Kevins, St. Francis, Acme, and the AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians) ensured that we had "All the Fixings for Our Neighbors in Need" to prepare for their family Thanksgiving dinners.

We distributed over 160 turkeys and the fixings during 3 weeks in November... along with our normal food distributions...

When we reflect on Thankfulness.... All of You are foremost on our minds. God Bless All of You for making such a Big Difference in so many folks' lives.

Just a reminder, if you know any Delco residents who are in need of food, our Food Pantry is open every Wednesday as a drive-thru behind Holy Cross School from 3:30 to 5:30.

Many Blessings to All of you,
Your Friends from the SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry

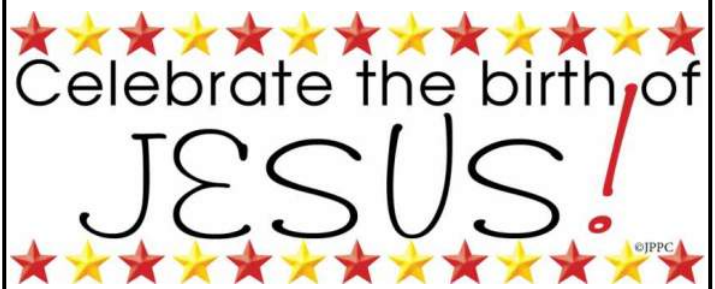
Singers & Musicians

We are always looking for additional voices in our choir. You don't have to read music in order to join us, you just need to enjoy singing. If you play an instrument at an intermediate level or above and would like to add to the beauty of our Liturgy, we'd be happy for you to join us.

For more information, please contact our Music Director, Grete Ingalls, at greteingalls@hotmail.com or 267.253.4007.

Forever In Our Hearts

260 Beautiful Souls were honored during All Souls Remembrance Tree Tribute. The free will offerings collected were donated to our Parish Memorial Fund. This fund helps with the purchase of items needed in the Sanctuary.
Holy Cross Social Committee



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.



Holy Cross School News

Holy Cross Students are getting ready and preparing for the annual Candlelight vigil which will be held on Dec 21 at 7:00pm. Our 8th grade students are working hard as they depict the most holy night of the nativity. All parents and parishioners are welcomed to come to this beautiful celebration.

We will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception as a school on Thursday, December 8, in the celebration of the Mass.

Our students were very giving in the month of November. They collected food for the food pantry which helps to feed so many people in need.

Congratulations to our 7th grade students who won first prize in our Thanksgiving food drive for collecting the most food items. Our 2nd grade students came in 2nd place. Thank you to all our students and families who were so generous in helping families in need. Holy Cross was able to give out five food baskets thanks to Unico, a philanthropist organization who generously donated five baskets for our families in need.

Thank you to the food pantry who also gave turkeys and food to our school families in need of some help this holiday.



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: Ava Devenney '23, Marissa Glick '23, Caitlin Henzel '23, Gavin LeSage '23, Mia Macciocca '23, Xavier Tran '23, Peter Vu '23, Harry Donnelly '24, Abigail Henzel '25, Hannah Nguyen '26.

Among those earning second honors were the following students from our parish: Sean Boyle '23, Victor Madu '23, Elizabeth Simpson '23, Andrew Zeiders '23, William Donnelly '24, Grace Beurket '25, Michael Davidson '26.

Students excel at MSGR. BONNER & ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST HIGH SCHOOL

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students for the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year. We are particularly proud of those students who have demonstrated academic excellence.

The following students received first honors:
Class of 2023: Zachary Maiorano, Thomas Venditti
Class of 2026: Sean Erickson

The following students received second honors:
Class of 2023: Justin Lane
Class of 2026: Abigail Gannon

To All Parish Faithful and Your Families

Make a commitment to pray the Rosary weekly! Join us Mondays at 8PM to pray virtually via Zoom or phone on the Archdiocesan LIVE World Mission Rosary. United in this most powerful prayer, we ask for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for our Catholic faith, peace in the world, personal intentions and for the Missions world-wide. VISIT phillymissions.org for the Zoom link or type in <https://zoom.us/j/494480541#success>

15th Anniversary of Man Up Philly!

Saturday March 4, 2023 will be the 15th Man Up Philly Conference and we are going back to our roots to the Campus of Cardinal O'Hara at the St John Vianney Hall Theater where it all started. Don't miss this opportunity to bring a friend and hear inspiring speakers for a day of reflection and growth!

Early Bird Registration is Now Open!



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