



# HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

DECEMBER 12, 2021 • THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321  
610-638-4243  
Parish School .....610-626-1709  
Religious Education.....610-626-1057  
Convent .....610-626-2491  
Music Director.....holycrossmus@gmail.com  
Website.....www.holycrosscatholics.org  
E-mail .....contactus@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..... 8:00 AM-2:30 PM  
(Closed for lunch 12:00-1:00 PM)

## 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.

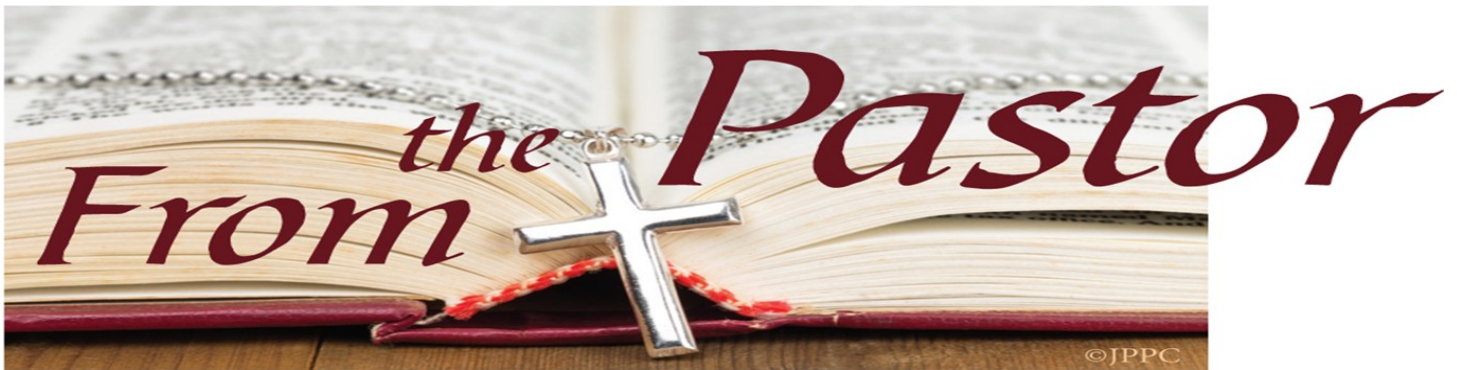
First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

## 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.



As we enter the Third Week of Advent, we start our additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance. This Wednesday and next, confessions will be heard from 6:30-8:00 am. Yes, that's AM. In the morning. The goal with the morning timeslot is to have a convenient time to catch people on their way to work in the morning. Lots of parishes schedule evening times during Advent and Lent, but that doesn't always work for people. So we're trying the other end of the spectrum. We'll see how it works. On Saturday, December 18, there will be an hour of Confessions from 9:00-10:00. We'll also start the evening Confessions at 3:00 that day. Finally, Sunday, December 19, Confessions will be heard from 10:00-10:45. I hope you will take advantage of all these opportunities on all these different days and times.

This Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 pm, the school will have their annual Advent Candlelight service. This will be my first year experiencing it, and I am looking forward to it. The kids have been working hard and are looking forward to a great and edifying evening. Please consider joining us to support their hard work, and take a break from the hustle and bustle for a quiet, spiritual evening. Speaking of spiritual evenings, The Advent by Candlelight evening hosted here at Holy Cross by the 3-parish Adult Faith Formation and Evangelization committees was a great success. That's definitely something we'll have to do again next year.

A few weeks ago, we inaugurated the Holy Cross Memorial Fund and started taking memorial opportunities for the sanctuary candles in the church and the chapel. Those have been very well received, I am happy to see that people are taking advantage of these new opportunities. Donations for candle intentions and the Memorial Fund will be earmarked for the replacement of vestments, sacred linens, and sacred vessels when needed.

I hate that I have to say this, but it is happening again. People are receiving suspicious e-mails or texts, allegedly from me, asking for some kind of financial support. Remember, if something seems suspicious, it probably is. Scammers love to prey on the good hearts of well-meaning people and use that good will for their own nefarious ends. Please be careful in these circumstances. If you get something suspicious, your best move is to delete the message and ignore it. And if I'm really stuck in jail and need to be bailed out and decide that the best way to raise the bail money is to ask a parishioner to send \$500 in Amazon and Wawa gift cards to some unknown third party, then I probably deserve to be sitting there in my cell for a while. (Shameless plug time: don't forget for your legitimate gift giving that we do sell gift cards to both of those merchants in our scrip program).

The push toward Christmas is on! At least we have a full fourth week of Advent this year! The Christmas schedule is on our website and has been mailed home to parishioners. Spread the word and let people know what our schedule is, and maybe encourage them to join you for Mass.

Fr. Kiernan



<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 13</b>
8:30 AM	No Mass
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 14</b>
8:30 AM	McSwiggan & Carberry Families
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 15</b>
8:30 AM	Julia & John Grandizio and John F. Grandizio
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 16</b>
8:30 AM	Pizza & Senderoff Families
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 17</b>
8:30 AM	Dr. Thomas & Carol Jacob
<b>NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 18</b>
8:30 AM	Margaret R. McNicholas
4:30 PM	Tomczyk & Whalen Families
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 19</b>
8:30 AM	People of Holy Cross
11:00 AM	The Living & Deceased Members of the Casciano Family

## FORMED

### In case you missed it.....

In last week's bulletin, Father told us that the Parish has purchased an awesome gift for all of us, a subscription to FORMED. It is an online platform filled with Catholic movies, kids programs, bible studies, podcasts, daily reflections and more. And this beautiful gift is FREE to all of us! Watch the bulletin for more information, and some parish-wide events that will happen in the new year. In the meantime, please go to <https://signup.formed.org> and sign up to begin exploring. Just enter "Holy Cross Parish, Springfield PA", it will appear in the drop-down menu; select it and press "Next", no password needed, and you will have full access to the site. Thank you, Father Kiernan!

## SANTUARY LAMP



This week's Sanctuary lamp intention is for:

**Church: Neil McCrossen**

**Chapel: Tom Bunting**



## Sunday Collection, December 5

*Total Collection*      \$8,786

*Electronic*      \$3,320

*Basket & Mail-ins*      \$5,466

## TAX SAVINGS FOR YOU / GIFT TO HOLY CROSS

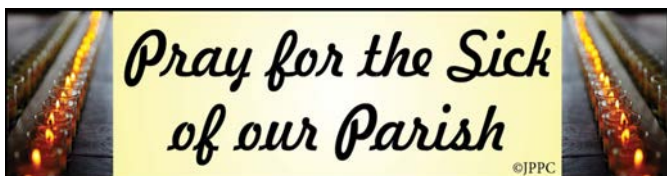
If you are age 70 ½ or older, the best way to make a charitable contribution can be through a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from a traditional IRA. A QCD can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year and reduce your income taxes.

The tax benefit of giving from an IRA is greater than writing a check and taking a tax-deduction. Such gifts are also well-suited if you are subject to the RMD, but no longer itemize deductions for income tax purposes.

Suppose your RMD for the year is \$10,000-. Make at least \$10,000 of QCDs and you have satisfied your RMD and avoided income tax on the distribution. The money is out of your traditional IRA, but there is no gross income on your tax return. **For a charitable distribution from an IRA to qualify as a QCD, the contribution must be made directly from the IRA custodian or trustee to the charity.**







**Lyndi Butler**  
**Gerald Curran**  
**George Dickinson**  
**Dawn Gibbons**  
**Carolyn Henderson**  
**Steven Henderson**  
**Jimmy Keating**  
**Carole Kime**  
**Natalie Giorgio Kitts**  
**Ken Kull**  
**Mary Kull**  
**Kendall Lambert**  
**Joann Marks**  
**Maryanne McCauley**  
**Richard McCullough**

**Barbara McCusker**  
**Larry McCusker**  
**Francis Murray**  
**Frances O'Callaghan**  
**Charlotte O'Leary**  
**Paige O'Leary**  
**Alexander Ott**  
**Mary Rafferty**  
**Joseph Sindoni**  
**Adeline Sulpizio**  
**Jean Super**  
**Valerie Thompson**  
**Helen Torelli**  
**Amanda Trerotola**  
**George Vrettos**

## The Corner

**"A voice proclaims in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! ...the Glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." ---Isaiah 40:3 and 5**

Advent is a great liturgical season of waiting ---- but not waiting passively. We yearn, we search, and we reach out for the God who will come to us in human flesh. In short, we "prepare the way of the Lord" Jesus Christ. There is no better way to prepare our hearts for Jesus than to reach out for God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Sunday, December 19, 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!

## Church Cleaning

A note of thanks to our Holy Cross cleaning ladies who continue to help keep our church and chapel clean! We are blessed and you are appreciated. Next church cleaning is Dec. 14 after the 8:30 am Mass. Extra hands are always welcomed. Contact Dolores Morroni 610-715-1328.

## Casserole Drop-Off Date

The next drop-off is Wednesday, December 15, between 6:00 and 7:00 PM at the gym annex. The casseroles are appreciated by the homeless who visit St. John's Hospice at 12<sup>th</sup> and Race St., Philadelphia. You can make any casserole that you like. Please mark the casserole with the date prepared. Call Connie Labowitz at 610-328---0599 with any questions. Thank you!

## Three Parish Book Club

The Three Parish Book Club's next meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Parish Center. The Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month from September through June to discuss the chosen book and to share other reading suggestions. We welcome new members. You do not need to have read the chosen book to attend the meeting. For more information, please contact Joy Van Berg at 610 32-2095 or [joyvanberg@gmail.com](mailto:joyvanberg@gmail.com).

### December

The Infancy Narratives: Jesus of Nazareth  
by Pope Benedict XVI  
Joseph Ratzinger

### January

The Shepherds' Prayer by Richard M. Barry

## Stewardship Promotion

Take a minute to check out the new faith-filled material for the season on the shelves near the entrance doors. There are many booklets about the saints and good ideas for children's gifts to consider.

# FOOD PANTRY

## Food Pantry Update

Christmas time is almost here. The Food Pantry will be open the following days and hours during December. These dates include: Dec. 8, 15 and 22 (Wednesdays) from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

The Pantry will be closed on Wednesday, December 29 and we will reopen on January 5, 2022.

If you know of anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know our pantry hours and that we are here to help. Our Pantry will be open on our regular schedule of Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 in January.

Thanksgiving final count: *Over 150 families received turkeys / chickens and all the fixings for their family dinners.* Thanks to the generosity of so many. This number is so significant that it's worth repeating all of our contributors to this annual event.

Our Holy Cross school children led the effort with classroom collections with their "Turkey Trot" campaign. St. Kevins KofC, St. Francis SVDP, their CYO and soccer teams, our Holy Cross KofC (who help us all year), the Clifton Hgts. Acme (who have helped us numerous times throughout the year and provided a large donation of turkeys and fixings), Springfield Staples, the Springfield Ice Hockey Club, Boy Scout Troop 512 and Springfield Cub Scout Pack 240 and Boy Scout Troop 111 ensured that we should have staple supplies for a long time. There were also many individual donations and the list goes on...

Our volunteers have worked tirelessly and we are humbled and grateful for your prayers and generosity all year, *without our parishioners' support all year... we would not be able to do what we do every week.*

From our homes to yours, God Bless All of You.  
Your friends from the St. Vincent dePaul Holy Cross Food Pantry

## MARRIED COUPLES

Resolve to "Live your best life in love" in 2022: Why not give yourselves some time together by making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? In-person experiences in the new year are: February 11-13 and April 22-24 at Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown. For more info visit: <https://www.wwme-philly.org/>.

## Assistance Needed

Grandmother needs assistance during the week caring for her 4 grandchildren. If interested, please call Monica Dougherty at

## BE THANKFUL!

"COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS, NAME THEM ONE BY ONE, AND YOU WILL BE SURPRISED WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE", yes we sometimes forget all that Jesus has done for us! Take some time and be thankful. H would like to hear it from you. Our Adoration Chapel is open, 9AM to 7PM, Monday thru Friday.



## Advent Bible Study

For men and women in Springfield: Advent Bible Study at the Parish Center of Holy Cross. 9:15 AM on Wednesday, November 17, December 1, 8 and 15. Please join us

## TWO GIVING TREES

This year we have two recipients of our Giving Tree and therefore we will have two trees.

On Mary's side there will be items for the Delaware County Pregnancy Center, 2508 Edgemont Ave., Chester, PA. Requests will be listed on the ornaments.

On St. Joseph's side, the items will be for the elderly poor residents at Holy Family Home, 5300 Chester Ave., Philadelphia, PA. This is run by the Little Sisters of the Poor. Requests will be listed on the ornaments. Items can be put into gift bags.

The last day for bringing gifts is Sunday, DECEMBER 12.

Thank you for your generosity!



**Home Care Needed** - Home Care needed 4 days a week for 94 year-old. Please call Vicky at 610-623-7729.



## Holy Cross Development Fundraiser



### \$\$ 365 Chances to Win \$\$

Purchase a Calendar for \$50.00. Each calendar has a 4-digit number. Each day (365) has a cash prize.

Daily	\$50.00
Weekends	\$100.00
Holidays	\$150.00

If your assigned number matches the PA nightly Pick 4 daily number (straight match) you win the cash prize on the calendar for that day. Fill out a calendar fundraiser form and return to the Business Office or place in the Sunday collection basket. For any questions, please contact [hcdevelopment-fund@gmail.com](mailto:hcdevelopment-fund@gmail.com). Can be a great Christmas gift for a family member or friend!



## Principal's Corner

We are still in need of people to work in our CARES program. The children are there from dismissal until 6:00PM. It is a nice little position. You do not have to work all five days. CARES is not open on half-days. Please call Dr. Worriow at 610-626-1709 if you are interested.



DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!

## Parish Bulletin

Due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays, the Parish Bulletin submission deadlines have been changed. Please note that all materials for the Parish bulletin must be submitted to the Business Office as follows:

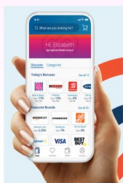
Publication date	Deadline
Dec. 19/20	Dec. 8
Dec. 26/27	Dec. 14
Jan. 2/3	Dec. 21

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- Buy gift cards and earn for Holy Cross School.

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



Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 7:00 - 8:30 PM – Theology on Tap

Event: Welcome Home For Christmas! Please join St. Augustine Parish (Philadelphia) as we host an evening to welcome you back to the Church and answer your questions.

*"After being away from the Catholic Church.....After being hurt by the Catholic Church.....After a divorce.....After an abortion.....After the pandemic.....After my questions have gone unanswered..... HOW DO I RETURN?"*

Where: The Plough & The Stars (Philadelphia's Premier Irish Pub) 123 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia (Entrance on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street) Cash Bar Available – Appetizers Provided

Join us for an evening to socialize, seek answers, and to learn about ways to return to the Catholic Church after being away or navigating through the pandemic. There will be an opportunity to ask all of your questions.

More info: Please email Jacob Marquart, O.F.S. at [staugustineparish09@gmail.com](mailto:staugustineparish09@gmail.com) or call (215) 627-1838 to submit your questions.  
Parish Website: [www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)





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**Dear Parishioner...** Is there a restaurant on the bulletin you like? Is there a home improvement project you've been putting off? Have you been thinking about finding a new doctor? Have you been thinking about selling your house? Do you need answers to a few legal questions? Is there a tree in your yard that needs attention?

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