



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

(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 15, 2024



FROM THE PASTOR

Last Sunday's service of Lessons and Carols was a beautiful and inspiring event enjoyed by all in attendance. Thank you to the dedicated men and women of our parish choir (and the instrumentalists who accompanied them) for sharing their musical talents to give us a holy reminder of the meaning of Christmas. I am also grateful to the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring and coordinating the refreshments afterward, and to all those who brought desserts to share. If you didn't make it this year, you missed out!

The long-awaited engineering study on the façade of our school building has been completed. As I'm writing this, we'd just gotten it, so it's going to take some time to digest. Glancing through it, I was really hoping to see the phrase "it's not as bad as we initially thought" jump out at me, but unfortunately that phrase is nowhere to be seen in the report. It does look like extensive repairs are needed around the entire building as there is a lot of deterioration and damage.

So, now that we have this report, and the report from the overall facilities assessment done during the Summer, I'm going to schedule a meeting with officials from the Archdiocese to discuss next steps and where we go from here. As I get more information, I'll be sharing with everyone here in the bulletin.

Don't forget next Sunday we will be decorating the church for Christmas after the 11:00 Mass. Volunteers are needed to help set up the Nativity and all the Christmas trees.

And speaking of Christmas, here's a reminder of the Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedules:

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: 4:30 PM

Christmas Day: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

New Year's Day Masses

January 1: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

No Anticipated Mass New Year's Eve

January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation this year

The last scheduled opportunities for Confession before Christmas are this week: Monday evening from 7-8, Thursday morning from 7-8, and the usual Saturday 3:30-4:15.

3rd
Sunday
of
Advent

Reading I: Zephaniah 3: 14-18a

Here we have a summons for people to begin rejoicing, through the intervention of Yahweh, genuine victory is coming to end their present defeat.

Reading II: Philippians 4: 4-7

God's peace "surpasses all understanding," and so it is always cause for us to rejoice.

The Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

John the Baptist preaches that the way to salvation is through service of others. He also insists that he is not the Messiah, but only his spokesperson.

Prepare your heart for the Lord!



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:30 AM - Bill Poppert

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:30 AM - Mary Ann Purcell

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:30 AM - John Fulginiti

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - Tom Bunting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:30 AM - For the People of Parish

11:00 AM - Joseph F. Organek, Sr.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp
intention is for:

Church - Jack Altrogge

Chapel - Mary Gibson



COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need \$12,000

Weekly Collection, December 8

Total \$8,048

Electronic \$3,229

Basket & Mail-Ins \$4,819

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Beginning in January... A name will stay in the bulletin for FOUR WEEKS. The contact person must notify the Parish Office if the person needs to stay on the list or they will be removed. Names can be put on the prayer list or removed from the prayer list by contacting the Parish Office in person, by phone (610.626.3321) or by email (contactus@holycrosscatholics.org).

Consiglia Borreli

Lyndi Butler

Mary Ann Carroll

George Dickinson

Dawn Gibbons

Carolyn Henderson

Steven Henderson

Ken Kull

Mary Kull

Kendall Lambert

Lee Anne McGough

Joann Marks

Maryanne McCauley

Matthew Bannon

Mary Ann Nero

Jack McGough

Bill Homony

Mary Ellen Sweeney

Janice LeTourneau

Teresa O'Neill

Rich Meroney

Richard McCullough

Larry McCusker

Francis Murray

Charlotte O'Leary

Paige O'Leary

Katherine Patrone

Mary Rafferty

Ronnie Sidebottom

Joseph Sindoni

Adeline Sulpizio

Jean Super

Valerie Thompson

Betty Tomczyk

Madalyn Parr

Carter Claire Walton

Deacon Frankenberger

Alice Markiewitz

Lynn Neary

Eileen McAvinue

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

Let's remember the silent person of the Holy Family, Blessed Saint Joseph. He said "yes" to God by adopting Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God, as his own Child. Joseph's "yes" is very similar to the "yes" of Mary; just as it demonstrated her humility and obedience, so it also demonstrates his.

Casserole Drop-Off Date

The next drop-off is Tuesday, December 17th between 4:00 and 5:00 PM at the gym annex. The casseroles are appreciated by the homeless who visit St. John's Hospice at 12th and Race St., Philadelphia. You can make any casserole that you like. Please mark the casserole with the date prepared. Call Connie Labowitz at 610-348-1591 with any questions. Thank you!

St. Andrew the Apostle Nocturnal Adoration Society

The St. Andrew's Nocturnal Adoration Society of Drexel Hill will meet from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM on Thursday January 2nd, 2025 for an hour of Eucharistic adoration in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Spirit Group Retreat – Malvern Retreat St Joseph in the Hills

January 24-26, 2025

It is a Traditional Men's retreat, including daily Mass, conferences, all meals and overnight accommodations, at a cost of \$275.00 Our weekend begins 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24 through Sunday 26, 2025. I'd like you to consider coming out for this retreat. During this time, you will experience prayer, meditation, reconciliation, group discussions Eucharistic liturgies and special speakers.

* This years' Retreat Director is Father William Cocco of St Edmonds Parish Rehoboth Beach DE.

* Our speakers are Deacon Tom McGovern of St Joseph Paris High bridge N.J.

* Mary Bea with the Carlo Acutis Shrine at Malvern retreat House.

* Finally, our special event is Mr. Eustace Wolfington, Executive Producer, of Angel Studio's presenting a private viewing of the acclaimed movie "Cabrin".

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	

We Need Some Helping Hands!

Sunday, December 23, after the 11:00am 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!

School News

As we begin the season of Advent, we prepare ourselves to receive Jesus. Our Feast Days this month include St. Francis Xavier, St. Ambrose, The Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Lucy, St. John of the Cross, St. Stephen, St. John, Holy Innocents, the Feast of the Holy Family, and the Nativity of the Lord.

We will celebrate our faith with our Advent wreaths, prayers, and Jesse Tree. Each day, we will learn of a new ornament for our Jesse Tree that explains God's plan of salvation, culminating in The Word made Flesh, Jesus our Savior.

We are hard at work practicing for our annual Candlelight Procession, which will be held on Thursday night December 19th at 7 PM. All parishioners are welcome to join us at this beautiful celebration of the Nativity of our Lord.

Friday, December 13, our students had fun at our Santa's Workshop. The students had a visit and their picture taken with Santa and they got to shop for all those on their gift list. Thank you to our Home and School who work so hard to make this a great day for our children and faculty.

Grades PK3- 2nd enjoyed the Musical Petting Zoo, learning about many musical instruments on Thursday, December 12.

The virtue for December is Generosity: giving without counting the cost. To help practice and strengthen this virtue, we currently have charitable opportunities, including our canned food drive and writing cards for military personnel, which will allow students to complete works of mercy and offer them to God. Our students are hard at work in their academic studies and performing virtuous and charitable works to help others.

50/50 Tickets are still on sale, 1st Raffle is on 12/19! Please send your orders to the school office.

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 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

The Book Club will hold its December and January meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on Wednesday, January 22nd 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.

December book – Waiting for Christ – St. John Henry Newman

January book – Walking with God in the Unimpressive Seasons of Life – Fr. Mike Schmitz

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.

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

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!

St. Thomas Monastery Front Desk Receptionist

St. Thomas Monastery, Long-Term Health Care Facility of the Augustinian Friars, located on the campus of Villanova University, is looking for a per diem Front Desk Receptionist. Responsibilities include greeting visitors, answering the phone and assisting the Friars with minor requests. Available shifts: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 2PM - 7PM. Must be able to fill in for co-workers at times. Background History Check performed upon application. Applicants must be fully vaccinated against Covid- 19. Annual parking fee of \$30.00 required if applicable. Email Lynn Walsh, Office Manager, at lynn.walsh@villanova.edu

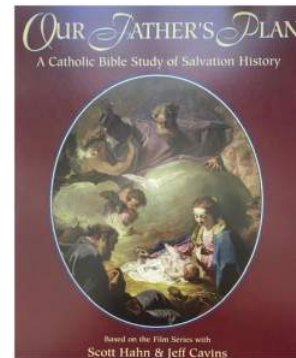
Students Excelling at Cardinal O’Hara High School

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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