

# HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

DECEMBER 18, 2022 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321  
 Parish School .....610-626-1709  
 Religious Education.....610-626-1057  
 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 Worriow..... 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

A few months ago, our music director, Grete, asked me what I thought about the choir doing a program of lessons and carols during Advent. I said if the choir was willing, let's do it. After some discussion, it was suggested to add a social gathering afterward, with the Knights of Columbus and the Social Committee looped in to run it. Sounded great. There was, however, one big question: how many people would attend? Twenty? Fifty? One hundred? How many programs to print, how many tables and chairs to set up, and how much food to order all depended on that number.

Well, I am so happy to report that the answer to that question far exceeded our expectations! Last Sunday we had over 120 in attendance at our First Annual Lessons and Carols. To say it was a beautiful evening would be an understatement. The music was excellent and the dinner afterward was a great time. The whole event was a delightful blend of sacred and social—a great chance to rest and recharge. A huge word of thanks to all who helped make the event happen and to all who came out to join us. I think it's safe to say this has to be an annual event.

One of the things that I have consistently heard in the last year and a half is how much our choir has grown under Grete's leadership. We are so blessed to have this group of about 20-25 singers bring their talents to glorify God in our worship. That being said, the music ministry is also faced with a bit of a challenge. The library of sheet music needs to be updated and expanded. Also, our organ is in need of some repair. We are fortunate to have a real pipe organ. They are increasingly rare as churches opt for electronic organs, which can be installed for a fraction of what a new pipe organ would cost. The sound of a pipe organ can't be beat, but there are a lot of moving parts, and they need regular care and TLC. In our case, some of the moving parts have stopped moving, and we need to replace some motors and mechanical parts in order to fully experience all that our instrument can do. The bid for that work came in at around eight or nine thousand dollars.

To help with all of this, we've established a new music endowment for the parish. Starting next year, you'll periodically receive an envelope in your mailing for this new fund. Contributions to the music fund will allow our music ministry to keep our instruments in tune and good repair and purchase new music for our worship. As always, your generosity is very much appreciated and will allow our music ministry to keep doing great things.

Next Sunday is Christmas. The Mass schedule is available elsewhere in the bulletin and on our website. To those who are going away to visit family or friends, safe travels! To those who are welcoming family and friends back home for the holidays, we'll see you all next week! Have a blessed 4th week of Advent.

## 4th Sunday of Advent



### Reading I: Isaiah 7: 10-14

The Lord tells King Ahaz to ask for a sign as to whether or not Isaiah is the one to believe or his advisers. Isaiah is proven right with his announcement of the virgin conception and birth of Emmanuel.

### Reading II: Romans 1: 1-7

Paul writes an introduction of himself to the Romans he is about to visit with a solemn opening. Then he presents a triple description of himself and his faith.

### The Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

Matthew's Nativity story. In keeping with his mission to the Jews, puts the spotlight on St. Joseph. The Spirit is the source of all life. Joseph's obedience is inspirational.



# MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19**

8:30 AM - No Mass

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20**

8:30 - Tom Bunting

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21**

8:30 AM - Tom Bunting

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22**

8:30 AM - Robinson & Miller Families

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23**

8:30 AM - Bill Poppert

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24**

8:30 AM - Stella De Los Santos

4:30 PM - Priests' Intentions

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25**

8:30 AM - The People of Holy Cross

11:00 AM - Priests' Intentions

## The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

“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.

## SANCTUARY LAMP



This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church: Jeffrey Scholis

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need \$12,820

Weekly Collection, December 11

**Total** \$8,386

Electronic \$2,658

Basket & Mail-Ins \$5,728

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



Steve Austin

Consiglia Borreli

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 Claire Walton

## 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!

## Casserole Drop-Off Date

The next drop-off is Wednesday, December 21st 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 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 610-328-0599 with any questions. Thank you!

## St. Francis Over 50

St. Francis Over 50 Club Casino Trip to Resorts is 1/16/2023. \$30 - \$15 return for slot pay. Bus leaves St. Kevin 10:00AM. 200 W. Sproul Road, Springfield. For Information, call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.

# 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.



## 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](mailto: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.](#)

## Food Pantry Update

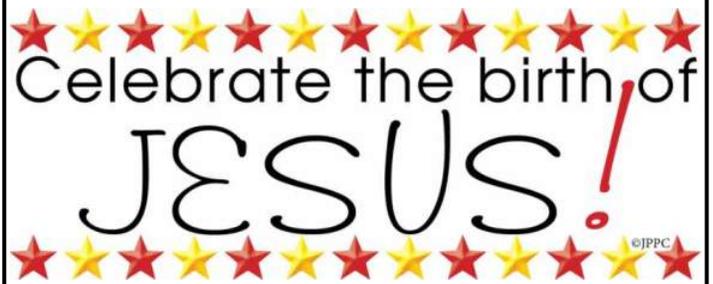
Thanksgiving preparation was brisk. Our Holy Cross Students, our Parishioners, Knights of Columbus, St. Kevins, St. Francis, Acme, and the AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians) ensured that we had "All the Fixings for Our Neighbors in Need" to prepare for their family Thanksgiving dinners.

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



## 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](http://RaiseRight.com) on your computer.

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

## 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.

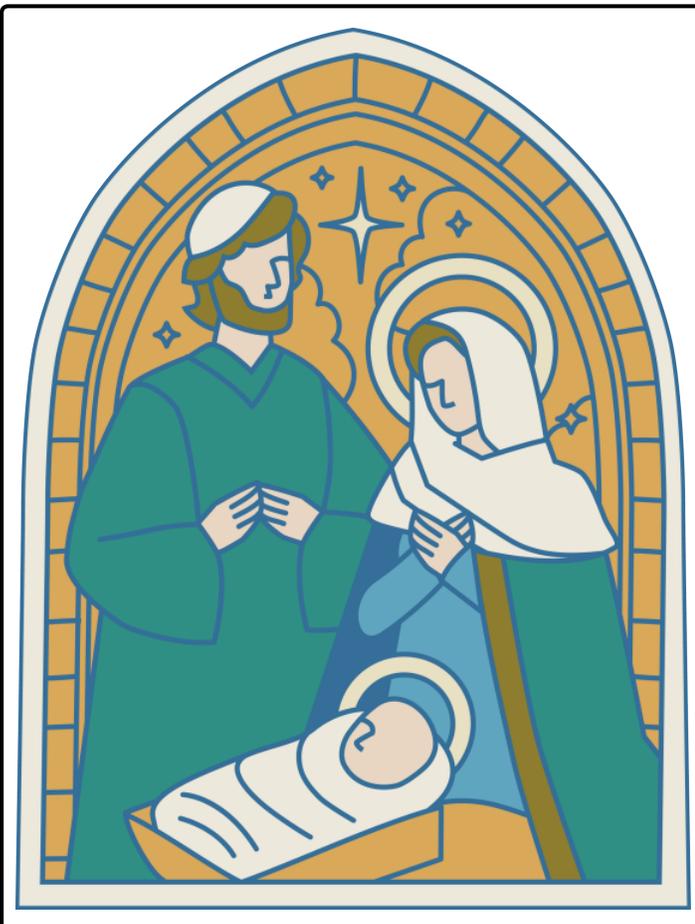
For more information, please contact our Music Director, Grete Ingalls, at [greteingalls@hotmail.com](mailto:greteingalls@hotmail.com) or 267.253.4007.

## Delco Monthly Pro-Life Meeting

Please join us for our monthly pro-life meeting at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield on Wednesday, January 11, from 1-2 PM, in the Rectory basement Conference Room. Entrance to the Rectory is from the parking lot. Your prayers and suggestions to advance the message of the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death are welcome.

National March for Life in Washington, DC is on Friday, January 20. The theme is "Next steps: Marching in a Post-Roe America". Info for bus leaving from St. Francis parking lot will follow.

*Jesus, protect and save the unborn.*



## Holy Cross School News

Holy Cross Students are celebrating the season of Advent. Teachers have their advent wreaths in the classroom and are teaching the students the "reason for the season."

Students and faculty celebrated mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, December 8. Thank you, Father Kiernan, for a beautiful Mass to honor this holy day of obligation.

Lunch with Santa tickets are being sold, families will gather in the school cafeteria on Saturday, December 18, and have pizza and treats with Santa Claus. Families are also invited to walk through the school and see our decorated doors. We will judge the most decorated door the week of Christmas break. Good luck and thank you to all our teachers who took time out of their busy day to create such wonderful doors.

Our Santa secret shop will be Friday, December 17. This event is run by our wonderful Home and School Board. They bring joy to our students, who love to shop for gifts for their family, friends, and themselves. Thank you for your time and effort put into this event.

## St. Bernadette's Catholic Church Winter Bereavement Support Group

Starts: Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 Tuesday evenings for 8 weeks

Where: St. Bernadette's Parish, The Wright Center, 1st Floor, Drexel Hill, Pa, 19026. Park in lot between School and Church on Harper Ave.

More Information: Call George Salloom @ 610 306-0252 or email-georgesalloom@hotmail.com. George has over 25 years' experience as a bereavement group facilitator.

Program is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a family member or friend 18 years or older. Eight-week commitment is encouraged. Reading material will be available. There is no fee for the program and the program is non-denominational.

## 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](https://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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