

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

DECEMBER 22, 2019 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office / Rectory..... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
 Parish School 610-626-1709
 Religious Education..... 610-626-1057
 Convent 610-626-2491
 Pastoral Minister..... 610-259-8266
 Music Director..... 215-431-2883
 Website..... www.holycrosscatholics.org
 E-mail contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Eugene C. Wilson..... Pastor
 Rev. Edward C. Kelly..... Resident/Faculty COHS
 Rev. Thomas J. Furey St. Joseph Villa/Retired
 Deacon Robert Frankenberger..... Retired
 Deacon Joseph N. Gousie..... Retired
 Mrs. Theresa Carey..... Business Manager
 Mrs. Judy Vacca Pastoral Minister
 Dr. Mary Rose Worriow..... Principal
 Mrs. Kelly Meliti Director of Religious Education
 Mr. Timothy Reilly Music Director

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 4:30 PM
 Sunday, Upper Church 8:30 and 11:00 AM
 Holy Day Vigil (night before Holy Day) 7:00 PM
 Holy Day 8:30 AM
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:30 AM
 Thursday..... No Mass
 Friday..... 12:15 PM

NEW PARISHIONERS

All Catholics living in the parish should register. Our Welcome Center 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)
 Saturday & Sunday..... Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, Lower Church: 3:30 to 4:15 PM

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 the Rectory of Mrs. Judy Vacca, Pastoral Minister, when a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound.



I knew. I simply knew. Very upset, I ran into my parent's bedroom. I knew Santa wouldn't come that Christmas Eve if I didn't sleep—and I was wide awake! My parents turned on the light and calmed me down. They assured me that Santa *would* come. Actually, it was more my mother who calmed me. My father just opened his eyes for a moment and said, "Try and sleep." How could my father be so tired on Christmas Eve, the greatest night of the year? Even my mother seemed bleary-eyed. I nestled between the two of them and feigned sleep. I think that it was the rumble of my father's gentle snore that did me in, because the next thing that I know, in what seemed like mere minutes, the first

streaks of dawn were tapping on the window and beckoning me. It was a nice new day! It was Christmas Day! I quietly crept out of bed careful not to disturb my still sleeping father and mother. I went to the top of the stairs and peered down. Dawn began to brighten the living room of our home and I went ever so slowly and quietly down the steps at first just peeking around the wall. The sight was amazing! It was incredible! Presents were everywhere to be seen under the Christmas tree. Santa *had* come! I then ran to the kitchen and there on the table was more evidence, as if I needed more. Hungry Santa devoured the Oreos that I had left for him and completely emptied the glass of milk! He came! He really came! I dashed out again to the tree and carefully looked at the presents. Some were big. Some were small. Some were to my mother and some were to my father, but most seemed to be from Santa to me! I was careful not to open anything. For that, I would wait for my parents. My parents! I had to let them know! Santa *had* been here! *Mom! Dad! Santa was here!* Groggily, they assured me that they would join me shortly—after just a little bit more sleep. How could they have so much trouble waking up? It was Christmas morning! After what seemed like forever, they did join me and the unwrapping of presents, the festivities, and the joys of Christmas Day began! As a kid, it was the anticipation and expectation of Christmas Day that was so exciting and exhilarating. It was that longing for Saint Nick to arrive that caused a little guy to be wide-awake at midnight. The anticipation of Christmas Day still causes me to "lose sleep," however; it is not the anticipation of Santa's arrival. Santa and I stay in touch now throughout the year. It's the whole naughty and nice thing. He lets me know who needs special prayers. No, my "sleep loss" has to do with anticipating that eternal Christmas Day where it is my parents that now wait for me to "get out of bed" and join them around the tree, the sign and symbol of Life, under which, on that Day, there will be just One Present given to all!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson



Mass Intentions

MONDAY	DECEMBER 23
8:30 AM	FRANK MC NULTY
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 24
8:30 AM	ANNA MAY BOYLE
4:00 PM	SHEILA FLAHERTY MC GINLEY
7:00 PM	MC ALOON FAMILY
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 25
8:30 AM	HELEN FROMBERG
11:00 AM	MATTHEW HUMPHREYS
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 26
	No Mass
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 27
12:15 PM	LORRI RUDOLPH
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 28
8:30 AM	AMATO CAVALCANTE
NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS	
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 28
4:30 PM	RICHARD & ROSE KANE
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 29
8:30 AM	CARADINO & PHYLLIS DIGREGORIO
11:00 AM	TOMCZYK & WHALEN FAMILIES

The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Lyndi Butler | Joanne Marks |
| Margaret Cook | Barbara McCusker |
| Maryanne Convery | Lee Anne McGough |
| Stephen Collins | Thomas Miller |
| Samuel Dephillipo | Dan Murphy |
| Sharon Diemer | Connie Myers |
| Kathleen Dixon | Frances O'Callaghan |
| Janet Doherty | Charlotte O'Leary |
| Lillian Donahue | Paige O'Leary |
| Mary Ann Farrell | Laura Palermo |
| Nicola Giordano | Francis Romano |
| Donna Giorgio | Jim Sandusky |
| Carolyn Henderson | Rose Marie Santos |
| Steven Henderson | Michael Sargent III |
| Stefanos Karas | Joseph Sindoni |
| Carole Kime | Adeline Sulpizio |
| Mary and Ken Kull | George Vrettos |
| Kendall Lambert | Lily Walker |
| Rose Leto | Nadia Waltanski |
| Patricia Lyons | Carter Walton |
| Helen Lyons | |

CHRISTMAS EVE

THE TRUMPET WILL BE
PLAYED BY JOSEPH SMITH
IN MEMORY OF
RUTH IRENE BARTIVIC

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"ADVENT IS A JOURNEY TOWARD BETHLEHEM.
MAY WE LET OURSELVES BE DRAWN BY THE
LIGHT OF GOD MADE MAN."



We
are now ready for our Christmas
Holiday break. The 4th Sunday of
Advent has passed and we are now
waiting to celebrate the birth of the
Baby Jesus. O Come, O Come Em-
manuel!!

Our Candlelight Procession took
place on Tuesday, December 17. It
was a beautiful reenactment of the
Birth of Jesus. I am sure that Jesus
was pleased with our children.

Enjoy your holidays and know you
are in our prayers for the New Year.
God bless you!

Dr. WorriLOW

Holy Cross Parish Masses

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Upper Church
7:00 PM Upper Church

Christmas Day

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

New Year's Eve

4:30 PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day

8:30 AM

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



There is a need for additional volunteers to assist with the counting of the Sunday collection. Each counter works with two others and is scheduled about once every four or five weeks.

For additional information, please contact the Business Office at 610-626-3321. Thank you very much for considering this request.



Holy Cross Development Fundraiser

Support Holy Cross Church and School

- * Each Calendar has a 4 Digit Number
- * Each Calendar costs \$50
- * Each Day (366) has a Cash Prize
 - Daily — \$25
 - Weekends — \$50
 - Holidays — \$100
- * 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.
- * Prize winnings will be distributed weekly to all winners — checks will be mailed to name and address that is registered for that calendar.

For questions, contact:

hcdevelopmentfund@gmail.com

Deciphering the Christmas "Code"

Many of the traditional images of Christmas are actually a kind of code language for Easter! This is because Christmas and Easter are meant to be connected in our religious imagination. When we learn to decipher this Christmas code, we see that the Nativity is not simply about Christ's birth and childhood. It is really about His life's mission to proclaim the kingdom of God, a mission that will lead to His mission to proclaim the kingdom of God, a mission that will lead to His passion, death, resurrection and ascension. The familiar elements of Christmas have a deeper meaning for all baptized Christians, who are called to see beyond the crèche to the cross, there are some examples of the Christmas-East connection:



shutterstock - 321847251

Holly berries and leaves: The red berries of the holly tree remind us of the blood of Christ's passion, and the prickly edges of its leaves recall the crown of thorns.

Christmas wreaths:

The crown of thorns has become the victorious crown of eternal life represented by the evergreen leaves.



Christmas tree: The wood of the Christmas tree on which hang the ornaments and gifts becomes the wood of the cross on which hung Jesus, the Savior of the world, the best gift we could receive.



Christmas lights: In the darkest time of the year, we light candles and put lights on our homes and trees. This reminds us of the paschal candle we will light at Easter. The candle is Christ our Light,

who dispels the darkness.

Angels: Christmas angels tell the shepherds in the field, "Do not be afraid," as they announce the birth of Christ. At Easter we will hear the angel at the empty tomb tell the women, "Do not be afraid," as he announces that Christ is risen



Manger: A manger is a feeding trough for farm animals. At Christmas we place the baby Jesus into the manger because this body and blood, through His sacrifice and His Resurrection, will become for us the Eucharist, eternal food and drink that nourishes and sustains us.



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22

Reflection by Rev. Leonard Peterson

The pressure is on to deliver. No, I'm not thinking of the Post Office, or Fed-EX or Amazon. In these waning days of Advent, what I refer to is the pressure you or I just might be feeling about any personal promises we made this pre-Christmas season to God, or family and friends with an eye to making this Christmas even more special.



Concerning God, your Advent resolution hopefully included some extra time spent in prayer, or maybe along-delayed confession. As to family, a renewed effort to "make it work" with some challenging member, a project that began at Thanksgiving dinner. Your kinder thoughts of him/her now translated into a Christmas card or a phone call, or gladly joining them around the family Christmas tree. As for friends, especially those geographically distant, you made some time together via Skype or texting if not a visit.

As we read St. Matthew's Christmas account today, we might note some differences in it from St. Luke's version. They are often combined in the popular versions. Chief among them is the prominent role St. Matthew gives to St. Joseph, which Luke does not. This Matthew did for the comfort of his primarily Jewish audience, Joseph is the link with the House of David, a long-held qualification of their expected Messiah.

This happenstance gives us the perfect time to focus on St. Joseph. He is almost a forgotten saint, despite the fact that he is the foster father of Christ; the Patron of the Universal Church, and a perfect model of true masculinity. What we note also is his outstanding integrity; constant patience; and inspirational obedience. All three characteristics, far from a complete list, will be a working document for all of us to live our Catholic faith in a better way from December 25 into the fast approaching 2020. In vision rating that number is perfection at the eye doctor's office.

I admit that notion puts some inherent pressure on us all. But like cardio exercise that is good for the heart, so truly living our faith every day is good for the soul. And I'd like to add that St. Joseph models skills that fit in with a modern context. What is "time management" other than priority adherence and obedience to a command for prayer? What is "goal setting" other than healthy obedience to a higher power? Carefully read between the lines of St. Joseph's story. Note that it has no memorable speech but action aplenty. When St. Joseph's virtues become part of our own biographies, they bring us the elusive joy of peace.

I close with the thought of the late Menachem Begin, a former Prime Minister of Israel: "Peace is the beauty of life. It is sunshine. It is the smile of a child, the love of a mother, the joy of a father, the togetherness of a family. It is the advancement of man, the victory of a just cause, the triumph of truth." A blessed Christmas to you and yours.



O'Leary Funeral Home, Ltd.

640 E. Springfield Road
Springfield, PA 19064

Thomas J. O'Leary, Jr. Supervisor

610-259-1959 | www.olearyfuneral.com

COMMUNITY TRANSIT
Transportation available for
ALL residents of Delaware County!
• Shared Ride Program for Senior Citizens 65+
• Persons w/ Disabilities Transportation Prog.
• Medical Assistance Transportation Program
For more information call 610-490-3960
or visit us at WWW.ctdelco.org

DR. STANLEY LUBECK

BOARD CERTIFIED

DIPLOMATE, AMERICAN BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE, FACFAOM, FASPM, FASPD

Emphasizing a conservative approach in the management of the

FOOT & ANKLE

PODIATRIC MEDICINE & SURGERY

NEUROPATHY PAIN MANAGEMENT

PARK AT ENTRANCE - ONE STEP DOWN

SPROUL & KENNERLY RDS., SPRINGFIELD

610-543-1973

Family Owned and
Operated Since 1987



RIGHTWAY WATERPROOFING CO.

BASEMENT
WATERPROOFING
MOLD REMEDIATION
FOUNDATION REPAIR

FREE INSPECTION
Licensed & Insured



www.RightwayWaterproofing.com
215-427-1727

Piazza Honda Springfield

Ray Mancini, General Manager

Parishioners Discount for mention of ad.

NEW & USED • PARTS • BODY SHOP • SERVICE

610-789-9420

780 Baltimore Pike • Springfield, PA 19064
www.PiazzaHondaSpringfield.com

OLIVER

Comfort You Can Trust



EXPERTS IN:

Heating
Cooling
Plumbing
Electrical
Home Remodeling

484-477-4032

OliverHeatCool.com

GUTTER CLEANING

GUTTER DOCTOR

855-322-7400

If You **LIVE ALONE** You Need **MDMedAlert!**

24 Hour Protection at **HOME & AWAY!**
✓ Family ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Fire
AS LOW AS **\$19.95** A Month*
GPS + Fall Alert* + APP Tracking
24/7-365 - USA Based Monitoring
No Contract
FREE SHIPPING



CALL NOW! 800-866-2180

EXPRESSPARK, INC.[®]

AIRPORT PARKING



Full & Part Time Weekday & Weekend Shifts
DRIVERS & CASHIERS

Rare Opportunity! Full Time Position

HR/PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR

Expresspark Airport Parking
610-325-7977
Expresspark.net



The Inquirer



ST. FRANCIS CENTER

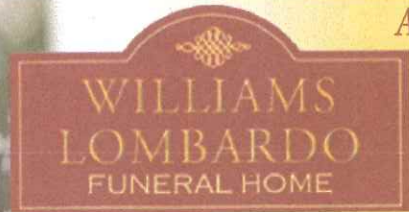
FOR REHABILITATION & HEALTHCARE

1412 Lansdowne Avenue, Darby
610-461-6510

We Care and It Shows

*We Acknowledge
We Appreciate*

Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy • Short & Long Term Care • Dementia Unit
Beautiful On-Site Chapel with Daily Mass Respite Stay Available



Advanced Planning, Cremation Options and Pet Cremation Services

Joseph F. Lombardo Jr., Supervisor

610-626-2110

Clifton Heights, PA 19018

Services Unique As Life

www.williamslobardofuneralhome.com

Weichert

Parishioner



JAYNE P. LAMBERT, Realtor®
610-565-1300 x309
610-246-0778 Cell



Williamsburg DENTAL
Aesthetic General Dentistry

Serving the Delaware County for over 40 years

Joseph J. Capista, DDS
Joseph P. Lamb, DDS
Robert J. Spennato, DMD
Daniel P. Tibbetts, DMD
David M. Maconi, DDS

Broomall: 610-353-2700



CHRYSLER Jeep

Bill Robinson
Sales Consultant,
Parishioner

Please call for an appointment

bill@videon.com

VIDEON CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP

4951 West Chester Pike
Newtown Square
610-356-7000
Cell 484-343-1856
Fax 610-325-0180
www.videon.com

Protect your world
Auto • Home • Life • Retirement



Allstate

Peter De Maio
610-259-3939
528 Burmont Road

Kimberly Unger
Medicare Consultant

theAssurance group

Medicare, Life Insurance & Annuities
856-671-2437
kaunger@assuregrp.com

PAYNE
PLUMBING • HEATING
AIR CONDITIONING

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALL
484.802.4267
Senior Citizen & Military Discount

\$500 off
Complete
System

40 Gallon Hot
Water Heater
Bradford-White
\$925

MARY ELIZABETH DEVINE
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Real Estate Wills Estates Family Law Injury Claims

Drexel Hill • 610-789-0800

www.LetDevineLawIntervene.com

FULL SERVICE CATERING

Wawa®
Catering

ORDER ONLINE AT
WWW.WAWACATERING.COM

855-WAWA-2GO

FREE DELIVERY on orders of \$75 or more
with promo code PHILLYARCH thru 12/28/19
(Limit 1 time per customer - Delivered Orders Only)



Springfield, PA • 328-1131
328-1141 • 544-4811



Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

May the joy of season bring you love and peace. Merry Christmas to wonderful community!

Here to help life go right®

Jeff DiBlasi, Agent
5 E Woodland Ave
Springfield, PA 19064
Bus: 610-544-AUTO
www.insurewithjeff.com

State Farm

1708158 State Farm Bloomington, IL

USA NCC

General Contractor Inc.

www.usancc.com • www.usancc.net

Kitchens • Baths • Drywall • Ceiling • Doors • Windows • Ceramic
Flooring • Electrical • Plumbing • Roofing • Painting • Siding
Quality Work • Licensed & Insured • Professional Home Remodeling

Tom 215-385-2456 | usancc@yahoo.com



MIKE D'ORAZIO
Plumbing & Heating

Registered Master Plumber

Parishioner

Springfield 328-2631



JOHN HAUSER'S
DREXEL AUTOMOTIVE

Full Service Auto Repair

- Auto Inspection and Emissions
- Computerized Diagnostic Svcs
- Manufacture Scheduled Maintenance
- Tune Ups & Oil Changes
- Shuttle Service

Foreign & Domestic

www.drexelautomotive.com

"OLD FASHIONED SERVICE FOR TODAY'S CUSTOMER"

518 Burmont Road,

Drexel Hill, PA 19026

610-623-6679