



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

DECEMBER 27, 2020 • THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321
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Parish School610-626-1709
Religious Education.....610-626-1057
Convent610-626-2491
Music Director.....holycrossmus@gmail.com
Website.....www.holycrosscatholics.org
E-mailcontactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Eugene C. Wilson..... Pastor
Rev. Edward C. Kelly Resident/Faculty COHS
Rev. Thomas J. Furey St. Joseph Villa/Retired
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
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:30 AM
Friday* 12:15 PM

*Currently suspended - view online only

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, Lower Church: 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.

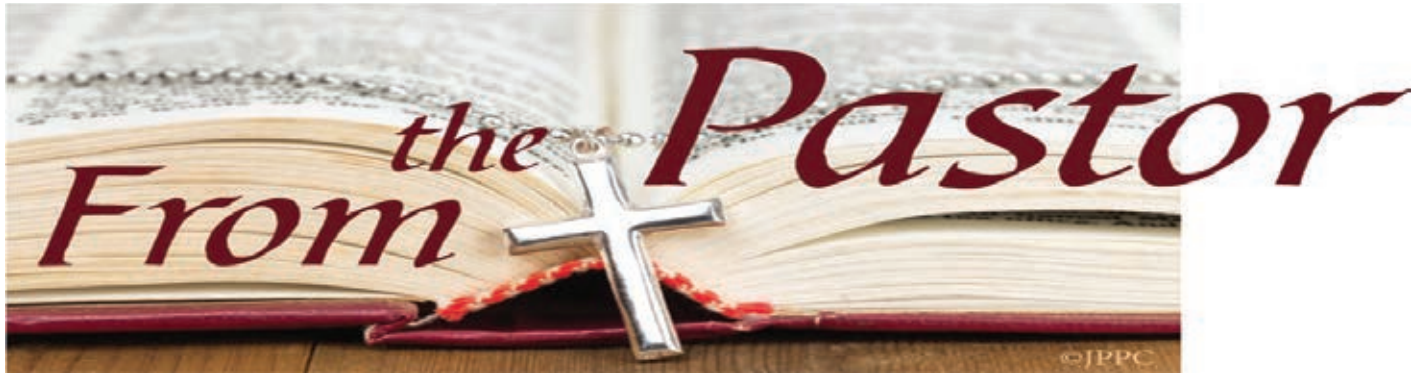
First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

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.



A New Year's thought from a homily from Saint John Chrysostom:
The light of a Christian cannot escape notice.

There is nothing colder than a Christian who does not seek to save others.

You cannot plead poverty here; the widow putting in her two small coins will be your accuser. Peter said, "Silver and gold I have not". Paul was so poor that he was often hungry and went without necessary food.

You cannot plead humble birth, for they were humbly born, of humble stock. You cannot offer the excuse of lack of education, for they were uneducated. You cannot plead ill-health, for Timothy also had poor health, with frequent illnesses.

Each one can help his neighbor, if only he is willing to do what is in his power. Look at the trees that do not bear fruit: have you not noticed how strong and fine they are, upstanding, smooth, and tall? If we had a garden, we would much prefer trees with fruit—pomegranates and olives—to trees that are for pleasure, not for utility, and any utility these have is small.

Such are those men who think only of their own concerns. In fact, they are even worse: the trees are at least useful for building or for protection, whereas the selfish are fit only for punishment. Such were those foolish virgins who were chaste, comely, and self-controlled, but did nothing for anyone. So they are consumed in the fire. Such are those men who refuse to give Christ food.

Notice that none of them is accused of personal sins. They are not accused of committing fornication or perjury or any such sin at all: only of not helping anybody else. The man who buried the talent was like this. His life was blameless, but he was of no service to others.

How can such a person be a Christian? Tell me, if yeast did not make the whole mass like itself, is it really yeast? Again, if perfume failed to pervade all around it with its fragrance, would we call it perfume?

Do not say, "It is impossible for me to influence others." If you are a Christian, it is impossible for this not to happen. Things found in nature cannot be denied; so it is here, for it is a question of the nature of a Christian.

Do not insult God. If you say that the sun cannot shine, you have insulted Him. If you say that a Christian cannot help others, you have insulted God and called Him a liar. It is easier for the sun not to give warmth or shine than for the Christian not to shed his light. It is easier for light to be darkness than for this to happen.

Do not say then that it is impossible. The opposite is impossible. Do not insult God. If we have put our affairs in order, these things will certainly come to be and will follow as a natural consequence. The light of a Christian cannot escape notice; so bright a lamp cannot be hidden!

May your Light shine brightly before others in the New Year of 2021!

Peace!
Fr. Wilson

Masses For The Week



MONDAY	DECEMBER 28
8:30 AM	Margaret Noesel
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 29
8:30 AM	Tom, Jacob & Margaret Noesel
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 30
8:30 AM	Anthony Pauline & William Fiscella
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 31
8:30 AM	No Mass
4:30 PM	Deacon Robert Frankenberger
FRIDAY	JANUARY 1
8:30 AM	Deacon Thomas Taylor

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	JANUARY 2
8:30 AM	William Fidelibus
4:30 PM	Mary Ann Purcell (deceased) and Patrick Purcell (living)
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3
8:30 AM	People of Holy Cross
11:00 AM	Helen & Edward Collins

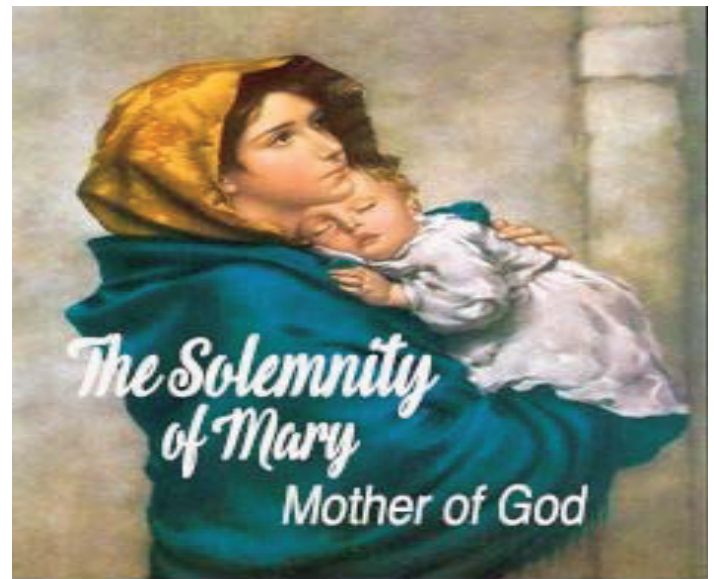
On-Line Giving

Join the growing number of Holy Cross Parishioners who contribute to the Sunday offertory by electronic means. It is convenient and easy. Please visit our website and click on "Our Parish" and then the "Parish Giving" tab or contact the business office for assistance.



Sunday Collection, December 13

Due to the Christmas Holiday, the numbers for the Sunday collection were not available at the time of bulletin submission.



Solemnity of Mary

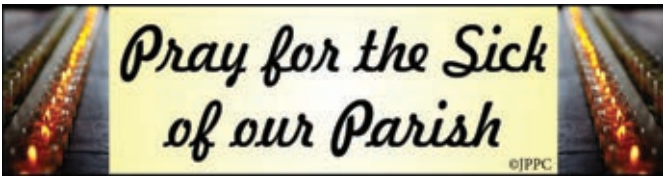
Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Eve

4:30 PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day Mass

8:30 AM



Bill Burke
 Sharon Burr
 Lyndi Butler
 Margaret Cook
 Stephen Collins
 Samuel Dephillippo
 Nancy DeSanctis
 George Dickinson
 Janet Doherty
 Terrence (Terry) Gibson
 Nella Giordano
 Nicola Giordano
 Donna Giorgio
 Carolyn Henderson
 Steven Henderson
 Stefanos Karas
 Carole Kime
 Mary and Ken Kull
 Kendall Lambert
 Rose Leto
 Patricia Lyons
 Helen Lyons

Joanne Marks
 Lucy Mashura, S.F.O.
 Barbara McCusker
 Lee Anne McGough
 Dan Murphy
 Connie Myers
 Frances O'Callaghan
 Charlotte O'Leary
 Paige O'Leary
 Mary Ann Purcell
 Mary Rafferty
 Rose Marie Santos
 Michael Sargent III
 Theresa Sherwin
 Joseph Sindoni
 Fr. Paul Stenson
 George Vrettos
 Lily Walker
 Nadia Waltanski
 Carter Walton



The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen."

---From an old prayerbook "A Christmas Novena"

Deadline for 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
Jan. 2/3	Dec. 21





Holy Cross Development Fundraiser

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

Support Holy Cross Church and School

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 hcdevelopmentfund@gmail.com.



Visit with Jesus in our
Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM Monday – Friday
Need info call
Ronnie 610.623.8412 or Office 610.626.3321



Three Parish Book Club

The Three Parish Book Club will meet on Wednesday, December 30, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Members will discuss *Rediscover the Saints* by Matthew Kelly.

The book for January is *The Worn Out Woman* by Steve Stephens and Alice Gray.

The book for February is *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom.

For more information, please contact Joy Van Berg at 610-328-2095 or joyvanberg@gmail.com

Food Pantry Update

The Food Pantry will be open on **December 23** and closed on **December 30**.

We will reopen on January 6, 2021.

Our volunteers and Neighbors in Need have no words to express our immense gratitude and sincere appreciation. Thanks to all of you (Holy Cross parishioners), our volunteers, Holy Cross Knights of Columbus, our school children, Springfield Boy Scout Troop 512 and Cub Scout Pack 240, Sisters of Mercy at Merion, Erie Insurance for your generosity during this holiday season.

The pantry provided Christmas food fixings and desserts to our Most in Need Neighbors on December 16 and 23.

If you know any Delco residents who require food, please let them know we are open every Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:00 PM, directly behind Holy Cross School.

God Blessings to All, wishing you a safe and healthy Merry Christmas.

Your Friends from the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry Team



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

To be cute about it, I quote here an American humorist by the name of Evan Esar (d. 1995): “Family: A social unit where the father is concerned with parking space, the children with outer space, and the mother with closet space.”

Whether Mr. Esar was fully correct or not, there is a grain of truth in what he wrote, and there is always some truth in wholesome humor.

However, for my purpose I prefer this statement of Sir Winston Churchill about the nature of family. “There is no doubt that it is around family and the home that all the greatest virtues ...are created, strengthened, and maintained.”

Over this holiday time of year we are most likely to be with family, either literally or virtually because of the virus. We can verify Sir Winston’s observation. Family also gives us the answers to most of life’s important questions.

Do you think the young Jesus had questions? Certainly He must have, because remember He took on a human nature “like ours in everything but sin.” What is one of the principal ways we learn? Through answers to questions. Through that triple-spoken process of lessons taught, example given, and experience lived, Our Lord and Savior indeed grew in wisdom and grace.

I think it is an important detail that all this happened in the little village of Nazareth. It was located on the edge of the empire, far from the high society and corruption of Rome. So insignificant was it that it is nowhere even mentioned in the whole Old Testament. Great things can happen in humble places, as our family homes most often attest.

Could Our Lord have had better teachers in how to handle life than Mary and Joseph? Hardly. Without any advanced degrees after their names, we can say with conviction that both Christ’s parents had “PhDs” in holiness. Mary who was declared “full of grace” by an archangel, and Joseph remembered as a “just man” in the Scriptural sense cannot be excelled at their task. The Holy Spirit has decided not to tell us if any peers taught Jesus things, but we can imagine they too played a part, for better or worse, in His human upbringing. So we stand back for a time from all our concerns to admire and celebrate this Holy Family. We can see the necessity of these thirty or so years to prepare Our Lord for His incomparable mission.

That brings up the subject of our mission. Obviously it begins in our family circle, but it has to expand from there if we are to take our Baptismal and Confirmation promises seriously. That means doing our part to tell the waiting world all about Jesus and His Good News, even if the world neither acknowledges nor cares that it is waiting. Waiting for something, or more accurately, Someone, beyond its own calculations to give it purpose. Taking up the admonitions of Sirach and Colossians, which we read this weekend, is a good place to begin. After all, that’s our way to heaven. Here is George Bernard Shaw’s take on family: “A happy family is but an earlier heaven.” Think about that! God love you and give you His peace in 2021!



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