



Sharing our enthusiasm for our faith;

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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

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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 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.

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.

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, February 2, 2025

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

You may know the long-running TV series 'Law and Order' and its trademark 'plink plunk' sound between scenes. Each show featured an incident of law violation followed by the court trial. Evidently a winning formula as the franchise has continued to produce spin-offs.

Generally speaking, in real life, most people prefer to live under authentic law and consistent order. It's the criminal element among us who "ply their trade," so to speak.

Joseph and Mary, the holy parents of a Holy Child, certainly knew the law of their nation and kept them in good order. That is why they entered the great Temple on a day long ago to participate in the established rite of presentation that all Hebrew mothers had to go through forty days after the birth of their male child. Obviously, Mary did not have to undergo any purification, but she, with Joseph, did so to preclude any scandal. So, in all humility they lined up with the other couples and their boys.

The topic of law and order enters our thinking from time to time. It often proceeds from "something out there" to something personal. We believe that Our Lord Jesus provided us guidelines. He fulfilled the Old Testament Law. He passed on the same to what would eventually become His Catholic Church through His Apostles and their successors. Twenty-one centuries later the obligation to obey remains, even if the idea of obedience these days is culturally foreign.

Sad to say, a growing number of those who call themselves Catholic have chosen not to agree. So, we note their absence from Sunday Mass in a downward trend that underscores the prediction of our late pope Benedict XVI that the Church will grow smaller and poorer.

It is difficult to understand how a rational person could decide to ignore Christ's words 'Do this in memory of Me,' spoken at the Last Supper to His Apostles is beyond the scope of this reflection. I will just say the words "relativism" and "self-referential morality" for the time being. You can explore them.

Honestly though, a person's bias against law in general certainly threatens order. How safe would it be to cross a busy street? Or board a plane? Or ride a New York City subway?

I began this piece with reference to a popular TV show. Let me close with some homespun wisdom I found that recognizes the problem. "Many people believe in law and order as long as they can lay down the law and give the orders."

God love you and give you His peace.

Presentation of the Lord



Reading I: Malachi 3: 1-4

The Lord's messenger (Elijah) will make Israel ready for the Lord's coming by returning the people to covenant obedience.

Reading II: Hebrews 2: 14-18

Jesus was like us in all things but sin. He took on our nature in order to die so that He could "rob" Satan of his claim over our lives.

The Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40, or 22-32

Mary and Joseph fulfill the Law of Purification for all new mothers, not because they needed to be cleansed, but because they wanted to avoid giving others scandal. The elderly Simeon calls the Child "the Light to all nations."



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:30 AM - Maryanne Leonard

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

8:30 AM - Clement McSwiggan

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:30 AM - Dorothy & Thomas Cassidy and Dorothy Ruane

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:30 AM - Mary Ann Purcell

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - Angelo O'Rangers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:30 AM - Robert (Bob) Riccio

11:00 AM - For the People of the Parish

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"Today, along with Simeon and Anna, we contemplate the Divine child, the Word made flesh, who is brought to the Temple; the Temple of our heart." ---from the vatican.va website

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church - Joseph Scolis Chapel - Richard Daciw



COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need	\$12,000
Weekly Collection, January 26	
Total	\$7,025
Electronic	\$3,045
Basket & Mail-Ins	\$3,980

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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 Mary Cuccinello

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 Lynn Neary Eileen McAvinue Kieran McCann

Kieran Coyle

Knights of Columbus Pasta Dinner

The Holy Cross Knights of Columbus will be hosting their Annual Pasta Dinner on Saturday, February 8th in the Parish Hall following the 4:30pm Mass. Doors open at 5:30pm and dinner will be served at 6:00pm. Price for tickets is \$12. This is a BYOB event. Tickets will be sold after the Masses on January 25th & 26th and February 1st & 2nd. You can also get tickets from any of the Knights before the event. There will again be a "Trivia Night" immediately following the dinner in the Parish Hall. Enjoy some coffee, dessert and trivia after dinner. Please stick around to match your wits with your fellow parishioners, friends and guests!

St. Andrew's 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 February 6th, 2025 for an hour of Eucharistic adoration in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Eileen George Prayer Group

Join us on Sunday, February 9th, from 2 to 3 PM at Annunciation BVM Church for a grace-filled Holy Hour. We will have Adoration, Confessions, and Benediction along with our Novena for Eileen George's intercession for our personal needs. After Benediction, join us in the hall for light refreshments. All are welcome. For questions contact: Jeanmarie Lorello at 610 -547 -7308 (phone or text).

Holy Cross Horse Race Night

Holy Cross Horse Race Night is Sat. March 1st. This is an entertaining, immersive audience-participation event that simulates the thrill of being at a live horse race. Come watch 10 horse races, place bets and enjoy friends, food and fun! Tickets \$25. Purchase by Feb 24th from the school office or church office.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive
St. Charles Roman Catholic
Church

Hall 3422 Dennison Avenue Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Monday, February 3, 2025 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Saint Charles RC Church to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.

If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.

Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Create a flurry of hope! Come give blood Jan. 27 to Feb. 28 for a \$15 e gift card rcblood.org/flurry



School News

Our first week in 2025 is done. It was an interesting start to the new year. We had a snowstorm, a new gym floor, and some internet issues. It was great to see the students and all of our teachers and staff happy to return and get back in the swing. It was a nice beginning to the New Year, even though we rolled with the internet outages, the printer par-functioning, and the arctic temperatures. If God brings you to it, He brings you through it.

We have a lot of events coming up, especially during Catholic Schools Week which starts on Sunday, January 26, with our Open House, from 12 pm until 1 pm. We invite all our parishioners, families, and students to stop by and see what wonderful things are happening at Holy Cross School. Meet our teachers and tour our school. We have a lot of fun activities planned for this week of celebration. On Tuesday, January 28, we will have a preview of the Book Fair, and our sales will start on Wednesday, January 29. We welcome all to come and shop. We also have the Science Fair, the Talent Show, Student and Teacher appreciation days, and some special activities daily.

In the month of Catholic Schools Week, we celebrate the Feast Day of St. John Neumann. We need to remember him, because St. John Neumann, as our 4th Bishop of Philadelphia, created the Catholic Schools in Philadelphia due to the turmoil and refusal of some public schools to teach immigrant children from Catholic countries. This created a demand for facilities where education could coexist with spiritual training and Catholic culture.

Philly Catholic Singles 30-45: Upcoming Events

Join other Catholic singles for fun events! We host friendly events for marriage-minded Catholics ages 30-45.

Singles WINE BLENDING! - Vino Bambino, Broomall

 Sun Feb 9 @ 1:00pm. \$85 covers 7 wine tastings, private room rental, pizza, and your own bottle of wine.

All Comers 30-45 Lenten Adoration & Confessions - St. Bridget's Parish, East Falls

- Fri Mar 7 @ 7:00pm, Presider: Fr. DeLacy. (Suggested donation \$10)
- Join us for an evening of beautiful music, adoration, and confessions, followed by light refreshments in the parish hall.
- ** All-comers event... both couples and singles 30-45 are welcome!**

Future events Spring 2025:

• Bowling (April), Nature Hike (May), and Art Museum (June)

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.

Food Pantry Update

Happy New Year to all. We were able to help many over the Christmas season. The Acme provided us with a huge donation that covered the food for our Christmas dinner distribution. Yeah Acme.

Also, our friends at ShopRite are providing us with dry goods and bakery items each week. What a blessing.

Over the holidays, our clients received a rare treat (something most may take for granted) an assortment of mops, dustpans, buckets and brooms). Our Neighbors in Need were able to pick an item and you would have thought they received gold... Be Satori, based locally in Springfield provided these goodies. Thank You.

Clam Tavern provided a van full of food and Nirvana provides us with pet food All Year long. Many Blessings for their generosity and All of our year.

If you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know that we are open Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:30.

We continued to be humbled by the generosity and prayers within our Community. When we wonder if we will have enough.... we always seem to have what we need. We never take anything for granted and we are so Grateful for all of you.

If you are able, we need (no glass please) canned meats / tuna, stews, chef boyardee, pasta sauce, pasta, oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, and rice.

God Bless All of you, Our SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry Volunteers

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 29th 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.

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 <u>analysis results</u>.

"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

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Zack and Yalla is FORMED's newest kid show series. Join them as they unexpectedly find themselves in the company of the Holy Family. Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession explores the grace and healing offered in Confession, and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. It's a great series to help us get ready for Lent. There are many more Catholic resources available free to you... movies, podcasts and audio books for the whole family!

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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. Mary Polish American Society Scholarship

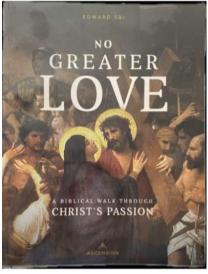
St. Mary Polish American Society is accepting applications for the third annual Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship to a qualified student of Polish ancestry residing within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pursuing full-time undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. Full information about the scholarship is included in the QR code. For any questions, please call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held February 14 - 16, 2025 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit

www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Lent Bible Study at Holy Cross



How will you prepare your heart this Lent? Join us for the video series "No Greater Love" with Dr Edward Sri, Fr Mike Schmitz and others. This series is filmed in the Holy Land, and we will walk where Jesus walked. It's more than a Bible Study....it is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. 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**, March 3 thru April 7 --- 7:00 – 8:30 PM - in the Holy Cross Parish Center Or: **Wednesdays**, March 5 thru April 9 --- 9:15 – 10:45 AM – in the Holy Cross Parish Center

The Bible Study is free! Please join us and bring a friend! Come a few minutes early to meet others and to get your seat. If you attend the Wednesday morning session, please also join us for 8:30 Mass that morning.

<u>To save a seat</u> or for more information, contact Pattie Stevens at <u>pattiejstevens@comcast.net</u> or 484.868.8571.



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