



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

JANUARY 10, 2021 • THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321
610-638-4243
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.

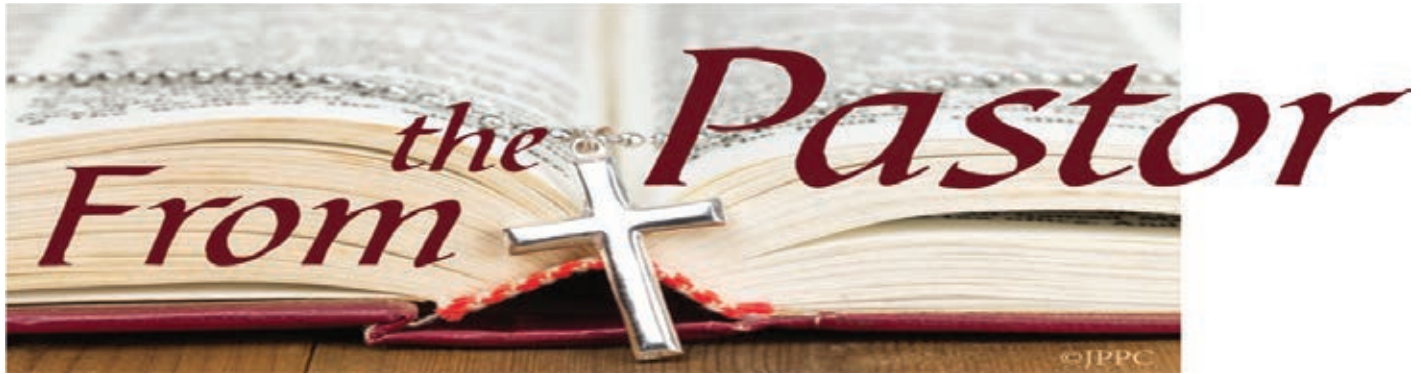
First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

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.



They are the “big man on campus” and so, they have no need to hide. They are fearless. They stand out and they are truly outstanding. I was off in the woods recently making a trek. It was cold and the five mile trail encircling the frozen lake was covered with a good deal of ice at low points. Towards the end of my hiking, having traversed ice and snow, I crossed paths with a gentleman that I have encountered a numbers of times. There he was walking with his big, white, furry dog. I believe it is a Great Pyrenees breed. This fellow always stops to talk for a moment. I offered him my holiday greetings and commented how it was such a beautiful day to be outside, though a mite cold. He readily agreed and likewise offered his holiday greetings. I turned to continue my journey and he called out to me. *Did you see the eagles?* Fan that I am, I thought to myself, “they’re not playing today.” I was about to say something about the *Birds*, but then quickly realized that he was talking about the actual birds of prey. *Oh, no*, I said, *I didn’t see them*. He said that they were out today in all their glory and beauty. He told me to be on the lookout as I continued and reached “the point” near the dam. They were keeping a keen eye on all of the ice fishermen upon the lake ready to swoop in for any discarded fish. The fellow told me that he had witnessed this himself as one of the anglers tossed a small catch across the ice. It slid for a quite a distance and had barely stopped when the bird swooped down and, in a flash, snatched a quick snack. I thanked the gentleman for his tip and wished him a good hike with his four-legged, snow-loving friend. I did keep an eye out for the eagles. I thought I spotted one in a tree, but then, alas, nothing. Suddenly, I was at “the point” and as my fellow hiker had said, there it was. There across the lake and perched on a relatively low hanging branch was an American Bald Eagle as big as the day is bright. He is for sure the “big man on campus” and certainly has no need to hide. The men were fishing on *his* lake. I think that they all knew that. He was keeping an eye out for his lunch and keeping a wary eye on all the guests on his lake. Eagles are quite the bird. They are beautiful in flight against a blue sky and, as everyone knows, they have very keen eyesight. No wonder that they are the symbol for our nation. Imagine if Ben Franklin’s idea of the turkey as the national bird really had been adopted? With the state of our nation of late, some might think that it should have been. Eagles are fierce and fearless. Their talons are sharp and strong. They rule the skies. They command respect and they inspire awe. Perhaps, it is the eagle that we must call to mind once again in our country today. Eagles do, indeed, have sharp vision. As a nation, maybe it is our vision that has been rather impaired. There has been much distress this past year between our politics and an on-going pandemic. As for the latter, we’ll see what good news soon-to-be and already available vaccines might bring. As for the former, unfortunately, divisive politics seem certain to continue. A renewed vision will be necessary, one which has *One Nation under God* as its foundation. A society in which the science of human life in the womb and later near its end outside is questioned, but the science of masking one’s face against a virus is not; where male and female can be interchangeable terms with the definitions of each unclear; one in which people are characterized in contrast to one another according to the pigmentation of their skin with the questioning of such characterization not permitted; a society in which civil discourse cannot take place, is a society in need of renewed vision. That vision begins with recognition of *God* and acknowledgement of the *creature-Creator* relationship for it is then, and only then, that one can begin to recognize *His* imprint in something as beautiful and inspiring as an eagle perched and watching. He is waiting for the right moment. This is our moment. It is time to recapture our vision as a Nation so that the entire world might again look to us as one might look upon a most majestic American Bald Eagle as we bear witness to and proclaim *One Nation under God with liberty and justice for all! God Bless America! Peace! Fr. Wilson*

Masses For The Week



MONDAY	JANUARY 11
8:30 AM	Rev. Thomas Furey
TUESDAY	JANUARY 12
8:30 AM	Edward J. Ryan, Sr.
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 13
8:30 AM	Frances Armstrong
THURSDAY	JANUARY 14
8:30 AM	No Mass

Friday—Public Mass suspended during the green phase. Mass available online.

FRIDAY	JANUARY 15
12:15 PM	Rev. Thomas Furey

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	JANUARY 16
8:30 AM	Michael O'Kane
4:30 PM	Joan Longhi
SUNDAY	JANUARY 17
8:30 AM	People of Holy Cross
11:00 AM	Frank J. Parr (12th Anniv.)

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, January 3

Total Collection \$9,151

Electronic \$6,085

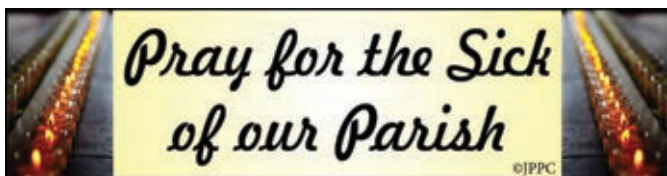
Basket and Mail-ins \$3,066

Christmas collection \$17,655

PHILADELPHIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Please join us at the Philadelphia March for Life, Saturday, January 23, 2021 sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office for Life and Family, the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia and many other organizations. The event will include a 9:00 AM Mass at the Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Perez, followed by a march to the Philadelphia Women's Center at 777 Appletree St. and a closing rally at Independence Mall from 12 to 1 PM. This commemorates the 47th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling that has resulted in over 60 million deaths, thousands of injured women and 500,000 deaths in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Facemasks and social distancing are required at all times, and there is free and paid parking at the Cathedral and paid parking in the vicinity of Independence Mall. See prolifeunion.org for details.





Bill Burke
Sharon Burr
Lyndi Butler
Margaret Cook
Stephen Collins
Maryanne Convery
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
Jean Super
George Vrettos
Lily Walker
Nadia Waltanski
Carter Walton



Visit with Jesus in our
 Adoration Chapel

9:00 AM—7:00 PM Monday thru Friday

If you need info, call

Ronnie 610-623-8412 or Office 610-626-3321

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

As we contemplate the baptism of the Lord, we are reminded of our own baptism, and our adoption into the Church. We have an apostolic mission as disciples of Jesus Christ. Read his commission to us:

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." ---(*Matthew 28:19*)

Catholic Relief Services Collection

The annual Catholic Relief Services collection funds Catholic agencies that work for the benefit of our brothers and sisters around the world. This collection supports vital Catholic programs that share in the Catholic mission of promoting the sacredness of human life. The collection will be taken up the weekend of January 16 and 17, 2021. We appreciate your generosity.

2021 Mass Book

The 2021 Mass Book is open and there are Mass intentions available. Please stop by the Business Office if you are in need of a Mass for a living or deceased loved one.





Holy Cross 2021 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 of the year there is a chance to win 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 or visit our website holycrosscatholics.org to printout the form and pay online using parish giving. For any questions, please contact hcdevelopmentfund@gmail.com.



Three Parish Book Club

The Three Parish Book Club will meet on Wednesday, January 27, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. We will be discussing The Worn Out Woman by Steven Stephens and Alice Gray.

February: The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

March: The Truth About Saint Joseph
by Fr. Maurice Meschler S.J.

For Information, please call Joy Van Berg at 610-328-2095 or email at joyvanberg@gmail.com

2020 Calendar Fundraiser Update

Thank you to our wonderful Parishioners for your support last year with the Lottery Calendars Fundraising Campaign! This was a very successful fundraising drive for the school and church thanks to your donations. There were 8 winners in which we paid out a total of \$300.00 in prizes. As previously noted last year, we sold 190 calendars totaling \$9,500.00. An additional donation of \$10.00 was collected when a purchaser did not want their change. The cost of printing the calendars was \$295.50.

Total raised was \$8,914.50

The winning numbers were as follows:

Feb 2	3747	\$50
May 17	2666	\$50
May 31	5911	\$50
Oct 16	1529	\$25
Oct 25	1511	\$50
Nov 9	1528	\$25
Nov 10	1536	\$25
Dec 15	1539	\$25

The numbers issued on the calendars were picked randomly in blocks of 20 throughout the possible winning series. This year the numbers are being picked randomly in blocks of 10 so the numbers are spread out even more.

So far we have sold 83 calendars for 2021. If you have not purchased one yet – they are still available.

Thank you again for your continued support and generosity.

We know this has been a difficult time for so many.

Thank you again from the Development Committee. Have a Happy New Year and Good Luck!

reflect - pray - renew
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Reflection

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Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Many a joke has been told about the trial and tribulation that is part of most people's dealings with their state's DMV. I refer to the much maligned Department of Motor Vehicles. Its various ways and means conjure up images of purgatory, especially with the demands it makes on our patience. This last is exacerbated with the restrictions brought on by the current pandemic. Already being bureaucracy at its worst, when one adds those in, I think then the experiences it creates for its users could be recorded as "Intimations of Purgatory."

My needs were twofold: buying a car from a private seller, and renewing my driver's license. Were I to tell you my whole story, including a suggestion from an official to "go have breakfast and we'll text you when it's near time for your spot in line to get serviced," I believe you might giggle a little and think how it resembled an episode of "Seinfeld."

My point in all this recall is to highlight the importance these days of carrying some proof on your person that you are who you claim to be. Today's feast celebrates the fact that at His baptism, Our Lord had no such need, for He received in spectacular fashion His authentication. God the Father said it in five words: "You are my beloved Son."

However, you and I cannot remain simple observers of a passing scene in this case. The fact that Jesus was baptized, and declared God's Son then and there brings to the fore a pair of religious obligations we all have inherited as a result of our own baptism.

First is that we take our baptism very seriously, far from being just a happy memory caught by a collection of posed pictures of us as infants at the font. Second, we must take seriously every facet of Christ's teaching in making decisions for action practically every day.

Most Catholic adults only confront the importance of their baptism when they visit the parish office seeking permission to be a godparent; or arranging a wedding; or setting up the baptism of their own new child.

The significance of this sacrament is the fact that it is the "gatekeeper" for the other six. It begins our full commitment to Christ, albeit made through our godparents, waiting for us to make it on our own. This automatically means that we are called to full participation in the life of the Church He founded, and identified Himself with as its Head.

What are some aspects of our commitment? For one, we may have to decide on any given Sunday, do I go to Mass, or Junior's soccer game? Do I opt for more sleep because I've had a hard week at work? Do I attend my daughter's Confirmation class on Saturday or go instead to a ballet performance? Basic items but real cases. And those are only the beginning.

Our baptism gave us our permanent identity and it involves far more than a cleansing from original sin. I leave it up to you to research the whole beautiful treatment of the sacrament given by the Church from her earliest days. Refresh your earlier learning by finding online the beautiful truths presented by the official Church catechism.

Meanwhile, here is rich food for thought from C.S. Lewis, one of the best exponents of the Christian faith: "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen. Not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

God love you and give you His peace.



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