

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

JULY 12, 2020 • FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Office / Rectory..... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
 Parish School610-626-1709
 Religious Education.....610-626-1057
 Convent610-626-2491
 Pastoral Minister.....610-259-8266
 Music Director.....215-431-2883
 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
 Mr. Timothy Reilly 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

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.

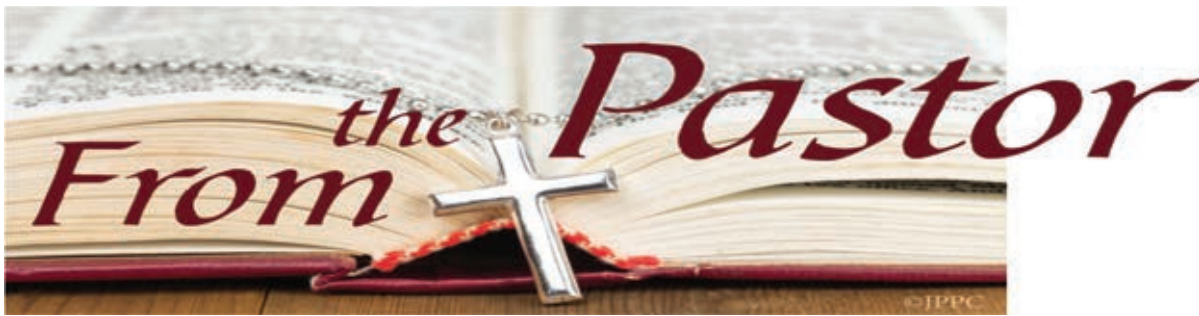
First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

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



From time immemorial man has sought to conquer the wilds. From kings to conquistadors and from saints to sinners, new territories have been explored as peoples and cultures have been amalgamated and mixed. Man has always sought to conquer the wilds, but sometimes the wilds win. It was simply meant to be a little time in the wilds of a park nearby; an outing into the woods; a bit of exercise, relaxation, rejuvenation, and a rediscovery of nature on a Sunday afternoon. It all started out well enough on the sunny day. The trail chosen had been tended to by previous explorers. Tremendously overgrown, it had been cut back much by some intrepid predecessor and thus perhaps, the want for revenge. Cutback thickets seemingly thrashed out at me that day. The bloody stripes on my arms and legs were like those of a man sentenced to forty lashes. However, there was no going back, but only pressing onwards. I stumbled; I tripped, but I kept going. On one turn of the trail, the angry brambles reached out grabbing my foot and thrust me to the ground. I slid partway down a slope landing sideways on my hip with the palm of my hand pierced by a thorn as I landed. The holy mark of stigmata, I thought, as the blood trickled down my hand and my bruised hip began to hurt. Continuing onward, I twice had to crawl on my hands and knees in order to get through a “tunnel” of angry brush. It clawed at my head, back, hands, and knees. After a bit more lashing and thrashing, I finally emerged from the summit trail. The wilds had won that day and my body had paid a price. Leaving the woods behind and making my way across a field, I thought that I was in the clear. I would return to where my ship was docked, admit defeat, and call it a day as I sailed off into the sunset. A soothing, albeit stinging, shower would be in order. But alas, even the field came to the forest’s defense that day. I went to step over a mere twig of a branch lying on the ground, but the branch reached up and ensnared my shoe throwing me to the ground. I was an explorer exhausted and spent. The wilds *had* won. When I got home, it was then that I discovered that even the seat of my short pants had split. It must have happened on the slide down the slope. How humiliating! I thought that I had felt a tad of a breeze. Later that night as I nursed my wounds, I realized something. Yes, the woods had gotten the best of me that day, but the woods hadn’t “won.” I won the woods; I won the wilds and I won the day. The win was in my effort. It was, in fact, a beautiful day weather-wise and despite stumbles, falls, and cuts I did actually enjoy the day. My wounds were my badges of honor and besides, I’d have a great (although a bit embarrassing) story to tell. Sometimes in our faith life and in life in general, we may feel that the wilds or the world or the devil has gotten the best of us. The reality is that by making the effort and engaging, we’ve already won. Our Lord is that Intrepid Explorer, Who has already cut back the trail for us. We need only follow where He has already gone. Though there might be a stumble or fall along the way with any number of cuts and bruises, as long as we keep going, we will finally emerge from the wooded wilds and realize then that we have won. In the meantime, keep going; forge ahead - and watch the seat of your pants!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson

Masses For The Week



MONDAY	JULY 13
8:30 AM	Anne Stivender
TUESDAY	JULY 14
8:30 AM	Special Intention
WEDNESDAY	JULY 15
8:30 AM	Ruth Bartivic
THURSDAY	JULY 16
	NO MASS

FRIDAY - Public Mass suspended during the green phase. Mass Available online.

FRIDAY	JULY 17
12:15 PM	Charles Hoban

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	JULY 18
8:30 AM	Joseph McGough
4:30 PM	Margaret & Thomas Walls
SUNDAY	JULY 19
8:30 AM	People of Holy Cross
11:00 AM	Living and Deceased Members of the Casciano Family



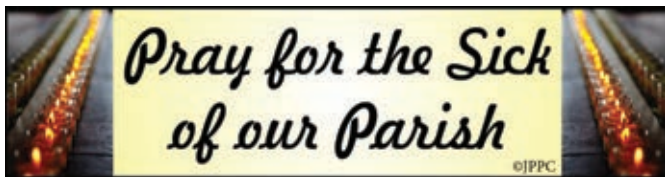
Sunday Collection, July 5

Total Collection	\$6,482
Electronic	\$2,380
Basket & Mail-ins	\$4,102

*** Please Note ***

A Lovely couple has invited Parishioners to witness their wedding which will take place simply within the 11:00AM Mass on Sunday, July 19th. Please note this and plan accordingly.





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

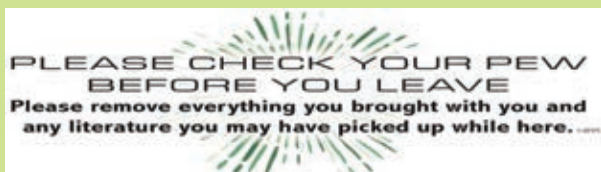
Joanne Marks
 Barbara McCusker
 Lee Anne McGough
 Dan Murphy
 Connie Myers
 Frances O'Callghan
 Charlotte O'Leary
 Paige O'Leary
 Mary Ann Purcell
 Mary Rafferty
 Ted Rudolph
 Jim Sandusky
 Rose Marie Santos
 Michael Sargent III
 Joseph Sindoni
 Adele Sulpizio
 George Vrettos
 Lily Walker
 Nadia Waltanski
 Carter Walton

U.S.C.C.B WEBSITE

Readings for daily and Sunday Mass can be found at usccb.org/bible/readings. Click on the calendar on the right to get the readings for the day.

For those attending Mass

At this time during the green restricted phase there will be no Altar Servers, Ushers taking up the collection or Children's Liturgy.



The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"As a baptized individual you are commissioned as a prophet --- which is to say, a speaker of God's truth. And the prophetic word is not your own. It is not the result of your own meditations on the spiritual life, as valuable and correct as those may be. The prophetic word is the word of God given to you by God."

---Bishop Robert Barron

Adoration Chapel

Our Adoration Chapel is OPEN!

The Chapel will be open from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday thru Friday.

The Maximum Capacity Allowed is 4 people.

Please wear a mask and please maintain social distancing.



EMAIL SCAM ALERT

Please be aware of email scams from individuals asking for money or gift cards in the name of Fr. Wilson.

These emails are not from Father Wilson. Father Wilson does not send out email asking for money or gift cards.

Thank you!

*HELPING HOLY CROSS
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It is a free Amazon program which benefits charitable organizations and non-profits.

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How to Register:

- 1) Go to smile.amazon.com (instead of just amazon.com).
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- 3) Under "Your Account," find "Change your Charity" or "Choose your Charity".
- 4) Look for "Pick your own charitable organization": Holy Cross Church Springfield PA.
- 5) Click "select," and for all future purchases Amazon will give Holy Cross 0.5% of every purchase.
- 6) Make sure to use smile.amazon.com for future purchases!

Using amazon.com alone will not contribute to the parish. We are very grateful to parishioner, Bill Judge, for coordinating this important effort for the parish.

Our Food Pantry has been busy helping our Neighbors in Need in our community. If you are able, we are getting low on the following items: cereal, pasta sauce (no glass please), veggies, baked beans, canned fruit, beefaroni, canned raviolis, juice boxes, kiddie treats, and paper towels. Drop-off locations include: in the church, in our bins outside the pantry (please be sure to put the lids on the cans after you insert your donation) or drop off during our pantry hours.

If you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know that the pantry is open on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:00 PM.

God Bless All of You,
The St. Vincent de Paul Holy Cross Food Pantry



reflect - pray - renew
reflect - pray - renew
reflect - pray - renew
reflect - pray - renew
reflect - pray - renew

Reflection

©JPPC

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

One of life's persistent questions is "What if?" If we answer by looking back on our lives, we could face heaps of regret. If we gaze into the future, we may get carried away with our daydreams or forget about the contingency of all things. But once in awhile, we get pleasant answers to the question, well-grounded and uplifting. Case in point: this weekend's Gospel passage. The unspoken variant is this: "What if Jesus were to explain some of His parables?" Fortunately for us, here He did.

As always, we admire Jesus' ingenuity as a teacher, using what is familiar to His audience at the time, in this case some rural workers. But as part of the Divine Word referred to by Isaiah, what Jesus said is addressed to a much wider audience than the original one. That happens to include you and me.

Now, some of us may actually have been sowers, at least when we spread grass seed on threadbare patches of our front lawn. Therefore the result of our sowing is also a bit chancy. We marvel when the seed catches on. Not so for (dare I call Him?) "Farmer Jesus!"

Perhaps because we have heard this parable many times, we pivot right to its application. Of the four landing places for the seed, we ask, "Which one am I?" Here we must guard against being cavalier about our answer. We may conclude that because we're hearing the parable at Mass, we have the right to say "I must be that good soil." Or, we could go in the opposite direction and hastily condemn ourselves for being "rocky soil" or even "thorns."

May I humbly suggest that, if you're anything like me, you have been all four types at various points in life. Our spiritual lives always seem to be "works in progress." That's because they are. It's a matter of two steps backwards for every one step forward." Of course, with no sarcasm meant, you just may be one of those hidden saints that have always been part of the Church, even though you would never say so about yourself.

But for the majority of us there is usually this bouncing back and forth. That could make me worry, which Our Lord said elsewhere is foolish. I am grateful that the Holy Spirit gives us St. Paul, one very transparent saint. He freely admits his progress and regression in the matter of his behavior. But note what Paul writes to us in today's Second Reading: *"I consider the sufferings of this present time as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us."* Our very vacillation is a form of suffering. (So is coping with all the effects we have endured of Covid 19, although that is subject for another reflection.)

So, taking St. Paul's words to heart, we do not have to waste our time worrying about our eternal glory being in jeopardy because of our unintended relapses. As long as we repent and rise up to try again, we will see God face to face and experience a peace and joy unmatched by anything here on earth.

As for questions like "What if?" the evangelist Vance Havner (d. 1986) wrote this: *"There are a lot of questions the Bible doesn't answer about the Hereafter. But I think one reason is illustrated by the story of a boy sitting down to a bowl of spinach when there's a chocolate cake at the end of the table. He's going to have a rough time eating that spinach when his eyes are on the cake. And if the Lord had explained everything to us about what's ours to come, I think we'd have a rough time with our spinach down here."*



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What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

To all those essential workers keeping us safe,
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"See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God."
1 John 3:1



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