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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

# PARISH OFFICE (610)626-3321 contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Theresa Carey, Business Manager
Donna Berg, Parish Secretary
Betty McIntyre, Safe Environment Coordinator
Andrew Ryan, Bulletin Editor

### Religious Education Office (610)-626-1057

PREPHolyCross@gmail.com

Kelly Meliti, Director of Religious Education Linda Ryan, Administrative Assistant

### HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL (610)-626-1709 hcscrusaders.com

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, MARCH 10, 2024**



# FROM THE PASTOR

The other day I read an article by someone who was upset that the "rules" of Lent are as lenient as they are these days. The author felt like the Church needed to go back to the "good old days" of Lenten observance and impose more serious disciplines and penances on people: more obligatory fasting and more restrictions on what and when people can and can't eat.

It's an interesting thought. Certainly, the disciplines of the past were much stricter—though they did very across time and place. In the medieval era, all days of Lent were days of fast. You got one meal, and no meat, eggs, or dairy were permitted at all. (Thus, you had 'Fat Tuesday' to use up all the milk, butter, and eggs.) Over time, concessions got made in different areas for different groups that permitted eggs/dairy, additional snacks, and even the occasional use of meat. In the USA, the most recent rules required fasting (one meal and two snacks) every day of Lent except Sundays and only permitted meat at the main meal, except on Fridays, Ash Wednesday, and Holy Saturday when no meat was permitted at all.

There is a question of how much those rules were actually observed. There were various exceptions granted to those rules for any number of reasons, and I suppose one could easily be creative enough to find a way to feel exempt. Even in 1909, the Catholic Encyclopedia observed that "the obligation of fasting is rarely observed in its integrity nowadays." It seems likely that they would be even less observed by 1969, which is about when the regulations changed to what we have today. If you're going to have restrictions that nobody follows anyway, maybe it's time to rethink the restrictions.

But I think there an additional consideration. It's much more virtuous to do something good out of a loving desire to do it than merely out of obligation. By reducing the obligations of Lent, the bishops have given us the freedom to choose penitential practices that we find better suited to our own circumstances and dispositions. We can act out of love of God and a desire for spiritual growth instead of because we're forced to do something.

If the penances of the "good old days" work for you, that's great. But if all those restrictions would do is make you grumble about how long it is till Easter, then maybe it's good that you can try something else. Yes, there is a risk that some (or most) will take a path of minimalism and not go above and beyond the basic obligations, but those would probably have been the same people who would have looked for every loophole and found ways to exempt themselves in the old system anyway.

As we've now reached the midpoint of Lent, I hope whatever you've chosen to do in the way of prayer, fasting, and works of mercy is bearing fruit and helping you grow in holiness and virtue.

4th Sunday of **Lent** 

#### Reading I: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23

A reflection on the evil of not paying attention to God's prophets compels the Israelites to endure a 70 year exile in Babylon.

#### Reading II: Ephesians 2: 4-10

St. Paul tells Christians that they can be identified with Christ in that they too will be enthroned with Him in heaven.

#### The Gospel: John 3: 14-21

The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus continues with a discussion about God sending His only Son to earth to bring light and love to the world.



MONDAY, MARCH 11

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

8:30 AM - Margaret O'Connor

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

8:30 AM - Nora Gaudiosi

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

8:30 AM - Mark Robuck

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

8:30 AM - Ellen Dickinson

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - Therese & Philip Baselice

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

8:30 AM - For the People of Holy Cross

11:00 AM - Josephine & Frank Castracane

#### The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

"I will show loving-kindness to them and forgive their sins. I will remember their sins no more." ---Hebrews 8:12

"Everyone say to himself: 'When was the last time I went to confession?' And if it has been a long time, don't lose another day! Go, the priest will be good. And Jesus will be there, and Jesus is better than the priests --- Jesus receives you. He will receive you with so much love! Be courageous, and go to confession."

---Pope Francis

# SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church - John Kemmey Chapel - Robert Seitz, Jr.



## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

Weekly Need	\$13,350
Weekly Collection, March 3	
Total	\$9,387
Electronic	\$2,509
Basket & Mail-Ins	\$6,878

# PRAY FOR THE SICK

Consiglia Borreli Lyndi Butler Mary Ann Carroll George Dickinson Dawn Gibbons Carolyn Henderson Steven Henderson Jimmy Keating Natalie Giorgio Kitts Joseph Sindoni Ken Kull Mary Kull Kendall Lambert Alice Loftus Deacon Joe Gousie Lee Anne McGough Madalyn Parr Joann Marks Maryanne McCauley Mike Calbertta Matthew Bannon Mary Ann Nero Jack McGough Bill Homony Mary Ellen Sweeney Andrea Emilia Bernabey Roxanne Tamayo

Richard McCullough Larry McCusker Francis Murray Charlotte O'Leary Paige O'Leary Katherine Patrone Mary Rafferty Ronnie Sidebottom Adeline Sulpizio Jean Super Valerie Thompson Betty Tomczyk Rosemarie Colaberdino Carter Claire Walton Alexander Passquini Melissa Dunsee Mildred Mancini Susan Cortese

Deacon Frankenberger

#### Semi-Annual Pancake Breakfast

The Holy Cross Knights of Columbus will be hosting their Semi-Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 17th in the Parish Hall from 8:00am until 1:00pm. Price for tickets is \$12. Children 5 and under are free. Tickets will be sold after the Masses on March 2nd & 3rd and March 9th & 10th. You can also get tickets from any of the Knights before the event or at the door the day of the event. Remember "It's More Than Just Pancakes!"

#### DELCO PRO-LIFE MEETING

Please join us for our monthly Delco Pro-Life group meeting on Wednesday, March 13, at 7 PM in St. Francis of Assisi Basement Conference Room in the Rectory in Springfield. Entrance is from the parking lot and down the outside steps. Your prayers and suggestions are most welcome. Jesus, protect and save the unborn.

### St. Francis Center Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to assist residents to daily Mass in the late morning - especially on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays - and to devotions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at St. Francis Nursing Home in Darby

If interested, please call Father John Gabin at 1-484-493-7173. If no answer, leave a message.

# Celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday – April 7, 2024

On April 7, 2024, St. Pius X Parish, 220 Lawrence Rd., Broomall, PA 19008, will be celebrating DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY. We invite all to come and experience the wonderful love and mercy of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted

complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary, 300) Devotions will begin at 2:00 pm with Rosary, The Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and Benediction.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will begin promptly at 3:00 pm. We warmly welcome ALL from neighboring parishes to join us for this

special day of grace, mercy and reconciliation. "Jesus, I Trust in You." (Contact Cathy 610 353-8117)

# MDP/MTC All Class Reunion April 13, 2024



Help Us Spread the Word!

# Attention MDP/MTC Alumni!

Join us for an unforgettable
All- Class reunion!
Scan the QR code to access
more information and
RSVP. We can't wait
to reconnect and
!! reminisce with you.

# School News

Congratulations to all our 7th grade Holy Cross and PREP students who received the sacrament of Confirmation Saturday, February 24, at the 11:00 am Mass. Thank you to Bishop Fitzgerald, celebrant, and Father Kiernan our pastor. Thank you to our teacher Mr. Mark Hager and our PREP teachers for getting the children ready to receive this sacrament.

On March 4, our students begin the Terra Nova testing. The Terra Nova test is a series of standardized achievement tests designed to assess K-12 student achievement in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, vocabulary, spelling, and other areas. We wish our students well as they go through this process.

Our students continue to attend Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2pm during the Lenten season. Families and parishioners are welcome to join our students as they pray and meditate on Christ's sacrifice for us.

#### Calling all Shoppers:

ShopRite of Drexeline and Brookhaven will donate 5% of your order total to our school with Every Online Purchase! Support your school while you shop online with ShopRite of Drexeline and Brookhaven's online shopping campaign fundraiser! Feb 18 - Mar 30, shop online at shoprite.com! Enter promo code 5CROSS at checkout.

Thank you, all our parishioners, Father Kiernan and families, for your support of Holy Cross Catholic School.

### Cardinal O'Hara High School "Mane Event: An Evening in Paris"

Cardinal O'Hara High School invites you to the annual Mane Event: 'An Evening in Paris', on Saturday, April 6, 2024 - COHS Gymnasium - 7pm-11pm. Come out for a fun night that includes food, a four-hour open bar, casino games, and amazing auction items and raffle prizes. All proceeds directly impact student-focused initiatives. Purchase your tickets at www.cohs.com

# **FORMED**

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Here are a few more choices for Lent! "Return: Lent with Fr John Burns" is a series of 10 very

short videos. "Lent with Brother Francis" is very helpful and engaging for kids. Explore all the

available resources by typing "Lent" into the search bar. Signing up for FORMED is EASY and FREE!

- 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!

### **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.

### **Three Parish Book Club**

#### NO MEETING IN MARCH

At each meeting members and guests offer suggestions for spiritual reading as well as discussing the selected book. You need not have read the month's selection to attend the meeting, If you would like to join the discussion or if you would like more information, please contact Joy Van Berg at 610 328-2095 or at joyvanberg@gmail.com.

#### March

On the Incarnation by St. Athanasius

#### April

Carlo Acutis: The First Millennial Saint by Nicola Gori

### **Lenten Bible Study**

# Please join us EVERY week for Weekly Bible Study!



For LENT this year, we will go deeper into the Weekly Sunday Readings. As always, we study at your convenience, either Monday **evenings** or Wednesday **mornings** in the Parish Center, so **PICK THE TIME** that is best for you. If you choose the Wednesday morning option, we begin right after the 8:30 Mass, so please consider joining us for Mass that morning. Come a few minutes early to meet others and to get your seat. No workbooks are required for this Lenten study, but please bring your Bible. Light refreshments are provided.

**When**: Mondays, February 26 thru March 25, 7:00 – 8:30 PM **OR**: Wednesdays, February 28 thru March 27, 9:15 – 10:45 AM It is always helpful to have a headcount. <u>To save a seat</u> or for more information, contact Pattie Stevens at <u>pattiejstevens@comcast.net</u> or 484 868 8571

#### St. Laurence Class of 1973

St. Laurence School Class of '73 - Fifty Year Reunion on Saturday, April 13th, 7-10 pm at The Yard Pub, Havertown. Tickets are \$45 through April 5th, \$55 after. Includes buffet and soft drinks; cash bar for alcohol. For info on ordering by check, email Terri Colgan at cogs81@msn.com. For Venmo payment email Lori Hannon at Imhannon26@gmail.com.

### **Food Pantry Update**

As we prepare for the Lenten Season, many are helping to fill our pantry shelves. Over the last month, the following groups have provided additional support to our pantry.

Our Holy Cross school children collected personal supplies (shampoo, soap, toothbrushes...you get the idea) during Catholic Schools Week. A Big Thank You to our school children.

St. Francis ran a food and sock drive and our Neighbors in Need were very grateful. St. Anastasia runs a monthly collection and we are now the recipient of their goodies. Scenic Hills Elementary school provided a truckload of food to our pantry. Sts. Peter and Paul (West Chester) Confirmation students made kiddie bags (for folks who bring their children for their food pick-ups). The message of our pantry is reaching further out and we are very grateful.

Our Knights of Columbus partipated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" and provided many needed supplies. What a Great Community activity and Thanks to All who participated in this initiative.

If you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know that we are open Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30. We do not open until all our school is closed.

We are always in need of cereal, oatmeal, mac & cheese, pasta and pasta sauce, peanut butter, rice and beans if you are able to help. (No glass please).

God Bless All of You for your prayers and generosity. Your Friends from the SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry

### **Eucharistic Adoration**



LOOKING for some peace and quiet? I know the perfect place.

LOOKING for someone you can TRUST? I know Who you can go to.

LOOKING for some answers? I know Who has them.

St. Catherine Laboure. "If you listen God will speak to you, with the good Lord you have to both speak and listen, God always speaks to you when you approach Him plainly and simply".

We have the perfect intimate chapel here at Holy Cross where you can come to accomplish all of the above!

PLEASE consider visiting with Jesus weekdays from 9:00am to 7:00pm.

We are in need of adorers to maintain our current Adoration schedule!

For more information please contact Eileen 610-213-3369

### **Divine Mercy Retreat**

April 5 - 7, 2024 \$275 in person, 3 days, 2 nights and \$75 virtually This is a co-ed Retreat Assumption and Immaculate Conception Halls Check in at 4:00 PM on Friday Retreat ends with the 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Sunday Sign up: www.malvernretreat.com/events/divine-mercy-2024/

#### Bonner-Prendie Class of '74 to hold 50th reunion

Monsignor Bonner- Archbishop Prendergast High School, Class of 1974, is planning their 50th Class Reunion, 6-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27 at Paxon Hollow Country Club, 850 Paxon Hollow Rd., Broomall.

The Reunion Committee is currently searching for current email addresses to send out notices with the details. Class members are asked to send name and email address to bonnerprendie50threunion@gmail.com/.

#### Father Judge High School Class of 1974 50 Year Reunion

Saturday, April 27th from 6 - 10 PM at Father Judge Cost is \$80 per person

Please contact khuckel@fatherjudge.com for more information

#### **Life Advocate Resource Conference**

Saturday, April 6, 2024

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

St. Matthew Church Hall

219 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA 19428

All are invited to attend this conference to learn how to get involved with pro-life activities and see all the pro-life resources offered in the Philadelphia area. This conference is free, and a free lunch will be provided, but registration is required. To register, please send your name and phone number to lifeconference@prolifeunion.org or call 215-885-8150.

#### The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit- Saturday, April 6" - Sunday, April 7"

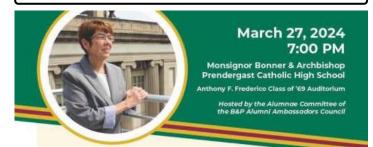


The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit contains some 160 beautiful and extensive images, photographs and historical descriptions of Eucharistic Miracles recognized by the Church throughout the ages. Enjoy a self-guided tour of this magnificent display, collected and designed by Blessed Carlo Acutis, affirming the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The exhibit also includes a First Class Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, an Italian teenager beatified by the Catholic Church in 2020 and best known for documenting Eucharistic miracles and the approved Marian apparitions around the

world

Location: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 2130 Franklin Ave., Morton, PA 19070. (The exhibit will take place in the school's gym and light refreshments will be offered in the adjacent cafeteria.) Hours: Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> Exhibit opens at 9:30 am following 9am Mass till 5pm; Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Exhibit opens at 8:30 am following 8am Mass till 2pm.

More Information: See the event flyer by going to www.olphmorton.org



We are blessed and thrilled to have **Sister Mary Scullion R.S.M.** speak to our school community about her life's work, the inspiration that led to her desire to care for the homeless in Philadelphia, and her work at Project HOME.

- · No Charge
- · Open to the public
- · Q&A to follow

Our school community prays daily to St. Augustine and St. Katharine Drexel. In the spirit of these two saints, Sister Mary Scullion models the love through action taught and lived by these two saints. It is an honor to have Sister join us for an evening of conversation.

www.bonnerprendie.com

### St. Cyril School Reunion

Please join us for St. Cyril's All Class Reunion 95th Anniversary Celebration benefitting SS. Cyril & Philomena Catholic School. It will be held at the Oaks Ballroom in Glenolden, Pa on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 6:30 till 10:30pm. Tickets are \$65.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased online at tinyurl.com/cyril-95th. For more information contact Jim or Barb Gray at 610- 284-5984 or Jim at jeg19026@gmail.com.



Mark your Calendars Now so you don't miss out on any of these upcoming fun events. Tell your Family and Friends!

#### March 17TH

**KOC-Pancake Breakfast** 







#### October 5th







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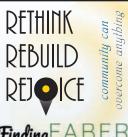
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