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*Sharing our enthusiasm for our faith;
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**651 E. Springfield Road
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holycrosscatholics.org**

Parish and School Staff

PARISH CLERGY

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Deacon Thomas Taylor

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contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

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Betty McIntyre, Safe Environment Coordinator
Andrew Ryan, Bulletin Editor

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Linda Ryan, Administrative Assistant

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(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 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.

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.

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 24, 2024



FROM THE PASTOR

What's with the purple coverings on the statues and the cross? I heard that question a few times last weekend, so here's an explanation.

There is a transition in theme that happens on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. We move into what is called Passiontide. The focus of the season shifts, with more of an emphasis on the suffering and death of Christ and preparing for Good Friday, whereas the first part of Lent focuses more on repentance from sin and transformation. For centuries, crosses and statues would be veiled (or even removed entirely) during this two-week period. With the revolutionary changes that happened to the Sacred Liturgy in the 1960's, the practice became optional. Since going around and covering everything can take a bit of time and require some feats of acrobatics and engineering, it didn't take long for "optional" to turn into "something we're not going to do anymore" in most places. But when we omit things for the sake of practicality, we can lose sight of the reality that they signify.

Back in the early centuries, the celebration of Penance and Reconciliation was much different than it is today. After confession, one would be enrolled in what was called the Order of Penitents for a length of time (measured in years) before being given absolution from their sins. Penitents were not permitted to enter the church building for Mass, but knelt outside in penitential clothing, often covered with ashes. The Order of Penitents disappeared in favor of confession and absolution happening at the same time, but there are vestiges of the concept still in effect. On Ash Wednesday, all of us symbolically become part of the Order of Penitents with the imposition of ashes. To further the symbolism, it became a custom in many places to hang a giant curtain to block the altar at the start of Lent: a visual reminder that you're a penitent not allowed inside while Mass is offered. As churches got bigger, that wasn't as easy to do. Can you imagine the size of the curtain we would need to block the view of our altar? It morphed into the veiling of crosses and images.

There's another symbolism at work as well. There is an increasing sensory deprivation at Mass during Lent. The Alleluia and Gloria go away. We don't decorate with flowers. Music is more subdued—one of the reasons we use a Latin chant setting. We enter Passiontide and take away the images. By Good Friday, the altar is stripped, the sanctuary is bare, and there should be no bells or musical instruments in use. When we gather for the Easter Vigil, we are in total darkness. Then the light of Christ comes in, and when we proclaim His Resurrection, we see the church restored to all its glory.

Put it all together and the covered images remind us that the world would be nothing but empty darkness without Jesus, and all of us are sinners in need of His mercy. A few pieces of purple cloth can be a pretty powerful symbol. Even more powerful is participating in the liturgies of Holy Week to really experience all that. So be sure to check out the schedule of services, and plan to join us to make this truly a holy week.

Palm Sunday



Reading I: Isaiah 50: 4-7

From the prophet's "Book of Comfort" section we find an obvious reference to Jesus, whose confidence remains even with His face covered in spittle.

Reading II: Philippians 2: 6-11

Paul quotes a beautiful hymn of his time which describes Christ's self-emptying and His exaltation. The hymn may have been in Aramaic.

The Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47, or 15: 1-39

Mark's gospel has been described as "A Passion narrative with a long introduction." He wrote to comfort his community sometime in the 60's AD before the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 25

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

8:30 AM - Merci Kenny

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

8:30 AM - Samuel Forlano

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

7:00 PM - Evening Mass of The Lord's
Supper

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

3:00 PM - Liturgy of The Lord's Passion

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - Easter Vigil

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

8:30 AM - Priest's Intentions

11:00 AM - Priest's Intentions

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

This week we will hear of the betrayal of Jesus by Judas, and Judas' pride and ultimate despair in not asking for forgiveness.

"It is the saddest story never told: the repentance of Judas and his restoration by Jesus. Think of all the churches that were never built: 'The Church of St Judas,

Repentant.' Think of the feast day never celebrated: 'The Repentance of Judas.' ---Msgr Charles Pope
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available to us, so that we might have restoration to Jesus.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church - Tom & Kitty McCormick
Chapel - John Kemmey



COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekly Need \$13,350

Weekly Collection, March 17

Total \$7,718

Electronic \$2,141

Basket & Mail-Ins \$5,577

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Consiglia Borrelli	Richard McCullough
Lyndi Butler	Larry McCusker
Mary Ann Carroll	Francis Murray
George Dickinson	Charlotte O'Leary
Dawn Gibbons	Paige O'Leary
Carolyn Henderson	Katherine Patrone
Steven Henderson	Mary Rafferty
Jimmy Keating	Ronnie Sidebottom
Natalie Giorgio Kitts	Joseph Sindoni
Ken Kull	Adeline Sulpizio
Mary Kull	Jean Super
Kendall Lambert	Valerie Thompson
Deacon Joe Gousie	Betty Tomczyk
Lee Anne McGough	Rosemarie Colaberdino
Joann Marks	Madalyn Parr
Maryanne McCauley	Carter Claire Walton
Matthew Bannon	Mike Calbertta
Mary Ann Nero	Alexander Passquini
Jack McGough	Melissa Dunsee
Bill Homony	Susan Cortese
Mary Ellen Sweeney	Andrea Emilia Bernabey
Roxanne Tamayo	Deacon Frankenberger

2024 Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

Masses: 4:30 Sat.; 8:30 & 11:00 Sun.

Monday, March 25

Sacrament of Penance: 7:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday & Wednesday, March 26 & 27

Mass: 8:30 AM

Holy Thursday, March 28

No Morning Mass or Confessions

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 PM

Adoration follows

Night Prayer: 10:00 PM

Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer: 8:30 AM

Sacrament of Penance: 9:00-10:00 AM

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3:00 PM

Holy Saturday, March 30

Morning Prayer: 8:30 AM

Sacrament of Penance: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM

No afternoon confessions

No 4:30 Mass

Easter Sunday, March 31

Masses: 8:30 & 11:00 am

Church Cleaning

The next Church cleaning will take place on Tuesday, 3/26/2024, after the 8:30 am Mass. Extra hands are always welcome.

Casserole Drop-Off Date

The next drop-off is Tuesday, March 26th between 4:00 and 5:00 PM at the gym annex. The casseroles are appreciated by the homeless who visit St. John's Hospice at 12th and Race St., Philadelphia. You can make any casserole that you like. Please mark the casserole with the date prepared. Call Connie Labowitz at 610-328-0599 with any questions. Thank you!

School News

Holy Cross School's
NIGHT AT THE RACES!

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Join us for a night filled with excitement, raffle baskets, 50/50 chances, and the best equestrian sports.

Doors open at 6:30PM. Races start at 7:00PM.

\$25.00 a ticket includes food and non-alcoholic beverages.

BYOB event!

Tickets can be purchased at the school office or church office.

St. Andrew the Apostle Nocturnal Adoration Society

The St. Andrew's Nocturnal Adoration Society of Drexel Hill will meet from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM on April 4th, 2024 for an hour of adoration in the church.

all are welcome to attend.

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!

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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

Spring Bible Study

Please join us EVERY week for Weekly Bible Study!

In "Queen of Heaven: Mary's Battle For You" we will study history's most famous woman. It is an encounter with Mary as you have never had before. We will accompany her from her Immaculate Conception through her apparitions in modern times. This is an 8 episode series with videos and discussions; there are no workbooks for this study. 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, April 8 thru May 27, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

OR: Wednesdays, April 10 thru May 29, 9:15 – 10:45 AM

It is always helpful to have a headcount. To save a seat or for more information, contact Pattie Stevens at pattiejstevens@comcast.net or 484.868.8571



Food Pantry Update

As we approach Easter, many groups have been very active with running food drives to support our "Most In Need Neighbors".

Thank You to all of our Holy Cross parishioners for your continuing generosity and prayers.

Also, our Holy Cross Prep class (along with St. Francis) participated in a food collection and provided almost 400 cans of soup.

St. Kevin's parish ran a Lenten Food Collection and provided over 180 bags of food. AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians) provided a car full of food and St. Annie's is running a monthly food collection and we are very grateful for all the supplies.

If you are able, we are in need of: cereal, oatmeal, mac & cheese, pasta & pasta sauce, canned meats, fruit, rice and beans.

If you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know that we are open every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 as a drive-thru behind our school.

Thank you for All you do and many blessings. In case we haven't told you lately, we Appreciate You.

Your Friends from the SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry

Eucharistic Adoration



ABOVE: This picture an adorer took in our chapel while kneeling in front of Jesus, it's the reflection from the stained glass window showing up on the Host.

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 Labouré. "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



**March 27, 2024
7:00 PM**

Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast Catholic High School
Anthony F. Frederico Class of '69 Auditorium

Hosted by the Alumnae Committee of the B&P Alumni Ambassadors Council

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



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)

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 lifconference@prolifeunion.org or call 215-885-8150.

The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit- Saturday, April 6th – Sunday, April 7th



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 6th- Exhibit opens at 9:30 am following 9am Mass till 5pm; Sunday, April 7th- Exhibit opens at 8:30 am following 8am Mass till 2pm.

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

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/



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

**A Night At
The Races
April 27th**



October 5th



**November 2nd
Annual Craft Fair**



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/cyiril-95th. For more information contact Jim or Barb Gray at 610-284-5984 or Jim at jeg19026@gmail.com.

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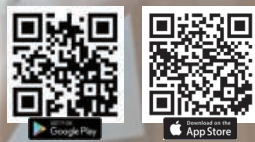
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