

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

MARCH 27, 2022 • THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Office / Rectory.....610-626-3321
 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. Steven W. Kiernan..... Pastor
 Rev. Edward C. Kelly..... Resident/Faculty COHS
 Deacon Thomas L. Taylor..... Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Robert Frankenberger..... Retired
 Deacon Joseph N. Gousie..... Retired
 Mrs. Theresa Carey..... Business Manager
 Dr. Mary Rose Worriow..... 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
 Tuesday through Saturday 8:30 AM
 No Mass Monday

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, 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.

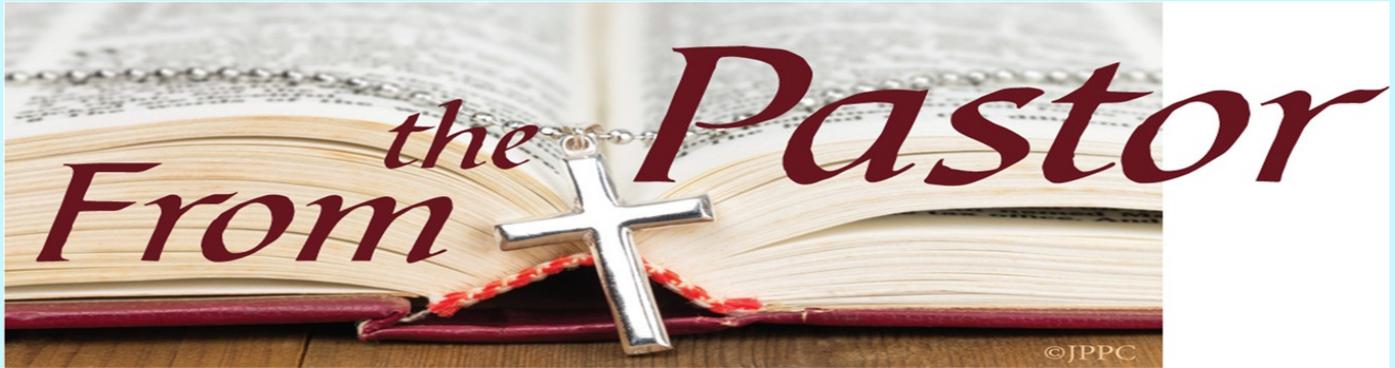
First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

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.



I've been debating whether to say anything here, but I think it needs to be said. First, let me give a little background. Last Sunday at the 11:00 Mass, the choir sang a beautiful meditation hymn at the end of the reception of Holy Communion. It was a beautifully-arranged combination of two popular Lenten hymns that focused on the Cross that I'm sure took a good bit of rehearsal to learn and to sing. Personally, as I was taking a few moments for my own prayer and reflection, the music made that moment of Communion with Our Lord more intense. Bravo to the choir!

But here's the problem, and here's where I'm hesitant to say something but feel like I have to. While the choir was doing their best to lift our hearts and souls to the Lord through the gift of music, I couldn't help but notice the sounds of whispering and talking throughout the church. It wasn't just one or two little things here and there; it sounded like full-on conversations were taking place. I found it hard not to be distracted by it, which probably means others had the same experience. In fact, the issue of people talking excessively during Mass has been brought to my attention by a few parishioners in the past couple months, and it seems like it happens often enough at all the Masses that it warrants mention.

Our participation in the Sunday Mass is the single most important thing we do in a week as Catholics. God gives us 168 hours in a week, of which He expects one hour from us to participate in the communal worship of the Church. In the Mass, God speaks to us through the Word and nourishes us in the most Blessed Sacrament so that we can go back out into the world and have the spiritual strength to live our faith for the remaining 167 hours of the week. Can we give Him that one hour and put a pause on everything else? Can we give Him that time whole-heartedly? Can we put our whole body, mind, and soul into this profound opportunity that He gives us? Can we show respect for our brothers and sisters by not becoming a source of distraction for them?

Of course, life isn't perfect. Sometimes you have to say something to someone. "My nose is bleeding; do you have a tissue?" "The baby needs an urgent diaper change." "Excuse me, your glasses fell and will get crushed when you put down your kneeler." All that is understandable. But full-fledged conversations or talk about routine things should be kept outside of Mass—and outside the sacred space of the church. If we're all mindful of this going forward, we will be doing each other, and ourselves, a favor. Thank you for helping to keep our sacred celebrations sacred and reverent.

As of my writing of this column, we are up to 140 completed surveys in the **Disciple Maker Index**, which is double where we were last week. But I'd like to see it go higher. Time is running out to complete the survey, and it only takes a few minutes. If you haven't filled it out, do it today. (Please and Thank you.)

A quick reminder about scrip. **Our scrip program is an easy fundraiser for our school.** We're now offering the opportunity to order physical gift cards on a weekly basis. Order forms are available at the office, and we're working on getting them posted online. Please consider helping to support the school through this opportunity.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Kiernan

Masses For The Week



MONDAY	MARCH 28
8:30 AM	No Mass
TUESDAY	MARCH 29
8:30 AM	Duwanna Smith
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 30
8:30 AM	Charles Pearson
THURSDAY	MARCH 31
8:30 AM	Joseph Nero III
FRIDAY	APRIL 1
8:30 AM	Memorial Fund Mass

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	APRIL 2
8:30 AM	Mary Ann Purcell
4:30 PM	Henry, Barbara & Maureen McGonigle
SUNDAY	APRIL 3
8:30 AM	Samuel Forlano
11:00 AM	People of Holy Cross

Church Cleaning

A note of thanks to our Holy Cross cleaning ladies who continue to help keep our church and chapel clean! We are blessed and you are appreciated. Next church cleaning is Tuesday, April 12, after the 8:30 am Mass. If there is a funeral on April 12, the cleaning will be done on Wednesday, April 13, Extra hands are always welcomed. Contact Dolores Morroni 610-715-1328.

SANTUARY LAMP



This week's Sanctuary Lamp intention is for:

Church: Christina DeFelice

Chapel: Rita Perez



Sunday Collection, March 20

<i>Total Collection</i>	\$8,346
<i>Electronic</i>	\$3,020
<i>Basket & Main-Ins</i>	\$5,326

The Disciple Maker Index Survey

Time is Running Out!

Please Read and Help!

Don't forget to share your feedback on the Disciple Maker Index! The Survey is LIVE and will be open until **April 4, 2022**. You can visit <http://holycrosscatholics.org> and click on the picture when the slide about the survey shows up. If you prefer a paper copy, you may pick it up after daily Masses. They will be located in the **Church Business Office**. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off **at the Business Office**. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact Terry Carey at 610-626-3321.

We really need your help in making this a success, so please participate!

Literature Racks



The literature racks have been restocked for Lent. Pick up a book or booklet to take on your Lenten journey. There are also books and DVDs to share with your (grand)kids.





Food Pantry Update

Everyone is definitely focused on special works of mercy this Lenten Season. Our neighboring St. Kevin's community (Coordinated by their Knights of Columbus) ran a food drive last weekend and we were the grateful recipient of 6 carloads of food and personal items for our Most in Need Neighbors. This will go a long way to stock our shelves. Great Team Effort St. Kevins!

As we have shared before, with the increased cost of food and personal items, our pantry continues to be busy. Our parishioners have supported our St. Vincent dePaul Conference with your contributions in the "Help the Needy" church envelopes and food donations. Not sure if we tell you enough.... we appreciate all of your generosity and prayerful support.

If you are able, we are always in need of cereal, pancakes and syrup, pasta and pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, veggies, canned meats, mac & cheese, spaghetti, juice, kiddie treats, paper towels and toilet paper.

If you know any Delco residents in need of food, please let them know our pantry is open on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

God Bless All of You,
Your Friends from the St. Vincent dePaul Society Holy Cross Food Pantry

St. Kevin Pioneers Club, Springfield, PA

St. Kevin Pioneers Club is planning two events. Casino Trip to Caesars in Atlantic City on Thursday, March 31. Cost is \$30. The second event is *David*, Sight and Sound Millennium Theater on Tuesday, May 10. Cost is \$145 per person. Lunch is included. Contact information is Mary Nagle at 610-566-3239 or Betsy Boyd at 610-627-4991.

St. Mary Polish American Society Easter Food Sale.

Food items will include: Babkas, Pierogi, and Kiełbasa The deadline for food orders will be Wednesday, March 30, so our suppliers have enough time to process our orders. Order pick-up will be on Friday, April 8, and Saturday, April 9, from 1 to 4 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall in Conshohocken.

To place a food order, please email smpas@stmarypolish.org or call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.

Fast and Abstinence and Other Acts of Penance for Lent

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday (with the exception of Friday, March 25, The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord). Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light. All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

FORMED

April Watchlist

In this blessed season of Lenten preparation and Easter, we have some appropriate suggestions for April for viewing by the whole family.

Go directly to the **"Lent"** banner on the Homepage. There are so many choices! Here's a few:

FORMED Live: Understanding Palm Sunday --- a 30 minute discussion about the meaning and symbolism behind this Holy Day.

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage --- a 29 minute tour and commentary on Jesus' path to Calvary, filled with real-life images and artwork (not graphic, suitable for all ages).

The Shroud of Turin --- an 18 minute discussion about the miraculous and scientific background of the Shroud.

And of course, if you haven't already watched it, **FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession** --- a beautiful series on God's gift of this Holy Sacrament.

Crab Cake Sales are BACK! The Knights of Columbus at St. Kevin's will be having an Easter Crab Cake Sale. All proceeds will be donated to UKRAINIAN RELIEF. We will be taking pre-paid orders after all Masses on Saturday, March 26, Sunday, March 27, Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3. Orders can also be mailed in to Mike Diemidio, 305 West Ave., Springfield, PA 19064. Questions can be made to Mike at 610-761-4007. All orders must be received by Sunday, April 3. Orders must be picked up at the St. Kevin Parish Life Center, 200 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield on Thursday, April 7 between the hours of 4:15 and 7:00pm. Thanks in advance for your support and we wish you a very Blessed and Happy Easter Season with family and friends!



If you are a 7th, 8th, or Transfer student looking for a remarkable all-girls, Catholic, College prep high school, visit Merion Mercy this spring to see if our school would be a good fit for you. We offer several visiting opportunities for both students and parents, as well as private tours. Register at <https://www.merion-mercy.com/page.cfm?p=815> and learn more about Merion's visit opportunities.

Philly Adoration for Vocations

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Questions: Phillyadoration@gmail.com

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Spring Cleaning, De-Cluttering, Down-Sizing???

Here is a chance to make some money on your things ...

Community Flea Market @ Holy Cross Church - Saturday April 23rd

9:00AM – 3PM

If you are interested in renting a space, contact us at HCDevelopmentFund@gmail.com

Household Items - Tools - Garden Items - Books - Clothing – Furniture -
Art - Jewelry
All Kinds of Treasures
Food and Fun!



Holy Cross School Principal's Corner

During the Lenten season the children are attending the Stations of the Cross on Friday afternoons. This has been a tradition of the church for many years.

Students in the 7th grade were confirmed on Sunday, March 6, by Bishop Senior. The students were able **to answer the bishop's questions with ease. We pray** that the Holy Spirit will strengthen the students in their faith and guide them throughout this life.

We are in need of 2 people for our CARES program. The hours are from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm. There is no CARES on half-days or when school is closed. Clearances are needed, and we will help you obtain them. If you are interested, please call Dr. WorriLOW at 610-626-1709.

We are taking registrations for the new school year. If you are interested, please register now as there is no guarantee there will be a spot for your child(ren). Have a great week! God bless you!

Dr. WorriLOW



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Holy Cross Knights of Columbus #15482 will be holding their Semi-Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 3, from 8:00AM until 1:00PM. Tickets for the breakfast will be \$10 for Adults and \$9 for Kids (12 & Under). There will be advanced discounted tickets sold at \$9 for Adults and \$8 for Kids (12 & Under). Advanced discounted tickets will be sold after all Masses on the weekends of March 19 & 20 and March 26 & 27. Tickets will also be available from any of the Knights before April 3. Remember, "It's More Than Just Pancakes!"

St. Philomena School, Lansdowne ALL CLASS REUNION AND MASS

A Mass & reunion is being planned for Saturday, May 14, 2022. For more information, please contact Suzanne McShane Hall '76 at suzhall@verizon.net or 610-331-2630. We hope you can join 100 years of graduates.

Home Care Needed - Home Care needed 4 or 5 nights per week for elderly woman. Please call 484-343-6610.



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