



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 • TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Office / Rectory..... 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
 Parish School 610-626-1709
 Religious Education..... 610-626-1057
 Convent 610-626-2491
 Pastoral Minister..... 610-259-8266
 Music Director..... 215-431-2883
 Website..... www.holycrosscatholics.org
 E-mail contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Eugene C. Wilson..... Pastor
 Rev. Edward C. Kelly Resident/Faculty COHS
 Rev. Thomas J. Furey St. Joseph Villa/Retired
 Deacon Robert Frankenberger..... Retired
 Deacon Joseph N. Gousie..... Retired
 Mrs. Theresa Carey Business Manager
 Mrs. Judy Vacca Pastoral Minister
 Mrs. Mary Rose Worrilow 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 Vigil (night before Holy Day) 7:00 PM
 Holy Day 8:30 AM
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:30 AM
 Thursday..... No Mass
 Friday..... 12:15 PM

NEW PARISHIONERS

All Catholics living in the parish should register. Our Welcome Center 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)
 Saturday & Sunday..... Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, Lower Church: 3:30 to 4:15 PM

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 Rectory of Mrs. Judy Vacca, Pastoral Minister, when a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound.

Someone asked me recently about my chalice and the story behind it. The readings recently at Mass also had me thinking about my chalice as well. Woe to you Scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of plunder and self-indulgence (Matt. 23:23-26). All of us fall into that hypocrisy trap at times, which the Lord urges us and warns us to avoid. We avoid it by making sure that all of our “chalices” are nice and shiny on the outside, yes, perhaps, but oh so more important is the condition of the inside and the repairing of any “plunder.” The chalice of most priests has a story, maybe several. Sometimes chalices had previous priest owners and often chalices are presented as an ordination gift. I remember in the latter part of my seminary career, classmates started to obtain their chalices in anticipation of priestly ordination. Once obtained, they would be carefully removed from a case and with gloved hands (that’s right – gloved hands) ever so proudly displayed for a few invited brother seminarians to behold. The seminarian-soon-to-be-priest would then usually tell the story. This was a gift from my parents or this was my former pastor’s chalice, etc. A chalice might hold parents’ wedding bands or precious stones. Almost always there is an engraving: a short epitaph and prayer or dedication and remembrance. Chalices can be opulently adorned or starkly simple. The actual Holy Grail, itself, was most likely the most simple of cups. Individuals, characters in literature, and Indiana Jones have sought it in vain throughout the centuries not realizing that it sits on every altar at Mass. My own chalice was a gift from my cousin. I was intending to purchase it myself when she joined me on the trip to the religious goods store to pick it up and pay for it. She pulled out a charge card and said, “No, it’s on us” (meaning her whole family). I was and I am ever so grateful. I found my chalice, all in all, rather simple in design, but for me, therein is its beauty. Although, my hands hold it at Mass, there are many hands that have gone into its crafting – an ongoing process by the way. After my cousin purchased it, it was my aunt who offered several small diamonds that would adorn its base and represent family members. The work of embedding these diamonds and engraving the sacred vessel was donated by jeweler friends now deceased. The engraving, itself, is a dedication to my parents and also the words from the Book of Hebrews marking the Jubilee Year of 2000:



Christ yesterday, today, and forever (in German as a nod to my own roots and family and friends there). Its base is inscribed in Latin with the words, Blood of Christ, Salvation of Souls. One thing that I didn’t realize about my chalice was that the inner cup, although gold-plated, was not made of precious metal. Over my first couple of years as a priest, I would discover this along with the fact that wine is very acidic. The altar wine used would “scratch” the bottom of the gold-plated cup. It would come to appear as if someone had taken a nail to it. I noticed this every day and did nothing, because it always served as a reminder of the aforementioned Scripture passage. I could literally see my “plunder” every day there at the bottom of my chalice. Well, one day, a former pastor of mine noticed it as well. He noted that the gold had been “scratched off” over the years and was probably in my stomach! He said that I should have it repaired. I shrugged. Then, he generously took it upon himself to repair it and furnish an inner cup restored and precious. Today, the scratches remain, but only in my mind and this brother priest’s generosity is part of the story that my chalice tells and is remembered every day that I use it. Though my hands are on the chalice at Mass, in reality, so are yours and all those who have contributed and are contributing to its crafting. You see, the chalice really belongs to Christ Our Lord and it is His Holy Grail that together we hold aloft at each and every Mass. Just don’t tell Indiana Jones!

Peace! Fr. Wilson

Weekly **MASS** Intentions

Monday

8:30 AM

September 2

LINDSAY STETION

Tuesday

8:30 AM

September 3

ANNA DI LORENZO

Wednesday

8:30 AM

September 4

RALPH D'ORAGIO

Thursday

8:30 AM

September 5

NO MASS

Friday

12:15 PM ANTHONY & PAULINE FISCELLA

September 6

Saturday

8:30 AM

September 7

MARY MURRAY

NEXT WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

4:30 PM

September 7

TOM CLEARY

Sunday

8:30 AM

PEOPLE OF HOLY CROSS

11:00 AM RITA CREATO & ANNE CREATO

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE 2020 MASS BOOK WILL OPEN ON MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16 AFTER THE 8:30 AM MASS.



PRAY REMEMBER *the sick of our parish*

John Boyle
Barbara Mc Custer
Lyndi Butler
Anne McGough
Margaret Cook
Catherine McNulty
Stephen Collins
Thomas Miller
Samuel Dephillipo
Dan Murphy
Sharon Diemer
Francis O'Callaghan
Kathleen Dixon
Charlotte O'Leary
Lillian Donahue
Paige O'Leary
Mary Ann Farrell
Lauren Palermo
Nicola Giordano
Francis Romano

Donna Giorgio
Jim Sandusky
Steven & Carolyn Henderson
Rose Marie Santos
Stefanos Karas
Joseph Sindoni
Carole Kime
Adeline Sulpizio
Mary Kull
Anthony Torelli
Kendall Lambert
George Verities
Rose Leto
Lily Walker
Patricia Lyons
Nadia Waltanski
Helen Lyons
Carter Walton
Joanne Marks

THANK YOU!

Sunday Collection	August 25
Amount Received	\$9,166



Reading I: Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29

This passage celebrates humility. The pious Jew should have no concern with honors. The high and mighty have a greater need of humility than the lowly and the weak.

Reading II: Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24a

The author contrasts Israel under the old covenant with people on a journey to join those living under the new covenant, who are in heaven.

The Gospel of our



The Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Here Luke contrasts those who are prideful with those who are humble. In essence, he writes that "God will not be fooled by one's own self-promotion."

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners,

My name is Dr. Mary Rose Worrilow and I am the new principal of Holy Cross School. I have 11 years of experience as a principal and 8 years as a classroom teacher. I am so excited to be here and to begin the new school year.

I have been married to my husband for 46 years. We have two children and 5 grandchildren. We are parishioners of St. John Chrysostom Parish in Wallingford.

I will be keeping you informed of what is taking place at our school throughout the year. If anyone has school age children please consider sending your child(ren) to our wonderful school. We would love to have them as students.

SCHOOL OPENING:

Wednesday, September 4th - Opening of school for grades 1-8

Monday, September 9th - Full day of school for grades Pre-K 3 to 8

Enjoy the Labor Day weekend! God bless you!

Dr. Mary Rose Worrilow



communityCARE



POT OF GOLD RAFFLE

The Little Sisters of the Poor are having their "Pot of Gold" raffle to benefit the residents of Holy Family Home (5300 Chester Avenue, Philadelphia, PA). This will help them to provide a home, food, and quality nursing care to the elderly! Over \$40,000, in prizes! 3 Lucky Winners! First prize is \$25,000. Tickets are \$150 celebrating 150 YEARS in Philadelphia for the Sisters. There is a maximum of 2000 tickets to be sold. Drawing is September 8, at Drexelbrook, Drexel Hill, PA at a reception to be held from 12:30-4:00 PM. Ticket holders and guests are invited to the buffet dinner. Please call Connie or Gary Labowitz at 610-328-0599 to purchase a ticket.

**THANK YOU FOR CARING FOR
THE ELDERLY POOR.**

THE CORNER

Welcome to this new feature! You can check here each week for news and inspiration from your 3 Parish Evangelization Team.

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on Him in Whom they have not believed? And how can they call on Him in Whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach? And how can people preach unless they are sent?"

Romans 10:13-15

DISCOVERING CHRIST

Hello to all of our Friends in Christ!

The 3 Parish Discovering Christ Team from Holy Cross, St. Francis of Assisi and St. Kevin is proud to announce that a new revised Discovering Christ series begins on September 12TH at Holy Cross.

Here are some details:

- 7 consecutive Thursdays, September 12 through October 24, plus a Retreat Day, Sunday, October 13
- Holy Cross Parish Center, 2nd fl or-elevator access
- Doors open at 6:15 PM, free dinner at 6:30, ending promptly at 9:00 PM
- Retreat Day, same location-doors open at 12 noon, ending promptly at 5:00 PM

Please mark your calendars and join us on this inspiring journey.

REGISTRATION

Email your Name, Phone Number, and Parish to sdiscoveringchristinspringfield@gmail.com

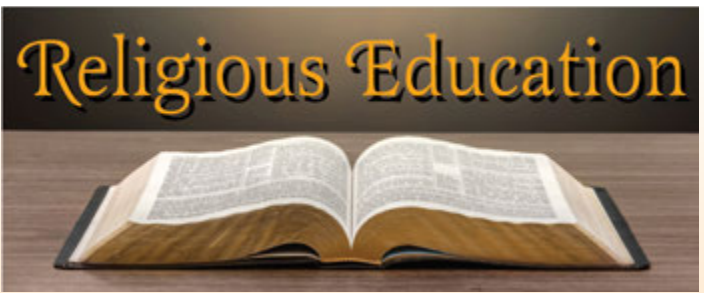
OR: Leave a message or text your name, phone number, and Parish to 484.868.8571

Please invite your family and friends to join us as we explore our identity in Jesus Christ.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Watch for additional emails as we get closer to the date. We pray that we'll see you soon.

May God bless you abundantly with His Grace & Love.
~ The Discovering Christ Team



HOLY CROSS PARISH

Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P.)

641 E. Springfield Rd., Springfield, PA 19064

NEW EMAIL: PREPHolyCross@gmail.com

Website: www.HolyCrosscatholics.org

As we look forward to another PREP year we would like to thank you for considering Holy Cross for your family! Our children learn and experience the Catholic faith through the message of Jesus Christ with our PREP program.

We welcome our new parents and students to our PREP program! We hope you will be with us for the coming PREP year and beyond. To those of you who have been around for a while, thank you for your family participation.

Please fill out your registration form and return to PREP office to ensure your registration. If you have a new incoming PREP student please go to the website. www.holycrosscatholic.org to download the New Student Registration form.

PREP is on Mondays from 4:30 PM. Please consider being a catechist, aide, or a hall monitor. If you are interested, please contact Kelly Meliti at 610-626-1057.

A supporting parishioner, in financial terms, is one who contributes at least \$10 weekly to the support of the parish. If the financial obligation is not met to the Church there will be an additional non-support parishioner cost of \$100 due by December 31 of every year. These guidelines are necessary to be fair to the majority of parents who are contributing members of Holy Cross Parish.

If you are having financial difficulties and are not able to meet the above guidelines please contact Kelly Meliti at 616-626-8266 or email her at her NEW email address PREPHolyCross@gmail.com. We will try to set up a payment schedule which suits your situation.

Can you help clean our church?



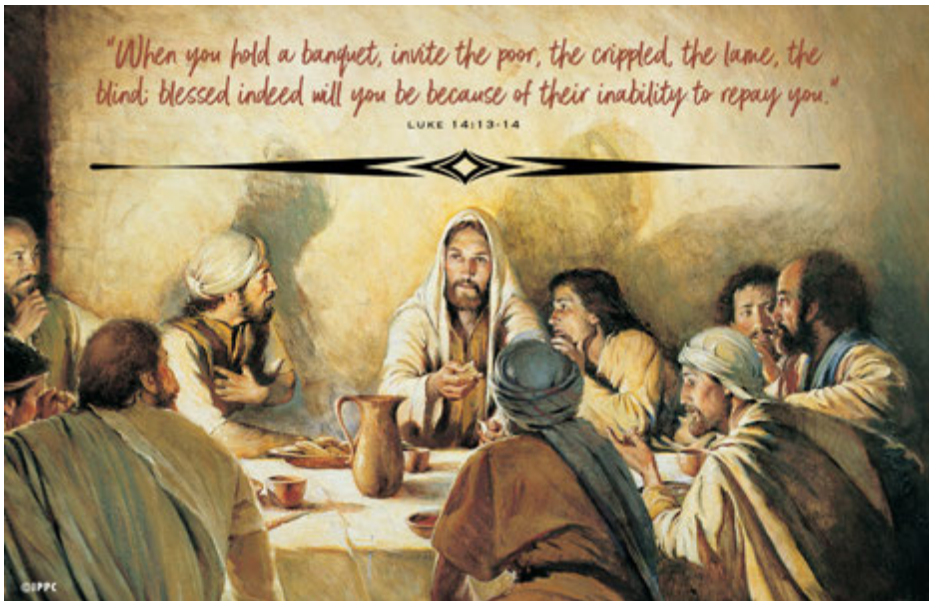
CHURCH CLEANING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 9:15 AM
VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

St. Francis of Assisi and his famous follower Clare are probably the best known, but our own American ladies Elizabeth Ann Seton and Katherine Drexel also make the list. “What list?” you ask. The list of saints who were born into great wealth, but who deliberately chose to live under vows of poverty. Underneath their decisions, their main bolster of support was the often forgotten virtue of humility.

In our brash culture, often loudly touting an aggressive grab for fame and fortune, humility is often equated with weakness or worse. It’s George Bailey vs. Mr. Potter— both of whom we meet each Christmas as we watch “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

Only a God who took on our nature and was born in a stable could ever tell the parable He did at a banquet of the rich and famous of His day. Ever the prophet, He did not cling to being the guest of honor but instead He told the truth even at the risk of offending the other invitees. Just as His advice on where to sit was likely not well-received then, so it is now. And don’t we secretly still admire most of the limousine riders of our day?

Now, about this elusive virtue called humility: what is its essence? The word itself gives us a clue. It comes from the Latin “humus” meaning “dirt.” A stark reminder of our penultimate origins, just before God’s decision to create us. Humility is aligned with that Ash Wednesday reminder, which is also helpful for the other 364.



In this context of having a humble heart, Jesus instructs His host on who to invite for his next banquet. It turns out to be the very people whom the Jews and Greeks of His time despised and avoided, and who were believed to be banned from heaven: those who were “poor, crippled, lame and blind.” Today we might call them “the marginalized.”

Note that those very types Jesus honors form a major component of our present Holy Father Pope Francis’ agenda. He even made the papal “almoner”, his representative caretaker of the poor, a cardinal of the Church, to emphasize the new importance of this formerly forgotten office at the Vatican. This is the

cardinal who oversaw construction of restrooms and shower facilities available near St. Peter’s square for the homeless at the pope’s direction. The pope himself has turned his own birthday celebrations into dinners where a number of Rome’s homeless people are invited guests. Recently I read where this same cardinal almoner jumped into a manhole to reconnect electric lines to a shelter that had been cut off for not paying their bill. (The Vatican had picked up the tab.)

Returning to the subject of humility. I’ve been happily surprised by certain segments on mainstream news or magazine shows that have featured stories of humble people willing to put others first. That is so notably good to see. So the evidence is in: choosing to be humble is a good way of life that inevitably leads to service of others. And service of others is nothing less than the second part of Our Lord’s great commandment. And obeying that command leads us to the doors of heaven where Christ is there to welcome us.

Admittedly, there are times when God seems to intervene in our lives to teach us humility. We run into it, so to speak, or it runs into us. My favorite example of this comes from a story told by our late President George H. W. Bush. He was visiting elderly patients in a nursing home one day. With the requisite Secret Service for company, and hospital personnel all around, it must have been a bit of a spectacle. One elderly occupant was in his room, seated contentedly in his wheelchair when the president walked in, greeted him, and then asked, “Do you know who I am?” With a clear voice the old man replied, “No, but just ask the nurse and she can tell you.”

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