

# Holy Cross Catholic Church

## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph

*December 28, 2025*

### Parish Staff

#### Pastor

*Father Michael Hendershott,  
S.T.L.*

#### Pastoral Care of the Sick

*Deacon Stephen May  
(865) 221-1076*

#### Parish Secretary

*Rebekah Snyder  
(865) 429-5587  
office@holycrosscatholicchurchtn.org*

#### Resource Manager

*Michael Landree  
resources@holycrosscatholicchurchtn.org*

### Office Hours

**Monday-Friday**  
9:00am-2:00pm

### Gift Shop Hours

**Monday-Friday**  
9:00am-2:00pm

#### Weekends

After all Masses



### Mass Schedule

#### Tuesday-Friday

12:00pm

#### Saturday

5:00pm English  
7:00pm Español

#### Sunday

8:00am English  
10:30am English

### Confession

#### Saturday

3:00-4:00pm  
6:30-6:55pm

#### First Saturday

8:30-9:30am

### Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

First Friday 1:00pm until  
10:00am Saturday

# A Note from the Pastor

***Dear Parishioners and Friends of Holy Cross,***

Happy Feast of the Most Holy Family and Happy New Year! What great crescendo of graces we received in the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. We culminate the year with the liturgical celebration of the greatest gift, that is Christ Himself. Now that the Infant King has appeared among us to dwell with us and redeem us of our sins, we contemplate Him along with Joseph and Mary in the Most Holy Family. The liturgical year proposes to us the Infancy and Childhood of Our Lord, along with the domestic virtues that He exemplified in relation to His parents at Nazareth. We will accompany Our Lord through the stages of the Mysteries of His life, which are the Mysteries of our lives too.

Growing up, I remember sitting around the table on New Year's Eve and my family members went around the table recalling 5-10 graces that stood out from the previous year. As we too recall the many and various gifts that God Our Father has given us in the Year of Our Lord 2025, the Church Our Mother invites us to publicly thank God for these gifts by offering us a plenary indulgence. We can obtain this indulgence by devoutly assisting at a recitation or solemn singing of the *Te Deum* on the final day of the year to offer thanks to God for gifts received throughout the course of the year. We will say this *Te Deum* at the end of the **5pm** and **7pm** Masses on **New Year's Eve**.

Then on New Year's Day, when I was growing up, I also remember sitting again around the dinner table and each family member would share some New Year's Resolutions, some hopes and desires of things to accomplish in the coming year. Mother Church likewise encourages us in our resolutions by offering a plenary indulgence to the faithful who devoutly assist either at the recitation or solemn singing of the *Veni Creator* on the first day of the year to implore divine assistance for the course of the whole year, "for God all things are possible." (Mt 19:26) We will say the *Veni Creator* at the end of the **10:30am** Mass on **New Years Day**.

According to the Code of Canon Law (can. 992) and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (n.1471), an **indulgence** is defined as, "*a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.*"

Indulgences can be gained only once a day, and they can always be applied either to oneself or to the souls of the deceased, but they cannot be applied to other persons living on earth. In order to obtain an indulgence, the faithful must be in the state of grace and:

- have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
- have sacramentally confessed their sins (within 20 days before or after);
- receive the Holy Eucharist (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required);
- pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, usually an Our Father and a Hail Mary are suggested.

The text of the *Te Deum* and the *Veni Creator* are printed on the back page of this bulletin. Enjoy!

# Mass Intentions & Readings

## St. John the Beloved

*1 John 1:1-4, John 20:1a and 2-8*

## Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

*Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Colossians 3:12-21, Mt 2:13-15, 19-23*

## The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

*1 John 2:3-11, Luke 2:22-35*

## The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

*1 John 2:12-17, Luke 2:36-40*

## The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas

*1 John 2:18-21, John 1:1-18*

## Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

*Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21*

## Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

*1 John 2:22-28, John 1:19-28*

## Christmas Weekday

*1 John 2:29-3:6, John 1:29-34*

## The Epiphany of the Lord

*Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6, Matthew 2:1-12*

Saturday, December 27

Sunday, December 28

Monday, December 29

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31

Thursday, January 1

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, January 2

Saturday, January 3

Sunday, January 4

† Denotes deceased

5pm †Jorge Luis Crespo

7pm People of Holy Cross

8am †Rick Cunningham

10:30am †Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

No Mass

12pm †Holy Souls in Purgatory

5pm Henryka & Wiktov Sokolowski

7pm People of Holy Cross

10:30am †Priests & Religious in Purgatory

12pm †Lukasz Sperka

5pm People of Holy Cross

7pm †Melody Billetz

8am Boone-Newman Family

10:30am DellaSantina Family

## Pray for the Living & the Dead

Oremos por los Vivos y los Muertos

Recalling that praying for the living and the dead is one of the seven spiritual works of mercy, let us pray for one another, especially for those in need of our prayers.

Recordando que orar por los vivos y los muertos es una de las siete obras espirituales de misericordia, oremos unos por otros, especialmente por aquellos que necesitan nuestras oraciones.

In your charity, please pray for: Madelyn Exposito, Russel Qualantone, Frank Aparicio, Teresita Fajardo, Adrian Hernandez, Nicolas Hernandez, & Jesus Arguez

If you would like to submit the name of a loved one to be prayed for, please contact the parish office. Names will be included for one month, unless noted otherwise.

Si desea enviar el nombre de un ser querido para que se ore por él, póngase en contacto con la oficina parroquial. Los nombres se incluirán durante un mes, a menos que se indique lo contrario.

# Announcements

## Faith Formation & OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

There will be no Faith Formation or OCIA on December 31 due to Christmas break.

## Mass Music Update *Actualización sobre la música en la misa*

We will be returning to the Latin Gloria that Father Ron Stone introduced to the parish. During Christmastide & Lent, we will be learning the Kyrie, Sanctus, & Agnus Dei that go along with this Mass setting. The scores and mp3 recordings for the Kyrie & Gloria are available on our website. If you would like these texted to you, please text "Mass Parts" to (865) 771-4929.

*Retomaremos el Gloria en latín que el Padre Ron Stone introdujo en la parroquia. Durante la Navidad y la Cuaresma, aprenderemos el Kyrie, el Sanctus y el Agnus Dei que acompañan a esta misa. Las partituras y las grabaciones en mp3 del Kyrie y el Gloria están disponibles en nuestra página web. Si desea recibirlas por mensaje de texto, envíe un mensaje con la palabra "Partes de la Misa" al (865)771-4929.*

## Bible Study

There will be no Bible Study on Thursday, January 1, 2025, due to New Year's Day

## Diocesan Employment Opportunities

The Diocese of Knoxville Chancery Office is seeking a **Coordinator of Youth Ministry** and an **Administrative Assistant to the Office of Youth and Young Adults**.

Please see the diocesan website for detailed job descriptions at <https://dioknox.org/employment>

Send cover letter and resume to Maura Lentz at [mlentz@dioknox.org](mailto:mlentz@dioknox.org)

# Weekly Events

## Bible Study

Join our Pastor in a contemplative study of the Word of God in Sacred Scripture on Thursdays at 9:30am in the Family Life Room. Father Hendershott provides scriptural commentary as we read through Genesis and meditate on the Providence of God through salvation history.

## High School Youth Group *Escuela Secundaria Para Grupo Juvenil*

Grades 9-12 meeting on Tuesdays from 6-8pm in the Family Life Room. All high school and soon to be high school students are welcomed to attend. There will always be food provided and fun activities to do. For more information, contact Nick Sisto at: [nlsisto@wlwlaw.net](mailto:nlsisto@wlwlaw.net)

*El grupo de jóvenes de secundaria, de los grados 9 -12 se reúnen los martes de 6pm a 8:00pm Siempre va a ver comida y diversión. Alientamos a todos nuestros estudiantes de escuela secundaria y futuros estudiantes de escuela secundaria que asisten. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Nick Sisto.*

# Stewardship

## BISHOP'S APPEAL for MINISTRIES

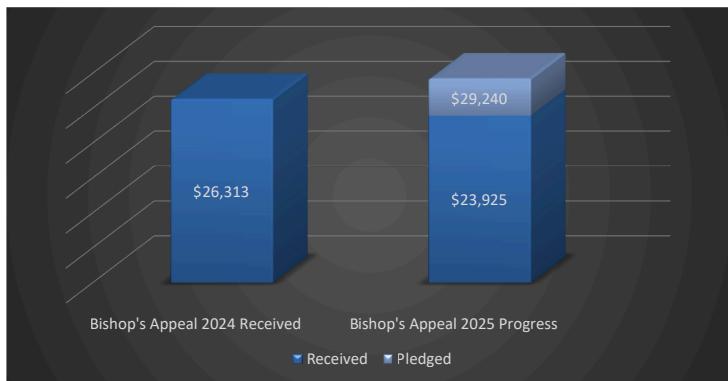
*Building up the Church in East Tennessee*

### Holy Cross

Through August 2025

BA24 Participants: 97

BA25 Participants to Date: 108



You make ministries possible!

## COLECTA DEL OBISPO para LOS MINISTERIOS

*Fortalezcamos la Iglesia en el Este de Tennessee*

### Holy Cross

Hasta finales de Agosto de 2025

Participantes de la CO24: 97

Participantes de la CO25 hasta la Fecha: 108



¡Usted hace posibles los ministerios!

**\*Our stewardship information for the weekend of 12/21, 12/25, the weekend of 12/28, and the weekend of 1/4 will be available in the bulletin for 1/11/2026\***

Since on average 3 out of 5 Mass attendees are visitors, we invite our guests to consider a sort of “timeshare” stewardship with our parish. Our website has a donation link, and donations can be set to match the time you share with us.

As our monthly expenses are \$25,000, please consider Holy Cross in your donations and in your will.

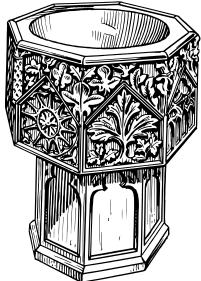
*You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God, for the administration of this public service is not only supplying the needs of the holy ones but is also overflowing in many acts of thanksgiving to God...*

*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!*

*2 Corinthians 11-12, 15*

# Sacramental Preparation

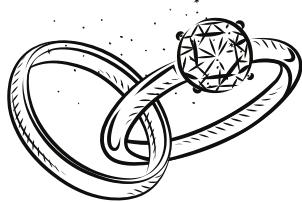
## **Baptism**



Congratulations on your newborn! In order to prepare for baptism, parents and god parents need to attend baptismal preparation classes before the proposed baptism date.

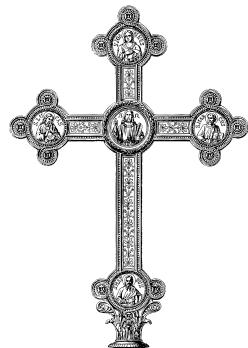
*Si necesita información para bautizos en español, por favor comuníquese con el señor Alejandro Mondragón, El está encargado de la preparación para los bautizos. Su numero de teléfono es: (865) 227-9380.*

## **Matrimony**



Congratulations on your engagement! Please contact the parish office to make arrangements for your marriage at least four months before your desired wedding date.

## **Catholic Faith Formation Classes**



We have Faith Formation classes on Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30pm. Our religious education teachers prepare children in grades K-12 to receive their sacraments. For more information, please contact our Director of Religious Education, Gianfranco, at [gdellasantina@yahoo.com](mailto:gdellasantina@yahoo.com).

## ***Are you interested in becoming Catholic?***



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Holy Mother Church welcomes you! For more information, please contact our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) teacher, Tylor Starkey, at [t.starkey88@gmail.com](mailto:t.starkey88@gmail.com).

## Bulletin Notes

### Bulletin Submission Deadline

### *Fecha límite para la presentación de boletines*

Please submit requests for weekend bulletin or pulpit announcements to the Parish Office email address by 5pm on Monday.

*Por favor, envíen las solicitudes para los avisos del boletín o los anuncios desde el púlpito del fin de semana a la dirección de correo electrónico de la oficina parroquial antes de las 5 de la tarde del lunes.*

### Advertising Opportunity

### *Oportunidad publicitaria*

If you would like to advertise your business on the back of our Holy Cross bulletin & provide a donation to help cover the weekly printing costs, please contact the Parish Office.

*Si desea anunciar su negocio en la parte posterior de nuestro boletín de Holy Cross y hacer una donación para ayudar a cubrir los costos de impresión semanales, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.*



### Te Deum

You are God: we praise you;  
 You are God: we acclaim you;  
 You are the eternal Father:  
 All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
 Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
 Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
 The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
 The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
 Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:  
 Father, of majesty unbounded,  
 Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
 And the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
 You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
 The eternal Son of the Father.  
 When you became man to set us free  
 You did not spurn the Virgin's womb.  
 You overcame the sting of death,  
 And opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
 You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
 We believe that you will come, and be our judge.  
 Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
 Bought with the price of your own blood,  
 And bring us with your saints  
 To glory everlasting.

### Veni Creator Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest,  
 and in our souls take up Thy rest;  
 come with Thy grace and heavenly aid  
 to fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

O comforter, to Thee we cry,  
 O heavenly gift of God Most High,  
 O fount of life and fire of love,  
 and sweet anointing from above.  
 Thou in Thy sevenfold gifts are known;  
 Thou, finger of God's hand we own;  
 Thou, promise of the Father,  
 Thou Who dost the tongue with power imbue.  
 Kindle our sense from above,  
 and make our hearts o'erflow with love;  
 with patience firm and virtue high  
 the weakness of our flesh supply.  
 Far from us drive the foe we dread,  
 and grant us Thy peace instead;  
 so shall we not, with Thee for guide,  
 turn from the path of life aside.  
 Oh, may Thy grace on us bestow  
 the Father and the Son to know;  
 and Thee, through endless times confessed,  
 of both the eternal Spirit blest.  
 Now to the Father and the Son,  
 Who rose from death, be glory given,  
 with Thou, O Holy Comforter,  
 henceforth by all in earth and heaven.