



Parish of the Holy Cross



Let All Who Enter Be Welcomed as Christ!

Vision Statement:

Holy Cross is a vibrant Catholic community striving to maintain a spirit of welcome to all, serving as a guiding beacon to nourish and sustain prayer, work and play.



The Presentation of the Lord - February 2, 2025



Come and Pray with Us!

We celebrate Eucharist

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM;

Saturday 5:00 PM;

Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass
are livestreamed on Facebook.

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM;

Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

PASTORAL TEAM

Reverend Michael F. Holzmann..... Ext. 115
Pastor

Deacon Joseph Maffeo..... Ext. 124
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Judith Pickel..... Ext. 116
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Michele Hall..... Ext. 120
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Jennifer Miller..... Ext. 112
Coordinator of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Kelley Mowat..... Ext. 113
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

PHONE: (631) 265-2200

FAX: (631) 265-2229

EMAIL: parish@holycrossrc.org

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - THURSDAY
9 AM - 4 PM
(closed 12:15-1 PM)**

**Parish Office
FRIDAY HOURS
9 AM - 12 NOON**

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth..... Ext. 122
Parish Secretary

Mrs. Mary Pannone..... Ext. 111
Religious Ed. Secretary

Ms. Karina D'Angelo..... Ext. 110
Business Manager

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Music Minister/Webmaster

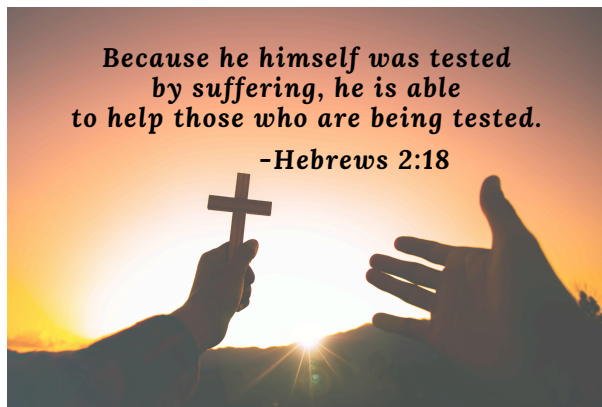
Mr. Roberto Maza
Custodian

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

Mrs. Susan Ribeiro
Bulletin Editor

**NEW OUTREACH HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Evening Hours by Appointment Only**

**Because he himself was tested
by suffering, he is able
to help those who are being tested.
-Hebrews 2:18**

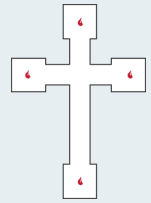


Visit our website at **www.holycrossrc.org**
for more information on how we can serve you.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael



This past week was one of those weeks where there were a number of events and moments in the parish where I sensed good and holy things were happening. The best way I can describe it is that "connections" were being made. I believe these connections were happening on different levels: between fellow parishioners, between individuals and God, and even within the heart of each person.

Last week we tried doing a little bit of a formal opening to the Jubilee Year which will use the theme suggested by the Holy Father, "Pilgrims of Hope." At several of the Masses we had children carrying colored streamers in the opening procession. These are the same colors that are found in the official logo for Pilgrims of Hope. There is something about children that makes most adults smile. The congregation was delighted to see a small parade of young ones being an active part of the celebration. It was a simple activity, yet it seemed to speak for itself. The very presence of children conveys a message of hope for the future.

Bishop Barres likes stopping in on parishes to celebrate one of the Sunday Masses. I received word last Thursday that he would be here to celebrate the 8:00 Mass. I think most parishioners were surprised to see him but were delighted that the shepherd of our Diocese would be here to celebrate Mass.

Last weekend we also blessed and distributed copies of the Scriptures to our Level 5 children. It is beautiful to see so many families here and to witness the children receiving their bibles. Some of them seemed nervous as they approached, but many others were quite happy. Again, this was a simple gesture yet there was something powerful in seeing the students receive something as significant as the Scriptures. And, for the two kids who were at the 8:00 Mass, they were able to receive their bibles from the bishop which was a special blessing to them and their families.

Our Youth Ministry offered hospitality after several of the Masses. It is another opportunity of witnessing our young people involved in the life of the parish. It also helps to provide a forum for parishioners to gather after Mass and spend time with each other. These monthly hospitality opportunities will continue in the future.

Last Thursday night we had a beautiful prayer service for our students preparing for Confirmation. In previous years we invited an outside speaker who would come and lead the prayer. Those evenings were okay, but they always felt like they were lacking something. This year we decided to make a "homemade" evening instead. A group of catechists came together under the guidance of Jennifer Miller, our Religious Ed Coordinator. We invited back Sal Finocchiaro, our former Youth Minister, to lead the evening. Brian Reich, our Music Director, was the cherry on the cake as he brought a hefty dose of life and energy to the gathering through music. The evening included a fun ice-breaker, witness talks by some of our older teens, as well as prayer and reflection. It was an effective evening where the faith life of our young people and the life of the parish were awakened.

Making meaningful connections in the lives of people may not happen every time we gather. But when it does happen it is evident, and it is inspiring. This was one of those weeks at Holy Cross. An occasion that fosters the flowing of God's grace is a blessing, and it is important to acknowledge when that happens.



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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



FEBRUARY 8

5:00 PM

FR. MICHAEL

FEBRUARY 9

8:00 AM

FR. MICHAEL

9:30 AM

F. MICHAEL

11:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 9

+ Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

+ 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

+ Luke 5:1-11

Saturday, February 1st **HOLY HOUR**
3:45PM-4:45PM, Worship Area

Sunday, February 2nd **BOY SCOUT SUNDAY**
9:30AM Mass, Worship Area

Sunday, February 2nd **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**
After 9:30AM Mass, Worship Area

Sunday, February 2nd **REL. ED. CONGRESS MTG.**
10:30AM, Chapel

Sunday, February 2nd **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**
11:30AM Mass, Fr. Joe Room

Sunday, February 2nd **BAPTISMS**
1:00PM, Worship Area

Monday, February 3rd **SPECIAL NEEDS**
4:00PM-6:00PM, Atrium, Worship Area

Tuesday, February 4th **IN STITCHES**
10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room

Wednesday, February 5th **LITURGY COMMITTEE MTG.**
1:30PM, Fr. Joe Room

Wednesday, February 5th **HOMEBOUND EUCH. MIN. MTG.**
7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room

Thursday, February 6th **SCRIPTURE STUDY**
10:00AM, Atrium

Thursday, February 6th **PRE-CANA MTG.**
7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room

Friday, February 7th **YCC PRAYER BLANKET EVENT**
7:00PM - 9:00PM, Atrium

Saturday, February 8th **YCC HOSPITALITY**
After 5:00PM Mass, Atrium

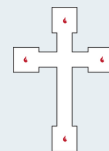
Sunday, February 9th **OCIA**
10:00AM-11:00AM, Fr. Joe Room

*Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
The Lord, mighty in battle.*

Psalms 24:8

Visit our website at www.holycrossrc.org
to find out more about the different ministries
we have to offer, how you can be involved,
and when they meet.

WE PRAY...CELEBRATE...REMEMBER



Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, February 2, 9AM Masses

Mon. Barbara A. Skeahan

Tue. Cecilia Klujsza

Wed. Maureen O'Malley (living)

Thu. Concetta Brady

Saturday, February 8, 5 PM Mass

Patrick Keena Sr., Judy Keena, Lucy Follo,
Gennaro Cangiano, James Eng,
Isabella Smith, Eileen Kamine

Sunday, February 9, Masses Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Jorge Gutierrez Castillo

9:30 AM Timothy Kemp, Debbie Hahn,
Michelle M. Bonura,
Serrantonio & Grass Families

11:30 AM People of the Parish

*Please pray for those in our parish
who are sick, their families and caregivers*

Bob Alderdice
Theresa Arzillo
Alejandro Astegiano
Jo Barry
Kathy Barry
Barbara Bombace
Cole Brennan
Dan Bryan
Judy Carlson
Hank Champagne
Mary Champagne
William Ciccarella
Grayson Danielski
Anthony DeGennaro
Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan
Vincent Esposito
Ralph Farino
Yolanda Fattarusso
Sienna Fricke
Linda Giordano
James Greene
Linda Heinrichs
Debbie Jablinowski
Kristen Kennedy
Caroline Lazar

Carol Leahy
Jo-Ann Loh
Mary Lopez
Gerald Losquadro
Viola Malek
Jeanne Marie Malley
Steve Matonti
Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci
Darin Pitkanen
Patricia Pitkanen
Carina Ranieri
Rob Remhild
Liam Richards
Lynn Rodger
Sean Romeo
Elaine Ruane
Louise Scagnelli
Casey Schultz
Kathy Schwinn
John Serri
Celeste Sichenze
Bill Tanner
Grace Van Epps
Peter Warns
Emma Zeidman



*We thank
the men and women
who serve in our military
for their service.*

*We continue to pray
through 2025 for ...*

SSGT David Basler
Cpl Brian S. Brophy Jr., USMC
Cpl Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC
FC2 Lane Dyar
AS Brandon Ferrara
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA
WO Christopher Kaminsky
Sgt Michael J. Knipper, USMC
SSGT Ryan Mauldin
PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC
Lt Ryan Montvydas

*Please let us know if their service is finished
or their title has changed.
May God bless all who serve our nation.
Pray for peace!*

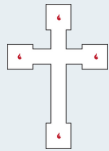
**If you would like to have the name of your
loved one listed in our prayers for the sick,
please call 631-265-2200 x122.**



*We remember and pray for the following
Holy Cross parishioners who passed away recently:*

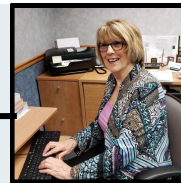
**James Joseph Motto Sr.
Anna Noto
Charlotte Lynch**

*May they rest in peace,
and may their loved ones be consoled.*



CANDLEMAS DAY

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



Every so often a feast falls on a Sunday, and this weekend it happens once again. February 2nd is the Feast of the Presentation. This happens only every 6 years. The Feasts of the Lord take precedence over the normal Sunday cycle which began as Winter Ordinary Time just a few weeks ago.

The Presentation of the Lord commemorates the day when Joseph and Mary, according to Jewish tradition, brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem for the first time, 40 days after his birth. When December 25 was adopted as Christmas in the Roman Rite, back in the 4th Century, the Feast of the Presentation began to be celebrated on February 2nd, 40 days after Christmas.

At the start of the 8th Century, the Pope at the time added a candlelight procession at the beginning of Mass. Shortly after, the blessing and distribution of candles were added and continues today. The connection with candles and light led to the day being called Candlemas Day. The Presentation of the Lord could be seen as an extension of the Christmas mystery, the Incarnation, even though it falls in Ordinary Time. It also connects the celebrations of Christmas and Easter as it highlights Christ, the Light of the World.

In the Gospel reading, we hear Luke telling us that the Christ child was brought to the prophet Simeon in the temple. Simeon had waited his entire lifetime to meet the Messiah. This account is remembered daily in the Gospel Canticle Night Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours for those familiar with this beautiful expression of prayer.

This weekend, we invited everyone to bring a candle or two from home for a blessing, as we bless the Church candles that are used here. We also are sending families home with a single blessed candle and prayer highlighting Christ, the Light of the World, for our homes.

Have a blessed, bright, and joy-filled week ahead!

Practice of Faith

(Excerpt from "At Home with the Word 2025")



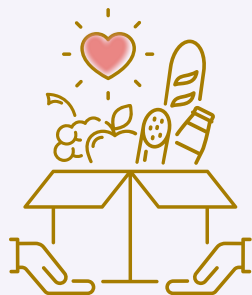
Today's feast commemorates the occasion that Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to be presented to the temple in Jerusalem in accordance with Jewish law. The Gospel includes a prayer offered by the temple elder, Simeon, as he holds the infant Jesus in his arms. Simeon's prayer is the basis of the Gospel canticle for night prayer called the *Nunc Dimittis* (meaning "now dismiss" or "let go").

Include Simeon's prayer in your night devotions as you close your day and begin your rest.

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated with candles (it used to be known as Candlemas) because of Simeon's recognition that in the person of Jesus, God has given us salvation, "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, / and glory for your people, Israel" (Luke 2:32).

On February 8, the Church celebrates the optional Memorial of St. Josephine Bakhita, who as a child was kidnapped, enslaved, and trafficked. In her spirit, make a gift or advocate against human trafficking.

PARISH OUTREACH



Outreach is currently in need of the following items for the food pantry.

The collection will be this weekend February 1st & 2nd.

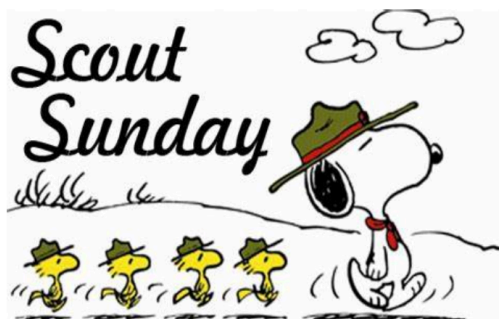
**Tuna - Chicken in a can - Snacks - Soup - Boxed potatoes
Beans (dry and can) - Fruit in can - Mac and Cheese
Toothpaste - Body Soap - Shampoo**

Thank you for checking expiration dates before donating.

Thank you for the donations of bags for our pantry. We are not accepting any more at this time. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support!

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



Boy Scout Sunday

February 2, 2025 9:30 Mass

All Scouts are Welcome

Scouts should arrive 15 min. early

Class "A" uniforms scouts & leaders

Bring your Troop/Pack Flag & stand

*Please let us know how many scouts
& leaders will be attending
so we can have enough
reserved seating for your group*

Please contact

Andy Bodor and Kim Loh Bodor

Akjl23@optonline.net or 516-996-2295

Save the Date: Girl Scout Sunday-March 16th

If you are a middle school or high school student, and you are looking for community service opportunities, please consider joining the **Holy Cross YCC "Youth Community Cares"**



We currently have two opportunities available:

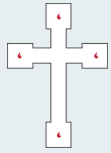
Hospitality after Mass & making prayer blankets for the parish Prayer Blanket Ministry

Please sign up by using the Remind App to get links to events and further information

*Sign up for Remind at: **rmd.at/ycchc***

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Last weekend, January 25th & 26th, **Level 5 students were presented with their own Bibles** that were blessed by Fr. Michael and distributed during Mass.



Pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words.

Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart.

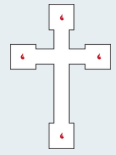
Proverbs 4:20-21



Several Religious Education students processed in with banners representing the Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope



WE GROW IN FAITH



Level 8 Prayer Service

Our Level 8 students, who will be making their Confirmation in the spring this year, attended a prayer service last week. The prayer service gave students the opportunities to think of a gift that they excel at, think and explain how courageous they are, and think about what they hope for the future. During the service, the students participated in activities, prayed through music, and listened to older peers speak about their own faith journeys.

We would like to thank our older youth, Jake, Alexis, and Gabriel for joining us to share about their own faith journeys.

Thank you to Sal Finocchiaro, who moderated the discussions and activities.

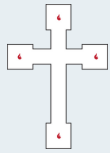
Also many thanks to our music director, Brian Reich, for coordinating the music, and our thanks and appreciation to all our talented musicians of Holy Cross, who shared their gift of music with us.

It was a special evening for all who attended.



What's your gift?





PARISH HAPPENINGS

Youth Community Cares
"Serving our youth as our youth serve others"

sponsors

A COMMUNITY SERVICE NIGHT FOR TEENS

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS?

Help us make no sew blankets that will be blessed and distributed to those in need of prayer.

We need you

FEBRUARY 7TH
7-9 PM

HOLY CROSS ATRIUM

Community Service Letters stating participation will be handed out that night

Snacks and Refreshments will be provided throughout the evening

Supplies for No-Sew blankets will be provided. Learn how to make blankets for those in need.

Join us anytime between 7 - 9 pm
Only have an hour? That's ok! We appreciate the time you give!

Bring a Friend!

Please register for this event to participate.
Sign up for Remind at:
rmd.at/ycchc

To register, send an email to Angela & Susan at:
youthcc@holycrossrc.org

and/or join our Remind group to receive a SignUpGenius link.

You will find additional information for this and other events through the Remind App.

Level 6 - 8 Catechists:

Great Opportunity for you and your class! Contact us!



Holy Cross Welcomes these Children Baptized in January

Matteo Anthony Angotta
Ava Christine Diamant
Andres FrederickMadden



HOLY HOUR

1st SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY 1st

Please come and spend some time with the Lord in personal prayer as you pray before the Blessed Sacrament during the Parish Holy Hour.



2025 Missalettes

are still available for purchase for \$12 each in the Parish Office.

Special Collections



Next weekend, at the offertory, we will also be collecting for our

Repairs and Major Renovations Fund.

Thank you for your continued support.

2024 Statement of Contributions

A statement of your contributions to Holy Cross for the year 2024 will be sent to you upon request. If you would like a copy, please print your name and address on the form below and drop it in the collection basket or at the Parish Office. You may also request a statement by emailing your information to: **parish@holycrossrc.org** or calling the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 x122.

Name_____

Address_____

Winter Windfall

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine, and this fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing, so we will continue as we have done for the past few years with our quarterly drawing.



- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through December, January and February.
- Drawing will be held **February 28**.

This is the pay scale which will be offered:

- * 1 Prize @ \$250
- * 2 Prizes @ \$100
- * 10 Prizes @ \$50
- * 15 Prizes @ \$25



- This formula was based upon selling 250 tickets @ \$10 each. If more than 250 tickets are sold, the number of prizes will be increased.
- Please use the tear-off tickets below. You may return your entries by placing them in an envelope and depositing it in the basket on weekends, or returning them to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!

Winter Windfall

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
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Town _____
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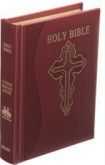
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