

Welcome to the Catholic Communities of...

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

305 E. Walnut St., Fort Branch, IN 47648
www.holycrossparish.info

Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
Weekday (see inside bulletin)

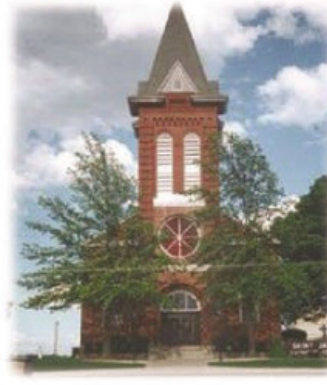


Parish Office(812)-753-3548
School Office(812)-753-3280
Office Manager Lisa O'Neal
E-mail..... loneal@evdio.org
Principal.....John Hollis
E-mail..... jhollis@evdio.org

ST. JAMES CHURCH

12300 S 50 W, Haubstadt, IN 47639
www.stjameshaubstadt.com

Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am and 9:00 am
Weekday (see inside bulletin)



Parish Office(812)-867-5175
School Office.....(812)-867-2661
Office Manager Amy Macke
E-mail..... amacke@evdio.org
Admin. Assistant Elisha Dewig
E-mail..... edewig@evdio.org
Principal..... Angie Johnson
E-mail..... ajohnson@evdio.org
Rentals..... RaNae Rainey
Call or Text(812)-204-5084

STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH

211 N. Vine St., Haubstadt, IN 47639
www.stsppchurch.com

Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am and 10:00 am
Weekday (see inside bulletin)



Parish Office.....(812)-768-6457
School Office.....(812)-768-6775
Cemetery..... Kim Goedde
E-mail..... kgoedde@evdio.org
Principal Megan Howington
E-mail... mhowington@evdio.org

Chief of Parish Operations: Joe Hopf (812)-768-6457 chopf@evdio.org
Parish Finance Officer: Jane Rhodes (812)-768-6457 jrhodes@evdio.org
Director of Sacred Music: Drew Wilson dwilson@evdio.org

We are three unique Catholic Communities that share resources to better serve and build the Kingdom of God.

SACRAMENTS (CONTACT PARISH OFFICE)

Baptism—Parents must attend baptismal prep class prior to baptism
Marriage—Must be scheduled at least 6 months in advance
Anointing of the Sick—Available upon request
Ministry to the Sick or Shut-In—Anyone who cannot attend Mass and receive Communion, please contact the parish office
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 30 minutes before every Mass
Saturday morning at Sts. Peter & Paul from 8-9 am



PARISH REGISTRATION

We would like to welcome all new members to our parish family.
Please contact the parish office to formally join a parish in our community.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Christopher Droste, Pastor cdroste@evdio.org
Rev. Kenneth Betz, Parochial Vicar kbetz@evdio.org
Rev. Luke Hassler, Parochial Vicar lhassler@evdio.org
William Brandle..... Deacon
Joseph Siewers..... Deacon
Emergency Number to our Priests(812)-768-5747

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & ADULT FORMATION

Laura Goedde..... lgoedde@evdio.org
Liz Hirsch..... lhirsch@evdio.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Bryan Macke (812)-664-7992 bmacke@evdio.org

BULLETIN (Deadline is Monday)

Holy Cross—Lisa O'Neal loneal@evdio.org
St. James—Amy Macke..... amacke@evdio.org

Mass Schedule for January 8 - 16

Saturday, January 8

4:30 pm † Sarah Richie †

Sunday, January 9 - The Baptism of the Lord

8:30 am † Duane LaPlante †

Tuesday, January 11

8:15 am *(School Kids Only)* † Linda Folsom †

Wednesday, January 12

8:15 am † Robert Meier †

Thursday, January 13 - St. Hilary

8:15 am *(School Kids Only)* † Leo & MaryAnn Bittner †

Friday, January 14

8:15 am † Marcuc Wassmer †

Saturday, January 15

4:30 pm † Fred & Barb Bender †

Sunday, January 16 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am † Tammy Spindler †

Liturgical Ministry Roles for January 15/16

Rosary Leader

4:30 pm Kenna Dix

8:30 am Becky Mayer

Servers (Senior Server in BOLD)

4:30 pm Emmy Hoke, Isaac Neufelder

8:30am **Lucas Kissel**, Saige Kissel, Lloyd Sellers

Lectors

4:30 pm Steve Hall

8:30am Mark Kisses

Accompanist / Cantor

4:30 pm Angie/Emily

8:30 am Drew/Wanda

Ushers

4:30 pm Rod Bittner, Brad Bittner

8:30 am John Bullock, Mike Mayer,

..... Kevin Menke, Jeff Sellers

Bereavement Team Peg Hall

Church Cleaning - Jan. 12

Janet Kuester, Sandy Hasenour, Darla Speer, Katie Russler

Collection Count - Jan. 16

Sheila Maikranz

RCIA Host - Jan. 16

Elaine Couch

Happy Birthday

† Happy Belated Birthday to Larry Stone, January 5

Happy Anniversary

† Happy Anniversary to Don & Donna Gries.

They celebrated 60 Years on Jan. 6.

Holy Cross Stewardship Offering

Christmas \$15,707

January 9 \$6,971

Weekly Budget \$9,902

Gain (Year to Date) \$20,782

Thank you for your Donations!

Catholic Parishes Campaign (CPC)

We have turned in \$82,170 in pledges to the diocese from 199 families. Our assessment is \$94,036. Pledge cards may be dropped in the collection basket or you may mail to the parish office. Online giving is also available at www.evdio.org and click on "Donate Now" (there is a service fee for online giving).

Thank you to those who have already given!



PARISH fundraiser

Half Pot Tickets

The half pot tickets are off to an encouraging start. As of Jan. 3, our grand total collected is \$27,720. Extra tickets are in the back of church and available in the Parish Office. Please continue to sell and make sure to turn them in as sold so we can watch our total grow.

Our first \$500 draw is Feb. 1. You can only win if you have a ticket!

Good Luck!!



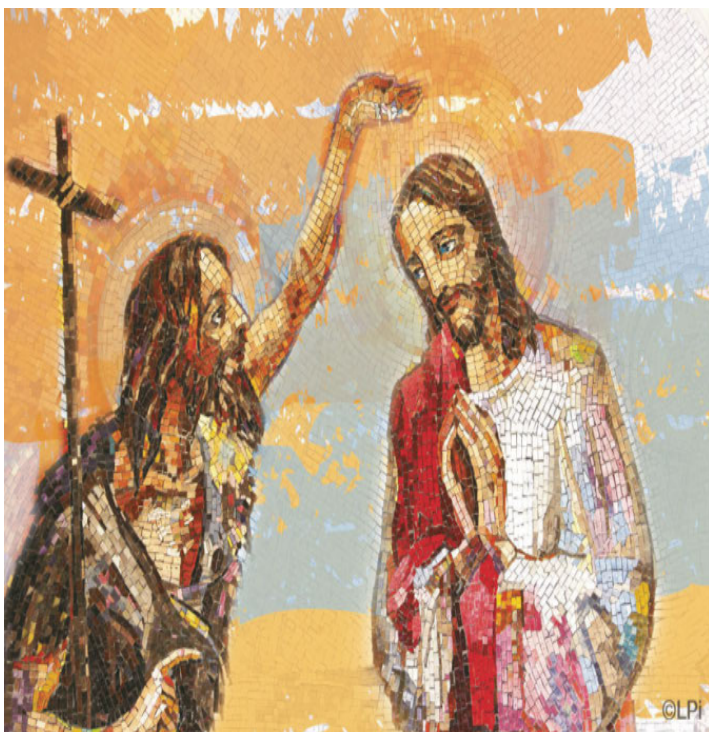
Christmas Decorations

We will be taking down Christmas decorations after this Sunday's Mass. All help is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all who helped make our church beautiful for the Christmas Season.

2021 Giving

We will be mailing out your 2021 Giving letters in the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your patience.



January Magnificats and Word Among Us

The January Magnificats and World Among Us are now available for pick up in the Parish Office.

2022 Mass Intentions

We will still have several dates open for 2022 Mass Intentions. To schedule a Mass Intention, please stop by the Parish Office. Each Mass Intention is \$10. You may have 3 dates per person, one being a weekend and two on a weekday.

Snow Removal

It is that time of year when we could get some untimely snowfalls. Volunteers are ALWAYS needed to help shovel snow around the church and school. If you would like to be put on the list to help with snow removal, please call Lisa at 812-753-3548 or email at

lional@evdio.org

If would be most helpful if volunteers can just show up as early as you can safely do so whenever it snows; especially if it is an early Sunday morning snowfall. Thank you!!

Servers Needed

We are in need of more servers for our weekend Masses. If you would like to begin serving on the weekends, please call or email the Parish Office.

Holy Cross News

The Principal ponders...

Anyone not broken their New Year's resolutions yet?...The best feeling of happiness is when you feel happy because you made someone else happy...One way to find out if you're old is fall down in front of a lot of people. If they laugh, you're young. If they run to you, then you're old....

Just thinking out loud,
Mr. Hollis

Jan 10 - Geography Bee @ 1pm

Jan. 12 - Lego Club after school until 4:05

Mass Schedule for January 8-16

Saturday, January 8

5:00 pm † Killian & Irene Baehl †

Sunday, January 9 - Baptism of the Lord

7:00 am † Living & Deceased Members of Knights of St. John †

9:00 am † Ben & Mildred Martin †

Tuesday, January 11

7:30 am † Frank Spindler †

Wednesday, January 12

8:30 am (*Students Only*) † Rita & Scotty Hipp †

7:00 pm *No Evening Mass*

Thursday, January 13

7:30 am † Jane Klump †

Friday, January 14

8:30 am (*Students Only*) † Vernon & Betty Elpers †

Saturday, January 15

5:00 pm † Deceased Member of Leo & Florence Kissel Family †

Sunday, January 16 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am † The People of Holy Cross, Sts. Peter & Paul
and St. James

9:00 am † Ben & Mildred Martin †

Note: When there's a funeral Mass, morning Mass is canceled.

Baptism

† Owen James Jarman and Grace Elizabeth Jarman, children of Michael and Megan (Ziliak) Jarman, baptized on January 2 by Fr. Betz.

Happy Birthday

January 16 - Lauri Steckler, 2112 Adler Rd, Evansville, IN 47725

January 16 - Tony Karges, 12627 S 40 W, Haubstadt, IN 47639

January 17 - Shirley Rexing, 1526 Adler Rd, Evansville, IN 47725

St. James Stewardship Offering

January 3, 2022..... \$42,771

Weekly Budget..... \$15,721

Gain (Year to Date).....\$6,478

Thank you for your donation!

Sausage Orders Due

If you would like to order bulk or link sausage, please contact Kent Rexing at 812-459-6833 or Duane Maurer at 812-568-4503. Orders are due by Sunday, January 16.

Wednesdays

Eucharistic Adoration is from 6-7 pm followed by Mass at 7 pm.



Liturgical Ministry Roles For January 15-16

Rosary Leader

5:00 pm (Joyful)..... Tim Hasenour

7:00 am (Glorious)..... Jeff Ziliak

9:00 am (Glorious)..... Laurie Ziliak

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm..... Helen Fuhs

7:00 am..... Tony Karges

9:00 am..... Kiley & Missy Van Bibber

Lectors

5:00 pm..... Dawna Luigs

7:00 am..... Sam Werner

9:00 am..... Krysti Hughes

Servers

5:00 pm..... Cayden & Landon Kite

7:00 am..... Devin & Tate Bane

9:00 am..... Elliana & Rhyllanne Bittner

Ushers

5:00 pm..... Karen Gries, Les Kiesel

7:00 am..... Greg Bittner, Darrin Jarboe

9:00 am..... Howard & Jane Ann Kiefer

Accompanist / Cantor

5:00 pm..... Bob Seibert, Connie & Jeff Huff

9:00 am..... Drew Wilson

Church Cleaners..... Vicky Hasenour, Pam McIntyre,

..... Karen Mutschler, Diane Schillinger

Please contact the Parish Office at 812-867-5175 to volunteer for any of the Ministries. Your help is greatly appreciated.

St. Vincent de Paul

January is the month for St. James to give to the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry. Please place any food items in the drawers at the church entrances. Any monetary donations should be made out to St. Vincent de Paul and can be dropped off or placed in the collection basket.

Bids for Mowing Cemetery

Anyone interested in mowing the St. James Cemetery this mowing season, please submit your bid to the parish office by Monday, January 17.

Help Needed

We are looking for individuals to work at the wedding receptions. Previously called St James Security, now Event Stewards. The Altar Society will pay \$100.00 per event. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age. Please contact RaNae Rainey 812-204-5084.

Mass Intentions

St. James is taking Mass Intentions for the 2022 Calendar year. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

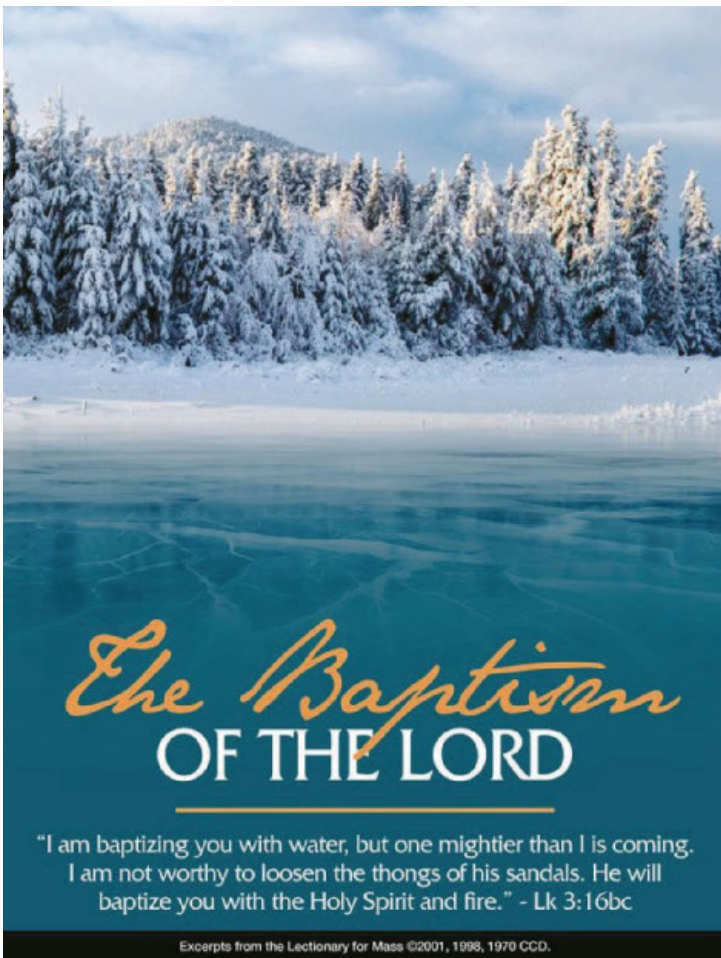
Scrip Program

Scrips are still available in the Parish Office. If you would like any we have the following:

Home Depot 1-\$100 Stadium 16 2-\$25
Krispy Kreme 3-\$10 Showplace North 13-\$5
Walgreens 5-\$25

Bi-Monthly Quilt Raffle Tickets

This is a reminder to purchase or sell your bi-monthly Quilt tickets. The first drawing is in January 2022. If you need more tickets they are available at the Parish Office. Thank you to everyone who has turned in tickets so far.



Holy Cross Half-Pot Raffle

Tickets are available for sale in St. James Parish Office. Tickets are \$20 per ticket or 6 for \$100. Drawing will be held in the month of February.

Project Rachel

Project Rachel is a healing ministry of the Catholic Church that helps women and men whose lives have been touched by abortion. This pain can often increase during the holidays but you do not have to carry this alone. It is time to heal. The call is Confidential. 812-483-7812.

St. James School News

Mission: *St. James School provides faith formation and a holistic educational experience which enables students to become self-confident, contributing members of society.*



COME AND SEE NIGHT FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW STUDENTS

St. James will host an open house for those interested in enrolling in Kindergarten through eighth grade for the 2021-22 school year. We would especially like to invite incoming Kindergarten students and fifth graders from our linked parishes of Sts. Peter and Paul and Holy Cross to attend this event. The Come and See Night is scheduled for Thursday, February 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. Drop in during this time for a tour, registration materials, scholarship information, and refreshments.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Calling all 3-5 year olds! St. James Preschool is currently registering children of St. James parishioners for the 2022-23 school year. Non-parishioner registration will open at a later date. Please call the preschool (812-768-5779), or the elementary school (812-867-2661) for information. You can also email Ms. Deb (dhaake@evdio.org) or just go to the school website www.stjameshaubstadt.com, click on Preschool and Information, print off the registration form and mail it back to the school. Only a \$25 registration fee is needed to hold your child's spot for the school year. St. James offers a two day per week class for three year olds and a three day per week class for four and five year olds. Morning and afternoon classes are available. We also provide before and after school daycare on the days your child attends preschool.

Traditional Lottery Tickets

Tickets are now available in the Parish Office. Tickets are \$100 and drawings take place monthly.

MD Now Enrolling for 2022-23

New student applications are now available on our website: materdeiwildcats.com. Tuition assistance is available! Contact Enrollment Manager Jill Seiler at jseiler@evdio.org or 812-426-2258 for more information.

Catholic Parishes Campaign (CPC)

We have turned in \$106,047 in pledges to the diocese from 370 families. Our assessment is \$128,745. Pledge cards may be dropped in the collection basket or mail to the parish office. Online giving is also available at www.evdio.org and click on "DONATE NOW" (there is a service fee for online giving). Thank you to those who have already given.

Mass Schedule for January 8-16

Saturday, January 8

5:00 pm † Armon and Rosalind Sensmeier †

Sunday, January 9– Baptism of the Lord

7:00 am † Charlie, Betty and Scotty Hoefling †

10:00 am † For the Parishioners of Holy Cross,
St. James, and Sts. Peter & Paul

Monday, January 10

6:30 pm † Don Greubel †

Tuesday, January 11

6:00 am † Phillip Market †

Wednesday, January 12

6:00 am † Leo and Mary Ann Bittner †

8:00 am † (School Kids Only) Ray and Charlyne Dewig †

Thursday, January 13

6:00 am † The Herr Family †

Friday, January 14

6:00 am † Bob Friedman †

8:00 am † (School Kids Only) Adolph Greubel †

Saturday, January 15

5:00 pm † Ralph and Sally Fetter †

Sunday, January 16

7:00 am † Catherine Weber †

10:00 am † Walt and Ruth Lee Rietman †

Wedding Anniversaries

† Congratulations to Paul and Marlene Ralph who will celebrate their 62nd Wedding Anniversary on January 16.



Sts. Peter & Paul Stewardship Offering

December 26, 2021	\$48,233
January 2, 2022	\$28,461
Christmas	\$8,439
Weekly Budget	\$22,808
Gain (Year to Date).....	\$16,719

Thank you for your donation!

Catholic Parishes Campaign (CPC)

We have turned in \$166,174 in pledges from 460 families. Our assessment is \$186,610. Pledge cards may be put in the collection basket or mail to the parish office. Online giving is available at www.evdio.org and click on "DONATE NOW" (there is a service fee for online giving). Thank you to those who have already given.

Liturgical Ministry Roles for January 15-16

Rosary Leader

4:35 pm..... Betty Kramer & Shirley Haley

6:35 am.....Ed & Annlee Botzum

9:35 am.....Jenny Hirsch

Servers (Senior Server in BOLD)

5:00 pm..... **Bradyn Epperson**, Owen & Taylor Brundage

7:00 am..... **Caden Lamey** & Quinn Lamey

10:00 am..... **Volunteer** & Landon Schmitt

Lectors

5:00 pm..... Mary May

7:00 am..... Mark Tenbarge

10:00 am..... Joe Mraz

Accompanist / Cantor

5:00 pm..... Helen Kiesel/Vince Goedde

7:00 am..... Mark Lutz/Debbie Heldt

10:00 am..... Mark Lutz/Emily Lutz

Ushers

5:00 pm.....John Gish, Sam Lutz, Dave & Jacob Rumble

7:00 am.....Kate Rotramel, Fred & Jonelle Tenbarge, Volunteer

10:00 am.....Bob & Barb Anslinger, Mark & Renea Anslinger

Traveling Chalice Brian & Jodi Alldredge

Home CommunionAnn Minnis & Jerry Woehler

Bereavement Team #2 Brenda Helfrich

Church Cleaning Team..... Andrea Michel

Parish Office Closing on Thursdays at Noon

Due to staffing, the parish office will close at 12:00 pm on Thursday afternoons through the end of January. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Parish Office Closing for Staff Meeting

The parish office will be close from 12:00-2:00 pm on Tuesday, January 11 for a staff meeting.

Home Communion

Eucharistic Ministers take Communion to the homebound on Friday mornings after Mass. If you or a loved one has had a recent surgery or hospital stay, is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion, please contact the parish office.

Prayer Chain

The prayer chain is a network of parishioners who receive prayer requests and forward them to all those in the network who will pray immediately for each request. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain or have an intention for someone who needs extra prayers, please contact Jenny Hirsch at 812-768-6597.

New Parishioners

If you are a new parishioner and have not yet registered, please call the parish office at 812-768-6457 or fill out the new parishioner form on our website at www.stsppchurch.com. Welcome to our parish family!

Scheduling

Please contact Jane at the parish office at 812-768-6457 or by e-mail at jrhodes@evdio.org to schedule Sts. Peter & Paul parish activities or rentals.

Snow Removal

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed to help shovel snow around the church and school. If you would like to be put on the list to help with snow removal, please call Don at 812-455-2532 or e-mail at donjrhodes@outlook.com. It would be most helpful if volunteers can just show up as early as you can safely do so whenever it snows; especially if it is an early Sunday morning snowfall. Thank you.



Christmas Decorations

We will be taking down Christmas decorations after the 10:00 Mass this Sunday, January 9. Volunteers are needed to help carry trees & boxes. Thank you.

Happy Birthday

The family of Bob Kramer would like to celebrate his 85th birthday on January 16th with a card shower. Cards may be mailed to: 214 N. Main, Haubstadt, IN 47639

Sts. Peter & Paul School News

School Registration for 2022-2023 School Year

We are now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 School Year. Applications are available at the school office or online. All Kinder Haus and Sts. Peter & Paul School applications will be marked with the date and time received with active parishioners having priority in the application process until **Tuesday, February 1**. Visit www.stsppschoo.com for more information on our preschool and grade school. Please contact Mrs. Howington at 812-768-6775 or mhowington@evdio.org with any questions or for more information.



JOB POSTING

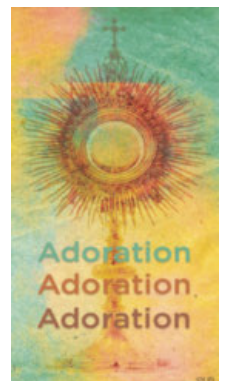
Office Manager Position

We are currently looking to fill the position for Office Manager at Sts. Peter & Paul's parish office. If you have an interest in this position please contact Joe Hopf at the parish office or send him an email at chopf@evdio.org.

With this resignation there will be times until the position is filled that we may have to close the office for a few hours here and there or for a half a day when the rest of the staff is not available to cover the office. This will be temporary and we ask you for your patience.

Adoration Volunteers Needed

Adoration is held every Friday at Sts. Peter & Paul after the 8:00 am Mass until 8 am Saturday. Additional adorers are needed at the midnight and 3:00 am Holy hours. Please contact Annlee at 812-768-6180 or ejbot1@gmail.com with the hour that works best for you. This would be a wonderful New Year's resolution and help bring you closer to Christ!



The Week Ahead

Saturday, 01/08/2022

11:00 AM- RCIA Retreat in SPP parish center basement
 4:30 PM- WELCOME Talks at all Weekend Masses
 5:00 PM- 50th Anniversary Blessing - Terry and Joann Maurer
 5:00 PM- WELCOME Talks at all Weekend Masses
 5:00 PM- WELCOME Talks at all Weekend Masses
 5:30 PM- Baptism (Holder) at HC church

Sunday, 01/09/2022

7:00 AM- WELCOME Talks at all Weekend Masses
 8:15 AM- RCIA church tour in SPP church
 8:15 AM- Catholic Scripture Study in SPP parish center rm C
 8:30 AM- WELCOME Talks at all Weekend Masses
 10:00 AM- WELCOME Core Group in SPP School Cafeteria

Monday, 01/10/2022

8:00 AM- Morning Quilters in SJ Quilt Room
 5:00 PM- Basketball Games in FLC
 5:00 PM- Evening Quilters in SJ Quilt Room
 6:30 PM- Baptism Class in Holy Cross Parish Center
 7:00 PM- School Council in SPP parish center rm A
 7:00 PM- St Vincent de Paul in SPP parish center rm B

Tuesday, 01/11/2022

12:00 PM- Parish Offices Closed for Staff Meeting until 2 pm
 6:30 PM- Catholic Scripture Study in SPP parish center rm C
 6:30 PM- PTO Officers in SPP parish center basement
 7:00 PM- WELCOME in HC Parish Center Main

Wednesday, 1/12/2022

9:00 AM- Catholic Scripture Study in SPP parish center rm C
 6:00 PM- SJ School Council Meeting
 6:30 PM- Religious Ed at SPP
 6:30 PM- Confirmation Saint Report Due

Thursday, 01/13/2022

8:00 AM- Quilters in Holy Cross Parish Center
 12:00 PM- SPP Parish Office Closes at Noon
 5:30 PM- Basketball Games in FLC
 6:00 PM- SJ Finance Committee Meeting in SJ Cafeteria
 7:00 PM- SJ Parish Council Meeting in SJ Cafeteria

Friday, 01/14/2022

5:30 PM- Wedding Rehearsal (Weiss/Matthes) in SJ Church

Saturday, 01/15/2022

2:00 PM- Wedding (Weiss/Matthes) at SJ Church
 6:00 PM- Baptism (Fuhs) at SPP church

Sunday, 01/16/2022

8:15 AM- RCIA in SPP parish center basement
 8:15 AM- Catholic Scripture Study in SPP parish center rm C
 9:30 AM- RCIA in Holy Cross Parish Center
 4:00 PM- SMG Open Gym in FLC
 6:00 PM- SMG Rock Life in FLC

Bids for Mowing Cemetery

Anyone interested in mowing the St. James Cemetery this mowing season, please submit your bid to the Parish Office by Monday, January 17.

Aluminum Cans

Holy Cross has been collecting aluminum cans for over 30 years! Anyone is welcome to dump cans in the trailer that is located in the northeast corner of the parking lot. Holy Cross Parishioner, Tom Wallace has generously taken the alumina cans to be recycled at Burnt Prairie, IL. All the profits from the cans go directly back to Holy Cross School. The profits for 2021 were over \$2,211!!

**Project Rachel**

Post abortion healing. Please reach out for help and begin to heal.

**Bulletin Sponsor**

We encourage our parishioners to patronize our sponsors. It is through their generosity that our weekly bulletin comes to you at no cost to the church. Our sponsor this week is:

Thank you to all the businesses who sponsor our bulletin.

Outreach Priest

Rev. Thomas A Wantland of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting St. James Parish next weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. Cross Catholic Outreach was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Holy Cross Half Pot Raffle

It's that time of year for the Holy Cross Half Pot Raffle. Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased through any Holy Cross Parishioner, the Parish Office or in the back of Holy Cross Church. Half Pot daily drawings will begin February 1 and continue through February 27. Daily winners will be \$500 with a Grand Prize drawing on February 28 of at least \$10,000! Tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Prizes are based on \$47,000 in total sales. License #001286. For official rules, please see the Holy Cross website.

Adult Choir Practices

Combined adult choir practices will resume at Holy Cross on Thursdays at 6:00pm, beginning January 13. Sing with us, and help us inspire awe, wonder, and worship in our parishes!

Contact Drew Wilson with any questions at dwilson@evdio.org or call at 812-598-7340



2022 WELCOME Retreat

WELCOME, formally known as Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) is a spiritual renewal weekend designed to help you develop a closer, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Take a breath from daily routine and join other parishioners from our linked parishes for this rich and extraordinary experience.

Women's Weekend is March 5-6
Men's Weekend is March 12-13

Contact :
Cynthia Owen 812-760-6359
Jacob Hirsch 812-457-0144
to participate or to learn more.

Thank You!

Fr. Christopher, Fr. Luke and Fr. Betz would like to thank everyone who wished them a Merry Christmas in so many ways. Your beautiful cards, delicious home made sweets, and kind gifts all were very thoughtful and greatly appreciated.

Thank You. 

Prayer Chain

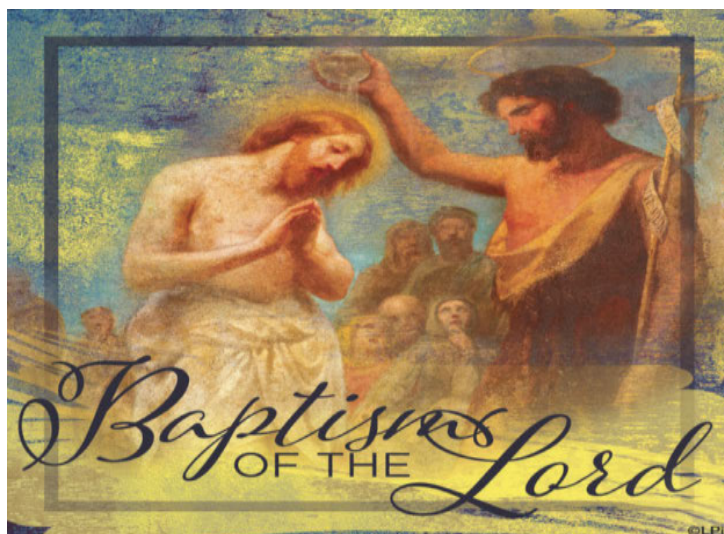
The prayer chain is a network of parishioners who receive prayer requests and forward them to all those in the network who will pray immediately for each request. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain or have an intention for someone who needs extra prayers, contact:

Holy Cross - Phyllis Schmits 812-664-1097
St. James - Cathy Spindler 812-479-8650,
Laurette Faraone 812-774-5423,
Joanne Lamey 812-768-6385 or Jo Phelps 812-867-2991
Sts. Peter & Paul - Jenny Hirsch 812-768-6597



Ultreya

The next Ultreya gathering will be held Monday, January 24, at 7:00 pm in SPP Parish Center Basement The witness speaker will be Wanda Jackson. All Cursillistas are encouraged to attend.



FORMED.ORG

Formed Daily - Why was Jesus Baptized?
Dr. Mark Giszczak, Luis Soto, and Fr. John Riley discuss the Baptism of Jesus and its significance. You can watch the full episode on Reborn in the Sacraments' section of FORMED.



Upcoming Dates:

January 26 - Confirmation Interviews during class
Candidates & Sponsors attend 6:30 pm SPP

Did you make a New Year's Resolution to get to know Jesus Christ better? Are you searching for ways to do that? Why not get together with a group of your family or friends and find a study to suits your needs on FORMED.ORG. You can stream the classes from your phone, computer or TV and meet in your homes to hold the classes. Maybe it's a book study, a scripture class or Apologetics. FORMED has so many to choose from. If you're looking for a particular topic and want help finding it, feel free to call or email me to find what you're looking for. From young to adult, there's always something new to learn about our beautiful Catholic Faith!

(812)768-6457 or lgoedde@evdio.org

St. Maria Goretti Youth News

Upcoming Youth Events

For all youth events, contact Bryan at 812-664-7992 or bmacke@evdio.org

Upcoming Youth Events

Jan. 16 – Boys Open Gym (grades 8-12)
Jan. 16 – HS RockLife
Jan. 20 – Winter Jam

Open Gym for Boys grades 8-12

Our next Open Gym will be on Jan. 16, from 4:00-5:30. This time it will be at Sts P&P gym.

Peer Leadership Team

St. Maria Goretti Youth Ministry has a team of young leaders (HS age) that we call the Peer Leadership Team. The purpose is to better serve the needs and interests of our youth by having the youth make more decisions as to what we do and how we do it. We usually meet about once a month to discuss ideas for youth activities and events. At this time, we are looking to add 4 more youth to the team. If you are interested please write a letter of interest to Bryan Macke and the SMG Youth Board, explaining why you would like to be on the team and turn it in to any parish office by January 12th.



We'll review the letters and choose 4 youth towards the beginning of the new year.

Winter Jam 2022 @ Ford Center in Evansville

Winter Jam is a spectacular Christian Music Tour you won't want to miss!! Artists include Skillet, Tauren Wells, Colton Dixon, and many others. It's on Thursday, Jan. 20th. Open to High & Middle school youth. We will meet at Holy Cross at 4:00 pm and take the mini-bus to the concert. We'll get some fast food so bring a few extra bucks! We will return around 11:30 pm or midnight. Cost is \$10. Diocese permission slip along with \$10 is due in any parish office by Wednesday, Jan. 19 if you plan on attending.

Any questions/concerns about youth events please contact Bryan Macke at 664-7992 or bmacke@evdio.org. Diocesan Event Waivers can be found in the back of each church or on our webpage at www.smg youth.com

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

“We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ.”
— Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

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