Church of the Holy Cross

Rectory • 25 Lake Ave. • Templeton, MA 01468

Pastor
Rev. Patrick A. Ssekyole

Deacon
Dennis J. Cormier

Administrative Assistant
Mary A. Beaulieu

Rectory: (978) 632-2121 • **Fax:** (978) 630-3890 • **Parish Email:** hcchurchet@comcast.net • **Rel. Ed. Off.:** (978) 632-2194 • **Website:** holycrossparishet.org •

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Liturgical Schedule:

Weekends
Saturday: ..... 4:30 pm
Sunday: ..... 7:45 am & 10:45 am

Weekdays
Monday to Wednesday: ..... 8:00 am

Holy Days
Vigil ……...As Announced

Eucharistic Adoration: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month
……..7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: …….3:30 pm - 4:15 pm
and Anytime by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism
Please call the rectory for registration, preparation and details.

Sacrament of Matrimony
Please call the rectory at least one year in advance of the desired date to begin the Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation Program.

Sacrament of the Sick/Communion Calls
Please notify the rectory if anyone is hospitalized or confined to home due to illness, handicap or age so that we may keep them in prayer, visit them and support them with the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and the Sick.

Coordinator of Religious Education:
Grades K-11 Elizabeth Schroeder

New Parishioners
We are pleased to welcome you into our parish family and invite you to enter fully into our spiritual and social life. Please introduce yourself after mass and arrange to enroll as a member.

Parish Bulletin
All items must be submitted in writing at the rectory prior to 9:30 am on Monday mornings, but preferably 2 weeks before.

Pastoral Council
Chair: Thomas Royer (978) 939-1070
Every parishioner is welcome to submit items for consideration, by calling the rectory or through any council member.

AA Meetings: Wednesdays 7:00 pm

Pastoral Ministries
There are many opportunities for ministry to our fellow parishioners. You are invited to volunteer your time and talent by expressing your interest to the pastor or to members of the Pastoral Council or the Religious Education Program.

MASSES

SATURDAY	**DEC 5**
4:30 pm	+Erin MacKay by Polchlopek & Dembek Families
SUNDAY	**DEC 6**
7:45 am	+Doug Young by his wife Dianne
9:15 am	**Mass at St. Martin's**
10:45 am	+Walter Hutchins by Raymond Boudreau & family
MONDAY	**DEC 7**
8:00 am	Mass of Thanksgiving for the Intercession of St. Anthony by a thankful parishioner
TUESDAY	**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION DEC 8**
8:00 am	+John Mularella by family
NOON	**Mass at St. Martin's**
7:00 pm	Immaculate Conception Holy Day
WEDNESDAY	**DEC 9**
8:00 am	+Lucille St. Marie by friends
SATURDAY	**DEC 12**
4:30 pm	+Gerald LeBlanc by Family
SUNDAY	**DEC 13**
7:45 am	+Katherine A. Gordon (1st Ann.) by family
9:15 am	**Mass at St. Martin's**
10:45 am	+Raphael Boudreau by Raymond Boudreau & family

SANCTUARY CANDLES

M/M Frank Moschetti, M/M Theodore Bernard, Priscilla Valliere, Pat Flynn, M/M Yvon LeBlanc, M/M Michael Beaulieu, M/M Jim Killay, M/M Daniel Flanagan, M/M Raymond LeBlanc, M/M Larry Martin, M/M Edward Yablonski, M/M Michael Yablonski, M/M Robert Oliva, Margaret Harris, M/M James Haverty **& In Memory of** Tony Manca, Fr. George O'Brien, Gloria Magnuson, Deacon Arthur Chartier, Damien Royer, Paul Tourigny, Bobbie Lesneski, Rachel & Chuck Frenier, Alphonse & Loza Chartier, Philip Robichaud, M/M Allen Garvey, M/M Chester Lepkowski, Jamie Smart, M/M George Reid, Sr., M/M L. Russell Taintor, Sr., Andrea Crowe, Jim Braun, and Michael Fichtel.

Altar Care: Judy & Michelle

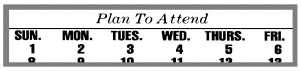
ROSE FOR LIFE

Each week a parishioner/family places a rose in the vase at the Blessed Mother's statue to express witness to the sanctity of life. This week the rose is placed by Chris & Ray. Please see sign up book at the main entrance to participate.

Health Safety Reminders

PLEASE, let's remember that putting on masks is in itself an act of love for ourselves and others.

STAY HOME if Sick, Cover nose & mouth with MASKS, SIX FEET Social DISTANCING, SANITIZE HANDS then WASH HANDS WHEN HOME!



WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm, AA

CCD in Progress

All communications will be given through CCD Coordinator, Elizabeth Schroeder **elizabethanne16@yahoo.com.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE(Nov. 22)
Fiscal Year 9/1/2020-8/31/2021

Weekly Budget: $3,100	YTD Budget: $40,300
Weekly Collect.: **11/22/20: $1,525**	YTD Weekly Collect: $26,280
R & M Collect.: $35	YTD R & M Collect: $2,006

YTD **Surplus** (Shortfall): ($10,474)

Special Collections: Fuel was $15, Christmas Flowers was $60, All Saints was $5, Assumption of Mary was $5, Holiday Fair donation was $100 and Campaign for Human Development was $58. A donation of $20 was given in memory of Russ Taintor. A donation of $100 was given towards a future elevator for our church. Thank you!

FINANCIAL UPDATE
Fiscal Year 9/1/2020-8/31/2021

Please see future bulletin for Financial Update, for 11/29 as the bulletin was submitted early.

We are also very gratefully thankful to all parishioners who continue to send in, either by mail or by dropping in our by-the-road rectory mailbox, their weekly offertory envelopes. We are very grateful for all your continued sacrifice to support the running of our parishes. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

Please return the items for our Christmas Food Baskets by Today **Sunday Dec. 6**. Leave it in or near the food pantry. THANK YOU for your help.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The Feast celebrates the conception of Mary without any taint of Original Sin. This year, Masses will be celebrated on Tuesday, **Dec. 8, 8:00 am & 7 pm at Holy Cross, and NOON at St. Martin's.**

Congratulations are extended to **Kaidence Matthew Ramsay**, who was recently baptized. The parish community prays for and welcomes this new young member.

STEWARDSHIP
Count your blessings, acknowledge God's gifts to you and express thanks to Him in praise.

Prayer Requests

You are requested to remember in your prayers the following: Lucille Benbenek, Doris Bickford, Brenda & Stacy Bishop, Jared Blais, Raymond Boudreau, Brenda Bourgeois, Carla Breen, Alice Chicoine, Henry Connery III, Mike Dembek, Carol Desmarais, Juna Dymek, Gerhard Fandreyer, Jane Fleck, Jim Fuller, Gail Gabis, Tim Gatautis, Marley Guthrie, Gabby Hallock, Marie Jurgelonis, Sandy Kulvete, Rudy Kut, Jamieson Lajoie, Bob LeMieur, Dominic Moschetti, Richie Moschetti, Mark Noel, Gabe Olszak, Eleanor Quarella, George Racette, Judy Roberts, Jane Royer, Tom Royer, Ambrose Russell, Gloria Wilder, Michael Young. And All affected by Coronavirus.

Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we pray for the comfort of your love.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Those of you who desire to do so, may make an offering for our Christmas Altar Flowers and decorations. An envelope for this purpose is available in the vestibule. They may be given in memory of loved ones, whose names will appear in our Bulletin and who will have a special remembrance at Masses here during the Christmas Season. **We ask this be done by Dec. 13, to allow print time** for the Dec. 20 bulletin. **Thank you!**

OPLATEK

Holy Cross Parish has Oplatek available in the sanctuary and at the Rectory for a free will donation for those who would like to keep this tradition.

Please keep in your prayers the souls of and families of our parishioners, Russell Taintor, Jr. and Dwayne Harris, son of Peg Harris, who recently passed away. May they rest in peace.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS

12/24: 4 pm at Holy Cross
12/24: 8 pm @ St. Martin's

12/25: 10:00 am at Holy Cross

NEW YEAR'S

12/31: 5:30 pm at Holy Cross
1/1: 8:00 am at Holy Cross
1/1: 10:00 am @ St. Martin's

Living Faith Initiative

Get more out of Sunday Mass, by reading ahead…

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

December 13, 2020 - Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

NO GIVING TREE

This year has been an unprecedented one for sure. Our parish needy families for receiving gifts have diminished over the years. In the past, we reached out to the community and helped with their needs. We will not be doing that this year with the COVID-19 virus. Therefore, there will be no giving tree set up on our altar this year.

SEMINARIAN GIVING-TREE

This year the Vocation Office is adapting the annual "Seminarian Giving-Tree" tradition during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important for us to keep safety in mind for everyone. The need for our men in formation for the priesthood is still great, and we are once again asking for your support. If you would like to participate, please mail a gift card of any amount in an envelope addressed to "Seminarians, 51 Illinois St., Worcester MA, 01610." Suggested stores where the seminarians can purchase both everyday items or the books they need for their education include Amazon, Barnes & Noble, CVS, Staples or Walmart. We will equitably sort the cards sent to the House of Studies and distribute them to the seminarians at Christmas time. Thank you kindly in advance for your generosity and know of our prayers for you and your loved ones. God bless.

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." — Mk 1:4, 6-7a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

ABUSE VICTIMS

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a priest, religious or lay person working for the church, and you need a place to talk with someone about your feelings of betrayal or hurt by that person, contact the Victim Services Coordinator, Office for Healing and Prevention, 508-929-4363, direct line. A 24-hour-a-day confidential voicemail is available.

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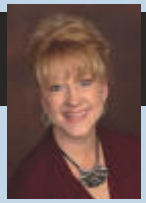
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Dec. 31st 6:30pm-12:30am
Dinner & Dancing
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