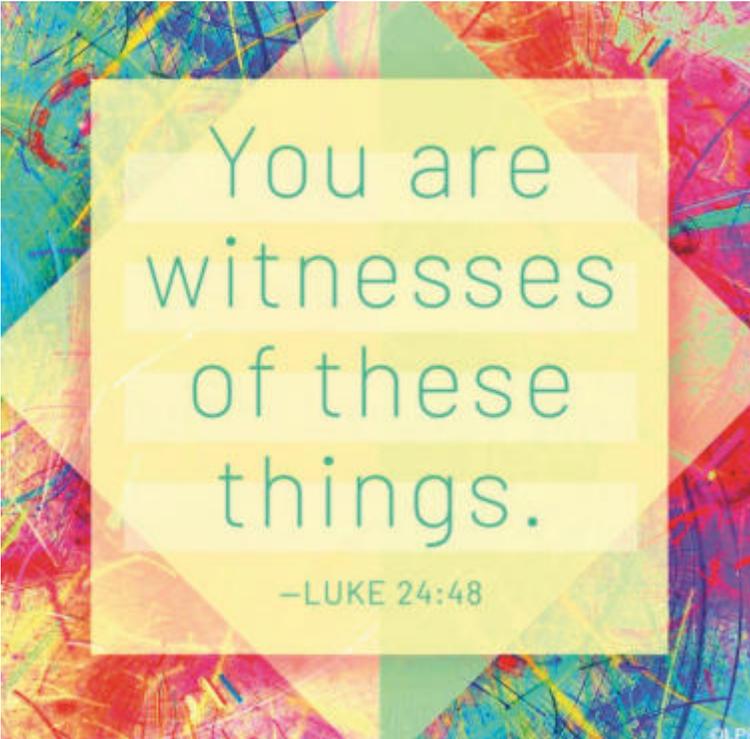


HOLY CROSS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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You are
witnesses
of these
things.

—LUKE 24:48

APRIL 18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME

Please introduce yourselves and register in order to become a member of this community of believers. We welcome your gifted presence in the life of our parish.

OUR MISSION

Holy Cross Parish, a community centered in the Eucharist, is committed in faith and love of Jesus Christ to fulfill the profoundly human and spiritual needs of its parishioners and the larger community it serves. We seek to inspire all, through deeds and by example, to do the work of Christ: to make God known, loved, and served.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Monday - Friday 9:00am

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am

Holy Days of Obligation

9:00am, 7pm

Confession

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45pm

Other by Appointment

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Brad Metz, C.S.C., Pastor

Fr. Jim Preskenis, C.S.C., Parochial Vicar

Deacon Gary Donahue, Pastoral Associate

Margaret Dwyer-Hogan, Dir. Of Faith Formation

Deborah Kelley, Finance

Christopher Iannitelli, Director Of Music

Paul Celia, Plant Manager

Lindsay Franzoni, Parish Administrative Assistant

- ◆ 225 Purchase Street • Easton, MA 02375
- ◆ info@holycrosseaston.org
- ◆ Monday - Friday 9:00am-4:00pm
- ◆ 508.238.2235
- ◆ www.holycrosseaston.org
- ◆ www.facebook.com/holycrossparisheaston.ma
- ◆ <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/holycrosschurch>



*Fr. Brad has returned from his well deserved vacation but when we were going to print he was enjoying the Florida sunshine! His Pastor's column will return in next weeks bulletin. In the meantime, please enjoy the Gospel Meditation from LPI below.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 18, 2021
3rd Sunday of Easter

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their "aha" moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively, and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our "aha" moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our "aha" moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, "peace be with you," and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.

©LPI

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sponsor-A-Day is our final fundraiser of the fiscal year. \$120 will cover a day of utilities for the parish.

**Our original goal: \$43,800
Donations received: \$50,340**

Additional donations will be used for ongoing boiler repairs and for the cost of streaming our Masses

Thank you to the following parishioners who sponsored a day in April:

Karen Smith	Martha Cogan
Marianne & Bob Dyke	Barbara Musselman
Sidney Smith	The O'Reilly family
John McLaughlin	Donald & Christine Sierra
Jim & Terry Orcutt	Pauline Gilbride
Claire & Jim Abate	Carl & Jeane LaCivita
Tom & Suzanne Botelho	Mary Jane Brophy
Lynne & John Dwyer	Carol Burton
Jodi Meade	Judy & Peter Franciosi
John Peterson	Pamela Carroll
Frank & Maeve Paul	Leonardo ZeFirino
Maureen Burke	Jean Tarantino
John & Linda McTernan	Tom Fitzgerald
Margaret Dwyer & Mike Hogan	Kent & Linda Hallamore

Thank You

At times, the families of Holy Cross parishioners who have passed away request that gifts in their memories be made to Holy Cross Parish. These gifts are then used for special projects in the parish. This is a wonderful way to honor someone active in our parish at their passing. We invite you to consider remembering Holy Cross in this way in your funeral arrangements or at the death of a loved one who is a parishioner of Holy Cross. Your generosity and thoughtfulness will help us continue to minister to the needs of our parishioners and the wider community.



MASS INTENTIONS

†Saturday, April 17

4:00pm Mary Sullivan 20th Anniversary
Requested by Teresa Connor

†Sunday, April 18

8:30am William Hopkins and Paricia Hopkins
Requested by Hopkins Family

10:00am Davey Semenza 13th & Leo J. Shea 18th
Requested by Shea-Semenza Families

†Monday, April 19

9:00am Michael Donahue 1st Anniversary
Requested by Donahue Family

†Tuesday, April 20

9:00am

†Wednesday, April 21

9:00am Rev. Joseph Callahan, C.S.C.

Requested by Claire and Harrold Smith

†Thursday, April 22

9:00am

†Friday, April 23

9:00am

†Saturday, April 24

4:00pm Edward Girdvainis

Requested Marianne and Don Klok

†Sunday, April 25

8:30am Marilyn bettencourt

Requested by Alan and Ginny Huffenus

10:00am Maura Kane

Requested by Family

Bereavement Support

The Office of Faith Formation offers a bereavement support group for the diocese, which also serves as the principal support group in the Fall River area. This is a support group to help people cope with the loss of a loved one.

This bereavement support group allows individuals to express their experiences, feelings, and emotions with others on the same journey. It is a blessing to have available this safe place in our diocese for anyone who is grieving to share and discover helpful ways to cope and begin to find new strength and hope.

Due to COVID-19, 2021 live sessions are not allowed. Currently, online sessions are offered on Tuesdays. For your convenience – two sessions are offered, one at 4:30 p.m. and another at 7 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining the group or learning more is asked to call 508-678-2828 ext. 27 or 508-642-0583, or email: rsaraiva@dfrcs.org.

→ ANNOUNCEMENTS



Parish nurses will be taking blood pressure screenings in the right side confessional after all Masses this weekend.
Please remain socially distant with your mask on while awaiting your turn.



“The Baby Bottle Drive” will kick off this weekend

Please fill your baby bottles with loose change and return them Mother’s Day Weekend, May 8th and 9th. There will be an option to Donate online and baby bottles will be available at the parish center and after Mass this weekend.

Proceeds will go to Mothers in need from Abundant Hope in Attleboro and Birthright of Taunton.
Thank you,
Respect Life Committee



OUR NEWEST CATHOLICS WERE WELCOMED INTO THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY APRIL 11, 2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO
MEGAN LAMACCHIA
RACHEL PALLEY
LORRAINE ROBOHM
LLOYD SPEIGEL

MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR
YOUR COMMITMENT
TO THE FAITH!



This month we are asking all families in Faith Formation to complete the *Circle of Grace* curriculum with their children at home.

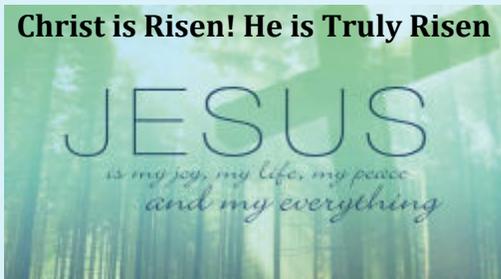
Normally, this material is covered in person. As classes this year at Holy Cross have been remote for all grades, the Diocese has requested us to have parents either cover the lessons or “opt out”. Please see the parish website for further information under “*CIRCLE OF GRACE*”.

The Diocese and our parish are audited on our compliance with this requirement, so please be sure to return the appropriate form. We are asking that the forms be returned by May 12th.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

- Easter Time
- 40 Days of Joy
- 10 Days of Anticipation (Ascension/Pentecost)

Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen



How is my faith being challenged and strengthened during these days of Easter?

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

THE CONFITEOR

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

READING I Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter said to the people: "The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence when he had decided to release him. You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did; but God has thus brought to fulfillment what he had announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away."

READING II 1 Jn 2:1-5a

My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments. Those who say, "I know him," but do not keep his commandments are liars, and the truth is not in them. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him.

GOSPEL Lk 24:35-48

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread. While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them. He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



GOSPEL

When Jesus came to his friends after Easter, they could hardly believe he was real. Jesus told his friends it was okay to touch him. Jesus had bones. He had muscles. He had scars from the cross. Jesus even ate a piece of fish to show that his stomach worked okay. Yes, they had all seen Jesus die, but God raised him to life. Moses and King David and the prophets had all written about the Savior. The Scriptures all came true through Jesus. He really is alive. If you believe in Jesus, don't keep it a secret. Tell your friends that Jesus is their savior, too.

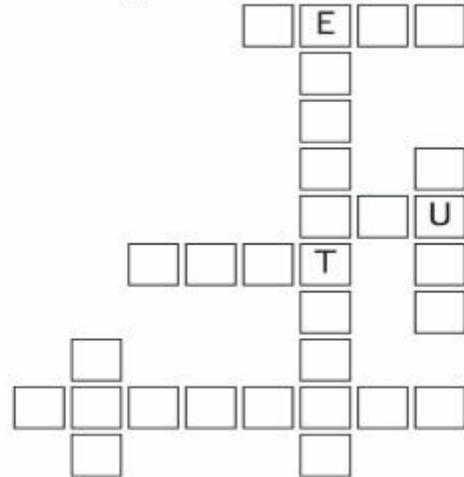
PRAYER

God, give me the words I need. I want everyone I know to follow you.

PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

You must tell everything that has happened.



MISSION

Send a letter to the missionaries your church supports. Ask them how your family can help them spread God's love with other people.

PUZZLE

Circle the group in each row that has **more**. Then color in all the pictures.



MISSION

When someone hurts me I will forgive. I will ask God to forgive me if I hurt someone.

DRAW

Draw a picture of yourself telling your friends about Jesus.

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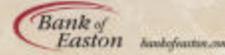
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