

January 3, 2021

Holy Cross Catholic Church

WELCOME! We are always happy to welcome new people into our Parish Family. If you are new to the parish, please call the Rectory to make an appointment. We want to know and serve you! We hope that you will favor our parish with your prayer, your presence, and your talents.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Cross Parish, located in the East Forest Park section of Springfield, was founded in 1949 by the Diocese and the people of Holy Name parish. We have from the beginning drawn strength from our church, school, and neighborhood. We, as a Spirit-filled, prayerful community of people of all ages, are challenged to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ by knowing, loving, and serving God and each other.

As Roman Catholics, we commit ourselves to grow through celebrating the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, studying the Word, and supporting one another. We are called to reach out to all people, especially the poor and those in need, in a spirit of compassion and love.

RISING

— ✝ —

"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

MATTHEW 2:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC. GLPI

EVERY
NATION
ADORES
you.

PSALM 72

GLPI



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

221 Plumtree Road, Springfield, MA 01118-1502

Website: www.holycrossparish.org—Email: hrectory@gmail.com

Office Hours - Closed until further notice

We ask God to return to eternal life Norman March, Claire Joyce, Janet Leonard, Cecile Sears, and our recently departed friends and relatives.

OPEN PANTRY This week we ask that you please bring **Canned Vegetables**. Next week we ask that you please bring **Cereal**.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS ARE CANCELLED EXCEPT FOR JUSTFAITH, TAKE AND EAT, AND THE SANDWICH MINISTRY.

Tues., January 5 - JustFaith 7:00 p.m. in the JustFaith room.

Wed., = January 6 - JustFaith 7:00 p.m. in the JustFaith room.

Sun., January 10 - Sandwich Ministry 11:50 a.m. in the gold room.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3, 2021

- SUN 1/3** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- MON 1/4** 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- TUES 1/5** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
- WED 1/6** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
- THR 1/7** 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
- FRI 1/8** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
- SAT 1/9** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
- SUN 1/10** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

COMING SOON...

Clothing shed at Holy Cross Church will reopen!

The clothing donation shed at Holy Cross Church, 221 Plumtree Road, Springfield, MA 01118, which was temporarily closed due to global effects of the pandemic, will be reopened to the public.

If you're not familiar with the clothing donation shed, it's designed to give community members a uniquely clean, convenient, and well-cared-for option to donate their used clothing to. St. Pauly Textile Inc., the company that has provided the shed, partners with businesses and various organizations to distribute donated items both here in the U.S. and worldwide, where they're ultimately re-worn by people who need them. The Holy Cross Sandwiches for the Poor Ministry receives funding for donated clothing, and uses the donations to serve community needs.

With over 1,300 clothing drop-off sheds in place, St. Pauly Textile Inc. collects over 90,000 pounds of clothing every day and estimates that this clothing ends up in 44 different countries (including the U.S.) yearly. In 2019, the company was able to help keep over 20 million articles of clothing out of landfills, which clothed an estimated 2.5 million people worldwide. The company was founded in 1996 and is an A+ rated member of the Better Business Bureau.

Accepted items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillowcases, and stuffed animals.

PARISH GIVING



The collection for December 20 was \$4,922. Thank you to all the people who have mailed, dropped off, or gone online for their contributions! Our budgeted weekly cost of operating the Parish is \$8,300. Thank you all for your continued financial support of our parish. God bless you and please stay safe!

The Rectory Office is closed until further notice. Please call 783-4111 if you have any questions or concerns. The phones are checked daily for messages.

HOLY CROSS LOTTERY CALENDAR WINNERS

The winners of \$50 on December 20 were

Gerald and Alice Roy

CONGRATULATIONS!

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life's journey we may think we are walking in the light but are really lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, either because we are distracted, disinterested, or even apprehensive. Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? In Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God's revelation gives us the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tells us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to go out to all the world. Is this something we want to see?



SANDWICH MINISTRY

The 2021 Sandwiches for the Homeless second collection dates are:

January 30/31, March 27/28, May 29/30, July 24/25, September 25/26, and December 25/26.



Caring for Our Seniors During the Winter Season
By Home Instead Senior Care,
413-304-2316

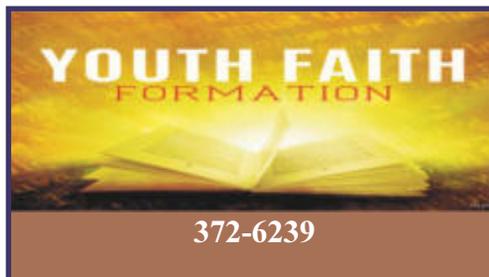
Tips for cold weather

Avoid Slipping on Ice – Icy, snowy roads and sidewalks make it easy to slip and fall. Unfortunately, falls are a common occurrence for senior citizens, especially during the winter months. Make sure they are wearing shoes with good traction and non-skid soles; and, if possible, keep them inside until the roads are clear. Replace a worn cane tip or walker leg caps for making walking easier. Take off shoes as soon as you return indoors; because often snow and ice attach to the soles and, once melted, can lead to slippery conditions inside.

Dress for Warmth – As people age, their sense of touch declines. Arthritis, diabetes, poor circulation, paralysis caused by stroke, and many other conditions can cause lack of feeling, especially in the extremities. A diminished response to cold can put seniors at risk for hypothermia. Check with them to see if they are chilly. Offer a sweater or blanket if necessary.

Skin Protection – As the body ages, skin becomes thinner and drier and thus more susceptible to tears. In addition, certain medications can thin already fragile nasal tissue, creating risk of nosebleeds. To lessen the possibility of danger associated with dryness, keep the body moist! Drink plenty of water and other fluids. Eat foods with high water content like soups and vegetables. Moisturize skin with cream or lotions. Use nasal lubricants or petroleum jelly to protect the lining of the nose. All these things can be done for your seniors.

Be Prepared for an Emergency – Winter storms can mean power outages and loss of heat, water, and telephone services. Inclement weather can mean difficulty going out for necessary supplies. Be prepared: stock up on food and fresh water. Some Meals on Wheels programs provide frozen emergency food packs that can be heated on days when there is no delivery. Keep batteries, flashlights, extra blankets, and a battery-operated radio on hand.



SUBSTITUTES NEEDED FOR FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

If you are available on Sunday mornings or afternoons and would like to substitute for classes, please contact Cathy Daniel in the Faith Formation Office for details.

College of Our Lady of the Elms

A collection is being taken up today for the **College of Our Lady of the Elms** — the Catholic college in the Springfield Diocese. The Sisters of St. Joseph founded **Elms College** in 1928 to educate the children of immigrants in the faith that was their heritage, and prepare them to fulfill the promises of the American Dream. Today, Elms continues to fulfill that mission by empowering its students to effect positive change in the community and world by combining a liberal arts education with professional studies while drawing upon the traditions instilled by the Sisters of St. Joseph. This collection will be applied to the Founder's Fund for Excellence, which supports student scholarships. For information about scholarships or to apply, please visit the **Elms College** website, www.elms.edu/apply, or call at 413-265-2213.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

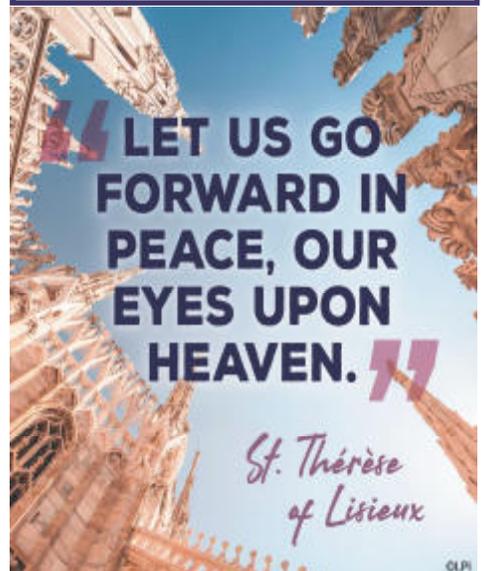
There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe. The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord

“Where is that thing?” mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. “I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!” Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, “Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear.” The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.” The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God’s tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God’s salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God’s healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 2nd

3:00 p.m. - Confessions.

4:00 p.m. -

Sunday, January 3rd

+8:30 a.m. - Carmella Grimaldi, requested by Claudia Giella.

+11:00 a.m. - Michele Massa, requested by his wife.

6:00 p.m. -

Monday, January 4th

+7:00 a.m. - Brian Collins, requested by Bev Haley.

Tuesday, January 5th

+7:00 a.m. - Fr. Dan Boyle.

Wednesday, January 6th

7:00 a.m. -

4:00 p.m. - Adoration, Benediction and Chaplets of the Unborn and Divine Mercy.

Thursday, January 7th

7:00 a.m. -

Friday, January 8th

No Mass

Saturday, January 9th

3:00 p.m. - Confessions.

4:00 p.m. -

Sunday, January 10th

8:30 a.m. - The People of Holy Cross and St. Bartholomew.

+11:00 a.m. - Norman March, requested by Richard and Susan Maloney.

+6:00 p.m. - The Romano family, especially Maria, requested by her niece Maria Recchia.

EPIPHANY



The Pastoral Staff

Rev. Mr. John Miller (Deacon)
(Administrator)
372-6246, or ext 101

Rev. David Raymond
(Priest Minister)
372-6242

Rev. Robert Thrasher (Retired, in residence)

Msgr. David George (Retired Maronite Monsignor, in residence)

Msgr. Juan Garcia (Retired, in residence)
ext. 147

Rev. Mr. William Toller (Deacon)
372-6237, or ext. 116

Sr. Cindy Matthews, OSF (Pastoral Minister)
372-6241, or ext. 117

William Lucia (Director, Liturgical Music)
372-6238, or ext. 146

Cathy Daniel (Director, Youth Faith Formation)
372-6239, or ext. 121

Main Number
783-4111, ext. 100

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and
6:00 p.m.

Daily Mass:
Monday to Thursday
7:00 a.m.

Holy Days
7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Confessions
Saturday 3:00 p.m. -
3:30 p.m. or by appt.

Devotions
Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday after 7:00 a.m. Mass
Adoration Wednesday
4:00-5:00 p.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Wednesday
5:00 p.m.

Rosary
Monday to Thursday after 7:00 a.m.
Mass



Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays, 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., and by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage
The policy for the Diocese of Springfield requires a period of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage, which includes sessions with the Parish Priest and participation at either the Pre-Cana conferences or the Engaged Encounter weekend. Please contact the Priest a minimum of six (6) months prior to setting any dates to allow adequate preparation.

Pastoral Care
Arrangements for the reception of the Sacraments at home can be made by contacting the Rectory. Please also notify the Rectory when a Parishioner is in the hospital or otherwise confined. If you have an emergency sick call, please call the Rectory.

Sacrament of Baptism
Baptism is celebrated on the second Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. Expectant parents should call the Parish office and speak with Deacon John Miller to make arrangements.

Baptismal preparation takes place on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

Youth Faith Formation
Classes are held from September through April.

PARISH GOALS and Objectives

Goal One

Create additional opportunities to build community in our Parish, reaching out to involve young adults, singles, families, and seniors.

Goal Two

Increase the number of opportunities for spiritual growth in our Parish.

Goal Three

Provide support and outreach to families and individuals in need.



Administration and Finance
Richard Allen734-6292

Altar Servers
Maureen Garner.....783-6428

Athletic Association
Connie Begley.....262-2241

Cursillo
Deacon Bill Toller.....372-6237

Eucharistic Ministers
Maureen Garner.....783-6428

Family Life
Patty Ferrarini.....782-3509

Greeters
Jim Maiolo.....374-1548

JustFaith
Deacon Bill Toller.....372-6237

Knights of Columbus
Bob Bys.....563-1147
holycrosskofc15864.groupsaces.com

Lectors
Mary Hosmer.....537-7979

Liturgical Environment
Bob Tyer.....782-6017

Outreach to the Poor
Ellen Angeli.....204-8562

Pastoral Council
Pat Pearson.....782-2033

Parish Nursing
Sr. Cindy.....372-6241

Prayer Line
Sue Callahan.....796-1950

RCIA
Rectory.....783-4111

Single Parent Support Group
Sr. Cindy.....372-6241

Sister Parish
Deacon Kevin McCarthy374-3861

Spiritual Life
Deacon John Miller.....782-4602

Take & Eat (Senior Meals)
Jan Denney426-8248

Ushers
Frank Ryan.....782-5730





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