

April 4, 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.

TOMB



He went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.

JOHN 20:6-7

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

LET US

rejoice

AND BE

glad.

PSALM 118



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

221 Plumtree Road, Springfield, MA 01118-1502

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

Office Hours - Closed until further notice

Telephone : (413)783-4111, Fax: (413)783-4112

We ask God to return to eternal life Moe Ferriter and our recently departed friends and relatives.

OPEN PANTRY This week we ask that you please bring **Tuna**. Next week we ask that you please bring **Spaghetti Sauce**.

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

Sun., April 4 - Sandwich Ministry 11:50 a.m. in the gold room.

Tues., - April 6 - JustFaith 7:00 p.m. in the JustFaith room.

Wed., - April 7 - JustFaith 7:00 p.m. in the JustFaith room.

Sal., - April 10 - JustFaith AGAPE Immersion 8:45 a.m.

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 4, 2021

SUN 4/4	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35
MON 4/5	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15
TUES 4/6	Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18
WED 4/7	Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35
THR 4/8	Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48
FRI 4/9	Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27 [22]/Jn 21:1-14
SAT 4/10	Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15
SUN 4/11	Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Alleluia! Christ is risen! About today's feast, St. Augustine writes: "And he departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and find him there. For he left us, and behold, he is here." Christ's resurrected presence lives not only in the highest heaven but in the fragile human heart. Christ's life inspires us and moves us to see a future for every human being and discover our true purpose and meaning. Every human being has a desire to live, and this cry can be heard within. There is a longing for a connection with Someone greater than ourselves that gives an import to our existence that we cannot supply. Today, our deepest questions find answers.

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SANDWICH MINISTRY

The remaining 2021 Sandwiches for the Homeless second collection dates are:

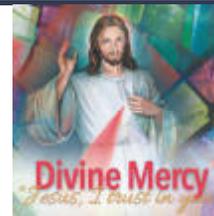
May 29/30, July 24/25, September 25/26, and December 25/26.

PARISH GIVING



The collection for March 21 was \$6,867. 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.



THE DIVINE MERCY MESSAGE AND DEVOTION

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His Mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with Trust, receive His Mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC.

Ask for Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His Mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

Be Merciful. God wants us to receive His Mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as he does to us.

Completely Trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His Mercy can only be received by our Trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with Trust, the more we can receive.

The message and devotion to Jesus, known as The Divine Mercy, is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread. Learn more about the Mercy of God, learn to Trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others, as Christ is merciful to you. Visit: www.thedivinemercy.org

This year, we invite everyone to pray The Divine Mercy Novena privately. **The Novena begins on Good Friday, April 2nd and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11th.** We will try to accommodate pamphlets for the Novena/Chaplet beforehand.

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR
ORDINARY MOMENTS
A Happy Ending Isn't the Whole Story**

"Is there a happy ending?"

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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**We cannot give up
in the face of evil.
God is Love and he has
defeated evil through
Christ's death and
resurrection.**

— Pope Francis



**FAITH
FORMATION
372-6239**

FAITH FORMATION

**The Holy Cross Faith Formation
Program would like to wish everyone
A Blessed Happy Easter!**

Classes for April are the 11th, 18th, and 25th. If your children do their lessons on Zoom, please continue to do so. If they do live classes, please continue to do so. Please be available to your children to help if they are on Zoom.

FIRST COMMUNION FAMILIES

The First Communion class for April is the 25th on Zoom from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Please be available to help your children. Please have all materials ready to work with.

GRADE 10, PRE-CONFIRMATION

April 18, Chapters 9 and 10 are due.

Adult Catholic Bible Study:

Join us on Zoom for an 8 week study of the Gospel of John. We will use the Ascension Press program, Follow Me, which includes a workbook, video instruction featuring Edward Sri, and group discussion. All are welcome. We will meet from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays from April 13 - June 8, with no meeting on May 11. (*An evening group may also be arranged if there is sufficient interest.*) Cost of materials: \$22. Contact Mary Hart, 413-455-4778, maryhart.avon@yahoo.com, for info or to register.



PROJECT BREAD

**FOOD SOURCE
HOT LINE 1-800-645-8333**

Our goal is to help connect folks to food resources large and small. This can be help with the SNAP program or finding local food resources closer to home.

Our hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. We offer help in over 180 languages through our interpreter service.

Attention Junior Girl Scouts:

Classes for the Catholic religious emblem program for Junior level Girl Scouts (grades 4-5) will be offered this spring. The "I Live My Faith" program enables girls to grow as Christians and to take their place as active members of their family, parish, troop, and community. The program will meet on five Sunday evenings and run April 25 - June 13, 2021. Location to be determined according to then-current COVID guidelines, with in-person gatherings being in the Holyoke/North Westfield area. For more information regarding this class or other Catholic religious emblems for all levels of Girl Scouts, please contact Patricia O'Connor at oonnorp1749@comcast.net.



Please keep the following service members, as well as all those affected by COVID-19 and those serving on the front line of this pandemic, in your prayers this week:

U.S. Air Force:

**Staff Sergeant Alexander Henle and
Staff Sergeant Samuel B. Park.**

U.S. Army:

**Second Lt. Alexander Nappi, OCS,
Chief Warrant Officer -4 Nicholas S.
Penna, and
Private First Class, Trevor Bajek**

U.S. Marine Corps:

**Lance Corporal Dominic Bushway,
Sergeant Christopher Bouchie,
Private Vincent Manning, and
Dakota Wood, Active Military.**

U.S. Navy:

**Sailor Austin Ray Allaire and Ensign
Joshua Lausier.**

U.S A. Army Corps of Engineers

First Lt. Jonathan Edward Moll

If you have someone, family or friend, who is currently in the military, please call the rectory with the proper spelling of each person's name. As space allows in the bulletin, we will ask for prayers for those who are serving our country.



GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection, and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise, and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are.

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My name is Victoria Russo and I sell the ads for your bulletin at the church. I work on this throughout the year so if you or someone you know would like to advertise, please give me a call at 518-527-3017. Let's keep the bulletin strong for the church! Stay well and safe! Thank you, Victoria Russo, 518-527-3017.



"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power." Are you being called to proclaim the life of the resurrected Christ to the world? Contact Fr. Jon Reardon @ 413-248-7034 / vocations@diospringfield.org



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 3rd. – HOLY SATURDAY - EASTER VIGIL

+8:00 p.m. - Barbara Coffey, requested by Elizabeth and Stephen Anucci.

Sunday, April 4th - EASTER SUNDAY

+8:30 a.m. - Dominicko Alfrone, requested by Maria Recchia.

+11:00 a.m. - Lenny Rodriguez, requested by Richard and Dolores Zapert.

Monday, April 5th

+7:00 a.m. - Helene Griffin, requested by her daughter, Mary Brown.

Tuesday, April 6th

+7:00 a.m. - Linda Ulrick, requested by friends of Holy Cross.

Wednesday, April 7th

7:00 a.m. -

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

Thursday, April 8th

7:00 a.m. - The People of Holy Cross and St. Bartholomew.

Friday, April 9th

7:00 a.m. - No Mass.

Saturday, April 10th

+4:00 p.m. - Antoinette and Sevano Grimaldi, requested by their daughter, Josephina.

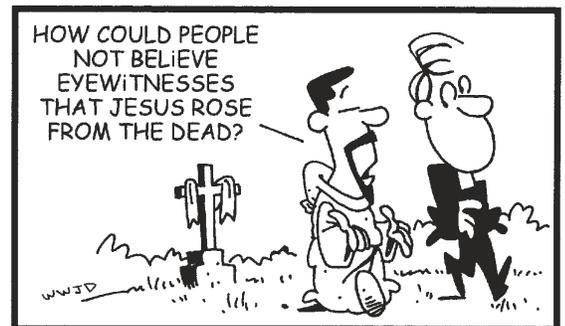
Sunday, April 11th

8:30 a.m. -

+11:00 a.m. - Raymond Woods (21st Anniversary), requested by his family.

6:00 p.m. -

EASTER



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 Faith Formation and Child Advocate)
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.



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.



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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Your Ward 7 City Councillor
Tim Allen

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