

June 20, 2021

Holy Cross Catholic Church

**No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church,
No matter what your current family or marital situation,
No matter what your current personal history, age, background, or race,
No matter what your own self-image —
You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here at Holy Cross
Church.**

**We are here to welcome and serve you.
Together we are all called to conversion in Christ.**

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.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

221 Plumtree Road, Springfield, MA 01118-1502

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

Office Hours - 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

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

We ask God to return to eternal Albini J. Levesque, Joan Quirk , and our recently departed friends and relatives.

OPEN PANTRY This week we ask that you please bring **Peanut Butter**. Next week we ask that you please bring **Canned Ravioli**.

Calendar of **EVENTS**

Sun., June 20– Sandwich Ministry 11:00 a.m. in the gold room.

Sat., June 26 - AA – Park Allen Group 7:00 p.m. in the gold room.

Sun., June 27 - Take and Eat 8:00 a.m. in the school kitchen.
Sandwich Ministry 11:00 a.m. in the gold room.

PARISH GIVING



The collection for June 6 was \$7,218. 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!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 20, 2021

SUN 6/20 Jb 38:1, 8-11/ Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 [1b]/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

MON 6/21 Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22 [12]/Mt 7:1-5

TUES 6/22 Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [1b]/Mt 7:6, 12-14

WED 6/23 Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mt 7:15-20

THR 6/24 *Vigil:* Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 [6b]/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17
Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

FRI 6/25 Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [4]/Mt 8:1-4

SAT 6/26 Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54-55 [cf. 54b]/Mt 8:5-17

SUN 6/27 Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

June 20, 2021

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we look at our lives and world events, do we ever find ourselves wondering if God is sleeping? After all, maybe God's patient, unconditional love has run its course and He is finally fed up with humanity's reluctance to accept the truth about who we are. God really can't be that patient! All throughout human history, many have prayed to God for intervention or for particular needs. Because their prayers were not answered in the way they wanted or anticipated, they felt that God may have abandoned them. Were they right? It seems that we are continuing, at a rapid rate, down a path of destruction. Do you not care, God, that we may be perishing? When the boats of our lives are rocking and the seas tumultuous, we want to know that we have God's attention. Even more so, we want God's intervention.

Maybe the storms and the waves are necessary. If we listen, they can teach us valuable lessons. Without them, we would never learn that we have the strength to endure, understand the uselessness of fear and worry, or develop the ability to really trust. If God immediately rushed in and simply calmed things down before they got difficult, what good would that really be? We would miss opportunities to learn how to drink more deeply of life, treasure its complexity, irony, and beauty and fully engage ourselves in surrendering to the love of our Creator. It is easy to walk on the surface of life without immersing ourselves in its messiness. Life has to burn its way through us in order to bring us to a place of secure trust. It's unfortunate that some prefer a shallower journey.

That's the balancing act that comes with faith. It is not God's job to prevent us from encountering the torrential rains and winds of life. Many believe that if faith is done the right way, that God will provide for smooth sailing. That's not how it works. God permits us to ride out the difficult stuff knowing that the storm will eventually be calmed. Do we not have faith that God will do this? True faith trusts in the steadfastness of God's love when the seas are calm and when they are choppy. God's unconditional loving presence shines through all of it and endures forever. Knowing this allows us to put our boats out into uncharted waters without hesitation. Knowing that we prefer the comfort and safety of what we know to be still waters, how do we feel when Jesus says, "Let us cross to the other side"?

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Do we trust that God will take care of us and has things under control? When life gets difficult, shaky, or painful, we may find ourselves wondering what we may have done to deserve this fate. Often, we go to great lengths to explain suffering away, as if it has no purpose and ought not to exist. In an attempt to get God on our side in our battle against suffering, our prayer can mirror a question asked by the disciples: do you not care that we are perishing? As we are asking that question of God, God is asking of us: do you not yet have faith? It is for certain that God does not intentionally inflict pain upon us. God has no sinister plot to test our faith or trip us up. Rather, the unconditional, restorative, and rejuvenating power of God's love can bring light out of the greatest darkness and gives hope in the midst of deep despair. We have to be patient and ride out the storm. It is our task to deepen our faith that God will calm the wind and draw meaning out of that which seems senseless.

PASTORAL MINISTER
372-6241

The Diocese is now allowing Eucharistic Ministers (if they are fully vaccinated and CORIED) to bring Communion to our confined parishioners following certain protocols, including that the visits be brief. If you are a Eucharistic Minister to our confined parishioners, or would like to be trained for this outreach ministry, and you would be willing to visit one or more of our parishioners who are not able to be with us in person, please call Sr. Cindy at 372-6241. Please leave your name and telephone number in case our number for you is outdated. If necessary, Sr. Cindy will train you for home/nursing home visits with Communion. This is a very meaningful and rewarding ministry. It is also very much appreciated by those who are able to receive Communion and connect with our parish because of your generosity of time and commitment. Thank you for discerning a possible call to serve in this way.



Undie Sunday

We have designated the third Sunday of each month as “Undie Sunday,” a clothing collection for the homeless we see every Sunday through our sandwiches for the homeless ministry. We are looking for new white socks, boxer shorts for men (sizes M-XL), and undergarments for women in various sizes. Please deposit your donation **this weekend** in the barrels at the entrances of the church. We continue to be so BLESSED by your generosity and ask for your help on “Undie Sunday”! Call Deacon Bill at 372-6237 if you have any questions or suggestions.

SAVE THE DATE FAITH ON FIRE CATHOLIC RALLY ONE DAY ONLY!

September 10, 2021, at 6 p.m. The annual Faith on Fire Catholic Charismatic Rally will be held on our beautiful grounds of Sacred Heart Parish in Feeding Hills, MA. This event is sponsored by the Hampden West Deanery and the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Springfield Diocese. Our evening will consist of Praise and Worship music with three Music Ministries, Eucharistic Procession, Reconciliation, opportunity for extra prayer under the prayer tent and Prayers for Healing with the laying of the hands. We will have two main speakers and two lay witness speakers to inspire you. The Faith on Fire Committee, Agawam Knights of Columbus and Saint Martha's Guild will provide food for purchase. Please bring a lawn chair and or blankets for comfortable seating. God promised that “for where two or more are gathered I am there among you”. Please contact the Pastoral Associate/Faith on Fire Coordinator Deb Briancesco at 786.8200, ext. 3 with any questions.



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:

**First 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, PFC.**

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.



We are asking all parishioners to visit our *Fruit & Bread of Life Farmers' Market* each Sunday during the starting months of June and July to make this new fundraising effort a success! Help make this a warm, welcoming event attracting new parishioners to our community. Starting Sunday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., we are able to gather outdoors with current COVID-Regulations in place to assure everyone's safety. You will be delighted to see the Fresh Produce, Homemade Baked Goods, and Handmade Crafts, as you walk through to receive a FREE Ticket to win a Raffle Prize every Sunday!

(Donations are needed for these. Only new items will be welcome. Please drop them off at Church on the weekend or at the Rectory during the week.)



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 20, 2021

“Do not be afraid; just have faith.”
There is nothing to be afraid of in following Christ. Could he be calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact Fr. Jon Reardon @ 413-248-7034 / vocations@diospringfield.org

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

The nautical nature of today's gospel provides a perfect backdrop to reflect on one of the virtues.

As we slowly make our way out of the confines of the pandemic and begin to stretch our societal legs again it is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the often-overlooked virtue of hope. As we navigated our way through the past 15 months and begin to rebuild our lives, a key, if not the most important key, is to remain hopeful!

The Maine coastline is dotted with numerous scenic lighthouses. While these lighthouses are very picturesque, they have/had a very important historical purpose. As mariners made their way through the storms and currents of that rocky coast, the beacons of the lighthouses led them into the harbors. The lights provided them with accurate bearings and a real confirmation that they were headed safely to home.

For Catholics, Christ is our "lighthouse"! He is the beacon that brings us home. He is our hope. In the midst of the upheavals and challenges of our lives we can trust that he will see us through. During these times we have all experienced fear and sadness and felt that we were truly lost at sea. As each day passed and the seas grew choppier, we wondered where God was. Now as the last of the big breakers crashes into our gunnels we can once again catch a glimpse of the welcoming lamp and we soon come to understand that it was there all along....

One night I dreamed a dream.

As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.

Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,

One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,

I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,

especially at the very lowest and saddest times,

there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,

You'd walk with me all the way.

But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,

there was only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

When you saw only one set of footprints,

It was then that I carried you."

A PRAYER FOR ABSENT PARISHIONERS

God, Our Father, when Jesus, Your Son, walked this earth some two thousand years ago, He modeled for us the love and compassion You have for everyone. He told beautiful stories of how genuinely concerned You are for the happiness and salvation of all Your children, especially those in pain, confusion, and despair.

As a Father You know their pain and the causes of their anger or indifference. Heal their wounds and bring them home. Through the living out of our lives in love, compassion, and forgiveness, may we encourage and welcome them. We ask this in the name of Your Son Jesus Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. Saint Ambrose and Saint Leo, pray for us.

Homecoming (Luke 15:11-32)

Marion C. Honors, CSJ



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 19th

+4:00 p.m. - Patricia Jackson (15th Anniversary), requested by her daughter Kris.

Sunday, June 20th

8:30 a.m. -

+11:00 a.m. - Repose of the Souls of Juliette and Jerry Quenneville, requested by Joanne and Michael Lanzillo-Epaul.

Monday, June 21st

+9:00 a.m. - Deceased friends from Judith Street, requested by Anne Whalen.

Tuesday, June 22nd

+9:00 a.m. - Fr. Vic, requested by his friends of Holy Cross.

Wednesday, June 23rd

+9:00 a.m. - In memory of Frieda and Edward Fontaine, requested by Anne Whalen.

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

Thursday, June 24th

+9:00 a.m. - In memory of Jean Whalen Raymond (9th Anniversary), requested by Anne Whalen.

Friday, June 25th

9:00 a.m. - No Mass.

Saturday, June 26th

4:00 p.m. -

Sunday, June 27th

+8:30 a.m. - Our recently deceased: Jimmy Johnson, Albert Cayer, Jean LaPointe.

+11:00 a.m. - Deceased members of the Lausier and Lussier families, requested by Bob and Marie Lussier.

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Pastoral Staff

Rev. Frank Lawlor
(Administrator)
ext. 147

Rev. David Raymond
(In residence)
372-6242

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

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

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

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. (September - June)

Daily Mass:

Monday to Thursday
9:00 a.m.

Holy Days

9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Confessions

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

Devotions

Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday after 9:00 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.

PARISH GOALS and Objectives

Goal One

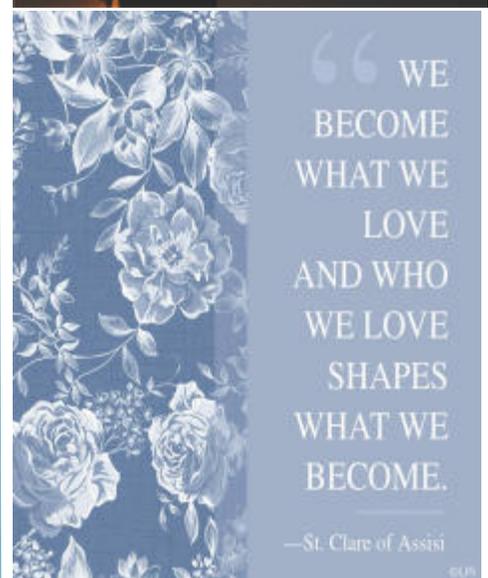
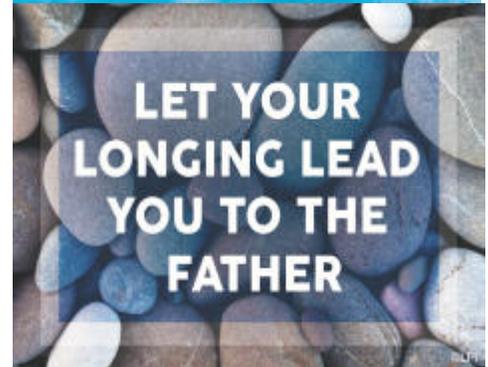
Create additional opportunities to build
community in our Parish, reaching out to
involve young adults, singles, families,
and seniors.

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.





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Tim Allen

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