

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 a.m. + Edward Boland, requested by His Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:30 a.m. + Claire Cieboter, requested by Mike Cieboter

11:00 a.m. + Roger Doerpholz, requested by His Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00 a.m. + In Memory of Beryl & Paul Matthews and Scott

Tucker, requested by Anne Whalen

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE

9:00 a.m. No Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022 — NEW YEAR'S DAY

10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

PARISH GIVING

DECEMBER 11 & 12: \$5,566.50

2021-22 BUDGET: \$8,600.00

Thank you for your continuing support.

"The Gospel takes away our right forever to discriminate between the deserving and undeserving poor." Dorothy Day

Look for inspiration or humor or share it on Holy Cross' new Facebook page...

AT THE CROSS.SPRINGFIELD

We ask God to return to eternal life our recently departed, ROSE Y. PETERS and PASQUALE A. ROMEO, and our friends and relatives.

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., Dec. 26 11 a.m. Sandwich Ministry, Gold Room

Mon., Dec. 27 6:30 p.m. Plarning Meeting, Gold Room

Tue., Dec. 28 6:30 p.m. JustFaith, JustFaith Room

Wed., Dec. 29 4 p.m. Adoration & Chaplet of Divine

Mercy, Church

6:30 p.m. JustFaith, JustFaith Room

Sat., Jan. 1 7:00 p.m. AA Park Allen Group, Gold Room

Sun., Jan. 2 11 a.m. Sandwich Ministry, Gold Room

Hunger does not take a holiday...

This weekend we will have a second collection in support of our Sandwiches for the Homeless Ministry. This is the last collection for this year.

The 2022 Sandwiches for the Homeless second collection dates are: February 26 & 27, April 30 & May 1, June 18 & 19, August 27 & 28, October 29 & 30, and December 24 & 25.

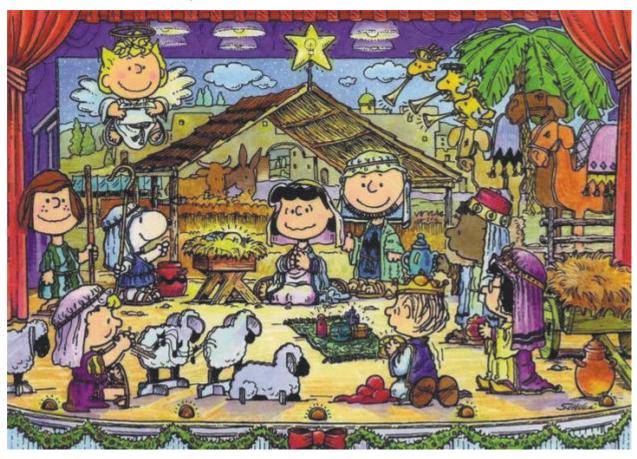
"Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord." Ps 84

WEBSITE: www.holycrossparish.org

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

shared by Fr. Frank Lawlor

"In 1965, Charles Schulz, a devout Christian and creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip, was asked to create a Christmas special for CBS featuring the Peanuts characters. He agreed with one requirement, that they allow him to include the story of the birth of Jesus. Although the station's executives were hesitant and tried to convince him otherwise, Schulz was insistent. As a result, for the past 50-plus years, millions of people have watched "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and heard the story of Jesus and "what Christmas is all about."



It wasn't until a few years back that I realized a "hidden message" in the film. Linus, a child who seems to have some insecurities as he carries a security blanket with him at all times. In fact, Linus NEVER drops his blanket, except once...

While sharing the message of "what Christmas is all about," Linus drops his blanket at the exact moment he says the words, "fear not!"

In this seemingly innocent moment, Linus delivers a powerful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. We are to "fear not," for Jesus is born. We needn't rely on material things for security, we have God with us, "Immanuel," (Matthew 1:23) Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior - the true meaning of Christmas.

Awhile back, someone informed me, indignantly so, that Linus picks up his blanket at the end of the speech so my interpretation must be wrong. Well, he was right, Linus does pick up his blanket at the end of his speech. However, he "drops" it again later...

Amid big, bright, colorful, shiny artificial trees, Charlie Brown chose the least of these, a little, wooden tree with just a few branches. Shortly thereafter, Linus uses his blanket to wrap about the base of the tree and says, "Maybe it just needs a little love." In that moment, the tree "awakens," stands tall and firm. A reminder that no matter who we are, how many mistakes we've made, a "little love" can make all the difference.

Let's strive to "fear not" (Luke 2:10) and "love one another" (John 13:34), not just at Christmastime, but the whole year through."

Borrowed from Charlene M. Speer & 'Christian Life Ministry' on Facebook...

DECEMBER 25 & 26, 2021

FRENCH MASS THIS SUNDAY

Every fourth Sunday of the month at Holy Cross Church, Haitian Ministry will host a French mass at 2 p.m. with Fr. David Raymond and Deacon Marc Arthur Jean Mary. Please join us to take part in that animated celebration! The next French mass will take place this Sunday, December 26.

BETHLEHEM HOUSE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS

Bethlehem House needs volunteers, helping out on weekdays. Hours needed for assistance, 10am to 1pm Monday and Tuesday or 10am to 3pm Wednesday through Friday.

The ministry is also in need of a car for picking up supplies. Bethlehem supports local families with baby supplies.

If you can help out or might have a vehicle to donate- 413 527-2861, or 413 262-8517.

ATTENTION SCOUTS:

Catholic Badge Information

Group sessions to earn the Ad Altare Dei (AAD) Roman Catholic religious emblem are being organized to kick-off in the late fall/early winter 2021 in the Springfield/Westfield area and in late January in the Berkshires. The sessions will be held in the early evenings two Sundays a month. Further details will be available soon.

Roman Catholic Scouts who are members of parishes in the Springfield MA diocese, have completed the 6th grade and are active in a registered Troop or Crew are eligible to participate.

The Ad Altare Dei program is based on the seven Sacraments: the primary ways we encounter Christ and grow in our faith. The goal of the AAD program is to facilitate faith growth and is not designed as a substitute for, but as a supplement to, a formal religious education program. The Scout will look at his/her experiences of belonging to a group like Scouting and is led to discover the same things within the faith community. More information about the emblem can be found at http://nccs-bsa.org/index.php/religious-emblems/ad-altare-dei

Those interested should contact Paul Lizak at 413-583-6646 or p_lizak@ieee.org for more information or to sign up.

PRO-LIFE VIGIL, JANUARY 13

Please join Catholics for the Unborn for a pro-life vigil on Thursday, January 13, at 10 a.m. at St Michael's Cathedral in Springfield. The vigil begins with Exposition, Recitation of the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet then Adoration. At 12 noon there will be Benediction followed by Daily Mass. Please support our efforts to protect innocent unborn life through prayer. Come for a part of or the whole vigil. For more information, call Marilyn at 567-6085.

He who sings, prays twice unto the ford!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Lawlor, Administrator 372-6246, or ext. 147

Rev. Dr. John Tuohey, In Residence 372-6242, or ext. 110

Msgr. David George Retired Maronite Monsignor, In Residence

> Msgr. David Joyce Retired Monsignor, In Residence

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

Rev. Mr. Marc Jean-Mary, Deacon

Sr. Chris Clark, DHM, Pastoral Minister 372-6241 or ext. 117

Brian Rucci , 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

MASS SCHEDULE

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

Daily Mass: Mon. to Thurs., 9:00 a.m.

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

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 - 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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Call Sue at 796-1950



Dec. 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

"The holy Eucharist is the perfect expression of the love of Jesus Christ for man."

~Saint Maria Goretti







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