

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

JAN. 9, 2022

THE SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays, 3:00-3:30 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. Parents should call the parish office at 783-4111.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Classes are held from September through April.

*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.*

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Holy Cross Parish
is to **BUILD THE BODY OF CHRIST.**

**221 PLUMTREE RD.,
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01118-1502**

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

PHONE: (413)783-4111, ext. 100

FAX: (413)783-4112

EMAIL: hcrectory@gmail.com



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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

4:00 p.m. +Ted Gingras, requested by His Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

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

11:00 a.m. +Gail Remillard, requested by the Parish Council

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00 a.m. Raoul & Victoire Doyon, requested by Their Daughter, Marie

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00 a.m. No Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Recipients, requested by The Prayer Shawl Ministry

We ask God to return to eternal life our recently departed, **JOHN PORCELLO**, our friends and relatives.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., Jan. 9	11 a.m. Sandwich Ministry, Gold Room 6:00 p.m. Gr. 10 Faith Formation, Rectory Conference Room
Mon., Jan. 10	6:00 p.m. Planning Group, Gold Room
Tue., Jan. 11	6:30 p.m. JustFaith, JustFaith Room 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting, Rectory Conference Room
Wed., Jan. 12	4 p.m. Adoration & Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Church 6:30 p.m. JustFaith, JustFaith Room
Sat., Jan. 15	7:00 p.m. AA Park Allen Group, Gold Room
Sun., Jan. 16	11 a.m. Sandwich Ministry, Gold Room



In honor of the *Year of the Eucharist*, Holy Cross will begin holding monthly Adoration and Holy Hours. Beginning on Sunday, February 6, from 2 to 4 in the afternoon, and the first Sunday of every month, we invite you to join us for a few hours of quiet prayer and reflection in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Spend a holy hour or just drop in for a few moments of quiet.

PARISH GIVING

CHRISTMAS: \$3,213.00

DECEMBER 26: \$4,357.00

2021-22 BUDGET: \$8,600.00

Thank you for your continuing support.

Holy Cross parish is beginning to explore the process of sponsoring an Afghanistan refugee family. I believe that it would be a wonderful parish wide activity. If you would like to be involved in this process please call the rectory. Fr Frank

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

AT THE CROSS.SPRINGFIELD

"O Bless the Lord, my soul." Psalm 104

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

shared by Fr. Frank Lawlor

I try to imagine night in an ancient land and myself in it, I try to think of the most natural quiet I have ever known, maybe after a fresh nighttime snow. Maybe the expectant hush that falls over the crowd as the houselights go down and the conductor raises his baton. Maybe a holy hour in the dead of night when it's just me and Jesus—that still quiet that is filled with presence, the holy, mystical touch of God.

When I close my eyes, I imagine I am one of the shepherds, the youngest of them, very little, nothing but a child, and the whole world exists for me, just as it does for all children.

The air is clear and chilly, and there is dew on the grass. I hear the faint movement of the herds, the soft night sounds of a world at rest. Herd animals have an aroma of their own at night; they take on the warm and reassuring smell of sleeping beasts—it is as though their very slumber has a fragrance. I am quiet and calm and at peace in all of this, even in my own nothingness. As it often does, my gaze turns toward the heavens, the glory of the stars, the vast, hovering universe stretching out over the fields, over me, and my mind is filled with a child's wonder.

Suddenly the sky erupts with light and singing. It is frightening, confusing, and I shield myself. *What could this be?* There are voices and beings, brightness beyond imagining, sounds I've never heard, and after some moments the sky goes dark again, the stars reappear, but nothing will ever be the same. A startled silence falls over the other shepherds and then I hear the word—though I barely know what it means: “angel.”

Everyone starts running, and I cannot understand what is going on nor do I know where they are going, but I follow along with the others. What else would a child do?

It is dark, but our feet fly. We are light and quick. We do not miss a step. Until in the distance I see we are approaching a cave—only it is illuminated, not cold, dark, damp but a warm, living, glowing sort of place. As we draw nearer, the other shepherds slow down, and when we are quite close, they stop and kneel. I kneel too. I think I should keep my head down, but I want to sneak a glance. There is something—someone—ahead in that cave. Dare I look? A woman, a baby. *Didn't the angel say something of this, something of infants and that*



other word so inviting and mysterious, “savior”? We are captivated, speechless. Then one, the oldest and wisest of us, thinks to approach this woman, and the woman says, “Wait a moment,” and then she turns to look directly at me. She gestures for me to come forward. And I can see the head shepherd is taken aback, confused by this, as if to say, “What could you possibly want with her?” He is a humble, good man, hardworking and honest; it's disorienting to see him confounded.

But I go. Though I have no sense of what is taking place or who she is, it seems I cannot resist her invitation to approach, and when I get closer, I see she's so beautiful and lovely and superb in every way.

She smiles at me, and I draw nearer. We look down on the baby in her arms together.

I say, “He's so small.”

And she says, “Yes, babies are very little.”

“Yes, so sweet,” she says. Then somehow I am in her lap and so is the baby. She is holding me, and I am holding him. And then he takes my finger—curls his little fist around my own child's finger—and squeezes. And I look at this beautiful woman and say, “Look! He's touching me.”

Her whole expression changes, deepens, and she says, “Yes, he is.”

He is touching me, touching my heart, in this prayer, in this meditation, and in that slightest connection, sending a world of healing, oceans of grace, a universe of glory pulsing through an infant's grip.

Child, how I love you!

Then I remember the question I had been asking: “Why did you come? Why pour all your glory and power into one little baby?”

And he says to me, not in words, but through that little innocent fist, this helpless little creature, “So I could touch you!

I believe him down to my bones.

—Excerpted from
Jesus Approaches by Elizabeth M. Kelly

JANUARY 8 & 9, 2022



BIBLE STUDY:

A Biblical Walk through the Mass

Please join us in the new year for a new Bible study, **A Biblical Walk through the Mass**, Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. in the rectory conference room, January 26 to February 23. This five-week program explores the biblical roots of the Mass, what it all means and why it all matters, through video teaching

by Edward Sri, book, workbook and discussion. Cost of materials is \$30.

Please contact Mary Hart, at 413-455-4778, or mary-hart.avon@yahoo.com for more details or to register. All are welcome!

Sandwiches for the Homeless Second Collection Schedule (revised)

The 2022 Sandwiches for the Homeless second collection dates (**revised**) are: February 26 & 27, April 30 & May 1, June 18 & 19, August 27 & 28, October 29 & 30, and **December 17 & 18**.

Save the Date, Invitation & RSVP:

Gathering Spiritual Accompanists' Conversation with Prayer, Gratitude, Update, Moving Forward Together

Sunday, January 16, 2:30-3:30 pm, Rectory Conference Room

Facilitated by Sr Chris Clark, with Cathy Daniel and Fr Frank Lawlor

Gathering of Spiritual Accompanists and those who wish to be spiritual accompanists in Holy Cross Parish - Eucharistic Ministers/Visitors to Homebound, Prayer Line, Respite, Prayer Shawl Ministry, etc.

Please RSVP for "Spiritual Accompanists" by January 12 to cclarkhccparish@gmail.com so we may prepare the meeting space.

Save the Date, Invitation & RSVP:

Gathering Liturgical Ministers' Conversation with Prayer, Gratitude, Update, Moving Forward Together

Sunday, January 23, 2:30-3:30 pm, Rectory Conference Room

Facilitated by Sr Chris Clark, with Fr Frank Lawlor and Members of the Pastoral Team

Gathering of Liturgical Ministers and those who wish to be liturgical ministers in Holy Cross Parish - Ushers, Welcomers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Music etc.

Please RSVP for "Liturgical Ministers" by January 20 to cclarkhccparish@gmail.com so we may prepare the meeting space.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

FAITH FORMATION



We would like to wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Classes for January are the 23rd, K-9, 9:30 - 10:45 at St. Michael's Academy. For the other weekends please continue to do the Gospel Weeklies at home and submit the online assessments.

FIRST COMMUNION

January 9th class, 10:00 - 12:00 am. (Please note the date and time change.) The rest of the First Communion meetings will be 10:00 - 12:00 noon on the designated dates. I feel that we need a little more time and I don't want to rush through the lessons, especially for First Communion.

January 30th, First Communion parents meeting at the rectory 12:00 noon.

10TH GRADE

January 9, 6:30 - 8:30., candidates please read the first five lessons of the Baltimore Catechism.

Sunday, January 30th parents meeting at the rectory.



Thank You From the Gray House

Thank you so much for your recent gift of two-plus truckloads of Christmas gifts to benefit local children in need this holiday season.

Providing our neighbors with the resources needed to break the cycle of poverty truly takes a community, and as such, I am incredibly grateful to have you as part of this community. We could not have reached this milestone—over 35 years of service—without the support of generous individuals like you. Every life we touch—be it through adult education, youth programming, providing food or a warm winter coat—is possible because of your investment in the lives of those in need.

Our sincerest thanks to all the parishioners in Holy Cross who donated to the toy drive, to Ellen for coordinating and volunteering, and you, Deacon Bill, for delivering in your one-truck open sleigh. Because of your kindness, so many children will wake up on Christmas morning with smiles on their faces!

With gratitude,
Kristen McClintock



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