

# Holy Cross Catholic Community

Pastor, Father Jose Issac

Deacon Joe Haggarty

Deacon Herbert Melendez

Address | 5650 Vista Boulevard, Sparks NV 89436

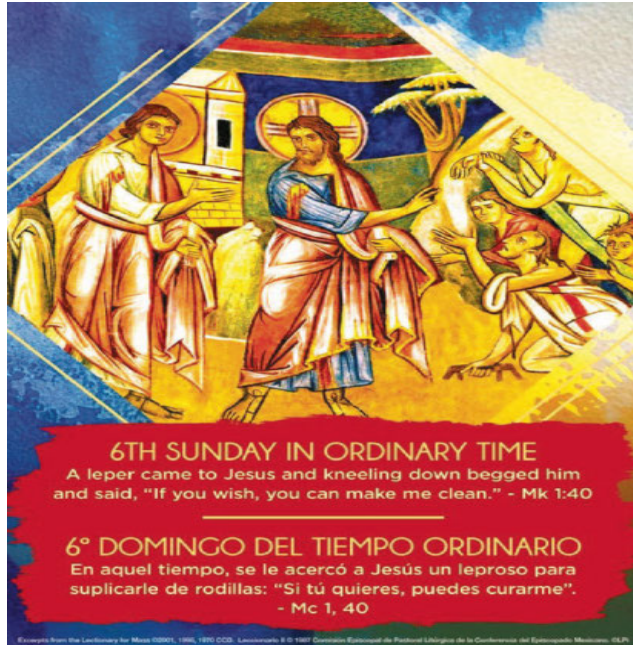
Parish Phone | 775-358-2544

Parish Fax | 775-626-8281

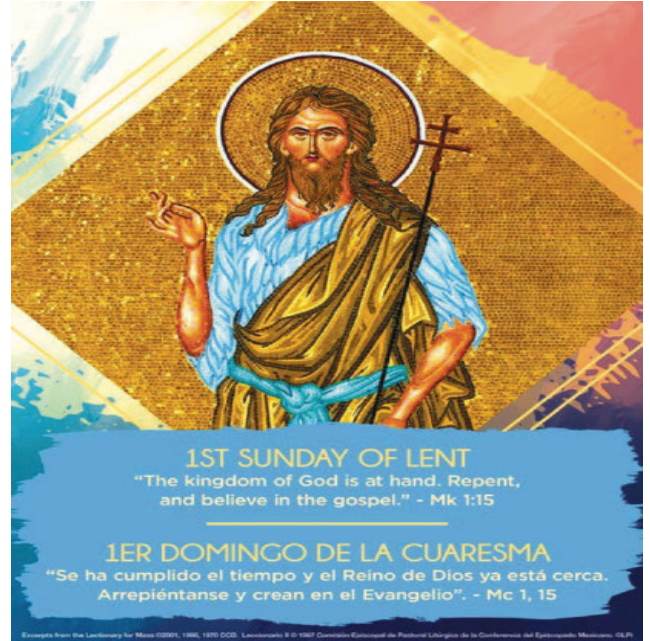
Parish Email | [hccchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hccchurch@sbcglobal.net)

Website | [www.HolyCrossSparks.com](http://www.HolyCrossSparks.com)

**February 11, 2024**



**February 18, 2024**



## Mass Schedule

**Saturday Vigil | 5 pm    Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am, 4:30pm (English) 12:15pm (Spanish)**  
**Daily Mass | Tuesday—Friday 12:00pm Noon    Reconciliation | Saturday 4:00pm**

## Ministries & Parish Groups

**Adult Faith Formation:** Father Jose

**Lectors:** John Bell 775-331-0377

**Altar Servers:** Angela Malone

**Liturgical Ministers Co-Chairs**

Barbara Beverly & Yrma Placencia

**Baptism Class**

(Eng) Libby Hoops 775-223-2809

(Span) Yrma Plascencia & Herbert Melendez

**Marriage Preparation:** Father Jose

**Nursing Home Ministry:** Vilia Natchez

**RCIA / Come & See:** Parish Office

**Centering Prayer:**

Mark Miskulin 775-771-5889

**Women's Group:** Debbie Schiwart 626-7196

**Confirmation:** Elizabeth Martinez

**Respect Life:** Mike Morris 775-722-3789

**Joy Group:** Earlene Rummel

## Office Hours

**Monday—Thursday:**

9:00am to 5:30pm

**Lunch 12:30 to 1:00pm**

**Saturdays: 9:30am–5:00pm**

**Sundays: 9:00am–5:00pm**

**Office Closed On Fridays**

## Parish Staff

**Parish Secretary:** Elizabeth Martinez

**Associate Assistants:**

Maria Ayala & Dulce Infante

**Building & Grounds:** Randy Roberts

**Janitorial Services:** Eduardo Chavez

## Upcoming Events

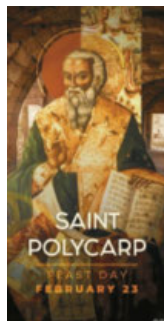
### February

- Tues 13 Parish Townhall 6pm
- Wed 14 Ash Wednesday
- Sun 18 RCIA Rite of Sending & Election
- Mon 19 Baptism Class (English) 6pm
- Sun 25 RCIC Rite of Sending & Election

### Upcoming Feasts to Remember

#### February

- 2/14 Ash Wednesday
- 2/20 St. Leo of Catania, Bishop
- 2/22 St. Maximianus of Ravenna, Bishop
- 2/22 Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, Apostle
- 2/23 St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr



## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- For your safety, when exiting the parking lot, please consider turning right & going towards Raley's. Use the stoplight to turn left and go to the roundabout. This will save you time, is safer & eases up the traffic at the entrance of Holy Cross.
- When writing a check for Holy Cross, whether it be for Sunday offering, CSA, WTSA, Second Collections, etc. Please make the check payable to Holy Cross Catholic Community and in the memo line note the intended purpose.

### GOOD TO KNOW....

- ♦ The local hospitals in town have a priest that is available to visit you or family members that are ill and in the hospital.
- ♦ At Renown Regional Medical Center & the VA Hospital, Fr. Joseph Infante is able to be contacted by the hospital's staff to visit you.
- ♦ At St. Mary's Hospital, Fr. Conrado Lomibao is the chaplain available to all who are admitted to the hospital— Fr. Conrado can be contacted by the nursing staff for a visit.



### There will be Family Catechesis class schedule:

Family Catechesis; Come & See

February 11, 18 & 25

Family Catechesis : Mondays

February 12, 19 & 26

Family Catechesis; Confirmation

February 21 & 28

OCIA (RCIA)

February 15, 22 & 29



On February 18, Holy Cross Catholic Community will be presenting the following adults to Bishop Mueggenborg in the Rite of Election. A step further into their journey into being fully initiated into the Catholic Community. Please pray for: Natalie Armas Estrada, Dylan Bergsen, Leslie Camarena, Demetrio Cerda Cuevas, Bill Manke Devron Gonzalez, Jesus Perez, Gael Lopes-Madera, Brisa Rodriguez Duenez, Cindy Salazar, Jacob White, Haley White, Gabriel Reynaga, Alejandra Mederos, Brian Aguirre and Alicia Ramirez. On February 25, the Children's Rite of Election will take place at Our Lady of Snows, Holy Cross will be presenting Mr. Meelo, who will be initiated into the Catholic Community on Easter Saturday along with the above adults.



### Prayer for Catechumens

Good and gracious God, giver of all that is good, we bring before you today our brothers and sisters who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. St. Paul says to the Romans, "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart..."

Keep safe these catechumens who long for your saving sacraments. Perfect them and make them worthy to be called your sons and daughters. We pray also for ourselves and ask for the same gifts that your freely give to them. Make us all worthy to call you our Father.

We ask all this in Jesus' name,  
who is our savior and our brother.  
Amen.

## We're Hiring

Holy Cross Catholic Community is looking to fill a full-time building & Grounds/Janitorial position.

Are you good with landscaping, know your way around a tool-box, and looking to put your talents and gifts to good use? If so, please submit your resume to the Parish office.

Pay is negotiable and will rely on experience. This position is full-time, with medical & dental benefits.





### Sunday, February 25

- 8:00am** Richard Aufiero† by Family  
**10:00am** Parish Family  
**12:15pm** Maria J. Saucedo† & Manuel Gonzalez†  
 by Manuel Gonzalez  
**4:30pm** Jacob Roberts† & Robert Dunaway†  
 by Susie & Randy Roberts

### Tues., February 27

- 12:00pm** Julita Moyce S.I. by Risa Ronan

### Weds., February 28

- 12:00pm** Macario Carrillo† by Family

### Thursday, February 29

- 12:00pm** Rafael Zertuche Moreno† by Family

### Friday, March 1

- 9:00am** Robert Geyo† by Janet Simpkins

### Sat., March 2

- 5:00pm** Terance Ronan† by Risa Ronan

### Sunday, March 3

- 8:00am** Parish Family  
**10:00am** Claudia Flores† by Family  
**12:15pm** Raul Antonio Aguirre† by Family  
**4:30pm** Garcia Gurrola Family S.I. by Adela Velasco

### Tues., March 5

- 12:00pm** Aurelia Salas† Elsa Tongson

### Weds., March 6

- 12:00pm** Angela Mann† by Gretchen Oney

### Thursday, March 7

- 12:00pm** Chief Sam Okorie† by Okorie Family

### Friday, March 8

- 12:00pm** Maria Teresa Vargas† by Family

### Saturday, March 9

- 5:00pm** John Mantalvo† by Family



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Joshua Alarcon	Rebekah Lucey
Sandra Askins	Rosario Lund
Scott Anderson	John Lyninger
Consuelo Barboza	Theresa Lyninger
Christopher Beach	Judy Medek
Bob Burns	Joyce Montgomery
Nicholas Bushgens	Majorie Ann Myers
Richard Chase	Shawnee McGraw
Benjamin Chavez	Lori O'Connor
Jackie DaMichele	Alejandra Ortiz
Sandi DaSilveora	Alan Ortiz
Patsy Dearing	Edlyn Ortiz
Heather Deason	Bob Patterson
Jim Ellis	Berta Perez
Mercy Escobar	Remi Plummer
Jeannette Franklin	Travis Porter
Susan Fanchar	Steve Podhurst
Edward Fulton	Becky Prevost
Mary Gardenas	Maria Rodriguez
Rosemary Geis	Sam Salisbury
Mauricio Guillen	Rene Salomon
Dan Gustafson	Erick Smith
Mary Helen	Nanette Smith
Katie Histing	Carey Snyder
Jeanette Jesch	Brianna Stuart
Kenneth Jones	Vincent Stuart
Richard Kihs	Angela Teague
Jennifer Krush	Isaac Vargas
Richard Kunold	James Vonderhaar
Sebastian Laird	Bill Wehinger
Maria Larsen	Bob Wolf
Desiree Lintz	Sean Wolff
Zachary Lintz	Steve Woods

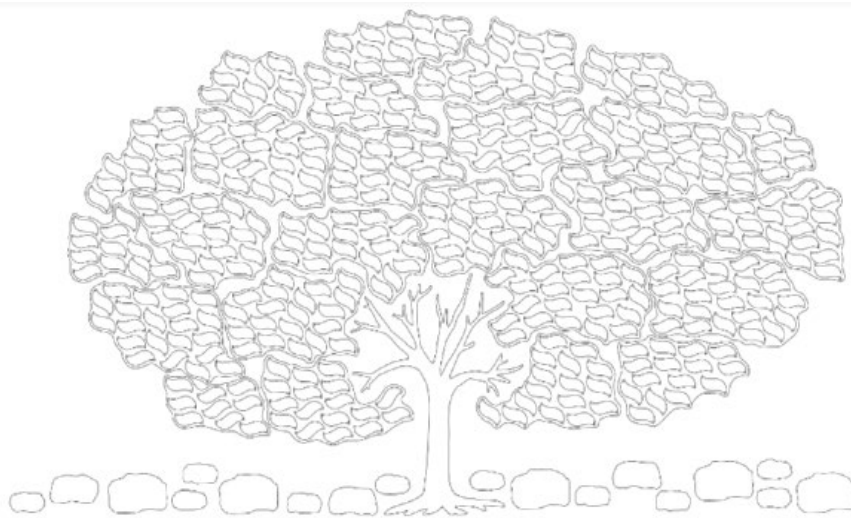
## MEMORIAL TREE

Holy Cross Catholic Community would like to present the proposed image of the upcoming project for the Memorial Tree.

This tree will be placed on the end wall of the Prayer Garden. There is a sample of what the leaves will look like, on the table in the gathering space, please stop by to take a closer look.

More details will become available in February.

We ask the community to please keep this project in your prayers.



# *Litururgical Ministers*

## **Team for Feb. 17 & 18** **Sat., Feb. 17 5:00pm**

**G:** Turley Family  
**L:** Carol Brown & Connor McClain  
**EM:** Paul Danen, Lind MacDonald  
Bob Bertschinger, Jane Burke  
**U:** Earlene Rummel  
**GP:** Krista Jerez  
**AS:** Gracian

## **Sun., Feb. 18 8:00am**

**G:** Jay Campbell  
**L:** Rita Rollings & Lisa Holleman  
**EM:** Bob Holleman, Danette Suhl  
Irma Knapp, Ophelia Wilson  
**U:** Bill Conn  
**GP:** Brian & Becky Turley  
**R:** Vickie Alimurung  
**AS:** Sarah & Katie

## **10:00am**

**G:** Sanchez Family  
**L:** Tony Pagano & Steve Schiwart  
**EM:** Mae Doreza, Yunuhen Espinosa  
Linda Navarrete  
**U:** Jose Navarrete  
**GP:** Nancy Villavicencio  
**R:** Jose Angel Rodriguez  
**AS:** Aaron & Ben

## **12:15pm**

**B:** Leticia Zavala y Familia  
**L:** Xavier Villanueva y Rosy Chavez  
**ME:** Julieta Paz, Lupita Guzman  
Cecilio Urias  
**U:** Arnoldo Olivares  
**GP:** Carlos Segura y Familia  
**R:** Yonilda Perez y Familia  
**AS:** Diego y Ricky

## **4:30pm**

**G:** Gene Seidlitz  
**L:** Theresa Choman & Doug Parry  
**EM:** Susan Daly, Bob Daly,  
Noreen Parry, Doug Parry  
**U:** Susan Daly  
**GP:** Doukakakis Family  
**AS:** Michael & Eleanor

## **Team for Feb. 24 & 25** **Sat., Feb. 24 5:00pm**

**G:** Patsy Liddick  
**L:** Mary Diebel & Morgan Liddick  
**EM:** Earlene Rummel, Kathy Wegner,  
Colleen Rauh, Vilia Natchez  
**U:** Jeanne Amy  
**GP:** Gina Morato  
**AS:** Sammy & Michael

## **Sun., Feb. 25 8:00am**

**G:** Missy & Peter Nuti  
**L:** Mike Morris & Sierra Higley  
**EM:** Kathy Geipel, Helen Martin  
John Bell, Deacon Joe  
**U:** Bob Holleman  
**GP:** Danette Suhl  
**R:** Rita Rollings  
**AS:** Thomas & Olivia

## **10:00am**

**G:** Yolanda Garcia  
**L:** Carla McCloskey & Briana Esquivel  
**EM:** Barbara Beverly, Isabella  
McCloskey, Sonia Deleon  
**U:** David Saldana  
**GP:** Doug Hensen & Family  
**R:** Carmen Vazquez & Family  
**AS:** Kaye, Edgar & Daniel

## **12:15pm**

**B:** Yonilda Perez y Familia  
**L:** Ashley Garcia y Lisangela Guerra  
**ME:** Bertha Alvarez, Manuel Alvarez,  
Arnoldo Olivares  
**U:** Jose Villanueva  
**GP:** Wendi Mederos y Familia  
**R:** Flor Guevara y Familia  
**AS:** Lilianna y Diego

## **4:30pm**

**G:** Barlett Family  
**L:** Kathleen Fralick, Marlene Humphreys  
**EM:** Bob Daly, Susan Daly,  
Annette Granberg, Kathleen Fralick  
**U:** Bob Daly  
**GP:** Juan Diaz & Family  
**AS:** Matthew

## **RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS:**

### **Lent and the Flood**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I would bet money that somewhere in your church this Lent, there's a bare tree branch draped in purple fabric and an empty bowl filled with rocks. I'm not poking fun, the desert imagery that surrounds the season of Lent isn't a cliché — or if it is, it's only because clichés are essentially true. Lent is the desert. Lent is the wilderness. Lent is the time of less.

But what if Lent was also the flood?

It seems counterintuitive, floods are excessive, and we don't think of Lent as a time for superabundance. Lent is when we limit experiences outside of ourselves in order to limit proclivities within ourselves. Lent is not a time for anything to be washing over us, consuming us, carrying us away on a tide.

Unless...it is.

Consider the flood of the Old Testament. An act of destruction, yes, but also an act of purification. An endurance test for the soul, an epic trust fall exercise between God and Noah in which Noah had to ride the literal waves, clinging to life as God wiped away everything familiar. Everything sinful.

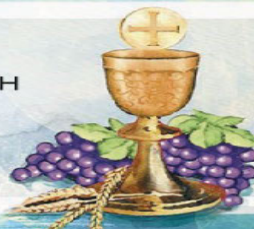
In Lent, we relinquish our weaknesses and our infirmities to the flood. It's frightening, certainly. But it's also exciting. Because just as the flood destroys everything, it also makes everything possible. It is a baptism.

Lent, like the flood, makes the world new.

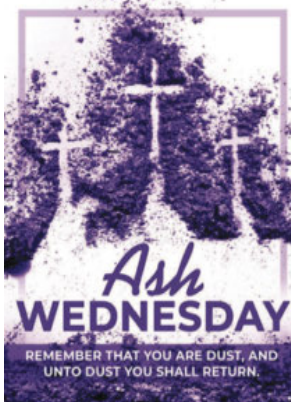
"Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit." —  
1 Peter 3:18

©LPi

"...IN THIS WORLD I CANNOT SEE  
THE MOST HIGH SON OF GOD WITH  
MY OWN EYES, EXCEPT FOR HIS  
MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD."  
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI







**Question:** Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

**Answer:** Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned “out of the dust of the ground” and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God & we are not. As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either “remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return” or “turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We’re reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities.

©LPi

**Ash Wednesday Masses will be on February 14**  
**Ashes will be distributed at all Masses—9AM English, 12PM English, 6PM Bilingual**  
**There will be distribution of Ashes throughout the day, if you cannot make it to a Mass.**

### Catholic Service Relief : Rice Bowl


**LENT IS COMING!** Join our faith community—and nearly 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s CRS Rice Bowl from the gathering space. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the world, and we will pray, fast and give alms to Help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.



**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US  
 EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS | 6:00PM**  
**BENEDICTION | 6:30PM**  
**SOUP SUPPER TO FOLLOW**

©LPi



**LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF  
 FASTING & ABSTINENCE**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

©LPi

### Second Collection: February 14 (Ash Wednesday) - Catholic Church in Central & Eastern Europe

#### RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE

Catholics are called to evangelize their neighbors and loved ones by leading them into an encounter with Jesus Christ. When faithful disciples offer a visible and active presence in their communities, they live that calling through their works of mercy, their public worship, and their willingness to share the gospel message with those they meet. In two former republics of the Soviet Union, which experienced 70 years of communist oppression, the Church is becoming that visible and active presence. Since 2018, the Center for Catholic Youth in the Republic of Georgia has brought together hundreds of children and youths for faith-enriching activities like Bible school, Lenten spiritual exercises, pilgrimages, and works of service in parish communities. Meanwhile, in central Asia, the construction of a new cathedral and pastoral center in the heart of Kyrgyzstan’s capital city, Bishkek, is a visible sign of hope and welcome in a land where 90% of the population is Muslim. For more than 30 years, the USCCB has worked to restore a visible, active Church in Central and Eastern Europe and to build a hopeful new future in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and more than 25 other countries throughout the region. Your contributions to the USCCB’s Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe fund grants to construct churches, enliven the faith of children and young people, and form disciples who live to help others encounter Christ. More information about the collection and the range of projects it supports can be found at [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee)

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe serves essential pastoral needs in more than 25 countries.

**SUPPORT THE  
 CHURCH IN  
 CENTRAL AND  
 EASTERN EUROPE**



**February 11, 2024**  
**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.

This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will feel what we are feeling, and thereby heal us.

Father John Muir ©LPi

**February 18, 2024**  
**1st Sunday of Lent**

### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine

Father John Muir ©LPi

### ***Eucharistic Prayer #8 – The Eucharist as Sacrifice***

***"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise" - Hebrews 13:15 NIV***

The word "sacrifice" comes from two Latin words which literally mean "to make holy." And something is made holy by being offered to God. Thus, when we speak of 'sacrifice' we speak of a ritual action by which something is offered to God. We see this in the life of Christ in his death, resurrection, and ascension. Christ begins the ritual offering at the Last Supper, offers His life on the Cross, rises from the dead to conquer death, and finally ascends, completing the sacrifice by going to the Father. In the Eucharist, we are made present to this entire sacrifice of Christ—To Christ in the upper room at the Last Supper, to Christ dying on the cross, to Christ risen from the dead, and Christ ascending to the Father. This is the reason these events are always mentioned in the Eucharistic prayer.

**When you receive the Eucharist, what part of Christ's sacrifice do you relate to most keenly? His passion? His resurrection? His ascension?**





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If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy!

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2. Select the collection or event of your choice.
3. Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

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**QUESTIONS? Contact the parish office at  
775-358-2544**

### WHY GIVE ONLINE?

1. You can share your gifts... Any way you want to.  
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2. Leave your checkbook at home. Set up your recurring gift using a credit card, checking or savings account.
3. Your funds are protected. Your donations are automatically transferred to our parish so it's safer and more secure.
4. Support our parish consistently, even if you are unable to attend Mass.
5. Give on-the-go! Access the site from your mobile phone or tablet.

### January Online Giving

Sunday Offering	\$	10,077.00
Christmas	\$	50.00
Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$	25.00
Retirement Fund for the Religious	\$	50.00
CCD	\$	45.00
Pastor's Charity	\$	300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,547.00</b>

### Weekly Offering January 21, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$	8,577.32
Church in Latin America	\$	34.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	25.00
Votive Candles	\$	266.00
Christmas	\$	10.00
Mass Intentions	\$	1,220.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,132.32</b>

### Weekly Offering January 28, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$	7,008.17
Church in Latin America	\$	5.00
Children's Stewardship	\$	275.00
CSA 2023 Rebate	\$	4,419.99
Votive Candles	\$	35.00
Womens' Group	\$	330.00
Mass Intentions	\$	1,395.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>13,468.16</b>



### Parish Registration Form

Names of your Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution envelopes: \_\_\_\_\_ or Online Giving: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry you/your family would like to be involved in: \_\_\_\_\_



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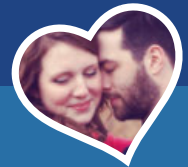
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