

Holy Cross Catholic Community

Pastor, Father Jose Issac

Deacon Joe Haggarty

Deacon Herbert Melendez

Address | 5650 Vista Boulevard, Sparks NV 89436

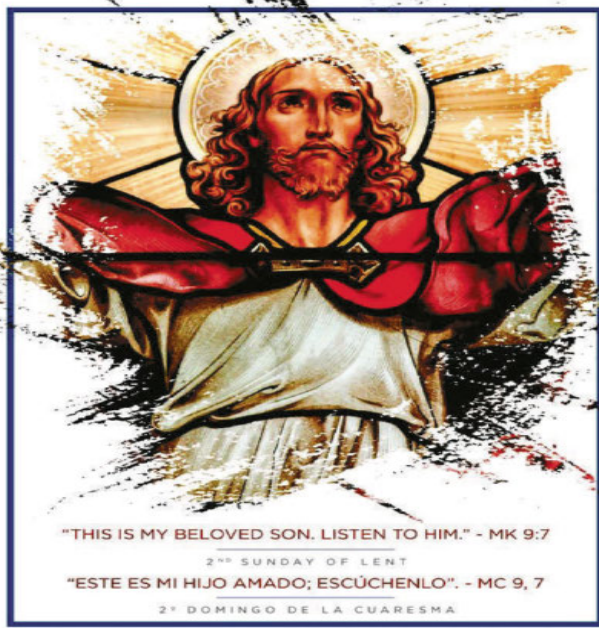
Parish Phone | 775-358-2544

Parish Fax | 775-626-8281

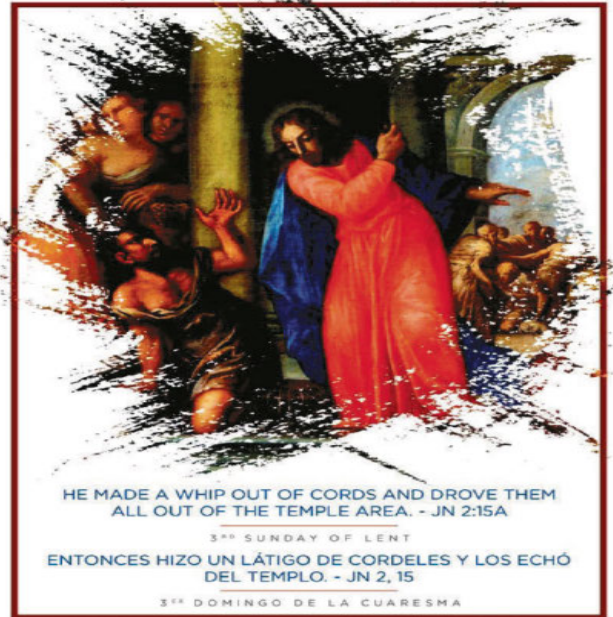
Parish Email | hccchurch@sbcglobal.net

Website | www.HolyCrossSparks.com

February 25, 2024



March 3, 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

Sun 25 RCIC Rite of Sending & Election 10am

March

Fri 1 Anointing for the Sick & Healing Mass 9am
Adoration 9:30am—4:30pm

Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper 6pm

Sun 3 RCIA & RCIC 1st Scrutiny 12:15pm Mass

Fri 8 Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper 6pm

Sun 10 RCIA & RCIC 2nd Scrutiny 10am Mass

Baptism Class in Spanish 1:30pm

Upcoming Feasts to Remember

March

3/1 World Day of Prayer

3/3 St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin

3/8 St. John of God, Religious

3/9 St. Frances of Rome, Religious

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 25, March 10 & 17

Family Catechesis : Mondays

February 26, March 4 & 11

Family Catechesis; Confirmation

February 28, March 13 & 20

OCIA (RCIA)

February 29, March 7 & 14



As we journey further into the season of Lent, the RCIA/RCIC Catechumen and Catholics that will be initiated into the Church on Easter Vigil will be partaking in the Penitential Rites also known as Scrutinies. The Scrutinies are three special rites that help prepare the Elect, those participating in RCIA, to enter the Catholic Church. They take place during the period of RCIA formation known as Purification and Enlightenment, near the end of their formation.

The season of Lent involves a more intense period of examination and preparation for the Elect, and hopefully for those of us already living the Catholic faith. Though they are meant for the RCIA Elect, the Scrutinies can help all Catholics seeking to live a life of continuous conversion. The purpose of the Scrutinies is “to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful” in the hearts of the Elect and to “strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good.” (Quotes from Ritual Text for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, paragraph #141)

The Scrutinies are associated with three specific Gospel stories on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent:

- Sunday March 3 at the 12:15pm Mass:
Jesus encountering the Samaritan woman at the well, where He offers Himself as the Living Water.
- Sunday March 10 at the 10am Mass:
Jesus healing the man born blind, where He gives Himself as Light of the World.
- Sunday March 16 at the 5pm Mass:
Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, where He reveals Himself as the Resurrection and the Life.

Please keep the Catechumen and Catholics in your prayers as they near Holy Week.



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

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

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS—On the Mountain

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why climb a mountain? "Because it's there," George Mallory famously said, before perishing in an attempt to scale Mount Everest. God is an event planner; every detail matters, and the location is most crucial of all. On the mountain, God demanded the sacrifice of Isaac. On the mountain, he restored Isaac to his father. On the mountain, Jesus was transfigured, revealed in all his mystifying glory as the beloved Son of God, the sacrifice which would finally balance the scale. These things happened on a mountain because they could only happen on a mountain. The mountain is where the reckoning happens. It is where God takes, where He gives back, where He hands down. In Lent, we encounter the mountain. We are removed from the distractions of ordinary life and placed outside the confines of our everyday habits. We find silence and mystery, pain and truth. We struggle and we become tired, and there is always a moment when we wonder if, perhaps, it would have been easier not to climb.

There is always a moment when others look at us and think: "Why climb a mountain?" I confess, I am not much of an outdoorswoman. Hiking, in my family, is any walking you do on a trail that is not paved, so I am far from qualified to comment on whether or not the view from the summit was worth George Mallory's life. But I do know a thing or two about struggling through a difficult experience. I know the strange peace that exists in the moment after it's all over and you catch your breath and realize you are a better, stronger, wiser person for the pain.

The mountain is there. Let's climb it.

"God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, 'Abraham!' 'Here I am!' he replied." — Genesis 22:1



Team for March 2 & 3
Sat., March 2 5:00pm

G: Bob Bertschinger
L: John Kadlic & Kris Dondero
EM: Marcia McClain, Ron McClain,
Earlene Rummel, Jane Burke
U: Bob Bertschinger
GP: Gina Morato
AS: Gracian & Benico

Sun., March 3 8:00am

G: Higley Family
L: Ophelia Wilson & Gwen Flores
EM: Veronica Alimurung,,
Gretchen Oney, Cathie Bundesen,
Allegra Welton
U: Harvey Ibarra
GP: De la Torre Family
R: Aiden Crosbie & Family
AS: Grace & Hailey

10:00am

G: Grace McCloskey
L: Barbara Beverly & Carla McCloskey
EM: Mae Doreza, Isabella McCloskey,
Shelly Register
U: Derek Moore
GP: Jasmine Sanchez
R: Maia & Mia Sanchez
AS: Maria & Diego

12:15pm

B: Lupita Guzmán y Familia
L: Adriana Chagolla y Enrique Canseco
ME: Sandra Ortiz, Bertha Álvarez,
Manuel Álvarez
U: Abel Guzmán
GP: Martina Lopez y Familia
R: Lilianna Martinez y Familia
AS: Alex Medina y Ricky Medina

4:30pm

G: Hoven Family
L: Leo Humphreys and Doug Parry
EM: Noreen Parry, Leo Humphreys,
Marlene Humphreys, Sarah Naegale
U: Noreen Parry
GP: Sinsay Family
AS: Mitchell

Team for March 9 & 10
Sat., March 9 5:00pm

G: Bautista Family
L: Marcia McClain & Ron McClain
EM: Jim Shaw, Risa Ronan,
Cindy Maria, John Kadlic
U: Ernie Rodriguez
GP: Danelisa Garon
AS: Sammy & Michael

Sun., March 8 8:00am

G: Guzman Family
L: Kris Evans & John Bell
EM: Bruce Seaver, Bob Holleman, Lisa
Holleman, Deacon Herbert
U: Michael McGraw
GP: Peter & Missy Nuti
R: Jo Anne Jones
AS: Thomas, Isabella and Jacob

10:00am

G: Miranda Family
L: Terry Jenkins & Jeannette Troise
EM: Maricela Lopez, Debbie Schiwart,
Deacon Herbert
U: Tom McCloskey
GP: Ernesto Diaz and Family
R: Jennifer Reyes
AS: Kina, Myah and Khaylen

12:15pm

B: Enedina Guzmán y Familia
L: Icela Villanueva y Xavier Villanueva
ME: Lucila Martinez, Adriana y
Manuel Chagolla
U: Jose Guzmán
GP: Lupita Guzmán y Familia
R: Leticia Zavala y Familia
AS: Lilianna Martinez y Diego Ruiz

4:30pm

G: Travers Family
L: Nathan Carpenter & Gene Seidlitz
EM: Kathleen Fralick, Sarah Naegale,
Gene Seidlitz, Annette Granberg
U: Sarah Naegale
GP: Jessica Rios and Family
AS: Matthew

Stations of the Cross

Question:

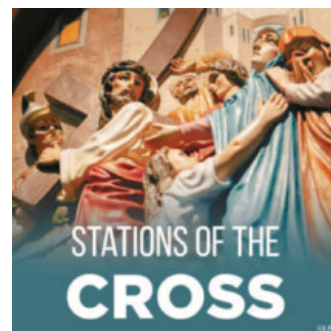
Who invented the Stations of the Cross?

Answer:

The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the "Via Dolorosa" ("The Way of Suffering") or the "Via Crucis" ("The Way of the Cross"), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer. Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of "The Way of the Cross" were set up in churches, or outside and Christians would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to make a mini-pilgrimage and follow--literally--in the footsteps of Jesus.

This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us.

©LPi



WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US
EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

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

Blessed & Thankful

Prayerful greetings to you from Holy Cross Catholic Community. Hope and pray that you and your loved ones are doing well. Please be assured of my prayers.

First of all, let me wish you all a very fruitful **Season of Lent**. Conversion and renewal is the heart of the Season. I invite all parishioners to join the community for Liturgical Celebrations, Daily Mass, Adoration, Stations of the Cross, Soup Supper, Five Loaves, CRS Rice Bowls, Lenten Parish Mission, Penance Service and so on. I pray that we celebrate Easter with Peace, Reconciliation and Renewed Hope.

"We are one body" is the title of C.S.A. 2024 Campaign. (Bishops Appeal) Our Goal is \$94,000.00. I wish and pray all Holy Cross parishioners support this campaign. It is more important that we all participate than the amount we pledge.

Thank you to all who supported **Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund**. We have \$240,000.00 so far. I would like to reach the \$300,000.00 goal this year. Kindly consider making a pledge to support the Scholarship Fund.

The "Memorial Tree" is going to be a great addition to our Prayer Garden. It reminds us that death does not end our relationships with our departed loved ones. We all carry in us a part of them through they are not physically with us anymore. I ask you for your prayerful participation.

Finally, thank you to all for your faithful presence and support to Holy Cross in the year 023. I had a great time with my family, I rested and relaxed. I took the 'Ayur Veda' (Science of Life) Treatment; we had a family get-together to celebrate the first Mass and reception for Fr. Paul (my cousin's son).

I am very thankful to parishioners who blessed me with their timely and very thoughtful gifts for my trip.
Thank you and God Bless You.

Fr. Jose Issac

MEMORIAL TREE

The Memorial Tree will be a great addition to our Prayer Garden. It is a great space one can sit outside and pray. The surroundings are very quiet and peaceful. We enjoy real Communion with nature. We experience real solitude and assurances. The Memorial Benches are a great place to sit, reflect, give thanks and pray. The setting here upon the hill overlooking Reno/Sparks is quite amazing and almost otherworldly. The Memorial tree will reflect our enduring relationship with our departed loved ones. At Holy Cross Catholic Community our emphasis is on relationality. We are relational beings and death does not destroy our relationships. I encourage all parishioners to support this new addition: Thank you and God Bless.

Fr. Jose Issac



CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!

Are you looking to deepen your faith and journey with others during the Lenten season?

JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULT GROUP HERE AT HOLY CROSS EVERY MONDAY AT 7:00PM

Throughout Lent, we'll have a variety of activities planned out to help us better understand our faith, connect with one another, and make a positive impact in our community. Whether you're looking to deepen your faith, meet new friends, or contribute to meaningful causes, there's something for everyone during this Lenten journey.

Come and be part of something special this Lent. Let's grow together, support each other, and make this season one to remember!

QUESTIONS?
TEXT HALEY 775-770-8203 OR
SHEYLA 775-742-4387



February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION

As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, "Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent." I did. In my heart, the answer came: "Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days." I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can't do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.

God's command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chafes us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: "What do you want me to give up?" He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus — but that doesn't make it easy.

Father John Muir ©LPi

March 3, 2024
3rd Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION

I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3 One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to "have no other gods besides me." This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship?

Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

Father John Muir ©LPi

Eucharistic Prayer #9 – The Epiclesis

***"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of Thy love."
- Excerpt of the Prayer Veni Sancte Spiritus***

The Epiclesis is the term for the invocation of the Holy Spirit to sanctify that which is offered to God. The First Epiclesis over the bread and wine is accompanied by the priest extending his hands over them. This is meant to be a symbol of the Holy Spirit's descent upon the gifts we have brought to the altar, that they may be changed into the body of Christ. However, after the Consecration, there is another Epiclesis as the priest invokes the Holy Spirit to sanctify those who are gathered together around the Altar, so that we who receive the Body of Christ may become the body of Christ.

Where do you see the Holy Spirit working in your life?

How might you listen more attentively to the promptings of the Spirit?





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

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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.

MARCH 9 & 10 SECOND COLLECTION CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable throughout the world. Your support for this collection provides emergency assistance to victims of war and natural disasters; assists migrants and refugees who need housing, education, and specialized legal assistance; and supports travelers and others whose livelihoods require special pastoral support to access the sacraments. In addition to aiding those with immediate needs, your support helps long-term efforts to build peace in regions that have been affected by decades of conflict—such as the Korean peninsula.

Your support of this collection makes a difference for so many around the globe. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year.

— Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg

Weekly Offering February 4, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$	4,704.00
Priests' Relief	\$	2,061.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	20.00
Christmas	\$	5.00
Mass Intentions	\$	1,138.00
Total	\$	7,928.00

Weekly Offering February 11, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$	21,076.00
Priests' Relief	\$	417.00
Ash Wednesday	\$	125.00
Adult Faith Formation	\$	30.00
Church in Eastern Europe	\$	45.00
Mass Intentions	\$	1,540.00
Total	\$	23,233.00

Catholic Service Relief : Rice Bowl

LENT IS HERE! 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 word, and we will pray, past and give alms to Help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



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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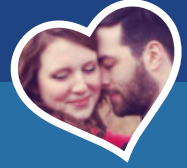
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