



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 26, 2021

Cresson Catholic Community of St. Aloysius Parish, St. Francis Xavier Parish & All Saints Catholic School

REV. LEO F. ARNONE - PASTOR
frleornone@gmail.com

ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH

**7911 Admiral Peary Highway
Cresson, Pennsylvania 16630**
Secretary: **Ann Sutton**

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Email: staloyuscresson@dioceseaj.org

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Parish Council: Gerald Neugebauer • 886-2679

Finance Council: Acting Chair Paul Calandra

Music Director: Casey Criste • 886-4503

Website: www.saintaloyuscresson.org

Life & Family Committee: staloylfc@yahoo.com

Community Center • 886-2388

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

**211 Powell Avenue
Cresson, Pennsylvania 16630**
Secretary: **Sr. Nancy Spence, CCW**

Office: • 814-886-2374 Fax: • 814-886-2498

Email: fxparish@dioceseaj.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri 9:00am-2:00pm

Pastoral Council: Paul Dillon • 886-4978

Finance Council: Edward Hines • 886-2840

Centennial Hall: Parish Office • 886-2374

Bingo Manager: Mike McGough • 886-5555

Website: www.saintfrancisxaviercressonpa.org

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All Saints Catholic School- Pre K-8 • 886-7942

Principal Mrs. Kathy Maurer

Bishop Carroll HS • 472-7500

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SA & FX

Michele Bossler - 322-8528

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

RCIA PREPARATION

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION (SA &FX)

Deborah Baker 886-7504 dbaker@dioceseaj.org

CHILDREN'S SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Gaye Boyer - Catechesis of Good Shepherd 472-7317

CATHOLIC FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic Daughters of America: Dot DeAngelo • 886-2689

Legion of Mary: Maureen Calandra • 330-4145

Ss. Martha & Mary Circle: Cathy Gottshall • 502-5071

Knights of Columbus: GK Mark Baker • 931-8379

CATHOLIC OUTREACH

St. Vincent de Paul Society • 886-4242

Catholic Charities Altoona • 944-9388

Vocation Office, Altoona • 317-2681

Diocesan Family Life Office, Altoona • 695-5579

Crisis Pregnancy/Pro-Life • 1-800-395-HELP

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www.optionline.org * ProjectRachel@dioceseaj.org

www.hopeafterabortion.com

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Welcome Home!

There is just something about Christmas that reaches into the hearts of all believers, from the very devout to the lukewarm, and calls us all to come home to family and home to our Lord's House.

Christmastime creates a felt need to actually be with family and old friends, to rekindle traditions and cherished memories. In spite of long-held hurt feelings, in spite of great distances and lengthy periods away from regular Mass attendance, the desire to reconnect with family and faith is rekindled at Christmastime. I suppose we can say the same about Eastertime as well.

The call to come home to the Lord's House is an open invitation from God Himself sent to all each and every weekend and Holy Days of Obligation. So, what is the difference now as compared to any other Sunday or Holy Day? Perhaps at Christmastime God adds a special grace to His standing invitation to soften the heart – a special grace which compels believers to be a bit more receptive – a special grace to stoke into flame the fire of love – a special grace to evoke the courage to actually respond to the Lord's call to come home. Whatever that grace was that got you here, allow me to say on behalf of Jesus Christ and His Church: Welcome home!

To those of you who are regular members and have been with us for many years: Welcome Home – again and again!

To those who traveled from afar to reunite with family and friends: Welcome Home – enjoy the friendship of the Lord!

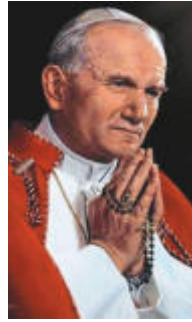
To those who see their fellow parishioners as their family: Welcome Home – you are one of us and one with us!

And especially to those of you who have been away from the regular practice of your Catholic Faith, on behalf of Jesus, your Lord and Savior; on behalf of the Catholic Church into which you were Baptized; and on behalf of your brother and sisters in the Faith: Welcome Home – know that we are better with your regular Mass attendance than without it! Please don't let this be the last time we see you until Easter.

May our Christmas celebration this year mark a new resolve – or if need be – a new beginning to stay close to our spiritual Home, the Church. And may the presence of Jesus Christ, our Emmanuel, be the constant motivation for our regular and active participation in the life of the Church until we are all safely Home in Heaven.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Fr. Leo



ECCLESIA IN AMERICA

Pope Saint John Paul II

CH 3 - THE PATH OF CONVERSION

The urgency of the call to conversion

26. "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is close at hand: repent and believe the Good News" (Mk 1:15). These words with which Jesus began his Galilean ministry still

echo in the ears of Bishops, priests, deacons, consecrated men and women and the lay faithful throughout America. Both the recent celebration of the fifth centenary of the first evangelization of America and the commemoration of the two thousandth anniversary of the birth of Jesus, summon everyone to a deeper sense of our Christian vocation. The greatness of the Incarnation and gratitude for the gift of the first proclamation of the Gospel in America are an invitation to respond readily to Christ with a more decisive personal conversion and a stimulus to ever more generous fidelity to the Gospel. Christ's call to conversion finds an echo in the words of the Apostle: "It is time now to wake from sleep, because our salvation is closer than when we first became believers" (Rom 13:11). The encounter with the living Jesus impels us to conversion.

In speaking of conversion, the New Testament uses the word *metanoia*, which means a change of mentality. It is not simply a matter of thinking differently in an intellectual sense, but of revising the reasons behind one's actions in the light of the Gospel. In this regard, Saint Paul speaks of "faith working through love". This means that true conversion needs to be prepared and nurtured through the prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture and the practice of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Conversion leads to fraternal communion, because it enables us to understand that Christ is the head of the Church, his Mystical Body; it urges solidarity, because it makes us aware that whatever we do for others, especially for the poorest, we do for Christ himself. Conversion, therefore, fosters a new life, in which there is no separation between faith and works in our daily response to the universal call to holiness. In order to speak of conversion, the gap between faith and life must be bridged. Where this gap exists, Christians are such only in name. To be true disciples of the Lord, believers must bear witness to their faith, and "witnesses testify not only with words, but also with their lives". We must keep in mind the words of Jesus: "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" (Mt 7:21). Openness to the Father's will supposes a total self-giving, including even the gift of one's life: "The greatest witness is martyrdom".

Reflection: This passage just so happened to be in sync with my Christmas message. I love the Lord's timing! The call to conversion and the call to come home are really one-in-the-same calling. Now I'm counting on that special grace to compel a favorable response from everyone!



ST ALOYSIUS PARISH

Catholic	Parish Target	\$ 21,664.00	
Ministries	Total Pledges	\$ 22,865.00	(106%)
Drive	No of Gifts	129/340	(38%)
2021	Actual Rec'd	\$ 22,867.00	(102%)
C Bucynski			

Collection 12/8/2021: Adults \$258; holy days \$632; loose \$101; candles \$13; utilites \$22; Catholic Charities \$50 **Total deposit \$1076**

Collection 12/12/2021: Adults \$3277.80; children \$41; loose \$46.05; holy days \$166; candles \$54; Christmas \$360; utilities \$43; angel fund \$40; Catholic Charities \$20; Miraculous Medal \$5; retired religious \$35 **Total deposit \$4087.85** Christmas Club \$27; Development \$53; flowers \$262

SA Office: The St. Aloysius Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 31 and Monday Jan. 3rd for the New Year's holiday.

Angel Tree: Many thanks for your participation in the Angel Tree gift giving. Your generosity helped provide 102 gifts for children in Cresson.

Food Pantry: Thanks to everyone that donated to the Cresson Food Pantry. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

March on the Mountain: As an alternative to the March for Life in Washington, DC, St. Francis University will host a "March on the Mountain" on Friday, January 21, 2022. There will be a rosary at 10:30 am in front of the chapel. The March begins at 11:00 am, with Mass at noon. Parking will be at the JFK Center Parking Lot, with the March taking place around the Mall. Feel free to contact Campus Ministry at 814 472-3172 with any additional questions.

Jesus Speaks to Faustina and You by Susan Tassone *Mercy – In the Flesh*

Reflection: St. Faustina tells us that the "immense love and abyss of mercy are made known in the Incarnation of the Word and in the Redemption..." adding, "it is here that I saw this as the greatest of all God's attributes" (180). God's mercy embraces us when we repent of our sins. Those who claim they're without sin and don't need God's mercy call God a liar. But for those who seek it, there's no limit to His mercy. St. Faustina exclaims: "How great is the mercy of God contained in the Mystery of the Incarnation of the son of God" (1433). For God to take on human flesh reveals His mercy for us. He could have come in glory and power. But that we might not cower in fear of Almighty God, He came as a tender, little Baby. By Christ's Incarnation, God brought forth Mercy – "in the flesh."



Prayer: Word made flesh, I adore You. Jesus, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Catholic	Parish Target	\$19,184.00	
Ministries	Total Pledges	\$40,248.00	(210%)
Drive	No of Gifts	123/351	(35%)
2021	Actual Rec'd	\$38,751.00	(202%)
Bingo			

Collection for 12/19 and 12/26 will be in next week.

FX Office: Parish office will be closed on Friday, Dec. 31st and Monday, Jan. 3rd for New Years Day.

Holy Family Mass Schedule: There will be no 4:00pm Vigil Mass on Sat, Dec. 25. To fulfill your Obligation you must attend either the 8:00am Mass at SA or the 11:00am Mass at FX on Sunday, Dec. 26.

Novena In Honor of the Holy Family

(Pray as a family for 9 days)

Let us begin, In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Jesus, Mary, Joseph, model for all Christian families, I entrust my family to your care and protection. Bless each member of my family. Help me and the members of my family to love, listen to, support and accept one another.

Encourage us to challenge one another to be compassionate, merciful and forgiving as we struggle with the difficulties of our lives.

(Pause to mention your request here...)

Guide us to seek goodness and holiness in our everyday choices, actions and attitudes. Encourage us when our faith is weak and when we fail to lead one another to Christ. Make our home a real dwelling place of peace, joy and love, where you are ever present among us. May we work to uphold each one's dignity, integrity and unique contributions to the well-being and growth of our family. And when our time on earth is complete, bring us all safely home to you in the company of heaven. Amen

Holy Family of Nazareth, pray for us.

Say 1: Our Father... 1: Hail Mary... 1: Glory Be...

Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule: Fri, Dec. 31 at 4:00pm at FX and Sat, Jan. 1 at 9:00am at SA. Although not a Holy Day of Obligation this year, I'd still advise Intentional Disciples of Christ to show God where your priorities will be for the New Year by attending this Mass imploring Mary's intercession for all our needs in the New Year.

MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

Admission \$21.00 Doors Open 5:00pm

Early Birds 6:30pm Reg. Games 7:00pm

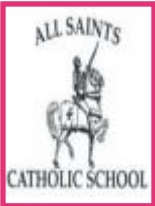
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Consy—\$500

Magic # All Niter # 1 X-Band

[Check Facebook for numbers](#)





All Saints Catholic School

All Saints students took guests on a trip around the world presenting Christmas customs and traditions from many places including Sweden, Germany, Poland, Ireland, Hawaii, Mexico, and Japan. Our preschool and kindergarten students welcomed guests with beautiful singing of some Christmas carols. The program consisted of presentations from students in grades one – eight and concluded with cookies and a visit from Santa.

Thank you to Fr. Arnone, Fr. Warchola, Fr. Ledoux, and Msgr. Przybocki for hearing student confessions during our school Advent Penance service. We appreciate you sharing your time and ministry.

We continued the ASCS Advent tradition of Advent Angels this year. Each student was given another student to pray for during the entire Advent season. Before our Christmas break, we presented our Advent Angel with the gift of a Christmas ornament.

As we finished school for the Christmas break on Dec. 22, we were reminded of the real meaning of the season by our preschool and kindergarten students. They sang Christmas carols and presented the Nativity story in St. Francis Xavier Church for our student body.

From our ASCS family to yours, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUNDAY MORNING 9:15-10:45 am

Dec 26-Jan 2 NO CCD

Merry Christmas/Happy New Year

KNIGHTS CORNER DEC 2021



What it means to be a Knight : We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models, and to put charity and community first.

The Knights of Columbus, Council 4259 meets in Cresson on the first Wednesday of each month. Currently there are over 100 members and 20-25 members attend each meeting. Money is raised thru fundraising activities and distributed to many local charities and worthy causes. In addition to the brotherhood and fellowship enjoyed by the members, there are many other benefits to joining. Various insurance policies are available, scholarships are available for the children of Knights, and various family social functions are held.

If you feel blessed in your life, and would like to find a way to help others in your community, you are cordially invited to join our outstanding group of local Knights. Stay tuned for more news and information in future bulletins.

Grand Knight Mark Baker. 814-931-8379

Deputy Grand Knight Dan Yahner. 814-270-7972

FX Sanctuary Lamp—DAVID LIDWELL (wife & children)
SA Sanctuary Lamp – THOMAS ALDAN WILLIAMS (Tom)

MASS SCHEDULE FOR DEC 27 TO JAN 02

Servers - Dec. 31-Jan. 02
Fri. 4:00pm FX Volunteers
Sat. 9:00am SA Gailey Family
Sat. 4:00pm FX Volunteer
Sun. 8:00am SA Sutton Family, Kory Eger
Sun. 11:00am FX Volunteers

Reader -
Fri. 4:00pm FX P Dillon
Sat. 9:00am SA Mike Zabinsky
Sat. 4:00pm FX P Dillon
Sun. 8:00am SA Robert Chislow
Sun. 11:00am FX Volunteers

Extraordinary Minister
Fri. 4:00pm FX Volunteers
Sat. 9:00am SA Fred Gailey
Sat. 4:00pm FX Volunteer
Sun. 8:00am SA Alice Lee
Sun. 11:00am FX Volunteers

MON - DECEMBER 27

8:00am FX NO MASS

TUE - DECEMBER 28

8:00am SA THERESA ADAMS
(MA Zakrzwski)

WED - DECEMBER 29

8:00am FX JOSEPH ADAMS (M/M J Adams)
8:00pm SA 24HR. ADORATION

THUR - DECEMBER 30

8:00am SA EDW. J. LUTHER (family)
8:30am ADORATION
7:00pm Holy Hour
8:00pm Confessions

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

FRI - DECEMBER 31

4:00pm FX PEOPLE OF FX & SA PARISHES

SAT - JANUARY 01

9:00am SA MARY KAY RIGHTNOUR
(E DeYulius)

SAT- EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

3:00pm FX ROSARY
4:00pm FX PEOPLE of FX & SA PARISHES

SUN - JANUARY 02

7:30am SA ROSARY
8:00am SA THOMAS B. WILLIAMS (family)
10:30am FX ROSARY
11:00am FX FRED EGER (Bernadette, Sue & Tammy)

Dustbusters: SA: R/B Trybus, K Simanski, V Mazur
G Stock

FX: Dillon



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