



# Holy Cross

CATHOLIC CHURCH

A COMMUNITY CALLED TO BE A WITNESS TO THE GLORIOUS VICTORY OF THE CROSS

## WELCOME

### CONTACT US

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**Very Rev. Fr. Emery Longanga, PhD, VF**  
Pastor

**Rev. Fr. Jesus Martinez**  
Parochial Vicar

**Rev. Mr. Rick Zeitler**  
Permanent Deacon

### WELCOME MESSAGE

We the welcoming family of Holy Cross are delighted to have you join our parish family. Whether you are new to the area, seeking a new parish home, or returning to the practice of your Catholic faith, we hope you come and spend some time with us at Mass and in prayer and adoration. We seek to offer as many opportunities as possible for parishioners to come together as a family of faith. We pray that you may find warmth and spiritual growth here at Holy Cross!



## 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me." - Mk 9:35b-37a

"Si alguno quiere ser el primero, que sea el último de todos y el servidor de todos". Después, tomando a un niño, lo puso en medio de ellos, lo abrazó y les dijo: "El que reciba en mi nombre a uno de estos niños, a mí me recibe". - Mc 9, 35-37

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 | 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

### DEAR FRIENDS,

One of the greatest human desires is greatness. This is because all want to be recognized and to receive congratulations, honors, and consideration. Christ reverses the course of things in today's gospel reading. He points to the reality that a human person's worth is not a function of her social rank. Rather, He tells us that it lies on the person's commitment to serving others without expecting anything in return.

To find one's own joy in serving is the most difficult challenge one can face, especially in the present culture where all hunger for honors, titles, and awards. But what does serving mean? Our understanding of it is almost always connected with the notion of reward or salary. But is not the kingdom of God we long for the most important aspiration we hold in our life? We can all agree with one another on this. However, it is the way we are willing to engage in responding to the call of the Lord as an invitation to share in his fullness of life that seems to escape us: to serve in order to be great!

As can be seen in today's readings, hunger for honor, power, and recognition is the source of the so many conflicts which divide the world and wipe away the joy that should characterize the children of God. Christ asks us to scrutinize our own inward selves to find out what commands our life's aspirations. As Christians, jealousy, grudges, hatred and many kinds of other evils inhabit our hearts only because we hunger for what cannot give us true peace and true honor. We have already received the honor to be called children of God; what should follow is our eagerness to always make sure that our identity may transpire through our life and the ways we relate to one another. To love ourselves is to make ourselves available to God through our service to Him by the service we render to one another. Indeed, the human person's value and respectfulness is not a function of how successful he or she is for his/her own sake, but rather how much of a difference he/she makes in somebody else's life. This is what Christ means when He reminds us that "Whoever wishes to be first will be the servant of all." This is also the reversal that can make us say that "this saying is so hard to bear." But when we rely on Him, nothing can be impossible. To serve with love is the key here. And about this, Christ says somewhere else that if you give a glass of water to one of his friends because he/she is his friend, the reward will be great. True service is demonstrated through and by our commitment to making a difference in someone else's life with love and a bright and genuine love. It does not matter how big or small the action is. What matters is that we do it out of love and for God's sake. Christ shows us the how of this. For He did not spare His own life for our sake. And because of that, says St. Paul, God has given Him a name that is above all other names.

Let us pray that the Lord who shows the path to glory through humility and disinterested service of one another may give us a heart after His own Heart, able to find fulfillment and joy only when we embark on the journey of humble service for one another. And let us continue to pray for one another and for our parish family.

*Fr. Emery*

### QUERIDOS AMIGOS,

Uno de los mayores deseos humanos es la grandeza. Esto se debe a que todos quieren ser reconocidos y recibir felicitaciones, honores y consideración. Cristo invierte el curso de las cosas en la lectura del evangelio de hoy. Señala la realidad de que el valor de una persona humana no depende de su rango social. Más bien, nos dice que se basa en el compromiso de la persona de servir a los demás sin esperar nada a cambio.

Encontrar la propia alegría en el servicio es el desafío más difícil que uno puede enfrentar, especialmente en la cultura actual, donde todos tienen hambre de honores, títulos y premios. Pero, ¿qué significa servir? Nuestra comprensión del mismo está casi siempre relacionada con la noción de recompensa o salario. Pero, ¿no es el reino de Dios que anhelamos la aspiración más importante que tenemos en nuestra vida? Todos podemos estar de acuerdo unos con otros en esto. Sin embargo, es la forma en que estamos dispuestos a comprometernos a responder a la llamada del Señor como una invitación a compartir su plenitud de vida que parece escaparnos: ¡servir para ser grandes!

Como puede verse en las lecturas de hoy, el hambre de honor, poder y reconocimiento es la fuente de tantos conflictos que dividen al mundo y borran el gozo que debería caracterizar a los hijos de Dios. Cristo nos pide que escudriñemos nuestro interior para descubrir qué manda las aspiraciones de nuestra vida. Como cristianos, los celos, el rencor, el odio y muchos otros males habitan en nuestros corazones solo porque tenemos hambre de lo que no puede darnos verdadera paz y verdadero honor. Ya hemos recibido el honor de ser llamados hijos de Dios; lo que debería seguir es nuestro afán de asegurarnos siempre de que nuestra identidad pueda transpirar a lo largo de nuestra vida y las formas en que nos relacionamos unos con otros. Amarnos a nosotros mismos es ponernos a disposición de Dios mediante nuestro servicio a Él mediante el servicio que nos prestamos unos a otros. De hecho, el valor y el respeto de la persona humana no depende del éxito que tenga por sí mismo, sino de la diferencia que marca en la vida de otra persona. Esto es lo que Cristo quiere decir cuando nos recuerda que "el que quiera ser el primero será servidor de todos". Esta es también la inversión que puede hacernos decir que "este dicho es tan difícil de soportar". Pero cuando confiamos en Él, nada puede ser imposible. Servir con amor es la clave aquí. Y sobre esto, Cristo dice en otro lugar que si le das un vaso de agua a uno de sus amigos porque es su amigo, la recompensa será grande. El verdadero servicio se demuestra a través y por nuestro compromiso de marcar la diferencia en la vida de otra persona con amor y un amor brillante y genuino. No importa cuán grande o pequeña sea la acción. Lo que importa es que lo hacemos por amor y por Dios. Cristo nos muestra el cómo de esto. Porque no perdonó su propia vida por nosotros. Y por eso, dice San Pablo, Dios le ha dado un nombre que está por encima de todos los demás nombres.

Oremos para que el Señor, que muestra el camino de la gloria a través de la humildad y el servicio desinteresado de los unos a los otros, nos dé un corazón conforme a Su propio Corazón, capaz de encontrar satisfacción y gozo solo cuando nos embarcamos en el camino del servicio humilde los unos a los otros. Y sigamos orando unos por otros y por nuestra familia parroquial.

*P. Emery*

# READINGS

## FIRST READING

WIS 2:12, 17-20

The wicked say: Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us; he sets himself against our doings, reproaches us for transgressions of the law and charges us with violations of our training. Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him. For if the just one be the son of God, God will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes. With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience. Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him.

## SECOND READING

JAS 3:16-4:3

Beloved: Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace. Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from? Is it not from your passions that make war within your members? You covet but do not possess. You kill and envy but you cannot obtain; you fight and wage war. You do not possess because you do not ask. You ask but do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

## GOSPEL

MK 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him. They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

# MASS SCHEDULE

## MON, TUE, THURS & FRI

8:00 am & 12:00 pm

## WEDNESDAY

8:00 am, 12:00 pm  
& 7:00 pm *(Spanish)*

## SATURDAY

8:00 am  
4:00 pm *(Vigil)*

## SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:00 am  
12:30 pm *(Spanish)*

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday & First Friday 8:30 - 11:30 am

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

First Friday 12:00 pm

## SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm  
Sunday 11:30 am-12:15 pm

# MASS INTENTIONS

## SAT, SEPT 18

8:00 am †  
4:00 pm

1 TM 6:13-16/LK 8:4-15

Andrew Savard  
Cordero Family

## SUN, SEPT 19

8:00 am †  
10:00 am  
12:30 pm

WIS 2:12, 17-20/JAS 3:16-4:3/MK 9:30-37

Dorothy Morrison  
Columbiettes  
Holy Cross Parishioners

## MON, SEPT 20

8:00 am †  
12:00 pm †

EZR 1:1-6/LK 8:16-18

Nanette Hotchner  
Mike Rice

## TUES, SEPT 21

8:00 am †  
12:00 pm †

EPH 4:1-7, 11-13/MT 9:9-13

Barney Clancy  
Anna Carr

## WED, SEPT 22

8:00 am  
12:00 pm  
7:00 pm

EZR 9:5-9/LK 9:1-6

Vocations  
Pam Barthel  
Carlos y Angie Salcido

## THURS, SEPT 23

8:00 am †  
12:00 pm

HG 1:1-8/LK 9:7-9

Dorothy Palmer  
Michael Zalewski & Family

## FRI, SEPT 24

8:00 am †  
12:00 pm

HG 2:1-9/LK 9:18-22

Jonathan Toledo  
Oliver A. Pugliese

## SAT, SEPT 25

8:00 am  
4:00 pm †

ZEC 2:5-9, 14-15A/LK 9:43B-45

Bill Lugo  
Marion Fitzgerald

## SUN, SEPT 26

8:00 am †  
10:00 am  
12:30 pm

NM 11:25-29/JAS 5:1-6/MK 9:38-48

Orville Griffieth  
Holy Cross Parishioners  
Living & deceased members of the  
Alfonso Franco Family

# PARISH NEWS

## STAY TUNED

Stay tuned... BINGO to return sometime in October!!

## COFFEE CREW

Our Coffee Crew is meeting again! Join us every Tuesday and Thursday after the 8am Mass in the small hall for coffee, treats, and fellowship! All are welcome!

## GULF COAST CATHOLIC

Introducing Gulf Coast Catholic: A new local Catholic news site created by the Diocese of St. Petersburg to serve Tampa Bay, the Suncoast and the Nature Coast, sharing positive and relevant articles that help us to live our best Catholic lives. Visit [gulfcoastcatholic.org](http://gulfcoastcatholic.org) today!

## PRIESTHOOD APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Priesthood Appreciation Sunday! Please consider expressing your appreciation by word or written message to our priests for their generous sacrificial service to the Church. Let us be sure they know how much we value and love them as they guide us!

## FORMED WATCHLIST

This week's FORMED weekly watchlist is *The War of the Vendée*, the moving story of France's little known religious civil war in the years following the French Revolution. Visit us at [holycrossrcc.com](http://holycrossrcc.com) to watch this inspiring movie for free on FORMED.org!

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

### Sunday, September 19

Eucharistic Ministers: 8am—S Pacheco, S Schuler, 10am—M Branesky, A Branesky, Lectors: 8am—S Bellan, 10am—D Ashcroft, I Ashcroft, 12:30pm—Pablo, Romulo, Andreina, Alejandra

### Monday, September 20

Lectors: 8am—L Reale, 12pm—K Noakes

### Tuesday, September 21

Lectors: 8am—K Noakes, 12pm—L Lapointe

### Wednesday, September 22

Lectors: 8am—L Reale, 12pm—L Lapointe, 7pm—Angelica

### Thursday, September 23

Lectors: 8am—A Convery, 12pm—L Shields

### Friday, September 24

Lectors: 8am—A Convery, 12pm—L Ferreira

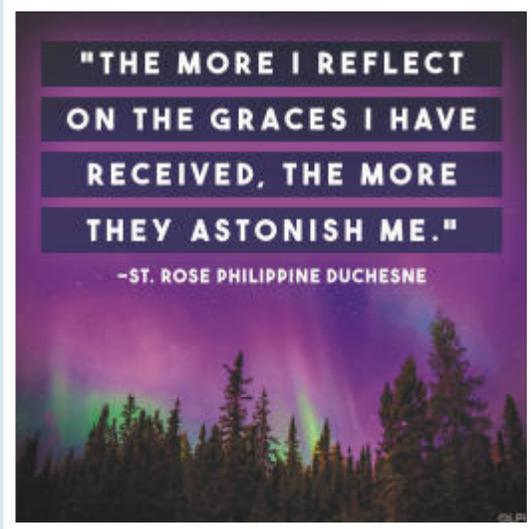
### Saturday, September 25

Eucharistic Ministers: 4pm—M Colravy, K Hossley,

Lectors: 8am—A Convery, 4pm—C Capista

### Sunday, September 26

Eucharistic Ministers: 8am—P Jones, Sr Patrick, 10am—J Ortez, R Hughes, Lectors: 8am—J Michalski, S Michalski, 10am—J Orama, 12:30pm—Susana, Belen, Maria Rojas, Elizabeth



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please note that names will be automatically removed from this list after three months. Please call the parish office to add a name to this list.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

José, Rose, Andrew, Sonny, Allison, Marty, Roia, Rose, Jim, John, Carol, Anna, Virgil, Gus, Dianne, Rebecca, Barbara Lilly, Elaine, Jacob, Donald, Mitchell, Faith, Mary, Meghan, Paul, Edith, Peggy Anne, Sylvia, Jean Ann, Felicitas, Adolfo, Jesus, Ileane, William, Jacob, Jeremy, Miranda, Lydia, Annette, Angela, Cecelia, Christine, Jill, Finnley, Jim, Lupita, Jeremiah, Jared, Phyllis, Natalie, Virginia, Jenn, Joe, Rick, Bud, Donna, Susan, Denise, George, Carmelita, Margaret H., Gianna, Tina, Laura, John, Edward, Gail, Karon, Beth Anne, Joe, Evelyn, Gerry, Ben, Mr. & Mrs. Verstappen, Victor, Karen, Rose Marie, John, Maureen, Colin, Paul, John, Joseph, Peggy, Kami, Katie, Anne-Marie, Simo, Josephine, Terry, Bill, Maria, Edward H., Holly, Doris, Zima, Craig, Sharon, Mike, Robert, Phyllis, Elaine, Jodi, Carly, Ann, Sharon, Beverly, Emily, Lynn, Mary Lou, Catherine, Roger, Maria, Alfredo, Eleanor, Dayana, Janet, Marilyn, Mary Ann, Bobby, Charlie, Christina, Peggy H., Mark, Renee, Glenn, Mary, Lynn, Sandra, Sally, Nick, Frank, Ed M., Paulette, Frank, Bozana, Mary Ellen, Sharon, Patty, Carlos, Maria Julia, Paula, Pam, Catherine, Amanda, Pat, Dennis, Lauren, Grace, Heidi, Scott, Lisa, Dawn Marie, Declan, Bodhi, Zora, Miguel, Nick, Sharon, Frankie, Kathy, Lisa, Pam, Frank, Sara, Nick, Lynn, Sarah, Kristen, Joseph & Theresa, Pierotti Family, Sarah, Maggie, Dyllan, Elba, Artie & Halai, Annie, Marie, Jeanie, Anne, Lynn, Chuck, Carl, Bella, Bill, Montana, Eli, Susan, Karen, Fran, Diane & Troy & Family, Lori, Patricia & Anthony, Paul, Kathy, Maryann, Mario, Anthony, Christina, Joseph & Lucy, Chuck, Robert, Missa, David, Chuck, Sue Ann, Tina

# STEWARDSHIP: THE VIEW FROM THE BACK OF THE LINE

Have you known that person? The one who leaves every person they encounter feeling a little more blessed for having met them? They're the friend you can count on when nothing is going well. They're the one who's always "doing" for others. They're never gossiping or sniping or complaining.

We wonder how they do it, how they have it in them. We're a little envious, even if we don't let ourselves acknowledge it.

That, folks, is what the view is like from the front of the line, gazing at those suckers in the way back and wondering why they're smiling so much.

We've all been at the front of a line and felt no shame about it. We show up early, we put in the time and the legwork, and we "earn" whatever it is we came for — sports tickets, the latest Apple product, whatever. That's how it works here on Earth, where the fastest win the race, the fittest survive and the first shall be first, always.

It's exactly why stewardship is such a tall order. Stewardship calls us to play by the rules of another kingdom — one where the richest have the least amount in their bank accounts and the happiest don't seem to have anything to show for it, at least

materially.

If you have a person in your life who always seems happy "doing" for others, it's because by a boatload of God's grace, they play by the rules of the other place.

Watch and take notes — and don't be afraid to join them at the back of the line.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of September 11—12, 2021

Envelopes: 129 (out of 730 families)  
Online Giving: \$ 428.50 (from 21 donors)  
Weekly Total: \$ 5,148.50  
Annual Budget: \$ 291,200.00

## 2021 APA

As of September 13, 2021

Goal: \$ 69,248.00  
Pledged: \$ 56,213.00  
Paid: \$ 51,998.00  
Pledges: 230 (out of 730 families)

### APA Pledging

Many people feel that they can participate at a sacrificial gift level if they make payments over a period of time. We currently work with monthly and annual pledge cycles. Donors who pledge will receive reminders according to their designated payment schedule.

### APA One-Time Gifts

If donors prefer, a one-time gift can be paid at the time of commitment or payment can be scheduled for later.

### APA Electronic Giving

All major credit and debit cards (MasterCard, American Express, Visa and Discover) as well as direct debit payments are accepted. Donor managed online giving is available through the diocesan website at:

<https://s.dosp.org/give>

### APA Checks

Please **do not** combine APA and Offertory in one check.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers for the altar, the tabernacle, and Our Lady this week are a gift from Angelica Banuelos Espino in honor of the birthday of Angie and Carlos Salcido.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

The sanctuary lamp this week is a gift from Angelica Banuelos Espino in honor of the birthday of Angie and Carlos Salcido.

## ALTAR BREAD & WINE

The altar bread and wine this week is a gift from Angelica Banuelos Espino in honor of the birthday of Angie and Carlos Salcido.

# LEARN ABOUT THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

## ENCOURAGING DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HIS LIFE & VIRTUES

### FEAR OF THE LORD IN SCRIPTURE

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and put the fear of him upon you so you do not sin." - Ex 20:20

then in the place which the LORD, your God, chooses as the dwelling place of his name<sup>a</sup> you shall eat in his presence the tithe of your grain, wine and oil, as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, that you may learn always to fear the Lord, your God. - Deut 14:23

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The statutes of the Lord are true, all of them just. - Ps 19:10

Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all who dwell in the world show him reverence. - Ps 33:8

The rich grow poor and go hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. - Ps 34:11

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; prudent are all who practice it. His praise endures forever. - Ps 111:10

Hallelujah! Blessed the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commands. - Ps 112:1

### PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH FOR THE VIRTUE OF FEAR OF THE LORD

Great Saint Joseph,  
who are the director, the friend, and the protector  
of those souls who desire to be perfect,  
you who did learn from Jesus and Mary  
how to conquer the powers of hell,  
and to practice all virtues,  
obtain for me the grace of FEAR OF THE LORD.  
Beloved Saint Joseph, my father, my guide, and my  
model,  
you who have so much zeal for the glory of Jesus Christ,  
and for my sanctification,  
please listen to my petition.  
I have the sweet confidence that you will not reject it.  
Your goodness will supply that which is lacking in my  
fervor,  
and according to the depth of your love for me,  
and of your power with Him Who has deigned to be  
called your Son,  
you will favorably hear me. Amen.

### ORACIÓN A SAN JOSÉ POR LA VIRTUD DEL TEMOR DEL SEÑOR

Gran San José,  
quien es el director, el amigo y el protector  
de aquellas almas que desean ser perfectas,  
tú que aprendiste de Jesús y María  
cómo conquistar los poderes del infierno,  
y practicar todas las virtudes,  
obtén para mí la gracia de MIEDO DEL SEÑOR.  
Amado San José, mi padre, mi guía y mi modelo,  
tú que tienes tanto celo por la gloria de Jesucristo y por  
mi santificación,  
por favor escuche mi petición.  
Tengo la dulce confianza de que no lo rechazará.  
Tu bondad suplirá lo que falta en mi fervor,  
y según la profundidad de tu amor por mí,  
y de tu poder con Aquel que se ha dignado ser llamado  
Hijo tuyo,  
me escucharás favorablemente. Amén.



Very Rev. Emery Longanga, PhD  
*Pastor*

Rev. Fr. Jesus Martinez  
*Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Mr. Rick Zeitler  
*Permanent Deacon*

Michele Williams  
*Parish Manager*

Marie Meza  
*Parish Secretary*

Neil Guan  
*Director of Faith Formation*

Shirley Schuler  
*Housekeeper*

Bunny Harmon  
*Evangelization & Worship*

Angelica Bañuelos-Espino  
*Weddings & Quinceañeras*

Millie Haylock  
*Baptisms*

# FAITH FORMATION

## RCIA INVITATION

Have you ever stopped and thought, "There has to be more to life than chasing my 'to do' list." Well, there is. Join a few other people for a coffee or tea, bring your questions, and discover how Jesus has a plan for each one of us, individually, that leads to the fullness of a life well lived.

Then Come Join us for RCIA!

- It is for those who seek understanding.
- It is for those who look for the truth.
- It is for those who want to receive their sacraments.

Email Neil Guan at [faithformation@holycrossrcc.com](mailto:faithformation@holycrossrcc.com) for more information.

## ON MAN

Q. Which is the noblest creature God has placed on earth?

A. The noblest creature God has placed on earth is man.

Q. What is man?

A. Man is a rational creature composed of soul and body.

Q. What is the soul?

A. The soul is the noblest part of man, because it is a spiritual substance, endowed with



intelligence and will, capable of knowing God and of possessing Him for all eternity.

Q. Can the human soul be seen and touched?

A. Our soul can neither be seen nor touched, because it is a spirit.

Q. Does the human soul die with the body?

A. The human soul never dies; faith and our very reason prove that it is immortal.

Q. Is man free in his actions?

A. Yes, man is free in his actions and each one feels within himself that he can do a thing or leave it undone, or do one thing rather than another.

Q. Explain human liberty by an

example.

A. If I voluntarily tell a lie, I know that I could have left it unsaid or that I could have remained silent, and that, on the other hand, I could also speak differently and tell the truth.

Q. Why do we say that man was created to the image and likeness of God?

A. We say that man was created to the image and likeness of God because the human soul is spiritual and rational, free in its operations, capable of knowing and loving God and of enjoying Him for ever — perfections which reflect a ray of the infinite greatness of the Lord in us.

## MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Matthew Sisco and our very own catechist, Maria Vasconez, who were married here at Holy Cross last Friday, September 10. The mass was celebrated by Fr. Emery and Fr. Martinez. Please be sure to congratulate Matthew and Maria when you see them!



## MARRIAGE PRAYER

*Almighty and eternal God, You blessed the union of married couples so that they might reflect the union of Christ with his Church: look with kindness on them. Renew their marriage covenant, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace so that, with their children, they may always rejoice in the gift of your blessing. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

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