

A golden sword and scabbard are displayed against a dark blue background. The sword is positioned diagonally, with its hilt at the top left and its blade pointing towards the bottom right. The scabbard is placed behind the sword, partially overlapping it. The hilt of the sword features a circular pommel and a textured grip. The scabbard has two circular holes on its side. In the upper right corner, the word "ISAIAIA" is inscribed in a stylized, golden font.

ISAIAIA

Church of the  
Holy Cross





# First Sunday of Advent

1 December 2019

Very Rev. Michael Manning, STL  
Rev. John McGowan, CSSR,  
Weekend Assistant  
Tom Dooley, Business Manager  
Mrs. Lori LaPlante, Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Sallie Kabash, CRE  
Jill Ramme, Music Director  
Ms. Susan Symington, Sacristan



we have with our present society when we see so many former aberrations that have been adopted and labelled "the new normal." Just think of the crazy things our legislators have done in the matter of public restrooms.

There is something forlorn about Halloween decorations still hanging around in December. We look at such a place and can only wonder if the owner left town hurriedly. Or that he or she turned seriously ill, and may be lying in a hospital somewhere. Or perhaps the owner is just lazy and out of touch. For sure, their once proud décor is not in the spirit of the season.

During these early weeks of Advent, the Church asks us to think forward and consider the Second Coming of Christ. That is when this world as we know it will come to an end and then each of us will be judged. Judged on how much we loved God and neighbor. This is a serious matter because it involves our eternal future. Eternity, they have told me, is a very long time!

That last instance is precisely what the Church looks like every Advent, when she directs the priest to wear purple, and use the same color for the sanctuary adornment. Then there is the recommended absence of flowers. "What is going on?" we might ask, as we see the rest of the world is festooned with red and green, and is "jingle belling" itself into a shopping spree and a partying marathon?

Let's face it. We would rather not think about such things. We'd rather turn our attention instead to cozy thoughts of the Babe in the manger. Those many artists employed by the Christmas card makers have given us the bluish moonlight shining on a Nativity scene. Or, that inviting den with a fire glowing and stockings hung on the mantle. Sometimes a cute kitten playing with ribbon gets added. "So nice!" we think.

The simple answer is that the Church believes in a period of penance and fasting before the feast. Those are two ancient and time-tested ways to get ready for a major religious celebration. The people of Italian descent among us try to do the same with their "Feast of the Seven Fishes" but it strikes me that they have waited too long and try to condense a whole month of prep into one evening of December 24.

But Advent doesn't leave us alone with our sweet reveries. It shakes our shoulders and says: Wake up Christian! Don't you realize that this place isn't your real home and that someday you'll have to leave here to go there? So you better watch out and you better not pout because He's coming to town. I mean Jesus of course. There's a Second Coming of Christ and you'd better live rightly and justly. As you celebrate the anniversary of the First Coming, which is a fine thing to do because it reminds us of God's great love for us, just keep in mind that Second One!

by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Obviously, as a Church founded by a Person who was from childhood a "Sign of Contradiction," she will reflect the Founder in her liturgy and customs. We Catholics are more and more conscious of the conflict

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Mass Worship Schedule  
Weekday & Sat. 9:00 AM  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM  
12 Noon  
5:00 PM  
Latin 7:00 PM

**Swords into Ploughshares**

## From the Pastor



The Advent custom of placing a candle in the window was brought to this country by the Irish immigrants, who during the Catholic persecutions in Ireland would place a candle in their windows

to indicate a priest was a welcome guest to say Mass. Sometimes three candles were placed in different windows to emphasize the Holy Trinity.

It is a worthy custom these days to indicate our anticipation of Christ's coming again and to signal that He will be welcome in our hearts and homes.

If we try to do something in Advent that isn't just early Christmas, we will heighten our anticipation of Jesus' coming again, not as a helpless child, but as Judge and Redeemer.

## Peace

Advent reminds us that we are living in an "in-between time" – the time after Christ's resurrection and before His Second Coming. [It's not a time to pretend Christmas hasn't yet arrived, but cultivating our heart's deepest longing for Christ's peace.]

Christ's peace is not like a fragile peace accord or a shaky worldly political alliance, but is grounded in the steadfastness of God. One of our greatest Advent hopes is for the Prince of Peace to bring his reign to the world in the fullness of time.

## Parish Offertory

This bulletin was on early deadline due to publisher's schedule.

Information will be available in future issues.

### Mass Schedule Christmas 2019

**Christmas Eve,**

**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 PM 4:30 PM 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM

Christmas Carols begin at 10:30 PM

**Christmas Day**

**Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

10:30 AM and 12:00 PM

**New Year's Eve,**

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

***For Holy Day, Solemnity of Mary***

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

**New Year's Day,**

**Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Holy Day, Solemnity of Mary**

9:00 AM Mass

## First Week of Advent Wreath Lighting Prayer

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever

# December Adult Faith Discussion

## How Catholic Art Saved the Faith

December 9th's Adult Faith night will feature a discussion of portions of the recently published book, "How Catholic Art Saved the Faith," by Elizabeth Lev. This beautifully illustrated book highlights the art of Post-Reformation. The art was commissioned by the Church to teach in beauty the truths of the Catholic faith. The book is available on Amazon or from the Parish Office.

*Madonna of the Pilgrims by Caravaggio.*  
greet the viewer with two pilgrims in threadbare clothes, thrusting dirty bare feet toward the viewer. Soiled trousers, callouses, and a hefty gluteus maximus still take tourists by surprise. Caravaggio reveals only a tantalizing sliver of their faces, but the woman breaks into an apple-cheeked grin, her wrinkles emanating like rays of light. In the man's face, all lines disappear in the bright light, which emphasizes the wide-open eyes that seem to grow in astonishment. Whatever they have come to see, they have found it.

Elizabeth Lev



Monday, December 9, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.  
St. Joseph's Room

HOLY CROSS YOUTH GROUP



WREATH SALE

DECEMBER 7-8

DECEMBER 14-15



## Holy Cross Church Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 15 at 3 PM in Holy Cross Church  
Adult and Children's choirs will sing. Organ and Brass. Candlelight story of the birth of Our Savior unfolds with Scripture Readings and Music.





## Marian Candles

Marian candles burn for one week before Mary's statue in the Prayer Garden at the head of the Memorial Pavers. Intentions for the week are announced at Saturday morning's mass and published in the bulletin.

Anthony Lubrano (L) by Helen Maresca  
Madelline Crupi by Amy Evans

## Pray for the Sick

Catherine O'Malley, Eleanor Blass, Sophia Gonzales, Joey Weikel, John Wiseman, Marisa Murphy, Daniel Bonifacio, Jennifer Denis, Dawn Lloyd, Sandra Foster, Alessandra Giunta, Frank Reedy, Grace Fasullo, Maryann Allegra, John McCoy, Marilyn Hull, Elizabeth McNally, Eugenia Kelly, Fr. Joe Farrell, Fr. Vincent Coppolla, Sacka Duffy, Fr. Tom Triggs, Msgr. Phil Lowery, Constance Sullivan.

## Mass Intentions

30-Nov	9:00 AM	Beatrice Coby	The Velcamp Family
30-Nov	5:00 PM	Angela Sabbia	Family
30-Nov	5:00 PM	John V. Ellis	Mary Ellis
1-Dec	8:00 AM	Frank Coppola	Mr & Mrs Michael Lyttle
1-Dec	8:00 AM	Lawrence Patrick Wegrzyn	Anne Marie Robbins
1-Dec	10:30 AM	Martin A. Moran	The Modin Family
1-Dec	12:00 PM	William T. Kaeli	Mr & Mrs Dennis Lynch
1-Dec	5:00 PM	Jack Mahoney and Elizabeth Picirelli	Mr & Mrs Michael Rossano
1-Dec	7:00 PM	For the parishioners	
2-Dec	9:00 AM	Joseph Henry Neitzey	The Heine Family
3-Dec	9:00 AM	Bruno Sama	Vittoria Sama
4-Dec	9:00 AM	Joseph Rovito	Holy Cross 7th Grade
5-Dec	9:00 AM	Richard Kanpinski	James Lenahan
6-Dec	9:00 AM	Paul Salem Boorujy	Mr & Mrs Art Foss
7-Dec	9:00 AM	Bridget Brody	Gray Family
7-Dec	5:00 PM	Concetta Sorace	Family
8-Dec	8:00 AM	John Mulheren	Skinner Family
8-Dec	10:30 AM	Ada Merlini	Mr & Mrs Don McDermott
8-Dec	12:00 PM	Patricia & George Hart	Velcamp Family
8-Dec	5:00 PM	Josephine Mirabito	Mr & Mrs Dan Walsh
8-Dec	7:00 PM	For the Parishioners	

## MEET OUR PARISHIONERS



Pauline Rota, a Rumson resident for two years, became a Holy Cross Church parishioner a year ago. "It's a gorgeous church," she said. "It reminds me of a church when I was little that I went to with my mother!"

Rota, who is retired, also said Father Manning has a great sense of humor. She also added that she enjoys the "great energy" she feels at Holy Cross and "it has a good vibe."

While fairly new to the parish, Rota said she does plan on volunteering and getting involved with the church.



**T**hough young men faint and grow weary, and youths stagger and fall,

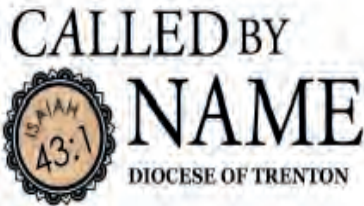
They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings;

They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

# ADVENT CALENDAR



4-Dec	Holy Cross Youth Ministry Meeting	7:00 PM	Gym
Weekend Dec 7-8	Christmas Wreath Sale by Youth Ministry Hospitality Sunday	after the 10:30 AM Mass	All Masses
8-Dec	Pre-K Movie: Veggie Tales the Little Drummer Boy	11:30 AM	St. Joseph Room
9-Dec	Adult Faith Night: How Art Saved the Catholic Faith	7:00 PM	St. Joseph Room
9-Dec	Immaculate Conception Mass	9:00 AM	Church
12-Dec	Elizabeth Ministry Brunch	9:30 AM	St. Joseph Room
15-Dec	Lessons and Carols	3:00 PM	Church
17-Dec	Nativity and Tree Lighting	7:00 PM	Church



Please place the Called by Name response card in the collection basket or return it to the Parish Office. Let us continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and remember in prayer those who have been nominated, that they may appreciate their giftedness and respond to Christ's call.

**Stars for Jesus**

Remember the less fortunate in our area this Christmas. Sign up to donate a Christmas gift either online or by taking a star at the doors of the church. Check the parish website for the online link.



Please Remember Online Giving