

December 2, 2018



First Sunday of Advent

This Week At Holy Cross:

- **Weekend:** Youth Ministry Christmas Wreath Sale, Hospitality Sunday and Advent Wreath Making
- **Wednesday:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- **Thursday:** Bible Study
- **Thursday:** Holy Hour
- **Thursday:** Men's Group
- **Next Sunday:** Messiah Concert

Inside this Issue

- Stars For Jesus 2
- Elizabeth Ministry Upcoming Events 2
- Messiah* Part One 2
- Youth Ministry 2
- Christmas Wreath Sale 2
- Stations of the Creche and Christmas Tree Lighting 2
- Men's Group 3
- Christmas Flower Donations 3
- Thanksgiving Food Drive Thank You 3
- Memorial Votive Candles 4
- Holy Cross Christmas Mass Schedule 4
- Mass Intentions 4
- Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish 4
- Calendar at a Glance 5
- Holy Cross School News From November 5

Stewardship

November 18, 2018

Offertory	\$11,804.00
Supplemental Coll.,	\$1,250.00
Electronic Giving	\$2,618.75
Alms	\$105.00
Candles	\$242.00

Thank You

November 25, 2018

Offertory	\$10,626.00
Electronic Giving	\$687.50
Alms	\$40.00
Candles	\$279.00

Thank You

First Sunday of Advent



The season of Advent is a time for rousing our minds and hearts for the Lord's coming. As his servants we watch for his will, continually seeking him. We watch for his word and his power, that he may act now to save and to deliver. We watch for his visitation, he will surely come again! Servants of the Lord be vigilant, be alert, be "watchmen" for the Lord pointing the way for his coming.

Hospitality Sunday



Please join us this Sunday, December 2nd, at Hospitality Sunday in the St. Joseph Room, following the 10:30 AM Mass. We will have both Hospitality and Advent Wreath Making. Join with fellow parishioners for fellowship and free Coffee, munchkins and bagels!



Holy Cross School Mass

Everyone is welcome to join us at the next Holy Cross School Mass on Friday, December 7th at 9:00 AM in the Church.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception



The Immaculate Conception, is the patronal feast of the United States. It is one of the Holy Days of Obligation on the Church calendar, all Catholics are obligated to attend Mass on this day. Holy Cross will celebrate a Vigil Mass on **Friday**, December 7, at 7 PM. On Saturday, December 8th, Holy Cross will celebrate Mass at 9:00 AM in honor of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The 5:00 PM Mass is a Sunday Mass, it does not meet the obligation of the Holy Day.



Stars For Jesus



All gifts are to be returned wrapped,
with the card or star attached!

Donations should be brought to the St. Joseph Room, using the outside lower level stairwell, between the hours of 8 AM to 4 PM, until **next Sunday, December 9th**.

Your kindness and generosity will help a child or a disabled adult have a Blessed Christmas.



Elizabeth Ministry Upcoming Events

You are invited to the Elizabeth Ministry Christmas Brunch on Friday, **December 7th**, at 9:45 AM, in the St. Joseph Room. Bring an ornament if you would like to participate in the ornament exchange.

The Elizabeth Ministry will be showing a Preschool Christmas Movie on Sunday, **December 9th**, following the 10:30 Mass, in the St. Joseph Room. Snacks will be provided.

RSVP's are not necessary, for more information contact elizabethministry@holycrossrumson.org.



Messiah Part One

George Frideric Handel

**Sunday, December 9th,
3:00 PM Holy Cross Church**

*Holy Cross Choir, Choral Artists,
Chamber Orchestra,
Don Carolina, Conductor.*

*You will be entertained
and filled with the
spirit of Christmas.*

Suggested Offering \$20.

Youth Ministry

Christmas Wreath Sale



Our Youth Ministry will be selling decorated Christmas wreaths, decorative planters and more, for the upcoming Christmas season.

The Christmas Wreath sale will take place this weekend and next weekend, December 8th & 9th.

Please show your support of our Youth Ministry and purchase a Christmas wreath.

Stations of the Creche and Christmas Tree Lighting

Please join us on Monday, December 13th at 7 PM as we follow the journey of the Holy Family in Stations of the Creche. Music, candlelight, live nativity animals and the lighting of our Holy Cross Christmas Tree, followed by refreshments for everyone.



Men's Group

Thursday, December 6th at 7:30 PM

Advent: Preparing For Christ (Week II)



Judgment and mercy were predominant themes in week I. While still found in this week's readings, the tenor has shifted. The themes this week are hope, an exultant expectation, and joy. Yes, God is just, but God is so merciful that he has not only saved Jerusalem, but clothed it in royal splendor and not only Jerusalem will be saved, but "all flesh" will see the salvation of God.

Christmas Flower Donations



Included in your packet of offertory envelopes is the Christmas Flower Donation envelope. We appreciate your donations that helps us manage the cost of decorating our church for Christmas. Please consider helping us prepare a fitting place to welcome the Lord.

Church Security



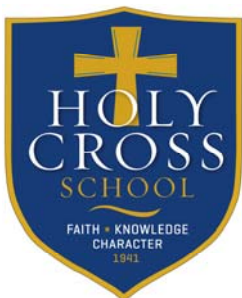
In order to make our church environment more secure, access to the church during the week will be limited to the handicapped entrance door adjacent to the rectory **and** the South West Double Stairway entrance (by the Jesus Statue). This will enable us to monitor the church more easily, especially when the school children are present for mass. As always, we must balance the need for security with ease of access.

Thanksgiving Food Drive Thank You!



A very sincere thank you, to all school students, parents and parishioners for their donations to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Holy Cross was able to donate 20 chickens and 95 turkeys, from turkeys donated directly, **and** chickens and turkeys purchased with \$995 monetary donations, along with approximately 120 boxes of food, totaling around 1200 pounds. This food drive helped St. Anthony's, The Center, The ARC of Monmouth County, Project Paul, Lunch Break and Sea Bright.

Holy Cross School Open House



Holy Cross School will have an Open House on Friday, December 14th from 9:00 - 10:30 AM. All are welcome. Registration for all grades will open in January during Catholic Schools Week. If you are interested, but unable to attend our Open House, call the Holy Cross School Office to set up a private tour.

*“If you are in danger,
if your hearts are confused,
turn to Mary; she is
our comfort, our help;
turn towards her
and you will be saved.”*

**St. Francis Xavier
Feast Day: December 3**



**Memorial Votive Candles
November 30 thru December 7**



Tom Reagan (family)



Memorial Votive Candles
Holy Cross Memorial Candles burn from Friday to Friday in our Prayer Garden, in front of the Blessed Mother Statue.

Your intention is announced at the Saturday 9:00 AM Mass. Candles and

Cards are available at the Parish Office and on our Parish Website. A Memorial Candle donation is \$20.

Holy Cross Poor Boxes



Our brass colored Poor Boxes are built into the wall, on either side of the entrance, in the Narthex of the Church. Donations are needed **and** appreciated all year long. Please remember to give to the poor especially during Advent.

Advent Prayer for Hope

Lord Jesus Christ, who is, was and who is to come, we pray for the virtue of hope, that amidst the trials and difficulties of this world, we may keep our hearts fixed upon you, who reigns over the cosmos. May your grace enliven us, strengthen and defend us, as we await your coming in glory. Amen.



**Holy Cross Christmas
Mass Schedule**



Christmas Eve,

Monday, December 24th

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

Christmas Carols begin at 10:30 PM

Christmas Day,

Tuesday, December 25th

10:30 AM and 12:00 Noon

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 1

9:00 AM For the Sick of the Parish
5:00 PM John V. Ellis (Mary Ellis)

Sunday, December 2

8:00 AM Charles Bernard Donnelly (Mary Eagan)
10:30 AM Mark J. Azzolina (Nancy Leighton)
12:00 PM Margaret Checton (M/M Robert Finan)
5:00 PM Bruno Sama (Vittoria Sama)

Monday, December 3

9:00 AM Cherubina "Ruby" Gaudino (Hemberger Family)

Tuesday, December 4

9:00 AM John Powers McGill (M/M Robert Sharkey)

Wednesday, December 5

9:00 AM Lillian Farrington (Farrington/O'Malley Families)
And Gerald A. Manning (Holy Cross Parishioners)

Thursday, December 6

9:00 AM Matthew Callahan (Modin Family)

Friday, December 7

9:00 AM Bridget & John Brody (Gray Family)

Saturday, December 8

9:00 AM Evelyn O'Neill (M/M Gene A. Harcsar)
5:00 PM Concetta Sorace (Family)

Sunday, December 9

8:00 AM Jane Keaveney (M/M Don McDermott)
10:30 AM Betty Geiger (M/M Michael Seaman & Family)
12:00 PM Madison Wells (M/M John Keavey)
5:00 PM Jim Cottrell (Marie Cottrell)

Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish

Out of respect for the privacy of the person who is ill and keeping in mind the HIPPA Laws, we can only publish prayer requests from the ill person or their guardian, with the permission of the ill person. We review the list every three months. Call with concerns!



Catherine O'Malley, Ann Connor,

Eleanor Blass, Sophia Gonzales,

Joey Weikel, John Wizeman,

Marisa Murphy, Daniel Bonifacio,

Jennifer Denis, Dawn Lloyd,

Sandra Foster, Alessandra Giunta, Maria Incremona,

Frank Reedy and Grace Fasullo

Calendar at a Glance



Monday, December 3

RCIC Session, 4:00 PM (PO)
 RCIA Session, 6:30 PM (PO)
 SOR 7th Grade Session, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 4

Tuesday, Prayer Group, 1:00 PM (St. Joseph Room)
 SOR Classes, 4:00 PM

Wednesday, December 5

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, **9:45 AM - 4:00 PM**
 Youth Ministry, 6:30 PM

AA Meeting, 8:00 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Thursday, December 6

Bible Study, 9:45 AM (St. Joseph Room)
 Youth Choir practice 3:30 PM (Choir loft)
 Exposition and Holy Hour, 6:00—7:00 PM

Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

Holy Cross Men’s Group, 7:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Friday, December 7

Holy Cross School Mass, 9:00 AM
 Elizabeth Ministry Brunch, 9:45 AM (St. Joseph Room)
 Vigil Mass for Holy Day of Obligation, 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 8

Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation
 Mass 9:00 AM, Confession and Novena after Mass
 Dress Rehearsal for Messiah Concert 10:30 AM

Stars For Jesus Gifts must be brought in by tomorrow December 9th

Youth Ministry Christmas Wreath Sale

Sunday, December 9

Stars For Jesus Gifts due today
 Youth Ministry Christmas Wreath Sale
 SOR Classes 9:00 AM

Elizabeth Ministry Preschool Christmas Movie following 10:30 Mass (SJR)

Adult Choir Call 1:30 PM

Messiah Concert 3:00 PM

Monday, December 10

RCIC Session, 4:00 PM (PO)
 RCIA Session, 6:30 PM (PO)
 SOR 7th Grade Session, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 11

Tuesday, Prayer Group, 1:00 PM (St. Joseph Room)
 SOR Classes, 4:00 PM

Wednesday, December 12

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, **9:45 AM - 4:00 PM**
 Elizabeth Ministry Faith Sharing, 9:30 AM (St. Joseph Room)

Youth Ministry, 6:30 PM

AA Meeting, 8:00 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Thursday, December 13

Youth Choir practice 3:30 PM (Choir loft)
 Exposition and Holy Hour, 6:00—7:00 PM
 Stations of the Creche and Tree Lighting, 7:00 PM
 Holy Cross Men’s Group, 7:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Friday, December 14

Holy Cross School Open House, 9 AM—10:30 AM

Holy Cross School News: From November



The Holy Cross Boys Soccer Team finished their 11-1 season with a double-overtime win against Freehold Borough to earn First Place in the Monmouth County Intermediate School Soccer League Liberty Conference!

The Holy Cross Model UN Team won Best Small Delegation at the CBA Middle School Model UN Conference. Our team members took home six individual awards as well!



We welcomed over two hundred guests to our annual Grandparents Day. Our honored guests enjoyed a school Mass, refreshments, and special activities and programs in each of their grandchildren’s homerooms.