

December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Simeon blessed Mary and Joseph and he prophesied to Mary about the destiny of this child and the suffering she would undergo for his sake. There is a certain paradox for those blessed by the Lord. Mary was given the blessedness of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. She received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises. Jesus promised his disciples that "no one will take your joy from you". The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. Know the peace and joy of a life surrendered to God with faith and trust.



Happy New Year
*Wishing all parishioners
of Holy Cross Church
a Happy and Healthy New Year!*

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Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Monday, January 1st



Mary's newborn child was given the name Jesus on the eighth day according to the Jewish custom. Joseph and Mary gave the name Jesus because that is the name given by God's messenger before Jesus was conceived in Mary's womb. This name signifies Jesus' identity and his mission. The literal Hebrew meaning is *the Lord saves*. Since God alone can forgive sins and free us from death, it is God who, in Jesus, his eternal Son, became a man to offer up his life as the atoning sacrifice to save his people from their sins. The son that Mary bore is both God and man the "Word who was God" and who "became flesh and dwelt among us". That is why Mary is not only called the mother of the Christ (the Greek word for Messiah in Hebrew) but also the mother of God or Theotokos in Greek, which literally means "God bearer."

Remember Your Holy Cross Christmas Donation



My Christmas Gift

Amount _____ No. _____
Name _____

If you were away for Christmas, please remember to send in your Christmas donation. We are experiencing a bit of a budget pinch and an extra boost of generosity to close out the year would be much appreciated.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament At Holy Cross



The Eucharist is on the altar in Holy Cross Church between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM for adoration every Wednesday. Feel free to come to church and pray before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We will resume our regular schedule of Adoration on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Why You Should Register With A Parish

Registration is the official way we join a parish community. It is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social and ministerial activities of your parish. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining a sponsor certificate and getting donation statements for your taxes. To register contact the Parish Office, or go to the Church Office in the North Transept of the church, following the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass .



March For Life 2018



Join Holy Cross and the Diocese of Trenton at the March for Life on Friday, January 19th, in Washington D.C. Holy Cross will provide bus and metro transportation, food and drink on the bus. Tickets are; \$25/adult and \$10/student, Holy Cross School 7th and 8th grade students will be chaperoned by a faculty member. Bus departs Holy Cross parking lot at 6:15 AM and returns at 10:00 PM. Please fill out a registration form and return it to the Parish Office with a check by Friday, January 12th. For more information, call the Parish Office.

Gifts Galore from "Stars for Jesus" Donations



It looks like Santa's Sleigh might have landed on Holy Cross' lawn for a few moments, but no, the generous gifts donated by parishioners and friends of Holy Cross to anonymous recipients were collected awaiting pick-up by the several agencies which participated in our *Stars For Jesus* annual Christmas gift drive. Over six hundred gifts were donated, including fourteen brand new bicycles, clothing, toys, gift cards and others.

Thank you to the organizers of the event for their energy and enthusiasm and to all those who took the time select a star, shop and wrap the gift. May God bless your generosity and multiply the spirit of good will at Christmas.

Find Out About R.C.I.A. Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults



Through RCIA you learn about the Good News as taught through the Catholic Faith. Those who were never baptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but

have never received Confirmation and Eucharist are welcome. Call Eugenia at the Parish Office.

A New Year's Prayer



Lord, You make all things new, you bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our Spirits to be born again. Thank you for this new year, for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that in our time, many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise Your glorious name. Amen

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Holy Cross Prayer Garden Memorial Bricks



Donate a Memorial Brick in the Holy Cross Prayer Garden.

Pavers can be ordered online from our Parish Website **or** you may stop by the Parish Office. Donations for Memorial Bricks are \$400 each.

Holy Cross Pergola Column Donations



Consider dedicating a Pergola column in gratitude or prayerful memory of someone. Contact the Parish Office for details.

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.

Hymnals for Our Church



Bookplate dedications are still available for the new hymnals in Holy Cross Church.

Download the form from the Parish website or call the Parish Office to have a hymnal inscribed and dedicated.

The donation amount is \$20 per hymnal.



Memorial Votive Candles

December 29 Thru January 5

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 AM Mass. Memorial Candles and Cards are available at the Parish

Office and on our Parish Website. A Memorial Candle donation is \$20.



Thank You to Our Online Givers



Thank you to the many parish families that have signed up for *Online Giving*! If you manage your

bills online, we're sure you'll like the convenience of giving to our church online. It's safe and secure and allows you to decide when your gift is made and how much to each collection. You can view your giving history and pledge progress at any time, just by logging in, Please visit our parish website; www.holycrossrumson.org and click the *Online Giving* link to get started, or to access your existing account.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 30

9:00 AM Charles McAuliffe (Eugenia Kelly)
 5:00 PM Carmela Necci (The Quadarella Family)
 And Steven Scarrone (Family)

Sunday, December 31

8:00 AM Dolores Loftus (Family)
 10:30 AM Deceased members of the Shea Family (Family)
 12:00 PM Dawn Garavente (Carol Bolicki)
 5:00 PM Mildred Schwarz (Family)

Monday, January 1

9:00 AM Frank Sorace (Family)

Tuesday, January 2

9:00 AM Dr. George Massell (John McGowan)

Wednesday, January 3

9:00 AM Pierce Jarck (Anne Kenney)

Thursday, January 4

9:00 AM G. Ronald Finnegan (Chrissy Marcoullier)

Friday, January 5

9:00 AM Joan Manning (Family)
 And Anne Gannon (Eileen & Joe Kenney)

Saturday, January 6

9:00 AM Geoffrey Brown (M/M Jim Hinckley)
 5:00 PM Victoria Callahan (Sallie Kabash)
 And Marcel Wagner (Modin Family)

Sunday, January 7

8:00 AM Jim Gardella (Tony Gardella)
 10:30 AM Janet Kaiser (M/M Jim Hinckley)
 12:00 PM Catherine Savin (Foggia Family)
 5:00 PM Donald Ritchie (Celine Mason)



Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish

Our 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, Msgr. James Innocenzi, Lindley McCarthy, Maria Incremona, Sean Ring, Elenmarie Dunn and Lori Lettieri



Calendar at a Glance



Monday, January 1, 2018

*Solemnity Of Mary,
The Holy Mother Of God*
9:00 AM Mass

Tuesday, January 2

HC School in Session
Tuesday Prayer Group, 12:30—3:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Wednesday, January 3

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:30 AM—4:00 PM

Thursday, January 4

Baptism Prep Class, 7:00 PM (PO)

Saturday, January 6

Mass 9:00 AM, Confession and Novena after Mass

Sunday, January 7

SOR Classes, 9:00 AM
Mass Sitters Available
SOR Grade 8, 4:15 PM

Monday, January 8

CRCIA, 4:00 PM and RCIA Session, 6:30 PM
SOR Grade 7 Classes, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 9

Tuesday Prayer Group, 1:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)
SOR Classes, 4:00 PM

Wednesday, January 10

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:30 AM—4:00 PM
Elizabeth Ministry Faith sharing, 10 AM (St. Joseph Room)

Thursday, January 11

Bible Study, 9:45 AM (St. Joseph Room)
Holy Cross Men's Group, 7:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)

Saturday, January 13

Mass 9:00 AM, Confession and Novena after Mass

Sunday, January 14

Holy Cross Choir, 9:45 AM Choir Call
Mass Sitters Available

Monday, January 15

Holy Cross School Closed
RCIA Session, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 16

Tuesday Prayer Group, 12:30—3:30 PM (St. Joseph Room)
SOR Classes, 4:00 PM

Wednesday, January 17

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:30 AM—4:00 PM



“The first end I propose in our daily work is to do the will of God;
secondly, to do it in the manner he wills it; and thirdly, to do it because it is his will.”

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

2018 Polar Bear Plunge!

The Sons of Ireland Polar Bear Plunge, held on New Year's Day will raise money for the following organizations: **Shore House** and **Unbroken Warriors**.

Plunge takes place at 1:00 PM at Convention Hall in Asbury Park. Register at: www.sonsofireland.org.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians

Polar Plunge To Benefit Catholic Schools!

Join Holy Cross families on January 28, 2018 at Donovan's Reef for the Polar Plunge. For details, or if you are interested in volunteering your time to help out, please send email to Lisa at; super3ones@aol.com or Charissa, charissakeavey@gmail.com .

Reboot Live

Fun, inspiring and practical experience of applying the beauty and genius of the heart of the Gospel to your life. Speaker and Author, Chris Stefanick.

Reboot is a cross generational event for ages 12 years and older. Wednesday, April 11th, 7-9:30 PM at St. Leo's Church. Tickets are \$22, contact the Holy Cross Parish Office.

To register go to: www.reallifecatholic.com .

Downey Side

Make a difference in the life of a Foster Care Child, apply to adopt through Downey Side. Call Sister Elizabeth, 32-359-8434 or, sister.engel@gmail.com .