

THIS WEEK

SAT, December 23	Fourth Sunday of Advent
5:00PM Holy Cross	Logan Rechterman (d)
SUN, December 24	Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:00AM San Luis	Manuel Serrano (d)
9:30AM Holy Cross	People of Holy Cross, San Luis & St. Ann
SUN, December 24	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Vigil
5:00PM Holy Cross	People of Holy Cross, San Luis & St. Ann
MON, December 25	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
8:00AM San Luis	Ortencia & Agustin Jr. Serrano (d)
9:30AM Holy Cross	Adam & Irene Mungia & Janie Salinas (d)
TUE, December 26	St. Stephen
8:00AM Chapel	Margie Smith (d)
WED, December 27	St. John the Apostle & Evangelist
NO Morning Mass	
5:30PM San Luis	Lidia Vasquez (d)
THU, December 28	The Holy Innocents
NO MASS	
FRI, December 29	St. Thomas Becket
8:00AM Chapel	Emerence & Angelo Fanelli (d)
SAT, December 30	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
5:00PM Holy Cross	Ynocencio Garcia (d)
SUN, December 31	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00AM San Luis	Paul Vahalik (d)
9:30AM Holy Cross	People of Holy Cross, San Luis & St. Ann



Our book is now open for
Mass intentions for 2024

Call or come by the office Tues., Wed., or Thurs. to schedule.
*Suggested Stipend \$5 per Mass. You may request up to **three (3)** masses per year, consisting of 1 weekend & 2 weekday.*

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

December 17, 2023	Holy Cross	San Luis	St. Ann
Saturday/Sunday	\$ 2,430.25	\$ 1,559.81	\$ 45.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 3,442.60	\$ 108.00	

PRAYER LIST



*Please remember in your prayers the souls
of all who have passed away,
“Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
& let perpetual light shine upon them”*



Also pray for physical and spiritual healing of:
Larry Mueller, Ramona Sample, Levi Sample, Daniel & Mary Helen Villarreal, Mary Helen Torres, Kacee Flores, Christopher & Kaylnn Mueller, Cindy Pieprzica, Macee Brown, Barbara Kremling, Wade Bolting, Shirley Collins, Regina Riedel, Norma Schendel, Lin Migura, Alvin Sturm, Margaret Wollny, Marvin Tate, William Stehling, Doug Wolf, Amber Rios, Fr. Frank Lenz, Fr. Dominic Boasiako, Loretta Bolting, Larry Kozielski, Lanny Lohmann, Saela Diaz, Myra Yeretsky, Heath Buesing, Patricia Kowalik, Terry Glasscock, Johnny Ortiz and Blaise Hawes.
*If you have someone on the prayer list, they will stay on the list for **3 months**.
Please call the office Tuesday-Thursday, to put them back on the list.
Thank you!*

SERVER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 24	5PM Holy Cross
Lector:	Ron Martin
Sacristans:	Philip & Lisa
EMHC:	Greg Foegelle
Altar Servers:	Sydnie, Rylie & Liam
Monday, Dec. 25	9:30AM Holy Cross
Lector:	Sylvia Hernandez
Sacristans:	Rene & Sylvia
EMHC:	Rene Hernandez
Altar Servers:	
Saturday, Dec. 30	5PM Holy Cross
Lector:	Angie Stepanski
Sacristans:	Cindy & Susan
EMHC:	Dicky Rodriguez
Altar Servers:	Caleb, Jax & Leyton
Sunday, Dec. 31	8AM San Luis
Lector:	Elvira Ybarra
Sacristan & EMHC:	Rebecca Hinojosa
Altar Server:	Devin
Sunday, Dec. 31	9:30AM Holy Cross
Lector:	Mike Yeretsky
Sacristans:	Philip & Lisa
EMHC:	Ben Parma
Altar Servers:	Sydnie, Rylie & Liam
	Homebound: Angie & Loretta

San Luis Cemetery Plots
Price Changes

\$300 Active Parishioner
\$500 Inactive Parishioner
\$1,000 Non-parishioner (Catholic only)
Effective January 1, 2024



CDA Scholarship

Applications are available for
High School Seniors.
*Applicants must be related
to a Texas CDA member.*



Applications must be
mailed by Jan 31st.
Applications may be picked
up at the church office, from
Cindy Dubose or downloaded
from our website:
<https://holycrossyorktown.net/>

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The Mass continued:

#7

Fr. Hugh Barbour; O. Praem.. 20 Answers: The Mass. Catholic Answers Press

12. What does it mean for Mass to be offered in honor of the saints?

We do offer the Mass in honor of the saints, but one thing must be made clear in order to understand this happy fact: each eucharistic sacrifice is offered to God alone. The Mass is offered to the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit: “Through him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, forever and ever. Amen!” In some of the prayers of the Roman rite, ancient and new, under the influence of the Eastern rites, the Mass is also said to be offered to the three persons of the Holy Trinity all together: “Receive O Holy Trinity this oblation.” Both formulations are perfectly true, since the divine persons are together one God, even though we recognize the distinctions between the persons and their missions.

Even so, it is correct to say that the Mass may be offered in honor of the saints. How so? Because the Mass is not offered *to* the saints; rather, their membership in the mystical body of Christ, which is the Church, makes it so the sacrifice of the Mass is *their* sacrifice, just as is for those still living on earth— or, as we have just seen, waiting in purgatory. All the members of the Church participate in their different ways in the sacrifice of the Mass. It is an action entrusted to the faithful on earth, but the elect in heaven and in purgatory all share in its power and effects.

What does the Mass do for the saints in heaven? According to the teaching of St. Thomas and other Doctors and theologians, and, indeed, according to the texts of the liturgy itself, the Mass *increases their glory*, intensifying the joys and effective actions that flow from their vision of God. When we honor them by commemorating them in Mass, the saints receive some additional splendor of knowledge and love from our celebrations of their merits, and from our asking for their prayers along with the prayer of Christ the great high priest and king of saints.

The sacrifice of the cross is the reason that the souls of the dead can be given the vision of God’s face, and so it is that the Mass, although it obtains no increase in that essential reward of the vision of the uncreated God, can and does extend the subsidiary or complementary joys of the saints as they regard the sharing of created goods, relationships, and common works for the living and the dead in which they share as part of the communion of saints.

This is what we mean by the honor given the saints, and it is our joy as wayfarers on earth thereby, day by day, to be finishing up with Christ the work of the glory of the human race. When he comes in glory and completes his kingdom, these fruits of his redemption revealed and obtained in the holy sacrifice will be shared to the fullest and eternal joy of all. Then we will experience the marvelous “excess” or overflowing of the graces of every Mass ever celebrated for the ages of eternity, as their honor becomes our own, and ours theirs.

To be continued...

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Christmas Pageant!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

24: Mass 5PM at Holy Cross, Christmas Carols 4:30PM
25: Mass 8AM at San Luis
25: Mass 9:30AM at Holy Cross, Christmas Carols 9:00AM
25-26: Parish Office Closed
Jan. 1: Masses BVM: 8AM Holy Cross, 5:30PM San Luis
5: First Friday Mass 8AM at Holy Cross, *followed by Adoration & Reconciliation*
6: First Saturday Mass 9AM at San Luis, *followed by the Rosary and Guadalupana Meeting*
7: Catholic Daughters meeting 2PM in the Activity Center
8: Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass at San Luis
8: Knights of Columbus meeting 7PM in the Activity Center
11& 25: RCIA, Adult Education 6PM in the Activity Center

If you are enjoying reading “The Mass”
Please drop this note in the collection.
Thanks



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educational bulletin inserts?
If yes, drop this in
the collection basket.
Name optional:

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Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church

and the Missions of San Luis and St. Ann

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“Help another’s boat across, and lo, thine own has reached the shore”



DECEMBER 24, 2023 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me.

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29

Second Reading: The mystery is revealed that was kept secret for endless ages. Rom 16:25-27

Gospel: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord' Lk 1:26-38

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-4, 6 & 8, 16 & 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2-3, 5-6; Lk 2:22-35

DECEMBER 25, 2023 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

CHRISTMAS DAY READINGS

First Reading: Look, your saviour comes. Is 52:7-10

Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God. Ps 98:1-6

Second Reading: It was no reason except his own compassion that he saved us. Heb 1:1-6

Gospel: The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found the baby lying in the manger. Jn 1:1-18

Jesus is the “Greatest Gift” ever given to humanity. God so loved the world He sent His Only Begotten Son to bring salvation for all. What a gift! And what a wonderful reason to celebrate the birth of Christ. This Christmas season is a time of sharing, a time of giving and forgiving, a time of hope, and a time for living. In the past year you have shared and given of yourself when needed. You bring hope to the Church. The way you live your lives has been an example of Christ dwelling within you.

In the light of the Christmas Spirit, we would like to thank one and all for your many gifts, cards, prayers, and kind thoughts. We pray that everyday be a Christmas for you. You are truly a blessing to us. May your Christmas bring you much happiness and good health and may your New Year be filled with an abundance of God’s blessings.

May you have a Merry Christmas,

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Roger & Fr. Francis