

November 5, 2023

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Owe Everything to God — Use Your Gifts for His Glory

Today's Gospel is from *Matthew 23:1-12*. As this picture of the Pharisees is painted by none other than Christ himself, we can have no doubt that the description given is the truth and nothing but the truth. In spite of their great knowledge of "the law and the prophets"—the divine revelation God had given to the Chosen People—and of their many strict observances of that law, they were not pleasing to God. All their good works and all their learning were spoiled by the vice of pride which made them seek earthly glory for themselves and prevented them from giving glory or thanks to God. Their religion was an empty external cloak which they used to attract attention and honor to themselves. Internally, they were so full of their own importance that there was no room for God in their hearts.

Our divine Lord warned his disciples, and through them, all of us, to avoid that pernicious vice of pride. It should not be hard for any true Christian to avoid this vice. We know that every material and spiritual talent we have has been given us by God, so we must give glory to God for any gifts we possess and not to ourselves. St. Paul reminds us of this fact when he asks us: "What have you that you have not received, and if you have received it, why glory in it, as if it were your own?" We owe everything we have to God and we should use all the gifts he has given us for his honor and glory, and for that purpose alone.

Do we always do this? Are we never tempted to look down on our less fortunate brothers? If we have got on well in our temporal affairs do we attribute our success to our own skill and hard work or do we thank God for the opportunities he gave to us and not to others. If, aided by God's grace, we are keeping his commandments, do we show contempt for those who give in to temptations which we did not have to meet? The best of us can profit from an examination of conscience along these lines. If our external observance of the Christian rule of life is motivated solely by love and gratitude to God all is well. But if our hearts are far from God and our motives in our religious behavior is self-glorification, we are in a dangerous position. The sinners and harlots of Christ's day repented and were received into his kingdom; the Pharisees, unable to repent, were left outside.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M. at <https://www.catholicculture.org/>

Breakfast and Birthday Cake this Sunday, Nov. 5, after 8:30 a.m. Mass to celebrate the birthdays of Nov.

Breakfast and Birthday Cake are served on the **first Sunday of each month.**

Visitors Welcome!



Wagoner Area Neighbors Thanksgiving Food Drive

You can help fellow residents by making a monetary donation and/or by donating needed food items for the annual Thanksgiving Baskets.

- 1) a collection basket will be in the back of the church for monetary donations, and/or
- 2) bring food items — such as, boxed stuffing mix, boxed instant mashed potatoes, canned corn, canned green beans, boxed dessert items, or boxed mac-n-cheese, which can be placed on the table in the vestibule. Please bring food items by Nov. 12.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Jim and Sherry Ruyle will ensure that both monetary and food item donations are delivered to WAN.

Mary & Martha (M&M) Society Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6:00 p.m.

All Women of the Parish Welcome!

Please Join Us as the women of the parish share and enjoy fellowship, while serving the altar society ministry of Holy Cross.

Hostesses: Sherry & Kathy

"Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the Savior of the world."

'Jesus and the Eucharist' Study

Continues Each Week
Tuesday, November 7, at 6:30 p.m.
Holy Cross Parish Hall

A Wonderful Way to Reconnect with the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist!

There is no preparation needed and no homework!
Everyone is encouraged to come! Each week not dependent upon previous attendance; therefore, come to one or all, even if you haven't attended previous sessions

Are you or do you know of someone that is considering joining the church? Or are you or someone you know Catholic and want to return to or learn more about the Catholic faith?

RCIA Classes
Each Thursday from 5-6:15 p.m.

Questions? Contact Dcn Jim (retired) at jandsruyle@gmail.com, 918-638-0605, for more information and to register.

Discipleship Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)

"Communion—Our Bond with the Lord and Each Other"

An Experience that has the Power to Shape Your Faith Journey

Saturday, Nov. 11, Cox Convention Center

Registration Deadline—Nov. 8 (no on-site registrations, or registrations after the 8th)

Admission \$49; Confirmation Students \$39

Raising Saints Youth Group

For the 6th-12th grade youth of Holy Cross and St. Vincent de Paul to gather for Fun, Fellowship, and Faith Formation

This Month's Activity — Hayride

Sunday, Nov. 12, 4—7 p.m.

M&M Annual Christmas Bazaar

Next Weekend
November 11-12, 10 am—4 pm
& after Vigil Mass on Sat.

Handmade Gifts, Baked Goods, Gift Baskets for Auction

Please donate your home-made items for this fund-raising event! We appreciate you bringing your donated items (except baked goods) to the church by Nov. 8th for setup.

Pope Francis has encouraged all faithful Christians to fast and pray for peace in the Middle East as the war between Israel and Hamas continues!

Pray for peace in Israel and throughout the world!

Eastern Oklahoma Podcast



The "Eastern Oklahoma Podcast" is where you can find all things Catholic in the Diocese of Tulsa. Content from Bishop Konderla, homilies for pastors, keynote speakers, "Forming Our Faith with Deacon Kevin" podcast and so much more.

Continue to Consider the

Annual Catholic Charities Appeal

by completing your pledge card (available in the pew) and/or including your donation designed for Catholic Charities in the collection

Nov 4 (Vigil)	Nov 5		Nov 11 (Vigil)	Nov 12
Linda Steinheil Kay Rodriguez	Holy Cross Youth	USHERS/GIFT BEARERS	Judy Helms Richard Helms	Rosalina Empuerto Raul Empuerto
Larry Chekofsky Matthew Higginbottom	Carlos, Makenna, Liam, & Kaygan	ALTAR SERVERS	Larry Chekofsky	Aceah, Carlos, Liam, & Makenna
Richard H./Judy H.	Chris H./Bille C.	EUCCHARISTIC	Charlie M./Sherri M.	Mike H./Elaine H.
Carolyn Greer	Elizabeth Sullivan Aceah Stuart	READERS	Laura Rodriguez	Chris Holland

 <i>Happy Birthday!</i> 		
Abigail Higginbottom	Mark Sorell	11/8
11/1	Makenna Wright	11/14
Angela Schmidgall	Michelle Atanasio	
Karol Watson		11/19
Lance Dufour	Bill Scrimsher	11/21
Anthony Herndon	Elizabeth Sullivan	11/21
Michael Snyman	Liam Wright	11/27
Vinny Guadagno	Earlyne Hutchens	
Skip Gordon		11/30
Kinney Herndon	Carlos Sorell	11/30

Offerings from Oct 21-22, 28-29 & Nov 1

Oct 21/22

General Collections	\$1,868.00
Capital Improvement	150.00

Oct 28-29

General Collections	\$1,856.00
Capital Improvement	\$180.00

All Saint's Day 11/1 **\$367.00**

TOTAL **\$4,421.00**

Wagoner Area Neighbors **\$180.00**

Daily Mass Readings—Nov 5-11*

Sunday	Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12
Monday	Rom 11:29-36/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday	Rom 12:5-16b/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday	Rom 13:8-10/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
Friday	Rom 15:14-21/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Lk 16:9-15

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:

www.holycross-wagoner.org

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
Judy Wright, parishioner
Becky Harding, parishioner
Hope Watson, parishioner
Lucille Dickinson, parishioner

WE PRAY TO THE LORD



Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and the world. As your disciples, help us to touch the hearts of everyone in a way that enhances human spirituality and will bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

	<i><u>Astar Linens</u></i>	<i><u>Astar Flowers</u></i>
<i>Nov</i>	Bille Cummings	Kathy Gordon Sherry Ruyle
<i>Dec</i>	Carolyn Greer	Advent (no flowers)

**Stay Connected — Stay Informed
with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross Family**

*Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins,
Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events*

**www.holycross-wagoner.org,
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) &
https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/
dashboard**

**Finding solutions for
your financial need.**



Seth A Yoder
Financial Advisor
114 East Cherokee
Wagoner, OK 74467
918-485-0992

Edward Jones
BROKER/DEALER IN SECURITIES
edwardjones.com

Holy Cross Catholic Church



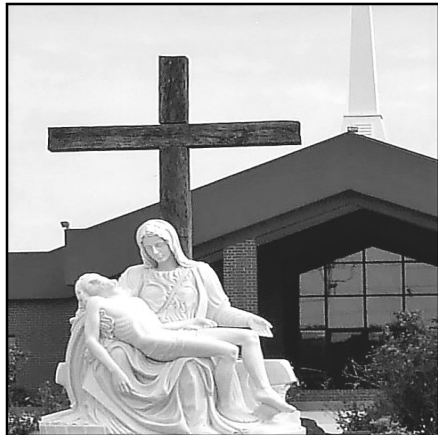
*Holiness - Disciples - Community
Wagoner, Oklahoma*

**P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.
539-209-9988**

Email: holycrosswagoner@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org>

Facebook: Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK



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Pastor	Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988
Visiting Priests	Fr. Gabriel Garcia fr.gabriel.garcia@dioceseoftulsa.org; 918-836-2597 & Fr. Alessandro Calderoni fr.alessandro.calderoni@dioceseoftulsa.org; 918-455-4551
Deacon	Dcn James Ruyle (Retired) jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228
Secretary	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
Religious Education	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com 303-519-0605 Emily Ledgerwood (Youth Group); mudytime@gmail.com 405-887-7832
Parish Council	Karol Watson karol_watson@yahoo.com 918-640-5819
M&M Society	Sherri Moe smworks@hotmail.com 918-521-9127
Men's Group	Seth Yoder seth.yoder@edwardjones.com 918-869-9129

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.
Sunday — 8:30 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.
First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass
1st Wed. of the Month — 6:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before weekend Masses
Or by appointment/request

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Breaking Bread Book
Pages 215-216

Vatican II Hymnal
Pages 664-665

