

March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Lent

* This is Laetare Sunday. Laetare Sunday, the midpoint of Lent, *
* is a day of joyful anticipation, reminding us that God is constantly *
* calling his people back to him, offering forgiveness and new *
* beginnings. In the first reading, the Israelites celebrate their first *
* Passover in the Promised Land. After years of wandering, they *
* no longer rely on manna but partake of the land's produce, *
* signifying a new chapter in their relationship with God. This *
* transition mirrors how God leads us from our past struggles into *
* renewal when we trust in him. In the second reading, Paul *
* deepens this message, proclaiming that through Christ, we have *
* been reconciled to God and are made into a new creation. Sin no *
* longer defines us. Nowhere is this more powerfully illustrated *
* than in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The father's boundless *
* love reflects God's own mercy, eagerly welcoming us home no *
* matter how far we have strayed. Laetare Sunday reminds us that *
* Lent is not merely about penance but about turning back to the *
* One who longs to embrace us, offering us not condemnation but *
* the joy of a new beginning. *
* Our gospel reading today is the famous Parable of the *
* Prodigal Son, which is found only in Luke's gospel. The Parable *
* of the Prodigal Son is, in many ways, more profoundly a parable *
* of the Prodigal Father — a father whose love is extravagant, *
* even reckless by human standards. Jesus tells this story not *
* simply to illustrate human sin and repentance but to reveal the *
* boundless mercy of God in a way that defies expectation. The *
* father in the parable does not wait for his son to earn back his *
* place; instead, he runs to meet him, embraces him, and restores *
* him immediately, clothing him in honor and celebrating his return. *
* This is a radical image of God — one who does not measure out *
* forgiveness sparingly but pours it out lavishly, without hesitation. *
* This parable also teaches that if we are to truly rejoice, we must *
* embrace mercy on God's terms, not ours. The younger son could *
* not have experienced the joy of his father's embrace without first *
* acknowledging his failure and humbly returning home. Likewise, *
* the older son's struggle reveals how difficult it can be to rejoice in *
* God's mercy when it does not align with our expectations. His *
* invitation to the feast is a call to let go of pride and celebrate *
* forgiveness rather than begrudge it. *

The
Season
of
Lent



Rejoicing for God's reasons isn't always easy. It requires humility, gratitude, and an openness to mercy that often stretches us beyond our comfort. No matter how far we have strayed or how hard our hearts have become, the invitation remains: Come, rejoice, and be made new.

—Reflection from <https://sundayreadings.org/>

Upcoming Lenten Services

Each Friday During Lent
(Mar. 7-Apr. 11)

Mass @ 8:30 a.m.**
Adoration @ 5:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross @ 6 p.m.
Light Lenten Meal @ 6:30 p.m.
****Note time change**

Theology Talk on Tap
Tuesday, April 8

Topic: "From Grief to Grace" w/ Fr. Medina
followed by Lenten Confessions
Social Time 6:00 pm; Speaker 6:30 pm

Men's Club Fish Fry
Friday, April 11, after Stations of the Cross
******(please sign-up in the foyer, if you can**
attend, so plans can be made for food)

Community Ministerial Alliance Holy Week
Lunch Services
Monday through Friday, April 14-18
(Holy Cross will host the lunch/talk on Monday)
Doors Open at 11 am for fellowship,
luncheon/short spiritual talk from 12-1 pm
First Baptist Church, 401 NE 2nd St.,
Wagoner

Special Diocesan Collection –March 29/30
For Solidarity with Foreign Churches

Make Time to Dwell in the Presence of Jesus!!

Adoration

This weekend (the last weekend of the month), there will 10-12 minutes of adoration at the end of Mass in lieu of Father's homily (or shorten homily), so please stay and adore our Lord.

&
Adoration—"Night of Encounter and Mercy"

(First Wed. of the month)

Wed., Apr. 2nd, from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Short Presentation followed by Adoration;
Confessions also available

Welcome Phelps' Family!

Happy to welcome Jacob & Victoria Phelps, along with children, Kaylie and Samuel, to our Holy Cross Family.

The Stations of the Cross with Bishop Konderla
Pray the **Way of the Cross** by St. Alphonsus Liguori with Bishop Konderla this Lent

Stream, Listen, and Pray with the Bishop every Friday in Lent on the Eastern Oklahoma Catholic Podcast
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/eastern-oklahoma-catholic>

Lenten Friday Fish Fry
April 11

Sign up in vestibule, if you plan to attend, so the men can plan for the amount of fish needed

Easter Lilies for the Altar

As set forth by the Church's liturgical guidelines, there will be no flowers on the altar during Lent, but please assist with the purchase of lilies for the upcoming Easter season.

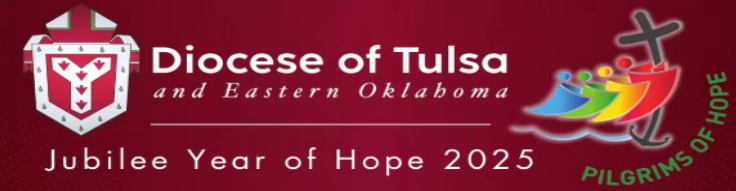
To purchase a lily in memory or in honor of loved ones, please complete a Flower Fund/Easter Lily envelope (available in the vestibule), enclose your \$20 suggested donation, and place the completed envelope in the collection basket.

Thank you for your support in decorating the altar in our lovely church throughout the year.

Next Jubilee Pilgrimage Mass with Bishop Konderla—April 5th, 10 a.m. @ St. John the Evangelist—Stillwater
As we continue to climb the mountain of Easter, as Pilgrims of Hope, the bishop would like to ask all in the Diocese to offer special prayers for all Healthcare workers the weekend of April 5 & 6th

O merciful Father, who have wonderfully fashioned man in your own image, and have made his body to be a temple of the Holy Spirit, sanctify, we pray you, our doctors, nurses and all healthcare workers who practice the art of healing the sick and the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them in body and soul, and bless their work, that they may give comfort to those for whose salvation your Son became Man, lived on this earth, healed the sick, and suffered and died on the Cross. Amen.

Mass Ministers				
	Ushers	Eucharistic Min	Reader	Servers
Sat 3/29—5 pm	Judy Helms	Dorene McMahan	Paul Rodriguez	Liam Wright
	Richard Helms	Mike McMahan		
Sun 3/30—8:30 am	Chris Holland	Raydean Yoder	Candace Stuart	Carlos, Liam, Makenna, & Amelia
	Mike Hickman	Seth Yoder		
Sat 4/5—5 pm	Linda Steinheil	Sherri Moe	Charlie Moe	Mike Hickman
	Kay Rodriguez	Charlie Moe		
Sun 4/6—8:30 am	Abby Higginbottom	Bille Cummings	Elizabeth Sullivan	Carlos, Liam, Kaygan, & Amelia
Youth Mass	Isaac Ervin	Elaine Hall	Carlos Sorell	



Jubilee Year of Hope
Quote from a Saint of Hope
"He loves, he hopes, he waits. Our Lord prefers to wait for the sinner for years rather than keep us waiting for an instant."
—St. Maria Goretti

Please Consider Serving as a Mass Minister

Contact Mary Feichtinger
Call or text 303-519-0605, if you are able to serve.

All are invited to pray and chant the ancient Liturgy of the Hours during Solemn Vespers at 7:30 p.m. each Sunday evening during Lent at Holy Family Cathedral
Also, On Palm Sunday, April 13th, Holy Family will offer a Tenebrae Service which foreshadows the darkness of Good Friday.

Breakfast and Birthday Cake
to celebrate the birthdays of April
Next Sunday, Apr. 6, after 8:30 a.m. Mass
& the first Sunday of each month.
(Volunteer Helpers-Kathy H., Dorene)



Offerings from Mar 22-23

General Weekend Collections	\$2,435.13
Capital Improvement Fund	\$655.00
Building Projects Fund	\$128.00
TOTAL	\$3,218.13

Your Generosity & Support is Always Appreciated!

Daily Mass Readings—Mar 30-Apr 5

Sunday	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday	Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday	Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday	Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
Friday	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:
www.holycross-wagoner.org



Happy Birthday!

Alexis Murphy 3/3	Mary Jo Kolb 3/19
Patty Chandler 3/4	Liz McKay Mazil 3/15
Kevin Higginbottom 3/6	Susan Mason 3/19
Jen Duffy 3/10	Emmett Wells 3/23
Mike Cucchiara 3/11	Richard Senner 3/27
Diane Bond 3/12	Jacob Phelps 3/28
Gabriel Schmidgall 3/13	Hope Duffy 3/29
	Julia Hammett 3/31

To place information in the bulletin or on the church website, contact Karol Watson, karol_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819
For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net or 405-659-0507

Blessed are they that Hope in the Lord!

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
Judy Wright, parishioner
Becky Harding, parishioner
Hope Watson, parishioner
John Spieker, husband of Jackie Spieker
Marie Herndon, parishioner
Geraldine Wallace
Bill Scrimsher, parishioner
Laura Rodriguez, 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 to the world. As your disciples, help us love others, pray for all souls, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

April

Altar Linens

Sherry Ruyle

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
(Website) www.holycross-wagoner.org; and
(Facebook) Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK; and
<https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/dashboard> (message system)

Edward Jones

Member SPC

**Working together for
your financial future,**



Seth A Yoder
Financial Advisor
1524 Ok-51 Suite A
Wagoner, OK 74467
918-614-0697

MKT-18940-A.A.EC31AD

edwardjones.com



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

**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

March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Pastor	Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988
Visiting TLM Priest	Fr. Gabriel Garcia fr.gabriel.garcia@dioceseoftulsa.org 918-836-2597
Deacon	Dcn James Ruyle (Retired) jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228
Secretary	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
Religious Education	Katzy Hale katzyhale@yahoo.com 918-520-1282 Kay Rodriguez (Youth Group); msrod@sbcglobal.net 405-659-0507
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 Ministry Scheduling	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger47@gmail.com 303-519-0605

**Next Jubilee Pilgrimage: Saturday, April 5th
10 a.m. Mass with Bishop Konderla
St. John the Evangelist — Stillwater**

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.
Sunday — 8:30 a.m.
2nd Sunday (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

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday mornings — 9:15 a.m.

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Breaking Bread Book
Pages 91-92

Vatican II Hymnal
Pages 432-433