



## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 19 FEBRUARY 2023

*"You have heard...but I tell you...  
...Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."*

### Announced Mass intentions ...

Sat., Feb. 18 5:00PM Mass  
Sun., Feb. 19 **SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners  
10:00AM Mass – Dina Bellantoni+  
Fesseha Fre & Zafu Kuflu+  
Dragica Carol Cowley+  
Wed., Feb. 22 **ASH WEDNESDAY**  
12:15PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners  
7:00PM Mass  
Thurs., Feb. 23 12:15PM Mass – Barbara Costanza (lvg)  
Fri., Feb. 24 11:30AM **ADORATION** until 12 noon  
12:15PM Mass – Bernard Connelly+  
Sat., Feb. 25 5:00PM Mass  
Sun., Feb. 26 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners  
10:00AM Mass – Baltazar Almeida+  
Anthony Bangit+  
Stan & Catherine Curtis+  
Clinton MacNeil+

### Events Calendar ...

Sun., Feb. 19 **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** after morning Masses  
Mon., Feb. 20 **OFFICE CLOSED**  
Tues., Feb. 21 **Pancake Breakfast** for Holy Cross School  
7:00PM Building Committee meeting  
Fri., Feb. 24 7:00PM **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
Sat., Feb. 25 10:30AM **FAMILY MOVIE DAY** – Hall  
Sun., Feb. 26 10:00AM Children's Liturgy  
**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE** after all Masses

### OUR PARISH LENTEN JOURNEY

**ASH WEDNESDAY—February 22:** For the convenience of the Parishioners, two Masses will be celebrated with the imposition of Ashes at 12:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. respectively. All are welcome to participate. **Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence.**

Let us enter in the season of Lent with the spirit of Almsgiving, Prayer and Fasting.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS—STARTING ON FEBRUARY 24: Friday's at 7 p.m.** led by the different ministries of the Parish. All are welcome. **NOTE: On Good Friday (April 07)** Stations of the Cross will begin at **7:30 p.m.**

**"FORMED"** Don't forget to check it out.

### † Our Condolences and Prayers:

For the departed soul of:

**Mieka Mahood+** (sister of Gerry Vullings)

**May her soul rest in peace!**

### Message from our Pastor ...

#### LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND DO GOOD FOR THEM

What a shocking statement when Jesus told the crowd who were proud of their Mosaic Law which stated, "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." Moses is the law giver who brought the Israelites from the slavery of Pharaoh. Moreover the Jews believed that nobody could change the law of Moses, who had authority from God. They themselves took pride in their Divine laws.

We have to keep in mind the purpose of Matthew in writing his Gospel. He intended to show that Jesus is the new lawgiver who is giving the heart of the law. (Refer to the reflection of Fr. Tony Diaz of last Sunday).

Also keep in mind the teachings of Jesus in the previous Sundays; the Sermon on the Mount which calls the poor blessed, the peacemakers as sons of God. Now Jesus goes beyond the letter of the 10 Commandments by saying, "In ancient times you have heard that ... but I tell you..." Jesus is teaching the mind of God with a new authority. "Love your enemies and do good to all even though those who harm us". We are to react to violence and aggression with human restraint. We are to give generously to all, lending to others in need. Why? Because forgiveness and compassion and mercy are the true nature of God. We are called to be perfect as our heavenly Father is merciful. This is how we bear the image of God.

Secondly, do to others the way you wish it to be done to you. More easily said than done! We can do it only if we remember that we are going to be judged the way we treat others. Are we ready to forgive those who have hurt, ridiculed, cheated, illtreated and humiliated us? If not, we are no better than our own enemies!

A couple of things to bring to your kind attention:

Please try to come on Saturdays at 4:30 to join for the Rosary and there will be an opportunity to go to confession.

Make an effort to spend some time with the Eucharistic Jesus, an hour on First Friday of the month at 11.00 am and half an hour Adoration on other Fridays at 11.30 am.

The Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass will be live streamed for those who are unable to come to the Church.

God bless as we are preparing for the Lenten season.

Fr. Lukose CMF

**IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PARENTS**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** For those students and families who are registered for First Holy Communion – the Sacrament of Reconciliation for **Holy Cross School will be on Monday, March 06 at 6:30 pm** and for **Holy Family School on Wednesday, March 08 at 6:30 pm**. For those students who are registered and attend Public or another School, you are asked to contact the Parish Office (613-731-7834) and inform them which date you will be attending. This also applies for those who cannot attend the date already set for the schools. Please be there 30 minutes early to check-in.

**THE THIRD PREPARATION SESSION / CHILDREN'S MASS** for those students and families registered for **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will take place on **SUNDAY, MARCH 26 at 2 pm**. Please plan to be there 30 minutes early to check-in. The Preparation teaching video will be sent out via Flocknote on March 09 for you to watch prior to the session. **Attendance is mandatory.**

**MORE THAN A MOVIE AT HOLY CROSS PARISH**



**CALLING ALL FAMILIES! LOOKING FOR SOME FAMILY FUN TO MAKE LENT MEANINGFUL AND 'REEL'? CHECK OUT THE SPECIAL EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM:** Join us in the heart of Rome and the underground church of 64 CE where we will learn the stories of Jesus

from Ben the baker and Helena his wife. Perfect for children aged 6-12 and the young at heart. All are welcome as we try something new on our walk together this Lent at Holy Cross. The event is scheduled for **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 FROM 10:30 TO 11:45 A.M.** We will watch the animated film short StoryKeepers - Breakout! together and participate in activities developed to reinforce the lesson learned in the film. Your family will be inspired to become StoryKeepers like Ben and his family as we all experience the power of Jesus' teachings amidst the danger and excitement of that past era. We will make our way through the catacombs of Rome, flee Nero's soldiers, and evade the gladiator Giganticus all the while sharing the stories of Jesus that are still told today, two thousand years later. Please see the website for details. This is a **FREE EVENT THAT REQUIRES REGISTRATION through Eventbrite**, so we have enough materials for everyone.

**Social Justice...**



Our **LENTEN FOOD DRIVE** to support our 4 local food banks will take place next weekend at all Masses on the weekend of February 25/26. Please bring your non-perishable food and personal care items to the designated areas outside the front of the Church. No food past the 'Best Before Date' can be accepted by the food banks and no donations should be left inside the church. Thank you for your continued generosity!

**COLLECTION REPORT**

12 February 2023 – \$4,003.00 (env) / \$470.45 (loose)

~ **THANK YOU** for your generosity and support ~

**YOUR SUNDAY DONATIONS** are critical for the financial health of the Parish and make a difference!

There are several methods in supporting the Parish:

- Offertory Envelopes
- Pre-Authorized Payment (PAD). PAD forms may be found on the table at the entrance of the Church.
- Canada Helps on-line donations.
- E-transfer use: [office@holycrossparish.com](mailto:office@holycrossparish.com)

**Please note:** Our Parish is operated only by your donations!

**NOTE:** If you have moved or changed your phone number, please call the parish office with your new contact information so that our records are updated.

**2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are still available on the table at the back of the church. When using your **Initial 2023 Offertory Envelopes** please put your name and address on the back of the envelope to help us keep information up to date for tax receipts.

**2022 TAX RECEIPTS** are available for pick up at the back of the Church. We would like to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2022.



Direct Your **United Way Contributions** to Holy Cross Parish: Did you know that you are able to direct your United Way contribution to Holy Cross? Simply mark the appropriate section on the reverse of your form to direct your monies to Holy Cross Parish, 685

Walkley Rd., Ottawa, ON K1V 6R8. You not only give to United Way but you help your church as well. Charity Name: Holy Cross Parish/Registration Number: 12896 7353 RR0012

**Food for Thought †**

*"Why is the Sacrament of Reconciliation so important? If you go to confession often, you sin less. It helps you to overcome your difficulties. Just telling your sins makes you think. A tremendous grace is conferred upon a person who confesses often. Strength comes to that person to avoid sin." – The Gospel Without Compromise by Catherine Doherty*

**Have you considered a gift in your WILL to provide for the faith life of future generations?**

**IN YOUR GENEROSITY, please consider a donation or bequest to Holy Cross Parish.**