



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28 JANUARY 2024

"He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

Announced Mass intentions

Sat., Jan. 27	5:00PM Mass – Marthe Thibault+ Monic Lacroix+
Sun., Jan. 28	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM FAMILY MASS Garry Brown+ Jeannine Keefe+ Vincent Chung+ Frank, Joseph & Frank Jr. Tomas+
Wed., Jan. 31	12:15PM Mass – Gilles Patry+
Thurs., Feb. 01	12:15PM Mass – Mario Costanza (lvg)
Fri., Feb. 02	FIRST FRIDAY 11:00AM ADORATION until 12 noon 12:15PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
Sat., Feb. 03	5:00PM Mass – Marthe Thibault+
Sun., Feb. 04	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM Mass – Daniel Mysak (lvg) George Lavack+ Evelyn McIntyre+ Garry Brown+

Events Calendar ...

Sat., Jan. 27	4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., Jan. 28	10:00AM Children's Liturgy
Tues., Jan. 30	1:00PM Hospitality meeting – Library
Wed., Jan. 31	10:00AM Faith Study – Library 7:00PM Faith Formation – Library
Thurs., Feb. 01	7:00PM Faith Formation – Hall
Sat., Feb. 03	4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., Feb. 04	10:00AM Children's Liturgy

Welcoming Ceremony (Enrolment) for the Sacrament of CONFIRMATION during the 10:00 am Mass
COFFEE SUNDAY following the morning Masses – Hall
SOCK DRIVE after all Masses

IF YOU HAVE A LOVED ONE in the hospital and would like them to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, you are asked to please contact the Chaplain from that hospital. Sacrament of the Sick can be received even if one is not at the point of death. It is not the last Sacrament.



WE PRAY for our children preparing for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation and for our RCIA Candidates.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Magdolna Giamberardino, who was **baptised on January 21**. Please continue to keep Sarah and her family in your prayers.

Pastor's Message...

A NEW TEACHING

We are used to various types of teaching: math, history, science, art etc. We are also used to different methods of teaching such as PowerPoint presentations, visual techniques, role plays and so on. During Covid, the children were taught through online classes. How about Jesus' teaching and how did people respond to him 2000 years back?

When people speak from their own convictions and experiences, people are eager to listen. Jesus spoke knowing his identity as the Son of God at Baptism. He was convinced of his own authority. Jesus said to his disciple Philip that whoever has seen me has seen my Father. Peter acknowledged his master as the Son of the living God. So Jesus spoke with authority and his authority became visible in his actions. People found a new way of teaching in his words and actions different from the Scribes and Pharisees. This is the way he talks to us today. He addresses each one of us with the force of his own life behind his words. We need to open our hearts and minds to recognize his authority over us.

God bless,
Fr. Lukose CMF

Parish News and Community Life...

COMMUNICATION TOOLS AND FLOCKNOTE: Holy Cross has been using Flocknote as an effective tool of communication during Covid for registering people for Masses, sending messages of health ministry updates, videos and resources for Sacramental preparation, group communication within ministries etc. Even though it is not so extensively used after Covid, it is a good communication tool for Sacramental preparation, Club 55, the Hospitality team, Sunday messages from Fr. Tony Diaz CMF and so on. So, we will continue to use it for another year. To reduce the cost, we may update and unsubscribe people who are not active for more than 6 months, but if you would like to rejoin, you are welcome to re-register through the parish website.

Holy Cross Parish is very grateful for the service of Armando Prini. He was instrumental in setting up Flocknote, designing our present website as well as leading the music biweekly at the Saturday 5 pm Mass. Armando will now focus his service on our Faith Study project. Deacon Chris Barrett will become the Super Administrator for our Flocknote communication.

We are looking for some volunteers who can help with the parish IT needs. Please contact the parish office or one of the greeters. We also welcome your feedback on our different communication tools.



COME SPEND AN HOUR WITH ME: "What will . . . save the world? My answer is prayer. What we need is for every Parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer. The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament . . . will help bring about an everlasting peace on earth." (Saint Mother Teresa). We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **every FRIDAY from 11:00 a.m. until 12 noon starting on February 02.** You are encouraged to spend time in adoration with our Lord. This is a beautiful opportunity for prayer and contemplation.

2024 SUNDAY ENVELOPES: A reminder to **PLEASE** pick up your 2024 envelopes on the table at the entrance of the church. If you do not have envelopes and would like to acquire a box for yourself, please contact the parish office and a box will be assigned to you.

2023 TAX RECEIPTS are available for pick up at the entrance of the Church next to the offertory envelopes. We would like to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2023.

Social Justice...

MANY THANKS to parishioners who donated to the recent parish Food Drive. 50 bags of food and personal care items, as well as \$345 in cash, cheques and grocery store gift cards were gratefully received and distributed by our 4 local food banks. Your donations have helped those less fortunate in our community. God bless you!

SOCK IT TO ME! We're collecting socks, toiletries, and other items (mitts, toques) for people at local shelters before Masses on the weekend of **February 03/04.** Thanks for your help!

SACRAMENTS – IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PARENTS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

PREPARATION SESSIONS will be held on **Thursday, February 08 (#2) and Thursday, February 29 (#3) at 6:30 pm (SHARP)** for those children who are registered for the Sacrament of **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.** Please arrive at 6:10 pm for registration and other activities prior to the prompt start at 6:30 pm.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION: For children who attend **Holy Cross School**, it will be held on **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 at 6:30 pm.** Children who attend **Holy Family School** it will be held on **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 at 6:30 pm.** Children who attend **Public School**, parent are asked to choose one of these dates for their child to attend. Parents are asked to **PLEASE arrive at 6:15 pm** to sign-in your child.

CONFIRMATION:

ENROLMENT (WELCOMING CEREMONY) for those children who are registered for the **Sacrament of CONFIRMATION** will be held on **Sunday, February 04 OR Sunday, February 11 at the 10 am Mass.** Parents are asked to choose one of those dates to attend and please arrive 15 minutes before Mass begins to sign-in your child.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – ASH WEDNESDAY is on



February 14. 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.** With

Ash Wednesday, we begin the Season of Lent. Let us enter in the season of Lent with the spirit of Almsgiving, Prayer and Fasting.

On Lenten Friday's we will have the **Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.** (please note that on **March 08, Stations of the Cross will be at 10:30 am** and on **Good Friday at 7:30 pm**). Come and join us as we walk through the fourteen stations to experience this powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. All are welcome.

HOLY CROSS PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 2024 will be held on **March 18, 19 & 20** from 7 – 9 p.m. Our Preacher will be Bishop Yvan Mathieu. We will conclude our Lenten Retreat with the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the final day, Wednesday, March 20. Come and experience the **'DIVINE TOUCH OF GOD'** and refresh your body and soul with this Lenten Retreat. All are welcome. A free will offering will be gratefully accepted. Be sure to mark your calendars.

COLLECTION REPORT

07 January 2024 – \$2,415.00 (env) / \$544.00 (loose)

14 January 2024 – \$2,298.00 (env) / \$643.15 (loose)

~ THANK YOU for your generosity and support ~

YOUR SUNDAY DONATIONS: Our Parish is operated only by your donations! By bringing your offertory envelopes or making your pre-authorized offertory gift (PAP), you are providing crucial support to care for your parish. May God bless you!!

There are several methods to support the Parish:

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

PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENTS (PAP)

Did you know ... Once-a-month Pre-Authorized Payments (PAP) is the same as a cash or cheque offering for the collection basket! It helps us by providing a regular, dependable flow of contributions.

PLEASE 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.

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.

DON'T FORGET to visit our parish website at www.holycrossparish.com.