



## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11 FEBRUARY 2024

***"If you choose, you can make me clean...  
...and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!"***

(Today's Readings: Leviticus 13:1-2, 45-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11-1; Mark 1:40-45)

### *Announced Mass intentions*

Sat., Feb. 10	5:00PM Mass – Helen Corpini+ Maurice Doucet+
Sun., Feb. 11	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM Mass – Lillian Thivierge (Ivg) Fesseha Fre & Zafu Kuflu+
Wed., Feb. 14	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 12:15PM Mass with distribution of Ashes 7:00PM Mass with distribution of Ashes
Thurs., Feb. 15	12:15PM Mass – Chung Qui Sue+
Fri., Feb. 16	11:00AM <b>ADORATION</b> until 12 noon 12:15PM Mass – Garry Brown+
Sat., Feb. 17	5:00PM Mass – Ralph Gardner+
Sun., Feb. 18	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM Mass

### *Events Calendar ...*

Sat., Feb. 10	4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., Feb. 11	10:00AM Children's Liturgy Valentines Day Card making Party
<b>Welcoming Ceremony (Enrolment) for the Sacrament of CONFIRMATION</b> during the 10:00 am Mass <b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b> after morning Masses – Hall	
Mon., Feb. 12	6:30PM <b>FIRST RECONCILIATION</b> for <b>Holy Cross School</b> – Church
Tues., Feb. 13	<b>Pancake Breakfast</b> for Holy Cross School
Wed., Feb. 14	10:00AM Faith Study – Library
Thurs., Feb. 15	7:00PM Parish Pastoral Council meeting 7:00PM Faith Formation – Hall
Fri., Feb. 16	7:00PM <b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
Sat., Feb. 17	4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., Feb. 11	10:00AM Children's Liturgy

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

**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.



### **COME SPEND AN HOUR WITH ME:**

We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **every FRIDAY** from **11:00 a.m. until 12 noon**. You are encouraged to spend time in adoration with our Lord.

### *Archbishop's Message...*

The great family of Christians will soon begin its annual Lenten pilgrimage. Forty days are offered to us to follow Jesus our Lord, to be instructed, to be transformed from within, and to find new life. Are you interested?

The experience is offered to all sinners. We do not need to be perfect to follow Jesus as his disciples. We simply need a sincere desire for a better life and a complete surrender to the path he will lay out before us. It may seem daunting or make us question ourselves. Are we ready to put all our trust in Jesus?

This is the essential first step for all those who seek happiness, a better life, or a renewed sense of hope. We must be converted to Christ Jesus. Whoever says conversion, intentionally chooses the path that leads only to Christ. We must therefore choose not to take other paths. We must be ready to sacrifice, to let go of something we love in order to embrace something better, even if at first glance we may feel doubt or an unwillingness. We must accept that the path proposed will be narrow, unpopular, sometimes arduous, and demanding, but it will fill us with a new life. Darkness will give way to light and to the truth that will set us free. A deep peace will inhabit our hearts even during difficult times.

Following Jesus requires attentive listening to his word which will sometimes be inspiring and will lead us to wonder and to the supernatural; sometimes it will be difficult to hear because it will take us out of our comfort zone, challenge us to detachment, to charity, and to forgiveness. Let us have the courage to persevere with his words so that they may transform us from within and lead us to greater trust and faithfulness in our Creator.

The disciple of Christ who lives a profound conversion not only chooses to listen to him, but he commits to configuring himself to Him and to live in Him in order to act in Him. When we are filled with his divine Love, Jesus heals wounded hearts, sows hope, and strengthens our faith. We gradually become worthy children of the Father and are renewed in his image. From that moment on, a burning fire within us compels us to witness our faith, to build Church together, and to launch out on a mission to build the Kingdom of God.

So, this Lent, do you feel like following Jesus? Know that he invites you to do so!

✠Marcel Dampousse  
Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall

## Pastor's Message...

Mass is not about whom you sit next to. It's not about which priest says Mass. It is not about what you wear or who is there. Mass is not about the music. It is not even about the preaching. It is about gathering as a community to give thanks to God for all the blessings he fills our lives with. It is about receiving the body and blood of Christ, not just physically, but spiritually. Perhaps you have been receiving the Eucharist physically every Sunday for your whole life. Next Sunday, prepare yourself, be conscious of the marvel, the wonder, the mystery, and receive spiritually. (Rediscover Catholicism –Dynamic Catholic)

God bless,  
Fr. Lukose CMF

## Parish News and Community Life...

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is on **February 14**. For the convenience of the Parishioners, two Masses will be celebrated with the distribution 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.

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

**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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for the return of **SOUP SUNDAY ON MARCH 10**. **COFFEE AND TREATS** will be served after the 8 am Mass and **SOUP** will be served after the 10 am Mass. This is a parish event for everyone. Free will offering will be accepted. All proceeds will go towards Development and Peace.

## Information from the Diocese...



**DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS:** For those celebrating 60 (or more), 50, 40, 30, 25 and 20 years of marriage. At Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica on **SUNDAY, APRIL 14 at 2:30 pm**. The registration form is available at <https://forms.office.com/r/jpBDLwD0Kg>.

Please register before Easter to ensure your spot (note the earlier date).

## SACRAMENTS – IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PARENTS

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

**PREPARATION SESSION:** The third preparation Session for First Holy Communion will be held on **Thursday, February 29 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.

## Social Justice ...

Our **LENTEN FOOD DRIVE** will be held before all Masses on the weekend of February 24/25. Please donate your non-perishable food, personal care items, cash, gift cards and cheques in the designated areas outside the church. Kindly ensure that no food items are past the Best Before Date since the food banks are required to discard them. This Food Drive is very important, since food bank donations have been very low, while the amount of people needing help has dramatically increased. Please also note that your donations are collected and delivered to the food banks every week. Thank you for your help!

### COLLECTION REPORT

04 February 2024 – \$4,245.65 (env) / \$613.90 (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](mailto: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.

**2023 TAX RECEIPTS** are still 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.