

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – 25 FEBRUARY 2024



**“And there appeared to them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’”**

(Today's Readings: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-35, 37; Mark 9:2-10)

### *Announced Mass intentions*

Sat., Feb. 24	5:00PM Mass – Isabelle Bindia+
Sun., Feb. 25	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM <b>FAMILY MASS</b> In Thanksgiving Wageston Telisma+ Braganza Family+ Baltazar Almeida+
Wed., Feb. 28	12:15PM Mass
Thurs., Feb. 29	12:15PM Mass – Antoinette Sue Lewis+
Fri., March 01	<b>FIRST FRIDAY</b> 11:00AM <b>ADORATION</b> until 12 noon 12:15PM Mass
Sat., March 02	5:00PM Mass – Linda Lapenna+ Shamim Robert+
Sun., March 03	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners 10:00AM Mass – Hubert Rechnitzer (Ivg) Benedicta Ireobhude (Ivg) Maturine Charles & Family+ Banbit Roy+ Patrick Kennedy+

### *Events Calendar ...*

Sat., Feb. 24	9:00AM Faith Formation Retreat – Hall 4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., Feb. 25	<b>FOOD DRIVE</b> at all Masses
Wed., Feb. 28	10:00AM Faith Study – Library 7:00PM Choir Practice – Church 7:00PM Faith Formation – Library
Thurs., Feb. 29	6:30PM <b>PREPARATION SESSION #3</b> for <b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION</b> – Hall 7:00PM Faith Formation – Library
Fri., March 01	7:00PM <b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
Sat., March 02	4:40PM Rosary - Church
Sun., March 03	10:00AM Children's Liturgy 2:00PM <b>SPECIAL MASS</b> for First Holy Communion Candidates



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

### *Pastor's Message...*

Prayer is central to the Christian experience. A Christian life is not sustainable without it, because growth in the Christian life is simply not possible without prayer. Growing in character and virtue, learning to hear the voice of God in our lives and walking where he calls us—all require the discipline of prayer. And it is not enough simply to pray when we feel like it. Prayer requires a daily commitment. Get to know the Shepherd. Stop trying to put together a master plan for your life and for your happiness. Instead, seek out the Master's plan for your life and for your happiness. Allow him to lead you, to guide you, to be your companion, your friend, your coach, your mentor. He will lead you to green pastures. He will restore your soul. And your cup will overflow. (Rediscover Catholicism –Dynamic Catholic)

**THANK YOU, DEAR PARISHIONERS OF HOLY CROSS**, for your generous support for the year 2023. The parish operates solely on your contributions. The recipients of our charity in 2023 were Vincent De Paul, Elimu Educational Centre, Queenship of Mary, Miriam Centre, Chalice for our 2 sponsored children, Debra Dynes Community House, Banff Community House, and Santhana Centre of Claretians in India. Those who are not using the envelopes, please make sure that you support our charity efforts by using special envelopes or through special donations which are exempted from the Diocesan taxes.

God bless.  
Fr. Lukose CMF

### *Parish News and Community Life...*

#### **HOLY CROSS' 2024 LENTEN RETREAT**

Preacher: **Bishop Yvan Mathieu s.m.**

Theme: **“Becoming Missionary Disciples.”**

**Monday, March 18:** To follow Jesus through the waters of Baptism (Mk 1:1-11) with Holy Mass

**Tuesday, March 19:** To follow Jesus on the path of the Beatitudes (Mt 5:1-16) with Holy Mass

**Wednesday, March 20:** To welcome the Father's Mercy (Lk 5:1-3, 11-32) – **Parish Reconciliation Service**

**Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Come and experience the **‘DIVINE TOUCH OF GOD’** and refresh your body and soul with this Lenten (RE)TREAT. All are welcome. A free will offering will be generously accepted.

**SOUP SUNDAY:** This is a parish event for everyone. The Free Will Offering will go towards **Development & Peace (Share Lent)**. We are looking for volunteers for the **SOUP SUNDAY ON MARCH 10** after the 10 am Mass. Each volunteer will make a pot of soup 12 to 15 cups minimum. Sign-up sheets are at the back of the Church. We would appreciate some gluten free content.

The sheet has a few suggestions for more details. Also if you are willing to help serve and/or provide your soup in a crock pot, please make a notation on sheet near your name.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS



It has been a Catholic tradition through the centuries to meditation on the Way of the Cross, so that it becomes our way of life. People longed to travel to the Holy Land and make a personal journey along the places where Jesus endured his suffering, death, and resurrection. But it was impossible to make such hard

travel, considering the challenges of the transportation system in the past.

So, every church designed the Stations of the Cross in such way that people can experience the Passion of Christ without travelling to the Holy Land.

The Sacred Congregation for the Divine Worship recommends that the traditions of the Cross should emphasize that the suffering and resurrection of Christ are one redemptive mystery.

You all are welcome to participate on the Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. during Lent as our preparation for Easter.

**PLEASE NOTE:** On **Friday, March 08** the **Stations of the Cross will begin at 10:30 a.m.** On **Good Friday (March 29)** Stations of the Cross will begin at **7:30 p.m.**

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

## IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PARENTS

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

**THE THIRD PREPARATION SESSION** for **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will take place on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 at 6:30 pm (SHARP)**. Please plan to **be there by 6:10 pm to sign-in your child and to complete a craft.**

**SPECIAL MASS FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES** will take place on **SUNDAY, MARCH 03 at 2 pm**. Please plan to **be there 30 minutes early to sign-in.**

**FAITH STUDIES:** This winter there are almost twenty-four participants studying different aspects of what it means to follow Jesus. On Saturday February 24, a small group gathered to learn how to effectively lead small faith study groups. Over the next month, we will reach out offering various days and times, to invite you into a Discovery Faith Study. The plan is to begin the first week of April. Please pray for us as we are praying for you. For more information contact the parish movement leader: [janepriini@gmail.com](mailto:janepriini@gmail.com)

## 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).

## Social Justice ...

### LOST & FOUND

**NOTICE:** Please check the **LOST AND FOUND BOX** under the table near the elevator within the next couple of weeks. We have found glasses, keys, gloves, hats, and scarves etc. Those items that are not picked up by the **beginning of March**, we will be donating to St. Vincent de Paul.

## COLLECTION REPORT

18 February 2024 – \$2,437.00 (env) / \$475.90 (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.

**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](http://www.holycrossparish.com).