

Holy Cross Parish

IN THE LOOP | FEBRUARY 2023 | VOL. 4 ISSUE 1



HUMBLY WE ADORE THEE

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Lenten theme this year includes a feeling of contrition, union with God in the Eucharist, and reaching out with love and service to our brothers and sisters.

Many of us enter the upcoming liturgical season with a mindset of giving up something. In a lot of instances, this is something we indulge in more than we should. Others decide to spend more time in acts that they should be doing. Whatever the case, the idea is that something other than Christ is controlling our lives. The season of Lent is mostly about understanding humility.

When we humble ourselves before God, we turn away from sin and turn back to God with all our hearts realizing we need him at every moment of our existence for everything we have and are. Humility is about putting trust in something more powerful than yourself. Christ realized that the will of the Father to save humanity was His mission and though it would cause Him pain, this was the plan of God. Jesus, though He was in the form of God, humbled Himself and God exalted Him. We follow His example.

Through receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, we become one with him. By adoring him in the Eucharist, we absorb him to become one with him. Finally, we become one with Christ when we absorb Christ not just to keep Him to ourselves but to be His Presence for other people and to give Christ's love to all people. May God Bless you and your family this Lenten season,

Lenten Blessings upon you!

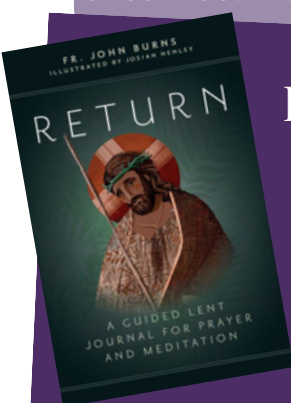
Fr. David A. Hermann

YOUR BEST LENT EVER:



Dynamic Catholics Best Lent Ever with Holy Cross Parish

What would happen if you spent the next 40 days creating as many Holy Moments as possible? Join us this Lent to find out! Every day of Lent, you'll receive a short video right to your inbox. They'll help focus your day, inspire you to explore your potential, and show you how to create Holy Moments all across your life. The goal is to have everyone in our parish participate. There's no doubt that if we spend this Lent creating Holy Moments we will become more open to God and find greater meaning and purpose in our lives. Join today by texting HCBESTLENT to 84576 or connect with us online at: HolyCrossSC.flocknote.com/bestlentever2023.



Return - Parish Lenten Book Study

Reorient your mind and heart this Lent so you can more fully experience the joy of Easter—Christ's victory over sin and death. Fr. John Burns' new book *Return: A Guided Journal for Prayer and Meditation* will help our parish engage in the devotional practices of Lent leading to real and lasting conversion. Our Parish App will give everyone access to the weekly video reflections. Scan the QR code or text APP to 55321 to join!

We have limited copies of the *Return* book available for purchase on our parish website or call the parish office. The cost is \$11 per book. Don't wait, reserve your book today!



Mondays In Lent

Join Holy Cross each Monday in Lent. This year we will explore the call to discipleship!

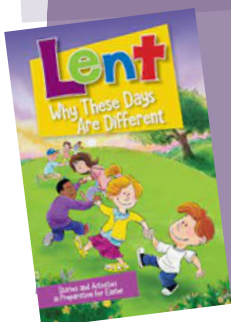
Feb. 20, 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27, Apr. 3, at 7:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church & YouTube Live.

Lenten Calendars

Our adult Lenten Calendar suggests a brief verse from the daily Mass readings and encouragement for applying it to your daily life. You can find this at daily Mass the week of February 20th. Our kids Lenten Calendar helps you count down the days to Easter with stories from scripture, feast day reflections, and simple activities in this inviting calendar. You can find this calendar the weekend of February 18th!

Lent + Kids = "What can we do?"

Holy Cross Parish has a great activity book that you and your kids can follow to learn about the liturgical season of Lent. Day by day children explore why and how the days of Lent are different from all other days of the year. The daily activities help children learn how to make choices that reflect that difference every day of their Christian lives. Make sure to grab your booklet the weekend of February 18th! Limited quantities available.



Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ.

Dates

Feb. 24, Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

4:00 PM St. Michael Church

5:30 PM Blessed Sacrament Church

Family Stations of the Cross

We know life is busy, stay after Sunday Mass and experience the Passion of Christ as a family.

Date:

Sunday, March 26th

9:00 AM (SM) & 10:00 AM (BS)

Family Adoration

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME

This Holy Hour is for children to pray before the Blessed Sacrament together with their families. Join Holy Cross on Monday, March 13th for a family night of Adoration at St. Michael Church from 6:00-7:00 PM.



Reconciliation Service

Lent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces our Lord offers us. Join our parish for a Communal Penance Service: Sunday, March 5th at 2:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church

Our Lenten Service Goal

Help us fill our barrels with personal hygiene items. Holy Cross Parish will collect items for several local agencies from February 22nd to April 2nd.

Items Needed: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Size 5 diapers, hairbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, body wash, deodorant, travel-sized toiletries, laundry soap, dish soap, hand soap, children & adult Tylenol, ibuprofen, cold/flu medicine, tampons, pads, panty liners, socks, and underwear.

Fellowship

CURIOUS CATHOLICS

The 4 pillars of the Catechism

Fr. Travis Crotty

Sunday, March 26th

6:00 PM

St. Michael Parish Center

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA, ADORATION, & SPEAKER

April 10th-15th

7:00-8:00 PM

Trinity Heights

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday, April 16th

Adoration and Confessions-1:30 PM

Chaplet and Reflection-3:00 PM

St. Michael Church

THEOLOGY UNCORKED

Connecting to God through music

Fr. David Hemann

Tuesday, April 18th

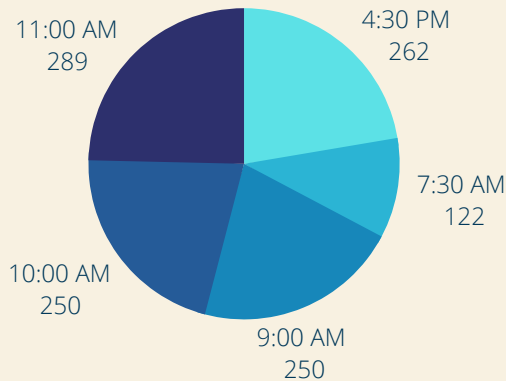
6:00 PM

Oscar Carl Vineyard

Mass counts continue in 2023

September 2022

Average count by Mass time

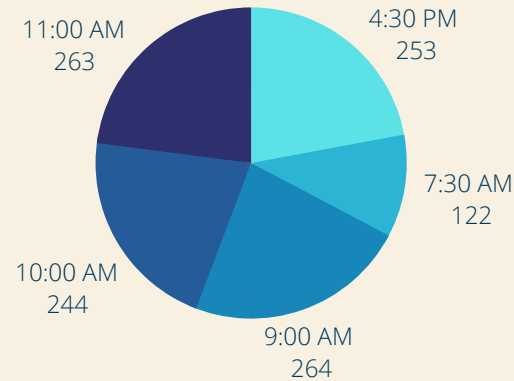


The Diocese of Sioux City has once again asked every parish to continue taking bi-monthly Mass counts. Below are the Mass counts for the calendar year 2022. Detailed counts for September & November are shown on the charts.

- January 2022 - 1,019
- March 2022 - 1,179
- May 2022 - 1,219
- July 2022 - 1,146
- September 2022 - 1,173
- November 2022 - 1,324

November 2022

Average count by Mass time



Our Confirmation Mass on November 20th had 813 attendees!

Parish Finance Update

This past October, Holy Cross Parish Financial Council gave an overview of our parish finances.

Over the last few years our parish has seen an increase in online giving and steady support from our parishioners, but our parish expenses continue to increase due to inflation and the age of our churches. We are blessed to be able to use money from our savings account each year to help cover these rising costs, but this is not a solution. The ability to pay our employees, keep the lights and heat on, perform repairs when necessary, and continue to operate the liturgy in the manner you are comfortable with is currently met with challenges.

We asked you, our faithful members, to help give a consistent gift to our parish. You stepped up and helped our parish. While we still have a ways to go, our finance council wants you to know how much we appreciate you and the support you have given.

THANK YOU

HOLY CROSS PARISH JULY 2022 to DECEMBER 2022

OPERATION	Current Year	Previous Year	Difference
Revenue			
Contribution Revenue	845,268	788,033	57,235
Other Revenue	84,015	122,086	(38,071)
Total Parish Revenue	929,283	910,119	19,164
Expenses			
Assessments	521,914	519,580	2,334
Salaries	210,778	199,457	11,321
Administration Expenses	55,722	51,318	4,404
Buildings & Grounds, Church Facilities	122,994	83,015	39,979
School Facilities Expense	146,334	118,201	28,133
Other Expense Categories	45,847	14,401	31,446
Total Operating Expenses	1,103,589	985,972	117,617
Net Operating Income	(174,306)	(75,853)	(98,453)



We had 51 increased ACH gifts that total an additional \$2,944.34 per month.



We had 13 new ACH gifts that total an increase of \$1,295.00 per month.



There were 6 ACH gifts that were decreased, which totals a \$390.00 loss each month.

Holy Cross Parish

FAMOUS FISH DINNER

ST. MICHAEL PARISH CENTER
2223 INDIAN HILLS DRIVE

EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT
4:30 PM TO 6:30 PM

February 24th March 17th
March 3rd March 24th
March 10th March 31st

Drive-thru available!!

Serving: Our famous Cod Filet,
Au-gratin Potatoes, Mac & Cheese,
Green Beans, Coleslaw, and dessert.

Cash/Check/Credit Card accepted



ONLY \$12

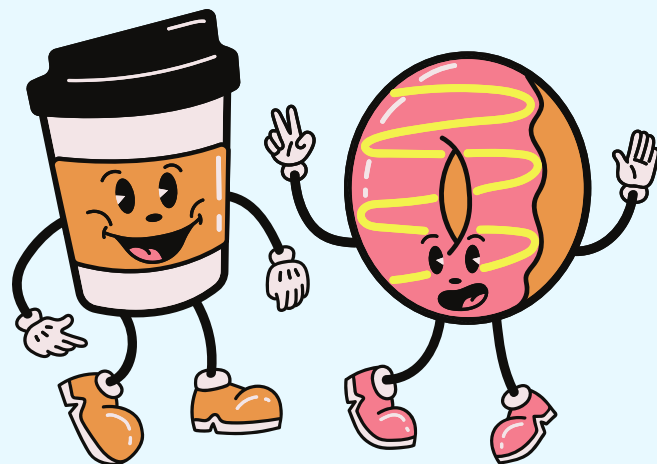
KIDS MEALS \$5 (DINE-IN ONLY)

CASH/CHECK/CREDIT CARD

DINE-IN SERVING :

Our famous Cod Filet
Au-gratin Potatoes
French Fries
Mac & Cheese
Green Beans
Coleslaw & famous salads
Roll & butter
Parishioner Famous Desserts

Phone : 712-277-2949 ext. 102
www.holycrossSC.org



Palm Sunday

Donuts & Coffee

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND

AFTER THE 10:00 AM MASS - NOON

HOLY CROSS BLESSED SACRAMENT GYM

Come enjoy some sweet treats, fellowship,
and an open gym for your kids.

WE NEED YOU!

How can you help our volunteers make these the best events ever?

Volunteer! Donate your time, talent, or treasure. Here's how...

- Volunteer to work one or more of our Famous Fish Dinners. It's easy to sign-up. Check your e-mail every Saturday morning for easy one-click volunteering, or call the parish office at 712-277-2949 ext. 102. We have positions for every ability. As a BONUS this is a great opportunity for service hours. Get your friends together and support our parish.
- Donate a dessert or salad to our Famous Fish Dinners. You can sign-up ahead of time or you can just drop off your famous creation on Friday mornings starting at 8:00 AM at the St. Michael Parish Center.
- Support our dinners by dining in or visiting our drive-thru. Our volunteers have created a delicious menu that all ages will enjoy. Your support of our dinners gives our parish the ability to host fun fellowship events all year long! New this year, we will be accepting credit card payments!

WWW.HOLYCROSSSC.ORG

Upcoming Parish Events

February 2023

- 5th: EDGE Adoration 6:30-8:00 PM (SM)
- 7th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 7th: Mountain Men 7:00 PM (SM)
- 12th: Knights of Columbus Breakfast 8:30-11:30 AM (BS)
- 13th: Adoration 6:00-7:00 PM (SM)
- 14th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 19th: EDGE Event, 6:30-8:00 PM (SM)
- 20th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 21st: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- Power of Prayer for Catholic School starting 10:30-11:30 AM & continuing every Tuesday
- 21st: Baptism Class, 7:00 PM (BS)
- 22nd: Ash Wednesday
Mass Times 6:45 AM (BS), 8:00 AM (BS), 8:30 AM (SM School), & 7:00 PM (SM)
- 24th: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 24th: Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)
- 25th: Lenten Service Project begins
- 26th: Rite of Election (SM)
- 27th: Adoration 6:00-7:00 PM (SM)
- 27th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 28th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 28th: The Light Is On For You 5:00-7:00 PM (SM & BS)

March 2023

- 3rd: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 3rd: Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)
- 4th: First Communion General Session 5:45 PM (SM)
- 5th: Parish Communal Reconciliation Service 2:00 PM (BS)
- 5th: EDGE Event Service Project 3:00 PM
- 6th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 7th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 7th: Mountain Men 7:00 PM (SM)
- 10th: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 10th Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)
- 11th: First Communion Learning Centers 8:00-3:00 PM (SM Parish Center)
- 12th: Confirmation General Session 12:30 PM (SM)
- 13th: Family Adoration 6:00-7:00 PM (SM)
- 13th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 14th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)

- 17th: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 17th: Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)
- 18th & 19th: Krispie Kreme Donut Fundraiser after all Masses (SM)
- 19th: EDGE Event Open Gym 6:30-8:00PM
- 20th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 21st: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 21st: Baptism Class 7:00 PM (BS)
- 24th: Ember Day
- 24th: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 24th: Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)
- 26th: Family Stations of the Cross After the 9:00 AM (SM) & 10:00 AM (BS)
- 26th: Curious Catholics 6:00 PM (SM)
- 27th: Adoration 6:00-7:00 PM (SM)
- 27th: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 28th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 31st: Stations of the Cross 4:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 31st: Famous Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM (SM)

April 2023

- 1st: Parents Night Out 6:00-9:00PM (BS Gym)
- 2nd: Palm Sunday Donuts & Coffee After the 10:00 AM Mass-noon (BS Gym)
- 3rd: EDGE Event Service Project 6:00 PM
- 3rd: Mondays in Lent 7:00 PM (BS)
- 4th: Mountain Men 7:00 PM (SM)
- 4th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 6th: Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 PM (SM)
- 7th: Good Friday Service 12:00 PM (SM) & 5:30 PM (BS)
- 8th: Holy Saturday 8:30 PM (BS)
- 9th: Easter Sunday
Mass Times: 7:30 AM (BS), 9:00 PM (SM), 10:00 AM (BS), 11:00 AM (SM)
- 10th: Adoration 6:00-7:00 PM (SM)
- 11th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 16th: Divine Mercy Sunday
- 16th: EDGE Event Adoration 6:30-8:00 PM (SM)
- 18th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 18th: Baptism Class 7:00 PM (BS)
- 18th: Theology Uncorked 6:00 PM
- 23rd: First Holy Communion 2:00 PM (SM)
- 24th: Adoration 6:00-7:00PM (SM)
- 25th: Adoration 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (BS)
- 29th & 30th: Krispie Kreme Donut Fundraiser after all Masses (SM)