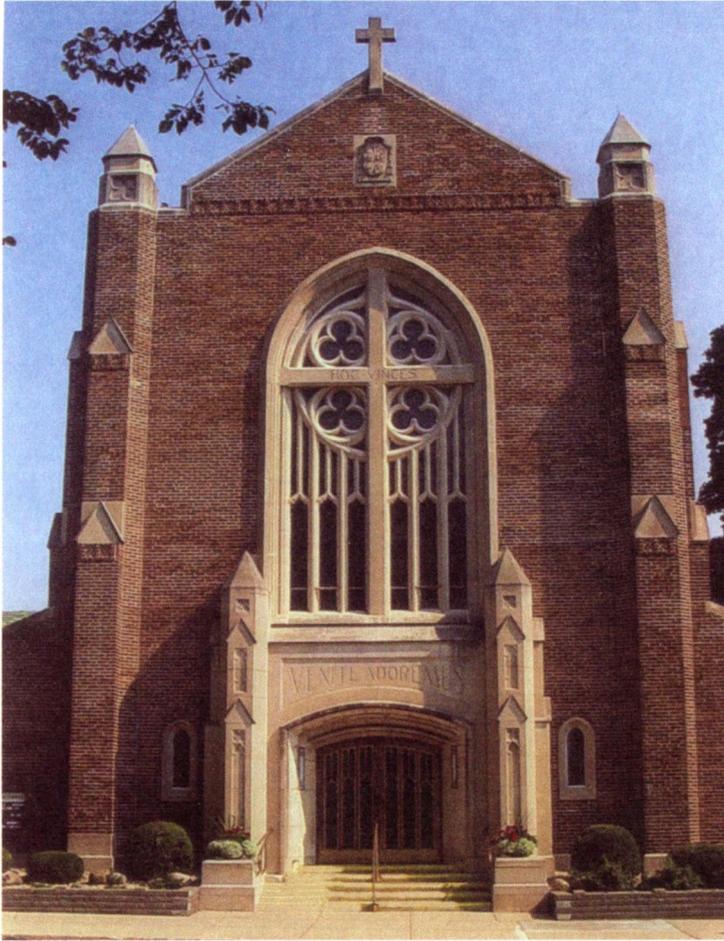


# Holy Cross Church

Catholic Diocese of Peoria  
1010 Jefferson Street • Mendota IL 61342  
Phone 815-538-6151 • Fax 815-539-5014  
<https://mendotacatholic.org>



## **Pastor**

Fr. Peter A. Pilon

## **Pastoral Work**

Deacon Ray Fischer

Deacon Jose Lopez

Deacon Hector Diaz

## **Music Director**

Roy VanOpdorp

## **Director of Religious Education**

Brian R. Corrigan

## **Business Manager**

Lorraine Walter

## **Administrative Assistant**

Mary Lou Flahive

## **Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care**

Julie Winner - 815-538-7604

Offers Day Care for 3 year old to 12 year old.

## **Learning Lambs Pre-School**

815-539-7003

3 yr old and 4 yr old sessions

## **Mass Schedule**

Please check inside cover for all Mass times.

## **Confessions**

Saturday - 7:00 a.m to 7:40 a.m. 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

Sunday - 30 minutes prior to 6:30 a.m. Mass

## **Adoration Chapel**

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

(Closed on funeral days and holidays)

## **Baptism**

Pre-baptismal instruction is required. Call the office for information and scheduling a date.

## **Weddings**

Before any other wedding arrangements are made, please contact the parish priest 6-8 months in advance.

## **Homebound and Hospital Visits**

Please call the office during times of illness and visits will be arranged.

## **Cemetery Lots Purchase**

Please call Steve Schmitt 815-538-5276

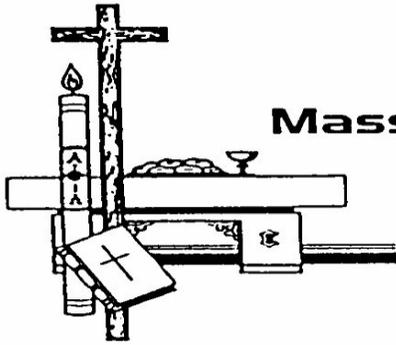


## *Holy Cross School*

1008 Jefferson St. Mendota, IL 61342

815-539-7003

Principal - Anita Kobilsek



**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, November 8th**

- 9:00 a.m. +Kevin Corrigan  
by Kevin & Cindy Schiefelbein
- 12:00 p.m. Leopoldo, Perfecto, María de Jesús, Elijió y  
Teresa Covarrubias by Familia

**Monday, November 9th**

- 8:00 a.m. +Louie & Louise Justi by Alan & Jackie Emm

**Tuesday, November 10th**

- 7:00 a.m. *Parish:* +Brian Faber by Tim & Lori McConville
- 9:00 a.m. *School:* +Joseph McNally by Family

**Wednesday, November 11th**

- 8:00 a.m. +Special Intentions of the Kuczek Family

**Thursday, November 12th**

- 7:00 a.m. *Parish:* +Paul & Maryann Klein  
by Rose Lewis Family
- 9:00 a.m. *School:* +Larry Lauer by Deb Mahaffey

**Friday, November 13th**

- 8:00 a.m. +Marilyn Jean O'Neill by Janice Siemers

**Saturday, November 14th**

- 4:00 p.m. +Clarence Sondgeroth by Family

**Sunday, November 15th**

- 9:00 a.m. Wes Doughty by Nancy Doughty & Family &  
Enrique Lemus by Yolanda Lemus
- 12:00 p.m. +Enrique Jr. by Mom

**LECTOR'S SCHEDULE**

- Saturday, November 7..... Gwen Krenz
- Sunday, November 8..... Rudy Arteaga
- Saturday, November 14..... Nancy Goble
- Sunday, November 15..... Clare Fischer
- Saturday, November 21..... Gwen Krenz
- Sunday, November 22..... Nancy Goble
- Saturday, November 28..... Brian Corrigan
- Sunday, November 29..... Rudy Arteaga



If you are interested in getting on the list of Lector's for the weekend Mass schedule, please contact the parish office, or [briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com](mailto:briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com)

WE'RE BACK  
**NOT  
THIS  
WEEK-  
END!**

The Mass schedule will remain the same for the time being with Monday, Wednesday and Friday Masses at 8:00 a.m. and Sunday and Thursday at 7:00 a.m. Sunday Masses remain at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Sunday. The school Masses are scheduled as follows: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. The only persons permitted to attend the school Masses will be the HCS students, teachers, and staff. This is a directive from the Diocesan Office of the Vicar General and the Office of Catholic Schools.

The Mass will continue to be livestreamed via the Zoom connection we have been using. The Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil Mass will continue to be broadcast to the parking lot via the loud-speaker system. It may be best to leave the sound off, but if you would like to watch, this option may make your Mass experience a better one.

Here is the link for the Zoom site:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjltNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

**Meeting ID: 913 805 0856**

**Password: 811195**

Please help spread the word so all of our parishioners are aware of this new development. The link, ID, and Password are the same for all of the Masses. If there are any questions, Fr. Pilon may be reached by email at: [frpilon@holycrossmendota.com](mailto:frpilon@holycrossmendota.com)



**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Our Lady of the Cenacle Chapel**

*"Our Lord came to the aid of each great tribulation with a special devotion. The present and future tribulations of the Church and of nations are greater than at any other period, and this persecution is more dangerous than those of previous times. Hence, the devotion which God sends to the succor of His Church and of the nations at the present time is the devotion to the Most Holy Eucharist. It is the highest of all devotions." ~Pope Leo XIII*

Pray that our Chapel may soon reopen so that we may once again fall down in Adoration of Our Blessed Lord exposed in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Chapel Coordinator, Karen Brandner  
1-815-915-6635

**The 2021 Daily Dollars are here!**

\$\$\$ DAILY DOLLAR WINNERS \$\$\$

Sat. Oct 31	2957	50.00	Judy Spenader
Sun. Nov 01	3366	50.00	Pat Malach
Mon. Nov 02	2062	100.00	Don Hoffert
Tue. Nov 03	2826	50.00	Alan Emm
Wed. Nov 04	0757	50.00	Stephen Bonnell
Thur. Nov 05	2982	50.00	Bailey Beetz
Fri. Nov 06	2364	50.00	Abby Elston

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They make our bulletin possible.



Robert W. Merritt  
Brett W. Merritt

**MERRITT**  
FUNERAL HOME

800 MONROE ST.  
815-539-7211

**THE SUNDAY COLLECTION**

	For the Week of	11/01/2020	\$6,663.00
Sunday			
School			74.00
Food Pantry			164.00
Youth Ministry			37.00
Human Development			17.00
Mission Sunday			12.00
All Saints' Day			262.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$7,229.00</b>

**Ss. PETER & PAUL  
NOVEMBER 1ST, 2020**

Sunday	\$1,620.00
All Saints' Day	310.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,120.00</b>

**Give God what is just, not what is left!**



**2020 ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN APPEAL**

Thanks to all who have made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Currently, at Holy Cross we have pledges of

\$27,585.00 toward our goal of \$46,356.00. We have received pledge cards from 114 parishioners.

At Ss. Peter & Paul we have pledges of \$7,635.00 toward the goal of \$15,422.00 24 pledge cards have been returned.

A gift to the ADA, no matter how great or small can go a long way. A pledge of \$10 or \$20 a month can add up. Even a one-time gift is helpful. To those who have contributed, we are most grateful. If you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, we invite you to do so today. Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important diocesan services and every dollar raised over our goal will be kept in the parish.

**We Have a New Website!  
Check it out!**

We are now at: <https://mendotacatholic.org/>



## Our Devotion for November is for the holy souls in Purgatory



By Brian Smith

Back in the Middle Ages, many Catholics began observing special devotions around a particular theme each month — the Holy Name of Jesus in January, for instance. Today, many families are reviving this practice as part of the way they observe the liturgical calendar at home. By practicing monthly devotions, the core values of the faith will become more alive within your family. The beauty of monthly devotions is that there is no set way to celebrate. So, be creative, make it fun, and adapt your celebration to your own family.

**Here are some ways to celebrate the popular devotion for November, the holy souls in purgatory.**

### Talking with kids about the holy souls in purgatory

Sin is real. When we sin, we are taught to go to confession, repent and strive to avoid sin in the future. God, in his bountiful mercy, forgives us. Yet at the same time, our relationship with God is not fully healed simply because we ask him to forgive us. The Church teaches that a stain is left on our soul and that this stain must be fully erased before we are to enter heaven.

For example, let's say you purposefully ate your little sister's cookie without asking her. Your sister is sad; she cries. You apologize to her and she forgives you. This doesn't change the fact that you still ate the cookie. Your parents ask you to "make things right" with your sister. And so, you bake a dozen cookies just for your sister. You have made a genuine effort to make amends with your sister; your relationship is on its way to being restored.

We know that we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven unless our souls are pure. This means that any sins which have not been "made right" in God's eye must be reconciled. [Purgatory is a place](#), a sort of rest stop, where we wait for our souls to be purified. The souls in purgatory cannot pray their way out. Instead, these souls rely on you and I, the living, to pray for them. By remembering the dead, praying for them and offering sacrifices on their behalf, these souls are able to enter the kingdom of heaven more quickly.

### Feast days & Memorials

*The following days can be connected to this month's devotion. Click to learn more.*

- 1 [All Saints' Day](#)
- 2 [All Souls' Day](#)
- 3 [St. Martin de Porres](#)
- 10 [St. Leo the Great](#)
- 13 [St. Frances Xavier Cabrini](#)
- 15 St. Albert the Great
- 16 St. Gertrude
- 17 [St. Elizabeth of Hungary](#)
- 21 [The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- 23 [Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro](#)
- 25 [Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe](#)
- 30 St. Andrew

### Bible Verse

*A take away for kids to memorize and/or include in their daily prayer.*

"So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, it is a sin." ([James 4:17](#))

### Prayer Prompts

*Questions to help propagate the faith with your children.*

1. Who do I know who has died?
2. Which sins have harmed my relationship with God the most?
3. What is God asking me to do? Have I fully embraced his calling?

### Live It

*Incorporate this month's devotion with the virtues of faith, hope and charity.*

### Faith

*Recite the following prayer as a family.*

In practice, it is common for Catholics to recite a prayer for the departed. This is especially true when one learns of someone's death or when we pass a cemetery or funeral procession.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

Amen.

### Hope

*Learn about God's infinite mercy.*

St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina was an Italian priest who live from 1887-1968. He was canonized by St. John Paul II in 2002. In 1918, St. Padre Pio began to receive the stigmata, which are the wounds Christ received. These wounds would cause St. Padre Pio much pain and suffering. He received the stigmata for 50 years.

### the holy souls in Purgatory...

St. Padre Pio quickly became a popular pastor. Hundreds of thousands of people made pilgrimages simply to be present during a Mass said by him. But God had even more work for the saint to do.

As Mary has taught us, many souls are lost to hell while many others remain in purgatory. God desperately wants us to be purified and united with him in heaven. God chose to use St. Padre Pio as an intercessor for those souls in purgatory. St. Padre Pio received many visions and, at times, was even able to converse with the souls in purgatory. Often, these souls would ask him to say a Mass for them, that God might grant them passage unto heaven. St. Padre Pio frequently reported seeing souls freed during the Mass offering.

St. Padre Pio was a very humble person. He felt so much sorrow for the souls in purgatory, that he often prayed through the entire night. The sacrifices that he endured show us his love and desire to serve God and to build His kingdom.

#### Charity

*Help the church to grow within your own community.*

There are countless ways that you can pray and sacrifice for the souls in purgatory. Have a family brainstorming session and come up with a plan that works for your family. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Attend a daily Mass
- Recite the divine mercy chaplet
- Pray the rosary
- Pray at a cemetery
- Volunteer in your community
- Fast/abstain from foods
- Give up electronics
- Refrain from eating out at a restaurant
- Drink only water

What can your family commit too? Remember that extra prayers and sacrifices should be realistic, yet not easy. For families with children in a large age-range, consider an age-based and personalized plan.

For more information about monthly devotions, see the [Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy: #20, #32, #190-191](#) and the [Catholic Encyclopedia: Special Devotions for Months](#)

### PARISH SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE!

Zoom web address:

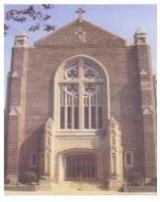
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjltNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

Zoom Meeting ID 913 805 0856

Password 811195

- Sun: 9:00 a.m. Mass  
 12:00 noon Mass in Spanish  
 2:00 p.m. Adoration via Zoom  
 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet  
 3:15 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Mon: 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Tues: 7:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 9:00 a.m. School Mass—Staff & Students Only  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Wed: 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Confession **NOW INSIDE**  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Thur: 7:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 9:00 a.m. School Mass—Staff & Students Only  
 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Confession **NOW INSIDE**  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Fri: 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Sat: 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru  
 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Confession **NOW INSIDE**  
 4:00 p.m. Mass  
 6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru





# “I NEVER KNEW YOU”

## *A Meditation on the Four Last Things*



**OUR LITURGICAL YEAR IS winding down**, with only a few Sundays remaining. In this month of November the Church urges us to pray for all the dead. And so our readings today are about preparation and understanding.

The Church teaches us that at the end of each of our lives there are only four last things we might encounter. They are death, judgment, heaven, and hell. Each of us will die. It is simply a matter or part of our human condition. This fact of death was brought into the world as a result of the sin of our first parents.

The first reading, from the Book of Wisdom is meant to be a bright, glowing neon sign for us. Wisdom is a great gift from God. The Book of Proverbs tells us that *“fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”* Fear of the Lord does not mean fear in the sense of being afraid. Rather, in this sense what it means to convey is a very healthy respect for the Persons and awesomeness of God. When we contemplate on the Blessed Trinity and ponder his creation all around us, we can’t help but to be filled with awe and wonder.

So our first reading is highlighting the great gift of Wisdom. Wisdom helps us to discern the will of God for us in our lives. This wise discernment is itself a form of preparation.

Remember, we have been created out of God’s great love. We have been created to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this life, and to be with him forever

in eternity. In essence, we have been created to be saints. This should not be a daunting or seemingly unthinkable task for us, either. We have to remember that God loves us and wants our success in living a holy life for us more than anything else.

It is just this success that is at the heart of the Gospel message today. Jesus tells his disciples the parable of the ten virgins, or bridesmaids. Without going into lengthy explanations of the Jewish marriage customs, suffice it to say that the job of the bridesmaids is to light the way to the wedding chamber for the bridegroom. If one is going to successfully fulfill their duty of lighting the way for the bridegroom, she would necessarily need enough oil for her lamp because there is no knowing when the bridegroom will return to the wedding party.

Jesus is equating the return of the bridegroom with His Second Coming. The oil represents being prepared for that coming. So what is this preparation? It is discerning and *doing* the will of God. We must be prepared because no one knows the hour or the day when Christ, the Bridegroom will make His return.

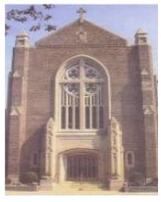
Now, let us take a look at the passage from Saint Paul’s First Letter to the Thessalonians. This passage concerns the second coming of Jesus, and he writes to the community to allay their fears and uncertainty about what will happen to those from their community who have already died. They are concerned about their dead missing out on the second coming because they have died (or fallen asleep).

### **THIS IS NO SECRET RAPTURE**

There is a line of thinking among many non-Catholic Christians that Paul is describing here a secret rapture. If you’re familiar, think of the *Left Behind* series. The premise is that Christ will have a sort of pre-second coming in which he will call of the true believers to himself so they will not have to live through the great tribulation that is prophesied to happen before the end of time.

What Paul is really describing, however, is that Second Coming of Christ. It’s certainly no secret—“for the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Jumping back briefly to the Gospel, the judgment is what happens to the virgins at the door. Which brings me, finally, back to those four last thing: Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell. We must get to *know* and love the bridegroom if we are to avoid that *Fourth Thing*.



# Holy Cross



# Family Catechesis Corner

## LET'S REVIEW...

**WE HAVE BEGUN THIS FAMILY CATECHESIS** by beginning at the beginning—that is, with the Book of Genesis. We looked at the creation story and how Adam and Eve, in succumbing to temptation brought sin into our world.

At this point, I would like to ask you to remember that everything in the Old Testament points to Jesus. He is present in some mysterious way in all of the old Hebrew scriptures. While the Old Testament points the way to Jesus, in a sense paving the way for his coming, the New Testament fulfills and completes the Old Testament.

So where is Jesus at this point in our journey? Jesus is given many names and titles in the scriptures and in the “capital T” Traditions of our Church. In the Messianic prophecies he is called Emmanuel (God is with us); he is called Christ, Lord, Master, Rabbi, Messiah, which all point to his supremacy and divinity; in fact the name of Jesus (Yehoshu’a in ancient Hebrew) means “Yahweh is salvation.

In that same vein, Adam is the name given to the first man. This name means simply, “man” in Hebrew. This name is also similar to the Hebrew word meaning “to be red” referring to the ruddy, human skin color. And the name/word Adam is similar in root to the Hebrew *adamah*, meaning “earth.” So there is a play on the name of the first man, called Adam, meaning man, ruddy, and from the earth.

One of the names given Jesus in the New Testament is to be known as the “New Adam” (see 1 Corinthians 15:45). So we have the Son of God prefigured for us in the person of Adam—the first man.

Another prefiguration is in the story of Noah and the flood. As we will get into as we progress down this road of catechesis, we will come to see the sacraments of Christ indicated at various places in the Bible.

Our Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) defines a sacrament as follows: an efficacious sign of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. St. Thomas Aquinas puts it this way: “Therefore a sacrament is a sign that commemorates what precedes it—Christ’s Passion; demonstrates what is accomplished in us through Christ’s Passion—grace; and prefigures what that Passion pledges to us—future glory.

For next week, try to find all of the various places water is mentioned from Genesis 1 to Genesis 10. I will explain next week...

## REVISEMOS...

**HAMOS COMENZADO ESTA CATEQUESIS FAMILIAR** comenzando por el principio, es decir, con el Libro del Génesis. Observamos la historia de la creación y cómo Adán y Eva, al sucumbir a la tentación, trajeron el pecado a nuestro mundo.

En este punto, me gustaría pedirle que recuerde que todo en el Antiguo Testamento apunta a Jesús. Está presente de alguna manera misteriosa en todas las escrituras hebreas antiguas. Mientras que el Antiguo Testamento señala el camino a Jesús, en un sentido allanando el camino para su venida, el Nuevo Testamento cumple y completa el Antiguo Testamento.

Entonces, ¿dónde está Jesús en este punto de nuestro viaje? A Jesús se le dan muchos nombres y títulos en las Escrituras y en las Tradiciones con “T mayúscula” de nuestra Iglesia. En las profecías mesiánicas se le llama Emmanuel (Dios está con nosotros); Se le llama Cristo, Señor, Maestro, Rabí, Mesías, todos los cuales apuntan a su supremacía y divinidad; De hecho, el nombre de Jesús (Yehoshu’a en hebreo antiguo) significa “Yahveh es salvación.

En ese mismo sentido, Adán es el nombre que se le dio al primer hombre. Este nombre significa simplemente 'hombre' en hebreo. Este nombre también es similar a la palabra hebrea que significa “ser rojo” refiriéndose al color rojizo de la piel humana. Y el nombre/palabra Adán es similar en raíz al hebreo *adamah*, que significa 'tierra'. Así que hay un juego sobre el nombre del primer hombre, llamado Adán, que significa hombre, rubicundo y de la tierra.

Uno de los nombres que se le da a Jesús en el Nuevo Testamento debe ser conocido como el 'Nuevo Adán' (ver 1 Corintios 15:45). Así que tenemos al Hijo de Dios prefigurado para nosotros en la persona de Adán, el primer hombre.

Otra prefiguración está en la historia de Noé y el diluvio. A medida que nos adentremos en este camino de la catequesis, llegaremos a ver los sacramentos de Cristo indicados en varios lugares de la Biblia.

Nuestro Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica (CIC) define un sacramento de la siguiente manera: un signo eficaz de gracia, instituido por Cristo y confiado a la Iglesia, por el cual se nos dispensa la vida divina. Santo Tomás de Aquino lo expresa así: “Por tanto, un sacramento es un signo que recuerda lo que le precede: la Pasión de Cristo; Demuestra lo que se logra en nosotros a través de la Pasión de Cristo: la gracia; Y prefigura lo que esa Pasión nos promete: gloria futura.

Para la próxima semana, trate de encontrar todos los lugares donde se menciona el agua desde Génesis 1 hasta Génesis 10. Lo explicaré la próxima semana ...

# Holy Cross News of Note



## If you haven't taken advantage of the parish subscription to Formed, you're missing out!

If you have not checked out the *new* FORMED.org website, we strongly encourage you to do so. It is chock-full of great videos, movies, eBooks and audio books, Bible studies, talks, and so much more!

All you need to do now is go to: [Formed.org](https://formed.org) and register an account by clicking on "Sign Up," then select "I belong to a Parish or Organization," find our parish by name, or zip, enter your email address and you're in. It's that easy!

*What can we recommend for this week?*

### Watch

LUKAS STORYTELLER

Journey with Lukas and Noah as they recount the great stories of Jesus and the saints throughout history!

### Listen

THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ON BY MATT MAHER

Matt Maher, an internationally acclaimed Christian singer, song writer, and eight-time Grammy Award nominee, shares the amazing story of his spiritual journey.

### Learn

LECTIO: SALVATION

What does "salvation" mean? In this remarkable ten-part video series, Scripture scholar and Augustine Institute Graduate School professor, Michael Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer.

## Catechism Corner

» Why does one profess belief that there is only one God? «

*THESE EXCERPTS ARE FROM THE COMPENDIUM OF THE CCC.*

† **Why does the Profession of Faith begin with the words, "I believe in God"?**

The Profession of Faith begins with these words because the affirmation "I believe in God" is most important, the source of all the other truths about man and about the world, and about the entire life of everyone who believes in God.

Further reading CCC ¶ [198-199]

† **Why does one profess belief that there is only one God?**

Belief in the one God is professed because he has revealed himself to the people of Israel as the only One when he said, "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4) and "there is no other" (Isaiah 45:22). Jesus himself confirmed that God is "the one Lord" (Mark 12:29). To confess that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are also God and Lord does not introduce any division into the one God.

Further reading CCC ¶ [200-202, 228]

## HCS News



### From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

Thank you to the LaSalle County Health Services for conducting the vision and hearing screenings for K-8. We appreciate their help.

November 9 is the rescreen date for those who were absent, remote learning, or need a rescreen. Those students who are not quarantining but are remote learners are welcome to come in on the day of the rescreen between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Peace,  
Mrs. Kobilsek

To sign up for your free FORMED account, please visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)



November 1, 2020

# Holy Cross News of Note



## HCS News



### Repeat: School Masses

Our school Masses are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are sorry that you are not able to join us for those Masses in person. The Masses will continue to be live streamed via the Zoom connection Fr. Pilon has been using. It may be best to leave the sound off, but if you would like to watch, this option may make your Mass experience a better one. Here is the link for the Zoom site:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?  
pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09)

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

The Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil Mass will continue to be broadcast to the parking lot via the loud-speaker system. The school Masses will not be broadcast in the parking lot. The link, ID, and Password are the same for all of the Masses. If there are any questions, Fr. Pilon may be reached by email at: [frppilon@holycrossmendota.com](mailto:frppilon@holycrossmendota.com)

### Week of Thanksgiving for Pre-K thru 8

We have amended the calendar for the week of November 23, 2020. There will be no school for Preschool thru Grade 8 November 23—27. The teachers will have a few extra professional development days.

Ready, Set Grow Extended Care will be available November 23—25.

### 8th Grade Fundraiser

Hello HCS families! During this crazy year, we, the 8th Grade class officers, have had to come up with alternative ways to have fun. One of the ideas we came up with was dress up days. In this upcoming month we are having Flannel Friday! This dress up day will be held on November 20th with many more to come later in the school year. To take part in this, students may wear a flannel shirt with non-ripped jeans or school uniform bottoms. So we can continue to have these dress up days, please make sure your child's/children's outfit is

appropriate for a school environment. This includes the following: no rips or tears in your bottoms, no leggings as pants, no exercise clothes, no sweatpants, no shorts or skirts above the knee.

In order to participate, please bring a dollar or more to your homeroom teacher. Thank you!

### Continuous Novena through the intercession of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Our Kindergarten to Grade 8 students will be participating in a Diocesan wide continuous novena through 2020-2021 through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Our Holy Cross students will be saying our share of the 9-day novena during the school days from November 3-6 and November 9-13. We will send our prayers through the intercession of St. Thérèse for holy vocations in our diocese - especially to the priesthood.

Here is the link to the novena if you would like to join in on our prayers:

<https://comeandfollowme.org/howtohelp/prayer/>

Knowing that a sacred call comes from Jesus Himself, Who asked us to beg Him for more laborers, please join in our prayers.

### Collect Your Empty Cartridges

One of our fundraisers is to collect your empty ink cartridges. We send them in and receive cash in return. Please help us by donating your ink cartridges to the school.

### Repeat: IDPH Protocol

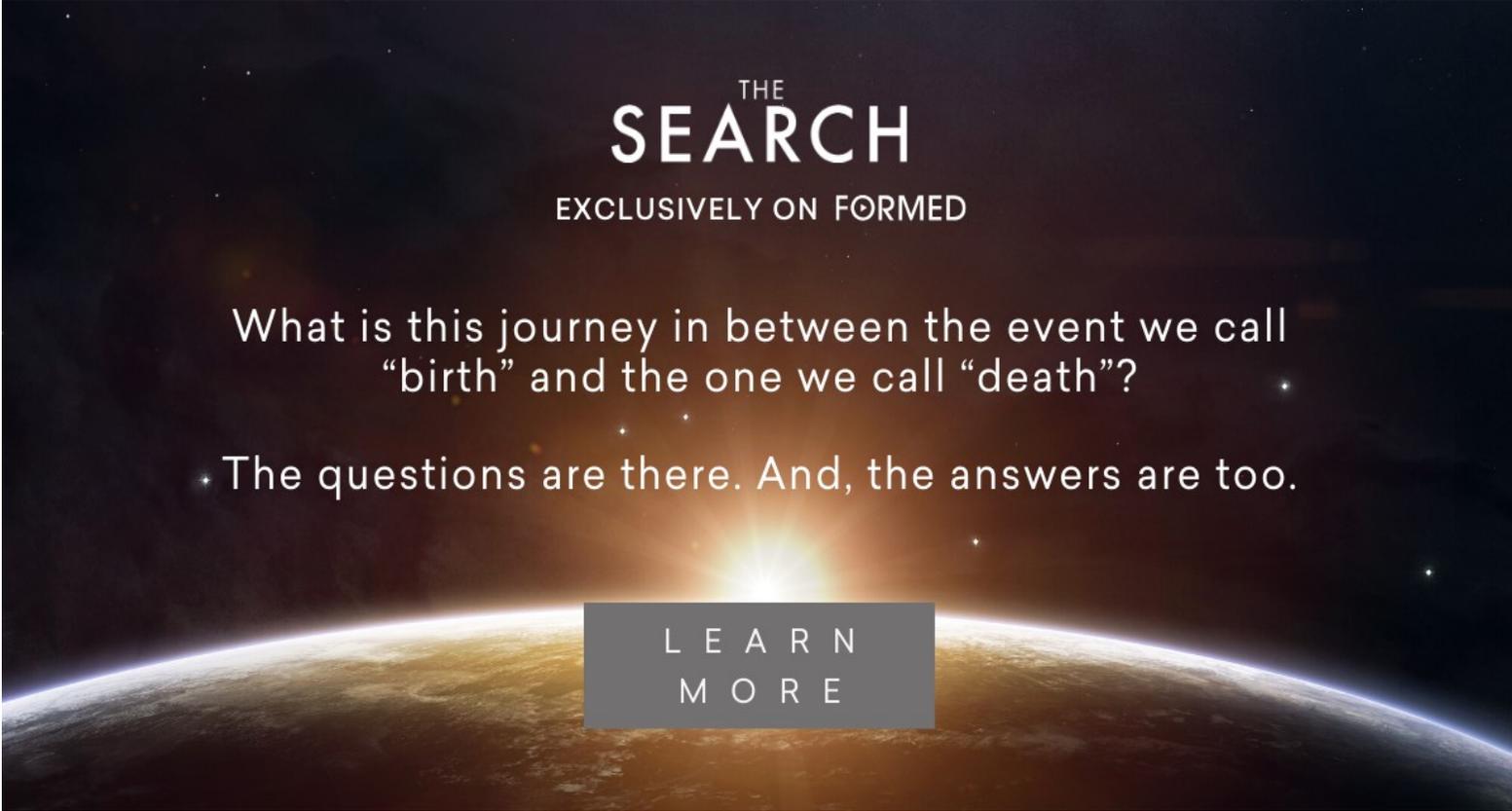
The Illinois Department of Public Health exclusion guidance is the protocol we follow for symptomatic individuals. We do need to send home or deny entry if even one symptom is present. We need a release note from your doctor or healthcare provider in order to return to school. This note can be in paper form, or you can take a picture of it and email it to: [tthomas@holy-crossmendota.com](mailto:tthomas@holy-crossmendota.com), or you can fax it to Holy Cross School at 1-815-539-9082.

Next steps are guided by your doctor or health care provider and the Illinois Department of Public Health. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Thomas or Mrs. Kobilsek.

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# PARISH-WIDE STUDY COMING

WHY ARE WE HERE? WHAT'S LIFE ALL ABOUT?



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SEARCH  
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What is this journey in between the event we call  
“birth” and the one we call “death”?

The questions are there. And, the answers are too.

LEARN  
MORE

Sometimes we get so caught up in the depth of our faith that we forget what it was like to first wrestle with the big questions – Who am I? What am I searching for? What’s our shared story? Who is Jesus? Why do we need a Church? Is there a God? We all need to get back to the basics to make sure the foundation is strong.

Beginning on Wednesday, November 11th, Fr. Pilon will lead a parish-wide study. The study will run for seven weeks and will start at 6:30 p.m. The plan is to be open to 90 minute sessions, but in reality will more likely only run about 60 minutes. We will be ordering a number of study guides to enhance our experience. If you are interested in joining in this beautiful and enlightening study and would like a study guide, please call the parish office.

We are excited to introduce *The Search*, a new seven part Augustine Institute Original Series with the goal of lighting that first fire in those who don’t yet know the faith or reigniting the fire in those who need a primer on the foundational questions.

Due to Covid-19 we will be using Zoom (the same numbers used for the Mass) to host the study sessions. For those who are unable to use Zoom, you may call in on the number we use for our community rosary—425.436.6314. The access number is 604509. *There is still a chance the start date will move to Advent and run into the Christmas season, depending upon the availability of the workbooks.*



THE DISPATCH: MORE FROM CWR...

## Our vocation to holiness and the wondrous variety of the saints

The call be Jesus Christ to become a *saint* will take a somewhat different shape in each of our lives.

By Fr. Charles Fox



Detail from "Sermon on the Mount" by Cosimo Rosselli (1439–1507) [commons.wikimedia.org]

Saint Augustine has referred to the Sermon on the Mount as the “charter of the whole Christian life.”

The first part of the Sermon, the Beatitudes, is **proclaimed at Mass** on the Solemnity of All Saints. Pope Benedict XVI teaches that the Beatitudes, taken together like so many brushstrokes, form a picture for us of Jesus Christ. And to this extent it needs to be said that the call to holiness we all share demands that we strive to live *all* of the Beatitudes. We can’t pick some and ignore others, or the picture of Christ in us will be distorted.

At the same time, the exact composition of the Beatitudes will be different in each of us. The Church’s roster of saints, the whole of which we celebrate on All Saints, is proof of this. The Book of Revelation presents us with “a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue.” This text points to the wondrous variety of the saints.

But the variety of their *vocations* also distinguishes the saints. All of them—the glorious company of apostles, the noble fellowship of prophets, the white-robed army of martyrs, and so on—lived all of the Beatitudes. But they did so with varying degrees of emphasis depending upon their various vocations.

Going back to St. Augustine for a moment, in his *Confessions* the saint writes that he wanted to go into contemplative life after the ideal of Greek philosophy, but was called forth by the bishop of Hippo and “constrained to receive ordination.” Augustine continued, “Terrified by my sins and the weight of my misery, I had resolved in my heart, and meditated flight into the wilderness; but you forbade me and gave me strength,

## **vocation to holiness**

by saying: 'Christ died for all, that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for him who for their sake died' (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:15)."

And the vocations of the saints aren't only different in the most basic way, that some were priests, some religious, some rulers of nations, some parents, martyrs, virgins, etc. The details of their lives were also very different from each other, and that's where I want to zoom in and sharpen the focus on our own lives.

We are each called by God to some particular vocation, and even compared with others who share our vocation, it will take a somewhat different shape in each of our lives. Which is to say that the call to become a *saint* will take a somewhat different shape in each of our lives.

For each of us, the path to sainthood involves not just in doing what is good, but in doing precisely the good thing God chooses for us. This is the daily path of sanctity down which we need to walk, step by step, day by day, choice by choice.

And notice that Augustine discovered God's will through the direction of his bishop. Such is the life of every Christian, a life of obedience. In my life as a priest, for example, it is very often my superior whose voice tells me the difference between all the good things I might do and the specific good thing God is calling me to do right here and now. Or, to employ the language of the Society of Jesus, we might ask, "What is *ad majorem Dei gloriam* (for the *greater* glory of God) for me right now?"

As in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass we share in the heavenly banquet of all the saints, may God give us the grace to know the next good thing he is calling us to do, and the faith, hope, and love to do that next thing. And the next one after that. And the next one after that.



### **About Fr. Charles Fox**

**Rev. Charles Fox** is an assistant professor of theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit. He holds an S.T.D. in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome. He is also chaplain and a board member of St. Paul Evangelization Institute, headquartered in Warren, MI.

<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2020/10/31/our-vocation-to-holiness-and-the-wondrous-variety-of-of-the-saints/>

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## **Ora pro Nobis**

David Warren

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2020

**T**here are no defeats, only setbacks for Christians and the Church that Christ founded: this is an article of faith, beyond all transient articles of fact. However, we experience things that look like defeats, and sometimes rather bad ones.

At the moment, nothing is turning our way, or, nothing easily visible on the surface. By the Enemy, we are invited to despair.

He has free speech; we are losing ours. The media of the godless Left (I am choosing my words carefully) are set upon us like a pack of rabid dogs, even to the proposition that "silence is violence," and other propositions that invert reality.

As I've argued, here and elsewhere (and elsewhere, been "canceled" for it), we must keep this in what is called "historical perspective." That is, a Catholic hasn't the luxury of ignoring a history full of Saints and Martyrs who were made in times less propitious than the present.

Things could be worse, much worse, and this we can also know from an appreciation of history. There has been, according to me for one, no moment when paradise ever broke out on earth.

At the moments of greatest victory, our sins were working to undermine us, and at our worst defeats, hope was still there. For Catholics are not a godless tribe, and our fate does not depend upon worldly success.

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Ora pro Nobis

For the “nominal” it does, however. I invite gentle reader, when inclined to give up, to reflect on this, even at the shallowest level. Did the man wearing a crown of thorns, promise us a bed of rose petals?

Not in this world, nor in heaven – to insist on what should be an obvious point. For in other religions, paradise is depicted in terms that cannot apply to it, that are worldly, material.

Notwithstanding the moments in which we have glimpses of paradise, even within the confines of this world, we know nothing about that place that is not essentially dogmatic. Our faith is not premised on a supply of seventy virgins, nor our theology on whether there are really seventy-two.

It is not based on the fulfillment of any earthly desire.

In funeral eulogies, I have often heard that the deceased will now be joining his late parents, lost children, friends, and the famed. This includes eulogies in Catholic churches, where the “feel-good” gospel is proclaimed, as a popular alternative to the Christian one.

Among the more traditional, eulogies are suspected, when not directly banned. They are for the party, afterwards – for the amateur rhetoric with sandwiches and cookies, where nostalgia may be freely indulged. They do not belong in a pulpit.

What we know of the Heaven for which we die, is a promise not like that. For we, who have at least embraced some “family values,” can know from the Risen Lord, that they don’t even have marriage in Heaven. (It is a nice question, whether they might still have it in Hell.)

Faith, our faith, is not in jellybeans, nor chocolate truffles, nor (more likely in my own case) in steak-au-poivre with frites. We cannot know what they serve in Heaven, but we can know at least this much: that “cafeteria Catholicism” will not be available.

I am taking this to an absurd extreme, by an apagogical argument – a *reductio ad absurdum* – because we live at a time when no other argument may work. Catholics, too, must come to their senses as they view the road ahead.

The very terms by which we class goods and evils never provided an easy filing system. We must think things through, at a deeper level, even to survive unpropitious times, including that dangerous word “spiritual” under which no end of absurdities are filed.

The “dark night of the soul” can provide this clean-up service. We must reach beyond our childish hopes, and fears, to get to “spiritual” adulthood. To despair because something as minor as an election, or the legislated whim of a tyrant, is not what in contemporary jargon we call a “good look.”

For these things are out of our control, and will stay out of our control, no matter how numerous we rally. Heaven looks askance, but even the world will punish, “idealists” of every stripe. In time, all of our stupidities are buried.

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” These words, attributed to Christ, are the Church speaking, as she must always speak. Though placed on earth, among fallible men, including her own fallible leaders, she is here to keep our focus – not only on what is true but what is not true.

Or as I like to say, “There are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in your eschatology.” We are inclined to insert nonsense even into our most “spiritual” thoughts; no less than into our “material.”

Our hopes are in things we shouldn’t hope for; our fears in things that need not be feared. And although we may be forgiven as “mere earthlings,” a ludicrous expectation of forgiveness clouds our humility on every side.

More precisely, through bad faith, we do not think we even need forgiveness; and by this I mean “we” and not “them.” For even at the heart of Holy Church – or at least at its center of administration – the notion of “us versus them” is flourishing.

“A true opium of the people is a belief in nothingness after death: the huge solace of thinking that for our betrayals, greed, cowardice, murders, we are not going to be judged.”

This quotation from the Polish poet, Czesław Miłosz, is one that I have frequently used.

Reversed, it helps to explain the strange Christian practice of praying for our enemies. This is very hard to do, when we are not in the mood; when we are “licking our wounds.”

But anything else is, finally, the counsel of despair.



David Warren is a former editor of the *Idler* magazine and columnist in Canadian newspapers. He has extensive experience in the Near and Far East. His blog, *Essays in Idleness*, is now to be found at: [davidwarrenonline.com](http://davidwarrenonline.com).  
<https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2020/11/06/ora-pro-nobis/>

# The Month of November We Pray for All Souls

**Monday, November 2nd is All Souls' Day**, and the month of November is dedicated to remembering the souls of those who have gone on before us and offering prayers on their behalf.

The roses that will remain in front of the altar during November are a reminder to pray often, not only for the souls of family and friends, but also for those souls in Purgatory who may not have anyone to pray for them.

If you would like to add a loved one to the "All Souls' Remembrance Book" that was used last year, you may drop a note in the basket in front of the altar with their name(s), which will then be added to the book. If you are still not entering into the church building, you may send the name(s) to [kahlj@rocketmail.com](mailto:kahlj@rocketmail.com), or text the name to 815.356.1229. A rose will be added on your behalf to **the bouquets** in front of the altar.



## CONFESSION IN THE CHURCH

Beginning Wednesday, October 21st, confessions will be moving back inside the church. The times will remain the same: Wednesdays from 12 p.m.—1 p.m. and on Thursday from 5 pm—6 pm, and Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. A barrier has been installed to maintain health & safety protocols, so confession may be done either anonymously or face-to-face.

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION OFFERED

If you would like to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament, Fr. Pilon will livestream this Exposition, using the same site as is used for streaming the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (see inside front cover for instructions).

**The Adoration is scheduled from 2:00—3:00 p.m. every Sunday.**

*\*Exposition will also be visible from Michigan Avenue, as well...*



## ...AND DIVINE MERCY

Father will lead the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, following the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

These additional devotions will be every Sunday for the foreseeable future.

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!/READ ALL ABOUT IT!

NOVEMBER 2 THRU NOVEMBER 23

THIS THANKSGIVING SEASON LET'S EXPRESS GRATITUDE BY SHARING OUR ABUNDANCE WITH OTHERS!

Apostles of Divine Love, the lay apostolate associated with the Daughters of Divine Love (DDL), is collecting clothing and school supplies for DDL missions. A decorated, labeled box for Drop Off is available in the church Vestibule Entry.

The following items are needed:

School supplies, Gently Used Spring & Summer clothing, Gently Used Sandals & Tennis Shoes, Colorful Cotton material for making garments.

Cash Donations are also accepted and appreciated. Please mail them to:  
**Daughters of Divine Love, P.O. Box 73, Compton, IL c/o Mission Drive**

For more information please contact Mary at 815-503-3321



Our present life is given only to gain the eternal one and if we don't think about it, we build our affections on what belongs to this world, where our life is transitory. When we have to leave it we are afraid and become agitated. Believe me, to live happily in this pilgrimage, we have to aim at the hope of arriving at our Homeland, where we will stay eternally. Meanwhile we have to believe firmly that God calls us to Himself and follows us along the path towards Him. He will never permit anything to happen to us that is not for our greater good. He knows who we are and He will hold out His paternal hand to us during difficulties, so that nothing prevents us from running to Him swiftly. But to enjoy this grace we must have complete trust in Him.

— St. Padre Pio



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