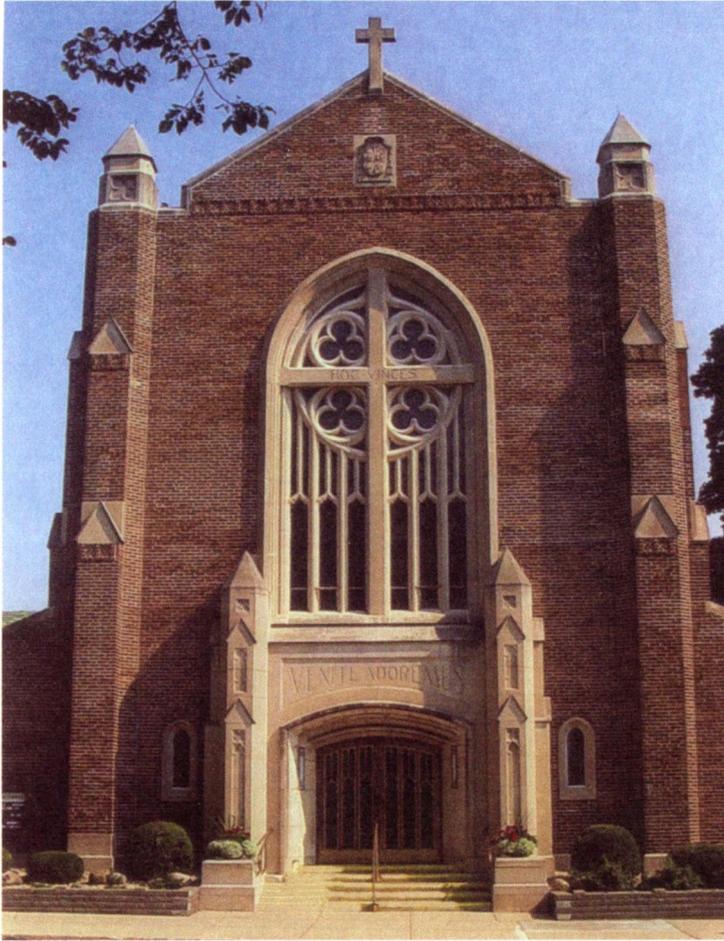


Holy Cross Church

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

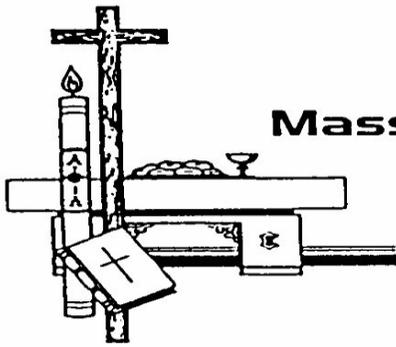


Holy Cross School

1008 Jefferson St. Mendota, IL 61342

815-539-7003

Principal - Anita Kobilsek



Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 15th

9:00 a.m. Wes Doughty by Nancy Doughty & Family
& Enrique Lemus by Yolanda Lemus

12:00 p.m. Enrique Jr. by Mom

Monday, November 16th

8:00 a.m. +Joel Schroeder by Family

Tuesday, November 17th

7:00 a.m. *Parish:* +Irene Sondgeroth
by Kathleen & Rush Brown

9:00 a.m. *School:* +

Wednesday, November 18th

8:00 a.m. +Steve Michel by Mahaffey & Setchell Families

Thursday, November 19th

7:00 a.m. *Parish:* +Dave Pohl by Mike & Barb Bokus

9:00 a.m. *School:* +Mary Guilfoyle
by William Guilfoyle Family

Friday, November 20th

8:00 a.m. +Jim Leonard by William & Pam Stack

Saturday, November 21st

4:00 p.m. In Thanksgiving of Our 50th Wedding Anniversary
By Roger & Jean Simkins

Sunday, November 22nd

9:00 a.m. Dale Fischer

12:00 p.m. Ángel & Marisol Diaz por su cumpleaños
de sus papas

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE

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
Saturday, December 5.....	Clare Fischer
Sunday, December 6.....	Gwen Krenz



If you are interested in getting on the list of Lector's for the weekend Mass schedule, please contact the parish office, or briancorriganhdre@gmail.com



WE'RE BACK INSIDE!

The Mass schedule will remain the same for the time being with Monday, Wednesday and Friday Masses at 8:00 a.m. and Tuesday 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 Mass 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: frppilon@holycrossmendota.com



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our Lady of the Cenacle Chapel

"Be careful, therefore, to take part only in the one Eucharist; for there is only one Flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ and one cup to unite us with His Blood." ~ Saint Ignatius of Antioch

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



The 2021 Daily Dollars are here!

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

Sat. Nov 07	0634	50.00	Brian Powles
Sun. Nov 08	0535	50.00	Belle Brittain
Mon. Nov 09	1821	100.00	Lee Ortiz
Tue. Nov 10	0186	50.00	Pat Klimek
Wed. Nov 11	1866	50.00	Timothy Holmstrom
Thur. Nov 12	1165	50.00	Heath Nicholson
Fri. Nov 13	3309	50.00	Rose Beetz

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"The Greatest Compliment You Can Give is a Referral."

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION

	For the Week of	11/08/2020	\$1,895.00
Sunday			
School			155.00
Food Pantry			95.00
Youth Ministry			30.00
Human Development			40.00
Mission Sunday			20.00
All Saints' Day			65.00
Total			\$2,300.00

**Ss. PETER & PAUL
NOVEMBER 8TH, 2020**

Sunday		\$600.00
Total		\$600.00

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

\$33,535.00 toward our goal of \$46,356.00. We have received pledge cards from 130 parishioners.

At Ss. Peter & Paul we have pledges of \$12,135.00 toward the goal of \$15,422.00 31 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:

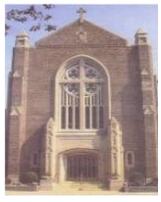
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjltNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

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

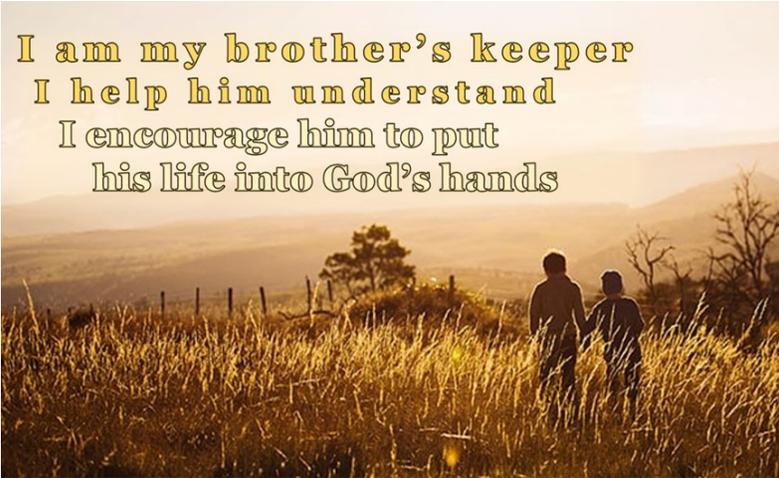




“SINCE YOU WERE FAITHFUL IN SMALL MATTERS,
I WILL GIVE YOU GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES.”

Matthew 25:21

I am my brother's keeper
I help him understand
I encourage him to put
his life into God's hands



A RECENT CONVERSATION revolved around the idea of whether we are called to be our brother's keeper or not. Of course the very definition of love as expressed by Christ our Lord is to go the distance, even laying down your life for others if necessary.

I was reminded of the acronym JOY, which you probably know, goes like this: Jesus, Others, You. The gist is to have a grasp of the order we should have if we are rightly humbled, e.g., our responsibilities are to love Jesus first, others second, and ourselves last.

Let's take a look at our readings for today. The first reading points to the love the wife has for her husband and family, the love she has for her community, and the lengths to which she will go to express that love. We all know someone who will willingly lay down his/her life for those whom he/she loves. Hopefully, looking in the mirror will reveal that person. If not, it's good that you are here because there is still time to make that person in the mirror a model of Christian love. God gives us all a new start at the beginning of each day.

When I wake up in a foul mood, or feel under the weather, do I check my attitude and seek to offer my sufferings in return to Christ for the suffering he underwent because of my sins? Personally speaking, some days I have success, and too many days I do not and want to wrap myself in a cocoon of my own misery and push my care off on my poor little wife. Not always, but

too often to be good for my spiritual well-being. My wife is worth more than all the pearls in the world.

In Saint Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he reminds that community that the day of the Lord's return is unknown to all. As "children of the light" he encourages them to remember that our God is good and right and just, and we must stay sober and alert. This means we must prepare our eternal soul for that unknown hour on that unknown day.

And how do we prepare for that unknown hour and day? It is most directly through how we express our love, love of God and love of neighbor. The biggest win for me when I wake up on those days already in a foul mood or ill, is to remember the loving suffering of Christ. Every stripe delivered to him as a consequence of my sin should be a reminder to me to take my own stripes whenever the opportunity arises. For me, that is not an easy mindset to attain.

THE FRUIT OF OUR TALENTS

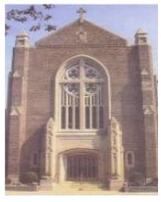
Jesus tells his disciples the parable of the talents to illustrate for them the importance of stewardship and responsibility.

I Googled "What is a talent worth?" and this wiki site gave a very understandable and enlightening answer: "Some authorities say that the **talent** typically weighed about 33 kg (>72 lb.) varying from 20 to 40 kg. In June, 2018, the international price of gold was about US \$41,155.69 per kilogram. One gram costs about \$38. At this price, a **talent** (33 kg) would be **worth** about \$1,400,116.57."

One talent in today's currency is equivalent to nearly a million and a half dollars! One talent... This was a massive amount of wealth the master entrusted to his servants. The first two servants understood their responsibilities as they related to the stewardship of their master's wealth. They knew he would want them to invest and increase what he left them to work with.

The third servant however, did not get the lesson of responsibility and stewardship. Rather, he was lazy in his outlook and afraid of his master's response should he make a bad investment. So instead of doing anything to increase the wealth of that single talent, he hid it and waited for the master to return.

If the servant had invested poorly it would have gone better for him than his choice of the path of doing nothing. Our Master wants us to put our talents to use and increase the wealth he has given us.



Holy Cross



Family Catechesis Corner

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE!

LAST WEEK I ASKED THAT WE LOOK AT THE PLACES **WATER** is mentioned in the first ten chapters of Genesis. Let's examine how water is presented and its properties in the various instances.

In the beginning of the creation story water is presented as a merely benign element. It was simply something God brought into existence as part of His plan for creation.

Soon, however, on the fifth day of creation God said: **"Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures... God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of crawling things with which the water teems..."** (Gen 1:20-21). We see sea life brought into creation, which necessarily means that not only were the fish and other kinds of creatures brought forth, but also the means of their survival and fertility and multiplication—namely, food for their sustenance.

In chapter two we read of the water itself being a form of sustenance for the earth's plant life (see Gen 2:6). In Genesis chapter 6 water becomes a means for destruction. God tells Noah, **"I, on my part, am about to bring the flood waters on the earth, to destroy all creatures under the sky in which there is the breath of life; everything on earth shall perish"** (Gen 6:17).

In chapter 9, God makes a covenant with Noah that he will never again use water to flood the earth, thus destroying all that He had created.

The reason I first wanted to examine water in these scriptures is to highlight the sacramentality of this particular element. Let's consider, beyond the examples of the previously mentioned instances of water, the uses we have of this element.

Water, as we have seen (above) can be completely neutral, neither beneficial nor detrimental. It can also be good and life-giving, or deadly and destructive. Floods can prohibit the good crops from bearing fruit, and gentle and timely rains can produce yields that break records. Water sustains our life such that we cannot survive more than a few days without it. We use it for cooking and cleaning.

In fact it is this aspect of cleansing that I would highlight at this point. Sacramentally, the waters of Baptism cleanse our souls from the stain of original sin. Just as some stationary comes with a watermark, so too in baptism do our souls receive an indelible mark that signifies that we, in our baptism, now belong to God. Let us work to protect that mark, and live so as not to turn our back on the great gift we have received.

¡AGUA, AGUA EN TODAS PARTES!

LA ULTIMA SEMANA YO PEDÍ QUE MIREMOS LOS **LUGARES EL AGUA se menciona** en los primeros diez capítulos de Génesis. Examinemos cómo se presenta el agua y sus propiedades en los distintos casos.

En este punto, me gustaría pedirle que recuerde que todo Al comienzo de la historia de la creación, el agua se presenta como un elemento meramente benigno. Fue simplemente algo que Dios trajo a la existencia como parte de Su plan para la creación.

Pronto, sin embargo, en el quinto día de la creación, Dios dijo: 'Deje que el agua rebose de una abundancia de criaturas vivas ... Dios creó los grandes monstruos marinos y toda clase de cosas que se arrastran con las que el agua abunda ...' (Gén. 1: 20-21). Vemos la vida marina traída a la creación, lo que necesariamente significa que no solo nacieron los peces y otros tipos de criaturas, sino también los medios para su supervivencia, fertilidad y multiplicación, es decir, alimento para su sustento.

En el capítulo dos leemos que el agua misma es una forma de sustento para la vida vegetal de la tierra (ver Génesis 2: 6). En Génesis capítulo 6, el agua se convierte en un medio de destrucción. Dios le dice a Noé: "Yo, por mi parte, estoy a punto de traer las aguas del diluvio sobre la tierra, para destruir todas las criaturas bajo el cielo en las que hay aliento de vida; Todo lo que hay en la tierra perecerá "(Gén 6, 17).

En el capítulo 9, Dios hace un pacto con Noé de que nunca más usará agua para inundar la tierra, destruyendo así todo lo que había creado.

La razón por la que primero quise examinar el agua en estas escrituras es para resaltar la sacramentalidad de este elemento en particular. Consideremos, más allá de los ejemplos de los casos de agua mencionados anteriormente, los usos que tenemos de este elemento.

El agua, como hemos visto (arriba) puede ser completamente neutra, ni beneficiosa ni perjudicial. También puede ser bueno y vivificante, o mortal y destructivo. Las inundaciones pueden impedir que las buenas cosechas den frutos, y las lluvias suaves y oportunas pueden producir rendimientos que rompen récords. El agua sostiene nuestra vida de tal manera que no podemos sobrevivir más de unos días sin ella. Lo usamos para cocinar y limpiar.

De hecho, es este aspecto de la limpieza el que destacaré en este punto. Sacramentalmente, las aguas del Bautismo limpian nuestras almas de la mancha del pecado original. Así como algunos artículos de papelería vienen con una marca de agua, también en el bautismo nuestras almas reciben una marca indeleble que significa que nosotros, en nuestro bautismo, ahora pertenecemos a Dios. Trabajemos para proteger esa marca y vivamos para no darle la espalda al gran regalo que hemos recibido.

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://www.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

MARY OF NAZARETH

This film vividly captures Mary's profound faith and trust in God amidst the great mysteries that she lived as the Mother of the Messiah, as well as her compassion and concern for others and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another.

Listen

ODE TO SAINT CECILIA

In this Augustin Institute audio drama, *Ode to Saint Cecilia* tells the dramatic story of a modest young woman from Rome whose life transcends time to influence poets, composers, sculptors, and painters.

Learn

SYMBOLON: KNOWING THE FAITH: PETER AND THE KEYS

This week is the Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul. Learn more about Peter's role in the Church and the imagery behind Jesus' famous words to Peter.

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

Catechism Corner

»With what name does God reveal Himself?«

THESE EXCERPTS ARE FROM THE COMPENDIUM OF THE CCC.

† With what name does God reveal Himself?

God revealed Himself to Moses as the living God, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob" (*Exodus 3:6*). God also revealed to Moses his mysterious name "I Am Who I am (YHWH)." Already in Old Testament times this ineffable name of God was replaced by the divine title *Lord*. Thus in the New Testament, Jesus who was called *Lord* is seen as true God.

Further reading CCC ¶ [203-209, 230-231]

† Is God the only One who "is"?

Since creatures have received everything they are and have from God, only God in himself is the fullness of being and of every perfection. God is "He who is" without origin and without end. Jesus also reveals that he bears the divine name "I Am" (*John 8:28*).

Further reading CCC ¶ [212-213]

† Why is the revelation of God's name important?

In revealing his name, God makes known the riches contained in the ineffable mystery of his being. He alone is from everlasting to everlasting. He is the One who transcends the world and history. It is he who made heaven and earth. He is the faithful God, always close to his people, in order to save them. He is the highest holiness, "rich in mercy" (*Ephesians 2:4*), always ready to forgive. He is the One who is spiritual, transcendent, personal, and perfect. He is truth and love. "God is the infinitely perfect being who is the most Holy Trinity." (*Saint Thomas of Montenegro*)

Further reading CCC ¶ [206-213]

HCS News



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.

Holy Cross News of Note



HCS News



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

This is just a reminder that I will be out of the office for a few weeks. The pro tempore administrator is Mrs. Motter. Mrs. Doyle and Fr. Pilon will be helping Mrs. Motter.

I want to give a huge thank you to our staff for carrying on to the best of their abilities during these mixed up times that Covid-19 has presented us.

I also want to remind you that if we are having a hard time finding a substitute teacher and not able to move staff around within the building, there is a chance that a particular class may have to move to remote learning. This is not what we hope for but it is a reality these days.

We know that some schools have moved to remote learning the week after Thanksgiving. We have discussed it and believe that at this very moment, as I type, which could change by the time you receive this on November 10, that in-class learning is the best setting. We are doing everything the CDC and Health Department are asking as far as wearing masks, washing hands and social distancing goes. As we watch our local numbers in Mendota our decision could change in an instant. So again, if we cannot find a substitute, moving to remote learning could be by the classroom or by the school. We will try to keep you informed as best we can.

Peace,
Mrs. Kobilsek

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.

Special Request to Show Acts of Gratitude

Ending November 20, 2020..... we are grateful for the families that have shared some of their abundance with the Daughters of Divine Love.

We will continue to collect for them until November 20.

Special Request (continued)

They are collecting clothing and school supplies for DDL missions. The following items are needed:

- School supplies, gently used spring and summer clothing, gently used sandals and 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
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Compton, IL. 61318

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!

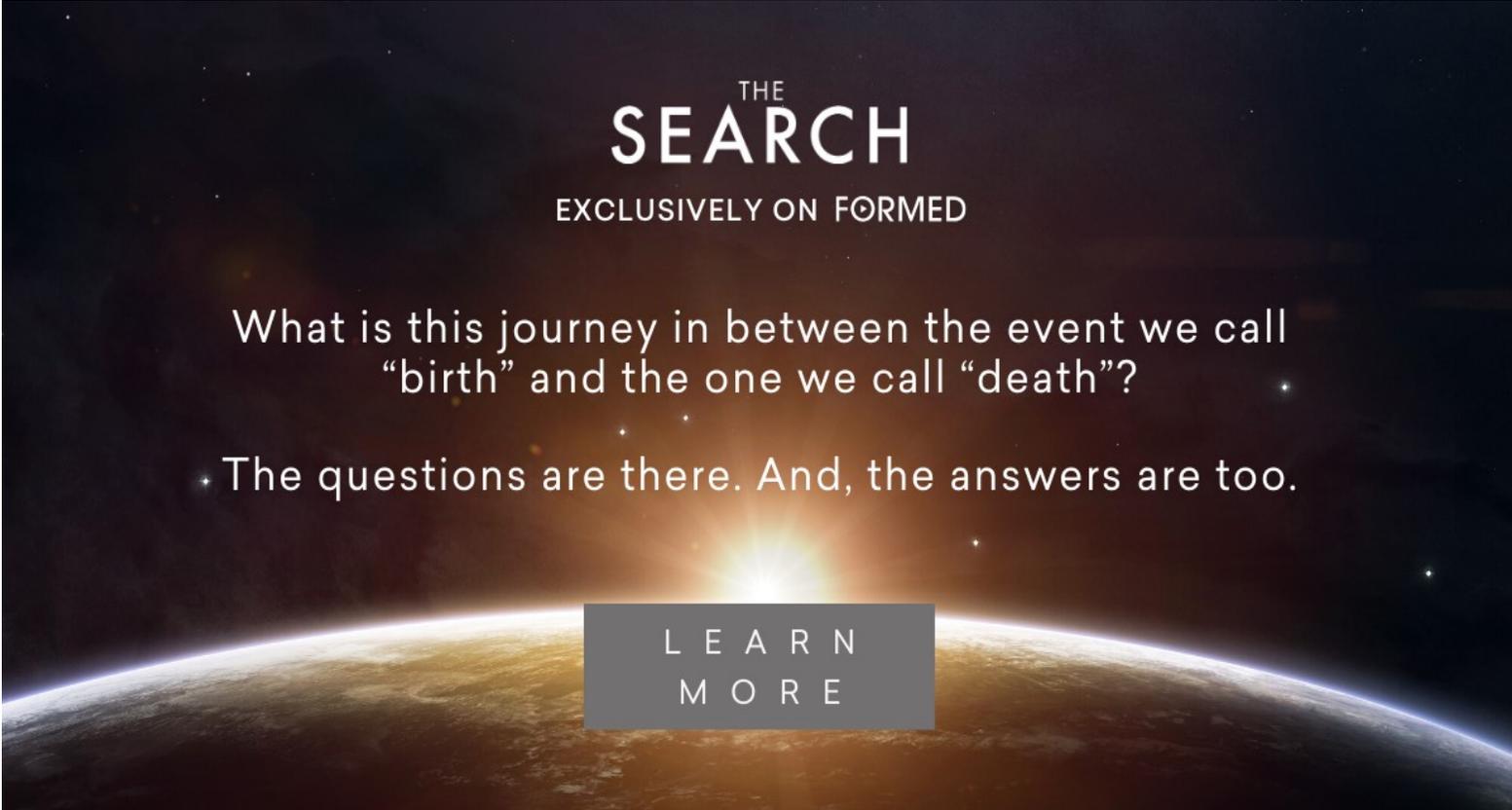
Repeat: IDPH Protocol

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, 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.

PARISH-WIDE STUDY COMING

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



THE
SEARCH

EXCLUSIVELY ON FORMED

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.

With Father’s health set-back, we thought it prudent to begin on Wednesday, December 2nd. Fr. Pilon will lead a parish-wide study that 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 the 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.

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MOST REV. DANIEL R. JENKY, C.S.C.
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF PEORIA



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
419 N.E. MADISON AVENUE
PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61603
PHONE: 309-671-1550
FAX: 309-671-1576

November 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Your support for this collection brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform the places where they live into reflections of the Kingdom of God.

Pregnant women and struggling families with young children require assistance with their material and spiritual needs, regardless of their background. For low-income Hispanic women, this is especially true, because linguistic and cultural differences pose unique challenges for pregnancy volunteers and pastoral ministers.

In the Dioceses of Yakima and Spokane in central and eastern Washington, for example, your generosity to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development helps a group called PREPARES en español to minister to large and vibrant Hispanic communities. By training Spanish-speaking and bilingual volunteers and coordinators, and through developing Spanish-language materials, PREPARES en español offers support groups, family companions, and parent/child learning and play groups that not only assist vulnerable families, but do so in a context of respect for the unique cultural needs of Hispanic families. With your contributions, Spanish-speaking families are strengthened and nourished at the parish level in these dioceses.

Your support for this collection makes a difference for pregnant women and families living in poverty across the United States. Please prayerfully consider how you are able to help CCHD this year. If you would like more information about the collection and the people it supports, visit www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel R. Jenky C.S.C." with a stylized flourish at the end.

✠ Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.
BISHOP OF PEORIA

The following letter is from Susan Presley, the Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church, and is communicating for the Mendota Area Ministerial Association (MAMA). It is pertaining to the bell ringing for the Salvation Army at local businesses.

Dear Friends in Ministry:

As you know, MAMA is in charge of the Salvation Army bell ringing each year, which raises thousands of dollars, and nearly all of it stays in our community.

Normally, the five organizations that ring the bell for two weekends are MAMA (Shell), Rotary (Beck's Lakeside), Lions (Cindy's) and Kiwanis (Sullivan's) and the police department (Sullivan's, one weekend).

This year, things are different.

- * The local Kiwanis club has dissolved
- * Both the Lions and Rotary have opted not to put their members at health risk by having them ring bells, and both clubs are donating the average of what they raised in the last two years.
- * The police offered to take over the Kiwanis' two weekends at Sullivan's, rather than doing one weekend later in

I said all that to say this -- I'm open to suggestions. Here's a few thoughts, but would welcome other ideas, as well.

- We could leave it as it is, with bells only being rung at Sullivan's and Shell, since traffic will likely be very slow at Cindy's, at least.
- Each of the larger churches could take Shell, Cindy's and Beck's

I've made a sign-up sheet online for Shell, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4cadac2fa31-salvation2> So far a total of zero people have signed up, and it's been in our church newsletter.

I'd be glad to hear thoughts from anyone. I think this is an important thing in the community, but it's a tricky year, to say the least.

WARNING ABOUT RISK ASSUMED BY PARISHIONERS:

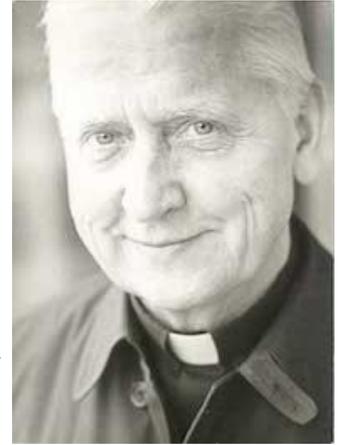
While our parish staffs will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners and guests should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 anytime they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

"For God all things are possible"

FATHER WALTER CISZEK, S.J.

The Kingdom of God is within you, Christ told us.

How obvious yet how profound these words seemed to me here in Norilsk. The visible Church, which is a reflection of God's Kingdom here on earth, was almost non-existent here in the vastness of Siberia. Christians here, even as I, had to attempt to serve God surrounded on all sides by an atmosphere of unbelief and godlessness, an atmosphere of atheistic propaganda that was almost suffocating. Yet my greatest consolation was the evident faith of the courageous Christians I served, a living witness in this desolate land to the power of God's grace and the existence of his Kingdom. Their faith, their courage, inspired me daily to offer up all my actions and works and sufferings of each day to the work of spreading the Kingdom of God upon earth.



What was I, in comparison to the millions of atheists in the Soviet Union? What was I, in comparison to the might and power of the Soviet Government? What were any of us, really, in the face of the system around us, with all its organs of propaganda and powers of persecution? Yet, in God's providence, here we were. This was the place he had chosen for us, the situation and circumstances in which he had placed us. One thing we could do and do daily: we could seek first the Kingdom of God and his justice — First of all in our own lives, and then in the lives of those around us. From the time of the Apostles — twelve simple men, alone and afraid, who had received the commission to go forth into the whole world to preach the good news of the Kingdom — there has been no other way for the spreading of the Kingdom than by the acts and the lives of individual Christians striving each day to fulfill the will of God.

Acknowledgement

Father Walter Ciszek, S.J. "For God all things are possible." excerpt from *He Leadeth Me* (San Francisco, CA: Ignatius Press, 1973).

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The Author

Father Walter Ciszek, S.J. was a Polish-American Jesuit priest known for his clandestine missionary work in the Soviet Union between 1939 and 1963. Fifteen of these years were spent in confinement and hard labor in the Gulag, including five in Moscow's infamous Lubyanka prison. He was released and returned to the United States in 1963. Father Ciszek is the author of [He Leadeth Me](#), and [With God in Russia](#).

Since 1990, Ciszek has been under investigation by the Roman Catholic Church for possible beatification or canonization. His current title is a Servant of God.

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Father Ciszek's plight and his outlook while imprisoned in a Soviet Gulag is something for us to consider as we draw nearer to our national Thanksgiving holiday.
The Kingdom of God is indeed within each of us.

The Month of November We Pray for All Souls

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, 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

Now that we have moved Reconciliation back inside the church, please be aware that the times will remain the same: Wednesdays from 12 p.m.—1 p.m.; and on Thursday from 5 p.m.—6 p.m., and Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. A barrier has been installed to main-tain 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



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

...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-THIRD 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



Why does the master call the two servants "good and faithful"? Because, when entrusted with a vast amount of money, they do not run off or spend the money on themselves; rather, they invest what was given them as their way of honoring their relationship with their master. His reply is, "Since you were faithful, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share my joy." Which means: Come, and be my equal. The worthy wife is valued "far beyond pearls" because she loves her husband and family with just such gratuitous, self-sacrificing love. We are "children of the light" inasmuch as we live obediently under our all-surpassing and all-loving Master.

Magnificat Magazine, November 2020, pp. 197-198



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