

HOLY CROSS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH FOUNDED AND STAFFED BY THE CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS SINCE 1966

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,
WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE
I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH."

—JEREMIAH 33:14

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME

Please introduce yourselves and register in order to become a member of this community of believers. We welcome your gifted presence in the life of our parish.

OUR MISSION

Holy Cross Parish, a community centered in the Eucharist, is committed in faith and love of Jesus Christ to fulfill the profoundly human and spiritual needs of its parishioners and the larger community it serves. We seek to inspire all, through deeds and by example, to do the work of Christ: to make God known, loved, and served.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Monday - Friday 9:00am

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 5:30pm

Holy Days of Obligation

9:00am, 7pm

Confession

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45pm

Other by Appointment

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Bradley J. Metz, C.S.C., Pastor
Fr. John M. Santone, C.S.C., Parochial Vicar
Deacon Gary Donahue, Pastoral Associate
Margaret Dwyer-Hogan, Dir. Of Faith Formation
Deborah Kelley, Finance
Christopher Iannitelli, Director Of Music
Paul Celia, Plant Manager
Lindsay Franzoni, Parish Administrative Assistant

- ♦ 225 Purchase Street • Easton, MA 02375
- ♦ info@holycrosseaston.org
- ♦ Monday - Friday 9:00am-4:00pm
- ♦ 508.238.2235
- ♦ www.holycrosseaston.org
- ♦ www.facebook.com/holycrossparisheaston.ma
- ♦ <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/holycrosschurch>

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year – of Grace 2022 that is. The First Sunday of Advent begins a new liturgical year. We begin by focusing on the goal of the spiritual life, where we hope to end up, with Jesus, our Universal King whom we celebrated last weekend and concluded the Year of Grace 2021. Mark's gospel focused last liturgical year (the second of three cycles of readings in the lectionary) on the B cycle of readings. This liturgical year, Year C, the gospel is predominantly taken from the Gospel of Luke. Luke's gospel is known as the Gospel of Inclusion. The poor, the outcast, women and children, and Gentiles (non-Jews) figure predominantly in Jesus' parables, encounters, and teachings. For instance, unique in Luke's gospel is the widow from Nain burying her son who crosses paths with Jesus, the parable of the Good Samaritan, healing of the crippled woman on the Sabbath, parables of the Lost Coin and the Prodigal Son, letting the children come to Jesus, the cleansing of the ten lepers, encountering the tax collector Zacchaeus in Jericho, Jesus weeping over Jerusalem, and finally affirming the good thief on the cross (Dismas) that: "Today you will be with me in paradise," (Lk 23:43). Luke is traditionally described as an artist or doctor and the Acts of the Apostles is also attributed to him. We hope to get to know St. Luke and his writings better this year. His feast day is October 18th.

Advent is the shortest "season" in the liturgical year. However, this year it is almost the longest it can be, almost four complete weeks because of where December 25th falls on the calendar, this year a Saturday. The four Sundays of Advent are: 1st (November 28th), 2nd (December 5th), 3rd Gaudete "Rejoice" (December 12th) and 4th (December 19th). Christmas Eve falls on Friday, December 24th. Advent is a challenging season to stay focused in since secular society has already jumped to Christmas. The darker and deeper hues of purple are used to distinguish Advent from the lighter purple/grey ashiness of Lent. Advent has two foci: First, preparing for the End Times, our own end in death, and the world's end on the Last Day. Second, preparing to journey with Mary and Joseph to the manger for the Incarnation of the Word of God made flesh in the person of Jesus, Son of God, and Son of Mary. Advent has an underlying penitential tone inviting us to prepare for Judgement, whenever that happens, and to prepare anew for the coming grace of God at Christmas. The Christmas season continues with the feast of the Holy Family quickly following on Sunday, December 26th; the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God on Saturday, January 1, 2022; the Epiphany, January 2nd; and concludes with the Baptism of the Lord, January 9th. We very much look forward to having even more parishioners in the pews in comparison to last year. Statistics show that 60% of Catholics will attend Mass once or more during the Advent and Christmas seasons tripling the less than 20% that usually attend weekly. It is a graced time of year to invite relatives and friends who may not have been to church since before covid or even before 2020 to consider coming with you to experience Jesus in the community of his Church. It is up to us who regularly attend to be hospitable, welcoming, and encouraging of returning or new faces in the pews. It is the time to take advantage of the gift of faith God gives us and challenge ourselves to be living ambassadors of Christ's abiding presence before, during, and after the seasons Advent and Christmas as we strive to always make God known, loved, and served here and in the manner of our lives everyday in the world around us.

To that end, here are some things to consider as Advent 2021 begins. This Sunday from 11am – 12:30pm you are invited to join fellow parishioners and families in making your own Advent wreath to pray with at home. Supplies might be limited to those who registered already but there might be an extra kit or two around, and if anything, a wonderful opportunity to experience some of the hope, joy, peace, and love of this holy season together in person! Tuesday evening the Right to Life Committee will be hosting Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:00pm in church inviting us to pray with intention that the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit be with our judicial leaders as the Supreme Court begins the next day hearing and debating the historic case over the right of states to protect mothers and the God-given rights of the unborn. For more information on this national prayer campaign visit the Catholic Vote website. It is a beautiful and powerful way to begin the Season of Advent in prayer. I mentioned many online resources to encourage and guide us in prayer this Advent. Search Office of the Secretariat for Evangelization in the Diocese of Fall River's website. Similarly Busted Halo, Word on Fire, Dynamic Catholic, and FORMED. I will be highlighting and giving you links for FORMED during Advent and throughout the new year via Flocknote. Follow the instructions on the flyer page toward the back of this bulletin for how to enter the site specifically coded for Holy Cross Parish. It will keep you logged in on whatever device used unless you log out or clear cookies. I will prayerfully begin this journey to Christmas with you on the road and in person next weekend for the 2nd Sunday of Advent. God Bless, Fr. Brad

Our Christmas Mass schedule: Christmas Eve, Simultaneous Masses at 4pm (church & parish center), all the following in church: 8pm, Midnight at midnight, and Christmas Day 10am. Invite family and friends!

All Saints

01 November



ALL SAINTS' DAY

This feast day in the Church dates to the 2nd century when Christians would bury the body of a martyr in a tomb that would be accessible to the faithful. A martyr is one who witnessed to the faith even to the point of death, so to honor them after their life ended Christians would gather at their tomb to pray and celebrate the Eucharist in memory of those who had gone before them. By the 5th century celebrations moved to local parishes.

Originally this feast day was celebrated at various times throughout the year. It was in the 9th century that Pope Gregory IV fixed the date as it still stands today, 01 November. Eventually the feast moved from honoring martyrs to remembering all Christians who led heroic gospel-inspired lives. This beautiful feast emphasizes the bond between those Christians already with God and those still on earth. The feast points to our ultimate goal --- to be with God.

There's a beautiful prayer called, "The Litany of Supplication." It calls out the name of a saint followed by the response, "pray for us." For example, "St. Joseph, pray for us;" "St. Mary Magdalene, pray for us;" "St. Anthony of Padua, pray for us." We raise our voices invoking the names of our ancestors in the faith and ask them to pray for us, watch over us, and protect us.

Reflection Questions: Who are the saints whose lives have inspired your faith? What have you learned from these holy men and women in regards to living as a Christian?

Find some time to quietly call out the names of the saints who've been an important part of your Catholic life and ask them, each day, to pray for you.

MASS INTENTIONS

✠Saturday, November 27

4:00pm James E. Hogan
Requested from The Hogan Family

✠Sunday, November 28

8:30am Souls in Purgatory
Anonymous Request
10:00am Kevin Brennan 1st Anniversary
Requested from family

✠Monday, November 29

9:00am Jeffrey Heppler
Requested from Rosemary and John Heppler

✠Tuesday, November 30

9:00am Nancy Lee Miller 4 yr Anniversary
Requested from Nancy Lee, Mary Lee, Elizabeth and Robert

✠Wednesday, December 1

9:00am ***Sheila O'Sullivan***
Requested by Mary Murphy

✠Thursday, December 2

9:00am

✠Friday, December 3

9:00am

✠Saturday, December 4

4:00pm Philip Gilbride 4th Anniversary
Requested from Family

✠Sunday, December 5

8:30am
10:00am Laura Williams
Requested from Family
5:30pm Maria Gomes-Furtado
Requested from Family

SPONSOR A DAY

Thank you to the following parishioners who sponsored a day in November:

Mike & Amy Grucan
David & Joan Mendes
Mark Leonard
Steve & Marybeth Raymond
Jim & Annmarie Condon
Charles & Mary Smallwood
Paula & Kevin Connor
Robert & Kristin Byron
Steven Madonna

Barbara Vogel
Breef-Pilz Family
Aimee Foley
Frank Spillane
Irene Burns
Maureen Martes
Virginia Bulger
Mary Calhoun

Thank You

READING I Dn 7:13-14

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

READING II 1 Thes 3:12—4:2

Brothers and sisters:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples:

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HOLY CROSS PARISH PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Jesus you know and call each one of us by name in baptism and ask us to follow you. Bless your church in the Congregation of Holy Cross and in the Diocese of Fall River by stirring into service generous people young and older from our families and friends who will serve and lead your people as Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Deacons and Lay Ministers. Bless all those who live in sacramental married life and those who serve others as single people. May we like Mary, your Mother and ours, be given the grace, wisdom and understanding to hear your voice and the courage to answer your call. We ask this with the Father and the Holy Spirit, and in your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



2021 Holly Fair



This weekend is the final weekend the Holly Fair collection basket and the gift card/cash gifts box will be in the church vestibule. After this weekend, we will still welcome cash gifts, lottery tickets and gifts cards.

As of this writing, the following gift cards would be especially helpful: Mario's Restaurant, Corfinio's, McGuire's, Walgreens, Barnes & Noble, car wash and clothing stores like The Gap.

Late items beginning Monday, November 29 can be delivered to the church office.

Finally, the silent auction still remains a priority. Any parishioners able to donate tickets or other auction items contact myself – kerryv-ieira@hotmail.com or the parish office.

Lastly, still would like to remind all bakers and young baker parishioners we are excited to receive your baked cookies/items for the Cookie Stroll. The Parish Center will be open on Friday, December 10 from 1 – 7 pm and Saturday, December 11 beginning at 1 pm. Time a problem? Feel free to start baking now & freeze the bags. This year, we request all baked goods be sealed in pre-packed 2-3 pieces per Ziploc style bag.

The fair is happening Saturday, December 11 from 3 – 7 pm and Sunday, December 12 from 9 am – 1 pm. Don't keep this Easton's best kept secret. Share on your social media and tell family, friends and neighbors.



Prayer shawl ministry will meet on Nov. 30th at 9:30 a.m. The need is great, the laborers are few. If you cannot make the meetings, please consider working at home.

Yarn is available. Call or email Pat at 508 238 2194, mimibro15@comcast.net with any questions.

St. Mary's Catholic School in Mansfield is looking for team members for the extended day program. Details can be found on the school website www.stmarymansschool.org/employment-opportunities. Please contact the school if you are interested by calling 508-339-4800 or emailing the principal Matthew Bourque at mbourque@stmarymansschool.org

Bishop Connolly High School will hold the HSPT Placement Exam for Fall 2022 Grade 8 LEAP Program and Grade 9 applicants on Saturday, December 4 and 11, 2021, at 8 a.m. at BCHS. For more information and online registration, please visit BishopConnolly.com. Walk-ins are also welcome.



AUTUMN RAFFLE WINNERS

10/23 \$200	Bruce Pilz	10/24 \$100	Jeane Lacivita
10/25 \$50	Mary Dempsey	10/26 \$50	Mr/Mrs Penellatore
10/27 \$50	Lawrence Hurley	10/28 \$50	Don Marriane Klok
10/29 \$50	Kathy Cremin	10/30 \$100	Linda Sullivan
10/31 \$100	Kathleen Curtis	11/1 \$200	Capece Family
11/2 \$50	Debra Porter	11/3 \$50	Michael Grucan
11/4 \$50	John/Hope Connor	11/5 \$50	Anthony Fontes
11/6 \$100	Linda Sullivan	11/7 \$100	Mr. & Mrs Jussaumes
11/8 \$50	Martin Reynolds	11/9 \$50	Charlotte Breef-Pilz
11/10 \$50	Christine Reilly	11/11 \$50	Stephanie Coose
11/12 \$50	Cara O'Brien	11/13 \$100	Daniel Lage
11/14 \$100	Penny Brennan	11/15 \$50	Mr and Mrs. Mills
11/16 \$50	Mr.&Mrs Jussaumes	11/17 \$50	LoriAnn Johnson
11/18 \$50	Anthony Fontes	11/19 \$50	Mr & Mrs Sessler
11/20 \$100	Debra Porter	11/21 \$100	Louis Silva
		11/22 \$250	Jim and Leslie Fitzgerald

Congratulations to all of our winners and thank you for supporting this important parish fundraiser.

Outreach Sunday December 5th

Some of the requests from the community agencies we serve have changed to reflect their current needs.

My Brother's Keeper-diapers, household cleaning products, sponges, canned: soup, fruit, pasta sauce, vegetables. Peanut butter, jelly, pasta, mac and cheese, snacks

Birthright-diapers, wipes

Family & Community Resources-canned: soup, fruit, pasta sauce, vegetables. Peanut butter, jelly, pasta, mac and cheese, snacks

Mainspring House-toiletries

We Do Care-support local widows and widowers and their families by donating grocery store gift cards

Louisan Family Shelter-birthday bag items: cake mixes, frosting, cake pans, birthday party supplies: plates, napkins, banners, plasticware, tablecloths and decorations

Please leave your donations in the gathering area of the church on Outreach Sunday, the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for continuing to generously support our local community service agencies!

Please contact Claire Abate with any questions at claire@claireabate.com.

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Introducing the new

FORMED[®]

The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device.

Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.



Over 4,000 titles - now available on almost any device!

Roku

Apple tv



Dozens of new features - all to help you enjoy the best in Catholic content

Already have a FORMED Account?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email
4. Click the link in your email
5. You're in! No more passwords!

Registering on FORMED is easier than ever!

1. Go to FORMED.org/signup
2. Enter your parish zip code or name to select your parish
3. Enter your name and email

Visit **FORMED.org** or search for "Formed" on your favorite app store