

HOLY CROSS

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Pastoral Staff

Fr. Bradley J. Metz, C.S.C., Pastor
Deacon Gary Donahue, Pastoral Associate
Deborah Kelley, Finance
Christopher Iannitelli, Director Of Music
Paul Celia, Plant Manager
Lindsay Franzoni, Director of Religious Ed
Penny Brennan, Parish Admin. Assistant
Robin Horrigan, Parish Admin. Assistant

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

December 11, 2022
Third 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

Holy Days of Obligation

9:00am, 7pm

Confession

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45pm

Other by Appointment

Bulletin Submissions

To ensure your announcements and updates are included, please send them to info@holycrosseaston.org by Mondays at noon. The deadline is earlier when there is a holiday.

December 11, 2022– Third Sunday of Advent

Dear Parishioners,

I hope Advent is going well so far for you this year. Advent is such a short season to initially get into, feel and experience progress, and finally silently let go of it as basking in the joy of the Christmas Season commences and lasts for two weeks this year from the evening of December 24th through the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 8th and Monday, January 9th respectively. This Gaudete or Rejoice! weekend marks the halfway point, two weeks in and two weeks to go of Advent hope, peace, faith, and joy– this year a full two weeks since Christmas falls on a Sunday.

Advent is a challenge when society so quickly starts blasting Santa Baby, sales for this and for that, and bombards us with All I Want for Christmas is You, thank you Mariah, but I already have a Queen of Christmas and her name is Mary. Staying focused on the Reason for the Season is tough when all the preparations seems to displace prayer, peace flees as anxiety and expectations overwhelm hosts of gatherings, and children are fixated on Santa Claus instead of bothering to learn about St. Nicholas. Presents and partying often displace the Reason for the Season and everything is over on December 26th rather than it being the second day of the traditional twelve days of Christmas between Big Christmas on December 25th and little Christmas on January 6th, the Feast of the Three Kings. If Advent seems countercultural that's because it is! Advent is meant to challenge us to stay in the day, not rush, but patiently prepare and wait so we have something to celebrate when it gets here. God's time and not our time. God's way and not our ways. God's love and joy and peace.



It's not too late to take home a reflection booklet and start on December 11th or 12th, try out the Hallow app, tune into Sunday evenings at 7pm with Holy Cross religious, or simply turn off the Christmas music and lights, light a real candle and contemplate the beauty of: the Light overcoming the darkness, hope overshadowing doubt, peace displacing fear, faith blossoming into new life, and ultimately joy emanating from its source, the birth and presence of the Savior of the Universe, Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. I love lights, trees, wreaths, fudge, cookies, wrapping paper and cards, eggnog, Christmas music, Hallmark movies, jingle bells, sweaters and peppermint lattes, too. However, it is all overly consumeristic and commercialized without Tiny Tim and Christmas conversions, giving from the heart, embracing family and friends, simply spending time with one another just as God longs for us to simply spend time with Him. My prayer for all of us from December 11th to December 24th and beyond is to not get lost spiritually, overwhelmed physically, and exhausted mentally as the days get busier and busier heading toward Christmas. Consider joining us this Wednesday at Immaculate Conception Church at 7pm for Prayer and Penance.

Let us enjoy tiny tots with their eyes all aglow, relish in possibly the last time we'll spend Christmas with older relatives and friends, be an agent of kindness in a world in need of it. Taste, touch, see, and feel the blessings and grace of the Incarnation of God who is Love surrounding us in the days and weeks ahead as we challenge ourselves to open our eyes, ears, and hearts to see, hear, and embrace the gifts for the taking well before, during, and after Christmas Eve and Morning. Rejoice! for the days draw near but are not here yet. Keep up the journey with John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph, and let us all prepare the way of the Lord here and now as much as they did way back then. Maranatha– Come Lord Jesus.

I got a chance to share in Advent joy with our 2022 Marian Award recipient, Penny Brennan, with her daughter Erin. Bishop da Cunha reminded us that service is at the heart of Jesus' Gospel message of loving our neighbor as God loves each and every one of us. I am so very grateful to be a part of serving beside Penny not only as she proclaims God's Word at Mass and welcomes parishioners and visitors to the 8:30am Sunday Mass, but during the week as she now works with us in the parish office on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's easy to serve others when we know we are always surrounded, encouraged, and sustained by Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

God Bless, Fr. Brad



December 11, 2022– Third Sunday of Advent



RETURNS
July 23 - 30, 2023

We are pleased to announce that we have made a reservation to resume the ASP service project. Teens must be entering 9th - 12th grade fall 2023. Registration will go live on Monday, Nov. 28th. Limited number of spots (30 teen spots/12 adults)

Check out www.asphome.org to learn more about ASP.

We are thankful to have the opportunity to have the next group of teens from Easton experience our mission "To Make God Known, Loved and Served"!

Questions? Email Mrs. Hogan @ mmdmph1997@gmail.com



Mainspring House Meal on December 17

Join Holy Cross in preparing a meal for our brothers and sisters at the Mainspring House on the third Saturday of every month. This month's meal is on December 17. Sign up on the Mainspring Meal Board which is available in the church vestibule for two weeks preceding each meal. Bring cooked food items to the lower kitchen behind the church between 1:00 and 2:45 PM.

Meal Suggestions: Entrees (cooked, sliced ham, turkey, chicken, sausages tray or casseroles); **Side Dishes** (mac & cheese, stuffing, rice, mashed or roasted potatoes, pasta salad, etc.); **Mixed Garden Salad; Bread or Rolls; Fruit or Desserts** (individual servings such as cookies, fruit cups, or cut brownies or pastries). If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Downes, cathy.downes@verizon.net (508)742-5957, or Trish Murphy, triciamurph@gmail.com (508)813-1880.

Thank you for helping our brothers and sisters at Mainspring!

The Respect Life Committee will meet on Monday, December 12 at 7pm in the Parish Center. New Members always welcome.



MASS INTENTIONS

✠Saturday, December 10

4:00pm Laurie Avitabile, Birthday Remembrance, requested by her mother

✠Sunday, December 11

8:30am

10:00 am Butch Venis, Anniversary Mass, requested by the Venis Family

✠Monday, December 12

9:00 am Julie Galeota, Birthday Remembrance, requested by Mary Marsh

✠Tuesday, December 13

9:00 am Mitchell P. Dirs, Jr., requested by Nancy and Gary Donahue

✠Wednesday, December 14

9:00 am Stanley Girdvainis, 25th anniversary, requested by Don and Marianne Klok

✠Thursday, December 15

9:00 am

✠Friday, December 16

9:00 am Joseph B. McHugh, 58th anniversary, requested by the Murphy Family

✠Saturday, December 17

4:00pm Thomas Girdvainis, 41st Anniversary, requested by Don and Marianne Klok

✠Sunday, December 18

8:30am

10:00am Laura Williams, Anniversary Mass, requested by her family

Movie Night/Parents' Night Out!

Friday, December 16th 5-9pm

Movies: Scrooge: A Christmas Carol & The Christmas Chronicles

\$15/child, which includes 2 slices of pizza, 1 bottle of water, unlimited popcorn, and babysitting. Have kids wear their pajamas and bring a sleeping bag/blanket, and pillow.

Sign up on the parish website!

Schedule: 5-5:30pm: check in, coloring, various games

5:30pm-6pm: Pizza

6pm- 9pm: Movies

Confirmation Candidates

Need community service hours? Please volunteer for this event by contacting Christy Solimine at christy115@comcast.net or text 781-690-0741

December 11, 2022– Third Sunday of Advent



NEWS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent & Christmas Schedule

Advent Prayer & Penance Service

Wednesday, December 14
at 7:00 pm
at Immaculate Conception Church

Christmas Masses

December 24: (2) at 4:00 pm; in the Great Room and the Church
8:00 pm
December 25: Midnight Christmas Eve
10:00 am

ANNUAL GIVING TREE

We are using Eventgroove for the Giving Tree. Our physical tree at the back of the church contains tags giving you the link to this site. There is a button on the parish website as well.

All gifts must be returned to the church **this weekend**, by December 11th.



SPONSOR A DAY

Goal: \$43,800

Donations received \$47,561.

Thank you to the following parishioners who sponsored a day in December. **Additional donors for 2022 will be listed the first two weeks of January 2023.**

Ames Family
John & Judy Foster
William Brown
Paula McCallum
Michelle Campbell
Michael Sabina
Lloyd & Gail Douglas
Jeffrey McLaughlin
Ray & Ursula Lawson
Bob & Donna Cunha
Elizabeth Joseph
In Honor of Virginia Donofrio

James Hoffman
Carol Burton
Anne Tarallo
Elizabeth McGinnis
Christy Solomine
Sandra McMenimon
John Morley
Ann Andrew

Liturgical Ministers

December 10 & 11

Lectors

4 pm Linda Sullivan
Doreene Gonick

8:30 Diane Jussaume
Joyce Isiminger

10am Greg Connly
Joe Kennedy

Communion Ministers

Teresa Connor
Kevin Kinch
Diane Cheevers

Mark Jussaume
John McLaughlin
Robin Durgin King

Denise Urquhart
Bill Urquhart
Bob Wood

December 17 & 18

Lectors

4 pm Diane Cheevers
Penny Brennan

8:30 John McLaughlin
Kate O'Reilly

10am Roy Owens
Nancy Donahue

Communion Ministers

Michelle Hassan
Marty Reynolds
Joanne Kelly

Sid Smith
Robin Durgin King

Suzanne Williams
Donna Cunha
Bob Cunha

Confirmation I 4:30-5:15, Mass 5:30-6:30,
Confirmation II 6:30-7:20 on Sundays

12/18 @ HC
1/22 @HC
2/26 @HC

1/8 @ICC
2/5 @ ICC
3/5 @ ICC

3/12 Confirmation II Retreat
@ Holy Cross 9am-2pm



December 11, 2022– Third Sunday of Advent

Senior's Dinner, Easton Knights of Columbus will host its annual Senior's Dinner on Sunday, December 18th at 2 pm at their hall located at Rt. 106 South Easton, 375 Foundry Street.

The Dinner is free to all Seniors, tickets are available at the Easton Council on Aging, (508) 230-0540. Tickets are also available at the door.

We will be accepting donations to the Easton Food Pantry.



Saint Vincent De Paul group will meet on Monday, December 12 at 7pm in the parish center.



St. Vincent De Paul
Serving those in Need

The Easton Council, #238, Knights of Columbus, would like to thank you for your continued generosity and support in making our 5th Annual Thanksgiving Pie Drive an overwhelming success. Thanks to Mann Orchards in Methuen for partnering with us and baking the delicious pies. This was our best year ever; we sold 243 pies and donated 72 pies to MainSpring House in Brockton. Thanks to Claire Abate and the team at Keller Williams Realtors for their purchase of 64 pies, which were shared with their clients. We wish you and your families a very happy holiday season.

Thank You

Annual First Grade Nativity Pageant on The Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023, during the 8:30 a.m. Mass

If your child is interested in participating, please email Lindsay at Lfranzoni@holycrosseaston.org

IMPORTANT DATES & INFO:

Dress Rehearsal: Sunday, December 28 @ 6pm

PAGEANT: SUNDAY, January 8 @

8:30 Mass, arrive to Holy Cross @7:45 dressed.

ROLES: Mary, Joseph, (3) Kings, Gabriel (only speaking part!), lots of angels, lots of shepherds

ALL CHILDREN WILL LEARN

SILENT NIGHT IN SIGN LAN-

GUAGE DURING FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

If they are at the Mass but not in the pageant, they are welcome to come up to sign it together at the end with their classmates.



2022 Holly Fair

Dec 10 from 3 - 7 pm & Dec 11 from 9 am - 1 pm

- ✓ Santa
- ✓ 60+ raffle baskets
- ✓ Snow Flake Raffle (everyone wins!)
- ✓ Wine Pull
- ✓ Cookie Stroll



- ✓ Patriot's Game ticket raffle (New Year's Day!)
- ✓ Auction includes real Christmas tree & theater ticket package
- ✓ 4 vendors & more



Holy Cross, 225 Purchase St, South Easton



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -

RECOGNIZE GOD

IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Season That Gives Back

I don't have anything left to give.

You can't pour from an empty cup.

All I do is give. Who is giving to me?

Raise your hand if these thoughts have ever run through your head. I'm sure they occur to all of us from time to time. We can become so easily de-

pleted by the fast pace of life and whatever vocation God has called us to, whether that's parenthood, a demanding professional career or the caretaking of friends and family (or as so often happens, a hybrid of all three). Many of us also undergo certain seasons — seasons of the year, but also seasons of life — that seem to sap us of energy and leave us totally empty.

In these times, it seems impossible to continue in the spirituality of Everyday Stewardship. Graciousness, mindfulness, prayerfulness, gratitude, accountability — maintaining some semblance of these characteristics in our daily life feels not only overly optimistic, but totally impossible.

The Church gives us certain liturgical seasons that are meant to fill us up, almost like spiritual pit stops. Advent is one such season, and the Scriptural passages we reflect on at Mass during these four weeks are filled with images of nature defied. We see the dry steppe blooming. We see the weak made firm. We see the frightened made strong. We see the lame walk. We see the Virgin give birth.

If you think you don't have anything left to give this Advent, think again. This is the season of miracles when what we thought was depleted brings new life. @Lpi

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS