

January 5, 2025



*Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.*

Matthew 2:2

© Diocesan

Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Eucharistic Revival



Live the Eucharist: A Reflection for Epiphany Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi

We are still joyfully celebrating the Christmas season even as we begin a new year and a new month. And the Christmas season, in all its mystery and joy, is a wonderful time to ponder this most fundamental dimension of our faith—the blessed Eucharist—the “source and summit” of our lives as Christians. It is, after all, the life of Christ that we celebrate and consume in the Blessed Sacrament.

At every Mass, we recall and ponder in our hearts and minds the assuring words of Jesus from Saint John’s gospel: “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise you on the last day.” How overwhelmingly privileged we are to be nourished week in and week out, and at daily Mass, by our living Lord Jesus—life in Christ. Holy Communion plants, as it were, the fertile seed of the resurrection deep within us. This seed will grow, silently but assuredly, until it sprouts forth and yields the flower and fruit of life eternal, the pledge of eternal life promised to us.

‘Do This In Memory of Me’

As Jesus took, bless, broke and gave the bread at the Last Supper, and as Jesus himself went immediately thereafter where he was taken, blessed, broken and given, so too you and I are challenged in this dismissal in a similar way. We are challenged to be taken, blessed, broken and given, in effect, to put into action in our own concrete and daily lives, by the grace and transforming power of this Holy Sacrament, the Love we have just celebrated.

Food for the Journey

There is a beautiful hymn, perhaps you know it, entitled: “Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.” (Where charity and love are, there is God.) Holy Communion is the feast of love, the love of a cross, the love of humble service. As we are transformed more and more in communion with Jesus in the Eucharist, we take on his love in our actions. Where charity and love are, there is he. The Eucharist makes him visible and possible in our lives. It is how we live the Mass.

Live the Mass!

The Eucharist is, after all, “the source and summit of our lives” as followers of Jesus Christ. That is why we cannot live authentic Catholic lives without the Eucharist—lives committed to loving as Jesus loves. With the Eucharist, the Bread of Life, Jesus gave his disciples, and each of us, a power of love that knows no limits and that is efficacious in every human condition. All we are and all that we become are rooted in this sacrifice of love. The Eucharist is both gift and command. It rests at the very heart of our spiritual lives as his followers, followers committed to humble service, sacrificial love after his example, living and pulsating members of his body, a body broken out of love for us in the Upper Room and on Calvary itself and in the upper rooms of our lives.

Taken from:

[Live the Eucharist: A Reflection for Epiphany | Franciscan Media](#)



DEVOTION AND MASS

Please join our parish family on Wednesday evenings for Devotion and Mass.

The Devotion begins at 5:30 p.m. in the church, followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m.

In January we will be praying the Rosary for Holy Cross Parish to become a Eucharistic Parish

PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

*Msgr. Brian Brownsey
Father Joseph Baker
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher
Deacon Michael Smith*

TRUSTEES

John Powers John Kelley

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elizabeth Kelley

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Jonathan Young

TRIBUNAL AUDITOR

Deacon Ed Mohrbacher

MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
Weekdays: 7:00 a.m. Mon., Tue., & Thurs.
6:00 p.m. Wed.; 8:15 a.m. Fri.

DEVOTION 5:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesday

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

405 W. Clark St., Champaign, IL, 61820
Phone: 217-352-8748 Fax: 217-366-2929
e-mail address: office@holycrosscatholic.org
website: www.holycrosscatholic.org

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Greg Koerner, Principal
410 W. White, Champaign, Illinois, 61820
Phone: 217-356-9521 Fax: 217-356-1745

ADORATION

Fridays after the 8:15 a.m. Mass with Benediction at 2:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Mon, Tue, Thur, 6:30-6:45 a.m., Fri. 7:45-8:00 a.m.
Or by appointment.

BAPTISM: Second and fourth Sunday of the month, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Parents must be registered members and attend baptismal preparation sessions, preferably before the birth of the child. Contact the Parish Office 3 months in advance to schedule.

MATRIMONY: Couples contemplating marriage should call the Office at least 8 months in advance. At least one partner must be a registered parishioner at Holy Cross and be actively practicing the faith. If you have had a previous marriage, set no marriage date until you have discussed this with your Pastor.

CARE OF THE SICK: Call the Parish Office to make arrangements at any time for Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Two Wednesdays prior to the bulletin in which the information will be posted.

The Epiphany of the Lord

OUR PARISH

HOLY CROSS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Catholic Community of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is to provide a home for all who wish to join our spiritual family and share our Catholic beliefs and values. We are here to continue the life-giving works of Jesus Christ, to make His name known and loved, and to live our lives according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, under the leadership of the Bishop of the Peoria Diocese.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Jan. 11 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Elizabeth Kelley John Bingaman, Patty Bingaman, John Kelley John Haggin, Joey Haggin
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Jan. 12 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Sue Berndt Barry Dickerson, Ray Tucker Trevor Tucker, McKenna Tucker, Landen Douglas
10:00 a.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Michael Roedelbronn John Dixon, Pat Dixon, Dawn Friedman, Margie Hoss Tim Friedman, Camille Christhilf
4:00 p.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Rob Shanahan Katrina Covello Lydia Durdan, Sam Easton



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 6

7:00 a.m.

For the Deceased Members
of the Seeber Family

Tuesday, January 7

7:00 a.m.

Honor of Mary Mikulich & fam.

Wednesday, January 8

6:00 p.m.

Frances Pace

Thursday, January 9

7:00 a.m.

Elizabeth Deponai

Friday, January 10

8:15 a.m.

All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 11

5:30 p.m.

Philip Leahy

Sunday, January 12

8:00 a.m.

For the Parishioners

10:00 a.m.

Mary Lou Tempel

4:00 p.m.

Cusano Family



Thank You to our Art & Decoration Ministry for your many hours of dedication toward making Holy Cross a beautiful space in which to worship. When it comes to Christmas décor, Holy Cross takes top honors!

Thank You to our talented *Music Ministry* for your inspiring songs, and the beautiful organ music by our top-notch organist Jonathan Young. The choir concert before Midnight Mass was so inspirational.

Thank you to all of the Liturgical Ministers: Lectors, Ministers of Holy Communion, and Altar Servers who signed up to help with the Christmas and New Year Masses.

And many thanks for the generous contributions toward all the needs of Holy Cross Parish and School.

~ Always Home, Always Family ~



NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH,

and of Holy Cross, through the Sacrament of Baptism, is Isabel Joan and Susanna Margaret Oliveira, daughters of Wallace and Abby Oliveira. Let us support little Isabel and Susanna on their faith journey!

Senior Luncheon



If you are 55 or older, Join us for good food, good friends, and fun at the Senior Luncheon Thursday, **January 8th at noon**, and every second Thursday of the month. We look forward to seeing you there. Don't forget to bring a side dish to share!



COFFEE AND DONUTS -- Brr! It's cold outside!

Come over to the Parish Center after the Sunday morning Masses and warm up with a cup of coffee and a delicious donut. It's been a Holy Cross tradition for over 50 years. Join us for stimulating conversation. Join old friends, make new friends.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

JANUARY 2025

FOR THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

www.apostleshipofprayer.org

Collection

Offering for December 21st/22nd.....\$6,912.50

Thank you very much!



ATTENTION! CURSILLO IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN! Men, feel like you would like to increase your faith life, find a way to become a better Christian and grow as a man of God. There will

be a Men's Cursillo coming to St. Patrick's in Urbana, IL on the weekend of Feb. 14-16, 2025. Register now for 3 days of talks, laughter, fun, music, mass, and discussion and a great time with other guys seeking the same thing. For more information. Contact Dick Baxley @ 217-377-0318 or go to champaigncursillo.com



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 

The Vicariate Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is at St. Matthew Church: Available to everyone in our Vicariate and open 24 hrs/day. Keycard access required. For assistance, contact Joe Taylor at the St. Matthew parish office. To sign up for a Holy Hour, go to stmatthewadorem.com



MASS OF REMEMBRANCE CANDLES

The Parish Office still has many Candles with the names of loved ones who have passed and were honored during the Mass of Remembrance on All Souls Day.

Please come by the parish office (8:30 - 4:00, Mon- Fri) to pick up the candle of your loved one. If you know of anyone that might have a candle, please let them know that we still have them. If someone cannot make it during the office hours, please call the Parish Office at (217) 352-8748 and we can arrange for you to pick it up over the weekend.



*Lord Jesus, You are a shield around me.
Strong in love, heavy with power,
shaped with hope, and glided with truth.
I will fear no evil, for you watch over me.
You defend and deliver me. In this day,
this hour, this moment I put my trust in you. Amen.*



INCOME TAX STATEMENTS

If you would like to receive a statement of your contributions made in 2024 for tax planning purposes, please fill out this form, cut it out, and drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Or you can also email your request to:

office@holycrosscatholic.org.
Or call the Parish Office at 352-8748.

NAME: _____

Phone Number (optional): _____



CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

December is here and it's the month we contribute to the flower fund to pay for this year's poinsettia order for the church's Christmas decorations. You may drop your donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "flower fund" or bring it to the office.

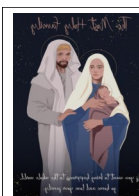
If you want to make your donation in memory or in honor of family members or friends, please write those names on a slip of paper and include it with your donation.

Donations have been made in the memory of Harold, Joann, Charles, and Steve Heidbreder; Kevin Hodge; Hettinger, Painter and Wagner Families; Frank Hartman; Finn Oliveira; Rein and Cobb Families; William and Beverly Lynch; Jim and Kathryn Bristow; Gene, Elaine, and Ross Mayor; Walker and Espeseth Families; Bingaman and Cosgrove Families; and Tom and Anne Corkery, John and Catherine Murray; Ethel G. Cox, Eve and Elmer Corkery; Rein and Cobb Families; and Ed and Jean Bown; Janet Compton; Dick and Peggy Valentine; Dick and Lucille York; Regina Robinson; Elmer and Sylvia Nicklas; John and Joyce Hipskind; and Robert and Verna Kerber.

Thank you in advance for your generosity

TRIVIA NIGHT!

Mark your calendars to attend Holy Cross School's Trivia Night & Silent Auction on Saturday February 22, 2025!! It's the biggest PTC fundraiser and a night you won't want to miss. The theme for this year's Trivia Night will be "Out of This World"!! Hot & cold appetizers are served, along with beer and wine.



Jesus son of God and son of Mary bless our family graciously inspire in us the unity peace and mutual love that you found in your own family. Amen.



High School of St. Thomas More
 217-352-7210
www.hs-stm.org

Save the Date! Join us Saturday, February 8th, 2025 for our 25th Jubilee Gala at Pear Tree Estate. We invite you to an evening of elegance, celebration, feasting, and mirth! Help celebrate 25 years of STM and our amazing Saber family. The event will benefit two upgrades to our school: the HVAC control panel and our sound and lighting systems for our cafetorium. More information is coming soon!

Shadow Visit Days for 7th and 8th Graders: Do you have a 7th or 8th grader interested in attending the High School of St. Thomas More? Sign them up for a Shadow Visit Day! Generally, on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of each month, shadow visits give prospective students a chance to see firsthand what STM is all about by following a current Saber for a day. To sign your son or daughter up, go to hs-stm.org and click the "Visit" button on the menu on the homepage. Questions? Email Rachael McMillan at admissions@hs-stm.org for more information.

Admissions Application Open for 2024-2025. STM is accepting admissions applications for the next school year. Go to www.hs-stm.org and click on the menu in the upper right corner, then "Apply Now" to get started today. Have questions or need help with the application? Contact the Enrollment Office at admissions@hs-stm.org. We hope and pray to welcome you and your child to the Saber family!

Rome Odunze Youth Football Camp at STM! Star Chicago Bears Wide Receiver Rome Odunze will be having a youth football camp for ages 6-16 here at STM on July 12th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. For more information, go to: <https://www.flexworksports.com/camps-1/rome-odunze-champaign%2C-il>

STM Job Opportunities: STM is currently seeking applications for a Bus Driver. If interested, email Sr. M. Bridget at srmbridget@hs-stm.org, Mr. Corapi at acorapi@hs-stm.org and John Delaney, Athletic Director at jdelaney@hs-stm.org.



Holy Cross School
 217-356-9521
www.holycrosselem.org

Did you Know?

**YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND A CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE**

Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2025-2026 school year for students enrolled in or intending to enroll in grades Kindergarten through 12 in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are active members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed.

Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website www.cdop.org under Catholic Schools and then under John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist at the bottom of the webpage for all requirements necessary to be eligible for an award.

Parents must apply online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for the 2025-2026 school year must reapply.

Deadline date for the completed application is April 25, 2025. Notification of grant awards will be made in June of 2025.

WE ARE HOLY CROSS!

May our schools continue to be beacons of light which enable all to live the Gospel message – 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'
 (John 13:34)



**The 2024-25 High School of St. Thomas More
 Paideia Award and Distinguished Alumni of the Year Award Nominations**



The Paideia Award is presented each year to an individual or married couple who exemplifies true leadership in service to Catholic elementary and secondary education, sustained or substantial contributions of time, talent or treasure to the Champaign Vicariate educational community, and leadership in spreading the Good News through Catholic education.

Distinguished Alumni of the Year Award is presented to an STM alum who has made a positive impact on the community (local, long distance, or international), has displayed exceptional human and ethical qualities, and exemplified success in and out of the classroom or in his/her chosen career.

Both awards will be presented at The High School of St. Thomas More Annual Spring Gala at Pear Tree Estate on Saturday, February 8th, 2025. Nominations are being accepted through Monday, January 13th, 2025. Please complete the forms to submit names and a brief reason why the nominee is deserving of this prestigious recognition.

Questions: Contact Joanna Yallaly at jyallaly@hs-stm.org.



Paideia award nomination form:
<https://forms.gle/zqs7Pw3damGzqFic9>



Distinguished Alumni award nomination form:
<https://forms.gle/uneNQdPQrNoUAutp7>



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

On this day we encounter the Magi coming from the East to worship the baby Jesus. What were the Magi? And why did they travel so far to find the Child King? What did these "foreigners" see that eluded the leaders and people of Israel?



WHO ARE THE MAGI?

We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season from December 22nd through January 11th.

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Michael Barber sits down to reflect on the Magi from the Gospel accounts and what spiritual lessons can be learned from this historical event recorded in Scripture.



THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season from December 22nd through January 11th.

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Elizabeth Klein sits down to reflect on the 12 days of Christmas.

Our Parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup to sign up.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.

Prospect Bank

Pro-Life News

Ecumenical Memorial Pro-Life Prayer Vigil



January 22, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church,
2010 3 Hierarchs Ct, Champaign, IL 61820

Featuring speaker Hope Miller.

Director of Youth Outreach, Pro-Life Action League

We honor and pray for all those lives lost and affected by abortion. Join us for scripture readings, song, rose and candle pre-session, testimony and fellowship with Catholic, Protestant and Greek Orthodox Churches and individuals.

Free. Refreshments following.

Good-will offerings gratefully accepted.

**Sponsoring Churches:
(all Champaign unless noted)**

- Community Evangelical Free Church of Mahomet
- Grace Church, Mahomet
- Holy Cross Catholic Church
- Living Water Center for Biblical Life, Monticello
- Mahomet Christian Church
- Meadowbrook Community Church
- Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Mahomet
- Rising Hope Church, Urbana
- Savoy United Methodist Church
- St. Matthew Catholic Church
- St. Patrick Catholic Church, Urbana
- St. Philomena Catholic Church, Monticello
- Stratford Park Bible Chapel
- Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church
- Windsor Road Christian Church

----- Christmas / financial help to families -----

We just had a \$400 donation to help the 3 families we planned to help for XMASS, with St. Matthew School.

And an additional \$600 was donated also!

We helped 6 families in need. Thank you!

We have an offer of two Christmas meals with ham and all the trimmings to go our families. Thank you SVdP Society!

Thank you to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, who provided gifts to 4 children from our families!

Thank you to everyone helping families in need! God bless you all!

HOLY CROSS FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIAL

Devall, Desmier, Jensen Families
Menke & Leahy Families
James, Marie, Paul, Joe, & Edward, Knoke
Living & Dec. Mem. of Donato, Pace, Follis Families
Dec. Mem. of Mueller, Neunhoffer, Willard Families
Robert F. Reiser Family
Dec. Mem. of Corkery, Cox, Murray Families
Nichols, Oetzel, Parod, Foltzler & LoGrasso Families
Dec. Mem. of Happ, Krueger Families
Ed & Jean Bown
Chuck, Chad, Meghan Schweighart
Larry Hausmann, Bob Soucie
Living & Dec. Mem. of Cler & Flavin Families
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Pastore, Buzinsky, & Piccolo Families
Lamendola/Smith/Hammers Families
Hammel & Mitsdarfer Families
Margaret & Eldon Tufte and Dec. Mem. of their family
Barham & Bosch Families

Tangora & Kovera Families
William & Mary McMahon, Linda & Mike Wesolowski
McNamara & Mulcahey Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of Giuffre & Cacioppo Families
Boudreau & Arseneau Family
Aloysius J. Winka
Charlie & Evelyn Bell
Zeilenga Family
Rentfrow Family
Towner Family
Haggin Family
Rakers-Wade Families
Hershberger & Kick Families
Dec. Mem. of Cochrane-O'Brien families
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of David & Bernice Williams Family
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Graham, Fellers & Gordon Family
John E. Sullivan Family
Theresa Brya

Birdie & Edward Cronau
Raymond Timpone
Maxine Timpone
Margaret B. Schwenk
Living & Dec. Mem. of Schwenk Family
Perrodin Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of McNabney Family
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Eli & Hazel Kinser Family
Menacher & Sizer Families
Leonard & Loretto Doyle
Alan & Patricia Berndt
Thomas McCarthy
Costello Family
Leta & Kenny Porter
Ron Murphy
Dec. Mem. of Murphy & Sullivan Families
Living & Dec. Mem. of Williams, Lykins, Barham Fam.
Dan Crawmer