

January 10, 2021



Baptism *of the Lord*

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold,
the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God
descending like a dove and coming upon him.

Matthew 3:16

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Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Our Savior's Baptism

Matthew 3:13-17

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."



Why do we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord?

This day commemorates the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. On this occasion, Jesus entered into His ministry and acquired His first disciples. St. John proclaimed Christ the Lamb of God, whose way he had prepared, and the Triune nature of the Godhead was manifested. The Church generally celebrates the Baptism of the Lord on the Sunday after January 6th. Thus, this year (2021) it is Sunday, January 10th.

Why did Jesus get baptized?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (paragraph 536) teaches:

The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners: he is already "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Already he is anticipating the "baptism" of his bloody death. Already he is coming to "fulfill all righteousness", that is, he is submitting himself entirely to his Father's will: out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins.

The Father's voice responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him." Jesus will be the source of the spirit for all mankind. At his baptism "the heavens were opened" - the heavens that Adam's sin had closed - and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation.

PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

Fr. Joseph P. Donton, Pastor
Fr. Remigius Bukuru, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher
Deacon Michael Smith

TRUSTEES

Tom Murray John Powers

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Gloria Fellers

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. Monday thru Friday
Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

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

Adoration is available on the patio in the courtyard anytime.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Monday thru Friday, 6:30-6:45 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 a baptismal preparation session, 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 Baptism 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.

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (Mark 1:7-11)

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Thus says the Lord: All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what fails to satisfy? Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare. Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life. I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David. As I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of nations, so shall you summon a nation you knew not, and nations that knew you not shall run to you, because of the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked man his thoughts; let him turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Jan. 11

7:00 a.m.

Johnny Deponai

Tuesday, Jan. 12

7:00 a.m.

All Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, Jan. 13

7:00 a.m.

Joseph Mitsdarfer

Thursday, Jan. 14

7:00 a.m.

Gerryontae Brown

Friday, Jan. 15

7:00 a.m.

Friday Memorial

Saturday, Jan. 16

5:30 p.m.

Ann Selma McNabb

Sunday, Jan. 17

8:00 a.m.

Joe Hacker

10:00 a.m.

Zachary McNabney

4:00 p.m.

For the Parishioners

FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF ST JOHN

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, and the Spirit is truth. So there are three that testify, the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and the three are of one accord. If we accept human testimony, the testimony of God is surely greater. Now the testimony of God is this, that he has testified on behalf of his Son.



A SAD FAREWELL TO FR. REMI

Recently, Father Remi announced that he is experiencing serious health issues. Due to the nature of his illness and his expiring visa, he will be returning to Tanzania in late January. We have been so fortunate to have Fr.

Remi with us at Holy Cross the past 2 years and he will be dearly missed. He will be offering farewells in the Parish Center lobby on January 16th and 17th after all Masses. We are all heartbroken about Father's health and that he will be leaving after serving the parishioners of Holy Cross so faithfully. He has truly been a blessing!

Several people have asked about how they could help him. While we wish there was more that we could do, for those who want to make a monetary donation to assist him in the months ahead, that would be welcomed. Please mail to or drop off at the Parish Office, or deliver it to him at the Farewell. We thank our Holy Cross family for its generosity as always. Please pray for Father Remi, his health, and his journey home.

WE WILL MISS YOU, FR. REMIGIUS!



FAITHFUL DEPARTED. Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of James O. Voss. And also for the soul of Harry Breen. May their souls and those of all the Faithful Departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Many people who have never formally registered in the parish attend Mass faithfully at Holy Cross and consider themselves members. If you were registered under your parents, but are now an adult, we ask that you please register and start a record for yourself. We would like to assist you with family baptisms, marriages, and other important needs, but can do so only if we have records on file for you. It takes only a moment to fill out a registration form and become an official member of your Holy Cross Parish Family. Please call or stop by the parish office to register. You can also find a registration form on our website: holycrosscatholic.org, under About Holy Cross.

Last Week's Collection

Offering for January 2nd/3rd.....\$4,772.75

School Tuition Assistance.....\$410.00

Thank you very much!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED BUT MASS STILL TAKING PLACE



The Parish Office is closed until further notice. We are still available by phone (217) 352-8748, and email: office@holycrosscatholic.org. You can also find information at holycrosscatholic.org on our website.

The lobby of the Parish Center will be open for drop-off or pick-up of any necessary items or materials.

At this time, we are still having Mass. We will continue to practice the COVID safety guidelines. This includes social distancing, wearing a face mask over your mouth and nose, and sanitizing practices.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 16

5:30 p.m. No Ministers

Sunday, January 17

8:00 a.m. No ministers

10:00 a.m. Ben Laws, Jessica McMahon

4:00 p.m. Jan Weber, John Farney



CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

Donations have been made in memory of the Hettinger, Painter & Wagner families; Rose Baum; Norma Wilson; James & Zachary McNabney; Finn W. Oliveira; Skip Hartman; Mel Meyer; John & Clara Rakers; Wayne & Delores Wade; Donna Menacher; the Murray & Huckaba families; Robert Lewis & Robert Plecki Sr., the Cochrane & Vedder families; Tom & Anne Corkery; John & Catherine Murray; Ethel Cox; Sr. Rita Corkery; Francine Cindy Gibas; Harold, Jo Ann & Charles Heidbreder; the Williams, Barham & Lykins families; Jim & Kathryn Bristow; the Calcagno & Christians families; Chuck Schweighart; the Leathers, Lynch, Lecher & Rodgers families; and the Hammel & Mitsdarfer families.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

REFLECTIONS ON THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS, JANUARY 2021

Intention for Evangelization: Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

www.apostleshipofprayer.org



Holy Cross School
356-9521
www.holycrosselem.org

REOPENING OF SCHOOL

Parents, Teachers, Staff, and Stakeholders,

I received an email from Dr. Weiss, Superintendent of schools, stating that we could open up our school earlier than what was first planned. After long conversations with STM, St Matts, and St Malachy, we are delighted to announce that our intention is to return to school for in-person learning on Monday, January 11, 2021. There are many reasons for this decision but the most important is for the health and safety of our entire Holy Cross community. Also, our teachers have already planned for virtual learning the week of January 4th and I want to give them adequate time to prepare for the return of in-person learning.

Please Note: If personnel and families are traveling during the holidays, the travel guidance from IDPH and CDC will be followed for quarantine and isolation upon a return home.

The diligence and adherence to CDC and local health department guidelines by our faculty, staff, students and parents are the reason we were able to successfully complete 14 weeks of school. Fr. Danton and I will be monitoring the number of cases and if there is a surge in cases, we will reconsider the return date.

I hope that this brings joy to your families. I am very excited about the news and cannot wait to see all of you in the near future.....WE ARE HOLY CROSS!

Greg Koerner, Principal, Holy Cross



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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The High School of St. Thomas More is seeking applicants for a Spanish Teacher and a Biology Teacher for the 2021-2022 academic year. The Athletic Department is seeking applications for an Assistant Boys and Girls Tennis Coach. If interested email Sr. M. Bridget, srmbridget@hs-stm.org.

ECUMENICAL MEMORIAL PRAYER VIGIL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND AT 7 PM
ST PATRICK CHURCH, URBANA



This year's theme is "Hope for Life." Our speaker will be Rebecca Kiessling. She will be coming to us with a special virtual presentation. Rebecca is a national Pro-Life speaker and President of Save the One, a pro-life organization featuring those conceived in rape or incest. She herself was conceived in rape and then was adopted.

Rebecca is a lawyer and a strong advocate for Pro-Life legislation, Adoption, and proper treatment for people with addiction. She will share her personal story and message of hope during difficult times. This program is filled with Scripture and solemn honoring of all those lost or affected by abortion.

Join us. This is open to all. Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/Prolifeprayervigilofcentralillinois> and the event page <https://fb.me/e/d3PXZUj8Y>

For further information, contact Shirley Kolb at 217-762-2953, or email shirley.kolb@gmail.com

Empower Illinois Scholarship Reservation Day

Reserve your spot to apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2021-2022 school year on **Jan. 13th!** Reservations open at 6:30 p.m. in order to submit at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Cross PTC Presents...

Virtual Pursuit, the 2021 Edition: 9th Annual Trivia Night & Silent Auction. Save the Date: Saturday Feb. 27th, 2021. Registration opens on **Jan. 18th**. Check out our Facebook link for formal details at: <https://fb.me/e/1S8h20z5s>

Need Financial Assistance for the 2021-2022 School Year? You Must:

1. Apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship.
2. Submit and pay for (\$30) the FACTS Grant & Aid Application (usually opens in January each year).
3. Apply for the Diocesan Spalding Scholarship (more info to come after January 2021).
4. Request assistance from your home parish (Holy Cross, St. Patrick, or St. Mary's).



INCOME TAX STATEMENTS

If you would like to receive a statement of your contributions made in 2020 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 217-352-8748.

NAME: _____

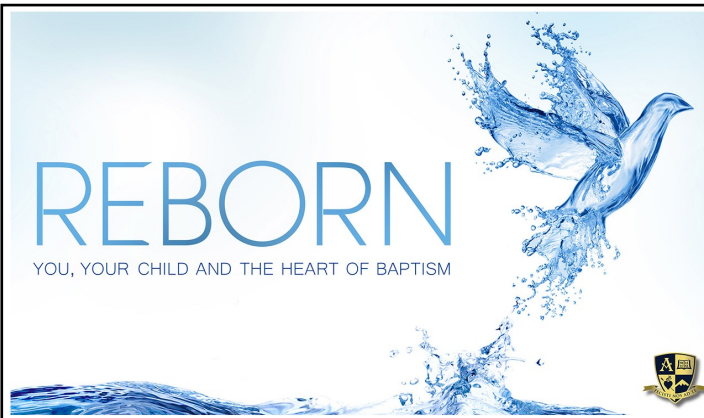
Phone Number (optional): _____



CHANGED FOREVER: THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

Renowned Catholic speaker and priest, Fr. Mike Schmitz explores the beautiful gift of the Sacrament of Baptism. In this talk, Fr. Mike provides a wonderful presentation on the waters that give new life!



REBORN - EPISODE 1: A NEW CREATION

This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!

Our Parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup
and select our parish.

A WORD FROM JOY

THANK YOU St. Matthew School Teachers and Students! Thank you to teacher Ann Case who coordinated the effort! We collected gift cards to help our ministry and support families this Christmas, allowing us to help 7 families with assistance! We also helped a family with gas assistance and Subway gift cards. Thank you!

Thank you to all our benefactors – the individuals and families who are sending in donations to our committee! We are receiving gift cards, a big box of size 6 diapers and monetary donations for our committee. Giving out 2,400+ diapers and pullups a month is a big project – and we cannot do this without your prayers and donations! **God bless you all!**

Thank you to Mark Taylor and his helpers at the Saint Vincent de Paul Society for providing Christmas meals to 3 of our families!

Needs: Gift cards to Walgreen's, Target and Amazon for diapers, pull-ups, and toiletries; Aldi gift cards to help with food security for our families.

We REALLY appreciate your prayers and support. We cannot do this work without you! God bless you for your prayers and wanting to share your bounty with others!

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.

Thrivent Financial

HOLY CROSS FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIAL

Devall, Desmier, Jensen Families
Menke & Leahy Families
Jerry & Loretta M. Dano
Paul, Joe, Edward, & Marie Knoke
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 & Fotzler Families
Dec. Mem. of Happ, Krueger Families
Pellum & Gillis Families
Thelma Sparks, Parents of Charles & Thelma Sparks
Ed & Jean Bown
Chuck, Chad, Meghan Schweighart
Larry Hausmann, Bob Soucie
Living & Dec. Mem. of Cler & Flavin Families
Graham & Huguet 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
Living & Dec. members of Baum & Decker Families
Barham & Bosch Families
Tangora & Kovera Families
William McMahon, Linda & Mike Wesolowski
McNamara & Mulcahey Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of Giuffre & Cacioppo Families
Boudreau & Arseneau Family
Margaret Turkcan
Aloysius J. Winka
Charlie & Evelyn Bell
Zeilenga Family
Rentfrow Family
Ron Murphy
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
Birdie & Edward Cronau
Margaret Hettinger
Raymond Timpone
Maxine Timpone
Living & Dec. Mem. of Schwenk Family
Perrodin Family
Living & Dec. Mem. of McNabney Family
Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Eli & Hazel Kinser Family
John Michael Cabutti
Glen & Helen Jones
Betty Madrey
Christie & Hoss Families
Menacher & Sizer Families
Leonard & Loretto Doyle
Alan & Patricia Berndt
Thomas McCarthy
Costello Family