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December 1, 2024

HOPE

*Be vigilant at all times...*

Lk 21:36

Hope

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,  
and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5 (NIV)



Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



## Eucharistic Revival



### MEDITATIONS FOR ADVENT

**Sunday, December 1** – Have you set any spiritual goals for Advent? You say you don't have time? Then how do you find the time to set and accomplish your material goals, such as buying gifts, decorating your home, planning parties, and baking treats? Take the time now to write down one spiritual goal for Advent (e.g., an extra daily prayer, a daily sacrifice, daily spiritual reading, etc.). Then make a commitment to God to accomplish your goal.

**Monday, December 2** – “Thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, Jesus.” He was there, hidden in Mary's womb. He is here, hidden in the tabernacle of our church. Will Jesus be lonely this Christmas season? Are you willing to visit Him regularly during Advent so you can better understand the true meaning of Christmas? He is waiting. He is always there.

**Tuesday, December 3** – “The angel Gabriel was sent from God, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph.” When we were conceived in our mother's womb, God gave each of us a companion, a guardian angel, to assist us throughout our lifetime. Ask your guardian angel every day to help you understand what God's will is for you.

**Wednesday, December 4** – “I am the handmaid of the Lord.” A handmaid was a servant who was at all times subject to the master. Are you willing to be a servant to the Christ child? If you are, you must humble yourself and seek to constantly serve Him. What is the easiest way to serve God? By serving others. Will you choose to serve others this Christmas season?

**Thursday, December 5** – “Be it done unto me according to thy word.” Mary was ready on a moment's notice to do God's will. Are you ready on a moment's notice to do God's will? Or are you too busy doing your own will — shopping, working, socializing, partying? Are you willing to do one thing for God each day during Advent?

**Friday, December 6** – “She was found to be with child.” But what about Joseph? He was troubled and confused until an angel confirmed that the Christ child was “begotten of the Holy Spirit.” Like all of us, Joseph had his own cross to carry. When you are faced with trials and tribulations, are you willing to be patient and trust in God as Joseph did?

**Saturday, December 7** – “Behold, Elizabeth thy kinswoman also has conceived a son. . . . Mary arose and went with haste, and saluted Elizabeth.” Mary could have stayed home. She was, after all, the mother of God; however, instead of staying home, she “went with haste” to someone who needed her help. Are you too busy this Christmas season to go with haste to someone in need? Try to help one person who is in need during this Christmas season. “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me.”

<https://adoration.com/meditations-for-advent/>



### 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 December we are praying the Litany to Mary, Mother of God

### PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

*Msgr. Brian Brownsey*  
*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*

#### MASSSES

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](mailto:office@holycrosscatholic.org)  
website: [www.holycrosscatholic.org](http://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.

# First Sunday of Advent

## 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

<b>Saturday</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>Dec. 7</b> Lector: Elizabeth Kelley EMHC: Peg Swanson, John Kelley, Joslyn Unger Servers: Nick, Zora, and Samantha Unger
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 8</b> Lector: Justine Karduck EMHC: Sue Berndt, Barry Dickerson Servers: Henry Karduck, Wil Karduck
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Lector: Andrew Zasada EMHC: Dawn Friedman, Terry Sturdyvin, Ben Laws, Jessica McMahon Servers: Camille Christhilf, Lincoln Wood
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	Lector: Rob Shanahan EMHC: Jan Weber Servers: Ithuriel Randall, Matthew Woodard



#### Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar Servers:

Please go to the sacristy to sign up; call or email the Parish Office

to help out during Christmas.

**For those sensitive to Incense:** Please note that it will be used at the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass.

**Donations to the Flower Fund** are welcome now for Christmas. The names of those you wish to remember in honor or memorial will be listed in the bulletin.

**Free Advent Meditation Booklets** from *The Word Among Us* are available at the back of the church.



### WELCOME FR. JOSEPH BAKER

Introduction from Msgr. Brownsey:

Welcome Fr. Baker—This weekend Father Baker begins his time with us at Holy Cross. I have known him since his family were regular parishioners at my parish when he was in High School. He grew up in Morton, but they were parishioners at St. Mary's Cathedral. In those days I saw him mostly during summer and school breaks because he attended high school as a boarder at IMSA. We did pack the Church every year on his birthday, which is December 24th. I saw more of him when he was a college student at U of I and part of the gang that hung out in my office at the Newman Center and gave me an excuse not to do office work. I have a feeling I'm in for more of the same. Tune in next week for his self-introduction. Meanwhile, join us after all the masses this weekend to introduce yourself and grab a donut!



### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### Monday, December 2

7:00 a.m. All Souls in Purgatory

#### Tuesday, December 3

7:00 a.m. Lorena Arsenrau

#### Wednesday, December 4

6:00 p.m. Pera Family

#### Thursday, December 5

7:00 a.m. Connor, Edgar, & Ingersoll Families

#### Friday, December 6

8:15 a.m. First Friday Memorial

#### Saturday, December 7

5:30 p.m. Deacon Bob Ulbrich

#### Sunday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Enders and Hacker Families

10:00 a.m. For the Parishioners

4:00 p.m. Stephen Primmer



### CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE



Save yourself the hassle of baking cookies during this busy time of the year. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #1070 will hold their annual Christmas Cookie Sale on **Sunday, December 15th** from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Parish Center.

Cookies are \$7.00 a plate. We have a large variety including nut free and gluten free.

There will also be a Craft Sale of handmade items by the members. Just in time for those last minute Christmas gifts. Children of Hope & Faith will also be holding a Craft Sale.


All proceeds will go to charity.

## APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

### DECEMBER 2024 - FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

*We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.*

[www.apostleshipofprayer.org](http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org)





**THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
GIVING TREE PROJECT - UPDATE**

Thank you to all who have taken a tag with the toys and gift items for those in need in the Peoria Diocese, to make their Christmas a little brighter.

Please drop the items off at the back of the church, or in the parish office, **before December 6th**. The Catholic Charities van will be here to pick the items up sometime on December 6th so they can get the gifts to the families in need. Everything we collect here at Holy Cross will be given to families in the local Champaign County area. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 217-352-8748.

Thank you so much for your support!

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND**

December is fast approaching, and it's not too early to 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, Johann, Charles, and Steve Heidbreder; and Kevin Hodge.

Thank you in advance for your generosity

**Senior Luncheon**


If you are 55 or older, Join us for good food, good friends, and fun at the Senior Luncheon Thursday, **December 12th 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!

**Thank You for Supporting Catholic Daughters of the America's Box of Joy Charity!**



We are so grateful to everyone who participated in this year's Box of Joy initiative.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to ship 59 full boxes filled with gifts for boys and girls ages 2-14. In addition, we raised \$698 to help cover the shipping costs and additional boxes for the Children. If you were unable to participate but would still like to contribute, you can make an online donation through the Box of Joy program via the Cross Catholic website. Thank you once again for your kindness and support in bringing joy to children in need!



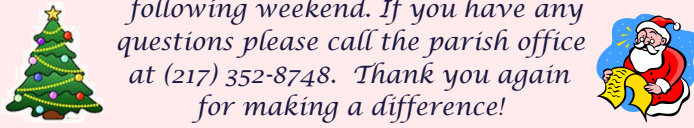

*Encounters With Jesus*

Our next Encounter Night will be December 11th after the 6:00 p.m. Mass

**Swann Special Care Center Gifts - Update**

Thank you to all who have participated in the Christmas Wish List providing Christmas gifts for the residents of Swann. Currently we still have \_ tags left with a name and a wish list left. Help bring the joy of Christmas to these residents. Please continue to drop off the items and the tag of the person to receive them at the Parish Office by Friday, **December 6th** so we can get the gifts to the SWANN Center for the Christmas party the following weekend. If you have any questions please call the parish office at (217) 352-8748. Thank you again for making a difference!





**ST. MARY'S CEMETERY DONATIONS**


St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Champaign is asking for donations to help cover lawn mowing and general maintenance of the cemetery for 2025. All donations are appreciated and no donation is too small!

Please send your donation to:

St. Mary's Cemetery, care of  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
612 E. Park St,  
Champaign, IL 61820.



For additional information, please contact Denny Santarelli at [dennysantarelli2@gmail.com](mailto:dennysantarelli2@gmail.com) or 217-778-0575.



**CHAMPAIGN-URBANA  
VENERABLE FULTON SHEEN GUILD**  
A CHARTERED GUILD of the Catholic Medical Association

Presents

**Defending Human Life: Education and Practice**  
On **December 7th** at 9:00 a.m.  
St Matthew's Parish Hall in the St. Mark room

Led by:

**WeDignify** - mentoring college students into skilled, virtuous, pro-life leaders, so they can build and nurture a culture of life on campus and in their future communities and -

**Living Alternatives** - pregnancy resource center in Champaign, serving the women of our community during pregnancy and beyond.

Please join us as we reflect on ways to build a culture of life and defend some of the most vulnerable members of society, the unborn.

We will gather to pray a Rosary at 8:30  
*All are welcome to join.*  
*Light refreshments will be provided.*



**High School of St. Thomas More**  
**217-352-7210**  
[www.hs-stm.org](http://www.hs-stm.org)

**STM Madrigal Dinner.** Enter into the Advent and Christmas Season with your STM Madrigals! This beautiful holiday themed evening of revelry, food and song is sure to have you in the Christmas Spirit! Join our kingdom as we come together for an evening of soaring melodies, raucous comedy, and most importantly the story of the baby born in the manger. Two different opportunities this year to join us! A dessert-only option for those who are in for more of a concert and our traditional meal shows! Tickets for Thursday are General Admission, and for our Friday and Saturday shows you will have an assigned table. Tickets are on sale now at <https://stmusicanddrama.ludus.com/index.php>. For more information, contact the Music and Drama Department at [mad@hs-stm.org](mailto:mad@hs-stm.org).

**Parent Wine & Wisdom.** Thursday, December 12, 2024, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. (6:30 p.m. Fellowship Begins, 7:00 p.m. Talk Begins) at The High School of Saint Thomas More, 3901 N Mattis Ave., Champaign. Adults, please join us for fellowship, formation, wine, and snacks with Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck and his parents, Kim and Mike. Did you know that Fr. Chase was a professional soccer player before becoming a priest? How did he stay faithful while traveling the world? Come hear Fr. Chase and his parents speak about balancing a serious athletic life with a serious spiritual life.

**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](http://hs-stm.org) and click the "Visit" button on the menu on the homepage. Questions? Email Rachael McMillan at [admissions@hs-stm.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:admissions@hs-stm.org). Apply by December 1, 2024 and receive 5% off tuition for your first year. We hope and pray to welcome you and your child to the Saber family!

**Rome Oduenze Youth Football Camp at STM!** Star Chicago Bears Wide Receiver Rome Oduenze 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 [srbridget@hs-stm.org](mailto:srbridget@hs-stm.org), Mr. Corapi at [acorapi@hs-stm.org](mailto:acorapi@hs-stm.org) and John Delaney, Athletic Director at [jdelaney@hs-stm.org](mailto:jdelaney@hs-stm.org).



**Holy Cross School**  
**217-356-9521**  
[www.holycrosselem.org](http://www.holycrosselem.org)

**From the Desk of Principal Greg Koerner:**

Scripture is full of commands for us to praise and give thanks to our Lord, so it really does matter. What a delight it should be for us to thank him.

For those around us who don't follow Christ will enjoy the four-day weekend as they too gather with friends and family to express gratitude to one another—and perhaps to thank Mother Nature for the change of weather and the Man Upstairs for letting them live another year free of disaster. But we, as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, can do much more than that. We are profoundly grateful to our Creator for creating, loving, saving, and sustaining us to the praise of his great glory.

Every single breath we draw is a gift from our God. That simple and profound truth is too often lost on us. We are surrounded by a contemporary culture where entitlement rules. People are convinced they deserve to be happy, healthy, rich, and empowered. Self-absorption creeps in and takes root.

More than anything else, we are most thankful for the inexpressible gift of grace in the salvation that we have in Christ alone.

The staff at Holy Cross School hope you had a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving filled with joy and grace.

**WE ARE HOLY CROSS!**

**Holy Cross School Job Opportunities:**  
 Middle School Religion Teacher for 2nd semester

*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)



**WINTER CARNIVAL WITH SANTA AT STM**

Calling all families to a fun morning of games, crafts, a Christmas Cookie Walk, face painting, photos with Santa and more on **Sat., Dec. 14 from 9 – 11 a.m.** at the High School of St. Thomas More, 3901 N. Mattis Ave. in Champaign.

The cost is \$30 per family and includes unlimited games as well as coffee, donuts and light refreshments. Register online at <https://forms.gle/K4YdtTZraah44CHx5> and pay by Venmo or check. Proceeds benefit STM Parent Association. For more information contact [pa@hs-stm.org](mailto:pa@hs-stm.org). See you there!

## HOLY CROSS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - September 30, 2024

	<u>YTD ACTUAL</u>	<u>YTD BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD LAST YEAR</u>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Parish Ordinary Revenue Totals:	169,839.16	187,930.95	166,329.46
Parish Extraordinary Revenue Totals:	6,080.15	4,940.01	4,397.16
Tuition and Fees Totals:	359,511.84	434,485.89	288,023.87
Contributions and Development Totals:	1,851.46	18,330.00	2,206.04
Other Income Totals	31,722.26	28,104.99	46,189.66
<b>Income Totals:</b>	<u>569,004.87</u>	<u>673,791.84</u>	<u>507,146.19</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Salaries and Wages Total:	349,689.96	392,831.88	333,150.58
Taxes and Benefits Totals:	100,973.74	116,529.60	102,571.52
Repairs and Maintenance Totals:	25,271.80	30,215.76	35,139.76
Other Expenses Totals	35,638.64	19,328.43	32,237.52
Materials and Supplies Totals:	47,311.40	38,084.91	53,820.02
Insurance Totals:	21,076.35	20,763.72	20,616.77
Utilities Totals:	31,243.85	36,198.69	25,354.21
Instructional Expenses & Student Totals:	43,505.49	12,810.06	26,395.26
Education and Other Assessments Totals:	33,722.12	13,058.83	13,891.34
Capital Expenditures Totals:	1,967.28	11,015.01	122,447.94
<b>Expense Totals:</b>	<u>690,400.63</u>	<u>695,836.89</u>	<u>765,624.92</u>
<b>INCOME - EXPENSE</b>	<u><b>(121,395.76)</b></u>	<u><b>(22,045.05)</b></u>	<u><b>(258,478.73)</b></u>



**THE TRUE MEANING OF THE ADVENT SEASON:** The word Advent originates from a Latin word "Adventus" which means "coming" or "arrival." Advent Season is focused on preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ in all ways, from His birth in the past to His Second Coming in the future as the Messiah.

For us Catholics, Advent is a meaningful season that reminds us of the reality of Jesus Christ and that He has come and He is present in our world and lives. The birth of Jesus is worth celebrating because it reveals His human side and is therefore an example of how we should live our own lives as his followers here on earth.

The Advent Season starts on the 4th Sunday before Christmas Day or the Sunday that is closest to November 30 (the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle), and it ends on Christmas Eve or December 24th. If Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, it is considered the 4th Sunday of Advent and the time after sundown is considered to be Christmas Eve.

### 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, Fotzler & 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  
 Hershbarger & 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