

FEAST OF *The Holy Family*

December 31, 2023



The Holy Family
by Joseph Paelinck © Diocesan
circa 1820

Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Eucharistic Revival



EXCERPT FROM *A Eucharistic Christmas:* **ADVENT MEDITATIONS ON THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST**

He Will Indeed Refresh Us

It is wonderful that many parishes have begun to have perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, exposed in the monstrance, over the past 25 years. However, most Eucharistic holy hours, including those of the saints and Bishop Sheen have been made not before the monstrance but before the tabernacle. Although it is a great privilege to pray before the monstrance, praying before the tabernacle is also a great privilege and we should take advantage of this when exposure is not available.

Some may ask, "What would I do during an hour of prayer?" Well, here are some possibilities. Meditate on Sacred Scripture, especially the readings for the next day's Mass, meditate on the mysteries of the rosary, make the Stations of the Cross, pray the liturgy of the Hours. Or you might just do as a parishioner of St. John Vianney did during many of his hours before the Blessed Sacrament, "I look at the good Lord, and he looks at me."

Why should you pray before the Blessed Sacrament as opposed to some other place? The saints should inspire us. St. Francis of Assisi, it seems, was the first to go and pray in churches where the Blessed Sacrament was reserved for the sick. St. Clare spent long hours in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and her face would glow when she came out. St. John of the Cross slept only two or three hours a night because he was praying before the Blessed Sacrament. His face also shone with brightness at times.

Pope John Paul II is said to have spent two hours a day before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer, and Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta and her nuns spent three hours a day there. What better way to do as Our Lord asked, "*Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matthew 11:28). He will refresh us!

Join us for our Monthly Encounter Nights

2nd Wednesday - after 6:00 p.m. Mass --> in the Parish Center
Father Robert Lampitt, Head Chaplain at the St. John Catholic Newman Center, is our speaker for Wednesday, January 10.
Come and see how the Eucharist has influenced his life!
Come and learn more about our faith!

4th Wednesday - after 6:00 p.m. Mass --> in the church
Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
followed by Benediction
Come and spend time with Him!



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 are praying the Rosary for Holy Cross Parish

PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

Fr. Leopold Mushobozi, Parish Administrator
Fr. Deogratias Mpewo, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher
Deacon Michael Smith

TRUSTEES

Tom Murray John Powers

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
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.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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. 6 Lector: Elizabeth Kelley EMHC: John Bingaman, Patty Bingaman, John Kelley Servers: Nora Kelley, Lydia Durdan
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Jan. 7 Lector: Sue Berndt EMHC: Greg Koerner, Barry Dickerson Servers: Avery Natschke, Emma Lwao
10:00 a.m.	Lector: Michael Roedelbronn EMHC: Bonita Higgerson, Margie Hoss, Dawn Friedman, (Need 1 more) Servers: Abby Friedman, Chris Friedman, Tim Friedman
4:00 p.m.	Lector: Ed Seebauer EMHC: Juliann Seebauer, Stephanie Rank, Servers: Anthony Frasca, Kristina Maloney, Isabella Contreras



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 1

9:00 a.m. Donna O'Neill Dixon

Tuesday, January 2

7:00 a.m. Patrick & Violet Cosgrove Family

Wednesday, January 3

6:00 p.m. Ruth Gordon

Thursday, January 4

7:00 a.m. Barbara Leathers

Friday, January 5

8:15 a.m. First Friday Memorial

Saturday, January 6

5:30 p.m. Carol Bergeson

Sunday, January 7

8:00 a.m. Frank Cardaronella
10:00 a.m. For the Parishioners
4:00 p.m. Ronald Riesbeck



The Parish Office will close Friday, Dec. 29th through Jan. 1st. We will open on Tue., Jan. 2nd. Thank you.

Blessings to all for the New Year!

The Feast of the Solemnity of Mary is not a Holy Day of obligation and will be celebrated during the weekend Masses.

There is no Adoration on January 5th



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.

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



There is **NO Coffee and Donuts** on Dec. 31st



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1st

Hail, Mary, Mother of God,
venerable treasure of the whole universe,
lamp that is never extinguished, crown of virginity,
support of the true faith, indestructible temple,
dwelling of him whom no place can contain,
O Mother and Virgin!

Through you all the holy Gospels call blessed
the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hail, Mother of God.

You enclosed under your heart the infinite God
whom no space can contain.

Through you the Most Holy Trinity
is adored and glorified, the priceless cross is
venerated throughout the universe.

Through you the heavens rejoice,
and the angels and archangels are filled with gladness.
Through you the demons are banished,
and the tempter fell from heaven.

Through you the fallen human race is admitted to heaven.



CURSILLO WEEKEND FOR MEN

Champaign-Urbana area men! A Men's Cursillo weekend will be held Jan, 26-28, 2024 at St Patrick's Catholic Church, Urbana. What a great way to start the new year by joining other men, strengthening your faith in Christ and His Church!

Contact Greg Koerner gkoerner@ymail.com or Cathy Koerner cathkern007@gmail.com for information.

Senior Luncheon

If you are 55 or older, Join us for good food, good friends, and fun at the Senior Luncheon Thursday, **January 11th 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!



FOR THOSE AGE 70½



There is good news if you have reached age 70½ and you would like to help (your parish, school, ministry). If you have an IRA, the government requires you to take out a certain amount each year and be subject to federal tax. However, the law allows you to donate this amount directly to (your parish, school, ministry) during 2023 and have it distributed free of federal income tax!

What a wonderful opportunity for those 70½ to help (parish, school, ministry). Please contact the custodian of your IRA or your tax advisor.



Bingo in January!

Join us for BINGO and fun at Holy Cross Parish Center on **Friday, January 5**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Bingo cards and Daubers will be available to purchase. Concessions open at 5:30 as well. Bingo will begin at 6:30 p.m. Join us for 15 games! \$20 for 9 cards per game. Or \$10 for 3 cards per game. Cash prizes: \$25, \$50, & \$100. (based on a minimum number of 25 people.) Daubers are \$1 or bring your own!

Dinner and Dessert: Homemade Chili: Beef, Chicken and Vegetarian are the options. Cornbread, tortilla chips. Sour cream and cheese toppings available as well. Variety of desserts Can of soda for \$1. Coffee &, tea, no charge.

Questions? Call the Parish Office at 217-352-8748.

Proceeds go to Holy Cross School.



2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal Update

Thank you to all who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

As of 11/30/23, we have received 168 pledges (19% of our parishioners) totaling \$93,443 toward our goal of \$119,274.

So far, 168 families in our parish have responded to the appeal. We have nearly 1,000 families in our parish.

Your gift supports ministries that give food to the hungry, education for all who desire to join the Catholic Faith that we so lovingly cherish. If you have not completed a pledge card, please do so. There are envelopes and pledge cards by each door. Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important diocesan ministries, and every dollar raised over our goal will be kept in the parish. Contributions can be made by check payable to the Catholic Diocese of Peoria, by a credit or debit card, by direct debit from checking or savings account, or at cdop.org. Thank you for your support!



CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND Anyone who wants to offset the cost of purchased flowers can contribute to the Flower Fund. Donations can be made using special Flower Offering envelopes

placed at the back of the Church or using the Online Giving platform. If the donation is in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, please write his/her name on the envelope's front.

Donations have been made in memory of Kevin Hodge; Frank Hartman; Finn Whelan Oliveira; Hettinger, Painter, and Wagner Families; Harold, Jo Ann, and Charles Heidbreder; Dolores and Wayne Wade; John and Clara Rakers; Cochrane and O'Brien Families; Helen Vedder; Bingaman and Cosgrove Families; Dick and Peggy Valentine, Dick and Lucille York; Barbara Leathers; Elisha Mary Robert and Catherine Swanson; Elmer and Sylvia Nicklas; Tony Rein; Gene, Elaine and Ross Mayor; Cacioppo, Giuffre and Schwenk Families; Jim and Kathryn Bristow; Regina Robinson; Ed and Jean Bown; Donna Menacher; Tom and Anne Corkery, Ethel G. Cox, and John F. and C. Joan Murray.

Fiscal Year 2023/24

	November Contributions	July-Nov. Contributions	July-Nov. Pro-rated Budget	Budget Deficit/Surplus
Sundays & Holy Days	34,556.07	171,967.42	166,666.67	5,300.75
Automatic Contributions	9,350.00	47,150.00	47,916.67	(766.67)
Online Giving	9,880.70	49,850.96	45,833.33	4,017.63
Subtotal	53,786.77	268,968.38	260,416.67	8,551.71
HC Tuition Assistance	1,934.50	9,612.50	10,416.67	(804.17)
STM Tuition Assistance	517.00	2,795.00	2,500.00	295.00
Development Fund	2,463.00	11,532.20	20,833.33	(9,301.13)



High School of St. Thomas More

217-352-7210

www.hs-stm.org

Christmas Break. We are closed for Christmas Break from Dec. 21 through Jan. 4. The STM Faculty, Staff and Administration wish all a blessed holiday season.

Admissions Application Open for 2024-25 School Year

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

2023-2024 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 STM Annual Spring Gala at Pear Tree Estate on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, 2024. Nominations are being accepted through Monday, Jan. 1st, 2024. 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.

7th & 8th Grade Student Shadow Visits: Do you have a 7th or 8th grader interested in attending STM? Sign them up for a Shadow Visit Day! Generally on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of each month, these visits give a prospective student 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 in the menu on the homepage. Questions? Email Rachael McMillan at admissions@hs-stm.org.

Job Opportunities: STM is seeking applications for a Bus Driver. If interested, email Sr. M. Bridget at stmbriidget@hs-stm.org, Mr. Corapi at acorapi@hs-stm.org, and Jon Marston, Athletic Director, at jmarston@hs-stm.org.

MOMS' GROUP IS SEEKING CHILDCARE

during their bi-monthly Wednesday morning meeting from 8:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. from January to May 2024. If you are interested, please contact Lori, Sarah, or Rachel at hcmomsgroup@gmail.com

Childcare allows the moms to concentrate on faith and fellowship without interruption.

"It takes a village to raise a child, please consider joining our village!"



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

From the Desk of Principal Koerner:

It's that time of year again. December has come and with it all the joys of Christmas. But what is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners and snow in the yard?

The true meaning of Christmas is love. John 3:16-17 says, *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."* The true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of this incredible act of love.

With this in mind, Christmas can be a season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. Sure, enjoy the season but remember to rejoice as well! After all, the true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of God's ultimate gift: the birth of Jesus.

WE ARE HOLY CROSS



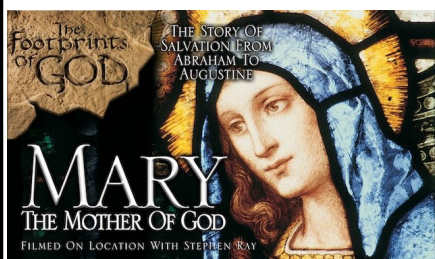


MARY OF NAZARETH

Mary of Nazareth is an epic motion picture on the life of Mary, Mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. Shot in high

definition, it was filmed in Europe with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score. Actress Alissa Jung gives a beautiful, compelling, and inspiring portrayal of Mary.

The film vividly captures the essence of Mary's profound faith and trust in God amidst the great mysteries that she lived with as the Mother of the Messiah, as well as her compassionate humanity and concern for others, and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another. The movie underscores her special role in God's plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection.



MARY: THE MOTHER OF GOD

She was a humble girl from an ordinary Jewish family. Yet Mary said a simple "yes" and came to

be exalted as the Daughter of Zion, the Mother of God, and the Queen of Heaven. Filmed on location in Turkey, Israel, and Greece with popular Catholic author and speaker Stephen Ray, this study allows us to follow the dusty paths that took Mary to the heart of the salvation story. By discovering the Mary of the Bible, you'll know and love her Son even more. And you'll discover the truth behind Mary's Immaculate Conception, Assumption into Heaven, and role as intercessor.

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

Save the Date:

The Ecumenical Memorial Pro-Life Prayer Vigil,

January 22, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Windsor Road Christian Church,

2501 West Windsor Rd, Champaign, IL 61822



Theme: "The Power of an Open Heart"

Speaker: Joy Pace, Holy Cross Pro-Life Committee

Join us for this Free event!

Reception and fellowship follows.

For more information:

Facebook.com/prolifeprayervigilofcentralillinois

[Or email ProLifePrayerVigil@gmail.com](mailto:ProLifePrayerVigil@gmail.com)



A PRAYER FOR LIFE

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

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

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 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 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

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.