

January 25, 2026

MAKE YOU *Fishers of Men*

MATTHEW 4:19

Holy Cross Catholic Schools Week

January 25 through January 31

Catholic Schools

The beginning of wisdom is fear of the Lord,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Consecration to St. Joseph

From Msgr. Brownsey...



When I was confirmed in 1976, the latest "Church Fad" was not to confuse children by asking them to take a confirmation name. Some of you remember the days when we were de-emphasizing the importance of canonized saints: we removed or whitewashed the statues. We ignored, diluted, or secularized the devotions, litanies, and chaplets. And so I did not choose a patron saint for my confirmation and, in fact, had no patron saint at all until I was 26 years old when it was explained to me the importance of having a patron saint. Not growing up knowing any saints, the only ones I knew were St. Anthony, St. Francis, and St. Joseph. St. Anthony and St. Francis had been presented to me as drippy, sappy and I didn't see what they could possibly offer, so I chose St. Joseph by default. I didn't really have much devotion to him other than admiring him at Christmas time. About 30 years later I would look back and see just how often and how boldly St. Joseph was trying to establish a friendship with me.

In 1993 he introduced me to St. Andre Bessette at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and in the coming years, St. Andre would constantly send me to St. Joseph. When the Bradley Newman center was threatened with closure because of financial difficulties, St. Andre reminded me that St. Joseph was the patron of our Newman Center and that if he wanted it to succeed it would. He reminded me that Joseph is the baptismal patron of Pope Benedict who was trying to raise an army of witnesses to hope. I commissioned my students to go to their parishes and give witness to the hope that is in them and we raised \$60,000, just enough to pay our bills for one year.

Later, when trying to lead my parish through the scandals of the Church, St. Joseph reminded me that he is the patron of the Universal Church and as a father, he had much experience in giving comfort and protection to his children. For the last five years I was at St. Mark's we prayed the Litany of St. Joseph after the dismissal of every single mass for the protection of the Church. Parishioners began real friendships with St. Joseph and began reporting how he was assisting them. One asked whether she could lead a parish wide consecration to St. Joseph. About a dozen parishioners went through the daily prayers at home and the weekly gatherings in church to prepare themselves for consecration. Some asked whether they could invite more friends to do it. Pretty soon, it happened about four times a year that groups of parishioners were consecrating themselves to St. Joseph and inviting others to get closer to Jesus by meeting his foster father and they even began taking an annual trip to the National Shrine of St. Joseph in DePere, Wisconsin.

I'd like to invite you to join us in our first offering of a parish-wide consecration to St. Joseph. John Karduck has shown interest in leading the weekly gatherings. The preparation for the consecration begins on February 15 and we will make public acts of consecration on March 19 followed by a huge parish wide celebration of St. Joseph complete with St. Joseph Table and everything. To find out more about what all this means and other details, stick around after each of the masses for a very short informational gathering all weekend February 6-7. If you are considering joining in on these prayers, it would be very helpful if between now and then you obtain a copy of "Consecration to St. Joseph" by Donald Calloway. We have very few of them on hand for those who are unable to get it on their own.

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, Thurs 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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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. 31 Lector: EMHC:	Dave Kristovich John Kelley, Sharon Kristovich, Terry Sturdyvin
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Feb. 1 Lector: EMHC:	Jay Geistlinger Sue Berndt, Ray Tucker
10:00 a.m.	Lector: EMHC:	Joe Murphy Margie Hoss, Bonita Higgerson
4:00 p.m.	Lector: EMHC:	Rob Shanahan Katrina Covello



SENIOR LUNCHEON - Winter Break

Senior Luncheon is taking a Winter Break. There was no senior luncheon in January, and there will be no Senior Luncheon in February. We will be having the luncheons again starting either in March, or April. We will keep you updated on that. Stay Warm!



OUR PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES

go with Jack Kaminski and Libby Calcagno, who were married here on January 17th. May God's grace support them throughout their married life!



ADORATION ON FRIDAYS

Please consider signing up for a half-hour or more to visit Our Lord on Fridays beginning after the 8:15 a.m. Mass and ending with Benediction at 2:30 p.m.

Jesus would so love your company!



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 Litany to Mary, Mother of God.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 26

7:00 a.m. Stanley Stromski

Tuesday, January 27

7:00 a.m. Herman Nichols

Wednesday, January 28

6:00 p.m. Ryan Murray

Thursday, January 29

7:00 a.m. Joe, Ruth and Pat Doyle

Friday, January 30

8:15 a.m. Elizabeth Gallagher

Saturday, January 31

5:30 p.m. Karen Santarelli

Sunday, February 1

8:00 a.m. Waunita Perrodin

10:00 a.m. Deceased Members of
Charles and Bridget O'Connor Family

4:00 p.m. For the Parishioners



HOLY CROSS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Holy Cross has an immediate opening for a full-time Business/Office Manager. This position assists the Msgr. in the stewardship of the parish and school's financial, capital, and human resources.

The Business/Office Manager ensures the effectiveness of operations by informing and advising the Msgr. and various parish councils as needed. The incumbent is a member of the core management team that supports the Msgr. and ensures that the administrative needs of the parish are met. A business and/or accounting background is required.

Qualified applicants should send their résumé to office@holycrosscatholic.org or contact the parish office at (217)352-8748.



COFFEE AND DONUTS

- There's a nip in the air. Enjoy a cup of hot coffee or tea, a glass of milk or orange juice, and a delicious donut after the Sunday morning Masses. Join friends or meet new ones at the parish center.

Collections - The offering for January 17th/18th will be in next week's bulletin due to the office being closed on Monday in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
Thank You Very Much!



BINGO IN FEBRUARY!



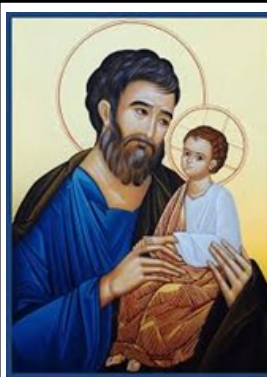
Join us for BINGO and fun at Holy Cross Parish Center on **Friday, February 6th**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Bingo cards and Daubers will be available to purchase at that time. Bingo will begin at 6:30 p.m. Join us for 15 games of Bingo! \$20 for 9 cards per game. Or \$10 for 3 cards per game. Cash prizes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

Concessions open at 5:30 p.m. as well. Cans of Soda are available for \$1. Lemonade, Tea, Water provided at no charge.

We will keep you updated on the menu.

If you have questions, contact the Parish Office at 217-352-8748.

Proceeds go to Holy Cross School.



You may have heard Msgr. mention our upcoming Consecration to St. Joseph. We have decided to push back our start date to February 15th with a Consecration day of March 19th. We will have some books available for those interested or you can purchase your own copy of Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father by Donald Calloway at various locations online, including a Kindle and Audio book version on Amazon.

<https://consecrationtostjoseph.org/introduction.html>



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.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Donations have been made in the memory of:

Hettinger, Painter, and Wagner Families; John and Clara Rakers, and Wayne and Dolores Wade; Kevin Hodge; Finn Whelan Oliveira; Jean and Ed Bown; Frank Hartman and Bernie Hammel; Jim and Kathryn Bristow; Bingaman and Cosgrove Families; Karen Santarelli; Owen Families; Donna Menacher; Tom and Anne Corkery, John and C. Joan Murray, Ethel Cox; John and Joyce Hipskind; Robert and Verna Kerber; Fitzgerald and Owen Families; Gene, Elaine, and Ross Mayor.


Holy Cross PTC Presents
WILD WEST
SHOWDOWN

14th Annual Trivia Night & Silent Auction
Help us support our school, staff, and students!
FEBRUARY 28, 2026
 Holy Cross School Gymnasium

Appetizers and Bar open at 5:00 pm.
 Silent Auction, Raffle, & Games through the night!
 Trivia contest begins at 7:00 pm.
 Prize to best dressed table!

The Silent Auction runs
online February 21st - 28th.




\$50/person - \$400 table of 8
 Purchase tickets or donate at
hctrivianight26.givesmart.com

Registration closes February 23rd.



INCOME TAX STATEMENTS

If you would like to receive a statement of your contributions made in 2025 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): _____

Catholic Charities Presents



SATURDAY,
FEB 7TH
6:00PM
 Doors open at 5:00pm

ELKS LODGE #2497
 903 N Dunlap Ave,
 Savoy, IL

10 GAMES FOR \$30

Activities include a silent auction, Heads or Tails, 50/50, and Music Trivia for donations

FOOD TRUCK AND CASH BAR!
 Jurassic Grill 5pm-6pm
 Cash Bar 5pm-Close

CHANCE TO WIN!

Prizes include cash, baskets, or tickets to an Illini Men's Basketball Game



Catholic Charities
 Diocese of Peoria
 Champaign-Piatt Counties
 PO BOX 8937, Champaign, IL 61826

Proceeds fund Tolono St. Patrick's Food Pantry, Senior Luncheon, & Light of Hope



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

The Daddy Daughter Dance sponsored by The High School of St. Thomas More's Parent Association will be held on Friday, February 13 at 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM.

Cost is \$30 per dad. Complete the google form to register. bit.ly/4jvyCaF. Please let Mrs Becky Leibach know if you have any questions at.

Musical Instruments Needed

The STM Music program is in need of instruments to continue supporting our students in musical growth. If your family has any musical instruments that have been sitting unused in your garage or storage for several years, we would be grateful if you would consider donating them. Particularly we are looking for band instruments including guitars, but open to accept any. We are not needing pianos and organs at this time.. Your generosity will help bless our students and our school community. Please bring any donated instruments to the school office. Questions, contact Dr. Lee at cleee@hs-stm.org.

Admissions Application Open for 2026-27

STM is accepting admissions applications for the 2026-2027 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.

If you submit a completed application by February 1, 2026, you will be eligible to receive a 2% discount. We hope and pray to welcome you and your child to the Saber family!

2026 STM Gala: Rooted in More

Saturday, February 21, 2026 • Pear Tree Estate

Join *The High School of Saint Thomas More* for our **2026 Rooted in More Gala!** This special evening celebrates the mission and impact of Catholic secondary education in Central Illinois. Proceeds will benefit academic and classroom enhancements, facility upgrades, and enrollment growth initiatives. The **2025-2026 Paideia Award and Distinguished Alumni Award** will be presented at the Gala. Purchase tickets and explore sponsorship opportunities at <https://hs-stm.org/page/gala>.

Shadow Visit - Come spend a day at STM with a Saber! Shadow visits are not mandatory but a great way for a 7th or 8th grader to see The High School of St. Thomas More. Please sign up with this form: <https://forms.gle/4j4KVFc3m5ypBX4d8>

STM Job Opportunities: STM is currently seeking applications for a Part-Time Custodian, Part-Time Spanish Teacher, and an Athletic Bus Driver.

If interested email:

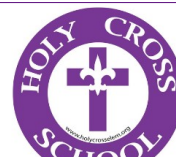
Sr. M. Bridget at srmbridget@hs-stm.org and
John Delaney, Athletic Director at jdelaney@hs-stm.org.

*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)



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

Holy Cross School has proudly served Champaign-Urbana and the surrounding community for over 110 years. Join us on January 27th at 410 W. White Street in Champaign to experience what makes our school special. Can't attend the open house? Call our school office at 217-356-9521 to schedule a private tour.



You're Invited!
Open House
Tuesday, January 27th
8am to 3pm
Preschool - 8th Grade
www.holycrosselem.org



WE ARE HOLY CROSS!

Job Opportunities:

Holy Cross School is looking for aftercare workers. The position entails supervising, and planning activities from 3:00-5:30pm Monday-Friday fulltime or part-time. Please call the school office if interested. (217) 356-9521.

1ST ANNUAL HOLY CROSS TROOP 9 SPAGHETTI DINNER

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ONGOING NEEDS OF HOLY CROSS CHURCH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 2026

AFTER 5:30 MASS
HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL



Troop 9 will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on January 31, 2026, after the 5:30pm Mass. Spaghetti, salad, bread, marinara, meatballs, and dessert will be provided. Scouts and STM students will be your servers for the evening. There is no cost, but free will donations are accepted. Please sign up for a table in the rear of the church.

If you would rather have takeout, then please sign up with the QR code listed in the bulletin or on the west corridor announcement board.



Also, Troop 9 will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast after 8am and 10am Masses and February 8th, 2026. Sausage and pancakes will be provided along with a variety of drink options. There is no cost, but free will donations are accepted.



THE ART OF LIVING

The Art of Living and the Freedom to Love is a 6-session master class on how to understand and implement the 4 Cardinal Virtues of Prudence, Fortitude, Temperance, and Justice featuring Dr. Edward Sri. Dr. Sri breaks down each of the four cardinal virtues, the ways we can strengthen our practice of these virtues, and the vices that oppose them.

Using real life examples, thoughtful storytelling, and the rich history of the Catholic Church's saints and theologians, you will be inspired to love others more deeply and authentically.

As a special conclusion to this series, Dr. Sri answers audience questions about the importance of the cardinal virtues and real-world implications of living life fully immersed in the art of living.

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

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

~~~~~ News ~~~~~

Many Thanks!! We received 2 donations from Thrivent Corp, with \$250 each going to two of our Families and \$ 840 in donations from the St. Matthew Grade School Children!

God is so good!!! Thank you again to everyone who supports us with donations, prayers and presence – we so appreciate you! ... you are giving hope to many local families! God bless you all!

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We are putting those donations toward:

- A single mom with 5 children with 3 at home
- A couple with 4 children, one is a newborn baby
- A year-long bus pass for young man with a new job and needed transportation
- A single mom with one child at home who also helps out her grandmother
- A single mom with 4 boys at home
- A single mom with 4 children

**Other News:** We have some furniture to match with our families – a bureau and mirror and a twin bed, and a microwave.

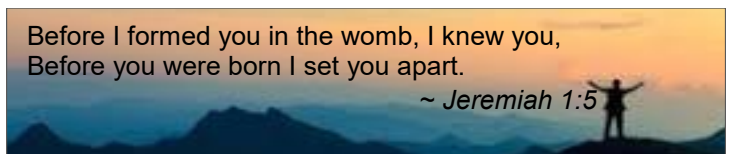
**FAMILIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE**

If anyone wants to help families who need assistance, please consider making a donation to the Holy Cross Pro-Life committee. **You can donate by:**

- on-line giving (see special area for Pro-Life with TJ's picture),
- in the collection basket ( \*please put your name and contact info, and that the \$ is for Pro-Life, or
- check (\*\* please be sure to put Pro-Life in the memo line \*\*)

For more info – please call Joy at 217 840-0322.

Thank you and God bless you!  
Please keep everyone in your prayers!



### 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  
Ed & Jean Bown  
Chuck, Chad, Meghan Schweighart  
Larry Hausmann, Bob Soucie  
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  
Hagglin Family  
Rakers-Wade Families  
Hershberger & Kick Families  
Dec. Mem. of Cochrane-O'Brien families  
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  
Perodin Family  
Menacher & Sizer Families  
Leonard & Loretto Doyle  
Alan & Patricia Berndt  
Thomas McCarthy  
Costello Family  
Ron Murphy  
Dec. Mem. of Murphy & Sullivan Families  
Living & Dec. Mem. of Williams, Lykins, Barham Fam.  
Dan Crawmer