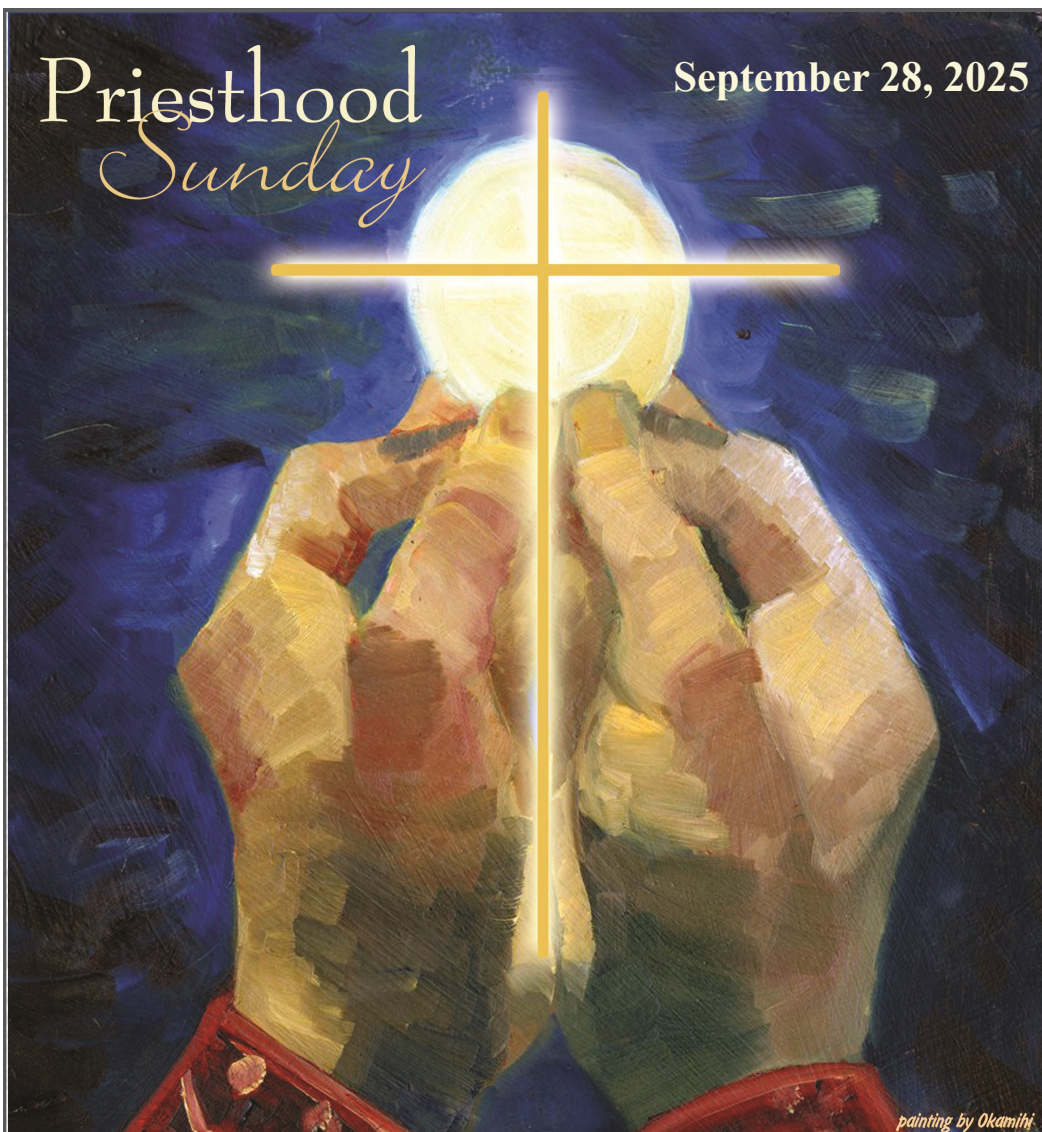


Priesthood Sunday

September 28, 2025



painting by Okamiji

How can I repay the Lord for all the good done for me?
I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
Lord, I am your servant.

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Psalm 116:12-14, 16a

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

St. John Vianney, Intercede for our shepherds



In celebrating 150 years of the Peoria Diocese, Holy Cross will also be celebrating the history of Catholic Education here at Holy Cross. We will be featuring Graduating classes from our past.

Holy Cross School Class of 1925

Seated L to R: Margaret Collins, Frances Lyman, Opal Ducey, Anna Johnson, Lucille Carson, Ina Copeland, Mary Hyland, and Clara Pankau.

Standing L to R: Martha Ochenfeld, Walter Savage, Maurice Mallory, Charles Bennett, August Alagna, George Seeber, John Sullivan, Theodore Pankau, Eugene Patton, and Lucille Mouch.

Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal

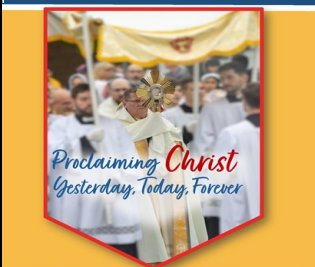
Proclaiming Christ yesterday, today, forever.

HOLY CROSS ADA - The 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway in our parish. Thank you to all who have already pledged to the appeal. Your gift supports ministries, like the Genesis Marriage retreat, that helps form marriages which are the bedrock for the Domestic Church. No gift is too small, and our parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you have not given yet, please consider filling out a pledge card today and mail it to the Diocese or drop it in the collection basket. Addition pledge cards are in the narthex/pews. Every dollar raised over our goal will be returned to our parish to help us with our Parish Needs.

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 online at www.cdop.org/ada.

Gifts of appreciated stock, grain, qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) or donor advised funds have special considerations and requirements. Contact 309-671-1550 for more information.

2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal



Catholic Diocese of Peoria
Give online at www.cdop.org/ada or scan the QR Code

As the diocese celebrates its 150th anniversary, we are reminded of our mission as Christians. We are called to proclaim the Gospel yesterday, today, and forever. The Annual Diocesan Appeal gives us an opportunity to respond by sharing our gifts which will enable and equip the Church for today's opportunities and challenges in witnessing to our faith. There are many ministries and apostolates that the Diocese can offer that we as a single parish cannot. Recruitment and training of priests, vocation discernment program

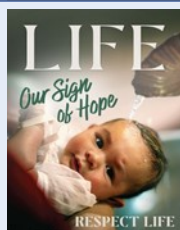
for young men, marriage preparation, ministry to our students on college campuses, evangelization, Catholic Charities programs... these are just a few of the many services we receive from the Diocese of Peoria. Your support, in prayer and through your sacrificial gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, makes it possible to provide these services. **Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to this year's appeal ~** cdop.org/ada



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 October, we are praying the Rosary for the Respect of Life

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.

Twenty-Sixth 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.	Oct. 4 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Tim Spila John Kelley, Peg Swanson, Terry Sturdyvin Brody Oliveira, Kyle Woolwine
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Oct. 5 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	John Karduck Sue Berndt, Barry Dickerson Henry Karduck, Wil Karduck
10:00 a.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Joe Mefford John Dixon, Pat Dixon, Bonita Higgerson Ben Summers, Lincoln Wood
4:00 p.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Rob Shanahan Katina Covello Sam Easton, Ithuriel Randall



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 29

7:00 am Bill Lynch

Tuesday, September 30

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

Wednesday, October 1

6:00 p.m. Don and Alice McDuffee

Thursday, October 2

7:00 a.m. Albert Spohrer

Friday, October 3

8:15 a.m. Thomas Haggerty

Saturday, October 4

5:30 p.m. Gerry Ducey

Sunday, October 5

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners
10:00 a.m. Jean Marie Cullen
4:00 p.m. Rita Amacher



REMEMBRANCE MASS CANDLES - Last chance to pick up the candle of your loved one whose name was called at the Remembrance Mass, (in 2024), if you haven't already. We need to make room for the new candles for this year's Mass. The candles can be picked up in the Parish Office Monday through Friday 8:30 - 4:00. You If you cannot make it during these times, you can call the Parish Office at (217) 352-8748 and we can arrange for you to pick it up another way. Thank you and God Bless.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS - DONATIONS NEEDED



Accepting donations now for new or gently used religious children's books. These books will be available for children to read during Mass in order to help them grow closer to Christ in a fun, easy-to-understand way.

Please bring donations to the Parish Center. There will be a bin labeled "Children's Book Donations" near the front desk. Also accepting cash donations which can be given during the collection at Mass in a clearly labeled envelope.

Questions? Email Therez Herges at hergestherez@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting this project.



"The family of Bernie Hammel would like to extend their gratitude to the Holy Cross Community for their kindness, support and prayers with the loss of Bernie. He felt very close to Holy Cross."



PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Heavenly Father, grant that our priests be strengthened and healed by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate. May the Word they proclaim give them courage and wisdom. We pray that all those whom they seek to serve may see in them the love and care of Jesus, Our Eternal High Priest, who is Lord for ever and ever.

Collections

Offering for September 20th/21st.....\$9,148.85

Thank You Very Much!



COFFEE AND DONUTS - Come over to the Parish Center after the Sunday morning Masses and enjoy a cup of coffee and a delicious donut.

Geoff Poor & Dave Thies Live

with Bobby Poynton

Friday, October 17th 7-9:00pm

Doors Open at 6:15pm

Holy Cross Parish Center

CABARET

Tickets sold in Holy Cross Parish Office
\$40 a person.

All proceeds support Holy Cross School.

CABARET 8!

The Holy Cross Cabaret Committee is hosting the 8th annual Cabaret Night on Friday evening, October 17th in the Parish Center. Entertainers Geoff Poor and David Thies will again perform popular music for every generation with some special guest performers.

Tickets are \$40 each, and include martinis, wine, beer, soft drinks, heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Tickets can be purchased in the Holy Cross Parish Office. All proceeds will benefit Holy Cross School.

Sponsorships are also available in the amounts of \$250 (bronze), \$500 (silver), and \$1,000 (gold), or in donations of silent auction items, and include an ad in the program and tickets to the event.

Please email stephanie@holycrosscatholic.org for more information!

Visit of the Relics of St. Faustina

St. Sharbel Church, Peoria IL

Thursday, October 2 | 3pm - 8 pm

Friday, October 3 | 3 pm - 10 pm

Saturday, October 4 | 10 am - 8 pm

Sunday, October 5 | 9:30 am - 4 pm
(Feast of St. Faustina)

For a detailed daily schedule,
visit stsharbelchurch.org



Movies about
St. Faustina and
Divine Mercy
will be shown
in the Hall
Saturday and
Sunday

2920 W Scenic Drive, Peoria, IL 61615 | Phone: 309.886.5460

VISIT THE RELICS OF ST. FAUSTINA

St. Sharbel Parish
Peoria (October 2-5)

St. Sharbel Church 2920
W. Scenic Dr Peoria, IL

Invites you to join us:

**Thursday, October 2 -
Sunday, October 5 (Feast
of St. Faustina)** for daily
devotions to include:
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Divine Mercy
Chaplet, Stations of the
Cross, Rosary, Meditations,
Divine Liturgy, and **Vener-
ation of the Relics of St.
Faustina.**

Movies about St. Faustina and Divine Mercy will be shown
in the parish hall on Saturday and Sunday.

ST. NICHOLAS CHARITY ON WHEELS

St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels is a ministry of Catholic Charities serving over 600 families in need monthly across the Peoria Diocese. To aid this mission, Women are organizing a Diocesan collection of supplies which will be held in the West Champaign Vicariate Churches in October. **Holy Cross Parish** will collect supplies at Masses the weekend of **September 27th / 28th.**



October Needs:

Kleenex, toilet paper, paper towels, tooth paste, laundry soap, bar soap, hand sanitizer, lotion, razors, toilet bowl cleaner and garbage bags. Visa, Wal-Mart and Casey's gas gift cards are needed. Nice small statues, Holy cards, Rosaries, Bibles, 2025 calendars, note pads, pens and pencils are useful.

This project will help families in need throughout the Peoria Diocese to make ends meet, care for their families and experience the Catholic Faith in action. Matt 25:40 ".... Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Let us take this Bible verse to heart in giving to the St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels. Note: Works of Mercy, Catechism No. 2447

Families in Need may meet the St. Nicholas Van at the following locations in October:

**Thursday, October 2 12:00 PM St. Mary Church 612 E
Park St., Champaign, IL**

**Thursday, October 2 1:30 PM St. Malachy Church, 311 E
Grove Ave., Rantoul, IL**

This is a Mission Project of the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, PDCCW, in cooperation with Catholic Charities, St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels.

2025 St Patrick's International Festival

Sunday October 12 following the 10 AM Mass

"The Communion of Saints - One Body in Christ"



**20 countries exhibiting, Games for Children, Free Will offering
Ethnic Food, Dancing, Singing, Cultural Displays, and loads of Fun!**

Join Us!

St. Patrick Catholic Church, 708 W. Main Street, Urbana



ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Opening at St. Patrick: St. Patrick Church is looking to hire a coordinator of OCIA. The applicant needs to be a joyful Christian who loves all the truths of the Catholic Faith. For more information, contact: 217-367-2665



JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. John's Catholic Newman Center is seeking part time Night Administrators to help maintain a safe, supportive, and community-oriented environment after hours. The Night Administrator will provide event assistance, admin support, facility monitoring, and serve as an additional safety resource for Newman Hall residents and the Catholic Illini community. To apply & for more information: <https://sjcnc.org/career-openings-at-sjcnc>



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

Empty Bowl Bowl Making

The Empty Bowls Supper and Saber Showcase will be held November 7th starting at 5:30 pm benefiting the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen. Your donation includes a ceramic bowl of your choice, soup, bread and desserts and entertainment.

You may take the bowl home to be reminded that there are always empty bowls in the world.

There will be three bowl making nights for those who would like to create their own ceramic bowl.(no clay experience is required!) Bowl making will be **Sept. 24, Oct. 8 and Oct. 29 (glazing only), from 4:00 to 7:30 pm.** We can also accommodate bowl makers on Wednesdays from 3:15 to 4:15 pm.

Contact Mrs. Pagel RSVP for bowl making at dpagel@hs-stm.org.

Admissions Application Open for 2025-2026. 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!

STM Job Opportunities: STM is currently seeking applications for a 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.



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

From the Desk of Principal Greg Koerner:

We have had a fantastic start to the 25-26 school year! Thank you all so much for entrusting your children to us.

I would like to thank the PTC for a wonderful Hot Dog Day. Our PTC works behind the scenes to make students, staff, and parents experiences enjoyable for all. Thank you, PTC.

This September/October our Holy Cross students will be celebrating culture awareness. This event kicked off on September 15 with Hispanic Heritage month. Students will be doing different activities during this time to learn more and celebrate our Hispanic cultures. Our Parade of Nations in the school gymnasium will take place on October 14th. This event is open to the Holy Cross community. November we will be celebrating Native American month.

Thank you for all of your support.

WE ARE HOLY CROSS!

STM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE CRUCIFIX, YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH JESUS LOVED YOU THEN.
 WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE SACRED HOST, YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH JESUS LOVES YOU NOW.
 - ST. MOTHER TERESA

SIGN UP FOR A 30-MINUTE TIME SLOT TODAY!

THURSDAYS
 10:30AM-3:15PM

tinyurl.com/STM-Adoration

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AT STM

"Beginning this year at STM we will offer Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays following Mass (10:30am) until the end of school (3:15pm).

Of course, this is to promote and foster deeper prayer for all in our community. Teachers and students will be able to pop in and out of the Chapel throughout the day. However, this opportunity for adoration is primarily for those outside the school, such as parents and benefactors. Thank you for your consideration and continued prayerful support of STM!



EMMAUS KNIGHTS FOR YOUNG MEN GRADES 7-12

AUG 31 / SEPT. 28 / OCT 12 / NOV 9
FROM 4:30PM - 6:30PM

Join Fr. Chase for a Sunday night of faith, fraternity, and formation at the Emmaus House
 2327 W. Heading Ave., West Peoria

EMMAUS KNIGHTS IS AN EXPERIENCE FOR YOUNG MEN WHO DESIRE TO GROW IN FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH WITH SOME FOOD AND SOME FUN. IF YOU LOVED EMMAUS DAYS, COME AND CHECK OUT EMMAUS KNIGHTS.

FATHERS, DROP YOUR SONS OFF AND STAY FOR A TIME OF FRATERNITY

Scan the code to let us know you are coming and to have your parent fill out a digital permission form!



APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

OCTOBER 2025

FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

Let us pray that, believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

www.apostleshipofprayer.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)



Pro Life and 40 Days for Life Happenings



40 DAYS FOR LIFE FALL 2025

WHEN: Wednesday, September 24 to Sunday, November 2

WHERE: Equity Clinic, 2111 W. Park Court, Champaign

WHAT: An international peaceful prayer collaboration to pray for help and healing for all affected by abortion. Prayers are welcome anytime during the 40 days, but especially welcome when the abortion facility is open during normal business hours. Individual churches are encouraged to choose a day and time to come and pray. Sadly, we now have 2 abortion clinics in our central Illinois area, but there is only one official location at a time for 40 Days for Life. We are focusing our efforts right now on the newest abortion facility. For anyone wishing to pray at Planned Parenthood instead, please feel free to do so or perhaps take turns praying at both facilities.

Equity Clinic is open on Thursdays from 12 to 5 pm and Friday to Monday from 8 am to 5 pm for clinic appointments. Yes, they are sadly open not just on Saturday, but also on Sunday.

PLEASE NOTE that seasoned volunteer prayer warriors should be out praying on set days and at set times; those details are often posted on the web site page and Facebook page and updated throughout the 40-day time period. If you have not come out to pray before and want to make sure you come when someone else will be there, please contact us thru the information below.

CONTACT: Renée at 217-607-0811 (landline, no texting) or reneemullen1@comcast.net

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/40DaysCU/>



LIFE CHAIN

WHEN: Sunday, October 5 from 2 to 3:30 pm
WHERE: Hessel Park, Champaign (on the public sidewalk along the south side of the park)

WHAT: Please join us, along with others across North America, in peaceful, prayerful, public witness for the Right to Life for All. We will be standing with pro-life signs along the south side of Hessel Park, on the public sidewalk along West Kirby Avenue. This is a silent, prayerful witness for voiceless children who are threatened by abortion and who need us to stand up for them. Pro-life signs will be provided and can be picked up at the southwest corner of Hessel Park at the intersection of West Kirby Avenue and Grandview Drive. Attendees are also welcome to make and bring their own signs (peaceful and encouraging messages please, no graphic images). Lawn chairs and strollers are welcome. Rain or shine.

CONTACT: Renée at reneemullen1@comcast.net

WEB SITE: <https://www.lifechain.org/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/events/759131280195221>



Rachel's Vineyard Post Abortion Recovery Retreat

WHEN: October 10 to 12 / **WHERE:** Peoria

WHAT: Rachel's Vineyard, named after Rachel and references to the vine in the Bible, is a worldwide abortion recovery program. Weekend retreats are offered in various locations throughout the year, including Peoria, Springfield and Chicago in our area. Many people whose lives have been impacted by abortion have found help and healing thru these retreats. Retreats are offered in either English or Spanish.

CONTACT: Colleen at 309-264-1489 or rvrpeoria@gmail.com

WEB SITE: <https://www.rachelsvineyard.org/>

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.

Kitchen Bath and Cabinet Co



Deeper Still Abortion Recovery Retreat

WHEN: October 10-12 / **WHERE:** Central Illinois

WHAT: Deeper Still is a free and confidential weekend healing retreat for those who have been directly impacted by an abortion – specifically the mother and father of the aborted child (or children). Space is limited and registration is required. Additional retreats are offered throughout the year.

CONTACT: Tori Moore at 217-828-2081 or Tori@hopeforafuture.com

WEB SITE: GoDeeperStill.org

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/deeperstillci>

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
Haggin 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