



**Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**





**A PRAYER FOR THE  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

God of light and life, give us hope  
as we wait for your coming again.

When we are tempted to be  
grateful to have found you while  
others are lost, send us out into  
the darkness in search of those  
who need you most.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Jesus you came among us with  
the irresistible power of a baby,  
requiring both our hands and capti-  
vating our whole hearts. Help us to  
cast aside the sin and brokenness  
that we cling to, so we might be  
ready to hold you when you come  
again.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Joy-filled Giver of Life, let the an-  
ticipation of your birth fill us with  
overflowing joy. May our excite-  
ment and anticipation be a sign to  
the world that you are always near.

Amen.



**A PRAYER FOR THE  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Jesus, you are constantly com-  
ing to your people, even when  
we fail to see you. In each and  
every moment that we are  
blessed to recognize you here  
and now, give us the courage to  
leap with joy at your coming.

Amen.



**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 pre-paring 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 cele-brating 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 fourth 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 De-cember 24th. If Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, it is considered the fourth Sunday of Advent and the time after sundown is con-sidered to be Christmas Eve.

**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*

**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. Monday thru Friday

Holy Days: 8:15 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](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**

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.

# 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.



### Mass Intentions for the Week

**Monday, Nov. 30**

7:00 a.m.

Amy Wyant

**Tuesday, Dec. 1**

7:00 a.m.

Dan Crawmer

**Wednesday, Dec. 2**

7:00 a.m.

William F. Bowen

**Thursday, Dec. 3**

7:00 a.m.

Lorena Arseneau

**Friday, Dec. 4**

7:00 a.m.

First Friday Memorial

**Saturday, Dec. 5**

5:30 p.m.

Charles Leahy

**Sunday, Dec. 6**

8:00 a.m.

For the Parishioners

10:00 a.m.

Deacon Bob Ulbrich

4:00 p.m.

Terry O'Neill



### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED BUT MASS STILL TAKING PLACE

Effective immediately, the Parish Office will be CLOSED until further notice. We are still available by phone (217) 352-8748, and email [office@holycrosscatholic.org](mailto:office@holycrosscatholic.org). You can also find information at [holycrosscatholic.org](http://holycrosscatholic.org), 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.

### Season of Advent

Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for the coming of Jesus. It is a time of joy, prayer, and commitment. Holy Cross has made two sources available to help nourish your spiritual renewal.

**FREE ADVENT MEDITATION BOOKLETS** from *The Word Among Us* are available as you exit the church.

Thanks to the generosity of some parishioners, we are once again blessed with a special book from Dynamic Catholic. Written by Matthew Kelly, *I Heard God Laugh*. It will be available as you exit the church



### CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

Consider contributing to the flower fund to pay for this year's poinsettias for the church's Christmas decorations. You may drop off your donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "flower fund" or bring it to the office. 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 Rak-ers; 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; and Sr. Rita Corkery.



**NEWEST MEMBER OF THE CHURCH**, and of Holy Cross, through the Sacrament of Baptism, is Brielle Pearl Blanchard, daughter of Zachary and Katie Blanchard. Let us support little Brielle on her faith journey!



### ADVENT BEGINS TODAY

Join Matthew Kelly on a life-changing journey through Best Advent Ever. You can receive daily inspirational emails with videos, encouragement, and coaching for Advent. Beginning today, the first Sunday of Advent, and continuing every day through December 23rd, Dynamic Catholic will email you simple yet powerful messages from Matthew Kelly and other leading Catholic voices. Don't miss the opportunity to make this your best Advent ever. Sign up now! It's simple, and the only cost is your commitment to live better each day this Advent. Go to [BestAdventEver.com](http://BestAdventEver.com) and sign up now!



## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**Saturday, December 5**

5:30 p.m. Patty Bingaman

**Sunday, December 6**

8:00 a.m. No ministers

10:00 a.m. John Dixon, Pat Dixon

4:00 p.m. Ed & Juliann Seebaur, Elaine Hershberger



In consultation with the Parish Council and the Reopening our Church Committee, I am taking this opportunity to share with you our plan for celebrating Christmas at Holy Cross. Please note the time changes. Sorry, no Midnight Mass this year.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

### RESERVED SEATING

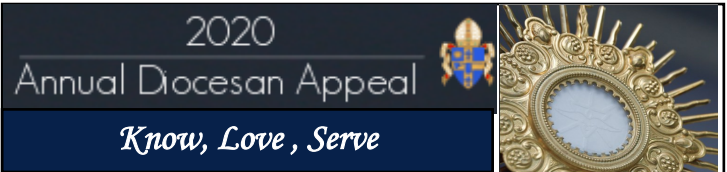
Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate the in-person crowds we are accustomed to. Seating for the Christmas Masses will be by reservation only. Seating will be available in the church AND the parish hall. Doors will be open 30 minutes before Mass begins. All four Masses will be livestreamed on the parish Facebook page [www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholic](http://www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholic). You can make a reservation by calling the Parish Office (217) 352-8748 or emailing us at [office@holycrosscatholic.org](mailto:office@holycrosscatholic.org).

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO SWANN SPECIAL CARE CENTER

It is that time of year again, but unfortunately, due to COVID, we will not be able to provide Christmas gifts for the residents of Swann as we did in the past. If you are still wanting to contribute toward their Christmas giving, you can make a monetary donation labeled Swann Special Care Center, and drop it off at the parish office. You may also contact Swann directly and discuss options with them by calling 217-356-5164 and asking for Monette.



**GIVING TUESDAY** refers to the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. It is a widespread movement to create an international day of giving at the beginning of the Christmas season. This is one of many ways to support our Church mission. Please consider giving generously using the Online Giving platform.



## HAVE YOU MADE A PLEDGE FOR THE 2020 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL?

There is still time. A gift to the ADA, large or small, can go a long way. So far we have received approximately 166 pledge cards back from our 950 registered parishioners. As noted in the letter that went to parishioner homes, even if the pledge is a prayer and a zero dollar commitment, our goal is to have a response from every family in the parish.

There are pledge cards and envelopes in the back of the church, as well as on the table in the Parish Center. Your pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal is gratefully received and deeply appreciated!

**2021 CALENDARS** are available next to the bulletins as you exit the church after Mass, as well as in the Parish Office. Many thanks to Owens Funeral Home for providing us with complimentary calendars every year!





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

### **HOLY CROSS SCHOOL HAPPENINGS**

With Thanksgiving coming this week, we must take time to be thankful. We have a lot to be thankful for this year despite these COVID times. Be thankful to God, be thankful for Jesus, be thankful for the gift of life, be thankful for your family and friends, and be thankful for allowing us to be open as a Holy Cross Community.

As I am writing this, Holy Cross School is one of a few schools in our Diocese that has not had a staff member or student test positive for COVID. I am thankful for this. Please be mindful of this when traveling over Thanksgiving or Christmas. As always, stay safe and stay healthy by continuing to practice social distancing, wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap, sanitize your hands when handwashing is not an option, and wear a facemask so we can all stay healthy when we reopen after Christmas break.

Because of a directive from the Diocese, starting Nov. 16th, and the two weeks after Christmas break will be virtual for *all* students. We know that families will travel over Christmas, so to be on the safe side, the Diocese wants us closed for in-person learning until January 19th, 2021.

This year has been filled with tragedy and heartache as COVID touched the world. Some are asking, "Why should I be thankful?" and "Why are so many bad things happening to good people?" Some people blame God and express feelings of anger. Others accept a loving God who cares when we don't understand. It is important that we love and trust God when we don't know the answers. God is God and we are His creatures with limited understanding of many things in this universe.

When tragedy comes and people suffer, we trust God and rely on our Christian faith. Many people have wept and hearts have been broken but, in this time of chaos, most have prayed and their only comfort and hope has been their unfailing faith in God. Please be thankful with me as great things continue to happen at Holy Cross.

**WE ARE HOLY CROSS.**

Greg Koerner, Principal



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

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2020!** Our Christmas Choir will present Christmas songs on Friday, Dec. 4th at 7:00 p.m. on STM Facebook and YouTube. Watch us for free! We are ready to celebrate Christ's coming with our songs!

### **STM OFFICE HOURS**

During this time of Virtual Learning and Holiday Season, STM will have limited school office hours. To contact the school during this time, view <https://www.hs-stm.org/o/hs-stm/staff> for faculty and staff emails, or leave a message at 217-352-7210.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The High School of St. Thomas More is seeking applicants for a Biology Teacher for the 2021-2022 academic year. If interested, email Sr. M. Bridget at [srmbriidget@hs-stm.org](mailto:srmbriidget@hs-stm.org).

### **STM ADMISSIONS NEWS**

Calling all 8th graders: You Belong Here! Become a St. Thomas More Saber. Applications for 2021-22 are officially open, and those who submit a completed application by February 1st will receive 2% off their tuition amount. Apply at <https://ecollect.accelaschool.com/stm>.



### **HOLY CROSS PARISH PRAYER**

My parish is composed of people like me.  
It will pray fervently if I am a humble disciple.  
It will worship joyfully if I am an engaged follower.  
It will teach the truth if I am a faithful believer.  
It will give generously if I am an active steward.  
It will accomplish great works if I am a dedicated servant.  
It will be a community of faith, hope, and love,  
if I practice all these virtues.  
O God, grant me the grace I need to be a devoted  
member of Holy Cross Parish.  
Amen.

### **INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON THE ANNULMENT PROCESS**

It will be held on Thursday, December 3rd, starting at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Champaign.

Annulment can be a healing process and offers hope for divorced Catholics. Jackie Scott, Notary-Auditor for the annulment process, will review the process and answer questions. The meeting will be in Feeney Hall (adjacent to St. Matthew's Church building). All interested persons are welcome. (Face masks are required, and there will be plenty of room for social-distancing.) For more information, call Martin Ketterer at (540) 553-1026.



### ADVENT

This Advent prepare your heart through this exploration of the mystery of the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth and the events surrounding the arrival of Jesus Christ.



### THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

Enjoy this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity as we enter into the joyful season of Advent.

**Our Parish has a FORMED subscription.**  
To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

### A WORD FROM JOY

We are turning into a diaper/pull-up buying enterprise! In October we delivered 974 diapers. In November we delivered 1,876 diapers or pull-ups! Your donating to our committee allows us to buy diapers at discount and without tax, making your donations go further.

We have new families, tripling the number of children we serve. We plan to service a family with twins soon, and we may add another mom expecting a baby!

One of our new families, a mother of 3 (two in diapers) is taking care of a friend's children and may even end up adopting them. Two of those children are in diapers. Needless to say, she has her hands full. We gave her TWO slow cookers so she can feed her growing family with less effort. Please pray for that Mom, she has a beautiful heart.

The Mom who just moved now has major car troubles and will need to either repair her car or replace it! Please pray that she gets reliable transportation for her and her family. We received a very nice thank you note from her

#### Always needed:

\* Diapers/Pull-Ups: We are in continuing need for diapers and pull-ups of all sizes. (Not Luvs).

\* Gift Cards to Sam's Club, Walgreens, Target, Aldi, and Amazon.

\* Prayers: We appreciate all prayers for our ministry and all the families we are assisting currently, as well as those in the past.

**How to Help:** On-line giving via Holy Cross Church. There is a separate category to direct any donation to Pro-Life. That will give us flexibility to help families in need. We also accept checks made out to Holy Cross Church. Please write "Pro-Life" in the memo line. Any donations can be mailed to or dropped off at Holy Cross Church, 405 W. Clark St, Champaign, IL 61820.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: [joypace@msn.com](mailto:joypace@msn.com) or 217 359-8406 (home). Thank you and God bless you for your prayers and support.

### 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 & Foltzler 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