

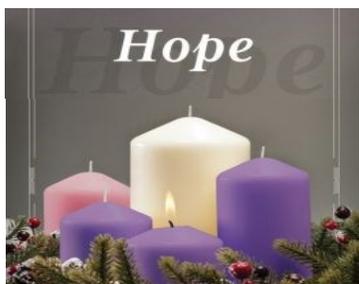
JOY

*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit*



December 13, 2020

**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 captivating 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 anticipation of your birth fill us with overflowing joy. May our excitement 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 coming 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 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 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 December 24th. If Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, it is considered the fourth Sunday of Advent and the time after sundown is considered 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*

**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. 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

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**

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.

# Third 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.

### A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said, "*I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'* as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.



### Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Monday, Dec. 14</b> 7:00 a.m.	Manolo Ordonez
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 15</b> 7:00 a.m.	Norbert Blohowiak
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 16</b> 7:00 a.m.	Thomas Kohrman
<b>Thursday, Dec. 17</b> 7:00 a.m.	Jennifer Deponai
<b>Friday, Dec. 18</b> 7:00 a.m.	Joe Hacker
<b>Saturday, Dec. 19</b> 5:30 p.m.	Terry O'Neill
<b>Sunday, Dec. 20</b> 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	For the Parishioners Stephen Warner Christine Kamphaus



### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**Saturday, December 19**  
5:30 p.m. No ministers

**Sunday, December 20**  
8:00 a.m. No ministers  
10:00 a.m. Ben Laws, Jessica McMahon  
4:00 p.m. Jan Weber, John Farney

### MISSIONARY APPEAL

Our own Fr. Remi will be speaking to us this weekend about the needs of his diocese in Rulenge, Tanzania. He was born in, and grew up in Rulenge with his ten brothers. His mother was a homemaker, and his father, who was a tailor, really wanted him to become a priest. As a child, he loved going to the church every day to be an altar server at Mass. He was greatly influenced by his first pastor there, as well as the nuns of the Sisters of St. Francis, which ran the Catholic church and school in his community. He was ordained in 1989, and has served as a priest both in Tanzania and here in the United States.



Please help support Fr. Remi's diocese in Tanzania by giving generously to this important appeal. Envelopes are available at the end of the pews that can be put in the collection basket, or dropped off or mailed to the Parish Office. Make checks payable to Holy Cross. Thank you!

## 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



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).

CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19

### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED BUT MASS STILL TAKING PLACE

The Parish Office is 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) on 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.

### Total Collections for November

Sunday & Holy Day Collections.....	\$28,493.88
Automatic Contributions.....	\$9,340.00
Online Giving.....	<u>\$8,667.30</u>
	\$46,501.18
Average Sunday Weekly Contributions.....	\$11,625.30
Holy Cross Tuition Assistance.....	\$3,216.50
STM Tuition Assistance.....	\$557.00
Development Fund.....	\$2,297.00

### Last Week's Collection

Offering for December 5th/6th .....	\$7,142.66
Tuition Assistance.....	\$452.00
Bishop's Seminarian Appeal.....	\$120.00

Thank you very much!

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND



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 Rakers; 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; Sr. Rita Corkery; Francine Cindy Gibas; Harold, Jo Ann & Charles Heidbreder; and the Williams, Barham & Lykins families.



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES**  
**CHRISTMAS SUCCESS!**



Many thanks to all who helped make the Catholic Charities Giving Tree Project a great success! Because of your generosity, Holy Cross is able to contribute toward making Christmas brighter for families across the diocese! We were able to fulfill our part of the goal, plus a little more. Thank you again, Holy Cross Parishioners!



## 2020 CONFIRMANDI

Congratulations to those who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, December 5th.  
May God's grace fill their lives!

Kaitlyn Brown	David Hasenstab	Michael McCoy	Kyan Pope
Wyatt Brownfield	Isabelle Jordan	Josephine McFarland	Jakob Riley
Philip Christhilf	Jackson LeFavre	Cal Myers	Kaleb Ritter
Alyson Clements	Anna Loftus	Emilia Christina Mills	Finn Scott
Elizabeth Kathryn Frasca	Kristina Maloney	Miles Moomaw	Frances Williamson
Christopher Friedman	Pilar Martinez	Susannah Paoli	Philip Withers-Sickles



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

### School Office Hours

Every day that school is in session, the school office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please call or email with any questions or concerns. We are here for you!

### Save the Date! Empower Illinois Scholarship Reservation Day

Reserve your spot to apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2021-2022 school year on **Jan. 13th!** Reservations open at 6:30 p.m. in order to submit at 7:00 p.m.

### Need Financial Assistance for the 2021-2022 School Year? You Must:

1. Apply for an Empower Illinois Scholarship.
2. Submit and pay for (\$30) the FACTS Grant & Aid Application (usually opens in January each year).
3. Apply for the Diocesan Spalding Scholarship (more info to come after January 2021).
4. Request assistance from your home parish (Holy Cross, St. Patrick, or St. Mary's).

### Be Safe, Be Healthy and Be Blessed

We look forward to our journey toward Christmas and our remembrance of Christ's humble entrance into our world.



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

### 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 [srmbridget@hs-stm.org](mailto:srmbridget@hs-stm.org)

### 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.

### 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>.

### STM SPRING GALA, FEBRUARY 6

Mark your calendars and volunteer for Gala 2021, the Masquerade Ball. Where? Virtual online at our Facebook and YouTube pages. When? **Saturday, February 6, 2021** starting at 5:30 p.m. We will use online bidding again and we have a great program for the evening in the works! Mark your calendars, thank you for everything you do, and Go Sabers! To volunteer or if you have questions, contact Mr. Matt Vander Vennet at: [mvandervennet@hs-stm.org](mailto:mvandervennet@hs-stm.org) or Mrs. Lillian Mockus at: [lmockus@hs-stm.org](mailto:lmockus@hs-stm.org).

**THE 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!

**FORMED**  
PICK OF THE WEEK



Through an exploration of the mystery of the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth, and the events surrounding the arrival of Jesus, this Advent study offers an opportunity to experience the joy of the true meaning of Christmas.



**THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY:  
THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS**

The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. The Story of the Nativity also includes stunning works of art depicting the biblical story, from Fra Angelico to Rembrandt, and footage from the Holy Land showing the places where the Christmas story actually took place. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus.

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

**PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE - A WORD FROM JOY**

**PRO-LIFE DISCUSSION GROUP**

We meet via Zoom every 3rd Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on December 21st. To join in on the Zoom meeting, please contact Joy at 217 359-8406 (home), or 217 840-0322 (cell).

This discussion is open to everyone. We discuss everything, from ethical vaccines, to abortion, to human trafficking, to ethical medical practices and more. Pro-Life affects more than just abortion – and living a pro-life life helps inform and guide every decision. We truly believe that every human needs to be treated fairly and with dignity, simply because he or she is human.

**SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 22ND, 2021**

The Ecumenical Memorial Prayer Vigil will be at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Urbana. This will be an in-person and virtual event. Virtual guest speaker will be national speaker Rebecca Kiessling, president of Save the One, a Pro-Life organization featuring those conceived in rape or incest. Stay tuned for more info!



**See a picture of TJ**, one of our children saved from abortion! He is such a beautiful child! Your donations do make a difference in the lives of families! Now on the 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 put "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.

**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 & Huguette 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 Giuffrè & 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