

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

And the Word
became flesh
and made
his dwelling
among us,
and we saw
his glory, the
glory as of
the Father's
only Son,
full of grace
and truth.

JOHN 1:14

December 25, 2022

©Diocesan

Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Behold a virgin shall be with child, and bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come,
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing!

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns,
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love

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 December we are praying the Litany of Mary, Mother of God.



PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

Fr. Joseph P. Donton, Pastor
Fr. Leopold Mushobozi, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher

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. (when school is in session).

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.

The Nativity of the Lord

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.	Dec. 31 Lector: Dave Kristovich EMHC: Sharon Kristovich Servers: Mary Beth Franey, John Haggin
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Jan. 1 Lector: Justine Karduck EMHC: No Ministers Servers: Henry Karduck, Wil Karduck
10:00 a.m.	Lector: Joe Murphy EMHC: Lynette Barham, Dawn Friedman Servers: Abby, Chris, and Tim Friedman
4:00 p.m.	Lector: Ed Seebauer EMHC: John Farney, Jan Weber Servers: Nate Farney, Will Herges



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 26

7:00 a.m. Matthew Chouinard

Tuesday, December 27

7:00 a.m. Jack Burton

Wednesday, December 28

6:00 p.m. For Barbara Leathers

Thursday, December 29

7:00 a.m. For Chris Pleasure and Family

Friday, December 30 (No Adoration)

8:15 a.m. William Jackson

Saturday, December 31

5:30 p.m. Rita Siewert

Sunday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary

8:00 a.m. Margaret Jackson

10:00 a.m. For the Parishioners

4:00 p.m. Elisha and Mary Swanson

The Parish Office is closed Friday, Dec 23rd through Dec. 27th. We will open again on Wed., Dec. 28th.

The Parish Office will close Friday, Dec. 30th through Jan. 2nd. We will open on Tues., Jan. 3rd., Thank you.

Blessings to all during this Christmas Season!

No Adoration on Friday, December 30th



THANK YOU!!

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Champaign County #1070 want to thank you for your support of our Annual Christmas Cookie and Craft Sale. Thanks to your generosity we will be able to give generously to a Seminarian from Champaign County and other local charities.

We enjoyed seeing and visiting with everyone and look forward to doing this again next year. Have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. / 6:30 p.m.

Midnight Mass (12 a.m.)

Music at 11:15 p.m.

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION REVISION

We now have a revised process for receiving Holy Communion. Parishioners come forward from the main center sections first, front to back. Then the Priest or Eucharistic Minister move to the sides of the church and distribute communion to those sitting in the wings of the church.



No Coffee and Donut Shop
on Christmas Day or New Year's Day



FR. MIKE IS COMING FOR A VISIT

Parishioners, Our Salesian priest Fr. Mike Mendel, former parochial vicar, will be visiting us on **December 28th**. After the Wednesday p.m. Mass there will be a potluck in the parish hall. Please come if you can! If you can bring an appetizer, dish, or dessert, call or text Mary Shelden at 217-621-0842.

Fr. Mike looks forward to seeing you.



Holy Cross PTC Presents...



11th Annual Trivia Night and Silent Auction

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 25th, 2023

Doors open at 5pm. Trivia starts at 7pm.
Formal invitation to follow!



Save these dates and join us in the Great Hall for the documentary film version of the book, *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*.

Friday, Jan. 13th @ 6:30 p.m. & Friday, Feb. 10th @ 6:30 p.m.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

Contributions to the Flower Fund have been greatly appreciated during our Advent and Christmas Season. Donations have been made in memory of Elmer and Sylvia Nicklas; Finn Oliveira; Bingaman Family members; Cosgrove Family members; Joe Santarelli; Harold, Jo Ann, and Charles T. Heidbreder; Frank Hartman; Donavon and Virginia Gaines; Tony Rein, Rein/Cobb Family members; Devall, Desmier, Jensen, and Patrick Family members; Regina Robinson; Calcagno and Christians Family members; Tom and Anne Corkery; John F. and Catherine Murray; Ethel Cox; Gene, Elaine, and Ross Mayor; Jim and Kathryn Bristow; Rakers and Wade Family members; In Honor of Fr. Donton and Fr. Leo; John and Karen Walker; Hettinger, Painter, and Wagner Family members; and Joe, Ruth, and Pat Doyle.

Thank you for your support!

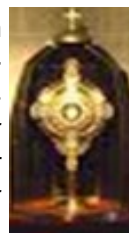
Bereaved Parents of the USA

The Champaign-Urbana chapter will meet **Jan. 8th** at 3:30 p.m. at Stephen Family YMCA, 2501 Fields Dr. South. We'll meet in the community room and continue to meet on the 2nd Sunday each month. For more info contact Jerry or Jane Pica at 217-373-1321.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Vicariate Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is at St. Matthew Church. This is available to everyone in our Vicariate and is open 24 hours a day. Keycard access is required. For assistance with this, please contact Joe Taylor at the St. Matthew parish office. To sign up for a Holy Hour go to: stmatt.weadorehim.com



Last Week's Collection

Offering for December 17th/18th.....\$9,654.00

Fiscal Year 2022/23

	November Contributions	Jul-Nov Contributions	Jul-Nov Pro-rated Budget	Budget Deficit/Surplus
Sundays & Holy Days	41,603.80	163,456.21	166,666.67	(3,210.46)
Automatic Contributions	9,605.00	48,175.00	50,000.00	(1,825.00)
Online Giving	8,790.75	43,468.50	41,666.67	1,801.83
Subtotal	59,999.55	255,099.71	258,333.34	(3,233.62)
HC Tuition Assistance	2,041.50	10,017.50	10,416.67	(399.17)
STM Tuition Assistance	592.00	3,015.00	2,500.00	515.00
Development Fund	2,357.00	12,398.00	26,041.67	(13,643.67)



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

STM 2022-23 Paideia Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2022-23 Champaign Vicariate and the High School of Saint Thomas More Paideia Award are now being accepted. This award is presented each year to an individual or married couple who exemplifies true leadership in the area of service to Catholic education such as an active commitment 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 of Catholic education. Nomination form attached. Questions, contact Mr. Matthew Vander Vennet at mvandervennet@hs-stm.org or call 217-352-7210.

Distinguished/Young Alumni of the Year Award:

This Award will be presented on Saturday, February 11th, at the STM Annual Spring Gala at Pear Tree Estate in Champaign. It 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 has exemplified success in and out of the classroom or in his/her chosen career. If you know of a deserving STM Alum, submit his/her name to alumni@hs-stm.org along with a short explanation of why you feel this STM alum is deserving of this prestigious recognition. Nominations are due by **Friday, January 13th**.

Early Enrollment Period Discount Reminder

Current 8th grade and high school families: Just a reminder that STM is still in our Early Enrollment Discount Period for the 2023-24 admissions cycle. Fully complete and properly submitted admissions applications that are received by Wednesday, Feb. 1st, 2023 at midnight will be eligible for a 2% tuition discount. After that date, applications for next school year will still be accepted; however, no Early Enrollment Period Discounts will be available. Go to www.hs-stm.org and click on "Explore," then "Apply Now" to get started today. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get this discount! Have questions or need help with the app? Contact Director of Enrollment Mrs. Erica Sherman at esherman@hs-stm.org.

STM Job Opportunities: STM is currently seeking applications for a Head Volleyball Coach, a Head Girls Tennis Coach, a Boys Head Soccer Coach, an Assistant Girls Soccer Coach, and a Bus Driver. If interested, email Jon Marston, Athletic Director at jmarstont@hs-stm.org

Student Shadow Program: The *Shadow a Saber* Program is back! Full details and registration info can be found on our website www.hs-stm.org by clicking on "Enrollment" and then "Shadow Program." Any questions about enrollment and admissions should be directed to Mrs. Erica Sherman, Director of Enrollment, by emailing esherman@hs-stm.org or by calling 217-352-7210, ext. 304. We look forward to welcoming your child to campus soon!



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL
217-356-9521
www.holycrosselem.org

From Principal Greg Koerner:

I recently watched the 1994 version of *Miracle on 34th street*. Two major quotes jumped out at me. The first being "DO you Believe" and the second "In God We Trust."

With the Christmas season upon us, I believe that these are two very important topics. Do you trust in God and do you believe?

I believe that if you trust in God, he will show you your path. To believe in God is to believe in the magic of sunsets and moonlit nights. To believe in God is to believe that while we walk in darkness, a great light awaits us.

God has blessed me and our Holy Cross families. God has strengthened my faith and has helped me to become a better person, husband, and principal. God has given his only son Jesus to lead us to his path. Jesus came to show the world God's great love for us.

Our teachers and staff are committed in following God's path. They have put their trust in God to lead them in educating your students. May God continue to bless them.

From the entire staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Believe in the Trust of God.

WE ARE HOLY CROSS!



DRIVE THRU • DINE IN **Cluckin' for Catholic Education** **Chicken Dinner**

\$15 per meal. Grilled 1/2 chicken, Nelson's cheddar cheese potatoes and southern style green beans, & a roll.
Free PB & J offered for indoor dining.



benefitting **Catholic**
Education at Holy
Cross School &
St. Patrick's



ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH

We are kicking off Catholic Schools week with the Annual Cluckin' for Catholic Education Chicken Dinner!

Saturday, January 28th

Dine in or Carry out 4:30pm to 7pm

St. Patrick's Parish Center

All proceeds benefit Catholic Education at Holy Cross & St. Patrick's! Tickets on sale now online at <https://nelsonscatering.com/Holy-Cross>

FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND



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' 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. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.



CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY

The birth of Jesus changed the course of human history. Christmas marks one of the greatest days on the Christian calendar, and nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like the Holy City of Rome. Christmas in Rome follows the celebration of the Nativity throughout history, from a tiny grotto in Bethlehem to the biggest Nativity scene in Saint Peter's Square, and from small groups of early Christians to the enormous multitude of believers at Christmas Masses in St. Peter's Basilica.

See how one of the greatest events in human history is celebrated today, right from the heart of the Church.

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



New Funds at the Online Giving Platform

Recently, several new funds were added to our *Online Giving* platform located at the Holy Cross Church web page. For those who don't like using cash or checks anymore, electronic means offer an easy way to donate or pay fees. One of the new funds is the Flower Fund. Donations to this fund are used to decorate the Church during the Christmas and Easter seasons. There is also an option of dedicating the donation as a memorial in honor of a family member or friend. Their names must be entered in a special space provided by the *Online Giving* platform.

Payment of various fees will become much easier using the following new funds: Family Formation Fee, Wedding Fee, and Miscellaneous Fees. The Family Formation Fee fund can be used to pay an annual fee for participation in the Family Formation program at our Parish. This program is an opportunity for the entire family to grow in faith and is open to all families, especially for those whose children are not enrolled in a Catholic school. Family Formation fulfills the need for religious education and sacramental preparation.

Miscellaneous Fees fund can be used to pay for seasonal Parish activities such as Bible Study, WATCH program, or other occasional events. In order to recognize what the payment was for, an additional note must be entered in the space provided. Wedding Fee fund can be used by couples who have already scheduled their wedding at Holy Cross Church.

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.

Gold Nugget Coins

HOLY CROSS FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIAL

Devall, Desmier, Jensen Families
Menke & Leahy Families
James, Marie, Paul, Joe, & Edward, 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
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
Glen & Helen Jones
Betty Madrey
Menacher & Sizer Families
Leonard & Loretto Doyle
Alan & Patricia Berndt
Thomas McCarthy
Costello Family
Leta & Kenny Porter
Bill Mooney
Ron Murphy
Dec. Mem. of Murphy & Sullivan Families
Living & Dec. Mem. of Williams, Lykins, Barham Fam.