

# Holy Cross Catholic Church



*There are different ministries,  
but the same Lord.  
You then are the Body of Christ.  
Everyone of you is a member of it.*  
1 Corinthians 12:5 & 27

## Third Sunday of Advent Dec 17, 2023

*Isaiah 61:1 (cited in Luke 4:18)  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*



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**Adrian & Irma Guerrero, Maintenance**

**Ryan Meliton, Accompanist**

Mass Times Mon-Fri 9am | Sat 5pm | Sun 8am & 11am | Reconciliation Sat 3-4pm or by appt

Office Hours Mon- Thu 9am-1pm | (907) 349-8388 | 2627 Lore Rd Anchorage, AK 99507 | [holycrossalaska.net](http://holycrossalaska.net)



## This Week at Holy Cross

### Mon Dec 18

9am- Mass

1pm- Aspen Creek Service

### Tue Dec 19

9am- Mass

7pm-OCIA

### Wed Dec 20

9am- Mass

### Thu Dec 21

9am- Mass

### Fri Dec 22- Office Closed

9am- Mass

### Sat Dec 23

10:30am- Children's Christmas Choir rehearsal

1pm- Legion of Mary

**10am-12pm & 2-4pm-Confession**

5pm- Mass (4th Sun of Advent)

### Sun Dec 24

**10am- Mass (4th Sun of Advent)**

**5pm- Christmas Vigil Mass**

### Mon Dec 25- Office Closed

**Midnight Christmas Mass**

**8am- Christmas Morning Mass**

**11am- Christmas Day Mass**

## Mass Intentions

Call or email the office to schedule your Mass intentions.

Sun 8am Mass is offered for the People of the Parish

12/17- 11am: ROS- Tita Notado

12/18- 9am: Special Intention- Mary Patania

12/20- 9am: ROS- Walter Kinnuen

## Vocations Cross

To volunteer to pray with the vocations cross.

Sign up outside the sanctuary.

*Manaois Family will pray with the vocations cross this week.*

## Reflection

John the Baptist is at first identified by what he is not- he is not the light, not the Christ, not Elijah. The laity of the church is often described in similar ways; laypeople are not ordained, not priests, cannot preside or preach at Eucharist. But John's interlocutors push for a positive identification, and perhaps we should too. The laity is not just what it is not; it has a special call to bring the sacred in touch with the more mundane occupations of workplaces and friendships and childrearing. Every place where there is a layperson is a place the church is present.

## More Than Enough Joy

I recently returned from running errands to find a neighbor wheeling his elderly mother to the elevator of our condo. She's frail and bedridden and now leaves their apartment only for medical appointments. When I said, "Alice, it's so good to see you," she smiled and reached for me. Taking my hand, she kissed it. A moment of blessing, and of joy.

Joy permeates today's readings: St. Paul's "rejoice, the Lord is near" in the entrance antiphon; Isaiah, the anointed one of God, proclaims "my God is the joy of my soul"; in the responsorial psalm, Mary echoes Isaiah and sings, "My spirit rejoices in God my savior." These are expressions of divine joy, bringing healing and good news to those who need it most, bringing a welcome change into the world.

Somehow, though, Paul's exhortations in 1 Thessalonians are hard to take: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks." Really? In *all* circumstances? That's a tough order. But in spending time with my loved ones during hard times of illness and approaching death, I've learned to spot the blessings that show up, even then. A rainbow, a memory shared, a hug, even a silly joke—they may be small, but they generate joy.

My friend's mother endures a daunting cascade of medical problems, but she can smile when someone greets her by name. Her son has made his way through the wilderness of drug addiction and prison, and is glad to be able to care for his mother in her last years. That's a lot of joy.

Kathleen Norris

*Kathleen Norris is an oblate of St. Benedict and the author of many books, including The Cloister Walk and Acedia and Me. She co-edits Soul Telegram, a weekly e-newsletter on movies and meaning.*

## On the Way Home from Mass...

How does John the Baptist witness to the light who is to come?



Ministry Schedule for next week (Dec 23, 24 & 25)						
Mass	Music	Sacristan	Servers	Readers	EM	Hospitality
Sat 5 pm	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Matt Williams (Fleur Bases)	Jerica Manaois Lamar Bases	Ted Walker	Thomas Bases Duane Roering	Manaois Family
Sun 10 am	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Mike Webb	Joe and Rose Webb	Julie Kentch Megan Green	Diane Hlasny Pam Webb John Hoppe	Faith Roberts <b>Need Volunteer</b>
Sun 5 pm	Sheila Soukup (walk-ins welcome)	Manaois Family	Joseph Salao Rowdy Reynoso	Brenda Lannen Kristin Rehmann	<b>Need Volunteers</b>	Fleur Bases Dora Castillo
Sun Midnight	Sheila Soukup (walk-ins welcome)	Matt Williams	Lora and JR Rivera Jerica Manaois	Ray Meliton	Julie Spradling <b>Need Volunteers</b>	Leigh Rivera <b>Need Volunteer</b>
Mon 8 am	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Pat Seidl	Jerica Manaois	Maureen Retzel Deb Seidl	John Hoppe Mike Likar Marilyn Kerr	Faith Roberts <b>Need Volunteer</b>
Mon 11 am	Sheila Soukup (walk-ins welcome)	<b>Need Volunteers</b>	Nikylla and Nathan Marcelino	Cheryl Chapman	Janina Chlebowski Teresa Mitchell Julia Morrison-Lugo	Jaeden Cabrera <b>Need Volunteer</b>



**Please give generously to  
the upcoming collection.**

# Retirement Fund for Religious Special Collection this Weekend!

Visit [retiredreligious.org/2023photos](https://retiredreligious.org/2023photos) to meet the religious pictured.

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Sat Dec 23 5pm and Sun Dec 24 10am  
Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass Readings  
Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

*The kingdom of David shall endure forever before the Lord.*

PSALM 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

Romans 16:25-27

*The mystery kept secret for long ages has now been manifested.*

Luke 1:26-38

*Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.*

Sun Dec 24 5pm

The Nativity of the Lord Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

*The Lord delights in you.*

PSALM 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

*Paul bears witness to Christ, the Son of David.*

Matthew 1:1-25

*The genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David.*

Midnight Mass Readings

The Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 9:1-6

*A son is given us.*

PSALM 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13

*Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.*

Titus 2:11-14

*The grace of God has appeared to all.*

Luke 2:1-14

*Today a Savior has been born for you.*

Mon Dec 25 8am

The Nativity of the Lord Readings

Isaiah 62:11-12

*Behold, your Savior comes!*

PSALM 97:1, 6, 11-12

*A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.*

Titus 3:4-7

*Because of his mercy, he saved us.*

Luke 2:15-20

*The shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the infant.*

Mon Dec 25 11am

The Nativity of the Lord Readings

Isaiah 52:7-10

*All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.*

PSALM 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

*All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

Hebrews 1:1-6

*God has spoken to us through the Son.*

John 1:1-18

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*

*Saint Therese's Camp* *Annual Winter Retreat*

# Glory Bound 2023!

Grades 6-8 Dec. 28-30 \$125

Grades 9-12 Dec. 30-Jan. 1 \$133

*Fun! Faith! Friends!*



Scan QR code to register & for info!

Contact [www.stcak.com](http://www.stcak.com)  
or 907 232 2066 for more

It's that time of the year again when our local Catholic Daughters of the America's are offering (3) Camperships to St. Therese's Camp in Wasilla for the 2024 summer session; for students currently in 5th, 6th and 7th grade. A 250-300 word essay written or typed on "Who is your favorite Saint and why? What virtues did they possess that inspire you"? Applications and more information are available at your Parish or Catholic School office or can be emailed to you by contacting [kewhitney14@gmail.com](mailto:kewhitney14@gmail.com). You can also call Kerry at 907-230-4726. Application and essay must be entirely completed and postmarked no later than January 3, 2024 and sent to:

**CDA Scholarship Committee**

**P.O. Box 243953**

**Anchorage, Alaska 99524-3953**

or emailed directly to

**[kewhitney14@gmail.com](mailto:kewhitney14@gmail.com)**

**Please encourage your youth to participate!**



## Smiling City

Brayden and Julius are partnering up to give people the opportunity for better oral health. Please bring toothpaste, toothbrush, floss, and/or mouthwash in the church to place them in the Christmas box located in the Fellowship Hall. Donations will be collected by December 18th.



## THANK YOU: Gift Card Drive

Thank you so much for those who contributed to the Gift Card Drive! Owen collected \$1,065 gift cards to deliver to Anchorage School District children and families. Thanks for your support to Owen's Confirmation Service Project.

### SAVE THE DATE!

All women of the Archdiocese are invited to join the Ladies of St. Andrew Parish in Eagle River for our annual retreat on Sat, Jan 13, 10am-1pm. Our presenter, Monica Anderson, will help us explore the Good Samaritan story from a different lens: How does our own vulnerability deepen our ability to be compassionate? Email [standrewsladiesgroup@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsladiesgroup@gmail.com) for more information.

## RETROUVAILLE

HelpOurMarriage.org  
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Pronounced re\*tro\*vi', is a faith-based program designed to help all marriages, the union of one man and one woman, regardless of faith or creed, rediscover the love and trust that brought them together. Retrouvaille can help couples learn new tools for healthy communication, intimacy, and personal growth. For confidential information or to register for the next Retrouvaille of Alaska program, beginning with a weekend experience on Jan 21, 2024, call 907-863-8000; email: [anchorage@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:anchorage@helpourmarriage.org); or visit the website [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org)

## Faith Formation Classes

December 17:

Everyone is in Family Session

***Wear your pajamas & bring a dish!***

***Faith Formation runs from 9-10:45am.***

***Registration is on-going at: [holycrossalaska.net/register](http://holycrossalaska.net/register)***

***Interested in becoming Catholic? Learn more at an OCIA meeting happening on Tue evenings at 7pm.***



# Congratulations

## to those who received their First Reconciliation!



- Gabriel Canoja
- Avery Dizon
- Gavin Hansen
- Serenity Landicho
- Noah Linneman
- Abe Lowe
- Amelia Lowe
- Quynh Tran
- Alison Truong
- Mateo Villa
- Caroline Walsh



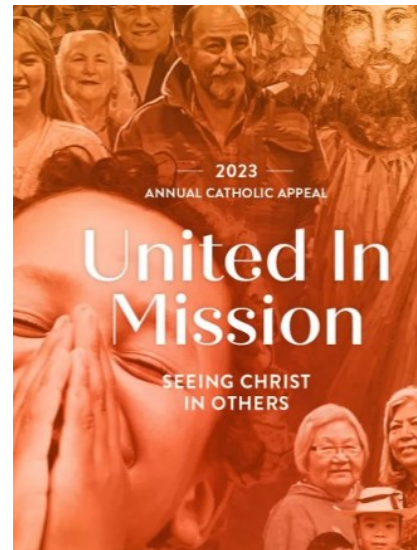
NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>

# 3rd Sunday of Advent

R	T	E	J	O	R	D	A	N	D	N	P	L	R
G	T	I	D	I	N	G	S	I	Y	O	E	Y	D
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N	R	R	H	H	A	J	I	L	E	T	P	H	T
E	I	A	M	R	I	G	G	D	G	A	R	G	R
R	I	P	O	Y	A	G	E	I	W	C	O	I	A
A	G	P	D	I	A	D	E	M	R	I	P	M	E
T	R	E	M	E	M	B	E	R	E	D	H	L	H
I	Y	D	I	D	R	Y	T	O	G	N	E	A	N
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N	T	N	N	L	O	H	C	W	E	V	I	P	K
S	A	O	O	J	O	O	B	P	O	C	C	I	O
N	E	O	T	P	I	J	N	E	C	L	I	M	R
E	S	I	M	O	R	P	A	M	N	I	O	R	B

ELIJAH  
NOT  
REMEMBERED  
JORDAN  
PROPHETIC  
ALMIGHTY  
WRAPPED  
LOWLY  
PROMISE  
TIDINGS  
BROKENHEARTED  
DIADEM  
JOHN  
GENERATIONS  
VINDICATION



## 2023 "United in Mission" Annual Appeal Report As of December 12, 2023

Diocesan Goal for Holy Cross	\$ 39,478	
Parish (Rebate) Goal for Holy Cross	\$ 14,000	
Diocesan Goal + Parish Goal for Holy Cross	\$ 53,478	
<b>Total Pledged</b>	<b>\$ 51,095</b>	<b>100.0% of Diocesan Goal</b>
		<b>83.0% of Parish Goal</b>
Number of Pledges	\$ 107	
Total Pledged (Over/Under) Diocesan Goal	\$ 11,617	
Total Pledged (Over/Under) Parish Goal	\$ (2,383)	
<b>Total Pledged Paid</b>	<b>\$ 47,580</b>	
Total Pledged Unpaid	\$ 3,515	(Diocesan Goal - Total Pledged Paid)
Total Rebate for Holy Cross	\$ 8,102	(Total Pledged Paid - Diocesan Goal)

Thank you for donating and sharing your treasure to the 2023 United in Mission Annual Appeal.

# HOLY CROSS MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR November 2023

• **Month Ending (ME): Nov 2023** *(4 weekends)*

Offertory "Goal" for ME:                 \$ 31,576  
 Offertory "Actual" for ME:             \$ 31,284 (99.1%)

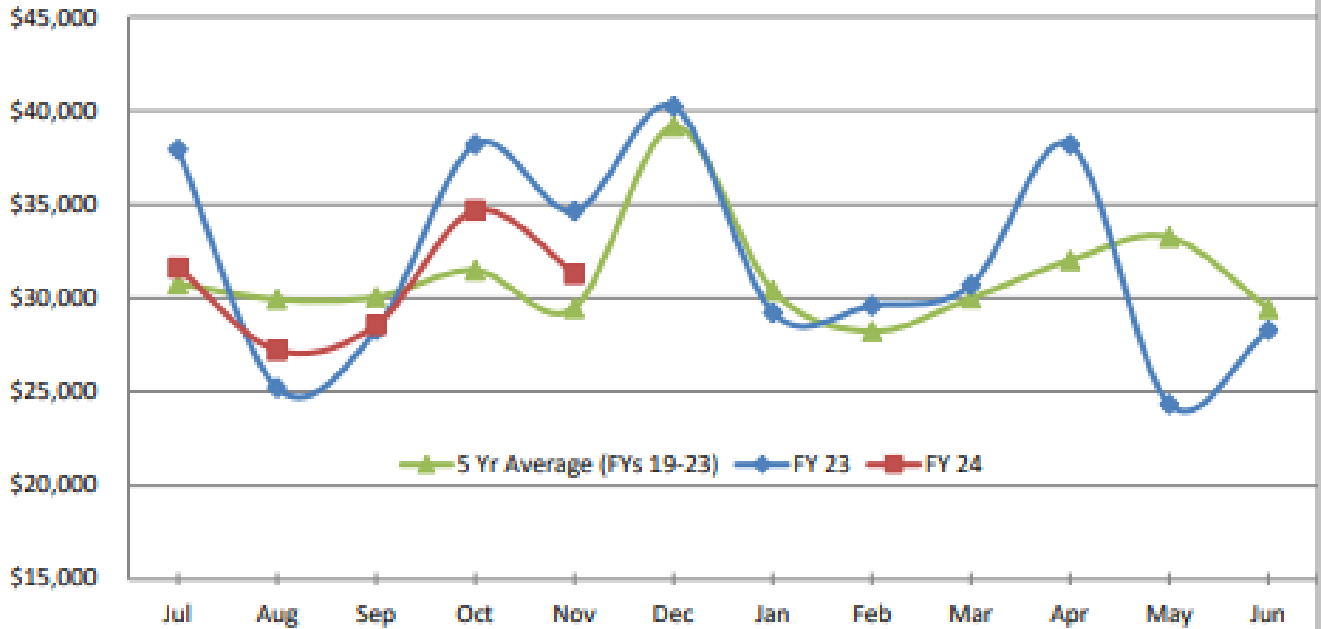
Basket @ Mass/Mail:	\$ 18,277 (58.4%)
Online Giving:	\$ 11,820 (37.8%)
Holy Days/Holidays:	\$ 1,187 (3.8%)

• **Fiscal Year 2023 - Year to Date (YTD) July 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023**

Offertory "Goal" for Fiscal YTD:         \$ 165,774 (Weekly Average: \$7,894)  
 Offertory "Actual" for Fiscal YTD:     \$ 153,384 (92.5%) (Weekly Average: \$7,304)

Basket @ Mass/Mail	\$ 91,351 (59.6%)
Online Giving:	\$ 60,194 (39.2%)
Holy Days/Holidays:	\$ 1,839 (1.2%)

**Holy Cross Weekly Collections - Monthly Comparisons  
 Current (FY 24 YTD) vs Historical (FY23 & 5 Yr Average)**



**Income Statement – Previous Year Comparison**

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24: Jul – Nov Actual	FY 23: Jul – Nov Actual	Previous Year Change
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 443,400	\$ 186,098	\$ 185,150	\$ 948
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 473,400	\$ 164,921	\$ 161,652	\$ 3,269
<b>Net Income (before depreciation)</b>	\$ (30,000)	\$ 21,177	\$ 23,498	\$ (2,321)

*Thank you for donating and sharing your treasure with Holy Cross.*

## PARISH MINISTRIES SERVICE TEAM

- Altar Servers- Jerica Manaois: 230-9418
- Art & Environment- Marilyn Kerr: 346-1624
- Baked Goods & Funerals- Looking for help!
- Blessed Sacrament Monastery- Sandon Broek: 947-9168
- Clare House- Leslie Holland: 337-278-7852
- Faith Formation- Jerica Manaois: 306-9363
- Church Maint. / Snow Removal- Mike Likar: 529-9015
- Eucharistic Ministers- John Hoppe: 350-7580
- Finance- Greg Magee: 575-3197
- Parish Nurse Program- Deb Seidl: 301-4180
- Hospitality- Joy Maglaqui: 360-5133
- Knights of Columbus- Pat Seidl: 242-1127
- Lawn & Garden- Julie Spralading: 636-399-0892
- Legion of Mary- Mercy Acheson: 223-4822
- Library- Maureen Retzel: 441-0460
- Liturgical Ministries Coordinator- Julie Thomas: 538-1109
- Livestream- John Roberts: 317-6808
- Music Ministry- Sheila Soukup: 250-6234
- Prayer Chain- Joan Gillis: 346-3147
- Readers- Jason Hlasny: 242-6655
- OCIA- Sandon Broek: 947-9168
- Sacristan- Matthew Williams: 632-4252
- Youth/Young Adult- Jerica Manaois: 306-9363

**Thank you for supporting our advertisers!**

## Financial Corner

TITHING UPDATE			
<i>How did we do last week in meeting our weekly offertory goal?</i>			
Weekly Offertory Goal:	\$	7,894	
Weekly Tithing Period:		12/04-10/2023	
Income Sources			
Weekly Collections:	\$	4,117	
Holy Day/Holiday Collections:	\$	804	
Online Giving:	\$	2,666	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,587</b>	
Over/(Under) Goal:	\$	(307)	
Actual vs. Goal (%):		96.1%	
<b>Actual vs. Budget "Total Income" for FY24 Year-To-Date (YTD) Period</b>			
FY24 YTD Period:	7/1/2023 to 11/30/2023		
FY24 YTD Complete (%):	41.7%		
Annual Budget Total Income FY 2024:	\$	443,400	
Actual Total Income for Period:	\$	138,181	
Budget Total Income for Period:	\$	184,750	
Over/(Under) Budget for Period:	\$	(46,569)	
Actual vs. Budget for Period (%):	74.8%		
<b>Breakdown of Actual "Total Income" for FY24 YTD Period</b>			
FY24 YTD Period:	7/1/2023 to 11/30/2023		
Weekly Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	91,351	49.1%
Holy Day/Holiday Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	1,839	1.0%
Online Giving:	\$	60,194	32.3%
2023 United in Mission Annual Appeal (Rebate Paid To Date):	\$	-	0.0%
Stole Fees:	\$	2,330	1.3%
In-Kind Donations:	\$	19,858	10.7%
Investment Income:	\$	1,670	0.9%
Fee Income:	\$	5,122	2.8%
Other:	\$	3,734	2.0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>186,098</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Actual vs. Budget "Total Expenses" for FY24 Year-To-Date (YTD) Period</b>			
FY24 YTD Period:	7/1/2023 to 11/30/2023		
FY24 YTD Complete (%):	41.7%		
Annual Budget Total Expenses FY 2023:	\$	473,400	
Actual Total Expenses for Period:	\$	164,921	
Budget Total Expenses for Period:	\$	197,250	
Over/(Under) Budget for Period:	\$	(32,329)	
Actual vs. Budget for Period (%):	83.6%		
<b>Actual "Total Net Income" for FY24 YTD Period</b>			
FY24 YTD Period:	7/1/2023 to 11/30/2023		
Actual Total Income for Period:	\$	186,098	
Actual Total Expenses for Period:	\$	164,921	
Actual Total Net Income for Period:	\$	21,177	
Total Net Income "Over/(Under)" Total Expenses for Period (%):	12.8%		

**ALERT!** Holy Cross staff will not contact you requesting gift cards. Never purchase or send money/gift cards electronically.

### Paul J. Nangle & Associates

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