

Holy Cross Catholic Church



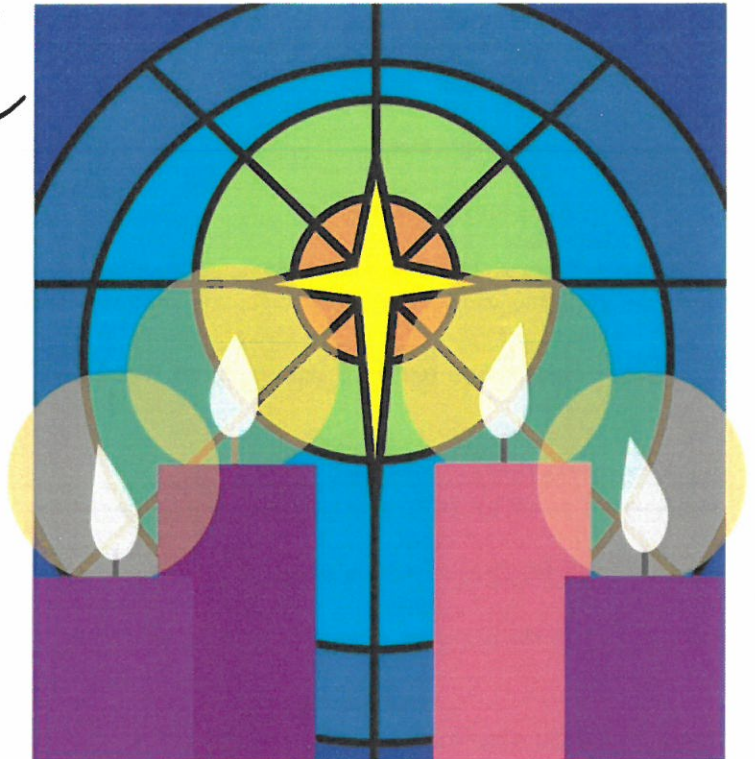
*There are different ministries,
but the same Lord.
You then are the Body of Christ.
Everyone of you is a member of it.*
1 Corinthians 12:5 & 27

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

December 18, 2022

Matthew 1:23

*The virgin shall
conceive, and bear a
son, and they shall
name him Emmanuel.*



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(907)306-9363 (call/txt) formation@holycrossalaska.net

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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

This Week at Holy Cross

Mon Dec 19

9am- Mass
1pm- Aspen Creek Service

Tue Dec 20

9am- Mass
~~5:30pm- Confirmation Class~~
7pm- OCIA

Wed Dec 21

9am- Mass
6pm- Simbang Gabi

Thu Dec 22

9am- Mass
~~6:30pm- Screwtape Letters~~

Fri Dec 23-Parish Office Closed

9am- Mass

Sat Dec 24

1pm- Legion of Mary
3-4pm- Confession
5pm- Mass
11:59pm Midnight Mass

Sun Dec 25

8am- Mass (no Faith Formation)
11am- Mass

Holy Cross Will be Closed from Fri Dec 23- Mon Jan 2

Email the office@holycrossalaska.net to schedule your Mass Intention.

Mass Readings for The Nativity of the Lord

Sat 5pm

Isaiah 62:1-5 *The Lord delights in you.*

Psalms 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 *For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

Apostles 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

Isaiah 9:1-6 *A son is given us.*

Psalms 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Luke 2:11) *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.*

Sun 8am

Isaiah 62:11-12 *Behold, your Savior comes!*

Psalms 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.*

Sun 11am

Isaiah 52:7-10 *All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.*

Psalms 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.*

Reflection

Have you ever asked for a sign from God? God does not work through signs at times, but they are very rarely the signs we would have chosen. Often, God works in places we never would have thought to look. Advent is about training our eyes, about paying attention, about noticing what once we would have ignored- the panhandler, the criminal, the child- and learning to see God there.

Love Will Be a Bridge

The story of Joseph's bewilderment when he realised that his future wife was going to have a baby is well known, and it is well known, too, that Our Lady did not explain.

Her example here teaches us wisdom when misunderstandings arise because of Christ conceived in us. There is little gained by trying to explain. At that time, the Advent time, His voice is silent in us; it is simply our own heartbeat. Love is more effective than words.

The only thing to do is to go on loving, to be patient, to suffer the misunderstanding. Explanations even of what can be explained seldom heal—and there is so much that cannot be explained.

Even the presence of Christ in us does not do away with our own clumsiness, blindness, stupidity; indeed, sometimes because of our limitations, His light is a blinding light to us and we become, for a time, more dense than before. We shall still be irritable, still make mistakes, and still very likely be unaware of how exasperating we are.

Explanations, words, at this stage, may only wound, but love will be a bridge over which at last, in God's time, we shall cross to a better understanding.

It will have to be the love of humility, that is, love informed by humility—long-suffering, patient, and humorous. If we realise that we are a little absurd, such love will come more easily. We must try to be like Our Lady, to make as little fuss as she did about being the Mother of Christ.

No one can be so recollected, so tranquil, that he can be a contemplative in the world, a contemplative of Christ in his own heart, unless at the very outset he finds a cure for fear.

There is only one cure for fear—trust in God. That is why the beginning of Christ's being formed in us consists in echoing Our Lady's *fiat*; it is a surrender, a handing over of everything to God.

Caryll Houselander, *The Reed of God*

Caryll Houselander (1901–1954) was an English Catholic laywoman, artist, and visionary best known for such works as *A Rocking Horse Catholic*, *The Reed of God*, and *The Way of the Cross*.

On the Way Home from Mass

The angel refers to Jesus as *Emmanuel*, which means "God is with us." Why is this a good name for Jesus?



At Holy Cross

Faith Formation Classes

New families visit: holycrossalaska.net/formation

Dec. 18	All ages in Family Session
Classes resume January 15.	

OCIA/RCIA: Sacraments for Adults

To learn more about the faith, or receive sacraments as an adult, call Deacon Sandon: 947-9168

Eucharistic Miracles on the Red Bulletin Board

This week's Eucharistic Revival bulletin board features 7 miracles from Belgium! Take one of the flyers home to read, or visit miracolieucaistici.org.



Giving Tree

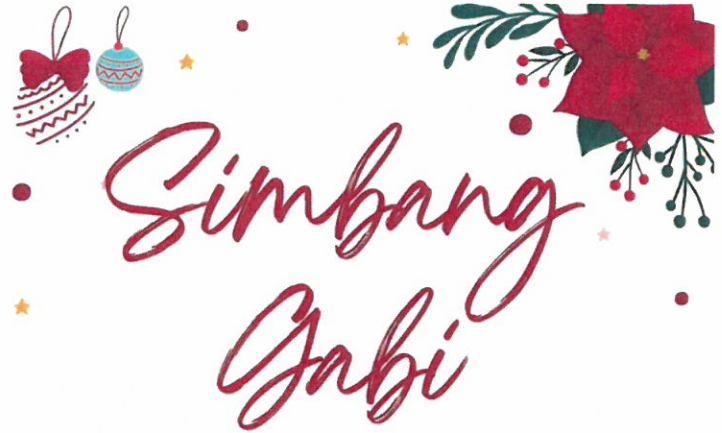
All tagged items are due this weekend. Thank you for supporting the Giving Tree and Brother Francis Shelter, Clare House, and the Covenant House.



Knights of Columbus®

Pancake Breakfast this Sunday

Knights' Pancake Breakfast is this Sunday, Dec. 18 after the 8am and 11am Mass. Donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated!



**DEC. 21 AT HOLY CROSS
6-7PM MASS IN TAGALOG
FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK**



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Ministry Schedule for next week (Dec 24/25)

Mass	Music	Sacristan	Servers	Readers	EM	Hospitality
Sat 5 pm	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Manaois Family	Joseph Salao Rowdy Reynoso	Ted Walker Diedre Williams		Linda Galamgam
Midnight Mass	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Matt Williams	Kaosi Morah Rowdy Reynoso			
Sun 8 am	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	John Hoppe	Jerica Manaois	Maureen Retzel	John Hoppe	Matthew Williams Faith Roberts
Sun 11 am	Sheila Soukup (walk-ins welcome)	Volunteer Needed	Nikylla Marcelino Nathan Marcelino	Megan Green		

PARISH MINISTRIES SERVICE TEAM

- Altar Servers- Jess Manaos: 230-9418
- Art & Environment- Marilyn Kerr: 346-1624
- Bereavement & Baked Goods- Joan Karcz: 344-0168
- Blessed Sacrament Monastery- Sandon Broek: 947-9168
- Clare House- Leslie Holland: 337-278-7852
- Faith Formation- Anna Schulten: 306-9363
- Church Maintenance- Mike Likar: 529-9015
- Eucharistic Ministers- John Hoppe: 350-7580
- Finance- Greg Magee: 575-3197
- Parish Nurse Program- Deb Siedl: 301-4180
- Hospitality- Joy Maglaqui: 360-5133
- Knights of Columbus- Pat Seidl: 242-1127
- Lawn & Garden- Kirsten Hoppe: 227-7871
- Legion of Mary- Mercy Acheson: 223-4822
- Library- Debi Wickler: 952-1879
- 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
- Snow Plowing- Vince Garroutte: 522-3647
- Youth/ Young Adult Ministry- Anna Schulten: 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:	\$	7,077	
Weekly Tithing Period:		12/05-11/2022	
Income Sources			
Weekly Collections:	\$	6,503	
Holy Day/Holiday Collections:	\$	659	
Online Giving:	\$	2,967	
Total:	\$	10,129	
Over/(Under) Goal:	\$	3,052	
Actual vs. Goal (%):		143.1%	
Year to Date (YTD) Income Comparison:			
Actual versus Budget Total Incomes for FY23 YTD Period			
FY 23 YTD Period: 7/1/2022 to 10/31/2022			
FY 23 YTD Complete (%):		33.3%	
Annual Budget Total Income FY 2023:	\$	397,600	
Actual Total Income for Period:	\$	129,646	
Budget Total Income for Period:	\$	132,533	
Over/(Under) Budget for Period:	\$	(2,887)	
Actual vs. Budget for Period (%):		97.8%	
Breakdown of Actual Total Income for FY23 YTD Period			
FY 23 YTD Period: 7/1/2022 to 10/31/2022			
Weekly Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	77,290	59.6%
Holy Day/Holiday Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	210	0.2%
Online Giving:	\$	52,146	40.2%
2022 United in Mission Annual Appeal (Rebates):	\$	-	0.0%
Total:	\$	129,646	100.0%



Online Giving

To sign up online giving visit holycrossalaska.net/give

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

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(907) 375-7303

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*Separate but affiliated companies

Winter in Alaska can be harsh, your support is a beacon of light and hope. Your gift goes toward providing a family with food for their Christmas meal, helping house those experiencing homelessness, making sure our guests have a good night's sleep at Brother Francis Shelter, making sure a new arrival refugee family feels welcomed upon arriving in Anchorage, offering care and resources to clients staying at Complex Care, or providing a warm, inviting space for mothers and children at Clare House. If you have any questions about your donation, email Molly Cornish at mcornish@cssalaska.org.

[Donate - Catholic Social Services - Alaska \(cssalaska.org\)](https://cssalaska.org)

Joy to the World! Thank you to Father Andy and members of Holy Family Cathedral for coming to share wonderful treats and festive carols with the guests at Brother Francis Shelter. You brought so much joy to the guests and staff!



Volunteer Opportunities!



Christmas Dinner and Christmas Morning Treats for Complex Care

Complex Care will be celebrating with a special meal on December 23rd and are in need of volunteers to help prepare and deliver yummy dishes to be part of their celebration. Please see the link here to sign up:

Christmas Dinner: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49ABAF29A3F8C52-christmas>

Christmas Breakfast: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49ABAF29A3F8C52-christmas1>

Christmas Treats for Brother Francis Shelter

The holidays are a wonderful time to share a special treat with our neighbors! Please see the sign up below to deliver a gift to Brother Francis Shelter. Thank you for helping our guests celebrate this season!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49ABAF29A3F8C52-holiday>



In-Kind Donation Needs

St. Francis House Food Pantry: Donations can be dropped off at 3710 E 20th Ave, Mon-Fri from 9am-5pm
Rice, Pasta, Oatmeal

Clare House: Donations can be dropped off at 4110 Spenard Rd, 7 days a week from 10am-6pm
Laundry detergents, Dryer sheets, Clorox (for laundry), Size 6 diapers, Wipes

Complex Care: Donations can be dropped off at 303 West Fireweed, 7 days a week from 9am-6pm
Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Lotion

RAIS: Donations can be dropped off at 3710 E 20th Ave, Mon-Fri from 9am-5pm
New pillows, Twin and queen comforters, Winter coats, gloves, boots for children and adults

Fourth Sunday of Advent

V	O	F	S	K	O	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N
R	L	L	U	B	A	U	S	V	I	R	G	I	N
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- EMMANUEL
- ISAIAH
- TEMPT
- LORD
- WEARY
- DAVID
- VIRGIN
- CONCIEVE
- EARTH
- FULLNESS
- SINLESS
- HEART
- CLEAN
- DWELL
- JACOB

