



HOLY CROSS HERALD

Father Christopher Droste, Pastor
Father Luke Hassler, Parochial Vicar

Date February 2020

Indulge me!



What is an indulgence? And what gives the Church the right to offer them? Many responses to these questions we have heard can be hard to understand, but hopefully with a little bit of explanation and reflection it can make better sense to us.

Indulgences need to be seen in light of the healing process. When we receive absolution from our sins in Confession, our guilt is forgiven and wiped away forever, but what the Church refers to in her teaching as *temporal punishment still remains. This punishment is not to be thought of as vengeance from God, but rather the condition we have to suffer caused by the self inflicted wound of sin. Sin causes damage to both our body and soul. And these wounds are not only suffered by us as individuals but also by the Body of Christ of which we are part of. All wounds, physical and spiritual, need time and treatment to heal. Therefore, temporal refers to the time and punishment to the process by which our body and souls heal from sin. This healing can occur while we are still alive – through works of mercy and charity, prayer, and penance – or after death, in Purgatory.*

The Church as the Body of Christ is entrusted with the power to administer and dispense the healing graces that both forgive and heal the wounds of our sins while we are still alive, reducing or eliminating the need for time and treatment in Purgatory before we go to Heaven. There are plenary (remits all temporal punishment) and partial (remits some temporal punishment) indulgences given by the Church at certain opportune times as a special means to provide its members with an extraordinary way to not only heal from their wounds, but to be able to live in a state of grace, which is an attainable goal at all times when we ask and receive the gifts that come from God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

At the request of Bishop Siegel, a plenary indulgence has been granted by the Holy See to the Diocese of Evansville for all those who visit any of the pilgrimage churches throughout the diocese in commemoration of our 75th anniversary. Those who obediently follow the instructions for the plenary indulgence will receive its benefits. Our own St. James Church has been chosen among all the churches in the West Deanery to be one of the 4 pilgrimage churches throughout the Diocese of Evansville. We're blessed to have easy access, so please take advantage of this unique opportunity to be indulged by the healing effects of the Father's Mercy.

Father Christopher

Pilgrimage Church

75th Jubilee Plenary Indulgence

Those seeking a plenary indulgence must be in the state of grace and meet the following conditions:

- ✕ Prayerfully visit the pilgrimage church
- ✕ Have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin
- ✕ Have sacramentally confessed their sins
- ✕ Receive the Holy Eucharist (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required)
- ✕ Pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff

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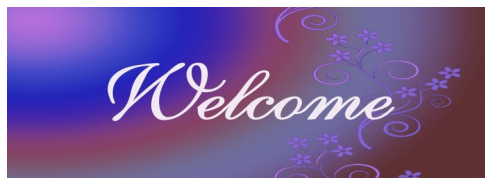
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NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our newest Holy Cross members. If you get the chance to greet these people at church, use the opportunity to show them true Christian fellowship, and tell them how much we appreciate them coming into our church family.

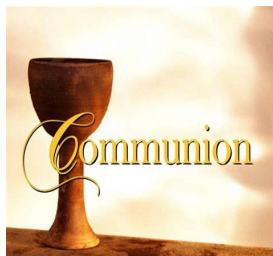
Eric & Jennifer Bradshaw are from Owensville. They have 3 children, Ida, Janson & Waylon.

Andrew & Katie McClanahan are from Fort Branch. They have two children, Layla and Owen.



HOME COMMUNION

Eucharistic Ministers take Communion to the home-bound on Friday mornings. If you have had a recent surgery, a hospital stay or are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion, please contact the parish office by Thursday afternoon.



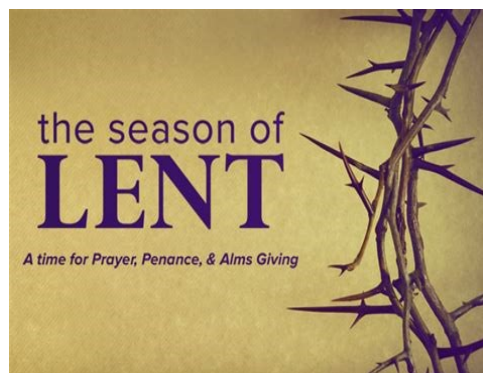
WEBSITES

Check out our websites for the church and school. There you will find our Bulletin, Parish Calendar, Mass Schedules, school info and much more. Please contact Peg Hall at hallfamily@ieeee.org

Our website pages are:

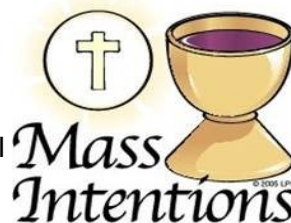
Parish: www.holycrossparish.info

School: www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school



2020 & 2021 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office is now scheduling Mass Intentions for 2020. You may schedule up to 3 Mass Intentions per year for a particular person. We will start scheduling 2021 Intentions in late March.



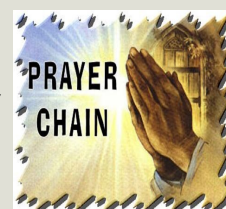
Blessing of Religious Articles

Do you have a religious article that you would like to have blessed? Religious articles can be dropped off at the parish office during regular business hours and will be returned as soon as possible.



Prayer Chain—Please Pray for the Sick & Suffering

To add someone to the prayer chain or become a part of the chain, please contact Phyllis Schmits at 812-615-5141 or call the parish Office at 812-753-3548. Please contact the parish office if you or a family member is admitted to the hospital or nursing home, or if you would like to receive the anointing of the sick so that we may notify Father Christopher or Father Luke



Father Luke's Thoughts

When I was in seminary, I was a part of a group of guys that liked to get together and watch movies a few times a week. Naturally our go-to service for finding a movie to watch was Netflix. The first 3 weeks that we would do this it was a little heated because there were hundreds of choices of movies to choose from and we couldn't decide which one to settle on. By the time we ended up settling on something, we lost 30 minutes of time that could have been spent enjoying the movie. And even with that, the movie we ended up choosing was the first movie that we came across when beginning the search!



In our modern society, choice is all around us. Choice runs rampant with any material thing that we could possibly want at the touch of a button. With all of this immediate gratification, the desire for choice can creep over into our immaterial lives as well; specifically, with our ability to commit to things and make long term decisions. Much like deciding what movie to watch on Netflix, we spend so much time trying to commit to a specific choice that rather than experience the joy of a decision made, we get caught up in the anxiety and depression of "possibility."

The same can be said about being a part of a parish community. A parish is only as active and as vibrant as the community that commits to making it their own; of being able to say, "that's where I go to church." If each parishioner is not committed to making the parish their own, then it will slowly start to fade into the background as just another set of buildings taking up space in the community.

How do we take ownership of our parish? By commitment. By committing to be a part of the ministries that the parish offers. This can be as simple as showing up to a K of C, Men's Club, or Journey Men meeting or volunteering at mass as a server, lector, or eucharistic minister. These groups are always open to new faces showing up and helping out. This Spring I invite you all to take a chance and make a commitment to your parish in some way that you never have before. Commit to something for at least 3 times before you decide it's not for you. Don't waste your time scrolling the list of options, rather, go for it! Venture out and take a chance! Odds are, you will get more out of it than you thought you would!

-Fr. Luke

CROSSES FOR SALE

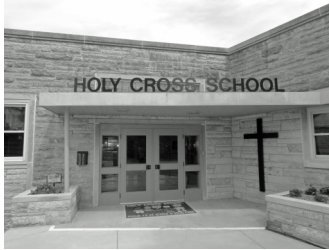


Leo Neufelder has graciously made crosses from the wood of the old Holy Cross pews. They are beautifully handcrafted and he has affixed a plaque on the back of each cross. We have a very limited supply and are selling these crosses for \$75 each. If you would be interested in purchasing one of these momentous crosses for your home or a family member, please contact the Parish Office at 812-753-3548.



Holy Cross School News

Notes from Principal Hollis



We recently celebrated Catholic Schools' Week. Our 5th graders attended Mass at our newly renovated St. Ben's Cathedral. It was a beautiful Mass with Bishop Siegel as the celebrant. Our entire school took part in the Gibson County Schools' Mass at St. James. Because of the increased enrollment in our Catholic Schools, Mass was held in the gymnasium. We also celebrated by treating the children to a movie at the theater and having several different dress up days.

Catholic Schools' Week is a great time for all of us to reflect on the many blessings offered to those attending a Catholic School.



Crusader Academy Preschool & Prekindergarten Registration for 2020-2021 School

We are currently accepting applications for the 2020-2021 School Year. The registration forms can be printed off of our website @ holycrossparishinfo.com, or picked up at the Holy Cross School K-5 building. School tours are available upon request. Please contact Mr. Hollis to arrange for a tour at 812-753-3280. Upon completing the application, please return the form to the Holy Cross School office.

Scrip News

Profits for our scrip program have decreased significantly over the past few years. For the next 6 months, we will be evaluating this program to determine if we can continue to offer the Scrip Program. If you do not use this program and sales do not increase, it may go away. This program not only benefits the parish, but also many of our school families.

What is the Scrip Program? It is a fundraiser for our Parish, that doesn't require any extra money and only a little bit of extra planning. Holy Cross purchases gift cards (or Scrip cards) from Great Lakes Scrip Center, as well as several local retailers at a discounted price. These cards are available to purchase at face value. The difference of the card value and the discounted price is profit for our parish. Visit our Scrip Table before or after any Weekend Masses. Scrip is sold in the parish office Monday-Friday during our regular business hours.

The Scrip program not only benefits our Parish, but parents with children in Holy Cross School can also benefit from the use of Scrip cards. The **School Fee Reduction Program** divides the profit from each card purchased equally, with 50% of the profit staying at Holy Cross Parish, and the other 50% being credited towards the family to be used to offset tuition fees.



If a \$100 Walmart card is purchased by a parishioner with school-aged children, \$1.25 would go back to the parish, and \$1.25 would be credited towards the family for next year's school fees. It may not seem like a lot, but it adds up quickly, and many families are able to pay for their school fees entirely from using Scrip cards.



$$= \$1.25 + \$1.25$$

Goes back to
Holy Cross

Goes towards
YOUR school
fees

CURRENT SCRIP YEAR

The current Scrip Year began on July 1, 2019 and runs through June 30, 2020. These scrip credits will be applied to the 2020-2021 school year.

UPCOMING SCRIP YEAR

The upcoming Scrip Year will begin on July 1, 2020 and runs through June 30, 2021. These scrip credits will be applied to the 2021-2022 school year.

Not only can parents of school-aged and preschool-aged children participate in the School Fee Reduction Program, but so can everyone else! Parents can encourage family members and friends to purchase Scrip cards and have them designate them as the family to benefit from their purchases.

Example: Granny Smith comes in to purchase Scrip cards in the Parish Office. She tells the office staff "My grandson, Johnny Jones goes to school here; I would like the Jones family to receive the credit". It's that easy!

House of Discernment By: Tyler Tenbarge

Winter Update

The spring semester is underway for college students across our diocese. Likewise, the formation and discernment for the three residents at the Father Deydier House of Discernment has begun. Craig Wilmes (Holy Redeemer), Michael Mosbey (Good Shepherd), and Chase Riecker (St. Isidore) are each moving forward in their prayer and decision-making as they seek to hear and follow the voice of Jesus Christ in their lives. Here are some other things that have happened this winter.



Hundreds gathered at Sacred Heart Church on December 30 for the Monday Night Holy Hour & Mass for Vocations

Our Monday Night "Holy Hour & Mass for Vocations" continues to grow. A Christmas gathering co-sponsored by Annunciation's "Made for More" young adult ministry brought more than 300 men, women and children to pray in the presence of the Lord on December 30.

On the Sunday before Christmas, about 20 young men gathered at the House of Discernment for "Man Christmas". Dinner and games preceded a white-elephant style gift-exchange which yielded protein bars, razors, tools and other things guys enjoy. The evening concluded with prayer in the House Chapel. Over Christmas break, many of the seminarians of the Diocese of Evansville stayed at the House to pray, study and to be together.

The monthly "Savio Night" gathering of faith formation for teenage guys has grown so large that the group has now been split into two. Sixth and seventh grade boys keep the title "Savio" and gather at the House before prayer and faith formation at Sacred Heart Church, and the older group, now called "Giorgio" after Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, joins for the overlapping prayer and faith formation time. Then, the older group gathers at the House as the younger group departs. Eighty-eight young men from 18 parishes have attended the gatherings this school year.



Giorgio & Savio guys enjoyed an indoor soccer match on Jan. 2



Seminarians and House resident prayed together over Christmas break in the House Chapel.

Applications for the coming year at the House of Discernment are currently being accepted. If you know of a young man (18-30) who might benefit from a Catholic community of prayer and fraternity while continuing his career or college, please have him contact House Director, Fr. Tyler Tenbarge (trtenbarge@evdio.org).

Seminarians



Nicholas Sellers (Holy Cross)
Bishop Simon Brute College
Seminary
2500 Cold Spring Road
Indianapolis, IN 46222
n.sellers.jp2@gmail.com

Hello parish family, the semester is off and running and I am starting to settle in. It is hard to believe that I am in my final semester of college Seminary at Simon Brute in Indianapolis. It has been a tremendous blessing. At the beginning of this semester I was reflecting on how much these past four years have formed me, and much of that is because of all of your prayers and support.

This semester I have played in a seminary basketball tournament, been in Washington D.C. for the March for Life, and have been involved with homeless outreach. In the coming months, I will be finishing up my Major in Catholic Studies (Philosophy) and my Minors in Ethics and Theology. I am excited to say that I will be going on to study Theology in Major Seminary. I also look forward to hearing about my first parish assignment that I will soon receive for this summer. It is an exciting time. A life for Christ is always an adventure! Please pray for me as I pray for you. In Christ, *Nicholas Sellers*
Please continue to pray for Nick as he continues his journey.



Clint Johnson (Holy Cross)
St. Meinrad School of Theology
200 Hill Drive Street
St. Meinrad, IN 47577
cljohnson2132@gmail.com

Dear Parishioners,

It was good to be back home for a little while over Christmas to be with my family and to relax. I really enjoyed serving at some Masses as well. We don't get to serve as first philosophy students at St. Meinrad so I was happy to have the opportunity. I'm finishing up a retreat in West Virginia as I write this, then it's back to St. Meinrad for the start of the semester. I'm happy to be on the Hill and happy to be a seminarian for our diocese. I'm lucky to be a part of our group of Evansville seminarians too, because they're a positive influence for so many people including me. Thank you for your prayers. Know of our prayers for you as well. Peace, *Clint*

Please continue to pray for Clint as he continues his journey.

House of Discernment

Applications for the coming year at the House of Discernment are currently being accepted. If you know of a young man (18-30) who might benefit from a Catholic community of prayer and fraternity while continuing his career or college, please have him contact House Director, Fr. Tyler Tenbarger (trtenbarger@evdio.org) or call (812) 423-1721 and leave a message for Father Tyler.

If you would like to support the House by your prayers, please join House residents on Monday Nights at Sacred Heart Church. Adoration is at 6:30 pm, and Mass is at 7:30 pm. If you would like to support the work of the House financially, please contact Fr. Tyler, as well. You can find our Facebook Page by searching for "Father Deydier House of Discernment" on Facebook. Visit <https://www.stsppchurch.com/our-seminarians.html> for the House of Discernment Winter update.

*Thank you to Clint Johnson
for sharing his talents by
creating the beautiful art-
work for our linked parish
2019 Christmas card.*



Job Opportunities

St. James Catholic Church Haubstadt, Indiana

Manager Parish Finance and Accounting

St. James Catholic Church, Haubstadt, Indiana is opening a search to fill a new position, Manager Parish Finance and Accounting. This position will report to the Pastor and Coordinator of Parish Operations.

The position is responsible for all day to day financial matters of parish operation including but not limited to management of all accounting records, ledger, payroll, accounts receivable, accounts payable, audits, cash management, and financial policies. Responsible for development of parish annual operation and capital budgets. Responsible to keep current records on all investment and endowment funds and Capital Parish Campaigns, preparation of monthly financial reports, finance committee reports, and annual report to parishioners.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with a working knowledge of and a strong commitment to the mission of the Roman Catholic Church. Other qualifications include a Bachelor degree in accounting, finance, business administration or equivalent related experience; have good judgement skills in handling confidential, sensitive and critical information. They must have excellent oral, written and interpersonal communications capabilities and be able to work both individually and as a team member while cultivating and maintaining effective working relationships with staff, other linked parishes staff and parishioners.

You can review the entire job description at www.holycrossparish.com or www.stjameshaubstadt.com or www.stsppchurch.com If you have any questions or wish to apply you can send your questions or resume to Joe Hopf at chopf@evdio.org. You can also mail your resume to:

**Joe Hopf
211 N Vine Street
Haubstadt, IN 47639**

The Linked Parishes of Holy Cross, St. James, Sts. Peter & Paul Sacramental Coordinator

The three linked Parishes of Holy Cross, St. James, and Sts. Peter & Paul is opening a search to fill the position of Sacramental Coordinator.

This position will report to the Pastor of the linked parishes.

The Sacramental Coordinator will be responsible for serving the parish communities by overseeing the preparation of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, and Marriage. Working with the Pastor, Coordinator of Religious Education, Parish/School Staff, and Parishioners the Sacramental Coordinator is responsible to organize and coordinate each of the sacramental programs across the linked parishes. Additionally the Sacramental Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of the RCIA program within the parishes.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with a working knowledge of and a strong commitment to the mission of the Roman Catholic Church. Other qualifications include a good understanding of the Sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church, knowledge of Catholic Theology is a plus but not required; have good judgement skills in the handling of confidential, sensitive information and exceptional organizational and planning skills with the ability to be detailed oriented. They must have effective oral and written communication skills and the willingness to work collaboratively with the pastor, staff, volunteers, students, parents, and parishioners.

You can review the entire job description at www.holycrossparish.com or www.stjameshaubstadt.com or www.stsppchurch.com If you have any questions or wish to apply you can send your questions or resume to Joe Hopf at chopf@evdio.org. You can also mail your resume to:

**Joe Hopf
211 N Vine Street
Haubstadt, IN 47639**

ST. MARIA GORETTI YOUTH NEWS *By: Bryan Macke*



Beginning on Wednesday, January 22nd 9 high school youth and 3 adults embarked with the diocese on the Pilgrimage for Life to

Washington, D.C. We began with Mass with Bishop Seigel in Ferdinand and then journeyed 12 hours overnight on a bus.

The next day, we arrived at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish (aka SEAS) in Washington DC. They would be our "home" parish for the next few days. SEAS is such a blessing to us. About 100 of their parishioners join together to make 3

full course dinners for our group of about 200 people, provide us with sack lunches to take with us during the day, and feed us spiritually with daily Mass. Not to mention, they also provide charging stations around their facilities for our phones. Basically they "charge" us up in every way possible. SEAS has been hosting us for about the last 9 years. Honestly, words can't express what SEAS does, you might just have to go next year and experience it! Here's a photo of SEAS parishioners in their dining hall.



The first full

day in DC (Thursday) we did some sightseeing throughout the day to various sites. We saw the Constitution and Declaration of Independence at the National Archives, toured the Natural History Museum, and went ice skating in the center of the National Mall! We also got to see a lot of other landmarks and impactful sites such as the Holocaust Museum, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Iwo Jima Memorial, etc. At night our diocese attended the Life is Very Good Rally at George Mason University with about 20,000 people. Music performances and speakers brought the Spirit and LIFE! They reminded us why we march for life. We were ready for the next day.

Friday was the day of the march. It would begin on Constitution Ave. at 1:00pm. It was announced that President Trump would be speaking just before the march on the National Mall. Wow! Never in the history of the March for Life did a president speak in person right in front of the people. The march is an awesome experience for the youth. Practicing their 1st Amendment rights to freely speak, assemble, and practice their faith for the dignity of all human life is a very powerful action on multiple levels.



SMG YOUTH CONTINUED.....



On Feb. 7, we had our annual HS “Pal”entines event (centered around Valentine’s Day but with a focus on the love of God!) We had some great couples (married, dating, and just pals) come and play the “Not-So-Newlywed game with our host Chuck Fabulous (aka Jeff Sellers). Chuck barely made it in time from his flight from France. He’s got a tight schedule but always makes time for the SMG youth!! We also had an engaged couple come and share their story, our very own Kristin Brokaw and her fiancé Josh Koehl. They were honest and open about their new life together, their many blessings as well as their challenges and struggles, but with a consistent focus on Jesus Christ. The youth were truly enlightened and encouraged from their witness.

Thanks so much
Kristin and Josh for being open and willing to let the Holy Spirit work in you!



Our SMG youth that attended the Pilgrimage for Life on the steps of the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.



Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming events. And as always, if you would like to be a part of any youth programs/events I would be very happy to chat and work with you! Contact Bryan at 664-7992 or bmacke@evdio.org. Like our Facebook page: “St. Maria Goretti Catholic Youth Ministry” Instagram: “St. Maria Goretti CYM” Website: smgyouth.com

Finance

Stewards of God’s Grace Capital Campaign—A total of \$459,932 of the \$519,800 in pledges has been paid. We are hoping our deficit of \$59,868 will be received in the next couple of months.

Catholic Parishes Campaign (CPC) - We received \$82,152 in pledges which is short of our diocesan assessment of \$97,325. The balance of \$15,173 will have to be paid from parish operating funds. If you have not yet pledged, you may still do so by sending it to the parish office. Thank you to all who have already given! It is greatly appreciated.



HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

Prayer Before Confession

Come Holy Spirit into my soul. Enlighten my mind that I may know the sins I ought to confess, and grant me your grace to confess them fully, humbly, and with a contrite heart. Help me to firmly resolve not to commit them again. O Blessed Virgin, Mother of my Redeemer, intercede for me through the Passion of Your Son, that I may obtain the grace to make a good confession. Amen.

Rite of Reconciliation

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Penitent: Bless me Father, for I have sinned. It has been (how long?) since my last confession, and these are my sins: (confess your sins).

Priest: (gives you a penance)

Penitent: (Pray the Act of Contrition):

Priest: (gives you absolution for your sins)

Penitent: (recite or do your penance as soon as possible)

Examination of Conscience for a Good Confession

1. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD: YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME. Did I fail to love God, to make God first in my life, to thank Him, trust Him, love Him as He deserves? Did I fail to pray? Have I doubted or denied my faith? Was I careless in saying my prayers? Do I give God time everyday in prayer? Have I been involved in Ouija boards, Tarot cards, and the occult?

2. YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN. Did I curse or swear? Did I use God's Name in vain, lightly, carelessly, by blasphemy? Have I used foul language or jokes?

3. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH. Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation? Did I leave Mass early without a good reason? Did I receive Holy Communion in the state of serious sin? In any of my previous confessions, did I lie to or deliberately conceal something from the priest? Did I do unnecessary work on Sunday?

4. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER. Did I honor and obey my parents? Have I respected my brothers and sisters? Have I respected those with lawful authority, including teachers, bosses and civil authorities? Have I talked back? Did I fail to help at home or to spend time with my family?

5. YOU SHALL NOT KILL. Did I give in to feelings of anger or jealousy? Did I keep hatred in my heart? Did I fight, give a bad example or cause scandal? Have I abused alcohol or drugs? Have I had or in any way permitted or encouraged abortion? Have I thought about suicide? Do I avoid gluttony?

6. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY. Did I consent to impure glances? Sinful touches? Was I immodest in dress or behavior? Did I look at pornography, impure books, magazines, or videos? Am I guilty of masturbation? Have I engaged in pre-marital sex, or adultery? Have I used artificial contraception such as pills or devices? Do I live chastely according to my state in life (married, single, religious and ordained)? Do I avoid occasions of impurity?

7. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL. Have I stolen what is not mine? What or how much? Did I return it or make up for what I have stolen? Have I cheated on tests, homework or taxes? Did I waste time at work? Have I avoided laziness, idleness?

8. YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR. Have I lied or gossiped? Have I talked about another behind his back? Do I always tell the truth? Am I sincere? Did I reveal secrets that should have been kept confidential? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my talk?

9. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE. Have I consented to impure thoughts? Have I encouraged them by stares, curiosity or impure conversations? Did I neglect to control my imagination or desire other people?

10. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS. Is my heart greedy? Am I jealous of what another has? Am I envious of others because I don't have what they have? Am I moody or gloomy? Do I work, study, and keep busy to counter idle thoughts? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my thoughts of others? Is my heart set on earthly possessions or on the treasures of Heaven?

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19 - Holy Cross—3 pm—Service

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated on April 19 at 3:00 pm at Holy Cross. You may receive special graces when you take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy.

Divine Mercy was revealed through Christ to St. Faustina in 1935. Calling her the Apostle and Secretary of His mercy, He ordered her to begin writing a diary so others would learn to trust in Him. In a series of revelations, He taught her that His mercy is unlimited and available even to the greatest sinners, and He revealed special ways for people to respond to His mercy.

Urging St. Faustina to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet often, Jesus told her: "My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. By saying the chaplet you are bringing humankind closer to me".

Please join us at 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 19 for this beautiful service.

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened."

LENT / EASTER 2020

Way of the Cross

This important devotion of Lent brings us closer to Christ by examining our own lives, and walking with Him in the Passion of Christ.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Monday

2:15 pm at Holy Cross - led by school children

6:15 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul - followed by Mass

Wednesday

7:00 pm at St. James - followed by Mass

Thursday

2:30 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul - led by school children

Friday

7:00 pm at Holy Cross

Ash Wednesday - February 26

5:45 am - Sts. Peter & Paul

8:00 am - Sts. Peter & Paul

8:15 am - Holy Cross

8:30 am - St. James

6:30 pm - Sts. Peter & Paul

7:00 pm - Holy Cross

7:00 pm - St. James

Chrism Mass - Tuesday, April 7

5:30 pm at St. Benedict in Evansville

Holy Thursday - April 9

7:00 pm - Holy Cross

7:00 pm - St. James

7:00 pm - Sts. Peter & Paul

Good Friday Service- April 10

1:30 pm - Sts. Peter & Paul

6:30 pm - Holy Cross

7:00 pm - St. James

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) - April 11

7:00 pm - St. James

8:00 pm - Sts. Peter & Paul

8:00 pm - at Holy Cross

Easter Sunday - April 12

7:00 am - St. James

7:15 am - Sts. Peter & Paul

8:45 am - Holy Cross

9:00 am - St. James

10:30 am - Sts. Peter & Paul

Divine Mercy Sunday Service- April 19

3:00 pm - Holy Cross

CONFESSION TIMES DURING LENT

Regular Confession Times

Holy Cross

Tuesdays - Fridays 7:45 - 8:10 am

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:20 pm

Sundays 8:15 - 8:35 am

Thursday, April 2 6:00-8:00 pm (Both priests)

St. James

Wednesday, March 11 6:00-8:00 pm (The Light is on)

PENANCE SERVICE

April 8 after 7:00 pm Mass at **St. James**

30 minutes before each Mass

Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 pm

Sts. Peter & Paul

Monday from 5:30-6:10 pm

Wednesdays from 7:30-7:55 am

Fridays from 7:30-7:55 am

Saturdays 8:30-9:30 am & 5:15-5:50 pm;

Wednesday, March 18 from 6:30-7:45 pm (for Religious Ed only)

Saturday, March 21 8:30-9:30 am

Saturday, March 28 8:30-9:30 am & 5:00-5:50 pm

Monday, March 30 - 5:30-6:10 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm (Both priests)

Saturday, April 4 - 8:30-9:30 am & 5:00-5:50 pm

Monday, April 6 - 5:30-6:10 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm (Both priests)

40 DAYS

Religious Education and Adult Formation News

Stewardship in Your Life

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who was able to join us for our first Tri-Parish volleyball and faith events in January. We had an extraordinary turnout of 40+ participants at every event. We played, laughed, and might have left a little sore, but we had an outstanding time. A special thank you goes to Fr. Christopher and Fr. Luke for spending their afternoons with us, and helping us create many amazing memories.

Thank you for supporting the Stewardship Committee's efforts in bringing a little fun, faith and fellowship to our parish families.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20

Catholic Community Mother's Group Spring Meetings

Mark your calendars for the Catholic Community Mother's Group Spring meetings! Meeting dates are February 19, March 18, and April 15 and take place at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Center, Meeting Room A. Each meeting is held from 9-10:30 a.m. and childcare is available! No registration is required, it's free and it's fine if you can only come to one! Meetings include a variety of topics, discussion and guest speakers. Our mission is to create a fun, welcoming environment for fellowship where we can connect and grow in our Catholic faith. Find us on Facebook by searching "Catholic Community Mother's Group" or email catholiccommunitymothers@gmail.com with any questions or for more information.



RCIA

A Retreat was held for RCIA candidates and catechumens from Holy Cross, St. James and Sts. Peter & Paul in January. We had 40 people in attendance who enjoyed food and fellowship and learning more about the Catholic Faith. The day included lunch, a witness talk by Brooke Besing. Seminarian, Clint Johnson gave a talk on the Eucharist, and Fr. Christopher gave a Catechesis on the Mass followed by Exposition/Adoration/Rosary/Benediction. Thank you to all who attended and to all of those who helped make this a wonderful day!

The Rite of Sending for RCIA will be held at Holy Cross at the 8:45 a.m. Mass and at 10:30 a.m. Mass at SPP on March 1, 2020. The Rite of Election will be held at St. Benedict in Evansville that afternoon at 2 p.m. Please keep all of the Candidates, Catechumens and sponsors in your prayers as they enter into a deeper period of union with God and a deeper understanding of our rich Catholic Faith.

Confirmation:

There will be a meeting for Confirmation candidates and parents on Wednesday, March 4, at 6:30pm at Sts. Peter & Paul cafeteria. Please plan to attend as we will be going over important information leading up to Confirmation Mass on Saturday, May 2 at 6:00pm at Sts. Peter & Paul. Practice for Confirmation Mass will be on Wednesday evening, April 22, at 6:00pm at Sts. Peter & Paul. Confirmation candidates and sponsors should plan to attend.

First Communion:

A meeting for the parents of the second grade students preparing for First Communion will be on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:30pm at Sts. Peter & Paul. At the meeting we will discuss the First Communion retreat which will be on Thursday, April 23, at Holy Cross as well as other important information in preparation for First Communion. First Communion for Sts. Peter & Paul will be on Sunday, April 26 at 1:00pm. Holy Cross First Communion will be on Sunday, May 3 at 1:00pm.

Please continue to pray for our students as they prepare to receive these sacraments!

Spiritual Growth Opportunities During Lent

Haiti Project

The students of the Holy Cross/Sts. Peter & Paul Religious Ed classes will have a Haiti Fundraiser again this year for Lent. We are encouraging the students to collect dimes in a 20 oz. plastic water or soft drink bottle which when full is \$100.00. They can do this as a class or individually.

Metanoia: A Journey With Christ Into Conversion.

This 10 part series featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, President of Franciscan University and founder of the Ministry of the Wild Goose, leads us on a journey with Christ into conversion. Each of the episodes explores areas of our life where conversion is so often necessary. Join us for the most important journey of our lives, a journey of grace, hope, repentance, and transformation.

You can also access this series for free by signing up at <https://wildgoose.tv/catalog>. A new episode will be released each week until Easter.

Two different books studies will be offered during Lent with Fr. Luke

- Searching For & Maintaining Peace; A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart by Jacques Phillippe.

This study is for women high school age and up. It will be held at 6 p.m.

- Arguing Religion: A Bishop Speaks at Facebook & Google by Bishop Robert Barron

This study is for men high school age and up. It will be held at 7 p.m.

Materials can be purchased on Amazon.com

Discussion will be 30 to 45 minutes in length and 2 chapters will be covered each week. Please read the first two chapters for the first night. This is just one way to help you engage with others about growing in your faith and deepening your relationship with God during this Lenten Season. Contact Laura at lgoedde@evdio.org to find out more and to let us know that you plan to be a part of these discussion groups. These discussion groups will be held on Tuesdays during Lent beginning Feb. 25.

Parish Mission

Awakening Souls to the Reality of Christ's Transformative Love, Power, and Majesty Speakers Nick & Alina De La Torre presents the truths of the faith in a relatable, humorous, and deep manner that is engaging to souls of all ages. Nick & Alina lead a dynamic experience of sacred music and contemporary Christian songs that will soften hearts to the mission's messages, the majesty of Eucharistic Adoration, and the still, small voice this busy world so often drowns out. Nick as a speaker at a conference, retreat or event, will bring a solid message, a strong understanding of and fidelity to the Church, and a witness of authentic discipleship. The Parish Mission will be held at St. James in Madden Hall on March 1 & 2. More details to come in the bulletin.

Holy Hour for Vocations

There will be a Holy Hour on April 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 at Sts. Peter & Paul to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. Fr. Tyler Tenbarge will lead a reflection, homily and guided prayer as well as allow for silent prayer time during this hour. Parents, Grandparents and Parishioners of our linked parishes are invited to share in this time of prayer. Light refreshments will be served in the Family Life Center immediately following.

FORMED.ORG

Are you looking for something to transform your Lent? Go to FORMED.org and type Lent in the search. There you will find several studies, audios and books to help you make your Lenten journey a fruitful one! For example, you might try "Into the Desert", or "A Lent to Remember" or "My Beloved Son – Meditations for Lent" by Bishop Barron. Don't forget that there are children's programs and videos too!

GRIEF SUPPORT RETREAT

On January eleventh, our linked parishes hosted their first grief retreat using the program *Real Suffering: Finding Hope and Healing in the Trials of Life*. Dan Deer and I were the facilitators. The program consisted of watching true-life situations of several families and subsequent discussion. We were blessed with a visit by Fr. Christopher. He watched one of the videos with us and shared in our discussion. The retreat ended with a lunch catered by Dewigs. As with all of our grief support meetings, everything discussed was confidential.

The retreat's *Real Suffering* series illuminated several aspects of my grieving process. One sentiment shared among participants was the fact that grief is not limited to one year. It takes time, patience, and for myself, a total trust in God. We are all different in how we react to loss, undergo suffering, and ultimately achieve healing. Though our losses were not the same, much of our suffering was shared and understood. I am confident the retreat has helped many to see we are not alone in this seemingly lonely journey.

While attending a morning grief retreat will not eliminate all the pain some of you may be feeling right now, it may help with your journey toward healing. Dan and I look forward to hosting our second retreat this fall!Shawn Bender



CATHLETICS! TRAINING TO BE CHAMPIONS FOR CHRIST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020

Start Training Now!

2020 is a Summer Olympic year and at our VBS we will be training to be Champions for Christ

VBS will be held at St James June 22-26 for kids in grades pre k through entering 5th. Registration forms will be available in the spring.

We will need adult 'Coaches', teen 'equipment managers', "Olympic Villagers" (station leaders), and fans (donations) to support our Cathletes! If you'd like to help in any way, please contact Leah Simon 812-549-5234 or leah_simon@yahoo.com; Kalena Gries 812-449-9516; or anyone at your parish office
VBS 2020



PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE By: Ann Minnis

PRO-LIFE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Apr. 1: "40 DAYS FOR LIFE": Sts. Peter & Paul's date to join this peaceful prayer vigil. Sign-up sheet soon at church. Volunteers, also, needed between **Feb. 26 (Ash Wed.)—Apr. 5 (Palm Sunday):** 7:00 am & 6:00 pm each day on 1-hr shifts to pray outside the Planned Parenthood Clinic (They refer clients for surgical abortions & dispense abortifacients) at 125 N Weinbach Ave. Nation-wide, "40 Days" has saved 16,742 unborn babies; 196 abortion workers have quit; & 104 abortion centers have closed!

Mar. 1: (Sun. after 10:30 Mass) Sts. Peter & Paul Respect Life Art Show by our Sts. Peter & Paul Students.

Mar. 7: (Sat.—9:00-5:30) "Loving Life" – FREE Pro-Life Conference for HS Students, at St. Benedict School. *Deadline to register is Feb. 28. bmelendres@evdio.org or 812-425-3369.

Mar. 22: (Sun.--NOON) "ST. PATRICK FAMILY GAME & CARD PARTY": Sponsored by Sts. Peter & Paul Respect-Life Committee at Sts. Peter & Paul Cafeteria for the benefit of Right to Life of Gibson County. **\$5/** person/**\$15** family. Call Carolyn Spindler 768-6941 or Ann Minnis 812-768-6768 for table reservations or to donate items for the Chinese Auction. Chinese Auction tickets available at the party and after the Masses on Mar. 21-22 (Sat/Sun)

Mar. 28: (Sat. 9:00 -10:00 am) CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS: Individuals & groups needed to remove crosses from Syl Elpers' field at Hwy 41 and I-64. Call Joe Goedde 768-6537 or Jim Helfrich 768-6313 for details. Watch the bulletin for date changes.

Mar. 25 -- Dec. 25 (9 months): "SPIRITUAL ADOPTION" PROGRAM: Pray for an unborn baby in danger of death by abortion. Begin on the Feast of the Annunciation & continue to Christmas.

Apr. 23: (Thurs) SPRING BANQUET (Right To Life of Southwest Indiana): Keynote Speaker is Vice President Mike Pence. Father Frank Pavone, Priests for Life, will be present. Call Ann Minnis 768-6768 regarding tickets.

RIGHT TO LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DUES for 2020

Mail to: Right to Life of Gibson County, P.O. Box 324, Haubstadt, IN 47639

(please print) **NEW**_____ **RENEWAL**_____ (If you have already paid, thank you!)

Name:_____ **Phone #**_____

Mailing address:_____ **e-mail**_____

Teen/\$2_____ Single/\$5_____ Family/\$10_____ Contributing/\$25_____ Sponsor/\$100_____

Safe Haven Baby Box Billboard

We need private donations to keep this billboard on the highway & to promote the 24-hr hotline (1-866-99BABY1) to help desperate women safely surrender newborn babies. Contact Ann Minnis 812-768-6768; aminnis@twc.com for info or to donate. See shbb.org. Please pray for these mothers and babies.

Right of Life Meeting Dates

March 10 April 7 May 12 June 9

All meetings start at 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) and are held at the home of Ann Minnis, 115 N. Vine St. Haubstadt. All members & prospective members are welcome!

Holy Cross Catholic Church
305 E. Walnut Street
Fort Branch, IN 47648

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AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC GIVING PROGRAM

The electronic giving program allows you to electronically have funds transferred directly into the parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient, no cost to you, & helps you stay current on your Sunday giving. You may increase, decrease, or suspend your transfer any time by calling the parish office. Please complete the form below & return to the parish office. Please contact Lisa at 753-3548 or lmay@evdio.org with questions.

Direct Debit Authorization Form

I hereby authorize Holy Cross Church to initiate debit entries for tithing to my/our account as indicated below and the financial institution named below to debit the same to such account. I/We acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my/our account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

(Financial Institution Name)

Name(s) on the Account

Transfer Amount \$ _____ for Sunday collection

Type of Acct: ☐ Checking ☐ Savings

(Routing Number)

(Account Number)

Frequency of transfer: Weekly _____ on Friday or Monthly _____ on the 5th (or next business day)

This authority is to remain in effect until Holy Cross has received written notification from me/us of its termination in such time and manner as to allow Holy Cross and the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Print Spouse Name) (if joint acct)

(Spouse Signature) (if joint acct)

(E-mail Address)

(Date)

PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM