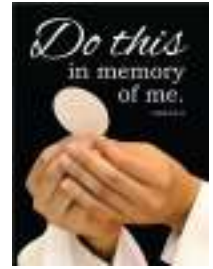


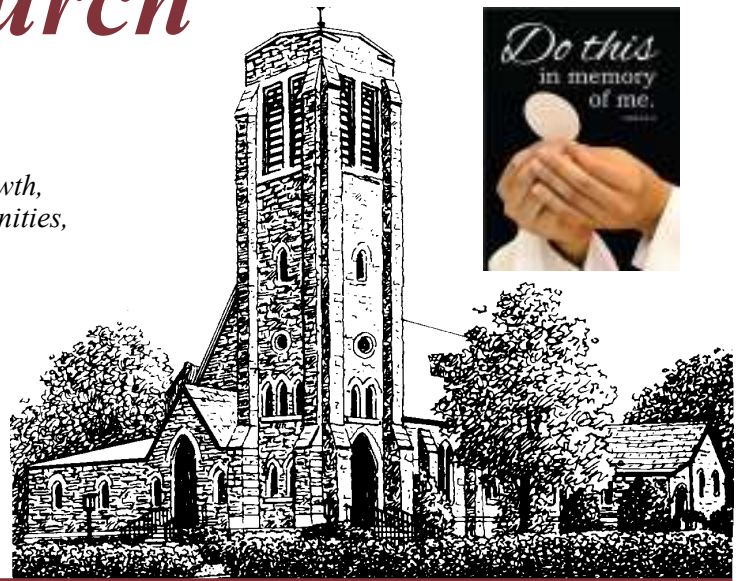
# Holy Cross Church of Charlotte

December 24, 2017

*Our Eucharistic Community at Holy Cross  
Welcomes all to faith in Jesus Christ and nurtures their growth,  
Celebrates and demonstrates God's presence in our communities,  
And sends forth all to serve God and each other  
as guided by the Holy Spirit.*



Therefore the child  
to be born will  
be called holy,  
**the Son of God**



*Are you willing to  
believe that love is the  
strongest thing in the  
world – stronger than  
hate, stronger than  
evil, stronger than  
death – and that the  
blessed life which  
began in Bethlehem  
two thousand years  
ago is the image and  
brightness of the  
Eternal Love?  
Then you can keep  
Christmas.*

– Henry Van Dyke



**Join Us for the Celebration of the Eucharist Every Week**

**Saturday** (*Masses of Anticipation*) 5 PM

**Sunday**  
8 AM, 10 AM, & 12 Noon

**Weekday**  
(*Monday-Friday*) 7:30 AM & 5:20 PM  
(*Saturday*) 8:00 AM

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for coming today. We appreciate the many hours that our hard-working volunteers have spent to clean and decorate our church as well as the many hours that our musicians have spent to prepare for Christmas.



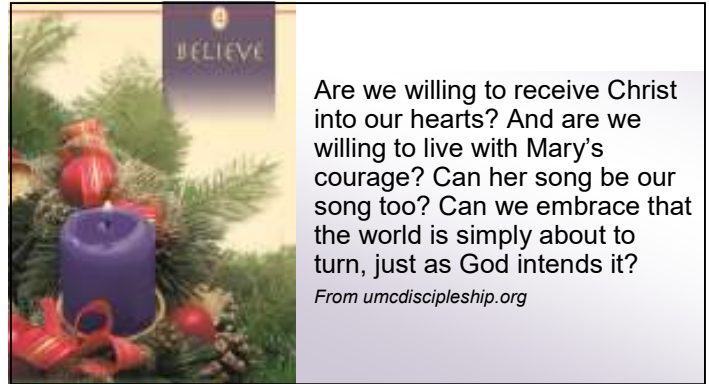
We had a "preview" last Sunday at our annual Christmas concert, with our School Children's choir, our Adult Choir, our Contemporary Music Ensemble and our Bell Choir. Thanks to Alessio Giacobone who puts our music together so effectively.

Thanks again to all who helped us to reach our CMA goal for the first time in eleven years. It is a relief to me and the Parish Council not to deal with this until next September. Please see your final CMA report on the insert page today.

Now that the CMA has been completed, we are already receiving gifts for our Memorial Fund from our parishioners in lieu of CMA gifts.

On the back of the Final CMA report, there is information about a trip to Italy and Sicily that will take place in the Spring. Merry Christmas from myself, Fr. Reif, Fr. Ramirez, Deacon Joe and all of our parish Staff.

Sincerely, *Fr. Gagnier*



Are we willing to receive Christ into our hearts? And are we willing to live with Mary's courage? Can her song be our song too? Can we embrace that the world is simply about to turn, just as God intends it?

*From umcdiscipleship.org*



Holy Cross Church - Parishioner Satisfaction Survey 2017-18

We're running a survey and would love your input. We appreciate your valuable feedback. Please let us know what you think. And share the link below with anyone else you know who would like to comment. Visit

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J5ND3N2>

We will report our results in early February of 2018 and begin discussing/planning any necessary future actions to be taken.



## Holiday Office Hours

Monday, Dec 25 Christmas  
Parish Office CLOSED

Monday, January 1  
Parish Office CLOSED

Tuesday, December 26  
Parish Office is CLOSED



## Participation...NOT Procrastination


As of Friday afternoon, December 15, 485 donors have pledged \$114,870 or 100% of our goal. Below is the final list of donors for this year.

Dominik & Shirley Bozzelli  
Thomas Boyle  
Joseph Steeg/Eileen Cahill  
Margaret O'Keefe  
Renee Stanton

**Welcome!**  @holycrossroc

If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself after Mass or at the Parish Office. We want to know and serve you! Know that your prayers, your presence, and support are appreciated. [www.holycrossrochester.org](http://www.holycrossrochester.org)



 Holy Cross Church of Charlotte, Rochester New York



**SIGN UP FOR...**  
*Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church  
 Charlotte NY*  
**Weekly Highlights**  
**at [holycrossrochester.org](http://holycrossrochester.org)**

© 2011 Holy Cross Church, 4482 Lake Ave, Rochester, NY 14612, 585-465-2244

## *Stewardship of Time & Talent* **Volunteer & Ministry Opportunities**

### **New Year's Liturgical Ministers**

**NEXT Sunday, December 31 at 5 PM ONLY  
 & Monday, January 1 at 10 AM & Noon**

**Liturgical Coordinators, Ministers of Communion, Lectors & Ushers:** Please consider which Mass you may be attending for the Solemnity of Mary. Because the Solemnity of Mary is a Holy Day, this is by Special Assignment. Sign up sheets will be in the parish center foyer or contact the parish office at 663-2244, or e-mail Mary Jo at [MDiNoto@dor.org](mailto:MDiNoto@dor.org) – **Please sign up.**

### **Seeking Volunteer Organist/Pianist**

We are in need of a Volunteer Organist/Pianist to accompany the Adult Choir rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and on Sundays at the 10:00 AM Mass. The Adult Choir is active from September through June and performs two concerts—one before Christmas and one during the Easter season. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact Mary Jo DiNoto at the parish office, 663-2244, or via e-mail at [Mary.Jo.Dinoto@dor.org](mailto:Mary.Jo.Dinoto@dor.org).



## *Thank You for Our Beautiful Church*

The Christmas beauty of our Church is due to the hard work of many hands. Thank you to all who helped prepare and decorate our church for Christmas.

**We truly appreciate all your dedication and help.**

# CHRISTMAS

## BLESSINGS

### **Liturgy Schedule**

### **Christmas Anticipated**

### **Sunday, December 24 –**

5:00 PM ~ Cantor and Organ

12:00 Midnight ~ Adult Choir

*(Caroling Program begins at 11:30 PM)*

Midnight Mass will be streamed live on our website

### **Christmas Day**

### **Monday, December 25**

8:00 AM ~ Cantor and Organ

10:00 AM ~ Contemporary Music Ensemble

12:00 Noon ~ Cantor and Organ

*(Carols begin at 11:45 AM)*

### **Blessing of Toys**

**We continue our tradition of blessing the children and their toys on Christmas Day during the 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon Masses.**

We give gifts to be mindful of the gift of Christ.

We bless one toy to remind us of the *greatest* gift.

*We invite the children to bring a quiet, non-violent toy to Mass. The children will bring their toys to the front for Father to bless. Father will not keep the toys! Merry Christmas to all!*

### **Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*A day we celebrate Mary, the Mother of God.*

*A great way to start the New Year.*

**Monday, January 1, 2018**

**10:00 AM and 12 Noon Masses (NO 8:00 AM Mass)**

*Mass of Anticipation*

**Sunday, December 31, 2017 at 5:00 PM**



## CYO SPORTS

### 2017 Holy Cross Basketball Christmas Tournament Schedule

**Save the Dates! Tuesday, Dec 26 thru Saturday, Dec 30**

Games held daily from 8:30 AM through 7:00 PM in the Gym. Stop by and Cheer on your favorite team from Grades 3 through 6!

#### Tuesday 12/26/17

8:30 HC Team 1 Round 1 LESTER 3/4 boys  
11:30 HC Team 2 Round 1 KOHLMEIER 3/4 boys  
2:30 HC Team 3 Round 1 CAVACOS 5/6 girls  
5:30 HC Team 4 Round 1 LENNOX 3/4 boys

#### Wednesday 12/27/17

11:30 HC Team 1 Consolation LESTER 3/4 boys  
1:00 Championship  
2:30 HC Team 2 Consolation KOHLMEIER 3/4 boys  
4:00 Championship  
5:30 HC Team 5 Round 1 SAK 5/6 boys

#### Thursday 12/28/17

12:00 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE DIPONZIO/MORGAN  
2:30 HC Team 3 Consolation CAVACOS 5/6 girls  
4:00 Championship  
5:30 HC Team 6 Round 1 TOOTLE 5/6 boys

#### Friday 12/29/17

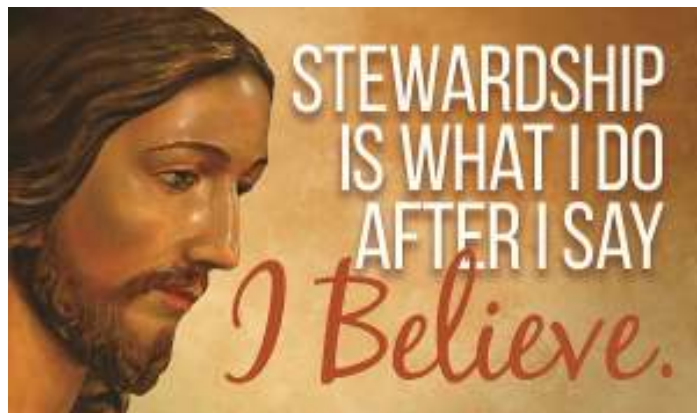
2:30 HC Team 4 Consolation LENNOX 3/4 boys  
4:00 Championship  
5:30 HC Team 7 Round 1 COSNER 3/4 girls

#### Saturday 12/30/17

8:00 HC Team 8 Round 1 HOELPERL 5/6 boys  
11:00 HC Team 5 Consolation SAK 5/6 boys  
12:30 Championship  
2:00 HC Team 6 Consolation TOOTLE 5/6 boys  
3:30 Championship  
5:00 HC Team 7 Consolation COSNER 3/4 girls  
6:30 Championship

#### Sunday 12/31/17

1:00 HC Team 8 Consolation HOELPERL 5/6 boys  
2:30 Championship



Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, "Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?" I have been on this earth for forty-plus years. I have had forty-plus Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous

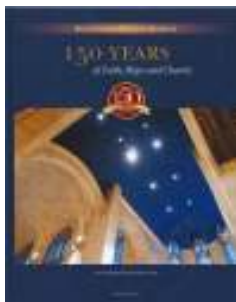
*Take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over two thousand years ago and continues to call to us to this day.*

when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this

way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn't go as you had hoped, remember it is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over two thousand years ago and continues to call to us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the One who leads us.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



### Diocese of Rochester 150 Years of Faith, Hope, and Charity

Discover the history of the Diocese of Rochester in this richly illustrated book. A limited number of copies are available for sale in the Parish Office during regular business hours. **Books are \$30 each** and checks may be

made payable to: **Holy Cross Church**. Forgot your check or cash? A sample book and order forms are available on the table in the Parish Center Foyer.



### Sanctuary Gifts:

**Week of December 24—30**

*The Candle in Church will be Burn for James Brown by Karen & Eddie Wicks*

**Masses for the Week, Dec 23—31****SATURDAY, Dec 23—4th Sunday of Advent**

5:00 †Erin Leigh Brooks by The Family

**SUNDAY, December 24—4th Sunday of Advent**

8:00 †Mark Taccone by Mary Beth

10:00 †Catherine Messineo by Bonnie &amp; Nonnie Ulber

**SUNDAY, December 24—Christmas Eve**

5:00 Christmas Intentions

12 Midnight Christmas Intentions

**MONDAY, December 25—Nativity of the Lord**

8:00 Christmas Intentions

10:00 Christmas Intentions

12:00 Christmas Intentions

**TUESDAY, December 26** *St Stephen*

7:30 †Dominic DiGioia by Erma Merola, Daughter

5:20 †Arthur Held *8th Anniversary* by Nancy**WEDNESDAY, December 27** *St John, Apostle*

7:30 †William Motel by Daughter Andrea

5:20 †Dorothy Hurley

by Paul &amp; Richard Gaborski &amp; Family

**THURSDAY, December 28** *The Holy Innocents*

7:30 †Dominic Capezzuto by The Family

5:20 †Brenda Bennett by Dottie Sanna

**FRIDAY, December 29** *Fifth Day within the Octave*7:30 †Deceased members of the Troisi Family  
by The Sturnick Family5:20 †Weekly Mass for the Living and Deceased  
Members of Holy Cross Parish**SATURDAY, December 30** *Sixth Day within the Octave*

8:00 †Mike Shea by Joanne &amp; Tom

**SATURDAY, December 30—The Holy Family**

5:00 †Fred Scavone by Camille &amp; Mike Whelehan

**SUNDAY, December 31—The Holy Family**

8:00 †Mary Jane Pane by Diana Ferris

10:00 †Lorraine Blum by Pat McNulty

12:00 †Yola Tumia by Andrychuk &amp; Tumia Families

**SUNDAY, December 31—New Year's Eve**

5:00 Catherine Messineo by Nancy Loughran

**MONDAY, January 1—Solemnity of Mary**10:00 *Living & Deceased Members of*

Roach &amp; Cordon Families by Nancy

12:00 Richard Maurer Sr by The Family

**Wills/Bequests/Memorials—  
Please Remember Holy Cross Parish  
and Holy Cross School**

**This Week at a Glance:****SUNDAY, December 24** **Christmas Eve****MONDAY, December 25** **Merry Christmas!**

Parish Office CLOSED

School Christmas BREAK through January 1, 2018

**TUESDAY, December 26**

Parish Office CLOSED

8:00 AM Basketball Tournament – Gym

**WEDNESDAY, December 27**

8:00 AM Basketball Tournament – Gym

1:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration – Church

6:00 PM Cub Scouts – Beacon Place

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal – Church

**THURSDAY, December 28**

8:00 AM Basketball Tournament – Gym

9:15 AM Rosary – Parish Center

7:00 PM Contemporary Music Ens Rehearsal – PC

**FRIDAY, December 29**

8:00 AM Basketball Tournament – Gym

**SATURDAY, December 30**

8:00 AM Basketball Tournament – Gym

**SUNDAY, December 31** **New Year's Eve**

12:00 PM CYO Basketball Games – Gym

**MONDAY, January 1** **Happy New Year!**

Parish Office CLOSED

School Christmas BREAK

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**There will be NO Coffee Hour on Sunday, Dec 31.  
There will be NO 8:00 AM Mass on New Year's Day,  
Monday, January 1, 2018**

**Very Limited Holy Cross Church Stained Glass Window Books Available**

Really look at all of the 50 beautiful windows in our church! This lovely book includes a description of the process of creating stained glass windows, a brief history of Holy

Cross Church and the placement of the windows, a brief history of Mayer & Co. of Munich, creators of our windows, and details of each window with the scripture each portrays.

**Each book sells for \$25.** Stop by the parish office to get your copy. *First come first, first served.*

# Blessings of Financial Stewardship

**Dec Goal: \$ 67,647.10 . Total Collected: \$ 40,515.55**

Please help by increasing your weekly Sacrificial Gift.

Mass Attendance.....	836
Loose Monies.....	\$ 1,003.35
Using Envelopes.....	\$ 9,722.80
Electronic Transfer*.....	\$ 3,450.92
<hr/>	
<b>December 17.....</b>	<b>\$ 14,177.27</b>
<b>Collection Amt needed per week .....</b>	<b>\$ 13,529.42</b>
<b>Weekly Average since July 1, 2017.....</b>	<b>\$ 11,763.57</b>

**School Fund.....** \$ 2,601.00

\*Electronic Transfers take place on the 5th, 10th, and 25th.

**Running Shortfall in collections since July 1, 2017.(\$ 44,146.29)**

*Thank you for using your envelopes!*

## Special Collections

**THIS Week, December 23/24 4th Sunday of the Month**

**Monday, December 25 Christmas**

**NEXT Week, December 30/31 5th Sunday of the Month**

**Monday, January 1, 2018 Solemnity of Mary**

### Parish Offices

4492 Lake Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14612  
(585) 663-2244  
Fax: 865-5379  
rholycross@dor.org

### Pastor

Rev. John F. Gagnier  
Fr.John.Gagnier@dor.org

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Jorge Ramirez  
Fr.Jorge.Ramirez@dor.org

### Senior Priest

Rev. John T. Reif

### Deacon

Joseph Placious  
Joseph.Placious@dor.org

### Pastoral Associate

Mary Jo DiNoto  
Mary.Jo.DiNoto@dor.org

### Holy Cross Pre K– Gr 6

4488 Lake Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14612  
Mary Martell, *Principal*  
Mary.Martell@dor.org  
(585) 663-6533

### Director of Finance

Dan Leitten  
Daniel.Leitten@dor.org

### Parish Council Chair

Anne Brett

### Religious Ed Offices

4488 Lake Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14612

### Faith Formation Coord.

Mary Toot  
(585) 621-8133  
Mary.Toot@dor.org

### Teen/Tween Ministry

Donna Jacobi  
(585) 621-8133  
Donna.Jacobi@dor.org

**Interested in registering as a parishioner?** Go on-line and download a registration form or contact the parish office at 663-2244 between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Please help us keep our prayer list of those serving in our Armed Forces up to date. Let us know if any have safely returned home or have been deployed.



Let us keep in our prayers those who are serving our country in the Armed Forces;

Maj Paul B. Bock-USMC, E6 Dominick Caito USAF, Army, David Hendershott, Brandon Jackson, Ian Lindamood USAF, Pvt. Blake Manfredi, Chief Christopher Manfredi, SRA Jon McHugh, Cody Miller, Steven Moll, Sgt. Irv Ogdenski, Tyler Owen, Maj Kevin J. Smith, Janine Swanson, and Charles Williams, U.S. Navy

## We Miss You!

We are concerned about the drop in the number of parishioners attending weekly Mass. When you are not here, we are missing an **important** part of our family. *Father Gagnier*

**Celebrated Mass with Our Parish Family**

Week	Dec '16	Dec '17
1	913	828
2	871	788
3	930	836
4		
5		

## Year-End Contributions

Gifts such as stocks and bonds, real estate, and other property may be transferred to Holy Cross Church. These are very helpful in the long-term development of funds. Call the parish office for more information or contact your own personal financial advisor regarding the potential tax benefits of such a donation.

If it is at all possible for you to do so, please remember Holy Cross in your will. The legal title is **Holy Cross Church of Rochester, New York.**

## Cut-Off for Processing 2017 Year-End Gifts

All gifts that are dated December 31 or earlier, and received by our office by January 5, will be processed and considered 2017 transactions so our donors receive accurate gift statements for use in filing their taxes. Gifts dated January 1, 2018 will be entered as 2018 gifts.

### Reconciliation by appointment or

Saturday 3:30 PM—4:30 PM Eves of First Fridays & Holydays 4:45 PM—5:10 PM

### Anointing of the Sick and Communion

In an emergency, call the parish office (663-2244) at any time. Arrangements for Communion for the sick and infirm can be made by calling the parish office (663-2244).

**Marriage** Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance by calling for an appointment with one of the priests.

**Baptism** Baptism is usually celebrated at 1:00 PM on Sunday afternoon. Every family must be interviewed and have attended a recent PreBaptism program. Arrangements should be made at least two months prior.

**Liturgical Ministers Week of December 31 (5th Sunday of the Month)**

Coordinators	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Cantors	Altar Servers	Streamed Mass
5 PM	Mario Ciminelli	Nick DeLucenay	Contemp Music Ens	N Campbell, H Goertel	
8 AM	NO 8:00 AM Mass	NO 8:00 AM Mass	NO 8:00 AM Mass	NO 8:00 AM Mass	
10 AM		Charley Hannon	Barb Giordano	A Richards, V Vanderburgh, L Pettis, D Lester	TBA
12 PM	Joe DiVincenzo	Margaretmary Zeh, Iris Ioannone, Jerry Palermo	Chris Redfield	NEED SERVER, NEED SERVER	

**Liturgical Ministers Week of December 31 (5th Sunday of the Month)****January 3**

Children's Liturgy	Coffee Hour	Small Altar Linens	Clean Church	Shore Winds
NO Children's Liturgy	NO Coffee Hour	Kathy Fennell	R Mantelli, L Buonemani	Jean LoGiudice

**Weekday Altar Servers**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 AM	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>
5:20 PM	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>	<i>Need Server</i>