

# NEW WORK ... With the Church of the Holy Cross

Volume 1: Issue 2

February/March 2016

## Spring of the Spirit

The seasons of Lent and Easter coincide with the conclusion of winter and the emergence of spring. While buds tentatively appear on bare branches and school children patiently observe the life cycle of a butterfly, our own gradual spiritual metamorphosis takes place. The transformative preparations of Lent culminate in a new awareness at Easter. It is the cycle of need, change, and newness that propels our lives as Catholic individuals, families, and communities throughout the year. We are fortunate that Holy Cross Church provides a welcoming atmosphere that can uniquely nurture each person's faith through involvements on all three levels – personal, family, and community - in a way that brings each of us closer to Christ. The cycle continues as that more intimate relationship with Christ, in turn, bears fruit in our personal, family, and community expressions of faith - like an ongoing spring of the spirit. This season, how might you enter into this enriching cycle and draw closer to Jesus and to your community?



*"In the three years that my family has belonged to Holy Cross, I feel that our community has helped me become a better steward. For example, we started the "Cans for Candy" food drive during Trunk-or-Treat because it was suggested by the youth group we were working with for another project. I believe that by giving our time to help others, we can start to see what is needed within our community." ~ Denise Barron*



*"The St. Monica's mothers group continues to enrich my family's faith life. One month our meeting focused on the profound power of the rosary and I was inspired by the witness of the other women's testimonies of praying the rosary as well as the concrete steps to make it work for our little children's short attention spans. Ever since then it has been a staple of our nightly ritual." ~ Vicki D'Amico*



*"As a single parent of two bi-racial teenage boys it was important for me to find a Catholic Church where I felt like we were not judged and truly accepted. Everyone at Holy Cross Church & School has been absolutely loving, accepting, and kind towards my kids and me. I've noticed that when we go to church on Sunday as a family, we have a great week! When we miss church, our week is still good, but I definitely feel a disconnect. That's motivation to get to church every Sunday! We were truly blessed when we found Holy Cross." ~ Jessica Cornley*

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*Let's Journey to Easter Together!*

*Pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent on Fridays at 5:30 PM.*

*Share in Lenten Dinners following the Stations in Lickteig Hall.*

*Participate in Operation Rice Bowl and help support Catholic Relief Services.*

*Read Matthew Kelly's Book, Rediscover Jesus. Copies were given out at Christmas. Call if you need one.*

*Embrace God's Mercy. The sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 PM*

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## In This Issue

- A Season of Growth
- Charity Auctioneers Energize Celebration
- Holy Cross Partners with AARP Tax-Aide
- Shalom House Offers Hospitality
- A Message from Fr. Saiki



**The Nigro Brothers Charity Auctioneers**

## Who are those people taking my money?

*Celebration* is our largest fundraiser that benefits both the parish and Holy Cross School. This year's event was held on Saturday, January 23, 2016. The evening included dinner, a silent auction, a live auction and raffles. It is not only a fundraiser; it is also a community celebration of Holy Cross.

George and David Nigro, and their friends, Tyler and Ron Stricker, are the entertaining and high energy auctioneers who make the evening extra special and profitable. Holy Cross is fortunate to be among the 150 or so live auctions that the Nigro Brothers host each year. For over 25 years, they have helped charities raise upwards of \$120 million, yet they don't take a dime for themselves. Each of them has family commitments and full-time jobs in addition to their charity auctioneering. They feel blessed and want to share their blessings with others. No wonder so many people feel good about giving them their money! Our school principal, Allison Carney, sums it up this way: "We ... consider them a part of the Holy Cross family." Background information: 435 Magazine, "Going Once! Going Twice!," July 2011.



**Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

**We invite you to join us!**

March 24	7:00 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper (Bilingual)
March 25	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
	3:00 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
	6:00 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
	7:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Spanish)
March 26	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
	8:00 PM	The Easter Vigil
March 27	7:30 AM	Easter Mass
	9:00 AM	Easter Mass
	11:00 AM	Easter Mass
	1:00 PM	Easter Mass (Spanish)

## Shalom House

2100 North 13th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66104

Visit:  
[catholiccharities.org/  
shalomhouse](http://catholiccharities.org/shalomhouse)

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“To me helping at Shalom makes me part of Shalom House’s mission to find jobs, homes, normalcy and stability for the men. It also gives me the opportunity to relate to the homeless men as a fellow human being and break down some of the stereotypes and assumptions about homelessness. I think eating and talking with the men is as important as the food we serve.”

~ Jackie Tigges

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“I believe working with Shalom House even two days a month has caused me to be more sensitive to the needs of the hungry, and to see first hand how a social visit lifts the spirits of everyone. We are not only feeding the body, but also the soul. I believe when we show up Jesus is smiling at us. We are welcomed, treated with respect and thanked.”

~ Ruth Kuse

## Holy Cross partners with AARP



AARP Tax-Aide is the nation’s largest free, volunteer-run tax assistance and preparation service available to taxpayers with low- and middle-income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Over 32,000 AARP Tax-Aide volunteers, trained in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), now help over 2 million taxpayers file their federal, state, and local tax returns each year at nearly 7,000 AARP Tax-Aide sites nationwide.

Holy Cross is one of these Tax-Aide sites that offers free face-to-face tax assistance and preparation from February 3 through April 14. Reserve your appointment at [www.KSTaxaide.com](http://www.KSTaxaide.com) or call (913) 735-5489.

## Call (913) 735-5489

## What you do for the least of these ... you do for me

Shalom House was founded by Father Richard Wempe in August 1982 as a Catholic Worker house offering hospitality to homeless men willing to live in peaceful community. It operated in the tradition of the Catholic Worker movement founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin during the depression. Its mission is to fulfill the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:34-36 and 40. “What you do for the least of these brothers, you do for me.” Shalom House promotes respect for all faiths and a strong belief in nonviolence.

Today Shalom House is a program of Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. Under its administration, Shalom House continues its original mission of continuing Christ’s work on this earth by offering hospitality to men in a family atmosphere. It provides a place to sleep, a breakfast and dinner, clothes, showers and referrals for medical and employment help. Each evening the community gathers in prayer to reflect and pray for the needs of the men they serve and for those who touch their lives.

Holy Cross parishioners prepare and serve the evening meal on the third Monday of each month and on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of each month. Parishioners Ruth Kuse and Jackie Tigges currently coordinate the meals and are assisted by a team of volunteers. Four to five parishioners cook the food and bring it to the church for pick up; the meal includes a main dish, side dish, salad and dessert. Another group of parishioners transport the food to Shalom House, serve the meal and eat with the men. They leave for Shalom House around by 5:00 PM and return to the church by 8:00 PM. More people are needed to help serve the food. If you are interested in helping, contact Ruth at 913-649-7344 or [ruthkuse@gmail.com](mailto:ruthkuse@gmail.com).

Background information: <https://shalomcw.wordpress.com>

# A Message from Fr. Saiki

As we are in the midst of our Lenten observances, we may be experiencing fatigue and weariness from our fasting, prayer and almsgiving. But we are called to hold fast! By uniting all our prayers, works, joys and sufferings to Him, we will also join Him in the Resurrection and bliss of Heaven for all eternity.

Please join our Triduum liturgies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday as we walk with the Lord in a profound way by commemorating the Last Supper, our Lord's walk to Calvary, His suffering and death and His jubilant triumph in the Resurrection! May God bless you on the remainder of this Lenten season, and may you experience the blessings of Easter Resurrection.

## Este Boletín en Español

Para recibir este boletín en español, envíe un correo electrónico a [churchoffice@holycrossopks.org](mailto:churchoffice@holycrossopks.org). Por favor, ponga "Boletín" en la línea de asunto.

Stay current at [www.HolyCrossOPKS.org/news/calendar](http://www.HolyCrossOPKS.org/news/calendar)

## Contact Us

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holycrossopks.org

Visit us on the web at  
[www.HolyCrossOPKS.org](http://www.HolyCrossOPKS.org)

### Join us for Sunday Mass

5:00 PM Saturday

7:00 PM Saturday in

Spanish

7:30 AM Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday

11:00 AM Sunday

1:00 PM Sunday in

Spanish

### Church of the Holy Cross

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