

Church of The Holy Cross

8311 W. 93rd St.
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
Church Office: (913) 381-2755 FAX: (913) 381-2766
E-Mail: churchoffice@holycrossopks.org
Website: www.holycrossopks.org

Pastor: Rev. Robert Conroy
Associate Pastor for Hispanic Ministry:
Rev. David Garavito
Rectory: 341-5618

PARISH STAFF

Pastoral Associate: Robert Bacic
Director Liturgy & Music: Rick Worms, 816-835-7441
Parish Manager: Mark Engen
Administrative Assistant: Pam Seger
Receptionists: Barb Williams
Lina Byrum

Religious Education Staff: 461-0726

Director - Pre.-Gr. 6: Julie Dresser
Session Coordinator: Carol Morris
Program Assistants: Michelle Rieger
Karla Melgar
Confirmation Coordinator: Sandy Schluter

Youth Ministries: 205-0825

Director: Sandy Schluter

Coordinator & Catechist for Hispanic Adult Formation:

Sr. Maria Orozco, S.C.L., 381-2755

La información en español
se encuentra en la página 4.

Holy Cross Catholic School

8101 W. 95th St. 66212

School Office: 381-7408

E-Mail: gradeschool@hccsmail.com

Principal: Mary Jo Gates

Secretaries: Anita Lemmon

Martha Beisser

Early Education Center: 381-7151

E-Mail: preschool@hccsmail.com

Director: Penny Miller

Associate Director: Stephanie Bridges

Advocates for Annulments:

Debbie Williams, 642-3708

Rebeca Richmond, 671-8722

Parish Center Manager

Allison Carney, 244-5970

MASSES:

Saturday 7:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. (Sunday Mass)
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Nursery - 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. Masses
Weekdays Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 a.m.
Tues. 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Tues. & Wed. (School days only): 8:15 a.m. in the school

RECONCILIATIONS:

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

BAPTISMS:

MARRIAGES:

Saturday, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. and **Wednesday**, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Semi-annually, Fall & Spring, and by appointment

4th Sunday each month

(Parent classes 3rd Tuesday each month. Call the office to register.)

Six months notice required. Call the office for information.

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? All calls confidential. Gabriel Project, 913-602-0306



FROM FR. ROBERT:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This year the 15th of August falls on a Sunday - the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, to be specific. The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which falls on this date, has not been postponed or moved to another place on the liturgical calendar even though it is a Sunday. Therefore, the readings, prayers of the Mass, and music will all be focused on this very special feast. What a wonderful occasion to honor the Mother of God and recall the singular privilege she received in her bodily Assumption into heaven.

Pope Pius XII solemnly proclaimed the Dogma of the Assumption on this date in 1954 after much prayer, study, and consultation. He notes that there has been strong support for this teaching throughout the course of history, and that there was agreement among theologians and faithful alike. The Pope explains how the Immaculate Conception is the special preparation for this particular blessing:

The Blessed Virgin Mary...by an entirely unique privilege, completely overcame *sin by her Immaculate Conception, and as a result she was not subject to the law of remaining in the corruption of the grave, and she did not have to wait until the end of time for the redemption of her body. Apostolic Constitution, 5*

We believe that the Virgin Mary was taken up to heaven in body and soul at the end of her life, and, while this is not something found explicitly in Sacred Scripture, it is there implicitly and is also revealed by Sacred Tradition, e.g., a beautiful mosaic icon from the 13th century in the apse of the Church of St. Mary Major in Rome captures this moment artistically.

The tremendous blessings that Mary has received should not hinder us from running to her as would a child - I always remember the words of St. Therese who said that for her Mary was "more Mother than Queen." Perhaps when we pray the 4th and 5th Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary - recalling her Assumption and Coronation as Queen of Heaven and Earth - we might ask for the grace to always seek her with the confidence of a child.

HOLY CROSS CONNECTIONS wants to hear from you! If you have an idea, opinion or perspective on life at Holy Cross:

- Put it in the suggestion box.
- Send an e-mail to Connect@holycrossopks.org
- Introduce yourself to Anne Girard or Bob Meyers.

READINGS & FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30.

Questions for Adults: What more is Jesus asking of you in today's gospel? What do you need to let go of in order to pass through the narrow gate?

For Children: What do you think Jesus means by, "Some are last who will be first?"

PERPETUAL ADORATION: If you desire to find Him immediately, see—He is quite close to you. Tell Him what you desire, for it is to console you and grant your prayer that He remains in the Tabernacle. Open Hours: Sun. 4am, 5pm; Mon. 2am, 3am, 1pm; Wed. 3pm; Thurs. 4am; Fri. 4pm; Sat. 8am, 5pm, 11pm. Call 381-2755.

STEWARDSHIP: Have you ever taken some time to figure out what percentage of your income goes to the church and other charitable causes?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE:

	August 8, 2010	Fiscal YTD
Needed	\$28,800	\$172,800
Collected	25,248	152,624
Over/(Under)	(3552)	(20,176)
Special Donations	308	

Are you engaged or married to a Catholic, but not Catholic yourself? Consider participating in an Inquiry group that's now forming to learn more about the faith of your loved one. Contact Robert Bacic at 381-2755 or rbacic@holycrossopks.org to find out more. Contacting him does not obligate you to enroll. Inquiries are kept confidential..

OPEN YOUR HEART to children who want to know God and the Catholic Way! Many more adults and youth are needed to meet their needs. We need catechists, classroom aides, childcare providers, and other helpers for our classes on Tuesday afternoons, 4:30-5:45 p.m. beginning this fall. Training and resources provided. Contact Julie Dresser at 461-0726 or email jdresser@holycrossopks.org for more info.

How is God calling you? Do you feel a call to renew your faith? We can all use some time with our Lord to help us love Him with all our heart. Mark your calendars now for the next *Christ Renews His Parish* renewal weekends, Sept.25&26 for men and Oct.9&10 for women. Spend a weekend with Jesus and refresh and renew your spirituality with other Holy Cross parishioners. Questions? Call Kathy Keary at 816-903-1225 or Terry Dressman at 913-599-6997.

CANDLES MOVED FROM SACRISTY: Votive candles will no longer be sold in the sacristy. You may be aware that the money box for the candle sales was stolen last week. Therefore, candles will now be available in the narthex and the money will be removed daily frequently! Let us pray that the person who needed that money last week might feel inspired to return it.

ST.CATHERINE'S CIRCLE will meet Mon., Aug.16, 11am at First Watch near 95th & Metcalf. Please call Kathy Eilenberger if unable to attend.

INTERESTED IN CUB SCOUTS? Boys in Grades 1-5 who want to find out more about Scouts join us for an informational meeting and picnic on Aug.26, 6pm at Brookridge Park. Call for details and/or to RSVP to Ellen Jones at 381-6709 or Kerrie McLoughlin at 488-4780.

Religious Education

Religious Education for Families with Children in Gr. K-6: Enrollment deadline is this weekend. Staff members are available after the Masses this weekend to answer your questions and accept your enrollment form. The form is available from the parish website. Payment of half the fees must accompany the form. Please call Julie Dresser at 913-461-0726 or email jdresser@holycrossopks.org for more info and to request enrollment form. You need to re-enroll your child even if they were with us this past year. This enrollment includes preparation for First Communion for those children who have completed one year of regular attendance in our classes during the school year.

Confirmation classes for the 2010-2011 school year will begin in October, 2010. If you were enrolled in the 1st year program, information was mailed to your home in July. Contact Sandy at sschluter@holycrossopks.org for registration information or to update address information.

Youth Ministry

Sandy Schluter, 381-2757, ext.18
sschluter@holycrossopks.org,

Contact during our construction... For questions regarding Middle and High School Rel. Ed or Youth Ministry, Sandy can be reached quickly & easily by email at sschluter@holycrossopks.org or call 205-0825. Your call will be returned asap if you leave message.

Project Uplift... an outreach to those homeless in KC. We need adults and teens first Monday of each month—contact Sandy if interested. We meet at Holy Cross at 4:30pm and return between 9pm and 9:30 pm. Eat dinner before you come, bring bottled water, and dress appropriately for weather. If you sign up, be sure to keep your commitment. People in need are counting on you.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CORNER

"Our Family, Our Future"

UPDATE:

Total Pledged: \$2,084,592

Total Received: \$1,423,538

SERVING FROM THE HEART to benefit the Sisters Servants of Mary:

Dear Fr. Robert and entire family of Holy Cross Parish, On behalf of the entire "Serving from the Heart" committee we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for allowing the Sisters, Servants of Mary to share this past weekend with the Holy Cross family. As members of the Serving from the Heart Committee it is our privilege to share the sisters story of compassion, love for mankind, caring, healing and unconditional giving of one's self to others. It is truly a blessing for us to attempt to see the world through their eyes. To share that with all of you is a privilege and honor. The generosity of this parish was apparent last weekend as we raised \$4500 for the Sisters. Please be assured that 100% of this collection goes directly to the Sisters. The Holy Cross family truly exemplified Christ's words..." I was a stranger and you invited me in...for whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers you did for me." Again, thank you for the warm welcome, and your charity is greatly appreciated. With grateful hearts, Jim & Doris Wilson.

ST.MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN: Fri., Aug.20 we will serve pasta casserole, salad, fruit, & cookies to the hungry.

Please Pray for Those Asking for Prayers: Kelly Belk, Tom Domville, David Ferguson, Kevin Haeusser, Dolores Herrera, Miguel Herrera, Rhonda Martin, Eric Monello, Pete Obert, Chris Payne, Christina Ramires, Maria de Jesus Ramos, Lu Sheehan, Ginny Shepard, & Marcia Werp.

Rest in Peace

Prayers are requested for **Charles Puhr, Jr., Mary Staley, & George Duermyer**, all of Holy Cross, and **Paula Ziegler**, daughter of Jay Wessling.

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Anthony Mai
Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Hank Volk
	6:00 p.m.	Maria Luisa Dominado (Spanish)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Sandy Kelly
Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Al Keegan
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Helen Lynch
Saturday	7:30 a.m.	Charles J. Haas
	5:00 p.m.	Jaskot Family
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Lu Sheehan
	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Anthony Mai
	11:00 a.m.	Mary Pasqualino
	2:00 p.m.	People of the Parish (Spanish)

FESTIVAL NEWS: Our day of community is **SUN., SEPT.12.** We begin with 11am Mass, followed by plenty of food, fun, & fellowship. The Time Machine will kick off live entertainment while you enjoy ethnic foods and snacks. PTO will provide entire day of bingo with awesome prizes, and we are excited to provide activities for older children and adults. Come try out giant trike track or test your skill at human wrecking ball! There's something for everyone so mark your calendar now. There's also plenty of stewardship/service hour opportunities. Please call Carol Reardon, 244-6443, to volunteer 1-2 hrs. and **CELEBRATE ALL THAT IS HOLY CROSS!**

FESTIVAL SPONSORS: Many of our circles and groups are already signed up to volunteer and provide an activity for our parish event. We are inviting any family, organization, or business to join our great day of community by donating monies or in kind items to assist us in covering our expenses. Your donation will assist in tent and table/chair rental, food and game costs, and inflatables. Your name will be proudly displayed on our large leaderboard sign the day of the event. This event is **NOT A FUNDRAISER... IT PROVIDES A BEAUTIFUL DAY OF COMMUNITY** for our parish family. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

JO CO CHRISTMAS BUREAU will celebrate 50th anniversary on Oct.8 and are asking area churches for themed gift baskets for their auction held that evening. Last year 2855 families, over 10,000 persons, were assisted, and families in our area were served by this organization during Christmas. The proceeds from this auction will provide monies to assist families in their Holiday Shop in December. **YOU** may assist by providing a "themed" gift basket with a value of \$25-\$50. Some suggested themes would be holiday, birthday, family game night, food, movie night, bridal, baby/child, etc. Please wrap your basket with clear wrap and lightly tag with your name and the value. We must have them **ready for pickup by Sept.8.** The baskets may be left at the Church office but please **clearly mark them as JO CO CHRISTMAS BUREAU** as we will be collecting for the festival around the same time. Thanks for your support and representing Holy Cross with our true caring spirit. If you have any questions, please leave a message for Carol Reardon at 913-244-6443.

HOLY CROSS COUPLES BRIDGE GROUP will start again in September. It meets monthly, usually the second Saturday. Two tables play at different members homes each month, September-April. During the evening, members rotate partners. The last session in May is a dinner and awards night. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bill or Sandra Kelly at 913-341-5437.

PARISH FESTIVAL BINGO TENT: Please mark your calendars for the PTO BINGO TENT on **SEPTEMBER 12!** This year the bingo tent will again feature many prizes for the kids so come join the fun. We are asking for donations from our parish community to be used as prizes. The bingo tent has always been a fun event at the festival thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, parents, and local businesses. Please contact Claire Hulseley at 913-381-8548 / rcehulseley@everestkc.net or Catherine Gailloux at 913-859-0331 / catherinegailloux@gmail.com for more information or to have us pick up your donation..

Holy Cross Parish/Jack Weitkamp Memorial GOLF TOURNAMENT will be on Mon., Sept.13, at Brookridge Golf & Country Club. 12:30pm shotgun start. Individual player fee of \$120 includes 18 holes w/cart, Hereford House dinner, 2 beverage tickets, a "goodie" bag, 1 free mulligan, entry into putting contest, flight prizes and other contests. We are also looking for hole sponsors and volunteers to work the event. This is a great opportunity to honor a wonderful man and build community throughout Holy Cross. For more info, contact Rich Weitz at 913-302-8564 or rweitz@sjakeeping faith.org.

School News

Holy Cross School and Early Education Center provide quality programs in a Catholic Christian environment. We would love to visit with you about our parish school and explore the possibility of enrolling your children for the 2010-2011 school year. Please call the school office at 913-381-7408 or the EEC office at 913-381-7151 to schedule an appointment and a tour.

Save the date:

- Sign-Up Day - August 16th
- PTO Ice Cream Social - August 22nd
- Kindergarten Parent Pot Luck - August 23rd
- First Day of School - August 25th
- Back to School Night - August 31st
- First All School Mass - September 3rd
- EEC Orientation - September 3rd
- EEC First Day of Classes - September 7th
- Grandparents Day - September 10th
- Parish Festival - September 12th
- Holy Cross - Jack Weitkamp Memorial Golf Tournament - September 13th

Summer Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9am-3pm as of 8/9. SCRIP Certificates and Trash Bags are sold at the school office during our summer hours.



“Encuentro”

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL:
todos los domingos a las
2:00 p.m. y los martes
a las 6:00 p.m.

MISAS EN INGLÉS:
 sábados 5:00 p.m.
 y domingos 7:30 a.m.,
 9:00 a.m. y 11:00 a.m.
 Los invitamos a participar
 en cualquiera de estas
 liturgias.

RECONCILIACIÓN:
 sábados, 3:30 a 4:30pm;
 martes, 5:30 p.m., antes
 de la Misa en español; y
 miércoles, 5:30-6:30pm.

MATRIMONIO: Llame a
 la parroquia 6 meses antes
 de la fecha en que desea
 casarse para tener una
 entrevista con un sacerdote.

BAUTISMO: Segundo
 sábado 11 a.m., y tercer
 domingo de cada mes
 después de la Misa de las
 2:00 p.m. Padres y
 padrinos deben asistir a una
 clase de preparación. Favor
 de anotarse con anticipación,
 llamando a la oficina
 de la iglesia, 381-2755.

SERVICIOS EN
ESPAÑOL: Para hablar
 en español, llamen a la
 oficina de la iglesia,
381-2755: lunes,
 miércoles y jueves 2-5
 pm.; martes 2-7pm.
 Pueden llamar también
 a los Sacerdotes, al
 341-5618 y dejarles un
 mensaje.

ANUNCIOS

DEL PADRE ROBERTO:

Estimados Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

El 15 de Agosto de este año, cae un domingo - el 20° Domingo Ordinario. La Solemnidad de la Santísima Virgen María, no será postpuesta o cambiada a otro lugar en el calendario litúrgico aunque caiga en domingo. Por esta razón, las lecturas, oraciones de la Misa y música, serán enfocados en este día de fiesta tan especial. ¡Qué maravillosa ocasión, honrar a la Madre de Dios y recordar el privilegio singular que recibió con la Asunción de su cuerpo hacia el cielo después de su muerte!

El Papa Pío XII, proclamó solemnemente el Dogma de la Asunción en esta fecha en el 1954, después de muchas oraciones, estudios y consultas. Él nota que ha habido un gran respaldo por esta enseñanza a través del curso de la Historia. También hubo un acuerdo entre los teólogos y creyentes. El Papa explica cómo la Inmaculada Concepción es la preparación especial para esta bendición en particular:

La Santísima Virgen María...por un completo y único privilegio, completamente venció al pecado con su Inmaculada Concepción. Como resultado, Ella no fue subyugada a la ley de mantenerse en la corrupción de la tumba y tampoco tuvo que esperar hasta el fin del tiempo para la redención de su cuerpo. Constitución Apostólica, 5.

Nosotros creemos que la Virgen María fue llevada al cielo en cuerpo y alma al final de su vida y que, mientras esto no es algo que se encuentra explícitamente en la Sagrada Escritura, se encuentra allí implícitamente y es también revelado en la Sagrada Tradición, exp., un bello mosaico icono del siglo 13, en el ábside de la Iglesia de Santa María la Mayor, en Roma, captura este momento artísticamente.

Las tremendas bendiciones que María ha recibido no nos debe impedir correr a Ella como lo haría un niño. Siempre recuerdo las palabras de Sta. Teresa, quién dijo que para ella, “María era más como una madre que una Reina.” Quizás, al rezar el 4° y 5° Misterio Glorioso del Rosario - recordando su Asunción y Coronación como Reina del Cielo y la Tierra - podemos pedir por la gracia de buscarla siempre con la confianza de un niño.

LECTURAS Y PREGUNTAS PARA COMPARTIR LA FE EL PRÓXIMO

DOMINGO: Agosto 22, 2010 - 21° Domingo Ordinario

Isaías 66:18-21; Hebreos 12:5-7, 11-13; Lucas 13:22-30.

Preguntas de Adultos semanales para Compartir la Fe: ¿Qué más quiere Jesús de ustedes en el Evangelio de hoy? ¿Qué necesitan dejar atrás para poder pasar por la puerta estrecha?

Preguntas para los Niños: ¿Qué creen ustedes que Jesús quiere decir cuando dice, “Los últimos serán los primeros”?

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS: Martes, 8/17, 6:00 p.m.: María Luisa Dominado
 Domingo, 8/22, 2:00 p.m.: Personas de la Parroquia

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA:

PRIMERA COMUNIÓN PARA NIÑOS EN LOS GRADOS K-6°: Si quieren preparar a sus niños para celebrar su Primera Comunión, **deberán matricularlos ahora. La preparación de este Sacramento es un compromiso de 2 años. Necesitan pagar \$30 al matricularlos, la mitad de la cuota total.** Los niños necesitan un año de catecismo para poder entrar al segundo año de preparación y celebración. **El personal de Educación Religiosa estará presente: los martes y miércoles, 4pm.-7pm, hasta Agosto 15, 2010.** **Todos los niños deberán ser matriculados cada año.** Llamen a la Oficina de la Iglesia: 913/381-2755 durante las horas en español, o visiten email: jdresser@holycrossopks.org o 913-461-0726.

Week 20 of WHAT'S NEW FOR CHRIS: We at Holy Cross are following development of a child in womb from conception to birth over 9 months from Feast of the Annunciation to Christmas. God said, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." We named this tiny new human being Chris. Chris's heart started beating 18 days after conception. Amniotic fluid cushions Chris throughout pregnancy. The umbilical cord forms like a lifeline for the baby in the "space" of the womb. **By Week 5** Chris was 10,000 times larger than the original fertilized egg, and developing rapidly. **By Week 6** Chris's brain began to control movement of muscles and organs. **By Week 7** Chris began to move, arms bending and flexing, fingers developing, and Chris swimming and doing back flips. **By Week 8** Chris was a little under an inch long. Everything present would be found in a fully developed adult. **By Week 9** Chris's fingerprints were evident. Chris could feel pain. Chris wriggled and played with fingers, toes, nose, ears! **By Week 10** the most critical part of Chris's development was complete and Chris entered a period of rapid growth. Chris was squinting & swallowing, over an inch long, and moving quickly. **By Week 11** Chris was almost 2 inches long and could stand on daddy's little finger nail. Finger nails and hair were starting to grow. Placenta was providing nutrition. **By Week 12** Chris slept, awakened, and exercised muscles energetically, opening & closing mouth while "breathing" amniotic fluid to help develop respiratory system. **By Week 13** Chris had all 20 teeth buds, was almost 3 inches long, and weighed one ounce. Vocal cords began to form, and Chris will use them for first cry after birth! **By Week 14** my taste buds were working! I drank sweet tasting amniotic fluid. My skin was very transparent and was very sensitive to pain except for my back and the top of my head. **By Week 15** I had unique fingerprints, fingernails & toenails growing, adult's taste buds, eyebrows & hair on my head sprouting. **By Week 16** I was getting a little baby fat and my heart was pumping as much as 6 gallons a day. I weighed almost 6 oz., & was about 3" long. **By Week 17** I have REM (rapid eye movements) which means I dream, but can't remember. My vocal cords have formed but make no sound because no air in here. I breathe "underwater," inhaling & exhaling amniotic fluid. **By Week 18** I hear mother's heartbeat. I begin to know her voice. My umbilical cord transports 300 quarts of fluid/day and completes round-trip of fluids every 30 seconds. I like sucking my thumb. **By Week 19** I may move hand in front of eyes if bright light on mother's abdomen. I may cover ears with hands if very loud noise. But I can also hear my mom sing a lullaby that soothes me. My private parts are clearly visible now. **HERE IN WEEK 20 my hair is growing on my head. My heart pumps 6 gallons of blood every day. I'm 20 weeks old now and will be born in 20 more weeks.. My legs are getting strong, so soon mom will really feel kicks. I like sleeping in same position now. I'm over 6" tall and weigh over 10 oz. Mom can distinguish her heartbeats from mine when lying quietly on back.**

Next week will again bring something new for Chris.

PRAY, MEET, EAT EVENT: You are invited to join almost 30 Archdiocesan seminarians for Vespers, Benediction, and a reception where they will introduce themselves. The event is *SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 4-6pm at Cure of Ars Church, 9360 Mission Rd., Leawood, KS.* This is a special opportunity for individuals and families to meet and get to know all the seminarians studying to become priests for our Archdiocese. Please join them for this time of prayer and fellowship before they return to seminary for the year. *Donations may be made for seminarian travel to World Youth Day in August 2011..*

Outing at 'The K' with Committee of Young Patrons: Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas' Committee of Young Patrons (CYP), a group of people in their 20s through 40s that supports Catholic Charities, invites you to spend an evening at "The K!" Join us on Sat., Aug.21, for the 6:10pm Royals vs. Chicago White Sox game. Get your special CYP rate tickets at www.royals.com/groupevents and visit us for our CYP tailgate in lot N. Visit www.catholiccharitiesks.com for more information.

Advice and Aid Pregnancy Centers, Inc. needs volunteers and will offer a Volunteer Informational Meeting on Tues., Sept.14, 7-9pm at 11031 W.75th Terr., Shawnee, KS. For more info on volunteering in this ministry or to RSVP, please contact Mary Newcomer, 913-962-0200 or email volunteer@adviceandaid.com.

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person. (Mignon McLaughlin) Take a weekend to fall in love all over again. World wide Marriage Encounter provides couples with a unique opportunity to escape from the busy-ness of life and focus on making their marriage the best that it can be. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** will be Sept.17-19 in Olathe. For more info, contact Ralph & Jan Lewis (KC) at 913-400-7173 or Kyle & Denise Mead (Topeka) at 785-357-5000. To register on-line visit www.wwmesection9.org.

Retreat for Individuals with Special Needs, Sept.25-26: This retreat is a two day, one night experience for individuals with developmental disabilities from 9th grade up to 20 years old. The purpose of this retreat is for participants to have an opportunity to learn about and grow in their faith of Jesus Christ while taking part in highly interactive indoor and outdoor activities. The retreat starts on Saturday beginning at 8:30am and runs through to Sunday ending at 2pm. The retreat will conclude with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Joseph Naumann along with Fr. Gary Pennings. Parents will be required to stay overnight with their child at Prairie Star Ranch and enjoy other activities during the day as their child participates in the retreat. The cost of this two day event is \$140 for parent (non-participant) and youth. For more info check out website at www.archkck.org or RSVP with Mary Rukavina at 913-647-0373.

Extend an Invitation:

Invite someone you know to become part of Holy Cross Parish!

People join the Catholic Church for a variety of reasons, but the majority of new members join our Church, because they know someone who is Catholic through work, sports, neighborhood or family life. You could be that someone! If you know a person who is curious about the Catholic faith, take time to share this information with him or her.

If You Don't, Who Will?

Becoming Roman Catholic is a lifelong faith journey, which takes into consideration each individual's previous religious background and present needs. Adult Christian initiation at the Church of the Holy Cross takes place in the midst of the Catholic community, whose prayers and support are continually asked and given. The entire process generally lasts nine months to one year, depending on each person's situation.

Inquiry is the first step and begins in September!

Each weekly session provides inquirers with basic information about the Catholic faith as well as an opportunity to ask questions about Catholics and their Church. At the conclusion of inquiry, those interested in continuing are invited to celebrate the **Rite of Welcome or Acceptance**.

The **Catechumenate** is the next step in the initiation process. It is a time for further study, prayer and participation in our community's life. A Catholic sponsor supports each *Catechumen* or *Candidate* with her or his prayers and presence during the fall and winter months.

During the first week of Lent, Archbishop Naumann affirms the desire of those who wish and are able to enter into the fullness of the Catholic faith during the **Rite of Election**. During the remaining weeks of Lent, the Church celebrates special prayers of **purification and enlightenment** with those preparing to join the Church at Easter, now called the *Elect*.

During the **Easter Vigil**, the Church glories in Christ's new life. One concrete expression of this Easter miracle is the celebration of the sacraments of initiation. Through the waters of Baptism, the oil of Chrism and the bread & wine of Christ's Body & Blood, the Elect become one with us in Christ.

In the weeks following Easter the Church **reflects on the mysteries** of Christ's life, death and resurrection in our lives.

**Sessions are held weekly on Sunday mornings,
9:00 to 10:30 a.m., followed by Mass.**

Inquiries are kept confidential.

Call or email Robert Bacic

(913) 381-2755 | rbacic@holycrossopks.org