

# 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  
Assistant Director: Stefanie 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. & Thurs. (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:**

+  
J.M.J.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The past several weeks have seemed like a blur...a blessed blur, I might add! We have been dining, as it were, on a very rich liturgical diet that, it seems to me, gets richer with each passing year. I very much enjoyed the daily meditations of the Octave of Christmas and the inspiring examples of men and women linked to this special season: Our Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, the shepherds, St. Stephen, St. John, the Holy Innocents, St. Thomas Becket, St. Sylvester I, and Simeon and Anna. They have good companions on this brief journey of faith.

This week I would like to direct our attention back to the remote preparation that we are doing periodically in order to prepare for the publication of the newly translated Roman Missal in Advent 2011. It needs to be noted that our current study, which is similar to other works that are being promoted through different parishes and dioceses in the US, is based upon the translation of the Roman Missal that was approved by the American bishops last year. My columns have made use of the material found on the USCCB website. This translation is now being reviewed by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments in Rome, and it is important to remember that there might be further changes to the text; this is certainly the prerogative of the members of the Congregation. I am making this disclaimer now so that in the future you will not be surprised if there are further revisions.

This week I would like to consider the Latin word: *Credo* – I believe. After the homily on Sundays and Solemnities we recite the Nicene Creed in common before the general intercessions. The Profession of Faith is a summary of basic beliefs that was compiled in the early Church for the purpose of baptismal catechesis; it was a pedagogical tool used to assist those preparing to come into the Catholic Church. Card. Joseph Ratzinger states in his masterful *Introduction to Christianity* (pp. 82-84):

*The basic form of our profession of faith took shape during the course of the second and third centuries in connection with the ceremony of baptism. So far as its place of origin is concerned, the text comes from the city of Rome; but its internal origin lies in worship; more precisely, in the conferral of baptism...Because of the special position belonging to the Church of Rome...the Roman baptismal profession (known as the symbolum, symbol) was quickly able to gain currency in the whole Latin-speaking area.*

Our frequent recitation of the Creed gives us great familiarity with the profound doctrinal truths contained within it.

*(continued on next column)*

**READINGS & FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 1Corinthians 1:1-3, John 1:29-34.  
**Questions for Adults:** What signs help you recognize God's presence at work in your life?

**For Children:** St.Paul says you are called to be holy. What does that mean to you?

**ADORATION CHAPEL:** Make a New Year resolution to spend an hour with the Lord! Open hours: Sun., 2pm, 5pm; Mon., 2am; Wed., 7am(until 3/31/11); Thurs., 2am; Fri., 4pm. Call Anne, 649-2049.

**Bible Study Groups are Forming.** A 5-week study titled *Touching the Mysteries* will begin on Thurs., Jan.20, 10am and 7pm, in Room 1. This study will focus on the biblical stories that provide background for the mysteries of the rosary. If you would like to join either of these groups, or want more info about them, contact the Church Office at 381-2755 or [churchoffice@holycrossopks.org](mailto:churchoffice@holycrossopks.org).

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE:**

	December 26, 2010	Fiscal YTD
Needed	\$33,800	\$763,800
Collected	47,333	690,200
Over/(Under)	13,533	(73,600)
Special Donations	5382	
	January 2, 2011	Fiscal YTD
Needed	\$33,800	\$797,600
Collected	41,341	731,541
Over/(Under)	7541	(66,059)
Special Donations	687	

*(continued from previous column)*

The word "Creed" comes from the first word of the Profession of Faith: *Credo – I believe*. The translators after the Second Vatican Council decided to change the wording from the literal first person singular – "*Credo*", *I believe* – to the first person plural form – "*We believe*". The Nicene Creed is normally prayed in common at Mass, while the shorter Apostles' Creed is usually recited individually, eg, when praying the Rosary. Perhaps the translators changed the words of the Creed in order to reflect its recitation in common.

Why have the American bishops recommended that we retain the pre-Vatican II version: "*I believe*"? It seems to me, based on what I have read about the preparatory meetings of bishops, that there is a desire to underline individual accountability in what is being recited. While the entire community proclaims its belief together at Mass, each one of us must individually accept what is being stated and taught! Even though it might take us a few months to get used to reciting the more personal, "I believe", instead of the more familiar, "We believe", I think the change will bear good fruit in the future. Our study of the Creed will continue...

## Religious Education

**Families Growing in Faith Together:** Only those families with children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation will meet this Tues., Jan.11, 6:45pm in church hall.

**Confirmation classes** resumed on Jan.2 in the church hall. Remember, high school students meet 6-7:30pm. 7th & 8th grade students meet 6:30-8pm.

**Candidate Sponsor sessions rescheduled...**Due to scheduling of hall renovations & moving/unpacking, Candidate/Sponsor sessions scheduled in Dec. were rescheduled for Feb.2011. Candidate Sponsor session in English will be Sat., Feb.5, and session in Spanish will be Sat., Feb.19. Both sessions will meet 3:30-4:45 p.m.

**For Confirmation info**, you can also go to our website, [www.HolyCrossOPKS.org](http://www.HolyCrossOPKS.org), click on Faith Formation to find link to Middle & High School Sacramental Prep.

## Youth Ministry

*For questions regarding Middle and High School Rel. Ed or Youth Ministry, contact Sandy at 205-0825 or [sschluter@holycrossopks.org](mailto:sschluter@holycrossopks.org).*

**Middle Youth Group is BACK!!** Now that the hall is ready, 7th & 8th graders from Holy Cross School and RE will be taking over the hall two Mondays a month! Our next meeting date will be Jan.24th. Parents, we are looking for adult helpers. Contact Sandy to volunteer.

**High Schoolers' next HOMERS** date is Jan.12. Homers Coffeehouse is located in downtown OP. We meet 7pm-8:15pm. Bring a few dollars for a smoothie, latte, hot chocolate, etc. We gather together for fellowship and fun, in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere. See you there!

**Holy Cross High Schoolers ...** "Regular" youth group meets Jan.19 & Jan.26, from 7:00-8:30pm in our renovated youth room (located where former youth room was, room next to the kitchen). Go to Sandra K Schluter and add yourself as a friend to get info by Facebook.

**Mission 2011 is set!** We'll travel to Twin Cities, MN, June 12-18, & work with Catholic Heart Workcamp. Students entering 9th grade in Fall of 2011 are eligible to attend. Non-refundable \$75 deposit will hold your spot. Total cost for 7 days lodging, food, & transportation is \$400. We will have several fundraising opportunities throughout year. Act now. We have 6 spots remaining. We will have our first parent info mtg. in Jan. to discuss details and fundraising. Contact Sandy for more info.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CORNER

"Our Family, Our Future"

### UPDATE:

Total Pledged: \$2,092,202

Total Received: \$1,690,948

**With the start of youth group**, our need for snacks and drinks returns. Thanks to all of our special donors who have provided us with snacks and drinks for our meetings at the school. We are glad to return to our youth room soon and so **we can again take donations of snack items for our meetings**. ALSO, we will be looking for clean couches in good condition for our meeting space. Please contact Sandy if you can fill one of these requests.

**We've got some very exciting news about a great opportunity for HOLY CROSS SCHOOL.** Our 'Help Us Create a Better Climate for Learning' idea has been chosen to compete for a \$250,000 Pepsi Refresh grant, to help buy new windows and air conditioning for the grade school. Please vote everyday through Jan.31 to help Holy Cross win \$250,000 for new windows and a/c for the school. Here's how to vote for Holy Cross in the program. And share this post with all your fiends and family. We need your votes DAILY. Thanks!

**You can vote in three ways each day:**

- 1) Text 105583 to Pepsi (73774).
  - 2) Visit [refresheverything.com/holycrosscatholicsschool](http://refresheverything.com/holycrosscatholicsschool) Sign in with Pepsi and vote for Holy Cross.
  - 3) Sign in through Facebook and vote for Holy Cross.
- VOTE NOW!**

**Please Pray for Those Asking for Prayers:** Jayanne Angell, David Ferguson, Dorothy Foote, Kevin Haeusser, Thomas Hill, Greg Lamping, Al Rilinger, Theresa Ryan, Bob Schmitt, and Laurie Seger.

**REST IN PEACE:** Prayers are requested for **Frank Hildenbrand** of Holy Cross; and **Margaret Spaniol**, mother of John Spaniol.

## Mass Intentions For The Week



<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Dick Sandlin
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30 a.m.	Tom Herr
	8:15 a.m.	JoAnn Power (at school)
	6:00 p.m.	Joseph Orrick (Spanish)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00 a.m..	Lorraine Finerty
<b>Thursday</b>	6:30 a.m.	Adele C. Neidlinger
	8:15 a.m.	Mary Staley (at school)
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Spec.Int.-Lawrence Blickhan
<b>Saturday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Alice Boyce
	5:00 p.m.	Rosemary Walsh
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 a.m.	George Duermyer
	9:00 a.m.	Robert Klewitz
	11:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
	2:00 p.m.	Raúl Galván (Spanish)

Please join us in praying the **ROSARY before daily Mass** every Mon.-Sat. We will **begin 20 minutes before each Mass**. On Mondays only, we will begin at 8:30am with Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions followed by the rosary. On Fridays we will pray the Rosary for Life.

**Fr. Bob & Holy Cross parishioners pray the Rosary at 9:30am on the first Saturday of every month at Planned Parenthood, 4401 W. 109th St, just southeast of 435 & Roe in Fox Hill Office Park. Come join us.**

**Advice & Aid Pregnancy Centers, Inc.** needs volunteers & will offer a Volunteer Informational Meeting, Mon., Jan.10, 7-9pm. at 11031 W.75th Ter., Shawnee, KS. For more info or to RSVP, contact Mary Newcomer at 913-962-0200 or volunteer@adviceandaid.com

The **“CALLED BY NAME”** program is an opportunity for priests of the Archdiocese, to invite their parishioners to get involved in vocations, and for pastors to receive feedback from parishioners. The goal is to provide feedback which will help develop vocations in young people, and IDENTIFY those who may have a religious vocation or calling. Please be thinking of single men or women (of high school age or older) who in your opinion have the qualities to make a good priest, sister, or brother. Among such qualities would be commitment to God and Church, desire for service, concern for others, and leadership abilities. You will be receiving a vocation Referral Card to be completed at Mass on the weekend of Jan.15-16, 2011.

### **School News**

Celebration 2011 - Denim and Diamonds is quickly approaching. Mark your calendar for Jan.29 and reserve your seats. If you would like to donate an item to the auction you can drop it off at the school during our office hours. The planning committee is working hard to make this a special evening with some new twists. We hope to see you all there.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Jan.17 No School / No EEC-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan.18 2011-2012 Registration begins for current families
- Jan.19 PTO Meeting 7pm in the school library
- Jan.28 Celebration Set-Up No School
- Jan.29 CELEBRATION 2011 Denim and Diamonds
- Jan.30-Feb.5 Catholic Schools Week
- Jan.31 Eucharistic Adoration in the school chapel
- Feb.2 All School Mass Presentation of the Lord Student Appreciation Day PTO Meeting 7pm in the school library
- Feb.3 Mission Carnival
- Feb.4 Noon Dismissal
- Feb.6 Catholic School Masses 9AM & 11AM at Church Open House

Mark your calendar for our annual Open House Feb.6, 10:30am-2pm. Tours in both English and Spanish will be available. Discover what our parish school has to offer your children. Holy Cross School and Early Education Center provides an outstanding academic experience rooted in our Catholic faith. We serve children PK3yr.old -8th grade. For more information visit us on the web. We look forward to seeing you at our Open House.

Stay up-to-date with information about the school. Go to [www.holycrosscatholicsschool.com](http://www.holycrosscatholicsschool.com) where you can link to the Principal’s Weblog, our Facebook page and Twitter. Click the “Family Login” button to see our newsletter and calendar.

Our office hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm on school days. You may purchase SCRIP certificates and Trash Bags during our office hours.

**The Celebration Committee would like to thank everyone for their donations. We hit the two week 100 gift goal and NOW...**



**HOLY CROSS CELEBRATION 2011  
JANUARY 29, 2011 @ 5:00 PM**

### **It’s time for the home stretch!!**

While you are out shopping for last minute and after Christmas deals, please remember that we are still taking gifts for every room (especially for our Men’s Room and Religious and Holiday).

The more gifts we have means more excitement for the evening which means more money raised for the church and school! Gifts can be dropped off at the church or school office.

Now that you have received your tickets for Celebration, please send them in as soon as possible.

Most of the plans for the evening happen after we have a final headcount so be sure you are counted!

**May all have blessed New Year!**

**[www.holycrosscelebration.com](http://www.holycrosscelebration.com)**

**Proceeds from the evening benefit Holy Cross Parish and School.**



**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 anticipa-  
 ción, llamando a la ofici-  
 na 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.

## “Encuentro”

### ANUNCIOS

#### **DEL PADRE ROBERTO:**

Hermanos y hermanas,

**J.M.J.**

Esta semana quiero dirigir nuestra atención de nuevo a la preparación remota que estamos haciendo periódicamente para prepararnos para la publicación del nuevo traducido Misal, en el Adviento 2011. Debemos notar que nuestro estudio está basado en la traducción del Misal Romano que fue aprobado por los Obispos Americanos el año pasado. Mis columnas han usado el material encontrado en el website USCCB. Esta traducción está siendo revisado por la Congregación para la Divina Adoración y los Sacramentos, en Roma. Es importante que recuerden que pueden haber más cambios a este texto. Les digo esto ahora para que no se sorprendan en el futuro si hubieran más revisiones.

Vamos a considerar esta semana la palabra Latina: *Credo* – Yo creo. Después de la Homilía en las misas, recitamos el Credo Niceno antes de las intercesiones generales. La Profesión de Fe es un sumario de creencias básicas que fueron copiladas en la temprana iglesia con el propósito de catequesis bautismal. Fue una herramienta pedagógica usada para asistir a aquéllos preparándose para entrar en la Iglesia Católica. Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger explica en su autoritaria *Introducción al Cristianismo* (pp.82-84)

*La forma básica de nuestra profesión de fe tomó forma durante el curso del segundo y tercer siglo, en conexión con la ceremonia del bautismo. En cuanto a su lugar de origen se refiere, el texto viene de la ciudad de Roma. Pero su origen interno es basado en la adoración; más precisamente, se confiere en el bautismo. Debido a la posición especial perteneciente a la Iglesia de Roma, la profesión del bautismo Romano (conocido como symbolum, símbolo) fue usado corrientemente en toda el área de habla en Latín.*

Al recitar el Credo frecuentemente nos da una gran familiaridad con las verdades profundas que contiene. La palabra “Credo”, viene de la primera palabra de la Profesión de Fe: *Credo – Yo creo*. Los traductores después del Segundo Consejo Vaticano, decidieron cambiar la redacción de la primera persona singular – “*Credo*”, *Yo creo*- a la primera persona en plural –

“*Nosotros creemos*”. El Credo Niceno es dicho normalmente en común en la Misa, mientras que el Credo de los Apóstoles, es más corto y se recita individualmente.

¿Por qué los obispos Americanos han recomendado que se conserve la versión pre-Vaticano II: “*Yo creo*”? Me parece a mí que existe un deseo de subrayar la responsabilidad individual en lo que se recita. Mientras la comunidad entera proclama su creencia juntos en la Misa, ¡cada uno de nosotros debemos individualmente aceptar lo que se indica y enseña! Aunque nos tome algún tiempo aprender a recitar el Credo más personal, “*Yo creo*”, en vez del más familiar, “*Nosotros creemos*”, yo pienso que el cambio dará buena fruta en el futuro. Seguiremos nuestro estudio del Credo.....

**INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS:** Martes, 1/11, 6:00 p.m.: Joseph Orrick  
 Domingo, 1/16, 2:00 p.m.: Raúl Galván

**BAUTIZOS EN ENERO:** Serán el sábado 15, 11:00am. y el domingo 16 de Enero, 2 p.m..

**LECTURAS Y PREGUNTAS PARA COMPARTIR LA FE EL PRÓXIMO DOMINGO**  
**Enero 16, 2011 - II Domingo Ordinario:** Isaías 49:3,5-6; 1 Corintios 1:1-3; Juan 1:29-34.

**Preguntas para Adultos para Compartir la Fe:** ¿Qué señales les ayuda a reconocer la presencia de Dios en sus trabajos?

**Preguntas para los Niños:** San Pablo dice que ustedes son llamados a ser santos. ¿Qué quiere decir esto?

#### **EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA:**

**Familias Creciendo Juntas en la Fe:** Solamente familias con niños que harán su Primera Reconciliación se reunirán el martes, 11 de Enero, 6:45pm., en el salón de la Iglesia.

(Para más información vea el revés de esta página.)

**CONFIRMACIÓN: Sesiones para Candidatos y Padrinos: pospuestas hasta Febrero, 2011.**

*Para más información sobre Confirmación, Ministerio Juvenil o clases de Escuela Intermedia o Superior, llamen a Sandy: 205-0825, o el website siguiente: [sschluter@holycrossopks.org](mailto:sschluter@holycrossopks.org)*

**VOCACIONES:** El Papa Juan Pablo II dijo, "Las vocaciones religiosas son responsabilidad de todos nosotros". En Enero 15 y 16, nuestra parroquia tendrá el programa "LLAMADO POR SU NOMBRE". Esta es una oportunidad para que cada uno de nosotros "identifique" personas con las características necesarias para ser un buen Sacerdote, o vida consagrada y religiosa para servir a Dios y su Iglesia. Oramos porque ustedes tomen parte en este importante programa.

Como miembros de Holy Cross, somos muy afortunados de tener varias vocaciones religiosas procedentes de Holy Cross. La información sobre sacerdotes y hermanas de HC se encuentra en una publicación dentro del boletín de hoy. Un lado en inglés y el otro en español.

**RETIRO DE QUINCEAÑERA:** Este importante Retiro para todas las futuras Quinceañeras será celebrado el próximo Enero 22 y 23, 2011, de 8:30a.m.-4:40p.m., en las Oficinas del Ministerio Hispano, 2215 Parallel Ave., KCKS 66104. El costo es \$20/por niña, por los dos días. Para Más información y para inscribirse, favor de llamar al 913/281-6644, ó a la oficina de la iglesia, 913/381-2755m durante las horas en español-

**RETIRO DE CONVALIDACIÓN:** Este Retiro es para parejas interesadas en casarse por la iglesia. Este Retiro dura 2 días, el 26 y 27 de Febrero, 2011, de 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m. Será en las Oficinas del Ministerio Hispano, 2216 Parallel Ave., KCKS 66104. Costo \$40/por pareja. **NO habrá cuidado de niños.** Para inscribirse, llamen al 913/281-6644.

**SCRIP NEWS!!!**

IT'S ROUND AND IT'S RED!!! Exciting news to start the New Year! The Scrip program now has \$25 and \$100 **Target** Gift Cards available with a 2% non-profit contribution to Holy Cross. Our parish did an awesome job using scrip over the holidays; keep up the good work!! Please continue to use Scrip for all your weekly purchases!! Like all Gift card to national stores, Target gift cards can be used all over the country, not just locally. So, make it your New Year's resolution to use scrip whenever you can. When you sue Scrip instead of cash for your purchases, Holy Cross benefits financially, with no added cost to you. If you need a list of all the gift cards we have available, please stop by the Scrip table in the narthex and take home an order form today!!

**Get your CD Now :** Start 2011 with a deeper knowledge of your faith and lessons to live by for greater peace and holiness. There are 16 great titles in the kiosk (some are hidden behind others) so get one for yourself and one to share. Your \$3/CD donation will provide the means to order more great titles in the next week or two. Questions? Call Brenda, 649-6442.

**IRA Tax Free Distributions:** Legislation passed at end of 2010 allows tax free distribution from IRAs for 2010 through January and for 2011. If you are at least 70 1/2 years old you can make a direct tax free rollover to the parish that counts toward your minimum distribution. The maximum tax free gift from your IRA is \$100,000 each year for 2010 and 2011. For more info, contact the parish office. The Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas at 913-647-0365.

Curé of Ars **Bereavement Ministry** will have their monthly **grief support meeting** Sat., Jan.15 in Fr.Burak room, 9401 Mission Rd., Leawood. The meeting will begin at 8:30am after 8am Mass. The topic will be "Moving Ahead in the New Year. For more info call 913-649-2026.

**Diocese of Wichita asks for our prayers:** Two abortionists are reported to be planning to perform abortions in Wichita later this year. The Diocese of Wichita is doing a nine-day Novena from Jan.14-Jan.22 to keep abortion out of Wichita. Kansans are asked to offer up their prayers, sacrifices, Holy Communion, rosaries, and Holy Hours with the intention of keeping Wichita abortion free. Please offer your prayers in this spiritual battle.

**Study the Faith at Home!** There are still spaces available in the Maryvale Institute courses starting in Kansas City on Jan.29, and the application deadline has been extended! If you are interested in learning more about the faith, consider joining one of these courses! Each course meets 4 times per year at Savior Pastoral Center in KC KS, and students are provided specially written course books to study at home in between study days... **Certificate in Catechesis:** A two-year course for anyone interested in developing his or her own faith for the said of explaining it to others. **Diploma in Evangelization & Ministry to the Sick:** This one-year course looks at the meaning of suffering, sickness and death examined with reference to Scripture and Papal and Church teaching. For info on either course, visit [www.archkckecat.org](http://www.archkckecat.org), or contact Stacy Niedbalski in the Office of Evangelization & Catholic Formation, [ecatsec@archkck.org](mailto:ecatsec@archkck.org), 913-647-0352.

**WHAT'S NEW FOR CHRIS:** We at Holy Cross followed 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. Umbilical cord forms like lifeline for baby in "space" of womb. **By Week 5** Chris was 10,000 times larger than original fertilized egg, developing rapidly. **By Week 6** Chris's brain began to control movement of muscles & organs. **By Week 7** Chris began to move, arms bending & flexing, fingers developing, swimming & doing back flips. **By Week 8** Chris was a little under 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 & Chris entered a period of rapid growth. Chris was squinting & swallowing, over an inch long, moving quickly. **By Week 11** Chris was almost 2 inches long & could stand on daddy's little finger nail. Finger nails & hair were starting to grow. Placenta was providing nutrition. **By Week 12** Chris slept, awakened, & 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, & weighed 1 oz.. Vocal cords began to form, & 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 & 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) in dreams I don't remember. My vocal cords have formed but no sound because no air. I breathe "underwater," inhaling & exhaling amniotic fluid. **By Week 18** I hear mother's heartbeat and know her voice. My umbilical cord transports 300 quarts of fluid/day and completes round-trip of fluids every 30 seconds. I suck my thumb. **By Week 19** I may cover eyes if bright light on mother's abdomen. I may cover ears if very loud noise. I hear my mom's soothing lullaby. My private parts are clearly visible now. **By Week 20** my hair was growing on head, my heart pumping 6 gallons of blood every day. After 20 weeks now, I will be born in 20 more weeks. I'm over 6" tall and weigh over 10 oz. Mom can distinguish our heartbeats. **By Week 21** my tongue was fully formed & I practiced a raspberry! I hear noises from outside. I have fingernails & fingerprints. I was 10" long if I could stand up straight. **By Week 22** I liked to suck my thumb & listen to Mom read to me. My brain was growing really fast & I weighed nearly a pound. **By Week 23** My eyes were formed, but the iris didn't have color. I was over 1 lb. & 1 ft. long. **By Week 24** I'm developing muscle, bone mass, and

*(continued on next column)*

*(continued from previous column)* organs. My lungs developed so well, I'm officially viable, I could live outside the womb. Each parent contributed 15,000 genes that determined not only what the baby looks like but how it interprets tastes, athletic abilities, allergies, health, and much more. **By Week 25** Many brain cells were growing in my head every day! Soon I'll have billions of brain cells. I grasp things. My spine is beginning to form to protect my spinal cord. I'm covered by a white cheesy substance that protects my skin. **By Week 26** my taste buds were forming, I could taste sweet things. I had eyelashes & eyebrows, fully formed fingerprints, and toenails & fingernails growing. **By Week 27** I've had trouble with my balance but it was getting better.. I weighed 2 pounds. **By Week 28** I was about 14 inches tall and growing really fast. If I were born now, I'd have an 85% chance of survival because my lungs have been getting stronger. **By Week 29** I've doubled my size over last 4 weeks and don't have much room. Muscle tone getting better and body filling out with baby fat. Nice fine hair growing on head. I recognize my mom's voice. **By Week 30** My wrinkles were slowly disappearing as I gained more and more weight. My body was catching up to my big head. I can move my eyes and hear my mom. I can't wait to see her. **By Week 32** I weighed 3 lbs. And gaining about a half pound each week. I am in fetal position because really cramped now. I can see but won't have 20/20 vision until I'm 7-9 years old, hopefully. Mom is pretty uncomfortable. **By Week 33** I weigh 3 pounds and hope to weigh 7 pounds at birth. My brain is growing very fast. I'm starting to have regular sleep, awake time, and dream. I'm using my four senses of vision, hearing, taste and touch. **By Week 34** I'm almost 17 inches long and started to move head down because 96% of babies are born that way. Like to look around but can't see much. I scratched myself with my long fingernails. **By Week 35** my immune system is beefing up so I will be ready to fight infections and illnesses right after birth. I have lots of amniotic fluid padding. My skull is pliable & soft, ready for delivery. **By Week 36** I weigh 5 1/2 lbs. and putting on baby fat to keep warm after birth, lungs almost complete, and uterine wall getting thinner. **By Week 37** I absorb a gallon of amniotic fluid/day, and receiving valuable antibodies from mom to fight off infections. Fat is deposited in my cheeks and muscles that help me suck help fill my face. I am about 6 lbs., over 20 " in length, and plump & round. **By Week 38** I am now considered full-term but continue to gain and grow. Lungs are days from completion. I practice breathing with amniotic fluid and I easily grasp things. **By Week 39** I weigh 5-9 lbs. Average size baby is 7 lbs. It's hard to move in such crowded womb..Umbilical cord doesn't have any nerve endings, is about 20" long and 1/2" thick.

**HERE IN WEEK 40 Celebrate! Don't be surprised at how Chris looks after birth. Chris' head may be misshapen and skin may be discolored with patchy rashes. Chris has more than seventy different reflexes at birth which are necessary for survival. Chris, like all babies, is made in the image and likeness of God. Even though childbirth is frightening, it helps to keep positive support people around you.**