

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

Holy Cross is a diverse community, welcoming and accepting, united in Catholic faith, and committed to forming people in the image of Christ to better serve the Lord and our neighbor.

Pastor: Rev. Mike Stubbs
Rectory: 341-5618

El boletín *Encuentro* en español
se encuentra en la página 6.

PARISH STAFF

Development & Stewardship Director: Robert Bacic
Director Liturgy & Music: Rick Worms
Parish Manager: Mark Engen
Administrative Assistant: Carol Morris
Receptionists: Barb Williams & Lina Byrum

Holy Cross Catholic School

8101 W. 95th St. 66212
School Office: 381-7408
E-Mail: gradeschool@holycrosscatholicsschool.com
Principal: Allison Carney
Secretaries: Anita Lemmon & Martha Beisser

Religious Education Staff: 381-2757

Director - Pre.-Gr. 6: Karla Melgar
Assistant: Michelle Rieger
Session Coordinator- Denise Suarez
Confirmation Coordinator: Sandy Schluter

Early Education Center: 381-7151

7917 W 95th St. 66212
E-Mail: preschool@holycrosscatholicsschool.com
Director: Penny Miller
Assistant Director: Stefanie Bridges

Youth Ministries: 205-0825

Director: Sandy Schluter

Advocate for Annulments:

Rebeca Richmond, 671-8722

Catechist for Hispanic Adult Formation:

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

Parish Center Manager

Michael Long, 219-3382

MASSES:

Weekend Sat. Vigil 5:00 p.m., Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Nursery - 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. Masses

Weekdays Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. | Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 a.m. | First Sat. 7:30 a.m.

Tues. 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Tues. & Thurs. (School days only): 8:15 a.m. in the school

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

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Semi-annually in the Fall & Spring, and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: Usually the 4th weekend of the month during 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. (Parent classes are every other month.)

Contact the office to confirm times and to register.

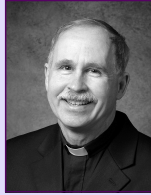
MARRIAGES: Six months notice required. Call the office for information.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon.—Thurs. 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. & Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

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

Dear Parishioners,

In a few days, we will celebrate Christmas day. That is the start of the Christmas season which will last until January 12. At least, that is how the Catholic Church reckons it. The secular world begins the Christmas season with Thanksgiving Day and concludes it on Christmas Day. In an effort to emphasize the Christmas season as we Catholics observe it, the Parish staff holds a Christmas party after Christmas Day rather than before it. Not only is it more correct as far as the Church's calendar is concerned, it is considerably less hectic. It helps to fill in a gap left by the secular world.



Fr. Mike



Monday	9:00 a.m.	Bob Schmitt
Tuesday	4:30 p.m.	John & Mary McCraner (upstairs)
	4:30 p.m.	Bruce Andes (downstairs)
	6:30 p.m.	People of the Parish (Spanish)
	8:00 p.m.	Edward Pelot
	9:30 p.m.	Robert Klewitz
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bunny Goetz Ingalls
	1:00 p.m.	Mike Butler (Spanish)
Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Spec Int - Lyette Schuchardt
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Mary Ve Tran
Saturday	7:30 a.m.	No Mass
	5:00 p.m.	Michael & Anne Polacek
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	9:00 a.m.	Kevin Haeusser
	11:00 a.m.	Tom Hill
	1:00 p.m.	Inez Byrum (Spanish)



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-

15,19-23



Please Pray for Those Asking for Prayers: Joey DeCelles, Rich Hauber, Larry Meyers, and Tami.

Stewardship Reflection December 22, 2013

“For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20-21

These words from today's Gospel remind us that Mary was one of the first disciples and first stewards. She accepted the call to bear the son of God. She did not question God, she accepted the will of God completely. Do we accept the will of God completely? Do we ever question His intentions? Are we as strong in our discipleship and stewardship as Mary was?

Stewardship Opportunity

With the holidays coming up, are you the person who always shows up with a camera or has your smart phone out taking pictures? Events are regularly going on at the parish and we would like to develop a list of photographers and videographers whom we could call on to help us document our parish life. If you are willing to help, let us know. Simply call or email the Church Office.

Financial Update

	Dec 8	Fiscal YTD
Weekly Offering Needed	\$25,497	\$646,131
Weekly Offering Received	24,877	602,416
Over/(Under)	(620)	(43,715)
Special Donations	880	31,478
Restricted Assets as of Nov 30	Calculated Monthly	
Parish Endowment-Restricted	\$73,940	
School Endowment-Restricted	\$32,933	
Capital Campaign-Restricted	\$241,974	
Liabilities as of Nov 30	Calculated Monthly	
Current—Archdiocese of KCKS	\$485,773	
Long term—St. James Academy	\$473,845	

Please note that our weekly offering represents only about half of our parish income. Other sources include parish fees, school fees and school tuition. The amount of the weekly offering needed is based on budgeted expenses. For a complete financial picture, you can download our most recent annual and/or quarterly financial report on the parish website under "Stewardship Documents."

*You make our parish life possible.
Thank You!*



Dec 24, Christmas Eve:
 4:30 pm (church & basement)
 8:00 pm
 9:30 pm

Dec 25, Christmas Day
 10:00 am

Come early! Get a good seat and enjoy 30 minutes of music before each Mass.



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Coats for Kids Update - 60 coats were distributed to kids at Holy Cross School and the Hispanic Ministry at Holy Cross Church.

There was much excitement when the coats were handed out in the narthex on Sunday, Dec 8. Many kids will have a warm coat to protect them from the cold weather. Thanks so much for your support with this Knights of Columbus ministry!

Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities

Shalom House is a shelter for homeless men. Volunteers prepare and serve meals so that guests have a feeling of being cared for. As appropriate, guests participate in in-depth case management utilizing resources to help them achieve personal goals; transitioning to full-time employment and stable housing. Guests must be employed or actively looking for work. They are on a strict timeline to become self-sufficient. Please consider a gift to the Catholic Charities Christmas collection to help the guests of Shalom House and others in need.

Open House Holy Cross Catholic School Open House



Join us for our Open House on **Sunday, February 2, 2014** from **8:30 am - 1:00 pm!** The

Knights of Columbus will be serving breakfast. Holy Cross Catholic School & Early Education Center serves children age 3 through 8th grade and is accredited by the State of Kansas and AdvancEd. With Christ as our foundation, we provide a high quality academic experience while integrating the Catholic faith in everything we do. For more info call 381-7408 or visit us at www.holycrosscatholicschool.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Knights of Columbus Breakfasts

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Omelet Breakfasts in 2014:

- Sun., January 12
- Sun., February 9
- Sun., March 9
- Sun., April 13

Breakfast is served after the 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses. Come enjoy a delicious breakfast and support a worthy cause!

Welcome to Church of the Holy Cross! We invite you to join the parish! Fill out the form below and we will deliver a welcome and registration packet to you.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip Code _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Drop in collection basket, bring or mail to:
 Church of the Holy Cross
 8311 W 93rd St.
 Overland Park, KS 66212

Youth Ministry

For questions contact at 205-0825 (text or call) or by email at sschluter@holycrossopks.org.



Middle School Youth Group: We meet Monday nights from 7-8:30pm in the youth room. **No meetings on Dec 23 or 30.**



High School Youth Group: We meet Wed. nights from 7-8:30pm. We meet downstairs in the youth room. **We will NOT meet Dec 25 or Jan 1.** Check the Holy Cross website or Facebook events under Sandra K Schluter for any last-minute activities over the break. All high schoolers are welcome! Come check us out!



Mission 2013 is set! Omaha, here we come! We travel to Omaha, NE July 5-12th, 2014. Though it may not seem we are going far, we will still be serving God's people even though we are a little closer to home. Our free day activity this year will be the Omaha zoo. We will be taking 34 teens and 6 chaperones. Be sure to turn in your registration and deposit ASAP so that you can take part in our planned fundraisers. Forms are located on the bulletin board in the narthex. We will be working again with Catholic Heart Workcamp, and this is a Next-Level camp for those who were wondering.



Religious Education



NO Classes on Tuesday, Dec 24 and 31. Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year holiday season. Classes resume on Tuesday, Jan 4, 2014.



Celebration: Our Parish's Largest Fundraiser

Celebration 2013 raised over \$100,000! Help us make Celebration 2014 even more successful! Here are some ways to be part of Celebration 2014!

Silent Auction

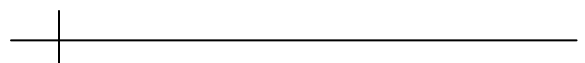
Silent Auction is part of the event with various rooms setup with different themes (Ladies, Men, Kids, Sporting Goods, Home & Garden, etc.) To support the Silent Auction we have the **Giving Tree** that will be at the church narthex and school office. Please take a leaf from the Giving Tree and bring your unwrapped donation to the church or school. The Giving Tree is meant to give ideas, but feel free to solicit a service from a business that isn't on the tree. Tax deductible donation forms are available at the church and school. Questions? John & Melissa Schultz 515-2043 melissatvschultz@gmail.com

Photo Booth Sponsorship

Be part of Celebration! Place your bid to have your company name printed on EVERY photo booth picture taken the night of Celebration. Bids start at \$300 and are due by November 30. Please direct any questions regarding sponsorship or photo booth to Amy Briscoe at 322-8117 or amylbriscoe@hotmail.com

Table Sponsorship

This is a great way to not only support the Holy Cross community but a fantastic opportunity to advertise your business to the families and friends of Holy Cross Parish and School. There are multiple sponsorship levels. We hope you will be able to join Celebration by purchasing a table and being a sponsor. For questions or to be a sponsor, call Amy Briscoe at 322-8117 or amylbriscoe@hotmail.com





Lighthouse Catholic Media CDs ...

CD of the Week: **“The Mystery of Christmas”** With humor, compassion and clarity, Fr. Larry Richards gets to the heart of the true meaning of Christmas and helps us to better appreciate the immensity of God’s love for us as His children. He illuminates how the true joy of Christmas is found in the greatest gift ever given -- the gift of Jesus Christ to the whole world. Find this and other great CDs on the kiosk at the back of church.

“Journey Through Advent” Get the most out of Advent and Christmas by following along with Fr. Robert Barron’s homilies as he unpacks the profound Scripture readings. CDs are available for both last year (Cycle A) and this year (Cycle C). You will want to listen to them over and over. You’ll be amazed at how much more you get out of mass when you have studied the scripture reading before coming each Sunday. Great for the whole family!

Look for this and other great CDs on the kiosk in the back of church. Questions? Call Brenda Scruggs 649-6442



ADORATION CHAPEL: Yes, there are just four OPEN HOURS in the chapel: Sun 2-3 pm; Mon 2-3am, 1-2 pm.; Wed 11pm-12am. All hours could use an additional commitment! Two or three could be gathered in His name! If you can help call Anne, 649-2049.



Box Tops, Labels for Education and Best Choice UPCs: Please continue to save and drop off at the school or at church in the basket on the bulletin board outside the office. Thanks for your

 **Flocknote** A new communication tool Holy Cross is using to keep you update with events, activities and news within our community. Check it out at www.flocknote/holycrossopks or text **“hcop” to 84576** and subscribe today!

High School Placement Test



Placement Test at St. James Academy will be **Sat., Jan 11** (alternate date Jan 25). This is not an admission test but provides info for determining Freshman level courses. Top scorers may be eligible for scholarship awards, for those testing on Jan 11 only. **Check in at 8:00 a.m.** Bring two #2 pencils, a calculator and \$15 registration fee (cash or check). Pre-register electronically at www.sjakeepingfaith.org/admissions and receive a special edition Thunder t-shirt. Walk-ins are welcome also. No cell phones or electronics except calculator. Lunch is provided. 12 noon dismissal.



Placement Test at St. Thomas Aquinas High School will be **Sat, Jan 11 at 8:00 a.m.** Bring two #2 pencils, a calculator and \$15 exam fee. Pre-register online at www.stssaints.net/placementtest and learn about scholarship opportunities. You will also be entered in drawings for spirit wear. Pizza lunch will be served following test. Tours will be available at 10:15 a.m. with Q&A session at 10:45 in Library. Questions, contact Diane Pyle, Admission Director 319-2423 or dpyle@stasaints.net



The virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son
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The Gabriel Project provides spiritual, emotional, & material help for any woman facing difficulty in her pregnancy. Please call **913/602-0306**. If you would like more information on how to get involved with The Gabriel Project please contact Bev Eberhardy at beveber@kc.rr.com. **Hurting from abortion??** If you have had an abortion & are still grieving, Project Rachael can help, call 913/621-2199. **All calls are confidential.**



Volunteer Opportunity at TurnStyles: Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas is looking for volunteers interested in working as Cashiers at TurnStyles, our thrift store in Overland Park. Shifts available 10am - 2pm and 2pm - 6pm Monday through Saturday. Interested in volunteering or have questions? Please contact Michelle Carlstedt 913-433-2080 or mcarlstedt@catholiccharitiesks.org

Call Center Volunteers: Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas is seeking individuals interested in being part of our new call center. Volunteers will be responsible for answering phone calls from clients and scheduling appointments at all three area Emergency Assistance Centers. Fluency in Spanish a plus. If interested contact Michelle Carlstedt 913-433-2080 or mcarlstedt@catholiccharitiesks.org

Marriage for Keeps

Marriage for Keeps offers education, support and resources for couples seeking to improve their marriage and strengthen their family. Our workshops teach couples to communicate more effectively, reduce conflict, connect emotionally and learn to better meet each other's need. Classes begin Jan 7 from 6:00-8:30 pm at St. Paul in Olathe. Registration required. Call 621-5775 ext 1105 or email Donna at dmills@catholiccharitiesks.org

La Iglesia Holy Cross es una comunidad diversa y acogedora, unida en la fe Católica, comprometida en formar a la gente en la imagen de Cristo, para servir mejor al Señor y al prójimo.

“Encuentro”

¡Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo!

Queridos feligreses:

Dentro de unos días estaremos celebrando el día de Navidad. Esto es el principio de la temporada Navideña que dura hasta el día 12 de Enero. Así es que la Iglesia Católica lo considera. El mundo secular empieza en la temporada Navideña con el día de Acción de Gracias y termina con el Día de Navidad.

En nuestro esfuerzo para exaltar la temporada Navideña y celebrarla como nosotros los Católicos la celebramos, el personal de la iglesia tendremos una fiesta después del Día de Navidad, no antes. Esto es no solamente más correcto de acuerdo al calendario de la iglesia, sino considerablemente menos agitado. Esto ayuda a llenar el espacio dejado por el mundo secular.

Fr. Mike

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS: Martes 12/17, 6:00 p.m.: Peter Nguyen

Domingo 12/15, 1:00 p.m.: Personas de la Parroquia

LECTURAS PARA COMPARTIR LA FE: 4º Domingo de Adviento

Isaías 7:10-14; Romanos 1:1-7; Mateo 1:18-24

No se olviden de visitar la sección de nuestro website para la Comunidad Hispana, donde podrán observar un video que explica los propuestos cambios y mejoras planeados para la iglesia.

HORARIO DE LAS MISAS NAVIDEÑAS EN ESPAÑOL

Nochebuena (martes, Dic. 24)

6:00 p.m.

Día de Navidad (miércoles, Dic. 25)

1:00 p.m.

Año Nuevo (miércoles, Enero 1º)

1:00 p.m.

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA:

Clases de la Tarde, 4:30-5:45pm.: **NO** tendremos clases Dic. 24 y 31. Clases empezarán de nuevo Enero 7. Recuerden comunicarse con nosotros si sus niños van a estar ausentes, favor de llamar a Karla Melgar, 381-2757, ext.140, kmelgar@holycrossopks.org., ó Denise Suárez, ext.119.

FAMILIAS CRECIENDO JUNTAS EN LA FE:

Clases de la Noche, 6:45pm.-8:15pm.: **NO** tendremos clases Dic. 24y 31. Clases empezarán de nuevo Enero 7. Si no pueden asistir, favor de llamar a Karla Melgar, 381-2787, ext.140, ó Denise Suárez, ext.119.

Tengan todos una Feliz Navidad y un Próspero Año Nuevo.

MINISTERIO DE JÓVENES:

Para preguntas, llamen o text a Sandy, 205-0825, sschluter@holycrossopks.org. No se olviden de chequear el website de Holy Cross bajo Sandra K Schluter, para más actividades durante el descanso.

CONFIRMACIÓN:

Estudiantes de Escuela Intermedia: Nos reunimos los lunes, 7-8:30pm., en el salón de los jóvenes. **NO** nos reuniremos Dic. 23 ó 30.

Estudiantes de Escuela Superior: Nos reunimos los miércoles, 7-8:30pm., en el salón de los jóvenes. ¡Todos los estudiantes serán bienvenidos! **NO** nos reuniremos Dic. 25 ó Enero 1.

MINISTERIO HISPANO DE KCK:

(La oficina del Ministerio Hispano estará cerrada por las Navidades, desde el 21 de Dic., hasta el 2 de Enero, 2014.)

Evento para Jóvenes: ¿Están buscando una manera divertida de pasar tus vacaciones de Navidad con música, comida gratis y su fe? “Una Cosa Permanece”, es un evento patrocinado por la Arquidiócesis para todos que tienen la edad de High School. Será en la Iglesia Blessed Sacrament, el lunes 30 de Dic. Empezaremos en la Iglesia, de 7 a 9pm. Steve Agrisao, un músico conocido mundialmente, nos guiará en la oración musical y nuestro Arzobispo Naumann, nos llevará en la adoración del Santísimo Sacramento. Entonces de 9-10:30pm., el nuevo espacio de “ReachKCK” se abrirá para jóvenes en el campus del Santísimo Sacramento, con una sesión musical de improvisación, café, comida gratis y zumba. ¡Traigan sus instrumentos y sus amigos! Los padres son bienvenidos también. Para más información, llamen a Liz Halfmann: urbanyouth@archKCK.org

Estudio Básico de la Biblia: Para personas que desean iniciar el conocimiento de la Biblia. Aprenderán a manejarla, a conocer sus libros, a reconocer su contexto y vivirla en todo momento. Empezará el miércoles, Enero 8, 2014, de 7 a 9pm., y seguirá cada otro miércoles, en el Ministerio Hispano. Costo es \$30. Hay un folleto que explica el curso. Pídelo en nuestra oficina (281-6644), o lo puedes descargar por la internet la página del Ministerio Hispano de Kansas City, Kansas, o en facebook.

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL:
domingos, 1:00 p.m. y
martes, 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
de cualquiera de estas
liturgias.

RECONCILIACIÓN:
martes: 5:15pm.-6pm.,
y domingos: 12:15-1pm.

MATRIMONIO: Llamen a
la parroquia 6 meses antes
de la fecha en que desean
casarse para tener la primera
entrevista con un sacerdote.

BAUTISMO: Segundo
sábado 11 a.m., y tercer
domingo de cada mes des-
pués de la Misa de
la 1:00 p.m. Padres y
padrinos deben asistir a
una clase de preparación, el
primer sábado de cada mes.
Deben 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:
los martes, 2-6pm.,
miércoles y jueves, 2-5pm