

# 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](mailto:churchoffice@holycrossopks.org)  
Website: [www.holycrossopks.org](http://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  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Anthony Saiki  
**Rectory:** 341-5618

El boletín *Encuentro* en español  
se encuentra en la página 7.

## PARISH STAFF

Stewardship & Development Director: Robert Bacic  
Music Director: JoAnna Rubino  
Parish Manager: Jon Oakes  
Administrative Assistant: Carol Morris  
Receptionist: Barb Williams  
Bilingual Assistant: Claudia Bustos

## Religious Education Staff: 381-2757

Director - Pre-Gr. 6: Bridget Turello  
Assistant: Michelle Rieger  
Session Coordinator- Maria Palazuelos  
Confirmation Coordinator: Sandy Schluter

## Youth Ministries: 205-0825

Director: Sandy Schluter

## Holy Cross Catholic School

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

## Early Education Center: 381-7151

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

## Advocate for Annulments:

Rebeca Richmond, 671-8722

## Parish Center Manager

Michael Long, 219-3382

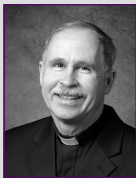
## MASSES:

**Weekend** Sat. Vigil 5:00 p.m. & Spanish 7:00 p.m.; Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. & Spanish-1:00 pm  
**Nursery** - 11:00 a.m.  
**Weekdays** Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. | Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 a.m. | Sat. 7:30 a.m.  
Wed. 7:00 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, 6:00-7:00 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,



Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, our parish will obtain the icon of the three visitors to Abraham and Sarah that will hang over the guest book in the narthex as a sign of hospitality. There will be other opportunities to further adorn our renovated church. Back in the southeast corner, we are planning to display three icons showing three saints: St. Helen, St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton and St. Monica. All three were married and were mothers. According to tradition, St. Helen, mother of the Emperor Constantine, discovered the cross on which Jesus was crucified. St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton became a religious sister after her husband's death and started the Catholic schools in this country. She was the first American-born saint. St. Monica was the mother of St. Augustine. She prayed for her wayward son constantly, until he converted to Christianity.

Fr. Mike



**Monday**

9:00 a.m. Ken Morgan

**Tuesday**

6:30 a.m. Spec Int- Shany

**Wednesday**

9:00 a.m. Dung Pham  
7:00 p.m. In Thanksgiving (Spanish)

**Thursday**

6:30 a.m. Fr. Robert Burger

**Friday**

9:00 a.m. Robin JoAnn Meyers Cochran

**Saturday**

7:30 a.m. Dick Obert  
5:00 p.m. John Benson  
7:00 p.m. Bob Schmitt (Spanish)

**Sunday**

7:30 a.m. Dec K of C Holy Cross  
9:00 a.m. Ed Pelot  
11:00 a.m. Huy Nguyen  
1:00 p.m. People of the Parish (Spanish)

*Stewardship Reflection December 13, 2015*

*In reply (John the Baptist) said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.*

*Luke 3:11*

When the crowds asked John how they should live, his answers were very specific. So with our Christmas feelings of peace and goodwill ... we need to transform them into specific acts of charity and concern for others.

**Financial Update**

	Dec 6	Fiscal YTD
Weekly Offering Needed	\$26,020	\$601,860
Weekly Offering Received	29,239	565,046
Over/(Under)	3,219	(36,814)

Special Donations 1,476 21,435

Restricted Assets as of Sept 30

Parish Endowment-Restricted	\$79,413
School Endowment-Restricted	\$35,160
Capital Campaign-Restricted	\$27,517

Long Term Liabilities as of Sept 30

<b>Construction Loan</b> —Archdiocese	\$142,868
Long term—St. James Academy	\$419,849

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."



**Please Pray for Those Asking for**

**Prayers:** Richard Campbell, Tracey Grant, Jim Haas, Anna Manning, Roberto Melgar, Floreine Sanderson, Don Tillett, George Vogel, Cindy White and Margaret Wortman.




**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 3:39-45



**Communal Reconciliation Services**  
Monday, Dec 14 at 7:00 pm

will be our parish communal reconciliation service. There will be 8 priests available to hear confessions. If you are not able to attend on Monday, the schedule for the area is as follows:

Sun, Dec. 13, 3:00pm	Cure of Ars
7:30pm	St. Paul, Good Shepherd
<b>Mon, Dec.14, 7:00pm</b>	<b>Holy Cross</b>
Tues, Dec. 15, 7:00pm	St. Agnes, St. Joseph, Queen of the Holy Rosary, Prince of Peace
Thurs, Dec 17, 7:00pm	Ascension, St. Pius X, Sacred Heart- Shawnee
Sun, Dec 20, 3:00 pm	St. Ann
7:30 pm	Nativity



Each year the altar is beautifully decorated with **flowers** donated by parishioners in memory of their deceased loved ones. We invite you to **donate \$15 for flowers** for the Christmas environment. Please call the church office, 381-2755 or stop by during office hours to make a donation. **Last day to order flowers will be Wed, Dec 16.**



**Join the Hispanic Community on Sat., Dec. 19 at 7:30 pm** in the **church hall** for **Las Posadas** followed by the pastorela which is a short, humorous play about the shepherds following the Star of Bethlehem to find the Christ Child. There will be tamales, sweet bread, hot chocolate, and more to enjoy afterwards. **All are invited!**



**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 20 minutes of music before each Mass.



**St. Mary's Food Kitchen:** We will be serving pasta casserole, salad and dessert to those who are less fortunate on **Friday, Dec 18.** If you can make a casserole, please pick up a baking pan and the recipe which is provided in the narthex. Tomatoes, bags of green garden salad are needed too! Thanks to all those who help!



**Retirement Fund for Religious** Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.



**Volunteers Needed:** Please consider joining Hospital Ministry. This ministry takes very little time, about 2 hours a month, and we have several times available that will work with your schedule. Pope Francis has called for a "Year of Mercy" and this is an excellent way to practice both Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy. For more info or to volunteer, please call Vicki Bronson (913)291-2345 or (913)484-9593 or email at [vbronson3@gmail.com](mailto:vbronson3@gmail.com).

**Welcome to Church of the Holy Cross!** We invite you to join the parish! Fill out the form below and we will send a registration packet to you or go to [www.holycrossopks.org](http://www.holycrossopks.org) to register online.

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



SCHOOL NEWS



Religious Education Information



See it. Clip it. Earn!

Thank you to all who sent in Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education and Best Choice Labels in October! This school year we have earned \$740 through this program!

Do you shop at Price Chopper? One more way to support our wonderful school is through Best Choice UPC Labels found at Price Chopper. These earn \$.03 for Holy Cross School. Any Best Choice UPC Labels turned in by Dec. 10th count towards the check the school receives in January. Please help by remembering to turn in your Box Tops to a Holy Cross student or drop them by the church office or school office. As always, we gratefully collect Labels for Education, Best Choice UPC Labels and Box Tops for Education. Thank you for your generosity!

It's time to rejoice! We will celebrate together as we all share a potluck this Tuesday, Dec 15th during the children's regular class time. Parents with children in the afternoon program are cordially invited to join us. You are welcome to bring your favorite Christmas dish to share. We will collect your Celebration baskets as well since this is our last class of the year 2015. Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all of our Religious Education families!

Youth Ministry

Please join the Youth Group for a Farewell Reception for Sandy Schluter, our Youth Minister, on Sun Dec 20th from 2-5 pm in the Parish Hall. We plan to celebrate her many years of service as only youth group can!



Save the Date—Women of Holy Cross will have a Spaghetti Dinner, Sat, Jan 30 from 4:30-7:30 pm in the church hall. More details to come!



BSA Troop 251 Christmas Tree Recycling

Troop 251 will pick your Christmas tree up and take it to be recycled on Sun, Dec 27 from noon-4pm and Sat, Jan 2 from 9-noon. To schedule a pick up call Tom Skelton at 424-3050 or email troop251opks@gmail.com. Please consider a minimum donation of \$10 per tree. All donations help send the scouts to summer camp. If you don't have a tree to recycle, but would like to donate, please send donations to Troop 251 c/o Holy Cross Catholic Church 8311 93rd St, Overland Park, KS 66212



Sign Up For An Hour Of Adoration

Join a powerful prayer ministry here at Holy Cross taking place seven days a week, 24 hours a day...Adoration!!! Adorers are needed for the following times: We have open hours everyday of the week! Some hours that are open are: Sun 4-5am; Mon 2-3pm, Tues 3-4pm, Wed 10-11pm, Thurs 3-4am, Fri 8-9pm Sat 6-7pm

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off form at the church office.

For questions or list of open hours, call Ruth Kuse 649-7344, 963-3700 or ruthkuse@gmail.com



Thank You! Saint Benedict Circle wants to thank everyone who contributed to this year's Angel Tree. A total of \$7,275 was donated. Your generosity provided a Christmas meal and gifts for 25 families-in-need and provided emergency assistance funds for the parish to use during the coming year.



**Celebration:  
Our Parish's Largest  
Fundraiser**

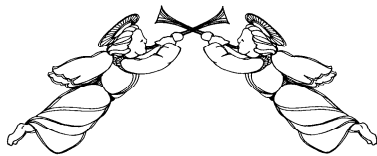


**Celebration 2016 Tickets  
Celebration is Jan 23, 2016**

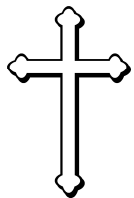
Celebration tickets are now on sale!  
**Early Bird ticket price is \$40 per person if purchased before Dec 17. Tickets will be on sale in the narthex the weekends of Nov 28/29 and Dec 12/13.** This is a savings of \$10 a ticket or \$20 a couple. Tickets can be purchased at Holy Cross School or office or call Brandi Carroll-Garcia at 816-835-8898 or bcarroll619@gmail.com for more information.

**Silent Auction** is part of the event with various rooms setup with different themes (Ladies, Men, Kids, Sporting Goods, Religious items, Home and Garden etc). To support the "Silent Auction we will have the Gift Giving Tree in the Narthex . Please take a tag 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 or donation from a business of your choice. Check the church community board for additional ideas. Tax deduction donation forms are available at church and school. Questions? Please contact Linda Arensberg at 913-558-6541 or lindaarensberg@gmail.com.

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



**Quo Vadis Discernment Retreat** for men ages 18-35 yrs will be held on **Dec 19-21** at Savior Pastoral Center. This weekend will include Msgr. Stuart Swetland speaking about Jesus-Priest, Prophet and King, time to visit with seminarians and Archbishop Naumann, prayer and social time. Go to [kckvocations.com](http://kckvocations.com) or email [vocation@archkck.org](mailto:vocation@archkck.org) to register. Register by noon Dec 14 and attend the retreat and be eligible to win a gift card.

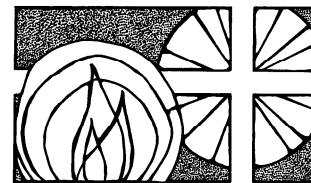
**Marriage Minute**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

In today's readings, we hear numerous times that we are supposed to "Rejoice!" For many marriages and families, the time of Advent and Christmas is not about rejoicing, but survival. It seems that our already busy lives are burdened with even more commitments. Even if we maintain our sanity with scheduling, many of us face family gatherings that are filled with tension.

The readings offer us the great reminder that is the key to a peaceful Advent and Christmas. "The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; He will rejoice over you with gladness and renew you in His love. He will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals." For married couples, it is crucial to remember in the "chaos" of the season. Jesus Christ is present in our midst in the Sacrament of Matrimony. If we give the Holy Spirit permission, He will unleash a flood of grace into our families and we will experience Him "renewing us in His love and singing over us."

Take time this 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent to pray with your family to experience His renewing power present in your Sacrament of Matrimony.



**Lighthouse Catholic Media  
CDs and Books**

**The Right Perspective**



Father Mitch is a priest of the Society of Jesus, a highly respected scripture scholar and author, a regular host of EWTN Television and Radio, and the founder and president of Ignatius Productions—a catholic teaching and media apostolate. Listen as Fr. Pacwa describes the "big picture" of the Catholic Faith while explaining the perspective that Catholics ought to have in their relation to and with God.

Check out this and the many other CDs and books in the Lighthouse kiosk in the narthex. Questions? Call Brenda Scruggs 302-8430.



**Rito****Penitencial**

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### Servicios Comunes de Reconciliación

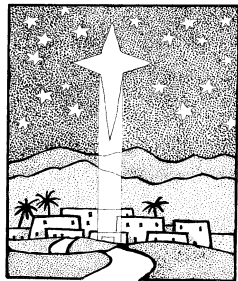
El lunes, 14 de diciembre a las 7:00 pm será nuestro servicio de la reconciliación comunitaria de la parroquia. Habrá padres bilingües

disponibles para confesar.

El calendario de nuestra area para este servicio en español es el siguiente:

domingo, 13 de diciembre: 7:30pm St. Paul (Olathe) y Buen Pastor (Shawnee)

lunes, 14 de diciembre: 7:00pm en Holy Cross



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### Misa de Gallo en Nochebuena

(jueves, 24 de diciembre)

Esté presente con Jesús en su nacimiento, ¿qué mejor manera de mostrarle nuestro amor? Este año el Padre Saiki celebrará la Misa de Gallo en Nochebuena aquí en

Holy Cross para nuestra comunidad hispana a las 11:00pm. Le invitamos a que nos acompañe. ¡Hagamos un sacrificio por El que dio su vida por nosotros!

Misas de Nochebuena en español en JOCO:

12:15 am Buen Pastor (Shawnee)

12:30 am St. Paul (Olathe)



**Liturgia de la Palabra para los niños**

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### Liturgia de la Palabra de los Niños

La Liturgia de la Palabra para Niños ofrece a niños de grados K-4° la oportunidad de escuchar la Liturgia de la Palabra en su propio nivel de entendimiento. Los niños son despedidos al principio de la Liturgia de la Palabra y regresan al momento de la ofrenda. ¡Nos gustaría regresar este programa a las misas de 9:00am, 11:00am y 1:00pm, **pero necesitamos de la ayuda de voluntarios adultos!** También necesitamos voluntarios jóvenes (grado 7° en adelante) para ayudar durante ese tiempo. Para ser voluntario o para más información, comuníquese con Bridget Turello 381-2757, ext 140 o [bturello@holycrossopks.org](mailto:bturello@holycrossopks.org).



**Flores de Navidad para el Altar:** Todos los años decoramos nuestro altar con bellas flores navideñas, donadas por nuestros feligreses, en memoria de nuestros queridos fieles difuntos. Con un donativo de \$15/por cada uno, usted también puede recordar a sus seres queridos. Llamen a la oficina de la iglesia, 381-2755 o pase, durante las horas de español.



### Educación Religiosa

¡Es tiempo de gozar! Padres e hijos van a celebrar la Navidad compartiendo este Martes, 15 de Diciembre. Particularmente, los padres de niños en el programa de la tarde están cordialmente invitados. Todos vengan en su horario usual. Están bienvenidos a traer su botana de Navidad favorita para compartir. Vamos a recolectar canastas para la "Celebration" también, ya que esta es nuestra última clase del año 2015. ¡Muy Feliz Navidad y Año Nuevo para todas las familias de nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa!



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### Celebramos las Posadas

#### Navideñas en Holy Cross

La Comunidad Hispana les invita el sábado, 19 de diciembre, después de la misa de 7:00 pm. Seguimos necesitando donaciones para el evento. Si puede apoyar, favor de comunicarse con

#### Las Posadas



Nallely Romero 913-484-6872.