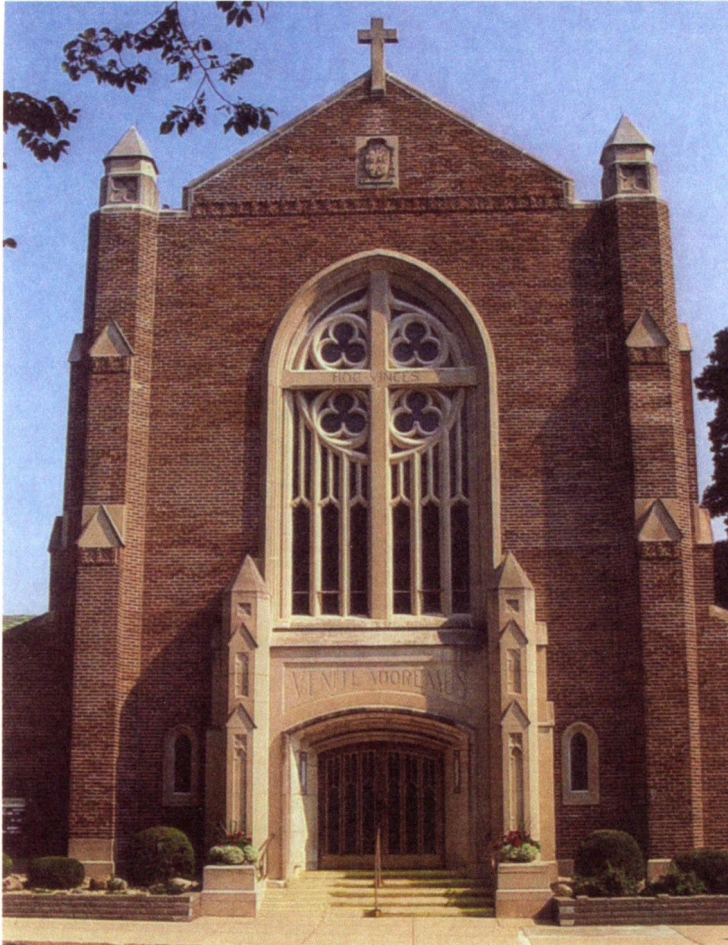


Holy Cross Church

Catholic Diocese of Peoria
1010 Jefferson Street • Mendota IL 61342
Phone 815-538-6151 • Fax 815-539-5014
www.holycrosscongregation.weebly.com



Pastor

Fr. Peter A. Pilon

Pastoral Work

Deacon Ray Fischer

Deacon Jose Lopez

Deacon Hector Diaz

Music Director

Roy VanOpdorp

Director of Religious Education

Brian R. Corrigan

Business Manager

Lorraine Walter

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lou Flahive

Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care

Julie Winner - 815-538-7604

Offers Day Care for 3 year old to 12 year old.

Learning Lambs Pre-School

815-539-7003

3 yr old and 4 yr old sessions

Mass Schedule

Please check inside cover for all Mass times.

Confessions

Saturday - 7:00 a.m to 7:40 a.m. 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

Sunday - 30 minutes prior to 6:30 a.m. Mass

Adoration Chapel

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

(Closed on funeral days and holidays)

Baptism

Pre-baptismal instruction is required. Call the office for information and scheduling a date.

Weddings

Before any other wedding arrangements are made, please contact the parish priest 6-8 months in advance.

Homebound and Hospital Visits

Please call the office during times of illness and visits will be arranged.

Cemetery Lots Purchase

Please call Steve Schmitt 815-538-5276

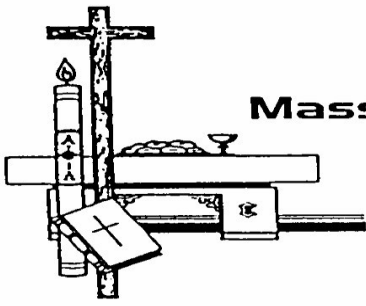


Holy Cross School

1008 Jefferson St. Mendota, IL 61342

815-539-7003

Principal - Anita Kobilsek



Mass Intentions

- Saturday, July 25th**
4:00 p.m. Rita Weber by Norbert Weber
- Sunday, July 26th**
9:00 a.m. +Vicky Engels by Bernie Engels
12:00 p.m. +Perfecto Espinoza by Sara Escatel
- Monday, July 27th**
8:00 a.m. +Larry Lauer
- Tuesday, July 28th**
7:00 a.m. +John Daniel Weber by Norbert Weber
- Wednesday, July 29th**
8:00 a.m. +Paul & Margaret Joerger by Family
- Thursday, July 30th**
7:00 a.m. +Fr. Thomas Kelly by Fr. Pilon
- Friday, July 31st**
8:00 a.m. +Sebastián y Ma. Guadalupe Moreno by Yolanda Lemus
- Saturday, August 1st**
4:00 p.m. +Paul & Margaret Joerger by Family
- Sunday, August 2nd**
9:00 a.m. +The Poor Souls in Purgatory
12:00 p.m. +Pedro y Hermalinda Arteaga by Carmen Arteaga

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE



- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Saturday, August 1: | Clare Fischer |
| Sunday, August 2: | Gwen Krenz |
| Saturday, August 8: | Brian Corrigan |
| Sunday, August 9: | Andy Wujek |
| Saturday, August 15: | Nancy Goble |
| Sunday, August 16: | Rudy Arteaga |
| Saturday, August 22: | Clare Fischer |
| Sunday, August 23: | Brian Corrigan |
| Saturday, August 29: | Nancy Goble |
| Sunday, August 30: | Gwen Krenz |

If you are interested in getting on the list of Lector's for the weekend Mass schedule, please contact the parish office, or briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com

MASS IN THE CHURCH

Thanks be to God, we will once again be able to participate in the holy sacrifice of the Mass *inside* the church.

Everyone should be aware that we are still restricted in the number of attendees we are allowed to have. Abuse of these restrictions, or stretching them in any way will surely be cause to lose our privilege of reopening the church building for worshipping together.

We will have ushers to direct people to the proper pews; greeters to check people in, offer hand sanitizer and other support. Please be sure to follow the direction of the greeters and ushers.

It should also be noted that the church will not be opened more than 30 minutes before the Mass's published start time.

There will still be some details to work out and work on as we begin this new time of worshipping together, while maintaining social distancing from our neighbors. Families living under the same roof will be allowed to occupy the same pew and not observe the otherwise required social distancing rules. Couples will be seated together, and single attendees will be seated accordingly.

*We do expect the strong likelihood that we may have more people wanting to worship in the church than we actually have room for. Please know that we will still have the loudspeaker set up so that people who cannot come into the church may still attend Mass from the parking lot. Communion inside will be at the usual time during the Mass.

Additionally, there are a few main points everyone should be aware of:

No one should leave their missalette (or any other worship aids) in the pew after Mass

Please leave the kneeler down to signify to the cleaning crew that the pew will need to be wiped down and re-sanitized

Continue to wear your face covering or mask until you leave the church

=====

We are still in need of people willing to usher, greet, and clean the common areas of the church, and those church pews where someone has been seated. Talk to one of our volunteers to learn more!



all that's missing is U!

=====

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our Lady of the Cenacle Chapel
Extended Eucharistic Adoration

*“I throw myself at the foot of the Tabernacle
like a dog at the foot of his Master”*

~*Saint John Vianney*

Pray that our Chapel may soon reopen so that we may once again fall down in Adoration of Our Blessed Lord exposed in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Chapel Coordinator, Karen Brandner
1-815-915-6635



\$\$\$ DAILY DOLLAR WINNERS \$\$\$

Sat. July 18	2535	50.00	David Malach
Sun. July 19	3129	50.00	April Lopez
Mon. July 20	1199	100.00	Mr. & Mrs. James E. Schmidt
Tue. July 21	1910	50.00	Sandy & Willie Hanson
Wed. July 22	1415	50.00	Toby & Karrie Setchell
Thur. July 23	1943	50.00	Tom Joerger
Fri. July 24	2665	50.00	John Pakenham

The 2020 Daily Dollars are here!
A chance to win money and help our school!

SUPPORT YOUR GENEROUS ADVERTISERS! !!
They make our bulletin possible.

**HOLLAND &
SONS, INC.**

Route 251 South • Mendota
815-539-6724 or 1-800-541-4814



JOHN DEERE

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION

	For the Week of	
Sunday	07/19/2020	\$5,039.39
School		200.00
Food Pantry		160.00
Peter's Pence		50.00
Youth Ministry		30.00
Total		\$5,479.39

Give God what is just, not what is left!

Support Your Parish

Even though we are not able to attend Mass to worship together in community, our parish still needs our financial support.



You can make donations to the parish online through the diocesan website:

<https://cdop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/parishes>

You can create recurring donations taken from your credit card, or make a one time donation.

Note to All Parishioners:

Bishop Jenky has asked two things of us regarding Mass.

1. Everyone, including the priest, must wear a mask when not speaking.
2. We only receive communion in the hand.

We've been doing our best to follow these directives, but now they are mandates so we must do them.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 2090**

SWEET CORN SALES!

**SATURDAY, JULY 25TH
AND SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST & 8TH.
8 A.M. UNTIL...?**

**C'MON OUT AND BUY SOME FRESH-PICKED
SWEET CORN AND HELP A VERY WORTHY
ORGANIZATION—AND CAUSE! WE'LL BE AT
THE CORNER OF 8TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE.**



Our Devotion for July is The Most Precious Blood of Jesus

By Brian Smith

Back in the Middle Ages, many Catholics began observing special devotions around a particular theme each month—the [Holy Name of Jesus in January](#), for instance. Today, many families are reviving this practice as part of the way they observe the liturgical calendar at home.

By practicing monthly devotions, the core values of the faith will become more alive within your family. The beauty of monthly devotions is that there is no set way to celebrate. So, be creative, make it fun, and adapt your celebration to your own family.

Here are some ways to celebrate the popular devotion for July, the Most Precious Blood of Jesus.

Talking with Kids about the Most Precious Blood of Jesus

Each of us has blood that flows through our body. Blood allows our body to work as God intended. Without blood we cannot run outside, play with our favorite toys, or even breathe! Blood, then, is what allows us to live each day to the fullest. Without blood, we could not live.

Jesus desperately wants us to spend eternity in heaven. When we sin, we turn our backs to God. This makes God sad. And so, to redeem us in the eyes of God, Jesus chose to shed his own blood as a sacrifice for our sins! Jesus wants us to go to heaven so much that he was willing to suffer a long and harsh death. Jesus shed his blood seven times during his life for us:

1. The Presentation of the Lord (Jesus was circumcised)
2. The Agony in the Garden (Jesus' sweat turned into blood)
3. The Scourging at the Pillar (Jesus was whipped)
4. The Crowning of Thorns (thorns were pressed into Jesus' head)
5. The Way of the Cross (onlookers punched and kicked Jesus)
6. The Crucifixion (Jesus is nailed to the cross)
7. The Piercing of His Heart (a soldier placed his sword through Jesus' side, causing all of Jesus' blood to spill out upon the ground)



As Catholics, we recognize all of Jesus' suffering and believe that he truly died for us in hope that we might go to heaven one day. Just because Jesus died for our sins does not mean that we can live and do whatever we want. Every day, we must try to be pleasing to God. This includes our thoughts, words, and actions. Sometimes we make mistakes. God invites us to the sacrament of reconciliation to amend our sins. When we recognize our sins, we are joined with the Precious Blood of Jesus as we promise to God that we will try to live a better life.

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/the-most-precious-blood-of-jesus-monthly-devotion-for-july/>

CHURCH SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE!

Zoom web address:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?
pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09)

Zoom Meeting ID 913 805 0856

Password 811195

Sun: **9:00 a.m. Mass** in the church, with communion overflow in parking lot with communion distributed to parking lot attendees after Mass.

12:00 noon Mass with all the same as above.

2:00 p.m. Adoration in the church and via Zoom

3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet in the church

3:15 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

Mon: **8:00 a.m. Mass** in the church

9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

Tues: **7:00 a.m. Mass** in the church

9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

Wed: **8:00 a.m. Mass** in the church

9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Confession by garage

6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

Thur: **7:00 a.m. Mass** in the church

9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Confession by garage

6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

CHURCH SCHEDULE CONTINUED.

- Fri: 8:00 a.m. Mass in the church
9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
- Sat: 9:00 a.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Confession by garage
4:00 p.m. Mass in the church, with communion overflow in parking lot with communion distributed to parking lot attendees after Mass.
6:00 p.m. Distribution of Communion drive thru

To recap, ALL Masses are moving back into the church, and if there is an overflow of the Saturday afternoon or Sunday Masses people may still participate from the parking lot and receive the Eucharist after. Daily Masses will also be moving back into the church, and social distancing must be practiced at all times. Masks or face coverings must be worn while in the church. If you occupy a pew, please leave the kneeler down to signify to the cleaning crew that the pew needs to be cleaned.



**MENDOTA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 2090
ANNUAL GRILLED PORK CHOP
& SWEET CORN DINNER**

Saturday, August 1st at the Mendota Elks Club



CONFESSION OFFERED

Confessions are held on Wednesdays from 12 p.m.—1 p.m. and on Thursday from 5 pm—6 pm in front of Father's garage.

****Confession will also be available on Saturdays beginning July 11, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in front of the garage.**

Please follow the signs as they will direct you.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION OFFERED

While confessions will remain outside for the time being, Father will bring the Monstrance with exposed Blessed Sacrament back into the church for Eucharistic Adoration. People will once again be able to worship and adore our Lord from inside the church from a socially distanced pew. Father will continue to live-feed Adoration via the Zoom app. The Adoration is scheduled from 2:00—3:00 p.m. every Sunday.



...AND DIVINE MERCY



Father will lead the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, following the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

These additional devotions will be every Sunday for the foreseeable future.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK



Our Story A Basic Introduction to the Bible for Catholics

In a series of 5-minute video segments, get the Bible's big picture, along with a uniquely Catholic approach to the Scriptures. There is a Leader's Guide containing everything needed to use Our Story in a parish group setting, as well as a User's Guide for those individuals using Our Story at home.

[SIGN UP FREE AT FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](https://formed.org/signup)



"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE. . .

The PEARL of GREAT PRICE



a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

Matthew 13:45-46

WHO AMONG US, UPON FINDING A GREAT TREASURE, would sell all in order to obtain that treasure?

That is what is happening in today's Gospel. Jesus tells his disciples of a kind of simile to help them understand the kingdom of heaven. It is where he came from, and where he is inviting them (and us) to prepare to go with him when our earthly life has ended.

It seems a little topsy-turvy to think of finding a treasure and then selling everything we have in order to purchase it. That is precisely what is happening in these parables today. Listen closely, for when Jesus says that heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, he indicates the person who found the treasure actually takes the trouble of re-burying it! Who does that? I'm sure that for most—if not all—of us, the first instinct after finding a treasure is not to hide it, but simply to take it into our own possession.

Jesus, however, tells us the protagonist of his story sells everything he has in order to purchase that treasure (or pearl). Can you relate to selling all you possess in order to take possession yourself of a great treasure? Everything. You. Possess? I can't fathom that.

What if we were to turn things around and look at them from another perspective? Might that help you see the point of this parable? Our human nature says "finders keepers" where a valuable treasure is concerned. But with Jesus and his story, this isn't so. He prompts us to obtain, in the fairest possible way, that great treasure.

He actually exemplified this in action. You see, Jesus was telling his disciples that it is us, who are the treasure found in the field, or that pearl of great price. If we are the treasure, consider how we can be hidden and covered up by the dirt and filth of sin. When a righteous person comes along and discovers us and restores us, it takes sacrifice on the part of the finder.

Jesus gave everything he possessed away so that we might be restored. No longer a dirty and tarnished coin; while still valuable, Jesus restores us to the shining and glittering nature we were created for. Our job as baptized Christians is to *act like Jesus!* Oh, and how often we fail. At least I know, I certainly do. And yet, I also know that he paid the price with his very life so that I alone might be saved and restored to my original value. Not just me though, no, that "I alone" statement is actually meant for each and every one of us. If I were the only sinful individual that needed to be restored, I know that Jesus still would have paid that great price. That holds true for each and every one of us!

So if we set our sights on simply acting like Christ, we will begin to live like him as well. And when we begin to live life in that way, we will all the more easily see the inherent value each of us possesses as being created sons and daughters of God, created in his image and likeness. The sacrifice we will be willing to make to restore a brother or sister may also be inexhaustible, just as it is for Jesus. Through the grace of God, we receive, and when we give what we have received, God graces us with even more!

Sadly, in our twisted and fallen nature, trusting in the goodness of God does not come easily. The tempter is always at the ready, whispering in our ear that we are not good enough, that we do not deserve that goodness which God himself desires to give. It comes down to who will you listen to, Jesus or Satan? The goal is to listen fully to Christ and totally tune out the accuser. One means us to share in the ultimate good, while the other means to cast us into a pit of filth and misery that can never be escaped.

This week, let's begin practicing trying to see each other as the true treasures we are, with the eyes of Christ, willing to sacrifice with the love of Christ to bring our brothers and sisters to that restoration that only Jesus gives.

July 26, 2020

Holy Cross News of Note



If you haven't taken advantage of the parish subscription to Formed, you're missing out!

If you have not checked out the *new* FORMED.org website, we strongly encourage you to do so. It is chock-full of great videos, movies, eBooks and audio books, Bible studies, talks, and so much more!

All you need to do now is go to: Formed.org and register an account by clicking on "Sign Up," then select "I belong to a Parish or Organization," find our parish by name, or zip, enter your email address and you're in. It's that easy!

What can we recommend for this week?

Our Story

A Basic Introduction to the Bible for Catholics



In a series of 5-minute video segments, get the Bible's big picture, along with a uniquely Catholic approach to the Scriptures. There is a Leader's Guide containing everything needed to use Our Story in a parish group setting, as well as a User's Guide for those individuals using Our Story at home.

**SIGN UP FOR FREE AT
FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP**

Catechism Corner

» What does God reveal to man? «

THESE EXCERPTS ARE FROM THE COMPENDIUM OF THE CCC.

† What does God reveal to man?

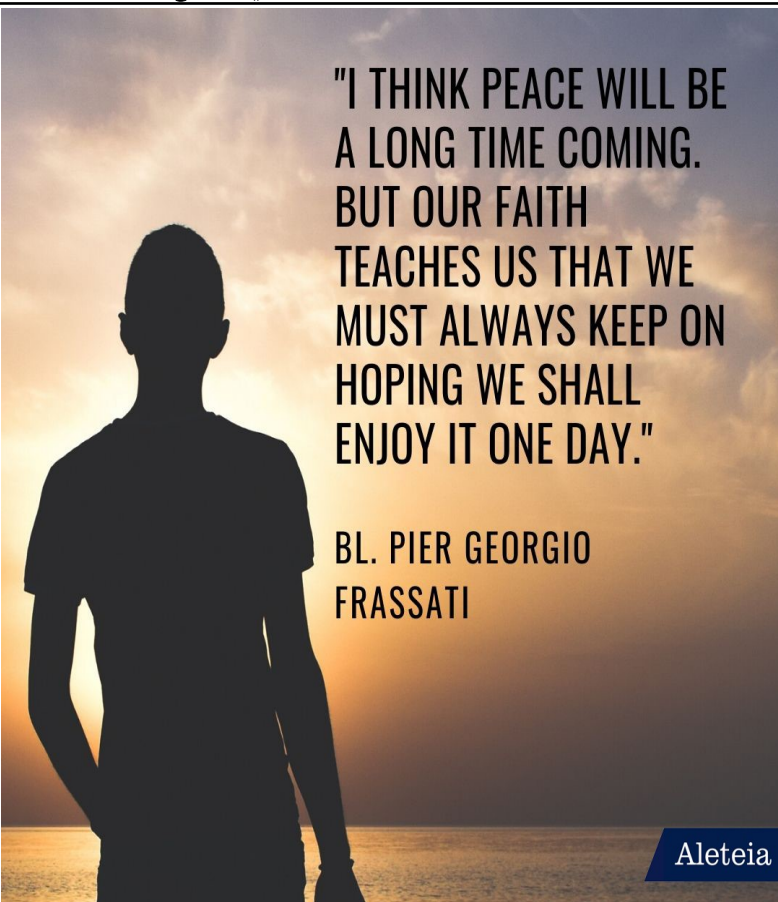
God in his goodness and wisdom reveals himself. With deeds and words, he reveals himself and his plan of loving goodness which he decreed from all eternity in Christ. According to this plan, all people by the grace of the Holy Spirit are to share in the divine life as adopted "sons" in the only begotten Son of God.

Further reading CCC ¶ [50-53, 68-69]

† What are the first stages of God's revelation?

From the very beginning, God manifested himself to our first parents, Adam and Eve, and invited them to intimate communion with himself. After their fall, he did not cease his revelation to them but promised salvation for all their descendants. After the flood, he made a covenant with Noah, a covenant between himself and all living beings.

Further reading CCC ¶ [54-58, 70-71]



"I THINK PEACE WILL BE A LONG TIME COMING. BUT OUR FAITH TEACHES US THAT WE MUST ALWAYS KEEP ON HOPING WE SHALL ENJOY IT ONE DAY."

BL. PIER GEORGIO
FRASSATI



Religious Education

*Religious Education
is Changing!*

With the upheaval in routine that the Novel Coronavirus has caused, it has necessitated a change in how we approach the religious education of the children of our parish.

It is most unlikely that we will be using the school for our Wednesday night classes, and will most likely be changing our program to one that is focused on the family and utilizes remote, or an “eLearning” style of catechesis. All parish families will need to have access to the internet and a computer or tablet to participate in each lesson.

This will also necessarily bring about great change, but should also allow for much more flexibility as the lion’s share of the catechesis will take place in the home rather than in the school classroom.

As this is a major change and will be a bigger expense up front, it will be critically important for families to register their children as soon as possible. There is a registration form included with this bulletin—please complete the form and turn it in to the parish office as soon as possible. It is vitally important that we know the number of families and students before the school year begins.

A final decision on the program we will use has not yet been made. We will be communicating more information as we continue to determine which program curriculum we will be using and what it will

mean for each family. We ask for your prayers and patience as we work through this difficult process.

I do anticipate that for this first year, we will continue using the same sacramental preparation curricula for First Reconciliation/Eucharist and Confirmation. It will just be of a more remote style of disseminating the lessons.

There will be more information to come in that regard as well.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Corrigan at:

briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com.

Jesus Christ, when you walked the earth, you travelled through the countryside through towns and villages: curing every disease and illness among the people.” At your command, all who approached you in illness were made well, made whole.

Now Lord, we implore you to blanket out world with your love and your healing presence. Open the heart of all to turn back to you in their hearts and seek you in all things.

We pray that for all who have been infected and affected by the Coronavirus may find their strength in you. For those who have died, may they find their rest in you.

Guide the leaders of all nations to work together for the family of man, working to help all in need out of a love for all mankind. Give grace, courage and strength to all medical professionals who put their well-being in harms way for the sake of others.

We pray for your guidance through the waters of uncertainty and for a sense of your presence as we place our trust in you.

Gracious God and Father, may this crisis bring your healing presence to a wounded world, so that mentally, spiritually, and physically we may return to you in ALL things.

Amen.



The Parishes of
Holy Cross, Mendota
 and **SS. Peter & Paul, Peterstown**
Confraternity of Christian Doctrine



Religious Education—Registration Form

This information is held in confidence and is not shared without your permission.

Today's Date: _____

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Grade School Level: _____ Name of School: _____

Baptism Date: _____ Church: _____

Has the child received First Communion? _____ Yes _____ No

Does your child have any food allergies? _____ Yes _____ No

Price Structure

1 Child	\$125
2 Children	\$200
3 or More Children	\$250

If a child was not baptized at either Holy Cross Parish, or SS. Peter & Paul Parish, please obtain a Baptismal Certificate from the parish in which they were baptized and provide to Holy Cross Parish Office.

Child resides with both parents? _____ Yes _____ Mother Only _____ Father Only

Father's Name: _____ Religion: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Religion: _____

Family Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

In Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____ Relationship: _____

Would you be interested in helping in the religious education program?

_____ Y _____ N

If "Yes," I would be interested in helping as a Teacher: _____ Teacher's Assistant: _____

Parent Patrol: _____

If filling out form outside of parish office, please complete and mail or drop off to:

Holy Cross Catholic Church
 Attn: Brian Corrigan, DRE
 1010 Jefferson Street
 Mendota, IL. 61342



**Las Parroquias de
Holy Cross, Mendota
y SS. Peter & Paul, Peterstown
Cofradía de la Doctrina Cristiana**



Educación Religiosa—Forma de Registro

Esta información es retenida en confidencia y no es compartida sin su permiso.

Fecha de Hoy: _____

Nombre de Hijo(a): _____ Fecha de nacimiento: _____

Grado escolar: _____ Nombre de escuela: _____

Fecha de Bautismo: _____ Iglesia: _____

¿Recibió el niño(a) su Primera Comunión? _____ Sí _____ No

¿Su niño tiene alergias a los alimentos? _____ Sí _____ No

Precio	
1 Niño/a	\$125
2 Niños	\$200
3 o más Niños	\$250

Si su hijo(a) no fue bautizado en las parroquias de Holy Cross o SS. Peter & Paul, por favor obtenga el certificado de bautizó de la parroquia en la cual fue bautizado y tráigala a la oficina de Holy Cross.

¿El niño(a) vive con los dos papás? _____ Sí _____ Vive con Mamá _____ Vive con Papá _____

Nombre de Padre: _____ Religión: _____

Nombre de Madre: _____ Religión: _____

Domicilio de Familia _____

Ciudad: _____ Estado: _____ Cód. Postal: _____

Teléfono de día: _____ Teléfono de tarde: _____

Celular: _____ Correo electrónico _____

Contacto de Emergencia: _____

Teléfono de contacto de emergencia: _____ Parentesco _____

¿Le interesa ayudar al programa de educación religiosa?

_____ Sí _____ No

Si "Sí" me gustaría ayudar en forma de Maestro(a): _____ Asistente de Maestro(a): _____

Patrulla de los Padres: _____

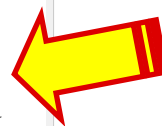
Si llena esta forma fuera de la oficina parroquial, por favor envíe o deje en la oficina de: Holy Cross Catholic Church
Attn: Brian Corrigan, DRE
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL. 61342

WARNING ABOUT RISK ASSUMED BY PARISHIONERS:

While our parish staffs will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners and guests should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 anytime they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

For Daily Mass Seating and Cleaning

To MINIMIZE the daily cleaning of pews that will be reused by the same household during the week (Monday thru Friday). Fold this paper marker and place on the top outer edge of the pew indicating it has been used and that you may return before Saturday. Please REMOVE the marker on Friday and take it with you to be reused the following week. Leave the marker even if you unexpectedly do not return, the pew will be cleaned every Friday. Cleaning volunteers will sanitize pews for the weekend Mass scheduled. Announcements for funeral Mass or special liturgies will require removing the marker for pre event cleaning as needed. Unclaimed markers on Friday will be collected and placed in a box for reuse the following week, or take a new marker for your pew. Continue to leave the kneeler down while your family marker is in place as a sign that it is in use and has not been cleaned.



FOR DAILY MASS SEATING AND CLEANING

To MINIMIZE the daily cleaning of pews that will be reused by the same household during the week (Monday thru Friday). Fold this paper marker and place on the top outer edge of the pew indicating it has been used and that you may return before Saturday. Please REMOVE the marker on Friday and take it with you to be reused the following week. Leave the marker even if you unexpectedly do not return, the pew will be cleaned every Friday. Cleaning volunteers will sanitize pews for the weekend Mass scheduled. Announcements for funeral Mass or special liturgies will require removing the marker for pre event cleaning as needed. Unclaimed markers on Friday will be collected and placed in a box for reuse the following week, or take a new marker for your pew. Continue to leave the kneeler down while your family marker is in place as a sign that it is in use and has not been cleaned.

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

PEW USED BY

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

AN OPEN LETTER TO PARISHIONERS

REGARDING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF COVID-19

Dear Parents of Holy Cross and Ss. Peter & Paul Parishes. The age of COVID-19 and the novel coronavirus has thrust us into a state of seemingly constant flux. To address this situation, primarily as regards the religious education of those students attending public school, we will necessarily have to change the way we transmit the faith to the children of the parish.

The Fourth Commandment says: **“Honor your father and mother; that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you.”** We know from the Gospels that Jesus was obedient to Mary & Joseph, and that they cared for, and taught him everything they knew about growing in faith and righteousness as a human child of God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states in paragraph 2223: **Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by *creating a home* where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for *education in the virtues*. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery—the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the “material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones. Parents have a grace responsibility to give good example to their children. By knowing how to acknowledge their own failings to their children, parents will be better able to guide and correct them:**

He who love his son, will not spare the rod . . . He who disciplines his son will profit by him.

(see Sirach 30:1-2)

Fathers do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (see Ephesians 6:4)

The home is the natural environment for initiating a human being into solidarity and communal responsibilities. Parents should teach children to avoid the compromising and degrading influences which threaten human societies (CCC 2224).

Education in the faith by the parents should begin in the child’s earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel. Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God (Lumen Gentium 11). The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; It is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents (CCC 2226).

Our former model of using the Holy Cross School classrooms for weekly sessions will not be possible this year. Fortunately, there are alternative programs out there that will enable us to continue reaching and teaching our parish children. The model of religious education best-suited to our needs at this time is one of catechesis and faith formation for the whole family.

I would ask that you not be discouraged or apprehensive about this approach. Many parents will at first feel as though they are not equipped to teach their children in the faith, perhaps even going so far as to think they are unable to teach their children at all. Let me put those fears to rest by pointing out that you are constantly teaching your children. They learn more from their parents, guardians, and older family members than we realize—until we stop to consider how much of our own learned behavior and knowledge we have received at the hands of our own parents.

To take this even a step further I would like to offer the added assistance of the religious education teachers and staff. We will have monthly gatherings with parents to go over and inform of the upcoming topics. We will offer available assistance by means of websites, hand-outs, tutorials, etc., to enhance and fortify the arsenal parents will possess as relates to teaching the children.

While it is true that at this time we do not know which specific program we will go with, we can know that these steps will be the basic foundation on which we can build our new catechesis model.

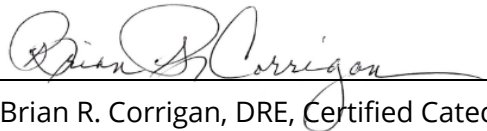
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Coming with this new model will also be a fairly costly investment up front. For that reason it will be extra-critical that parents get their children registered for religious education. We will have to buy new books and materials to utilize along with the online/video/PowerPoint sources that will come with this new program.

Please use the registration form included with this bulletin and either return it via US Postal Service, or by dropping it off at the Parish Office. If you need to set up a payment plan, we can accommodate that as well. We have the options of setting payments up via automatic withdrawal from your bank account, or regular payments using your credit card information; and finally, we will accept a pledge to make payments of a specific amount at regular intervals. We want to be as flexible as possible so that no child need be left out as regards their religious education and formation in the faith. With this transition to a new model of RE, I will also try to make myself as available as I can to assist with any questions or challenges we may encounter.

I would also like to add one last piece of information regarding the over-all religious education goals and experience here at Holy Cross. For the past several years I have had a vision that I have tried to convey to the teachers and staff, and that is this: We must strive to help every student experience the power of the love of Jesus Christ, and come to a deeper and better understanding of what truly transpires during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I would continue that focus until we become a vibrant parish of engaged Mass-going Catholics who are ready, willing, and able to share the Gospel, that is, the Good News, of the promise of the salvation that Jesus Christ offers us. As Christians, our mandate is to be the salt and carry the light of Christ into the world—until He comes again. We were born to be saints!

Sincerely,



Brian R. Corrigan, DRE, Certified Catechist

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Instructed in the Kingdom of Heaven

When the Lord called the prophet Samuel as a boy, he was instructed to respond: *Speak Lord, your servant is listening* (1 Sm 3:9). I have to admit that my prayer often goes more like, "Listen Lord, your servant is speaking." But prayer is a genuine conversation only if it includes truly listening to the Lord. And the best way to listen to him is through Scripture, his living Word.

When I first began studying the Bible, I experienced what the disciples on the road to Emmaus felt: *Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?* Gradually I formed a daily habit of *lectio divina*, which simply means reading Scripture in conversation with God....Through daily *lectio divina* I experience the Lord renewing my mind. Scripture is inexhaustible, and even after reading the same passage for the hundredth time, the Holy Spirit may reveal something new about it. Saint Augustine wrote, "How amazing is the profundity of your words.... How amazing their profundity, O my God, how amazingly deep they are!"

When I wake up in the morning, I am not typically overflowing with godly thoughts and heavenly charity. In fact, I need to be reconverted every day. I may wake up distracted, or grumpy, burdened with the concerns of the day, with my mind on worldly things, not at all attuned to God. I need time with the Lord.... I need to be immersed once again in his love so that I can walk through the day in communion with him. That is why early morning is the best time to pray. *Awake, my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!* (Ps 57:9). And each morning, whether I feel it or not, God is there with a far greater desire to lavish his grace on me than my desire to receive it. *Deep calls to deep* (Ps 42:8)—he is there inviting me to enter in, receive, partake, and enjoy the fullness of life he has for me. He invites you, too, to come to him every day in prayer, so that he can *strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being....that you may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God* (Eph 3:16-19).

MARY HEALY

Mary Healy is a professor of Sacred Scripture and a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission.

This meditation is from the July 2020 issue of Magnificat Magazine, pp. 360-361



Prayer Chain



† Please pray for Roberta Lauer, who fell Monday and broke her leg.

SOOPER BLOOPERS!

From Actual Church Bulletins...

- ✦ Ushers will eat latecomers.
- ✦ The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.
- ✦ For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- ✦ Due to the rector's illness, Wednesday's healing service will be discontinued until further notice.
- ✦ The music for today's service was all composed by Georg Friedrich Händel in celebration of the 300th anniversary of his birth.
- ✦ Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- ✦ Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I Will Not Pass This Way Again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- ✦ The peace-making meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.



A Letter from the Director

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Your generous support makes it possible for our organization to exist and to make the community a great place to live.

On behalf of the entire staff and volunteers, thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Tracy Cooper, Executive Director



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