

Our Lady of the Cross Parish Holyoke, Massachusetts



Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting our church! If you attend Our Lady of the Cross regularly and consider this your parish, please take a moment to register by contacting the parish office.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 am
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (Polish), 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday - Saturday: 8:00 - 8:20 am
Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Mater Dolorosa School: Grades K-8
3 & 4 year old pre-school program

Religious Education Program: Those children not attending a parochial school are expected to enroll.

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Divine Mercy Devotion: 1st Sunday of month
2:00 pm Exposition; 3:00 pm Chaplet

Baptism: Last Sunday of each month at 11:30 am
Please call the parish office to register.

Matrimony: Call the office to make arrangements one year in advance of the wedding date.

Sacrament of the Sick: 2nd Saturday of month after the Vigil Mass. By request at anytime.

Ministry to the Sick & Homebound: Please call the parish office to receive Holy Communion.

March 26, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Parish Office (413) 532-5661
Fax Line (413) 532-7889
Friary (413) 536-8832
E-mail: parish@ourladyofthecross.com
Website: www.ourladyofthecross.com

PARISH OFFICE ADDRESS OFFICE HOURS
15 Maple St. Monday - Thursday
Holyoke, MA 01040-4615 8:00 am - 1:30 pm

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Albert Scherer, OFM Conv. Pastor	Dorothea MacNeil Director of Religious Ed.
Fr. Andrzej Brzezinski, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar	Sr. Christine Mumbi, FMSA Bookkeeper
Fr. Stanley Sobiech, OFM Conv.	Linnea Williamson Secretary (413) 532-5661
Br. Frank Grimaldi, OFM Conv. Chaplain, Soldier's Home	Theresa Szumski Cemetery Manager
Linda Rex Principal Mater Dolorosa School (413) 532-2831	Joe DiMarino Organist & Music Director 508-517-2032
Marybeth Kass Parish Child Advocate (413) 313-6118	Mike Rodgers Robert Maziarz Maintenance

March 26 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Samuel does not see as God sees (1) in the choice of David, who is anointed with oil (Ps). As Jesus cures the blind man (3), so too are we brought from darkness into light (2) through the grace of baptism.

March 27 - Lenten Weekday

The prophecy of eschatological hope (1) finds its fulfillment in Jesus who heals and restores to life (2), who rescues us (Ps) from death.

March 28 - Lenten Weekday

From the temple of Sion flows a stream of life-giving water (1, Ps), a symbol of the healing grace of baptism (2).

March 29 - Lenten Weekday

As the prophet proclaims God's faithful love for his people (1, Ps), so Jesus speaks of his union with his Father (2).

March 30 - Lenten Weekday

Moses, who interceded on behalf of the Israelites (1, Ps), will accuse all unbelievers before the Father (2).

March 31 - Lenten Weekday

Jesus' enemies begin to plot against him (2). He professes to have knowledge of God (1), and trusts in his love (Ps).

April 1 - The Annunciation of the Lord

Some people wish to apprehend Jesus (2). Like a trusting lamb (1), he takes refuge in God his Father (Ps).

Chalice of Salvation Mass

Fr. Albert has been invited to celebrate the Chalice of Salvation Mass for Palm Sunday. The Mass will be taped on Thursday, **April 6** at 4:30 pm in the chapel of St. Michael's Cathedral. Parishioners are invited to attend the taping of the Mass. If you are interested in attending, please call the parish office. Car pooling will be available. Those who attend are asked to wear something red.

Baptism
in
Christ



Elle Rose Athas

Daughter of Michael & Taryn Athas

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

+Jozef Wrzesinski

The Altar Candle is burning
the week of March 26 for

+Adele Zwirko

From Michael, Victor & Joline Zwirko



Mass Intentions



Saturday, March 25

4:00 +Max Skypeck - Family

Sunday, March 26

7:30 +Rose Griffin Cellana (32nd Anniv.) -
Daughter, Barbara Bernard

9:00 +Tomasz Rzasa - Teresa Walkowicz

10:30 +Mildred & Norman Beaudry - Regis &
Joyce Belanger & Family

Monday, March 27

8:30 +Antonio Serrano & Irene Crus - Friends
Birthday Blessings & Health for Maureen -
Mary

Tuesday, March 28

8:30 +Catherine Dower - Charlotte Martin
+Sr. Corinne Gurka & Sr. Inez Ferrari -
Together Again

Wednesday, March 29

8:30 +David O'Connell - Friend
+Hank O'Roark - Friend

Thursday, March 30

8:30 +Doris Lacaille - Family
+Adele Zwirko - Polish Women's Alliance
Group 141

Friday, March 31

8:30 +Frank Szot - Family

Saturday, April 1

8:30 +Peter S. Kaplan - Wife, Rita
4:00 +Constance Prych - Sister & Family

Sunday, April 2

7:30 Those Buried in MD Cemetery
9:00 +Helena & Boleslaw - Daughter & Family
10:30 +Joseph & Margaret Nawolski & Doris
LaMagdelaine - Wanda Lacroix

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn
4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1
-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18;
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn
7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-
53

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;
Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

This Week at Our Lady of the Cross

- March 26:** Take & Eat Ministry
11:30 am Baptism
- March 28:** 6:30 pm 1st Communion Parent Mtg.
- March 29:** 9:30 am Mohegan Sun Bus Trip
- March 30:** 9:15 am Evangelization Meeting
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
- April 1:** Candy Sale
9:00 am-12:00 pm Furniture Sale
- April 2:** Candy Sale
2:00 pm Exposition
3:00 pm Divine Mercy
2:30 UNITAS
4:00 pm Gorkie Zale

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection for **March 19**

First Collection:

205 Envelope Users:	\$4,482.00
Loose Money:	\$569.00
12 Envelopes Mailed:	\$666.00
TOTAL:	\$5,717.00
Milk Money:	\$81.00

Thank you for your support!

One Family, Many Gifts

“One Family, Many Gifts”, this year’s theme for the Annual Catholic Appeal, calls on each of us to unite in one mission to share God’s blessings. Did you know that the Annual Catholic Appeal has been helping those most in need for 58 years? Please continue the tradition of Neighbor Helping Neighbor through your financial gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal. You can also learn more about the ministries that we help on our Facebook page *Annual Catholic Appeal Springfield, MA*. One-Time gifts, pledges paid over 8 months, Matching Gifts and gifts of stock are just a few of the ways you can make a difference in someone’s life. If you did not receive an invitation in the mail to participate in this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal, please contact the parish office or call 413-452-0637. Online donations may be made at www.diospringfield.org/aca

Please consider making a gift to this year’s ACA. If you have already contributed, thank you! **If you have not supported the Annual Catholic Appeal in the past, would you please consider doing so this year?** Flyers and contribution envelopes may be found at the doors of the church. Thank you very much for any gift that you are able to make!

Public Hearing

The continuation of the public hearing on the request to demolish the Mater Dolorosa church and friary has been scheduled for Wednesday, **March 29** at 6:30 pm in City Hall. Parishioners of OLC are invited to attend the hearing and will be given the opportunity to speak before the Holyoke Historic Commission.

Memorial Mass

On Thursday, **March 30** at 6:30 pm, a Memorial Mass will be celebrated for +Sr. Mary D’Angelo at the Basilica of St. Stanislaus in Chicopee. Parishioners are most welcome to attend!

Penance Service

On Monday, **April 3** at 7:00 pm we will have our Lenten Penance Service. After a brief prayer service, there will be the opportunity for confession. In addition to the Friars, several priests from local parishes will also be available. If you have not taken the time to make a confession during Lent, please consider coming to the Penance Service. This is the perfect opportunity for you to experience the mercy of God!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In the past few months many of our parishioners have filled out CORI forms ~ a Diocesan requirement for individuals who may have any contact with children and the elderly. Recently we learned that we also need to provide a copy of everyone’s driver’s license along with the CORI form. **If you filled out a CORI form, please submit a copy of your driver’s license to the parish office as soon as possible.** Thank you for your cooperation!



Church Candles

At the present time we do not have candles available in the church for people to light. But we are hoping to change that in the near future. In the meantime, candles are available on the back altar for a special intention or in memory of a deceased loved one. The offering for a candle is \$10. For more information or to schedule a candle with your intention, please call the parish office.

Trappistine Candy Sale

Next weekend a Trappistine Candy Sale will be taking place after all Masses in the vestibule of the church. The proceeds of this sale will benefit Harmony House. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Homebound Parishioners

If you or someone you know, is unable to attend Mass because of age or illness, and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the parish office. We will be glad to make arrangements for someone to visit with Communion.

Ways to Deepen Your Relationship With God

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays ~ after the 8:30 am Mass
Fridays ~ Noon & 6:30 pm (Polish)

Confessions

Monday – Saturday: 8:00 am
Sundays: 11:30 am – Noon
Wednesdays: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Fridays: 7:00 pm (Polish)
Saturdays: 3:15 – 3:45 pm

Or, by appointment with any of the Friars

Penance Service

Monday, April 3 ~ 7:00 pm

Daily Mass

Monday – Saturday: 8:30 am

Gorzkie Zale

(Polish Lamentations)
Sundays: 4:00 pm



Abstinence from Meat

The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation to abstain from meat begins at fourteen (14) years of age. Although Catholics may excuse themselves for a just cause from this penitential practice, there is an obligation to substitute another penance.

Breakfast at the Knights

250 Westfield Rd. behind the Dollar General
Every first Sunday of the Month

The next one will be held on **April 2**

Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Hash Browns,
Belgian Waffles

Seniors \$4.00, Adults \$6.00 Children under 10 Free

Also, corned beef & cabbage sandwiches
served with chips and pickle
Every Saturday and Sunday
\$7.00 (take out \$8.00)
Noon - 4:00 pm

Help Wanted

The Marian Center is seeking a part time cook to meet the needs of their Dietary Dept. Hours are 9am -5pm with an e/o weekend obligation. The ideal candidate will prepare foods on the menu according to corresponding recipes in a more "home style" manner. Wonderful family environment working with a great team. The successful candidate must have a minimum of 5 yrs. experience in food prep and baking. Interested candidates are invited to apply at 1365 Northampton St., Holyoke.

Mohegan Sun Bus Trip

Once again our bus trip had to be postponed because of the blizzard. The bus trip has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, **March 29**. **There are still a few seats left** if you are interested contact the parish office or Jason at:

jwillemain@ourladyofthecross.com



Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy, the moving, live production performed by actress Maria Vargo and directed by Leonardo Defilippis of Saint Luke Productions, will be presented at Our Lady of the Cross Church on **Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m.**

Experience firsthand the life and message of Saint Faustina whose personal encounters with Jesus have inspired a world-wide devotion to Christ's Divine Mercy. This drama also brings audiences a riveting modern story that makes Divine Mercy remarkably relevant and urgent for our world today. The program is filled with all the elements of professional theater, runs 90 minutes, and is suitable for ages 13 and up.

Admission is \$12 for adults, and \$10 for youth ages 18 & under. **For tickets and additional information**, contact the parish office at (413) 532-5661 or

Born in what is now west-central Poland, Helena Kowalska was the third of 10 children. She worked as a housekeeper before joining the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 1925. In addition to serving the needs of the sisters and the local people, she also had a deep interior life. This included receiving revelations from the Lord Jesus, messages that she recorded in her diary at the request of Christ and of her confessors.

In the 1930's, Sister Faustina received a message of mercy from Jesus that she was told to spread throughout the world, a message of God's mercy to each person individually, and for humanity as a whole. Jesus asked that a picture be painted of him with the inscription: "*Jesus, I Trust in You.*" She was asked to be a model of mercy to others, to live her entire life, in imitation of Christ's, as a sacrifice. She commissioned this painting in 1935, showing a red and a white light shining from Christ's Sacred Heart.

Sister Maria Faustina died of tuberculosis in Krakow, Poland, on October 5, 1938. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1993 and canonized her seven years later.



From the Pastor

Dear Good People of Our Lady of the Cross,

Parade: Whether you braved the cold and actually attended the St. Patrick's Day parade or if you watched it on television from the comfort of your home, I am sure you saw the group marching from Mater Dolorosa School. Students, teachers, parents and Fr. Andrzej all came out to march this year and to highlight that our school has been in existence for 110 years and is still going strong!

Public Hearing: The continuation of the Public Hearing on the request to demolish Mater Dolorosa church and friary will take place this coming Wednesday evening at City Hall. Some individuals were disappointed that we did not have more OLC parishioners when the Public Hearing began several weeks ago. A few parishioners told me that they did not attend the Hearing because they knew that people would be angry and they did not want to listen to their remarks. I have to admit that it was a difficult meeting to sit through because of the accusations and angry comments that were made by several individuals.

I did not make a big push for parishioners to attend the first part of the Public Hearing and I won't make a push for you to attend the continuation of the Hearing on Wednesday. If you are interested in going, then by all means I encourage you to attend. I plan on being there even though I am pretty certain of what the eventual outcome will be.

Tickets: This weekend we will be selling tickets after all Masses for Faustina, which will take place in our church on April 7. Our ticket sales started off slow but this week we received many phone calls from individuals throughout the Diocese. Hopefully we will get a good response from our parishioners this weekend. I want to stress that this is a professionally done drama on the life of St. Faustina. I know you won't be disappointed by the quality of the performance. This event is not intended to be a fundraiser. We are charging for admission simply to cover the cost of the performance.

On the evening of Faustina, I will need parishioners to collect tickets at the doors and to be greeters. If anyone is willing to help, please call the parish office.

Good News: I recently reported that someone turned off the freezer in the Social Center and because of that, the frozen pierogi had to be discarded. Yesterday I discovered some pierogi and kapusta in the freezer that we have in the Parish Hall. It isn't a lot, but as soon as we are able, we will sell these items.

Peace,
FR. ALBERT

Furniture Sale

Our parish will be having a furniture sale on Saturday, **April 1** in the parish hall from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. If anyone has any furniture they would like to donate, please call Linnea in the parish office.

At this time we would like to announce some of our items.

- Refrigerators
- Desks/Filing Cabinets/Office Chairs
- Sofas
- Dining Room Tables & Chairs
- Chests/Dressers
- Beds
- Small Tables/Book Shelves/TV Stands
- Reclining Chairs/Arm Chairs/Lamps
- TV's & CD players

Pilgrimage to Rome & Poland

In commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Militia Immaculata, a pilgrimage to Rome and Poland is being organized for **August 7 - 18** under the spiritual direction of Fr. James McCurry. This special pilgrimage includes three days in Rome with excursion to Assisi and seven days in Poland visiting Warsaw, Niepokalanow, Czestochowa, Auschwitz-site of St. M. Kolbe martyrdom, Wadowice, Krakow, Wieliczka, Lagiewniki. For pilgrimage information contact the tour operator, Pat Tours at 1-800-388-0988.

Organ Concert

Our Organist & Music Director, Joe DiMarino, will be featured at an Organ Concert on **March 26** at 7:00 pm at First Church of Monson, 5 High St. in Monson. The concert is free. Please show Joe your support!

Quotable Quotes

"Fasting and almsgiving are 'the two wings of prayer' which enable our prayer to gain momentum and more easily reach God."

~ St. Augustine