

Our Lady of the Cross Parish
Holyoke, Massachusetts

*Jesus,
I Trust in You.*



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.

April 23, 2017

Divine Mercy Sunday

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 (413) 532-5661
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

April 23 - Divine Mercy Sunday

Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus (3). Although we have never seen him, we believe in him (2). We give thanks to the Lord (Ps) for his gift of faith, especially when we gather for the breaking of the bread and the prayers (1).

April 24 - St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Begotten of the Spirit (2), the disciples speak with confidence of Jesus (1) in whom they have taken refuge (Ps).

April 25 - St. Mark

A friend of Peter (1), Mark proclaims the goodness of the Lord (Ps) manifest in Jesus, a crucified Messiah (2).

April 26 - Easter Weekday

The apostles, delivered (Ps) from jail, persist in preaching (1) in the name of Jesus, God's only Son (2).

April 27 - Easter Weekday

The apostles confront (Ps) the Sanhedrin (1) and proclaim the testimony of the One from heaven (2).

April 28 - St. Peter Chanel & St. Louis de Montfort

Jesus feeds the five thousand (2). Fearlessly (Ps), the apostles announce his mission as the Messiah (1).



April 29 - St. Catherine of Siena

With Jesus there is peace (2). The apostles give thanks (Ps) for the action of the Spirit in their midst (1).

St. Catherine died in 1380; O.P. tertiary, mystic, and author; peacemaker within the Church and renewer of religious life; worked toward ending the Avignon papacy under Gregory XI; declared doctor of the Church in 1970; patroness of Italy and copatroness of Europe.

Transfer of Baptismal Promises Ceremony

On Saturday, **April 29** at the 4:00 pm Mass a Transfer of Baptismal Promises Ceremony will take place.

When children are baptized their parents assume responsibilities for their faith formation. In this ceremony, the parents of our confirmation candidates will formally transfer this responsibility to their children. All confirmation candidates and parents are asked to attend. If possible, sponsors should also attend.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 22

4:00 +Donna & Martin Taylor - Guidi Family

Sunday, April 23

7:30 +Frank & Mary Makara - Daughter, Mary Ann

9:00 +Andrzej & Marta Legowski - Daughter & Family

10:30 All Relatives Living & Deceased - Barbara Bakes

Monday, April 24

8:30 +Tomasz Rzasa - Danuta Pater

Tuesday, April 25

8:30 Those buried in Mater Dolorosa Cemetery

Wednesday, April 26

8:30 +William J. Dean III, MD - Family

Thursday, April 27

8:30 +Raoul & Alberta Lacaille - Family

Friday, April 28

8:30 Birthday Blessings for Krystyna & Stefania Kubel - Family

Saturday, April 29

8:30 +Brothers, Sisters & In-laws of the Lourenco, Neves Family - Family

4:00 +Eddie Odabashian - Friends

Sunday, April 30

7:30 For the Parish

9:00 +Tomasz Rzasa - Stanislaw & Zofia Pagos

10:30 +Jane Skypeck - Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

+Mary Manning

This Week at Our Lady of the Cross

April 23:	Take & Eat Ministry
April 24:	6:30 pm Tag Sale Meeting
April 25:	6:30 pm MD School Board Meeting
April 26:	6:30 pm Fall Festival Meeting
April 27:	9:15 am Evangelization Meeting 7:00 pm Holy Spirit Seminar 7:00 pm Choir Practice
April 29:	8:00 am Jesus Day
April 30:	11:30 am Baptisms

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection for **April 16**

First Collection:

302 Envelope Users:	\$7,840.00
Loose Money:	\$1,168.00
18 Envelopes Mailed:	\$1,899.00
TOTAL:	\$9,732.00
Milk Money:	\$74.00
Good Friday/Holy Land:	\$1,168.00

Thank you for your generous support!

Annual Catholic Appeal Update

As of the 5th of April, 173 parishioners donated/pledged **\$28,590.00** to the ACA. Your generous support of this important Diocesan appeal is deeply appreciated! Thank you very much for your kindness!

Easter Flowers List

If you did not pick up an Easter Flowers List last Sunday, there are still some available at the doors of the church.

LAY MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES

Spring 2017

Class site and practicum site:

*Immaculate Heart of Mary
256 State St., Granby*

Classes for New & Renewal Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Thursdays: May 4 & May 11, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Classes for New & Renewal Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick & Homebound

Wednesday: May 17, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

(Pre-requisite: Participant must have completed courses for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion)

Classes for New & Renewal Readers:

Thursdays: May 18 & May 24, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Any Eucharistic Ministers who have **not** been re-certified in the past three years need to attend. Registration forms are available in the parish office.

Harmony House

Harmony House expresses deep gratitude to Fr. Albert for his permission to sell Trappistine Quality Candy after Masses recently. We are also grateful to all the parishioners who purchased it or made a donation. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. Also, Harmony House is looking for dedicated health care workers-CNA's, PCA's, RN's & LPN's, who can commit to donate at least 1 shift a month.

We need you NOW. You may need us later! Please phone [331-5252](tel:331-5252) or harmonyhousewma.org.

Fall Festival Meeting

It is not too early to start planning for this year's Fall Festival! A meeting will take place on **Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Social Center. Those who would like to help plan for this important fundraiser are asked to attend.

Holy Spirit Seminar

The Holy Spirit seminar continues with talk #2 on salvation. How often have you seen John 3:16 on a baseball billboard, and said "Yes" in your heart and mind? Or wondered, what does that mean? The good news about Jesus, who is Shepherd, Healer, Lord and Redeemer is presented in this session revealing the tremendous personal love of God for each and every one of us!

Come and hear more about this life giving Spirit. We hope you can come, Thursday, **April 27** at 7:00 pm in the **St. John Paul II Social Center**. All are welcome, bring a friend! Please call Mary at 533-7660 with any questions and to register.

Special Parish Meeting

For the past year, a group of parishioners has been meeting to discuss the placement of items from Mater Dolorosa Church into our church. The following individuals are members of this committee: **Stan Czerwicz, Al & Terry Keeler, Mike McKenna, Liz Miele, Sarah Miele, Jim & Dianne Murphy, Dan O'Driscoll, Dave St. Laurent, Frank & Aline Skrzyziarz, Terry Szumski & Fr. Albert**. This group has named itself the *Church Enhancement Committee*. The reason for this name is because there are things that the committee would like to do that would "enhance" our already beautiful church ~ in addition to the placement of statues from MD Church.

The *Church Enhancement Committee* has decided to hold a special meeting on **Sunday, May 7 at 11:30 a.m.** to share with the parish the ideas that are currently being considered. The committee would also like to receive your feedback. The meeting will be held in the church and all parishioners are invited to attend.

Mother's Day Remembrance

This year we will again remember our living and deceased mothers. Beginning on Mother's Day and continuing for 9 days, a Mass will be offered for all those individuals included in our novena. If you would like to remember anyone in this novena, please write their names on the back of the Mother's Day envelope found in your packet. All the envelopes that we receive will be placed on the altar during the novena of Masses.



Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Every Saturday morning after the 8:30 Mass we have devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. **If you have your own copy of the booklet that we use, please make sure that you bring it with you.** We have a limited supply of booklets in church, but these are needed for those individuals who do not have their own personal copy. Your cooperation will be appreciated!

Confession & Easter Duty

Catholics are obligated to confess all mortal sins at least once a year and are encouraged to do the same with venial sins. All Catholics are also obligated to receive Holy Communion at least once a year and specifically during the Easter season (Easter Duty), that is, between Easter and Pentecost.

FMSA Meatballs for Sale

The Sisters are selling delicious homemade meatballs. If anyone has an interest in buying any, please call 532-8156. The meatballs come in trays of 5 for \$5.00, trays of 10 for \$10.00 or trays of 30 for \$25.00. Your support is deeply appreciated!

Mater Dolorosa School Presents *Into the Woods*



The students at Mater Dolorosa School are putting on their first musical! Come and join us for an adventure into the woods as familiar fairy tale characters journey to get their hearts desire. *Into the Woods JR* will be performed on Friday and Saturday, **May 5 and 6** at 7:00 pm in the St. John Paul II Social Center. Tickets are \$5.00. **Please call the school or visit us Wednesday, May 3rd at the Spaghetti Supper to purchase your tickets.**

Tag Sale Meeting

Our annual tag sale is quickly approaching! On Monday, **April 24** at 6:30 pm, there will be a meeting for anyone who is interested in helping with the tag sale. The meeting will take place in the hall across from the church. If you would like to help but are unable to attend the meeting, please call Dotty at 533-4105 or Lee at 533-0486.

Tag Sale

Saturday, May 20th - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Sunday, May 21st - 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Our Lady of the Cross Parish Hall/Front Lawn
Tons of Treasures

Rain or Shine

If anyone is interested in setting up their own table or tent on our front lawn on Saturday, there are spaces available for \$25.00. Please call the office.

We will be collecting **gently used & clean items** in the Parish Hall (across from the church) on the following days:

Saturday, April 29th	11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Monday, May 1st	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday, May 6th	11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tuesday, May 9th	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Thursday, May 11th	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday, May 13th	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Furniture/Rugs/Fabrics
Exercising Equipment
Tools/Athletic Equipment
Glassware/Dishes/Pots & Pans
Household Items
Books/DVD's/Records
Musical Instruments
Toys/Puzzles/Games
Antiques: Marbles, Toys, Sports Memorabilia, Old Advertising, Primitive, Paintings, Pyrex, Pens
Gold/Silver/Jewelry/Purses
Decorations (including Christmas items)



NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Clothes, Console Stereos or Hi-Fi's, computer items, televisions (unless working, flat screen), Encyclopedias, Baby Equipment or Cribs

Anything that is dirty will not be accepted.

Additional Website Sponsors Needed

Our Lady of the Cross is in need of a couple more businesses to sponsor our parish website. This is a great opportunity to receive additional advertising for your business and assists the parish in receiving our website services for free! Sponsorships start at \$299 for an entire year of advertising. To learn more, please call Sarah Rice at 340-0549 or visit the website directly at: ourladyofthecross.com/site-sponsors/sponsor-this-site



From the Pastor

Dear Good People of Our Lady of the Cross,

Thank You: Our Holy Week and Easter Liturgies were very inspiring and I appreciate everyone's participation. I take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to the following:

- Our altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers & ushers
- Our organist/music director, Joe DiMarino & the members of the choir
- Fr. Andrzej who sang the Exultet so beautifully at the Easter Vigil
- Those parishioners who came forward to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday

I also offer my thanks to those who:

- Decorated our church
- Contributed to our Easter Flowers collection

Thank you to all of you for your presence at our Liturgies. I am grateful for your participation in prayer and song and for the welcome that you gave to our visitors. I only wish that more parishioners would attend our Liturgies on Holy Thursday and Good Friday and also the Easter Vigil Mass. They are such beautiful Liturgies and those who attend are always inspired.

If you have any comments, constructive criticism or suggestions that you would like to share with me regarding Lent or Easter, please let me know. For example, one parishioner suggested that our service on Good Friday take place at 7:00 pm instead of 3:00 pm. Another individual asked about having Stations of the Cross in the evening. I am always open to your thoughts and ideas. Give me a call or email me at pastor@ourladyofthecross.com.

Paschal Candle: I hope that you like our new paschal candle, which is called the *Most Holy Rosary* paschal candle. As the Virgin Mary stood witness to the triumph of her Son on the cross, Christ our Savior calls down to the Mother of Sorrows decreeing her as the spiritual Mother of the Church. Marian blue is the color scheme of the paschal candle and the rosary adorned cross is the center piece. You will also notice the Miraculous Medal at the foot of the cross. Please feel free to take a closer look at the paschal candle.

In last Sunday's bulletin I asked if anyone would like to make a donation to cover the cost of the candle. I am happy to report that on Monday morning I received the money from an anonymous donor. I am grateful for this person's generosity. Two other parishioners also came forward to pay for the candle and I am grateful for their willingness to make a donation.

Real to Reel: If you are reading this bulletin on Saturday afternoon, don't forget that the performance of *Faustina* will be featured on Real to Reel on Saturday at 7:00 pm on Channel 22.

Pierogi: We are still selling potato/cheese pierogi. If you are interested in purchasing pierogi, they will be available in the parish office during business hours for \$7.00 per dozen.

Peace,

FR. ALBERT

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23

In 1931 our Lord granted a vision to St. Faustina with two rays emanating from his heart, one red and the other pale. Christ said to her: "Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature: **Jesus, I trust in you.** I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish."

Our Lord asked for special prayer and meditation on his passion each day at three o'clock, the hour that recalls his death on the cross. Through St. Faustina, Christ gave us the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Divine Mercy Sunday was instituted in the Church on the second Sunday of Easter in 2000. Here at OLC, we will celebrate this feast in the following way:

- 2 pm – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Time for prayer and quiet reflection
- 3 pm – Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Devotions; Benediction
Please join us!

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Our Lady of the Cross Church #275350
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CONTACT PERSON

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