



Our Lady of the Cross Parish
23 Sycamore St.
Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040

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.

Friary & Office

(413) 532-5661

Fax Line

(413) 535-1759

E-mail: parish@ourladyofthecross.com

Website: www.ourladyofthecross.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 1:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 am

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (Polish), 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Weekdays: 8:00 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

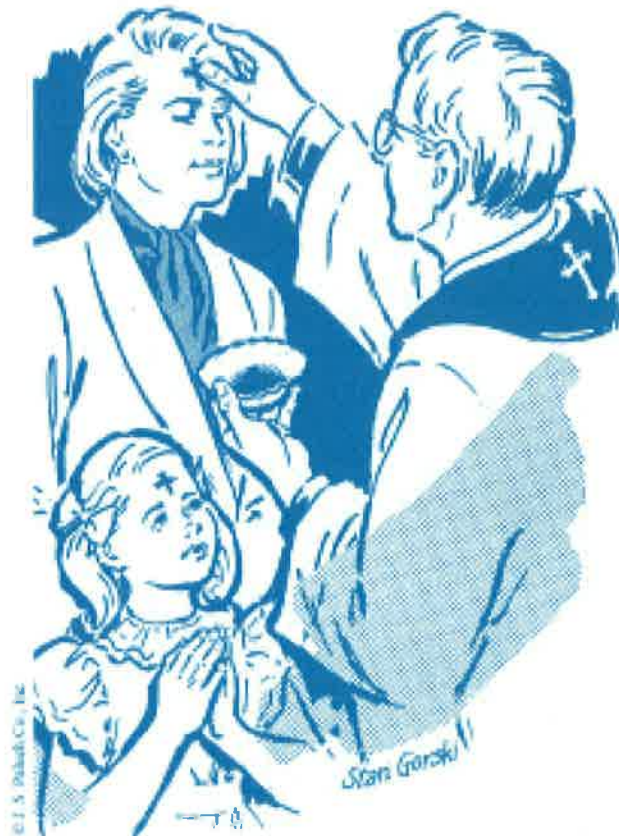
Divine Mercy Devotion: 1st Sunday of month
2:00 pm Exposition; 3:00 pm Chaplet

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.



February 7, 2016

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Albert Scherer,
OFM Conv.

Pastor

Fr. Mietek Wit,
OFM Conv.

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Stanley Soblech,
OFM Conv.

Br. Frank Grimaldi,
OFM Conv.

Chaplain, Soldier's Home

Linda Rex

Principal

Mater Dolorosa School
(413) 532-2831

Sr. Victoria Kamungu,
FMSA

Bookkeeper &
Ministry of Care

Linnea Williamson
Secretary

(413) 532-5661

Joann Wauczinski
Director of Religious
Education

(413) 437-3477

Theresa Szumski
Cemetery Manager
(413) 532-7889

Joe DiMarino
Organist &

Music Director
508-517-2032

Mike Rodgers
Robert Maziarz
Maintenance

February 7 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah, a man of unclean lips, beholds the Lord's glory in the temple and is sent on mission (1, Ps). Simon, a sinner, responds to the mission of Jesus by becoming a disciple (3). Paul, the persecutor, speaks of his call to preach nothing but Christ crucified and risen (2).

February 8 - St. Jerome Emiliani

Solomon consecrates the temple (1), the resting place of the ark (Ps). All are invited to share in Messianic blessings (2).



St. Jerome

St. Jerome died in 1537 of the plague; Venetian soldier whose conversion led to the founding (1534) of the Clerks Regular of Somascha, today numbering about 485 members; dedicated to the poor and the education of youth; patron of orphans and abandoned children.

February 9 - Weekday

Solomon offers praise (1) in the house of God (Ps). How often our traditions obscure the spirit of God's commandments (2).

February 10 - Ash Wednesday

Be reconciled (Ps, 2) and return to the Lord (1) by means of prayer, fasting and deeds of loving service (3).

February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes

Choose not death, but life (1,Ps) by denying yourself and following in the footsteps of the Lord (2).

February 12 - Friday after Ash Wednesday

Fasting without love (1) and repentance (Ps) is meaningless as we await the return of the bridegroom (2).

February 13 - Saturday after Ash Wednesday

We are called to a change of heart (2), to be renewed in the Lord by following his, not our, ways (1, Ps).

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

+Irene Czerwiec

Wife of Stanley Czerwiec

+Maxine Szlachta

+Walter Kosko

Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 6

4:00 +Mary Pouliot - Daughters, Lorraine & Linda

Sunday, February 7

7:30 +Mansueto Cellana (71st Anniv.) - Daughter, Barbara Bernard

9:00 +Zdzislaw Makusiewicz - Siostra

10:30 +Cecile Cote - Anne & Ed Cote

Monday, February 8

8:30 Souls in Purgatory - Ann
+Orlando Neves - Family

Tuesday, February 9

8:30 +Marty Mann - Family
Souls in Purgatory - Ann

Ash Wednesday, February 10

8:30 Birthday Blessings for Karen - Mom

Noon OPEN

5:00 (Polish) OPEN

6:30 OPEN

Thursday, February 11

8:30 +Mrs. Bertha Symasko &
Josephine Symasko Lizak - Family
Deceased Religious of Diocese - Ann

Friday, February 12

8:30 +Gerald Michalski - Roger Cook

Saturday, February 13

8:30 Deceased Religious of Diocese - Ann

4:00 +Ryan Gilligan - Grandma "G" & Family

Sunday, February 14

7:30 +Birthday Blessings & Health for Mary -
Friend

9:00 +Marta Legowski - Parents

10:30 Blessings for Bob & Dea Forest on their
45th Wedding Anniversary

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-8

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13



The altar candle is burning
the week of February 7 for
+Walter Prawlucki
from Wife

This Week at Our Lady of the Cross

- February 7:** 7:15 am Choir Warm-Up
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Choir Warm-Up
2:00 pm Exposition
3:00 pm Divine Mercy Devotions
- February 8:** 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting
- February 9:** 6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting
6:30 pm Passion Play Rehearsal
- February 10: ASH WEDNESDAY**
- February 11:** 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
- February 12:** 12:00 Stations of the Cross and SOUP
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross (Polish)
- February 13:** 5:00 pm Anointing of the Sick
- February 14:** 3:00 pm Gorzkie Zale
Happy Valentines Day!!



Passion Play

Our parish is planning to present Dallas Holmes Musical "His Last Days" The Passion Play. Rehearsals will be held in the church on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. The next rehearsal will be **February 9**. All are welcome: men, women, teens & children. For more information call Harold at 534-1596.

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection for January 31

First Collection:

243 Envelope Users:	\$4,921.00
Loose Money:	\$311.00
12 Envelopes Mailed:	\$680.00
TOTAL:	\$5,912.00
Milk Money:	\$92.00

For the Month of January:
Heat & Utilities: \$4,193.00

Thank you for your generosity!

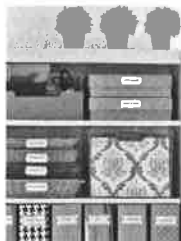
Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship

Please join us next Sunday after Mass for a cup of coffee and a donut. We also have available hot cocoa, tea and juices as well as home-made bread. This is a great opportunity to meet other parishioners. There is no charge but a free will offering will be gladly accepted to help defray the cost of the donuts.

Anointing of the Sick

On Saturday, **February 13**, after the 4:00 pm Mass, we will administer the Sacrament of the Sick. Anyone who is seriously ill, the elderly and those facing surgery, may be anointed. This sacrament provides graces and strength to those who are sick.

Please Support this Business



Everything Organized
By Sandra

413-536-1175
Holyoke, MA 01040

**Creative solutions for organizing
and decluttering your home.**

To place an ad in our bulletin for your business, to sell an item or birthday/anniversary wish, please contact Linnea at 532-5661. Ads are \$20.00 each.

**14th Annual Men's Conference
Saturday, March 5**

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Bellamy School ~ Chicopee

Please consider attending this year's conference. Keynote speakers include Marcus Grodi, Jon Leonetti and Peter Kreeft. The day also includes Adoration, confession and Mass celebrated by Bishop Rozanski. Men of the parish who attended past conferences came away feeling renewed and strengthened in the relationship with Christ. Mark your calendars and plan on attending. Registrations forms may be found near the doors of the church.



**Happy 100th Birthday
Helen Rogers!!!**

Rachel's Vineyard

*"Healing the pain of abortion -
one weekend at a time."*

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew hearts broken by abortion. A weekend retreat offers a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions. If the emotional and spiritual wounds of a past abortion have been sapping joy from your life, this weekend can begin the process of healing. The next Rachel's Vineyard will take place **March 11 - 13**. For more information, call 413-452-0661. All calls are confidential! Brochures are available in the vestibule of the church or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.



Join The Choir During Lent

During the past several months, many parishioners have joined one of our choirs. We also realize that others have considered joining a choir but are not able to make the time commitment. **Would you be willing to join the choir ONLY for Lent and Holy Week?** This may be more manageable for you. You will still need to attend rehearsals but after Easter you would be free to leave the choir.

- The Saturday 4 pm choir rehearses on Saturdays at 3:30 pm.
- The Sunday 7:30 am choir rehearses on Sundays at 7:15 am and immediately after the 7:30 Mass.
- The Sunday 10:30 am choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7 - 8:30 pm and on Sundays at 10 am.
- The Youth and Family Choir sings with the Sunday 10:30 am choir and follows the same schedule.

All rehearsals take place in the church choir room to the right of the altar. To join, simply attend the next rehearsal. For more information, speak with Joe DiMarino after Mass or call him at (508) 517-2032.

RICE BOWL



What You Give Up For Lent Changes Lives

Our parish is participating in **Rice Bowl**, Catholic Relief Services' Lenten almsgiving program. You are asked to collect your spare change or any money you may save because of personal sacrifices. At the end of Lent this money will be used to help feed the poor around the world. Rice Bowls are available at the doors of the church. Let us join together this Lent to make a difference in the lives of the poor.

Last year 33 Rice Bowls were returned with a total of \$903. Hopefully this year we can have a greater response! The following are some of the things that parishioners "gave up" in order to place a donation in their Rice Bowl:

- Eating out once a week
- Chocolate candy
- Playing the lottery

Won't you consider making a sacrifice this Lent in order to feed the hungry?

Ash Wednesday Masses

February 10

- 8:30 am
- 12:00 Noon
- 5:00 pm (Polish)
- 6:30 pm



Confessions

- Saturdays: 3:15 - 3:45 pm
- Sundays: 11:30 - 12:00 Noon
- Mondays: 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- Fridays: 6:30 - 7:00 pm
after Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross

- Fridays: 12:00 Noon
- 6:00 pm (Polish)

Gorzkie Zale

- (Polish Lamentations)
- Sundays: 3:00 pm

Stations & Soup

On Friday, **February 12**, you are invited to join us for Stations at 12 Noon followed by a Soup Lunch in the parish hall (across from the church). There is no charge for lunch but a free will offering will be accepted. We hope to see you there!

LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat as well as days of fast.
2. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.
3. The obligation to abstain from meat begins at fourteen (14) years of age.
4. The obligation to fast begins at eighteen (18) years of age and ends at fifty-nine (59) years of age. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal.
5. Although the faithful may excuse themselves for a just cause from these laws of fast and abstinence, there is an obligation to substitute another penance and no Catholic should lightly excuse himself/herself from this obligation in the Lenten season.

Lent Resources

A variety of resources to help you observe Lent is provided by the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Check out this website: www.usccb.org/lent.



Dear Parishioners,

Sponsors: If you ever take a look at the back cover of the bulletin, you will notice ads for several businesses in the area. These ads cover the complete cost of publishing our bulletin every week. I am very grateful to the owners of these businesses for supporting our parish. Starting this week, we plan on highlighting each of these businesses in the bulletin in order to acknowledge their generosity. I encourage you to support these businesses when possible and to thank the owners for their kindness.

Kitchen Update: The kitchen renovation in the Friary has been completed and the Friars - and cook! - are now enjoying it. The renovation was long overdue and we now have a much more functional kitchen. I tried very hard to keep the cost down but we did run into a couple of unexpected expenses because of the age of the Friary. I would like to point out that the Friars gave a gift of \$5,000. to the parish to help defray the cost of the renovation. On behalf of the parish, I would like to express my gratitude to the Friars I live with for their generosity.

More Renovations: This past Thursday the outside work on the Friary began. As you may recall from a previous bulletin, this will include repairing many areas on the Friary where wood has rotted over the years as well as replacing the gutters and most of the windows. This is going to be an expensive project but if we do not take care of the repairs now, we will have more problems and more expenses in the future. Once this project is completed, we will then be able to paint the outside of the Friary. This is another project that is urgently needed in order to avoid further damage to the building.

So Early: It is hard to believe that in a few days we will begin the holy season of Lent. We still have poinsettias in church! In today's bulletin you find the various Lenten devotions that we have scheduled. I would like to bring to your attention something new for this Lent. Every Monday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 pm the Friars will be available in church for confession or if you simply wish to talk about anything. During this Year of Mercy we hope that many of you will make it a point to experience God's mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation.

Peace,
FR. ALBERT

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

"Holy, holy, holy!" Ancient languages, like the Hebrew used in the scriptures, did not always have a way to express superlatives in one word. Isaiah could not say God was "holiest," so he used the threefold repetition of the same word. This bit of scriptural minutiae about these "three little words" that we sing at every Mass serves as a reminder that answering God's call has to be grounded in awareness of God's holiness. In Isaiah and in the Gospel passage today, we hear accounts of the revelation of God's power and might: the seraphim in the temple and the miraculous catch of fish. These are not wondrous revelations for their own sakes. They lead to a response in mission, Isaiah's "Here I am, send me!" and the disciples' leaving everything to follow Jesus. And so must our own "Holy, Holy, Holy!" lead us to Christ in the Eucharist every Sunday, and to a life following him day by day.

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Business of the Month

R & R Variety
207 ½ Sargeant St. Holyoke

Please support *R & R Variety* and the other businesses on the back page. They make our parish bulletin possible.

Adoration & Divine Mercy Devotions

This Sunday, **February 7**, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place beginning at 2:00 pm. You are invited to spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. At 3:00 pm, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed, followed by Benediction. All are most welcome!

Quotable Quotes

"Lent offers us an opportunity to hold out our cups if they are empty, and to share from abundance if they are full."

~ Amy Gall Ritchie