

Devoting Support ^{to our}

FAITH

Community

STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during
the COVID-19 pandemic.

INSIDE

How COVID-19 has
impacted our parish

PLUS

We need you! All the
ways you can be part
of our parish!

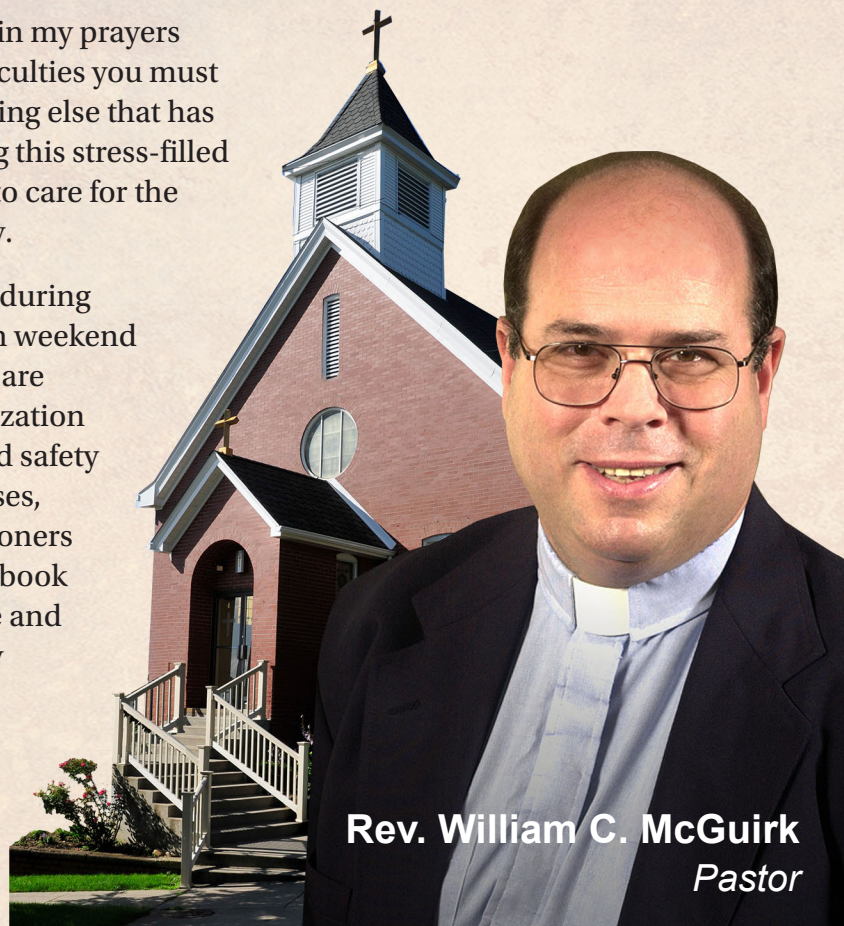


Staying Connected During COVID-19

I have been keeping the parishioners of Holy Cross in my prayers during this pandemic. I can't even imagine the difficulties you must be facing; balancing family, job, school and everything else that has been made more complicated by COVID-19. During this stress-filled time, I want you to know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

We have also worked hard to stay connected to you during COVID-19. Holy Cross Parish has three Masses each weekend at the Church as well as religious formation, but we are sure to follow social distancing, cleaning, and sanitization and face covering protocols to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved. We also began to stream masses, devotions and informational updates to our parishioners via Facebook. Fortunately, we created a parish Facebook page last year, increasing our social media presence and evangelization efforts and reaching many people by streaming the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass.

We have sent frequent mailings to our households with special "remembrances" in each mailing.



Rev. William C. McGuirk
Pastor

Ways You Can Give



Holy Cross Parish
711 Depot St.
Youngwood, PA 15697



Parish Office Hours
9am-4pm
Monday-Friday



www.holycrossyoungwood.org
Click on "Donate" in the upper right corner

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

Additionally, as you might imagine, your continued financial support during this difficult time will help our parish to maintain and to continue God's work. And so, with great sensitivity to whatever your circumstances might be, I humbly ask, if you are able, that you consider an increase in your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make that commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via U.S. Mail or by visiting our website for online offertory.

COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community



Our parish depends on the generosity of our parishioners. Many supported the Diocesan Lenten Appeal despite COVID-19. But we suffered from the loss of fundraising monies due to the cancellation of our festival in the amount of nearly \$40,000.

Our Women's Guild and Knights of Columbus were also not able to fundraise. Sadly, our youth retreats were cancelled and our Youth Ministry and Vacation Bible School went virtual and ministries like nursing home visits were curtailed.



Parish Statistics



Registered Households



2018: 669
2019: 622
2020: 562

Single Member Households



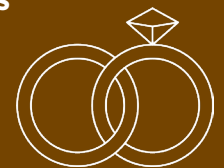
135

Baptisms



2018: 12
2019: 7
2020: 3

Weddings



2018: 3
2019: 0
2020: 3

Funerals



2018: 14
2019: 15
2020: 17

Parish Financials

	2018	2019	2020
Offertory	\$ 307,170	\$ 277,169	\$ 298,857
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	9,329	8,295	6,447
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	68,751	84,571	67,301
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	28,751	27,693	61,212
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	74,923	150,828	199,454
Special Collections	37,149	17,625	45,470
Total Income	\$ 526,072	\$ 566,181	\$ 678,740
Expenses			
<i>Administration</i>	\$ 127,225	\$ 107,405	\$ 108,972
<i>Church</i>	54,515	42,714	38,079
<i>Rectory</i>	20,222	13,688	8,651
<i>Education and Ministry</i>	73,547	73,493	64,236
<i>General Expenses</i>	136,306	134,024	152,952
<i>Special Collections</i>	38,226	18,375	44,011
<i>Extraordinary Expenses</i>	144,387	198,503	251,817
Total Expenditures	594,427	588,202	668,716
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (68,355)	\$ (22,021)	\$ 10,023

Capital Improvements

Your contributions to our parish help to maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Over the last three years, we completed construction of new roofs for the rectory and the school and were able to install new windows in the rectory attic. Our Church hall has also seen major improvements including a new kitchen and two new concrete wheelchair ramps greatly improving accessibility. We also improved church safety with crash bars and tinted door windows. The bricks on the church and school were repointed and new sidewalks were poured. An ADA-compliant restroom and new Reconciliation Room were also installed in the church. Hot water is now available in all the restrooms.



Ministries at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Parish encourages its parishioners to participate in one of our liturgical, social or music ministries. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

Altar Server

Altar servers assist the priest in preparing for Mass.

Music Ministry

Choirs and cantors provide musical support of full and active participation in the liturgy.

Greeters

Greeters welcome Parishioners to our faith community.

Money Counters

These individuals assist in counting collections.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Parishioners assist the priest in distributing the Eucharist at Mass.

Religious Formation Leaders and Youth Ministry Leaders

These individuals assist in forming the next generation of Christ's Disciples.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the word of God during Mass or other liturgical functions. Lectors devote time to preparation and understanding of sacred Scripture.

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild provides many social, spiritual and service opportunities for parish women.

Ushers

The ushers take up the offertory and distribute bulletins after Mass. They also assist as needed with emergencies and other concerns.

Ministers of Hospitality

These volunteers provide pastoral care to the sick and homebound of the parish. The ministers take the Eucharist to the sick where they are at home, a personal care home or a nursing home.