HOLY CROSS CHURCH

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

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Phone: 724-925-7811 Fax: 724-925-6170
Website: www.holycrossyoungwood.org

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7 & 8, 2024
Year C

On this Second Sunday of Advent, known as the Sunday of Peace, we are invited to reflect on the profound tranquility that comes with preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. In the Gospel reading, we encounter John the Baptist, a voice crying out in the wilderness, urging us to prepare the way for the Lord and make straight His paths. This message resonates deeply with the essence of peace, as it calls us to clear away the obstacles in our lives that hinder our relationship with God and others. As we journey through Advent, let us embrace this call to transformation, allowing the peace of Christ to fill our hearts and guide our actions. May we become beacons of peace in our communities, spreading the light of hope and love in a world that yearns for harmony. Let this season be a time of renewal, where the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Christ's Peace be with you!

Fr. Rod

$tewardship Corner

	11/23-24	11/30-12/1
Offertory:	$3,688	$4,040
Online:	$1,431	$2,016
Monthly	$70	$218
Loose:	$205	$187
Children:	$14	$9
Candles	$64	$148
Christmas	$35	$90
Immaculate Concept.	$15	$25
Solemnity/Mary	$15	$25
Thanksgiving	$255	$465
Christmas Flowers	$55	$85
End of Year	$0	$60
Weekly Budget Need:	**$7,700**	**$7,700**
Actual Weekly Offering:	**$5,847**	**$7,368**
Difference This Week:	**($1.853)**	**($332)**
Year To Date Budget Need:	**$361,900**	**$369,600**
Year To Date Actual Offering:	**$276,824**	**$284,151**
Year To Date Difference:	**($85,076)**	**($85,349)**

Diocesan Collections

Thank you all who made a gift last week to the:
Poverty Relief $607—Family Services—$5
Those who have not done so can make a gift by returning the envelope in your packet.

Best choice to Donate to Holy Cross
Is **Online** go to
holycrossyoungwood.org
Click on "Donate" and follow the prompts

Or scan the QR code below to begin

Contributions by **Check** are preferred over **cash** when possible

This Week

Families Receiving Envelopes::	359	359
Families Using Envelopes:	102	90
Families Using Online Giving:	36	36

Mass Attendance 11/23-24 11/30-12/1

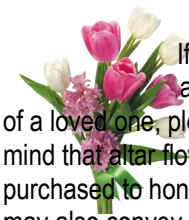
Sat 5PM	-	89	89
Sun 8AM	-	77	68
Sun 10AM	-	120	117
	Total	**286**	**274**

Money Counters for December 14 & 15

Shugarts, Nemec, Carbisiero

Pastoral Council—TBD
Immaculate Conception—December 9
Christmas—December 25
Solemnity of Mary—January 1
Finance Council— January 22– 6PM

Altar Flowers or Sanctuary Candle



If you would like to purchase altar flowers or a sanctuary candle in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please call the parish office. Please keep in mind that altar flowers and sanctuary candles may be purchased to honor the living as well as the deceased. They may also convey thanksgiving for prayers answered or to celebrate occasions such as anniversaries and birthdays. The suggested donation for flowers is $75; candle is $25.

Immaculate Conception

Observed this year on December 9th. It is a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. There is no vigil mass on Sunday evening, instead a second mass at 6:00 PM on Monday evening is being offered.

Parish Office Closed Monday December 9th In Observance of The Immaculate Conception

Mass Schedule

Saturday	Vigil	5:00PM	**Sunday**	8:00AM & 10:00AM
Holy Day	Vigil	6:00PM eve. prior day		8:00AM on Holy Day
Weekday		8:00AM Mon. thru Thurs.		No Mass on Friday
Confessions		Saturday 4:00PM		
Weddings		Please call Father at least 6 Months Prior		
Baptisms		Please call Father to schedule.		
Anointing of the Sick		Please call parish office.		

Parish Office Hours:
Mon., Wed, Thurs.: 8:00AM—4:00PM Tuesday 2:00—5:00PM
Friday: 8:00AM—Noon

MASS INTENTIONS

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sat	**Dec 7**	**5:00PM**	**50th Wedding Anniversay Diane & Dennis Persin**
Sun	**Dec 8**	**8:00AM**	**+Mary Naylor (Husband & Children)**
		10:00AM	**+Leonard Zeglin (Family)**

Immaculate Conception– Transfered/Observed

Mon	**Dec 9**	**8:00AM**	**Living & Deceased parishioners**
		6:00PM	**+Jeanne Murray (Sandy Ferrari)**
Tue	**Dec 10**	**8:00AM**	**+Reynaldo M. Torio (Bella Torio)**
Wed	**Dec 11**	**8:00AM**	**Living & Deceased parishioners**
Thu	**Dec 12**	**8:00AM**	**+Mary Kay Steele**
Fri	**Dec 13**		******************No Mass**************************

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sat	**Dec 14**	**5:00PM**	**+James Sackett (Stella, Joanne & Jim)**
Sun	**Dec 15**	**8:00AM**	**Living & Deceased parishioners**
		10:00AM	**+Thomas Ferree (Family)**
		2:00PM	**Confessions**

Greensburg Area Sunday Evening Regional Mass
Our Lady of Grace Church, 1011 Mount Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA
6:00 PM Sunday Evening

Become a Member of Holy Cross Church

Welcome! It is a blessing to welcome new members to our parish.. Please register as soon as possible in order to participate in our various programs, ministries and activities. Drop this form in the collection basket and we will send you a detailed registration form or go to our website: www.holycrossyoungwood.org
If you are already a member and have changed any of your personal information please call the Parish Office or return the changes on the form below.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

____Register ____ Moving _____ Change Address/Email or Phone

2nd Sunday of Advent Year C—December 8, 2024

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. Psalm 126: 1-2,2-3,4-5,6

THE WORD

FIRST READING: BARUCH 5: 1-9

FOR GOD WILL SHOW ALL THE EARTH YOUR SPLENDOR...

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1: 4-6, 8-11

GOD IS MY WITNESS...

GOSPEL: LUKE 3: 1-6

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD.

Daily Mass Readings: www.usccb.org
Daily Mass Schedules: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

If a loved one has passed away and is a member of Holy Cross Church, please notify the parish office. We must update our records.

When you are admitted to a hospital or nursing home, please tell the admissions staff and nurses that you are Roman Catholic and would like a visit from the facility's Catholic Chaplain. This is due to HIPAA privacy laws. The Chaplain is often able to see you and administer the sacraments during times when the pastor is not available.

If you experience any personal injury on church property, please call the office or speak to Fr. Rodriguez

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUSPICION about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone, please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer, you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

Holy Cross
Prayer Chain

We are currently seeking a volunteer to lead the prayer chain.

If you, a loved one or friend are in need of extra prayers, no matter what the need is, large or small, we are here to pray for that need.

Homebound Parishioners

If a family member is homebound and unable to attend mass, please contact the Parish Office to let us know.

A series of monthly presentations on Benedictine spirituality will continue on Sunday, December 15, from 3:00 P.M. to 4:15 P.M. in seminary classroom Brownfield Room 202. The topic will be "Obedience in Benedictine Spirituality," and Brother Romanus Davitt, O.S.B., a deacon and an assistant to the Director of Retreats, will be the presenter. To appreciate the presentation one does not need to have attended previous sessions. Attendees may also attend Vespers at 5:00 P.M. in the Archabbey Basilica. Also, local Oblates of Saint Benedict affiliated with Saint Vincent Archabbey and anyone else who may be interested will meet at 6:45 P.M. on December 15 in Brownfield Room 202 of Saint Vincent Seminary. The agenda will be the second of a series of discussions from the book *The Grace to Desire It: Meditations on St. Benedict's Twelve Degrees of Humility* by Dom Pius Mary Noonan, O.S.B. Furthermore, supper at 5:35 in the Eichstätt Dining Room (guest dining room) will be available. If you plan to attend supper, please phone Fr. Donald, Director of Oblates, at least two days in advance at 724-805-2291.

ONLINE DONORS

If you are making your donations online to Holy Cross Church and you are still receiving envelopes, please let us know. We can save your donation dollars by cancelling the envelopes.. Thank you!

The Parish Office Will be Closed Tuesday thru Friday December 24-27 For Christmas Re-opening on Mon Dec30th at 8:00 AM

Deadline for Bulletin Information

The deadline to submit information to be included in the bulletin is noon of the Tuesday prior to the bulletin date.

project rachel
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Call 724-552-1832 or email projectrachel@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Oplatki
(Christmas Wafers)
are now available for purchase for $3.00/pkg.
See Eleanor.

The Tree of Hope

Donations for this year's Tree of Hope will be collected to benefit the Youngwood Community Food Bank & The Lions Club. The deadline for donations is January 2, 2024. Names will be published in the bulletin at the end of January. If you wish to donate, please fill out the coupon below, bring it to the parish office, mail it or place it in the collection basket in an envelope clearly marked **"Tree of Hope."**

Thank you for your generosity!

The 6th annual
Ugly Christmas Sweater
5K Run & 2 Mile Walk

will be held Saturday, Dec 14th at **St. Bartholomew's** In Crabtree, PA (2538 State Route 119, Crabtree, PA 15624), Race day registration and packet pick up begins at 9:30 AM and the race begins at 11:00 AM. Registration is open and you can visit runsignup.com to sign up. Registration forms can also be found at either entrance of the church! Please email Julie at julesann97@gmail with any questions. Thank you for your ontinued support and we can't

I wish to donate to the Holy Cross Tree of Hope.
My contribution is In Memory / In Honor
(circle one) of:

_____

Requested by:

_____

Amount _____

Please place this coupon with your donation in an envelope clearly marked "Tree of Hope"

Catholic Relief Services

At COP29 in Baku, the Catholic Church called for immediate action. Cardinal Parolin urged a new financial system to repay the ecological debt owed by the Global North to the Global South, prioritizing equity and justice. Our event reinforced this call. Visit www.crs.org for more information and to see how you can help!

The Sanctuary Candle

which acknowledges the Real
Presence of Christ in the Tabernacle, is burning from

Dec 8th thru Dec 14th

In Loving Memory of

William Capretti, Sr

Requested by:

Wife Tish

In Sympathy

Please remember
in your prayers

Florine Anderson

Florine passed away
On December 1st

May her soul and the souls
of all the faithful departed,
Rest in Peace, Amen.

WHAT CATHOLICS DO, AND WHY?
A Series by Dr. Eugene M. Dangelo
Part 13: Angels, Part One of Two Parts

Angels have long been part of our Christian Faith Tradition, and also part of the Judaic and Islamic traditions as well. In Catholic theology, Angels are heavenly beings, without gender, and are of a fixed population. They are mentioned nearly 300 times in the Bible.

There are 9 "Choirs" of Angels, which are, in turn organized into 3 "Triads" according to their types of tasks. In ascending order, the 9 Angelic Choirs are as follows: 1. Angels, the lowest level, symbolized by shields, scrolls, musical instruments, and passion emblems. 2. Archangels, the Chief Angels and messengers from God, 3. Principalities, Angels who direct God's commands, 4. Powers, who restrain the assault of the Evil Spirit, 5. Virtues, who dispense celestial miracles, 6. Dominations, who have authority to move stars and planets, 7. Thrones, who kneel in adoration, 8. Cherubim, who are guardians and protectors, 9. Seraphim, who have six wings, and are zealots in their love for the Trinity.

The 3 Triads of angels are: First, The Counselors, which include the Seraphim, the Cherubim, and the Thrones, Second, The Governors, which include the Dominations, the virtues, and the Powers. And Third, the Messengers, which include the Principalities, the Archangels, and the Angels. Angels of all levels are special creatures of God, who do His bidding.

The 6th annual Ugly Christmas
Sweater 5K Run & 2 Mile Walk

will be held Saturday, December 14th at **St. Bartholomew's** In Crabtree, PA (2538 State Route 119, Crabtree, PA 15624), Race day registration and packet pick up begins at 9:30 AM and the race begins at 11:00 AM.

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12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Proof of Address & ID to Apply

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HEMPFIELD GARDEN CLUB

Meets 1st Thursday monthly (except January)
Location: Christ Church of Youngwood, 100 Lincoln St, Youngwood @ 11:00 a.m.
Support community gardens at Youngwood Cemetery, Youngwood Post Office & Youngwood Park & Pool Annual Dues: $20
Participate in Youngwood Yard Sale, Light Up Night, parades
Learn about a variety of plants/gardening as well as sharing plants/tips
Local trips & bus trips
Interested? Contact Dorothy at 814-242-9591 or Susie at 724-925-9746.
Join us at our next meeting!

ADVERTISING

To advertise in this bulletin

Please contact Toni Amorino

724-454-4882 or

Email: tla0668@gmail.com

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By Julie Cope

724.635.3602

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