

FURTHER PREPARATION

✝ Advent Prayer Books – Pick up a book of meditations for the Advent that will help focus your daily prayer in preparation for Christmas and beyond. Books are available at Masses and are free.

✝ Stars for Jesus – Select a gift for those in need from the bulletin board in the Church. Bring your gift to the Church basement by Sunday, December 10 .

✝ Laudate App – Download the Laudate app to your phone or computer. It features daily readings, lives of the saints, preparation for reconciliation and many other features to help us pray all through the year.

✝ FORMED – Sign up today at FORMED.org to gain access to a Catholic website featuring movies, study programs, podcasts, youth resources and more. Parish Code is FGZHRX.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

✝ Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 – 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM, 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM in the Church. Get there early for a seat!

✝ Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 – 10:30 AM and Noon in the Church.

Table Blessing for Advent

Blessed are you, Lord of all creation, in darkness and in light. Blessed are you in this food and in our sharing. Blessed are you as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



HOLY CROSS CHURCH ADVENT 2017

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”


Advent begins the Sunday nearest to the Feast of St. Andrew Apostle, November 30, and continues until Christmas Eve. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin "adventus," which means "coming." It refers to the four weeks prior to Christmas and always contains four Sundays.


Our anticipation of Christmas makes these four weeks a very special time of year. Advent is the perfect time to rediscover the joy of faith. During these weeks we focus on the "coming" of Jesus in three ways. We start the season by looking forward to the time when Jesus will come again in glory as our Triumphant King. As the days progress, we switch our attention to recalling and celebrating that time when Jesus first came among us as a little child. Throughout the whole season, we prepare for the coming of the Lord in our own hearts. When at last, the big day arrives, we welcome our Savior into hearts prepared for His coming.


During the Advent season, there will be many opportunities at Holy Cross to assist us in our Christmas preparations. We welcome and encourage all our parishioners to participate in the events in our parish this Advent. Please bring family and friends to join in the preparations.

Advent Peace!


PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES


 Sunday Mass with the Advent Wreath – Saturday at 5 PM, Sunday at 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, Noon and 5 PM. Traditional Latin Mass at 7 PM.


 Weekday Mass - 9:00 AM. Begins with Morning Prayer each day in Advent.


 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Every Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM, and 11:00 PM to Midnight in Advent and Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.


 Reconciliation – Every Saturday following the 9:00 AM Mass and Novena; also by appointment.

 Holy Cross Choir Concert – Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 PM in the Church. George Frideric Handel's *Messiah Part I* will be performed. Free will offering for admission.

 Parish Retreat – Tuesday, December 5 from 9:30 AM until 2:00 PM at San Alfonso Retreat House. Includes Morning Prayer, an Advent reflection, lunch, confession and Mass. \$35.

 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass – Friday, December 8 at 9:00 AM and Vigil Mass on Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 PM.

 Nativity Celebration and Tree Lighting – Monday, December 18 at 7:00 PM at the Parish Nativity scene. Music, live nativity animals, candlelight and our Parish Christmas tree lighting. Reception to follow in the gym.

 Carol Sing – Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 at 10:30 PM. Holy Cross music ministry will lead us in beautiful choral music.