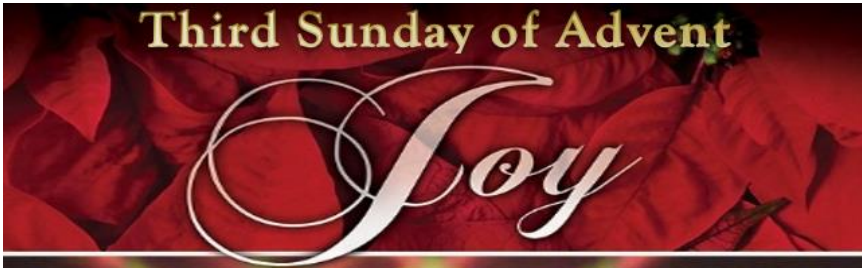


# The Catholic Parishes of Crawford County

## December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*I am baptizing you with water,  
but one mightier than I is coming.*

### Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Phone: (573) 885-3520 Fax: (573) 885-3501  
Address: 415 W. School Ave., Cuba, MO 65453  
Email: hcccuba@gmail.com  
Web: holycrosscubamo.org

**Fr. Anthony (Tony) Onyeihe:** (573) 462-6522  
aonyeihe@diojeffcity.org

**S. Karen Thein SSND:** (507) 514-3226

**Deacon Chad Lewis:** (573) 885-3520

### Holy Cross School Office:

Phone: (573) 885-4727  
Email: holycrossschoolcuba@gmail.com  
Website: www.hcschoolcuba.org  
Principal, Melinda Osentoski:  
holycross.osentoski@gmail.com

### School Advisory Members:

Aminta Abdinova	Mike Kempf
Alan Collins	Christy Moreland
Deborah Dicus	Kathy Royal

### Parish Council Members:

Jim Bathe	Mike Kempf
Jerry Dubbelde	RuthAnn Kueth
Alice Engelbrecht	Esli Navarro
Joe Howdeshell	Diane McCameron
Don Hudson	Ruth Woodson
Vicky Dunakey	Kayla Korte

### Finance Council Members:

Larry Howdeshell	Donna Conduitt
Teresa Leicht	

### Mass Schedules:

#### Holy Cross

Saturday 6:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Mass in Spanish: (every 1st & 3rd Sunday) at 11:30 a.m.

#### St. Francis Caracciolo


Saturday 4:00 p.m. Thursday 8:00 a.m.

#### St. Michael

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m.

**Bishop McKnight's Monthly Prayer Intention:**

**"For hope to find a home in our hearts as we embrace the joy of Christ's birth. Amid the jubilation, may we also find time in prayer to experience the calm and peace of God's presence in our lives."**



- Dec. 18** – Holy Cross children sing at Cuba Manor.
- Dec. 20** – Holy Cross School Play at 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 24** – Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25** – The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas
- Dec. 26** – Feast Day of Saint Stephen
- Dec. 27** – Feast Day of Saint John.
- Dec. 28** – Feast Day of the Holy Innocents
- Dec. 29** – Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- Jan. 1** – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - New Year's Day
- Jan. 5** – The Epiphany of the Lord
- Jan. 7** – Holy Cross School Resumes After Christmas Break

### Mission Statement:

We, the Catholic parishes of Holy Cross, St. Francis, and St. Michael, aware of the intergenerational communities and the various cultures living in our communities, welcome all – no matter where they are on the journey of Faith. We strive to strengthen the communities of Faith by working together through prayer, works of Justice and concern for our neighbors.



## Ministry Scheduler Pro

Go to this link to see the schedule:

[www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/HolyCrossCuba](http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/HolyCrossCuba)

### Mass Intentions for 12/16– 12/22, 2024

- 17 **H.C.** Tues. 8:30 a.m. - **NO MASS**
- 18 H.C. Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Angelina Thompson ☩
- 19 St.F. Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested
- 20 H.C. Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Richard LaGrand ☩
- 20 **ERRH** Fri. 10:00 a.m. - Loretta Holtsmann ☩
- 21 St.F. Sat. 4:00 p.m. - Tom O'Toole ☩
- 21 H.C. Sat. 6:00 p.m. - Leroy Rolens ☩
- 22 **H.C.** Sun. 8:00 a.m. - People of the parish
- 22 H.C. Sun. 10:00 a.m. - Tom Conduitt ☩

### Mass at the Equilibrium Ranch Retirement Home (ERRH):



Every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month Father Tony will celebrate Mass at 10 a.m. at the Equilibrium Ranch Retirement Home (ERRH) located at 81 Pilkenton Ln, Cuba, MO 65453. All are Welcome.

### Parish Collections: December 7 & 8, 2024

Parish	Envelopes		Loose		Total
Holy Cross	\$7,041.00	+	\$845.00	=	\$7,886.00
St. Michael	\$703.00	+	\$133.00	=	\$836.00
St. Francis	\$1,255.00	+	\$76.00	=	\$1,331.00



Joann Mullen, Eugene Kempf, Charlotte Vavra, Helen Mattox, Suzy Hutchins, Lona Pogue, Janet Lyons, Catherine DeClue, Julie Coster, Donna Lott, Joyce, Joe Kuenz, Cayden Richards, Mariana Weber, Don and Kaye Robertson, Dustin Drennan, Yazmin Viramontes, Joe Skiles, Carolyn Horsefield, James Happle Sr., Sandy Mowry, Aiden Leos

### Adoration: Every Wednesday



Adoration: Every Wednesday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. after the Mass. Weekly Sign-up sheets at Holy Cross. You can sign up online at Ministry Scheduler Pro. *What hour can you be before the Blessed Sacrament?*

### Faith Formation:



Classes are Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**Faith Formation Dates: December 18 (at Cuba Manor)**

**There are no classes on December 25<sup>th</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>**

### OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults):



The candidates and catechumens are continuing their journey of faith! Please keep them in your prayers as they deepen their relationship with Christ and discern their call to join the Church. The next session is Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the parish office.

**There are no classes Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>**

### The Advent Wreath Candle Meanings:



The four weeks of Advent are filled with joy and hope. The Advent wreath is a symbol of expectation for the coming of Christ. The wreath's circular shape recalls all the years the people waited for the Messiah. During each week of Advent, one candle on the wreath is lit until, by the end of Advent, all four candles are lit.

The Advent wreath has three violet candles, one rose candle, and one white candle. The violet color candles on the Advent wreath serve as reminders of prayer and penance of this season. The violet candles represent *Hope, Peace, and Love*. What does the pink advent candle mean? The rose candle is lit on the third week of Advent (on Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday) as a sign of *Joy*. The rose Advent candle represents the joy of anticipation for Christmas. "Gaudete" (meaning "rejoice") Sunday marks the halfway point on our Advent journey.



### The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Tuesday, Dec. 24 4 p.m. St. Francis / 6 p.m. Holy Cross

Wednesday, Dec. 25 8 a.m. Holy Cross / 10 a.m. Holy Cross

### Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, Dec. 28 4 p.m. St. Francis / 6 p.m. Holy Cross

Sunday, Dec. 29 8 a.m. Holy Cross / 10 a.m. Holy Cross

### Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (New Year's Day)

Tuesday, Dec. 31 4 p.m. St. Francis / 6 p.m. Holy Cross

Wednesday, Jan. 1 8 a.m. Holy Cross / 10 a.m. Holy Cross

### Spreading Christmas Joy at Cuba Manor:

On Wednesday, December 18th, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., the Holy Cross Faith Formation and School children will come together to sing Christmas songs at Cuba Manor. Each child has also created a special Christmas card to share with the residents, bringing smiles and spreading the joy of the season. What a beautiful way to celebrate the spirit of Christmas!



Joy



Loving Father, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son, help us to be joyful and to spread our joy to those around us. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.



## Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe:



The Latino Community has been honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe since December 3rd with a Novena and nightly Rosary prayers in different homes. On December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the final night was celebrated with a Mass, followed by a convivio (gathering). Thank you to all who participated in this meaningful celebration!



### Thank You:

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and those that set up the Advent/Christmas environment at St. Francis and Holy Cross.

## A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Parish Family:

As the year draws to a close, gratitude is extended to all who have generously contributed throughout 2024. Your gifts have been instrumental in sustaining the mission and ministries of the parishes and ensuring that our shared faith community continues to thrive.



This year, the generosity of donors has made it possible to keep Holy Cross School open for the remainder of the 2024/2025 school year. The parishes have also been blessed to witness extraordinary

support and community spirit during events such as the Fall Festival, Fish Fry's, Thanksgiving Dinners, and Picnics.

When St. Francis faced the challenges of vandalism and unexpected expenses, the parish community rallied together to provide needed assistance. These moments of unity and compassion are a testament to the strength of our church family.

During this season, when many face the financial pressures of Christmas and other end-of-year obligations, special thanks to those who have given or plan to give to:

- The fundraisers for St. Francis and St. Michael to address critical repairs and maintenance needs.
- The \$5,000 matching donation for Holy Cross School.
- The Diocesan Christmas Special Collection for Seminarian Education and Infirm Priests.
- And those who continue to provide their faithful tithing.

Whether through large contributions, smaller consistent offerings, or event participation, every act of giving plays a crucial role. Larger donations help achieve major milestones, while everyday contributions sustain the ongoing operations and ministries of the parishes, including Faith Formation and OCIA programs.

The parishes are blessed to have such a loving and generous church family. Each gift strengthens the mission and ensures the continued vibrancy of the church. Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and faith. May God bless you abundantly for being an essential part of this community of faith.



## **Congratulations**

to James Sr. & Mary Happle for celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Lending Library at Holy Cross:



Holy Cross is starting a "Lending Library" for Catholic adults. It will be located in the parish hall. The library is in need of a few bookshelves. If you have a nice bookshelf you would like to donate, or for more information, please call Ruth Kuethe at 314-680-7409.

## Holy Cross School Christmas Play:



Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> Holy Cross School will host their annual Christmas Play. The play begins at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. The title of the play is "*The Savior's Birth*".

## CMA Christmas Basket Giveaway (December 18-19)



Help is needed to sort and fill baskets on December 18 & 19 at 9:00 a.m. and distribute them at 6:30 p.m. at Recklein. For more information, call the Food Pantry at 573-885-6703.

## Cuba Food Pantry:



The Cuba Food Pantry distributes free donated clothing year-round. If you have warm coats or clothes to share, please mark the bag "*Food Pantry*" and put it in the sacristy.

## Christmas Flower Donations:



Please return your envelope by December 15<sup>th</sup> in order for your "In Memory of" to be published in the Christmas bulletin.



## Prayers and Sympathy:

Our prayers and sympathy for the families of 3 former parishioners:

**Betty Weisel** who passed on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Her funeral services were in Columbia MO December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Marge Fleming** who passed in November. As per Marge's request, the family will have a private burial at Holy Cross at a later date.

**Loretta Holtmann** who passed away on November 20<sup>th</sup>. She lived to be 101. In keeping with her wishes she will be cremated and her cremains will be interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Cuba at a later date.

*May they rest in peace.*



Remember in prayer **Sue Thein** who passed away last week. She is the niece of Sister Karen. May she rest in peace.



## Additional Information (Online Only)



The Phelps County Fairgrounds is hosting a drive-through nativity scene on **December 13 and 14** from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Featuring a cast of 40 and nearly 50 animals, this unique event brings the story of Christmas to life.

A cartoon Santa Claus with a red hat and white beard, surrounded by colorful Christmas lights and a small Christmas tree. The text "COME SEE SANTA & MRS. CLAUS, FROSTY, & THE GRINCH" is in the top right.

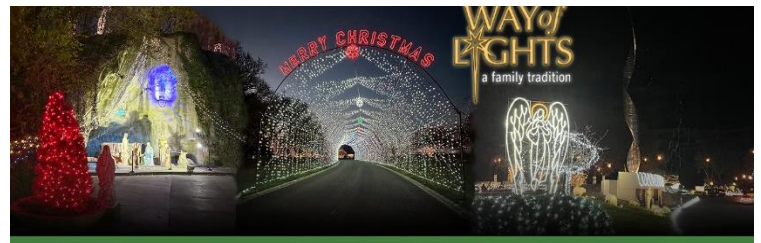
**Christmas in the Park Light Display**

DECEMBER 12-23 AND 26-28 2024 | **6PM-9 PM**

**Rolla Lions Club**  
HWY 63 SOUTH-ROLLA, MO  
DONATIONS WELCOME

The logo for the Rolla Lions Club, featuring a lion's head and the text "ROLLA LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL".

One of the longest running Christmas light displays at the Lake of the Ozarks is open through **Jan. 5, 2025**. The National Shrine of Mary, located at 176 Marian Drive in Laurie MO 65037, will be offering the display to the public, free of charge, from 5-10 p.m. each night. On Fridays, 6-8 p.m., the gift shop will be open and free hot cocoa and candy canes will be offered,



**November 22 - December 31, 2024**

Free Outdoor Light Display Open Nightly 5 pm - 9 pm

The Way of Lights Display goes through **December 31, 2024**, using over 1.5 million beautiful lights to depict the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. They continue to offer activities such as camel rides, Kettle Corn, Selfie Station, Gift Shop and Shrine food stand with hot dogs, hamburgers, etc! The Free outdoor light display is open nightly from 5 – 9 p.m. and is located at The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, 442 S. DeMazenod Dr. in Belleville, IL 62223.

A logo for "Mihaska Christmas" with the text in white and gold, set against a background of white snowflakes and a dark oval with a wreath.

*Join us at Camp Mihaska*  
Friday & Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
between 5:30pm - 8:30pm  
1466 Hwy N, Bourbon MO

Donations are Welcomed.

A red bucket with the Salvation Army logo and the text "Donations are Welcomed.".

- ◆ Drive-thru Christmas Lights.
- ◆ We'll have Hot Chocolate, Crafts, Games, Cookie Decorating, Giveaways, and Story Time with Santa!

A golden scroll containing several small photos of people at the event, including children and adults.



### Are you new to the Parish?

If you are new to the parish, please call the office at 573-885-3520 to register or stop by so we can meet you!

### Has your information changed?

If you have moved, disconnected your home phone and only use a cell, or have any other household changes, please let us know so we can update our records.

**Remember – if you don't tell us – we won't know!**

## Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



If you would like to have a Mass said, the suggested amount for the stipend is \$10. Call the office to schedule a Mass Intention, or put your stipend in an envelope with the following Information:

- Your name & phone number
- Who the Mass is for
- If they are deceased
- Specific date (if any) please specify if the intention can be on a weekday or not.


### Anointing of the Sick:

It is important to seek the sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation prior to going to the hospital, when you are sick, or nearing death. Contact the office or Father for to schedule a time for the sacrament.



**Homebound:** If you would like to minister to the homebound by visiting them and bringing them Communion, please contact S. Karen 507-514-3226.

### Yoga Class on Tuesdays Offered at Holy Cross:

 For a small fee, Yoga Class offered on Tuesdays at HC from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Diane 314-578-1132 or Donna 573-259-6957.

### “Heavenly Cleaner” Volunteers – Please Help:

Holy Cross has a group of volunteers called “Heavenly Cleaners” that clean the church each week. They are divided into teams of 2. Each team cleans the church once a month. The team is asked to freshen up the bathrooms, vacuum the floor, dust, take out trash, and sanitize. If you would be interested in helping with this ministry of the church, please call the parish office.



**FlockNote**   
Keep in touch with us  
VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE  
Text: **crawfordcounty**  
To: **84576**  
OR online at: **HCross.flocknote.com**

### Cemetery/ Columbarium:

Many people feel it can be a great help to their grieving family members if the desires of the deceased were planned by him/herself before the time of death. Whether cremation or burial is chosen, consider Holy Cross as yours or your loved one's final resting place. Many people are not aware that the proper practice for cremation is to place the cremains in the columbarium or bury them in the cemetery. If members of our community have the cremains of a loved one in their home, or another place other than the cemetery, they should make arrangements to give their loved ones a place to rest in the columbarium or cemetery with the proper prayers of interment.



Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery plots/niches are available whether burial or cremation is your choice. Contact Louis Raineri 573-259-8920 or the parish office for more information. Sacred Heart in Leasburg and Mount Calvary in Bourbon.

### Baptisms & Weddings:



If you are planning a Baptism, there is a preparation class. Please speak with Sister Karen to schedule. If you are planning a wedding, please contact Father Tony. There is a preparation that needs to be done 6 months prior to the wedding.




### Funeral Dinners:



If you are interested in helping with the funeral dinners, please call the office. You will be called upon when a funeral dinner is requested. Help with bringing food, set up, or clean up! Please consider this ministry of the church so we can provide for our grieving families.

 **Misa en español**  
**CADA 1º Y 3º DOMINGO DEL MES.**  
**MASS IN SPANISH IS EVERY 1ST & 3RD**  
**SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

**ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEMS AVAILABLE**  Remove from charging station.  
The On button is on the top  
Volume Control is on the front.  
After Mass, wipe off unit and return to charging station.

 **Pope Francis Prayer Intention**  
**DECEMBER**  
**For Pilgrims of Hope**  
“We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.”

## CubaKofC Membership Invite:



The Cuba Knights of Columbus covers all of Crawford County. CubaKofC is in search of new members to help our order grow and maintain its position as the strong right hand of the Church and service to the community of Crawford County.

CubaKofC consists of the men and women volunteers. The Knights of Columbus Chapter 8920 and the Ladies Auxiliary 8920. These men and women's service helps many local organizations and individuals in need. CubaKofC helps the parishes of Crawford County and community organizations such as the food pantries, Special Olympics, and prolife organizations, as well provides community wide events such as the Kids Christmas Party.

This is a personal invitation to all men and women of our parish to come and join our CubaKofC service community. In our busy lives many people do not think they have time to add another activity. However, your commitment is to do what you can. Maybe it is helping with just one event, attending our monthly dinner social and business meeting, or helping with our Bingo fundraiser. The choice is yours, but many hands will make light work.

Help us Help Others in our parishes, school and community by inquiring into Cuba Knights of Columbus, please join us. You won't regret it. For Further information on how to join please contact District Deputy Louis Raineri at 573-259-8920 or [louisraineri8920@gmail.com](mailto:louisraineri8920@gmail.com) or Grand Wayne Kuethe.



## NOVEMBER 2024 BINGO NEWS

**Thursday Nights @ 6:15 p.m. (doors open at 4)**  
**PROGRESSIVES** ~ The **First Progressive** is at \$4,750.00, with 9 Hot Balls. The **Second Progressive** will play out and pay \$500.00, \$750.00 or \$1,000.00!!  
**QUEEN OF HEARTS** ~ Will be over \$5,000.  
**RAFFLE** ~ A 36" Blackstone Grill will be raffled and awarded on December 12<sup>th</sup>. (\$500.00 value)  
**CANNED FOOD DRIVE** ~ Until December 12<sup>th</sup>. Bring a non-perishable item and receive a free 3 on for each item.  
**MATCH ONE OF THESE** ~ Bring your tally sheet from the previous week. Win a free gas card.  
Numbers are: **183110, 183136, 183151, and 183190**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS** ~ There **WILL NOT** be Bingo on December 26th (Christmas week). There **WILL** be Bingo on January 2<sup>nd</sup> after New Year's.



Altar Society meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at the Holy Cross Parish Hall. This organization coordinates and works on fundraising events that support our parish, school and youth group. They also help supply the liturgical needs of the parishes. All are welcome to attend and join! Please contact Christy Moreland for more information.

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Grades: Preschool (3 years old) – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.**

HC School is an accredited school with Missouri certified teachers. It offers a Diocesan-developed curriculum in a Christian private school setting. HC School offers Title 1 tutoring for qualifying students. HC school has small class sizes and spacious classrooms. Please contact Mrs. Osentoski for a tour or to register your child.



Check out our Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/cubamoschools>

facebook **Holy Cross School**

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Earn Cash for Our School!

- Support Holy Cross without spending anything extra!
- Turn in your **Mace Supermarket Receipts**. The school receives 1 point for each \$1 on the receipt. (September – March)
- Turn in used **ink cartridges**. Given to Staples to recycle, the school receives \$2 for each cartridge, up to \$40 a month!
- Turn in **Best Choice UPC codes** found on the labels. Each UPC code is redeemable for 3¢ cents each.

Please deposit your Mace's receipts, Best Choice UPC codes, and ink cartridges in the collection box in the church entrance or bring to the parish office.





**Are you VIRTUS certified?**

**Do you have your background check completed?**

**Have you signed the Code of Conduct?**

If you are not sure, or answered “no” to any of these questions, let us know!

Call or email Michelle in the office to find out if you are VIRTUS compliant! 573-885-3520 or [hcccuba@gmail.com](mailto:hcccuba@gmail.com)

**All volunteers and all school parents (both parents) must to be VIRTUS compliant prior to volunteering or your child starting school.**

Please help us, keep our children safe. The training provides us the knowledge on how to recognize signs of abuse and what to do if we suspect abuse happening. If we ALL are certified and have the training, the likelihood of a child being harmed is greatly reduced.

Call the office if you would like to have an in-person VIRTUS class, or go to [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) to register and take the 2-hour class online.

If you or a family member have experienced abused in the past, please contact our victim assistance coordinator through the Diocese, Jacqueline Baldwin at 573-694-3199.

KEEPING OUR PROMISE  
**TO PROTECT**  
Child and Youth Protection



### Breaking the Silence of Abuse:

As a diocese, we are committed to breaking the silence of abuse. When someone is reporting abuse, we must



acknowledge their pain and how difficult it is to talk about it. False allegations are very rare. Our initial response to someone who is

disclosing abuse for the first time must be compassionate. For those who need to report abuse, encourage them to contact our Victims Assistance Coordinator, Jacqueline Baldwin, (573-694-3199) and to make use of the appropriate State of Missouri hotline (1-800-392-3738) or the [Attorney General's clergy abuse online form](#). All of this information is also on our website, under the 'report abuse' tab. For those who want information, or want you to convey a message to Bishop McKnight, please encourage them to write to us at [reportabuse@diojeffcity.org](mailto:reportabuse@diojeffcity.org).



Need Support Now? If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org).

### Online Counseling Services:

Catholic Charities Counseling services is now providing professional in-person and online therapy across the Diocese of Jefferson City. To learn more simply visit [ccnmo.diojeffcity.org/counseling](http://ccnmo.diojeffcity.org/counseling)



## QUILTING GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

AT ST. MICHAEL'S

The Crawford County Parishes quilting group meets at St. Michael's Steelville every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Crawford County area) working on a quilt in a room which has been given to them. They also are tying up quilts for nursing homes, shelters, and veterans. Some of the members are also crocheting blankets. Please come join them, as many hands make light work and they will be able to serve many more people with your help! Contact Lil Collins at 314-779-4541 for more information or just come down and join them! No experience is necessary!

### Service Opportunity in Our Community:

Drivers are needed to drive veterans to the VA hospital in Columbia MO. The local DAV (Disabled American Veterans) have the vehicles. Drivers do not have to be veterans. This is unpaid. You do get free meals! Call 885-1390 or 885-3680 to volunteer or for more info. Veterans needing a ride, call 885-1390 to schedule.



### Ministerial Alliances and the Food Pantries:

In Cuba, the Cuba Ministerial Alliance (CMA) “runs” the food bank and cooperates with the Life Line Pregnancy Center.

Holy Cross has a St. Martin De Porres envelope to help the poor. The monies collected from this fund help support the Cuba Food pantry.

### Crawford Country Mobile Food Market

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month  
Begins at 10:30 a.m. at the  
Cuba Food Pantry

### Local Food Pantry Hours:

**Cuba:** (573-885-6703)

Thursdays 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fridays 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

**Steelville:** (573-775-4827)

Last 2 Tuesdays of the month hours: 2-4 p.m.

**Bourbon:** (573-732-4888)

Saturday 9-12pm.

Thrift shop: Mon. Tues. & Thur. 9-4p.m. and Sat. 9-12p.m.

### Feed the Hungry:

Our Local food banks are in need of food. The cost of food has gone up! To help, there is a “food basket” in the entryways of our churches. Please bring nonperishable food items and place them in the baskets. The food items will be sent to the 3 food pantries in our three towns.



**Always looking for  
volunteers!  
Call today to help!**

## Civilize it!

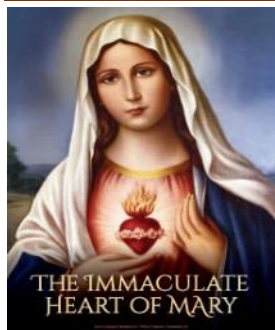
Our political discourse has become increasingly rancorous and bitter. The U.S. bishops began a campaign leading into the 2020 election to restore civility to our public and political discourse



called Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate. The Missouri Catholic Conference highlighted the campaign last year with a special episode of MCC from the Capitol

with Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski. This year, the U.S. bishops are again challenging the faithful to answer Pope Francis' call to seek "a better kind of politics, one truly at the service of the common good." Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics encourages people to commit to seeking the truth, building bridges, and finding solutions together that promote the common good. Individuals can sign the pledge, and sign up to receive additional materials, by visiting the USCCB Civilize It webpage. [www.usccb.org/civilizeit](http://www.usccb.org/civilizeit)

## Prayer to the Immaculate heart of Mary:



O Immaculate Heart of Mary, we entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. Patroness of the Diocese of Jefferson City, you know what we need. We are certain of the power of your intercession, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who taught us to "love one another, as I have loved you" took our sufferings upon Himself and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Bring under your mantel of protection all who provide care for the sick and minister to their needs, as your Son implores us to do for one another.

**V.** We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

**R.** Do not despise our pleas and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



*"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God."* Philippians 4:6



The God Minute is a short, daily Christian prayer that includes peaceful music, scripture and a reflection to bless your day with the Lord. It's only 10 minutes. Take a few God Minutes each morning and see how your day rises in abundance. A Catholic devotional by the Congregation of the Mission - the Vincentians.

<https://www.thegodminute.org/wix-podcast-player>

## Jefferson City Diocesan Women's Ministry:

The Women's Ministry of Jefferson City was established to help the women of our diocese connect with each other so that we can support each other in our spiritual journeys. We find inspiration and comfort in praying with each other, in talking with each other, and in sharing the stories of our faith journeys.



<https://diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry/>

For opportunities to get involved in the ministry, please contact Barb Prasad, Director of Women's Ministry at [bpsasad@diojeffcity.org](mailto:bpsasad@diojeffcity.org) or (573) 635-9127 ext. 222

"Like" the Women's Ministry page on Facebook to keep up with events and news, and to get to know women in your parish and deanery.

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070216385915](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070216385915)

## Please Listen to the Diocese of Jefferson City Podcast.



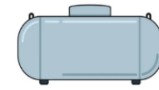
Prayer is how we orientate ourselves as stewards of God's gifts. In this month's podcast, we continue our discussion with Fr. Stephen



Jones about the Four Pillars of Stewardship. These series are designed to help us deepen our understanding of the Spirituality of Stewardship as we approach the Catholic Stewardship Renewal in **October**. Listen to the podcast at <https://diojeffcity.org/podcast/> or use the QR code above.

## Propane Offer:

Boland Energy Boland is willing to offer employees and parishioners the **fixed rate of \$1.69**. This fixed rate will expire May 31, 2025. The only stipulations are: the delivery must be a minimum of 250 gallons delivered at a time and customers must own their tank. If you would like to partake in this offer, please call Boland Energy at: 636-239-9400 and tell them the code word "Holy Cross".





# FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

## Preparing for a Great Marriage:

The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a covenant, a contract and a bond between a man and a woman that forms a partnership for life. The marriage bond is a unique and exclusive relationship between husband and wife for the sanctification of the couple and for the procreation and Christ-centered nurturing of children in a family.

The family, with its foundation in marriage, is a fundamental unit of the Church. Marriage is also a basic social institution of human society. Marital love is at the service of the couple, the children, the community, and of the world. Because of its timeless importance, the Church teaches that marriage between two baptized Christians is a sacrament, a source of grace and a sign of God's love for the world.

Every sacrament needs preparation for its fruitful celebration. The Church wants to ensure that those entering the life-long commitment of marriage are adequately prepared for the riches and the responsibilities that are intrinsic to it. This is why the Diocese of Jefferson City has a policy for marriage preparation. It is not to make the couple "check the boxes" or "jump through hoops." In her efforts of remote, proximate and immediate preparation, the Church is not trying to make it more difficult to get married, but rather provide the best opportunity for equipping the couple to live a shared life of love, compassion and nurturing grace.

## **Engaged? Congratulations!**

Our Marriage Ministries have programs just for you, scheduled throughout 2024. Learn more and register for a Pre-Cana Conference or Engaged Encounter at [diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation](http://diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation).



## Marriage Resources:

**Marriage preparation – USCCB –**  
[www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/marriage-preparation](http://www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/marriage-preparation)

**Marriage & Family Life –**  
[www.archstl.org/marriage-family-life/resources/sexuality](http://www.archstl.org/marriage-family-life/resources/sexuality)

**Natural Family Planning –** [www.diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning-2/](http://www.diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning-2/)

**Pre-Marriage Inventory ©** is a comprehensive, user-friendly tool for lay individuals, couples or professionals who are helping couples prepare for marriage, and who become trained as FOCCUS Facilitators.  
[www.foccusinc.com/foccus-inventory.aspx](http://www.foccusinc.com/foccus-inventory.aspx)

**Prepare/Enrich** provides training for premarital counseling, coaching, and education, investments in your couples' futures. [www.prepare-enrich.com](http://www.prepare-enrich.com)

**Pre-Cana** is one component of the marriage preparation options available to couples that are considering marriage within the Catholic Church. The conference itself consists of presentations by couples and individuals on topics that are a practical as well as a spiritual nature.  
[www.diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/pre-cana-registration/](http://www.diojeffcity.org/marriage-preparation/pre-cana-registration/)

## SAVE THE DATE!

### MARRIAGE RETREAT

*Living in the Trinity with Mary*

**MARCH 14-15, 2025**

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