

The Catholic Parishes of Crawford County

February 15th & 16th, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

*Blessings
And
Woes*

Luke 6:17, 20-26

*Jesus promises that God's kingdom
will come to all, and that we are all
connected in his grace.*

Mass Schedules:

Holy Cross

Saturday 6:00 p.m. **Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**
Tuesday 8:00 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. ~~Tuesday 8:30 a.m.~~

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
	Kathy Royal

Parish Council Members:

Jim Bathe	Mike Kempf
Jerry Dubbelde	RuthAnn Kuethe
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	

Bishop McKnight's Monthly Prayer Intention:

"For mutual respect of the unique roles and responsibilities we are given as members of the Body of Christ. May we recognize and draw strength from the distinctive gifts God has given each of us with a spirit of co-responsibility. We pray to the Lord."



- Feb. 17** – Presidents Day
- Feb. 22** – Feast day of the Chair of St. Peter
- March 1** – Fry Shack Prep for Fish Fry
- March 5** – Ash Wednesday
- March 6** – Fish Fry set up at 3:30 p.m.
- March 6** – Finance Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- March 7** – First Fish Fry
- March 9** – Rite of Sending – Rite of Election
- March 15** – First Reconciliation at 10 a.m.

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

Mass Intentions for 2/17– 2/23, 2025

- 18 H.C. Tues. 8:30 p.m. - No intention requested
- 19 H.C. Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Fr. William Korte ☩
- 20 St.F. Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested
- 21 H.C. Fri. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested
- 22 St.F. Sat. 4:00 p.m. - Steve Siess (healing)
- 22 H.C. Sat. 6:00 p.m. - Charles Hillyer ☩
- 23 H.C. Sun. 8:00 a.m. - People of the parish
- 23 H.C. Sun. 10:00 a.m. - Tom Conduitt ☩

Parish Collections: February 8 & 9, 2025

Parish	Envelopes		Loose		Total
Holy Cross	\$5,343.00	+	\$346.00	=	\$5,589.00
St. Michael	\$972.00	+	\$85.00	=	\$1,057.00
St. Francis	\$273.00	+	\$560.00	=	\$833.00



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, Carolyn Horsefield, James Happle Sr., Sandy Mowry, Aiden Leos, Jerry Welter, James Ray

Faith Formation:



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

February 19

NO Class February 26

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults):

The OCIA sessions in February are:

February 16

NO Class February 23

The pictures and names of the candidates for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults are up at the parishes. The candidates and their sponsors will 'be sent' by the parish on **Sunday, March 9th** during the 10:00 a.m. Mass for the Rite of Sending. They will participate in the Rite of Election, that will take place at the Cathedral, where Bishop Shawn McKnight will meet the candidates. Please pray for them as they continue their journey into being fully initiated in the Catholic Church.



Adoration: Every Wednesday



Adoration is every Wednesday after Mass to 3 p.m. There are 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?

Jubilee Year of Hope 2025

The Church prepares to celebrate the 2025th anniversary of Christ's Incarnation with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." This holy year invites us to deepen our faith, strengthen our relationships, and share Christian hope. Marked every 25 years, the Jubilee offers grace-filled opportunities through Masses, pilgrimages, and spiritual events. The Diocese of Jefferson City is actively preparing, to learn more about upcoming events and how you can participate, visit the Diocese's Jubilee webpage: diojeffcity.org/jubilee-year



Fish Fry Update:

The Lenten **Fish Fries** begin **March 7th** (the Friday after Ash Wednesday) and run for **six weeks**, with the final fish fry on **April 11th** (the Friday before Good Friday).

Time: 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Menu: Fried Fish, Fried Shrimp, Baked Fish, French Fries, Coleslaw, Green Beans, Mac & Cheese, Applesauce, Drinks & Homemade Desserts.

Cost:

- \$15 for adults
- \$13 for carry-outs
- \$5 for children (ages 6-10)
- Free for children 5 and under



Volunteer Sign-Ups:

- This year people will sign up for a **day**, not a specific position! Just check in with **Norma Walls** when you arrive, and she'll direct you where help is needed.
- If you'd like to work in the Fry Shack, please see **Rocky Radcliff** or call the office.

Prep & Setup Dates:

- **Fry Shack Cleaning & Prep:** March 1st – Volunteers needed! Contact Rocky or the office to help.
- **Table Setup:** March 6th at 3:30 p.m.

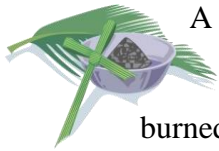
Desserts Needed! Please bring a dessert each Friday to help make our Fish Fry a success.

Happy Valentine's Day Weekend

For God
SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON SO
THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN HIM SHALL
HAVE EVERLASTING
Life

On this Valentine's Day
let us Pray for Peace:
Mary, Queen of Peace, save us all, who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred, and oppression. Make us all learn to live in peace, and educate ourselves for peace, do what is demanded by justice and respect the rights of every person, so that peace may be firmly established. Amen

Blessed Palms - Collected:



A basket is placed in the back of church all through Lent to collect blessed palms for burning. Blessed palms can also be burned or buried at home. Please do not dispose of them in the trash since they are a sacramental.

First Reconciliation:



On **Saturday, March 15th at 10 a.m.**, the children preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will make their First Reconciliation. Pray for the children, their parents and catechist, Maureen Sarles. First Holy Communion is scheduled for May 11th, Good Shepherd Sunday!

Sacramental Items



should be treated with special reverence. The 'rule of thumb' is that anything that has been blessed should be buried or burned and the ashes buried. This type of disposal honors their sacred purpose and returns them to the earth in a dignified manner. It also provides a wonderful opportunity to offer a simple prayer of thanksgiving and ask God's blessing upon your family, home, garden, business, etc.



From the Gospel Reading - Luke 6: 17, 20-26:

*Jesus said, "Blessed are you who are poor,
For the kingdom of God is yours."*

Reflection:

As Jesus announced, the blessings of the kingdom are already present to his disciples – but not fully. Thus, his Beatitudes stir up hope and form our way of thinking and acting as we wait for the fullness of God's Reign. We persevere in our struggles to live as members of God's community and we pay special attention to those in need, those Jesus has called "blessed."

So, we ask ourselves:

- What norms do I use to measure "success" in life?
- How would those norms measure up to the Beatitudes?
- Or, are they among the "woes" Jesus rejects?



Diocesan 2024 Special Collections

With the new stewardship model, the parishes within the Diocese of Jefferson City, tithed 10% monthly to the Diocese. Before this new Stewardship model there were multiple Diocesan collections. Now there are only 3 special collections! But, you may ask yourself, what does the Diocese do with this money? Here is the answer:

The Diocese shared nearly \$1 million with beneficiaries!



**DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City**

In March, \$330,998.54 was given toward the Easter Special Collection. These gifts support retired priests and religious. Following

that collection, the diocese distributed \$165,449.27 to the National Religious Retirement Office, and \$165,449.27 was transferred to the Priest Mutual Benefit Society. The diocese held a Missions Special Collection during July 20-21. This collection raised \$194,805 in support of the Diocesan mission's work. These funds provide assistance to the people in the home dioceses of the mission priests serving us, as well as support national collections that benefit missions work around the world. The 2024 Christmas parish assessment, supported by gifts given during the Christmas Special Collection, raised \$447,408. From that total, \$200,000 was given to the Infirm Priest Fund, and \$247,408 was distributed to the Seminarian Studies Fund. The Dioceses extends their appreciation to all the faithful for their extraordinary support of these important needs in our diocese. In 2025, the Diocese of Jefferson City will repeat this same schedule, with special collections held at Easter, in July, and at Christmas.

The Beatitudes Small Group:



Explore the Beatitudes in your own life through a guided 4-week faith sharing program. One group is starting on Thursday, February 27, 1 p.m. in the school library. Interested? Is another time/day

better for you? Text or call Teresa Leicht 573-205-5259.

*"Blessed are you who are poor,
for the kingdom of God is yours.
Blessed are you who are now hungry,
for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who are now weeping,
for you will laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you,
and when they exclude and insult you,
and denounce your name as evil
on account of the Son of Man.
Rejoice and leap for joy on that day!
Behold, your reward will be great in heaven."*



Joyful
community & faith



Camp Lolek
FOR JUNIOR HIGH

Boys: June 8-12
Girls: June 15-19

Adventure
Sisterhood | Brotherhood
Leadership




Camp Maccabee **Camp Siena**
FOR YOUNG MEN FOR YOUNG WOMEN
July 2025 July 2025

**finalized dates for Maccabee and Siena
will be announced at end of month
REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 31**



DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City

DIOJEFFCITY.ORG/YOUTH-CAMPS

PRAYER. SILENCE. LECTIO DIVINA.

ENCOUNTERING CHRIST RETREATS



On these silent retreats you can expect:

- Silence and a technology “fast”
- Four conferences given by a monk, intended to lead the retreatant to encounter Christ
- Participation in the Divine Office and Mass with the monastic community
- Specific times for personal prayer and *lectio divina*
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

MEN’S RETREATS	WOMEN’S RETREATS
<p>Jan. 24–26, 2025 Feb. 21–23, 2025 (full) May 16–18, 2025 May 30–June 1, 2025 June 27–29, 2025</p>	<p>July 18–20, 2025 Aug. 29–31, 2025 Oct. 17–19, 2025 Nov. 21–23, 2025 Dec. 19–21, 2025</p>
<p>Jan. 17–19, 2025 Jan. 31–Feb. 2, 2025 March 21–23, 2025 May 23–25, 2025 June 20–22, 2025</p>	<p>July 11–13, 2025 Aug. 22–24, 2025 Sep. 12–14, 2025 Oct. 31–Nov. 2, 2025 Dec. 12–14, 2025</p>

*Pricing: \$250 per person.
Retreat costs includes all the meals, a private room,
linen and towels, and retreat director fee.*

*We are located in northwest Missouri:
37174 State Hwy V V | Conception, MO 64433*

Scan the code to visit our
website for more information!







CONCEPTION
Living the Benedictine Tradition
ABBEY GUEST CENTER

MARRIAGE RETREAT

*Living in the Trinity
with Mary*



MARCH 14-15, 2025

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH | JEFFERSON CITY, MO

for married couples

Join us for:

- Inspiring talks, prayer experiences and quality reflection time
- Strengthen your relationship and communication skills
- Explore the spirituality of your relationship

Register:

- Cost \$20, food is included
- Scholarships are available

**Register by March 1
receive free childcare
during the retreat!**

Meet our presenters:

Lisa and Paul Masek are members of Incarnate Word Parish in Chesterfield, MO. They have been married for 35 years, have four adult children, and together they enjoy hiking, traveling, snuggling, and laughing.

Liz and Dominic Lozano are members of Incarnate Word Parish in Chesterfield MO. They have been married for 21 years, have two teenage daughters at home and one up in heaven, and enjoy evening walks, playing music together, and just being goofy with each other.



Register now at
[diojeffcity.org/
marriage-retreat](http://diojeffcity.org/marriage-retreat)



DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City



CATHEDRAL OF
ST. JOSEPH



MARIANIST
Retreat & Conference Center

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.



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.

FlockNote
Keep in touch with us
VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE



Text: **crawfordcounty**

To: **84576**

OR online at: **HCross.flocknote.com**



Pope Francis Prayer Intention

FEBRUARY

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

“Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.”

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 or Grand Wayne Kuethe.



FEBRUARY 2025 BINGO NEWS

Thursday Nights @ 6:15 p.m. (doors open at 4)
PROGRESSIVES ~ The Coverall Progressive is at **\$1,250.00** with 3 hot balls and a consolation prize of \$300.00. The **Second Progressive** will play out and pay **\$500.00, \$750.00 or \$1,000.00**.
QUEEN OF HEARTS ~ Will be over \$7,000.
RAFFLE ~ Every week at Bingo - you take the prizes home that night!!!!
CANNED FOOD DRIVE ~ Free 3 on with every can or box of food.
MATCH ONE OF THESE ~ Bring your tally sheet from the previous week. Win a free gas card.
Numbers are: **184090, 184160, 184178 and 184213.**



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) – 2nd 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.



Check out our Facebook Page

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

facebook **Holy Cross School**

Ways to Save for the Parishes:

- 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 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

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 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.



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.

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



QUILTING GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY

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

AT ST. MICHAEL'S

Starting Tuesday, January 7th,
from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.,
the group will gather at the
Golden Echoes Center
(401 N. Spring St., Steelville).

They will continue meeting there every Tuesday until St. Michael's Church renovations are complete.

All are welcome to join and help make quilts for those in need!

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



3rd 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.

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

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.



Civilize it!

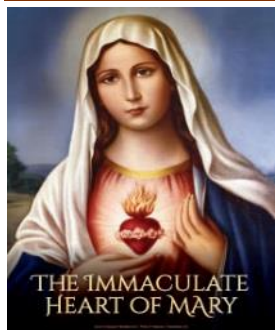
Our political discourse has become increasingly rancorous and bitter. The U.S. bishops began a campaign leading into the 2020 election to restore civility to our public and political discourse



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

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.

the WORD among us Parish

The Word Among Us features uplifting, and thought-provoking meditations based on the daily Mass readings.

Please pick up a copy as each issue becomes available and experience the joy of hearing from God each day!

Catholic Mass Readings and Daily Meditations
the WORD among us
WALKING THE NARROW PATH OF DISCIPLESHIP

Trono de la Mas santas y meditaciones diarias
LA PALABRA entre nosotros
Dichosos los que tienen espíritu de pobres

"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 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

Please Listen to the Diocese of Jefferson City Podcast.



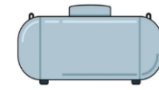
Prayer is how we orientate ourselves as stewards of God's gifts. In this month's podcast, we continue our discussion with Fr. Stephen



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.



Marriage Resources:

Marriage preparation – USCCB –
www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/marriage-preparation

Marriage & Family Life –
www.archstl.org/marriage-family-life/resources/sexuality

Natural Family Planning – 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

Prepare/Enrich provides training for premarital counseling, coaching, and education, investments in your couples' futures. 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/

SAVE THE DATE!

MARRIAGE RETREAT

Living in the Trinity with Mary

MARCH 14-15, 2025

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