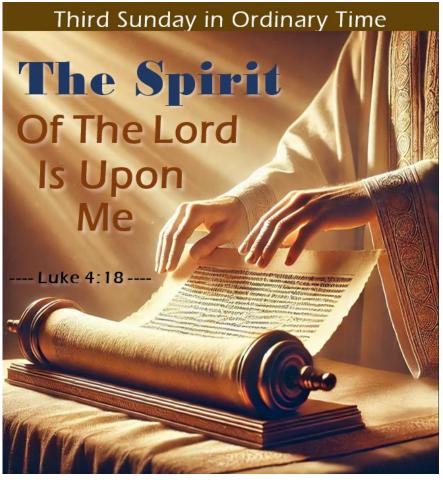
# The Catholic Parishes of Crawford County January 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025



#### Mass Schedules:

#### **Holv 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

Surcangelden) a.m.

Troangelled: 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: hccccuba@gmail.com Web: holycrosscubamo.org

Fr. Anthony (Tony) Onveihe: (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:

Turish 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 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."

#### Jan. 25 - Conversion of Saint Paul, the Apostle

- Jan. 26 - Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 26 – Feb. 1)
- Jan. 28 - The Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas
- Jan. 28 - Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 28 - Feb. 3)
- Adult Catholic Education (ACE) meeting 1 p.m. Jan. 29
- Jan. 31 - The Feast of St. John Bosco
- Feb. 2 - World Day for Consecrated Life
- The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Feb. 2
- Feb. 3 - The Feast of St. Blaise
- Fish Fry Meeting 6:30 p.m. Feb. 4

#### **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 1/27–2/2, 2024**

28 H.C. Tues. 8:30 p.m. - No intention requested

29 H.C. Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Marge Fleming ₽

30 St.F. Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested

31 H.C. Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Loretta Holtsmann ₽

1 H.C. Sat. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested

1 St.F. Sat. 4:00 p.m. - No intention requested

1 H.C. Sat. 6:00 p.m. - Harry Hutchins ₽

2 H.C. Sun. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested

2 H.C. Sun. 10:00 a.m. - Mary Ann Brand ₽

2 H.C. Sun. 11:30 a.m. - People of the parish (Mass in Spanish)

Parish Collections: January 18 & 19, 2025						
Parish	Envelopes		Loose		Total	
<b>Holy Cross</b>	\$3,650.00	+	\$515.00	=	\$4,165.00	
St. Michael	\$630.00	+	\$180.00	=	\$810.00	
St. Francis	\$70.00	+	\$110.00	=	\$180.00	



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, Rob Herzberg

# **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?



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

**NO Class January 29** 

February 5 February 12 February 19

#### **Altar Society:**



The Altar Society WILL **NOT** have a meeting in the month of February.

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



**The next session is: February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.** Please keep them in your prayers as they deepen their relationship with Christ and discern their call to join the Church. **There is no class on January 26<sup>th</sup>.** 

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Jan. 26 -Feb. 1, 2025

Catholic Schools Week starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, (January 26 – February 1). Here are tentative plans for each day. Note: Parents are welcome every day at 2:30 p.m. for Bingo!

- Sunday, Jan. 26: Celebrate our parish at Mass at 10:00am. Coffee, donuts, and book fair in the parish hall after mass. All are invited!
- Monday, Jan. 27: Celebrate community, start collection of canned goods for the food pantry, students have PJ Day, stuffed animals, french toast sticks and Movie & popcorn.
- Tuesday, Jan. 28: Celebrate students Theme day
   PreK/K: Storybook characters, 1st-2nd grades: movie characters
- Wednesday, Jan. 29: Celebrate America and dress in red, white and blue. Mass and patriotic march with flags. Everyone is welcome to attend! Kids may bring photos of family members that are in the military and/or are veterans.
- Thursday, Jan. 30: Celebrate vocations, including Catholic vocations and career. Students may dress as their favorite career or vocation.
- Friday, Jan. 31: Celebrate families, staff, and volunteers with gifts, Grandparents brunch, Book Fair, pick up for canned good collection
- ★★★ Note: The 100th Day of School, depending on snow days, will be in the first days of February!



#### **Groundhog Day:**

February 2<sup>nd</sup> is Groundhog Day. Will Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, see his shadow? Will we have 6 more weeks of winter?

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Review:**



Please note that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Reports are ready and are posted at the back of each church. There are copies for you to take if you wish. If more copies are needed, please call the parish office. If you have any questions, please contact one of the

Financial Council members or speak with Father Tony.

#### **Prayers and Sympathy:**



Our prayers and sympathy for the Breeden family. John Breeden passed away Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. His funeral service was on Wednesday, January 22, at the Steelville Assembly of God Church. May he rest in peace.

#### Fish Fry Meeting:



It's hard to believe but it's time to get going on Fish Fries again.

Everyone who is interested is invited to join the meeting on Tuesday, February 4th

> at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Parish Hall.

Please come and bring your ideas!

#### First Saturday Devotion (February 1st):



If you would like to partake in this devotion to Our Lady Fatima, there will be a Mass at 8:00 a.m. every 1st Saturday of the month. Father Tony will be available for confessions before Mass at 7:30 a.m.

### Preparing for the Jubilee Year of Hope

The Universal Church prepares to celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025.



marking the 2025<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Incarnation of Our Lord. The theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year is "Pilgrims of Hope." It invites us to deepen our relationships with God, with one another, and with creation, while sharing the hope of the Christian faith

with the world. This holy year, celebrated every 25 years, will provide opportunities to experience God's grace through Jubilee Masses, pilgrimages, and other spiritual events. The Diocese of Jefferson City is actively preparing to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope. To learn more about upcoming events and how you can participate, visit the Diocese's Jubilee webpage: diojeffcity.org/jubilee-year Let us embrace this holy year with open hearts and journey

together as Pilgrims of Hope!

#### **Adult Catholic Education (ACE):**

ACE is a group of parishioners committed to organizing events to help continued education and growth in the Faith for Catholic Adults. Below are some of the projects they worked on in 2024:

- Parish website now has more Catholic website options
- Faith sharing groups started
- Planning for 2 parish missions in 2025, English & Spanish
- Advent Benediction and Soup Supper
- Advent reflection guides provided, English & Spanish
- Christmas book giveaway: "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory"



Plans for 2025 are underway! Want to be part of the planning team? Attend the January 29 meeting, 1 p.m. in the parish office.

# World Day for Consecrated Life: will be



celebrated in the Church on Sunday, February 2. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life. Sister Karen professed her vows in the Congregation of School Sisters of Notre Dame. Be sure to thank Sister Karen and all those in

consecrated life on their special day! May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

#### **Candlemas Day:**



Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Simeon said, Jesus is "THE LIGHT TO THE NATIONS AND THE GLORY OF ISRAEL." On this Candlemas day we celebrate light and bless candles. Father Tony will bless candles. There will be available small blessed candles for you and each member of your family. You can also bring candles to be blessed.



**Don't forget** to continue to read the book that was handed out during Christmas, "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory". On Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 p.m., Fr Tony and all those who would like to join him, will make a Consecration to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. May God continue to strengthen us with His grace on this journey!

## **Blessing of the Throats:**

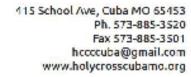


February 3<sup>rd</sup> is the feast of St. Blaise. St Blaise is the patron of throat diseases since he once saved a child from choking. Tradition is to bless throats. There will be blessing of throats at the weekend Masses in English & Spanish on February 1st and 2nd.

#### World Day of the Sick:



Tuesday, February 11th is the World Day of the Sick. It is observed each year on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Let us pray for the sick, for the chronically ill, and for those afflicted with conditions that are especially hard to bear.





January 21, 2025

#### Dear Parishioners,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you today regarding the future of our beloved parish school. For many years, our school has been a cornerstone of faith and education, serving generations of families with dedication and love. However, despite the unwavering commitment of our faculty, staff, and supporters, we have faced persistent challenges of low enrollment and insufficient funding. After much prayerful consideration and consultation, we have made the difficult decision to close the school at the end of this academic year in May.

This decision was not made lightly. We deeply understand the profound impact it has on our students, families, faculty, and parish community. I want to take this moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you who have supported our school through your time, talent, and treasure. Your generosity and devotion have sustained this ministry far longer than many thought possible, and your contributions have made an indelible impact on countless lives.

As we prepare to close this chapter, we also want to celebrate the rich history and legacy of our school. In the coming months, we will be organizing several activities to honor the school's legacy and the many individuals who have been part of its story. These events will include:

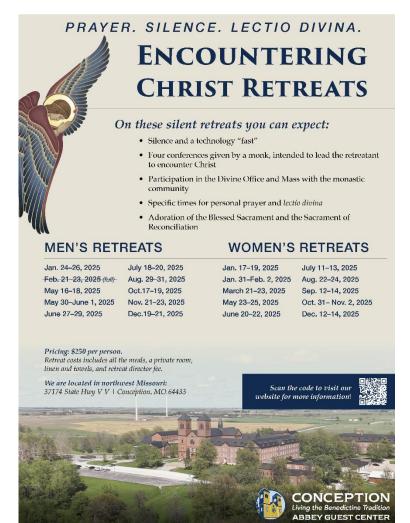
- A Farewell Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the blessings our school has brought to our parish and community.
- An Alumni and Community Gathering to reconnect with those who have been part of our school's journey over the years.
- A School Memory Project, where current and past students, families, and staff can share their stories and mementos.

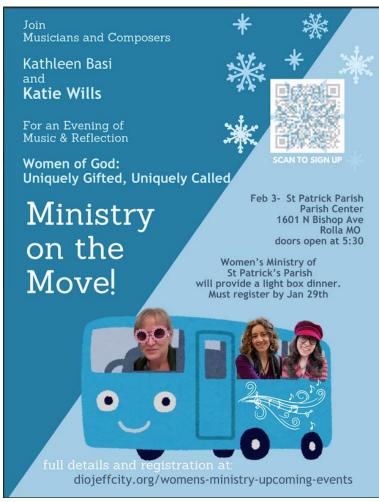
We invite you to join us in these upcoming events as we honor the remarkable legacy of our school and express our gratitude to God for the blessings it has brought.

More details about these activities will be shared in the coming weeks. In the meantime, I ask for your prayers for our students, families, and staff as they transition into this new season. Let us remain steadfast in our faith, trusting that God's plans are always good, even in times of great change.

Thank you for being such an integral part of our parish and school community. Your faith, generosity, and love are a testament to the strength of this parish family. May God bless each of you abundantly.

In Christ's love, Fr Tony Onyeihe







# 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
- Strenghten your relationship and communication skills
- Explore the spirituality of your relationship

# Register:

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

Register by March I 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







#### 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!



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.

**<u>Homebound:</u>** 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 internment.

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 1° Y 3° 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 JANUARY**

#### For the Right to an Education

"Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected."

#### **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 573-259-8920 louisraineri8920@gmail.com or Grand Wayne Kuethe.



# JANUARY 2025 BINGO NEWS

Thursday Nights @ 6:15 p.m. (doors open at 4) PROGRESSIVES ~ Coverall Progressive is at a big \$5,500.00 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.

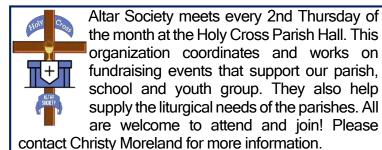
**QUEEN OF HEARTS** ~ Will be over \$6,000.

RAFFLE ~ A 36" Blackstone Grill will be raffled and awarded on December 12<sup>th</sup>. (\$500.00 value)

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE** ~ Until February.

MATCH ONE OF THESE ~ Bring your tally sheet from the previous week. Win a free gas card.

Numbers are: 183608, 183620, 183638 & 183680.



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.



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 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 hccccuba@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 VRITUS 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.







#### **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 **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**



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

Cuba Food Pantry

a me Always looking for volunteers! Call today to help!

#### **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.

cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/counseling

#### Civilize it!

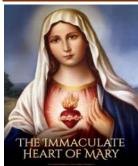
Our political discourse has become increasingly rancorous and bitter. The U.S. bishops began a campaign leading into the 2020 election to restore civility to our public and political discourse



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.

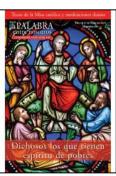
**V.** We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

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



joy of hearing from God each day!





"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 <a href="mailto:bprasad@diojeffcity.org">bprasad@diojeffcity.org</a> 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 <u>and</u> 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".



# **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 teachers 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.



# **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

<u>Natural Family Planning</u> - 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

<u>Prepare/Enrich</u> 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/





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