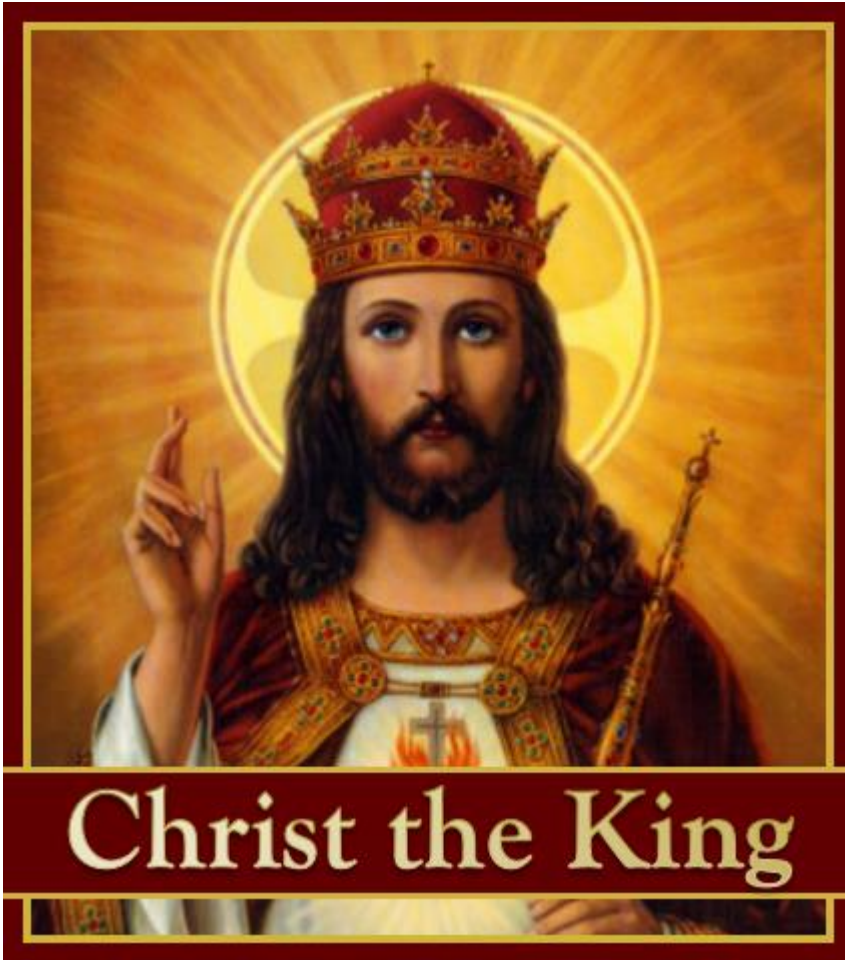


# The Catholic Parishes of Crawford County

## November 23<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024



**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 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	

**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.~~

**Bishop McKnight's Monthly**

**Prayer Intention:**

"For a spirit of unity and Thanksgiving to be cultivated in our lives and in our nation. That we may see God's light reflected in the blessings of our family, friends and community."



- Nov. 28** – Thanksgiving
- Dec. 1** – First Sunday of Advent – Rite of Acceptance / Welcoming
- Dec. 1** – Benediction & Advent Soup Supper - 5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 6** – Feast of St. Nicholas
- Dec. 6** – Annual Christmas Parade 5 p.m.
- Dec. 9** – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – 5:00 p.m. Mass
- Dec. 12** – Feast of Our Lady Guadalupe – 7:00 p.m. Mass
- Dec. 13** – Feast of St. Lucy
- Dec. 25** – The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas
- Dec. 29** – Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- Jan. 1** – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - New Year's Day

**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 11/25– 12/1, 2024

- 26 **H.C.** Tues. 8:30 a.m. - No intention requested
- 27 **H.C.** Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Knights and Ladies Auxiliary #8920 †
- 28 **St.F.** Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - No Mass
- 28 **H.C. Thurs. 9:00 a.m.** - Mary Ann Brand
- 29 **H.C.** Fri. 8:00 a.m. - No intention requested
- 30 **St.F.** Sat. 4:00 p.m. - No intention requested
- 30 **H.C.** Sat. 6:00 p.m. - Harry Hutchins †
- 1 **H.C.** Sun. 8:00 a.m. - People of the parish
- 1 **H.C.** Sun. 10:00 a.m. - Marlene Karns †
- 1 **H.C.** Sun. 11:30 a.m. - People of the parish (Mass in Spanish)

### Parish Collections: November 16 & 17, 2024

Parish	Envelopes		Loose		Total
<b>Holy Cross</b>	\$2,240.00	+	\$623.00	=	\$2,863.00
<b>St. Michael</b>	\$430.00	+	\$254.00	=	\$ 684.00
<b>St. Francis</b>	\$590.00	+	\$215.00	=	\$805.00



Joann Mullen, Eugene Kempf, Charlotte Vavra, Helen Mattox, Suzy Hutchins, Lona Pogue, Janet Lyons, Catherine DeClue, Julie Coster, Donna Lott, Joyce, Wayne Weirich, Joe Kuenz, Cayden Richards, Mariana Weber Don and Kaye Robertson, Dustin Drennan, Jerry Welter, Yazmin Viramontes.

### Faith Formation:



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

**Faith Formation Dates: No Class on November 27**  
**December 4      December 11      December 18**

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



OCIA will meet **Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.** in the parish office. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please come to that session or call Sister Karen (507-514-3226).

On Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, at the 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross, the candidates who have been in the Inquiry sessions will be received into the Catechumenate, in the Rite of Acceptance/Welcoming. Please continue to pray for AND with all the catechumens and candidates.

### For Our Beloved Deceased

The names of those who have died during the past year are on a banner at Holy Cross for us to remember them in our prayers. There is a book in which you are able to write the names of your loved ones at each of the parishes. You can pray and light a candle, and spend time remembering the blessing of our loved ones.



## PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

### On Thursday & Friday

11/28    11/29

### Thanksgiving Day Mass:



**Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**, Thanksgiving Day, Father Tony will celebrate Mass at **Holy Cross at 9:00 a.m.**

(There will be no Mass at St. Francis that day)

### Blessing of the Table Bread Tradition at Thanksgiving Mass:

Bring your bread (wrapped) the day before Thanksgiving (Wednesday) to the office from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. OR bring it with you to Mass on Thursday at the Thanksgiving Mass. The bread will be placed before the Altar. At the end of Mass, Father Tony will bless the breads as a prayer of blessing for our families. The bread can be taken home and shared with your family and friends as you gather together at your Thanksgiving meal.



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prayer of blessing for our families. The bread can be taken home and shared with your family and friends as you gather together at your Thanksgiving meal.

**\*\* Please know, the bread you bring may not be the bread you leave with. So bring bread that you are willing to share with your church family.**

### New Missals:



The feast of Christ the King (November 24), ends the liturgical year. Advent begins December 1<sup>st</sup>. Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. With the new year, we will receive new Breaking Bread missals.

### Small Book Give Away:



A generous donor has bought a "Small Book" for each household. This book contains daily reflections for the Advent & Christmas Season. December 1<sup>st</sup> (*First Sunday of Advent*) – January 12<sup>th</sup> (*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*) Please make sure to get your book!

### Cuba Ministerial Alliance Blood Drive:



CMA Blood Drive is Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at the Recklein Auditorium. The hours are from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m. Schedule a time with the Red Cross to donate. Call **1-800-RED CROSS** or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Each person that donates receives a pair of Red Cross thermal socks!



**COLOR YOUR FALL WITH KINDNESS.**  
Give blood.

### An Idea for Advent – Advent Baskets:



Something that you can do this Advent! Create an Advent basket! All you do is put one item in a basket each day. Then you deliver the basket to someone who is in need, or to the food pantry, during the Christmas season. Some ideas of things to put in the basket each day would be, a canned food item, a toy, toiletries, or clothing. You decide!

### “Advent Soup Supper”

There is an “Advent Soup Supper” at Holy Cross on December 1<sup>st</sup>, the First Sunday of Advent! What is planned?: Benediction in church at 5 p.m. (*What is Benediction? Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is when Jesus Christ is adored in the consecrated Host exposed on the altar, and in which the priest blesses the people with the Sacred Host.*) Following Benediction (5:30 p.m.), a soup supper will be held in the parish hall. During the dinner there will be “conversation starters” to help build community. All parishioners, their families, and their guests are welcome. Please bring a soup or a dish to share with the community.



### Knights of Columbus Canned Food Drive:



The KofC have begun their Annual Christmas Food Drive. It will continue until December 12<sup>th</sup>. Bring a non-perishable item to BINGO and receive a free 3 on for each item. Last year they collected over 6,000 LBS of items for the local food

### Knights of Columbus Children’s Christmas Party:



The annual Knights of Columbus Children’s Christmas Party is December 8<sup>th</sup>. Santa will have goodies for each child, along with hotdogs and chips. This is a free event! Doors open at noon and **Santa** should arrive about 1:00 p.m.

### 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 “New Star”.

### Christmas Parade:



The Cuba Chamber of Commerce Annual Christmas Parade will be Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>! Holy Cross School is creating a float for the parade. If you would like to be involved with the planning of the float, please contact the school. The parade will start at 5 p.m. The theme this year is “Small Town Christmas”!

### Support for St. Michael



St. Michael received a \$500 donation from the KofC Ladies Auxiliary to assist with insurance deductibles and other uncovered expenses following recent flood damage. Thank you ladies, for helping restore and renew St. Michael’s Church!

### 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?*

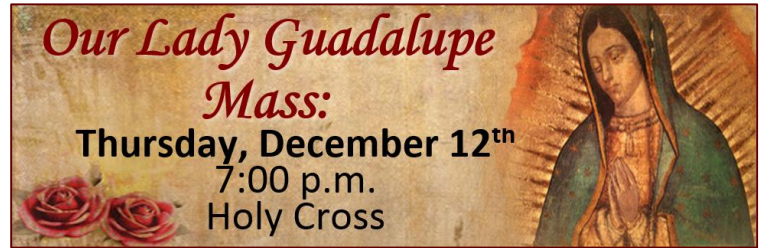
### *IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS*

**Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 p.m. Holy Cross



### *Our Lady Guadalupe Mass:*

**Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 p.m.  
Holy Cross



### Rosary Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe:



Beginning **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** the Latino Community will pray the Rosary to prepare for the Feast Day of our Lady of Guadalupe.

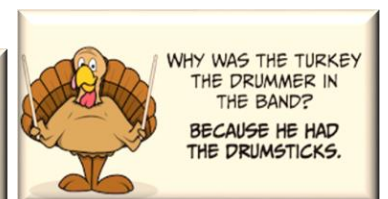
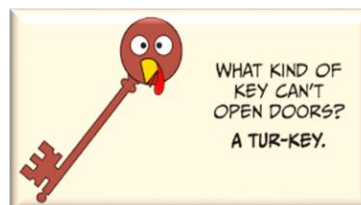


### Christ the King Stained-Glass Window:

At Holy Cross, there is a stained-glass window of Christ the King. The window is located at the back of the church by the stairs to the choir loft.



*My glorious King of the Universe, You are perfect in all of Your ways. Your divine Law must reign in my heart and become the purpose of my life. As we honor Your kingship this day, I rededicate myself to You and submit more fully to Your sovereign control of my life. Please do with me what You will, and use me to help build Your Kingdom on earth. Jesus, I trust in You*





## **New Blessing of the Table Bread Tradition at Thanksgiving Mass:**

**The Thanksgiving Day Mass is Thursday, November 28th, at Holy Cross at 9:00 a.m.**

**(There will be no Mass at St. Francis that day)**

On Thanksgiving we thank God for his abundant blessings!

Parishioners are encouraged to participate in an exciting new parish tradition: the blessing of the table bread.

In this tradition, we are invited to bring to Mass bread (something that one would use at their Thanksgiving meal: rolls, bread, buns, or banana bread, etc.)

Bring the bread (wrapped) the day before Thanksgiving (Wednesday) to the office from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. OR bring it with you to Mass on Thursday at the Thanksgiving Mass.

The bread will be placed before the Altar. At the end of Mass, Father Tony will bless the breads as a prayer of blessing for our families.

The bread can be taken home and shared with your family and friends as you gather together at your Thanksgiving meal.

**\*\* Please know, the bread you bring may not be the bread you leave with. So bring bread that you are willing to share with your church family.**

ADVENT

 SOUP  
Supper

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1ST

Benediction 5:00 p.m.  
at Holy Cross Church

Supper to follow  
at Holy Cross Parish Hall

Bring a Soup to Share

*Let us celebrate Advent together*





Learning about vibration



**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
CENTER**  
Preschool-2nd grade

# NOW ACCEPTING 3 YEAR OLDS

**WHY ENROLL YOUR CHILD IN OUR PRESCHOOL?  
THE BENEFITS OF PRESCHOOL:**

- ✔ Improved social skills
- ✔ Improved Gross and Fine Motor skills
- ✔ Enhanced language development
- ✔ Increased cognitive skills
- ✔ Prepares children for school success



Pi Day



1-573-885-4727



[www.hcschoolcuba.org](http://www.hcschoolcuba.org)

**ENROLL NOW!**

### What We Offer:

- A safe and nurturing Christian environment
- Small class sizes
- Classes Monday-Friday from 8-3:15 with flexible scheduling
- Affordable Extended care - Before school 7-7:30; After school 3:30-5:30
- A play-based curriculum
- Experienced and qualified teachers
- A variety of enrichment programs such as foreign language and music



Motor Lab

### 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**

## **NOVEMBER**

**For Anyone Who Has Lost A Child**  
“We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.”

## 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 Coverall Progressive will be \$4,000.00 with 6 hot balls. The Second Progressive will play out and pay \$500.00, \$750.00 or \$1,000.00.  
**QUEEN OF HEARTS** ~ Will be over \$4,300.  
**GIVE AWAY** ~ November 21<sup>st</sup> - 4 frozen turkeys will be given away as attendance prizes!  
**THANKSGIVING** ~ There will **not** be Bingo on Thanksgiving Day, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
**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: 172718, 182677, 182715 and 182790



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 us. Some members are also tying quilts for nursing homes, shelters, and veterans. Some 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!

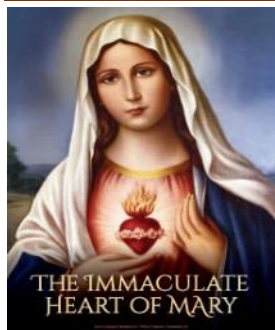
Our political discourse has become increasingly rancorous and bitter. The U.S. bishops began a campaign leading into the 2020 election to restore civility to our public and political discourse



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.

**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

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



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<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.



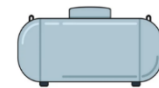
Prayer is how we orientate ourselves as stewards of God's gifts. In this month's podcast, we continue our discussion with Fr. Stephen



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*

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