Masses

Daily:
Mon. - Fri.
8:00 am &
5:30 pm,
Sat. 8:00 am
Sat Vigil:
5:00 pm
Sunday:
7:30 am,
9:00 am,
10:45 am, &
5:00 pm
Confessions:
Sat., 8:30 - 9:00 am
or by appt.

You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.
Matthew 24:44

Very Reverend Thomas R. Lafreniere, V. F., Pastor
Rev. Nadeem Yaqoob, O.A.D., Assisting
Rev. Melvin Shorter, C.P., Assisting
Rev. Daniel Devore, Assisting
Rev. Brian Flanagan, Retired
Deacon Frank Bandy
Deacon Gregory C. Quinn
Deacon Robinson Aza
10970 Jack Nicklaus Dr. North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Web Site: www.paulcross.org
Phone 561-626-1873
Fax 561-626-4383
Email: office@paulcross.org
Ministry of Religious Education & Confirmation
Kate Devine
RCIA/Faith Inquiry
Deacon Gregory C. Quinn
Director of Music & Liturgy
Jeanne Clark

First Friday
Exposition & Holy Hour after 5:30pm Mass

Devotion to Mary
First Saturday of the month, rosary and procession to the grotto following 8:00am Mass. Rosary is prayed every Saturday after the 8:00am Mass, and with the Legion of Mary, Tuesdays after the 8am and 5:30pm Masses.

Adoration Chapel
Open for quiet meditation before the Blessed Sacrament during office hours. Exposition every Friday. Located across from the Parish Office.

Charismatic Prayer Group
Thursdays at 7:30pm in the All Saints Room.
Mass & Healing Service 3rd Thursday of each month in the Chapel.

Hospital/Homebound Visits
If someone is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please advise the Parish Office.

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday in the vestibule of the church 9am - 12noon

Religious Shop - 561-624-1752
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 1:00pm
Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm
Sunday 8:30am - 12:00pm & 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Registered Parishioners: Please help keep our census current by advising us of any changes of address, phone numbers, and family additions or deletions.

New Parishioners
Registration forms are available on our website, in the Office during the week, and in the vestibule of the Church in the wall rack.
Baptisms
Celebrated on the second Sunday of each month at 12:00pm. Parents are encouraged to attend instruction class prior to the birth of their first baby. Please call the office to register.

Baptism Class is Next Sat., Dec. 7th

FOR DECEMBER 7/8
Sat., 5:00 PM - Yvonne Patterson
Sun., 7:30 AM - Justine Carron
9:00 AM - Family Mass
Children Lector
10:45 AM - Beth Casey

SUNDAY, November 24th
Due to an early submission date for this bulletin, the total for the collection will be posted in the December 8th bulletin

God bless you and thank you for your generosity in supporting your church!

SECOND COLLECTION This weekend is the monthly collection for our Maintenance and Improvements fund. SECOND COLLECTION NEXT weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious Brothers and Sisters.

For assistance Call 1-800-348-2886, Ext. 611 or go to osvonlinegiving.com/611

God bless you and thank you for your generosity in supporting your church!

Marriages
Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please call the Parish Office.

Our beautiful Ave Maria Banquet Hall (capacity 325) and our St. Joseph Hall (capacity 175) are available for rental for approved adult receptions and gatherings for occasions connected with church events.

WILL YOU HELP?!
350 CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SAILORS AT THE PORT OF PALM BEACH.
If you would write a Christmas Card (or two or three) filled with encouragement, hope and God’s love at this most beautiful time of the year and drop it off at the Welcome Desk or the Parish Office in the next two weeks, a parishioner will deliver them to the men at the port for Christmas.

THANK YOU AND HAPPY ADVENT!
Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ’s new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God’s power will have brought universal peace and God’s Word will have instructed all people, radiating God’s “light” (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks “in the light of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed “in [God’s] ways” (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to “awake from sleep” for this final “day is at hand” (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday’s scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God’s plan of salvation.

To prepare for the Readings of Dec. 7/8

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).
Is There Life After Life? I Look Forward to It

With this column, we will end our examination of the Nicene Creed. We have already examined what we believe about God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We have also explored what we believe about the Church and how we are incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Church, through Baptism. As a Church, we also believe that there is indeed life after this life for us, as implied by the title of this column. Indeed, we profess in the Creed that we “look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come.”

In our last column, we mentioned that Baptism incorporates us into the life of the Trinity. We believe that God is eternal, so, therefore, we are incorporated into His eternal life as well. In fact, we know that Jesus Himself promised us eternal life if we only believe in Him. In John’s Gospel, Jesus says, “For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him [on] the last day.” [JN 6:40] This quote not only shows us that Jesus promised us eternal life, but also resurrection.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and this means that we believe not only in Jesus’ Resurrection, but a resurrection for us as well. Perhaps the best argument for belief in the resurrection for all the dead comes from Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians: “But if Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then neither has Christ been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then empty [too] is our preaching; empty, too, your faith. For if the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins.” [1 Cor 15:12-14, 16-17] In fact, Christ Himself promised resurrection. When speaking to Martha (after Lazarus’ death) in John’s Gospel, He says, “I am the Resurrection and the life.” [JN 11:25]

“It is very commonly accepted that the life of the human person continues in a spiritual fashion after death. But how can we believe that this body, so clearly mortal, could rise to everlasting life? […] In death, the separation of the soul from the body, the human body decays and the soul goes to meet God, while awaiting its reunion with its glorified body. God, in his almighty power, will definitively grant incorruptible life to our bodies by reuniting them with our souls, through the power of Jesus’ Resurrection.” [CCC 996-997]

To what shall we be resurrected? Will we live in this world again? No, we are promised that there will be a new Heaven and a new earth. In John’s Revelation, he writes, “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. […] I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them [as their God]. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.’ The one who sat on the throne [God] said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’” [Rev 21:1, 3-5] This is “the life of the world to come” to which we look forward.

Amen!
Faith Formation NEWS
CIA - Religious Education for 1st - 5th grade,
Sunday's 10:15 - 11:45 AM
including First Communion Prep
2nd Sundays - Family Mass & Service Project
CIA Session TODAY - Dec. 1st,
Family Mass & Session NEXT SUN., Dec. 8th
& Dec. 15th
Confirmation I & II, 8th & 9th graders and
Middle School, 6th & 7th graders
Sundays 5 PM Mass & 6 PM - 8 PM,
dinner and class
Class TODAY Dec. 1st, 8th & 15th

STORY KEEPERS - Children infants to age 5 are welcome to come to the St. Gabriel Building Room 109 during the 9 AM Sunday Mass. This program is ongoing and free of charge. Hope you can join us!

“Walking with Purpose”
Women’s Group & Catholic Bible Study

Wednesday Mornings at 10 AM
Thursday Evenings at 7 PM (except the 2nd Thursday for LIFT) St. Gabriel Bldg. Prayer Lounge
ALL WOMEN WELCOME

In preparation of the
Second Sunday of Advent
December 8th
Advent Wreath Prayer
The second candle reminds us of the dark night when Joseph and Mary found light and warmth in the stable.

As you light the second candle, pray...
Dear God, give us room in our hearts and our home for other persons who need us. We thank you for friends and people who have received us when we were lonely, afraid or tired. May we be ready to receive the love God offers us in Jesus. We pray in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Family Advent Activity
Gather in a room and turn off the lights, then plug in a night light or light a candle. Name ways to be light for others.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL

1st Sunday of Advent
"Advent should admonish us to discover in each brother or sister that we greet, in each friend whose hand we shake, in each beggar who asks for bread, in each worker who wants to use the right to join a union, in each peasant who looks for work in the coffee groves, the face of Christ. Then it would not be possible to rob them, to cheat them, to deny them their rights. They are Christ, and whatever is done to them Christ will take as done to himself. This is what Advent is: Christ living among us." Saint Oscar Romero

Challenge Question: How might the world be different if every Christian around the world consciously saw the Holy Family in each refugee family? (Michael Jordan Laskey, Director; Office of Life and Justice Ministries, Diocese of Camden, NJ)
Mark your calendar for these events taking place during our 50th Anniversary year:

Dec. 6—Ministries Dinner
Jan. 25, 2020—Neapolitan Knight
Feb. 22—5pm Mass & Celebration

March 28/29—Ministries Fair
Golf Tournament—TBA
June 6—Renewal of Vows

This week in 1980:
Christmas Prayer Tree and “Come Home to Christ for Christmas” campaign began. Parishioners were encouraged to make an ornament at home and write the name(s) of people for the parish to pray for. It was a very successful endeavor with 445 ornaments on the tree by Christmas. The tree was later planted in front of the Church.

We are creating a Memory Book to commemorate our 50th Anniversary. It will be filled with photographs and memories of the past fifty years of our parish. The memory book will be distributed to those who attend our Anniversary Gala on February 22, 2020, as well as to everyone who places an advertisement, best wishes, or memorial in the book. If you wish to participate in this Memory Book, please find a form at the Welcome Desk or in The Parish Office. If you have any questions, please contact The Parish Office.

Tickets for our 50th Anniversary Golden Gala will be available as of Monday, December 2nd in the Parish Office.
Like the three wise men who went bearing gifts to the Infant Jesus, please consider joining our parish community in bearing the light of Christ this Christmas through our **Un-trim the Tree** Parish Advent Program

We will be distributing about 84 presents to the children at Holy Cross Catholic Preschool; 50 gifts to elderly residents at St. James government-subsidized housing in West Palm Beach; 50 gifts to senior residents at Villa Regina in West Palm Beach and 50 gifts to Villa Franciscan in Riviera Beach, both of which are subsidized by Catholic Charities, 25 or so handicapped people, 78 children through a local church outreach program, 10 to DePorres Place, 25 gifts to Hands Together of the Palm Beaches and some to several families we serve directly.

The presence of our Parish ministering to those who are less fortunate throughout the year, and especially at Christmas, is truly a blessing to them, and to us.

Each parish family may participate in the following way:

1. Take one or more paper ornaments from the Advent Tree in our Sanctuary - **each ornament represents an individual from the list above**
2. Take a "directions" flyer, which can be found in a basket under the tree.
3. Purchase & wrap the gift and tape the **SAME TAG** on top.
4. Place the gift under the bare tree **no later than Sunday, December 15**

Your gift will be delivered during the week before Christmas.

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Since 1989 a special collection has taken place in dioceses across the country to fund the Retirement Fund for Religious. Because of your overwhelming generosity, in the last thirty years almost $835 million has been collected to help offset the costs of caring for the thousands of religious men and women who served their congregations with distinction for decades. Thanks to your kindness, these dedicated religious receive excellent elder care and medical care in their senior years.

Our diocese will be participating in this second collection next weekend (December 7/8, 2019) to support these dedicated religious women and men of faith who responded enthusiastically to Jesus Christ and gave of themselves in joyful service. Proceeds from the annual Retirement Fund for Religious appeal enable hundreds of religious communities to care for the elderly members of their congregations.

Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. The Diocese of Palm Beach is grateful for your spiritual and financial assistance towards these dedicated women and men of God as they live out the final chapter in their story of faith and service.

Thank you for all that you do for our retired religious women and men, for your prayers, your friendship, your love and your generosity.

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

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November 30, 2019
CONFESSIONS
Friday, December 20 - 8:30 AM
Saturday, December 21 - 8:30 AM
Monday, December 23 - 8:30 AM
Tuesday, Dec. 24
Daily Mass 8 AM

NATIVITY OF THE LORD - MASSES
CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24
5:00 PM - CHILDREN’S GOSPEL PAGEANT
(Come early for pageant seats.
Concert begins at 4:30 PM)
8:00 PM (Concert begins at 7:30 PM)
11:00 PM (Concert begins at 10:30 PM)
CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM
NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

MARY MOTHER OF GOD
Wednesday, January 1, 8:00 AM, 12:15 PM
NO EVENING MASS ON NEW YEAR’S DAY

THE PARISH OFFICE AND ADORATION CHAPEL
WILL BE CLOSED
Tues., December 24 and Wed., December 25
Tues, December 31 and Wed., January 1

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & DECORATIONS
We will be decorating our church for Christmas with poinsettias, wreaths, trees, and lights. Your memorial will help us to do this. The offering for a memorial of a loved one is $10. Please print CLEARLY the name of the deceased in the space provided below, place the offering in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office. The names of the deceased will appear in our bulletin in January.

Name

Annual Christmas Eve Children’s Gospel Pageant
Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019
5:00 PM

Parents: Help to make Christmas meaningful and memorable for your children! Please, encourage them to participate in our pageant to be held during the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

Sheep: 4-year olds, Kindergarten and First Graders - wear regular Christmas clothes. Costumes will be provided.
Shepherds: Grade 2-4 - wear some sort of shepherd’s garb.
Donkey: The first fourth, fifth or sixth grader who signs up. Wear shepherds garb, you will lead the donkey.
Angels: Grades 2-4 - wear a long white “angel” costume with silver trim at the hem and at the edge of the sleeves. Wings and halos needed.
Archangel & Star: The first two fifth graders who sign up. Archangel needs an angel costume with gold trim. Star wears regular Christmas clothing.
Kings: First three sixth/seventh graders who sign up. Costumes will be provided.

There will only be one rehearsal for the pageant. You must be available for both the rehearsal and the pageant.

Rehearsal is Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 6:15 PM* - 7:30 PM in the Church.
*or when Mass is over!

Parent Volunteers are invited and needed. _____I am willing to help as a volunteer.

To participate, please complete the following and return to the Parish Office by Monday, December 9th or call/email Kate at 626-1873/kate.devine@paulcross.org.

Family Name:

Daytime phone/email:

Child: ___________________Age _________
would like to participate as: __________________

Child: ___________________Age _________
would like to participate as: __________________

If any school age child is interested in singing for the pageant, you may do both.
Whether or not we are present at Church, we remain in the Lord. Please keep the following members of our parish family in your prayers:

Alicia Mont Bont, Cecilia Cheves, Emily Gambill, Kathleen McDonald, Dagmar Prchlik, Maureen Whitaker, Peter Wood and

\[
\text{Rita Dickson, Gina DiDonato, Kristina DiDonato, Rand Doane, Robert Duncan, Sonia Durand, Richard Dziedzic, Will English, Alicia Erickson, Ernst Fihn, Sally Foote, Mike Forte, Evelyn Frazier, Jack Frazier, Sr. Maria Gabrielle, James Gallagher, Anna Elias Galvez, Jose Galvez, Gail Ganzlin, Brittany Garcia, Tresa Gardella, Elena & Peter Gargano, Patrice & Frank Giangiulio, John Ginoarti, Frank Giugliano, Karen Goodheart, Mike Graham, John Graves, Nancy Greene, Barbara Grimple, Carol Grushic, Sue Gunther, Linda Guevreumont, Mary Ann Haggerty,}
\]


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\text{PLEASE NOTE: Please call the Parish Office if you are being admitted to the hospital or know of someone in our parish who requests a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister. Names will remain on the prayer list for two months, unless notified.}
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\text{PLEASE PRAY for the men and women in our armed forces stationed overseas, for the military commanders who lead them, for President Trump and his advisors and for...}
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\[
\text{Sean Ancona, Navy}
\]

\[
\text{CS 2 Christopher Avola}
\]

\[
\text{Spec. Thomas Bates}
\]

\[
\text{Tyler Blank}
\]

\[
\text{Maj. Travis Blaschke, Army Aviation}
\]

\[
\text{PFC Adam Blazak, Army}
\]

\[
\text{Chris Bodley}
\]

\[
\text{Corporal Thomas C. Boehlein, USMC}
\]

\[
\text{LCP Christopher Boudreauit, USMC}
\]

\[
\text{Angela Browning}
\]

\[
\text{Maj. Nicolas Chigihiza, Air Force}
\]

\[
\text{Ryan M. Costello, Army}
\]

\[
\text{Col. John Cross, Army}
\]

\[
\text{Michael Crump}
\]

\[
\text{1st Lt. Michael J. Culler, 101st Airborne}
\]

\[
\text{Ryan Cunningham, FLA National Guard}
\]

\[
\text{Josh Curtis}
\]

\[
\text{LCpl Giulio D’Alatri, Marines}
\]

\[
\text{PFC Gabriel D’Alatri, Marines}
\]

\[
\text{Command Sgt. Maj James Dickens, Army}
\]

\[
\text{Staff Sgt. Stephen Dickens, Army}
\]

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\text{Merciful Father, You desire the welfare of all your children. Stretch out Your protecting arm over our men and women in the service. Shield them from every danger to body, mind and soul. Comfort them in loneliness, sustain them in hardship, give them the courage they need to fulfill their duty and so Do Your will in all things. Bestow on our leaders and the leaders of the world the wisdom and prudence which will bring peace and justice to all. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord. Amen. Mary, help of Christians, pray for us.}
\]

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\text{December 1, 2019}
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\text{Page Ten}
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