

**FEBRUARY 9, 2020 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time*

**Sunday, Feb 09, 2020**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**A light set on a hill**

In 1886, one African-American priest served the U.S. church: former slave Augustus Tolton. Sad to say, Catholic America didn't abandon its racism overnight with Father Tolton's ordination. Nearly a century later in 1979, U.S. bishops were still obliged to release a teaching on racism, *Brothers and Sisters to Us*. Yet more significantly, in 1984 ten black U.S. bishops wrote their own pastoral letter on evangelization, *What We Have Seen and Heard*. In it, they celebrate the historical intertwining of Black America and Catholic America. Learn more about Tolton, Pierre Toussaint, Mary Elizabeth Lange, Henriette DeLille, and other significant black Catholic leaders.  
**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16 (73).*  
*"Just so, your light must shine before others."*

**Monday, Feb 10, 2020**

**MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN**

**You are worthy to ask for help**

Scholastica (480-543) was the twin sister of Benedict of Nursia. Both founded monastic communities, though Benedict gets more press due to the Rule he established. However, the most famous Scholastica story shows her equality before God: She and Benedict met yearly to confer on spiritual matters at a house near his monastery. At the end of one meeting, she had a premonition it would be their last before death would part them. Scholastica encouraged Benedict to stay and continue their conversation. He refused, as his Rule forbade spending the night outside the monastery, but a violent thunderstorm arose and he had to stay. Benedict asked what Scholastica had done. Her response: "I asked you for a favor and you would not listen; so I asked my God." Believe in your own worthiness to ask God for help.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56 (329).* "Jesus and his disciples, after crossing the lake, came ashore at Gennesaret and tied up there."

**Tuesday, Feb 11, 2020**

**MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES/WORLD DAY OF THE SICK**

**So many Marys!**

Why do there seem to be so many versions of Mary in the Catholic Church? Mother of God, Queen of

Peace, Black Madonna, Theotokos (God-Bearer), and all of the "Our Lady of" titles. Throughout history, many people have had powerful moments in which they experience Mary's motherly care and encouragement in following Jesus. In these experiences Mary's faith and tenderness become accessible as she appears in the culture and time of the people. She draws close to them in images and languages that they understand. What images of Mary are important for you today? Take time to explore the "Marys" and learn how different cultures have experienced her tender love.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13* "Regard kindly the prayer and petition of your servant, LORD, my God."

**Wednesday, Feb 12, 2020**

**Time to come clean**

In two weeks it will be Ash Wednesday and the return of that perennial Catholic question, "What are you giving up for Lent?" Even though sacrifice is a worthy spiritual pursuit, all too often the focus is on externals. We give up sweets, Alcohol, or going out to movie theaters. We fast by going without meat on Fridays. But Jesus wants us to clean house from the inside out. What if we fasted from bad attitudes? What if we gave up our need to always be right—or worked concretely to address our impatience, selfishness, or judgmentalism? Make Lent a true awakening this year by thinking ahead about your spiritual plan.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23 (331).* "These evils come from within and they defile."

**Thursday, Feb 13, 2020**

**MAKE ROOM AT THE TABLE**

A prominent feature of many Bible stories is God's care for Israel's foes. Even though Hebrew scripture identifies the tribes of Israel as the chosen people, God's support and help extends beyond them, even to their enemies. Although it wasn't time yet for gentiles to enjoy the food of the Master's table, a Greek woman cajoled the Lord into slipping her a few scraps. People are ostracized today because of the color of their skin, the language they speak, the country they come from, the religion they embrace, and the people they love. These people also belong at our table. Who's begging to sit at yours?

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30 (332).* "Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children's scraps."

**Friday, Feb 14, 2020**

**MEMORIAL OF CYRIL, MONK, AND METHODIUS, BISHOP**

**Overcome division**

It's Valentine's Day, yes, but it's also the memorial of Saints Cyril and Methodius, two clerics who were brothers. These missionary-linguists are best known as "Apostles to the Slavs." Yet instead of being honored during their lifetime for success in spreading the faith, they were so embroiled in ecclesial fights (many over the use of the Slavonic language) that Methodius spent two years imprisoned in a monastery. Today it seems ludicrous to persecute someone for communicating the faith in the most accessible language. Might some of the issues that divide Catholics now eventually fall by the wayside? A sweet move this Valentine's Day might be to ask Saints Cyril and Methodius to pray for our church to overcome its divisions.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37 (333).* "Immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impeded was removed, and he spoke plainly."

**Saturday, Feb 15, 2020**

**MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Any day is a good day to thank Mary**

There are 19 Marian feast days, solemnities, and memorials on the liturgical calendar, ranging from the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God on January 1 to the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. There are May devotions to Mary, and October is the month of the Holy Rosary, of which Mary is Queen. And then of course the church has dedicated every Saturday to the Blessed Virgin. While there's such ample opportunity to venerate our Mother, don't miss giving your loving devotion to her any day.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10.* "They ate and were satisfied."

**Next Sunday**

**Sunday, Feb 16, 2020**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Embrace a larger ethic**

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37 (76).* "We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age."

**Catholic Social Teaching Corner**

**Feb. 8-9, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

This Sunday we begin the famous Sermon on the Mount from Matthew's Gospel which we will be hearing over the next several weeks. As disciples of Jesus we are called to be light and salt for the world. Both light and salt are change agents and that is what we are called to be. But first we must allow the power of God to change us – so we are able to live and act as Christ did. When we allow God's power to work in us, then our actions of charity and justice; of feeding the hungry; clothing the naked; sheltering the homeless and oppressed will be Good News for others. Then we will be acting as agents of God's light with the flavor of

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God's love for others. Who do you know that is in need of light and salt? How can you bring that to them?

**MASS INTENTIONS  
SATURDAY Feb 8, VIGIL MASS**

For the repose of the soul of Jeffery Adams, requested by Jennifer Brooks

In Loving memory of Jeff Smith, cousin of Juliette Smith-Henderson, who passed away on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**SUNDAY, February 9, 8:00AM**

For all those who have no one to pray for them, requested by Ed. & Elaine Mullen

**SUNDAY, February 9, 10:00AM**

Happy 26<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary to Troy and Mary Anthony

**TUESDAY, February 11, NOON MASS**

For all the souls left in purgatory, requested by Jeanette Assiongbon

**WEDNESDAY, Feb 12, NOON MASS**

Couples in crisis pregnancy find life-giving help, requested by the Mullen's

**THURSDAY Feb 13, NOON MASS**

For all the souls left in purgatory, requested by Jeanette Assiongbon

**FRIDAY, FEB 14, NOON MASS**

For the repose of the souls of all Assiongbon family members, requested by Jeannette Assiongbon

**IGBO MASS**

The next IGBO will be Sunday, February 23, 2020, at 1:30PM. Please tell and invite all your friends.

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL**

Thank you to those families who made a pledge to the Catholic Services Appeal. If you have not yet made your pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. It is not too late. Your gift can make a real difference in the lives of many who are supported by our diocesan programs in education, spirituality and outreach. Pledge envelopes are available on the Usher's table in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Ella Adams	Mary Anthony
Evelyn Battle	Mildred Carter
B.J. Dukes	Josephine Dukes
Vanessa Downey-Little	Monica Godsey
Lester Johnson	Vonnye Rice-Gardner
Doris King	Marie Mason
Bernadette Phifer	Ella Pease
Betty Ridley	Mary Sobers
Mary Waters	

**2020 PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND**

**DATE:** November 4<sup>th</sup>, to 13th, 2020  
Please see Jennifer Brooks or Donna Sistrunk-Irving in the office.  
More details to follow soon  
This shall be the last parish planned Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, sponsored by Holy Cross. Please join us.

**PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN**

The Church celebrates your presence at Mass and is greatly enriched by families who give glory to God. **As we continue to cultivate an awareness of care and protection of children in the Church, please accompany them when they step out of Mass to use the restroom or get a drink of water. This also applies to the FLC.** Together, we help form our littlest ones in wisdom

**NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

The National Black Catholic Men's Conference is being held October 22-25, 2020 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme is, *"Still Rising"*. This is an opportunity for men to pray, worship and fellowship together, as well as experience the tremendous events that have been planned for attendees for us to bring back to our parishes to share with others.



*The Holy Cross Youth Group, its leaders and chaperones, would like to thank all, for their generosity, love and support to make it possible for the youth to attend the DCYC Conference. Without your kindness and openhandedness the trip would not have been possible for some of our youth.*

**"GENEROSITY"**

*"The most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion. Blessings and gratitude, Holy Cross Youth"*

**MOTHERLAND MASS**

Sunday February 23rd is Motherland Mass. We want you to invite all your friends and family. We also want you to think of participating in the various activities of that day. We are looking for people to join in the Procession of the Word. See Fr Basil, DeKarlos, or Maureen. Thanks.

**DEBT RETIREMENT COLLECTION**

This collection helps us pay our FLC loan with the diocese and other expenses. Our monthly target is \$4000. This collection is every Second Sunday of the month. Thanks for your generosity.

**NEEDS OF THE PARISH COLLECTION**

This collection helps to pay things like repairs, intervention, and other needs of the parish. This collection happens every last Sunday of the Month. We would like you to convert much of your gift to St Vincent the Paul to the needs of the Parish as the parish funds St Vincent the Paul monthly. Thanks for your generosity.

<b>SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2020</b>	
Mass	8:00AM
Rosary	9:30AM
Mass	10:00AM
Byzantine	5:00PM

<b>Weekend JAN 25/26, 2020</b>		
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
VIGIL MASS	22	5:30 pm
SUNDAY	45	8:00 am
	233	10:00 am
<b>Weekend JAN 25/26, 2020</b>		

OFFERTORY	\$7654.00
CHILDREN	58.00
SVDP	100.00
E-GIVING	1304.86
SVDP(E-GIVING)	125.00
DR (E-GIVING)	265.00
DR	590.00
MSP	60.00
Needs of Parish	429.00
DCYC	300.00
ACTS	430.00
CANDLES	113.00

**Family Life Center Now Available for Renting**

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party
- Birthday Party
- Graduation Party
- Wakes
- Coporate Events
- Ministry Events
- Meetings
- ETC

Contact the Church Office for details  
5124723741

