

Website:www.holycrossaustin.org Email: holycross@holycrossaustin.org
JANUARY 31, 2021 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INVEST JUST FIVE MINUTES A DAY, AND YOUR FAITH WILL DEEPEN AND GROW, A DAY AT A TIME."

SUNDAY, JAN 31, 2021 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP

The relationship between parishes and schools is long and intimate—important to note at the start of Catholic Schools Week. After the first Catholic diocese was established in the United States in Baltimore, pastors lobbied at once for schools and religious to staff them. Frontier pastors vowed to build the school first and the church later. They understood that without proper religious education, the parish venture would certainly fail. Today, celebrate this essential partnership with a holy hour, candlelight prayer vigil, or special project in the parish for young people and their supporters.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28 (71). "What is this? A new teaching with authority."

MONDAY, FEB 01, 2021 EXAMPLE IS THE BEST EDUCATION

Each day of Catholic Schools Week is the celebration of a component of Catholic education. Today we look at the experience of community. Through the relationships and interactions of service activities in the community and class trips to other environs, students get to practice the values they learn in their Catholic education and experience what it feels like to be making the world a better place. Plus they get a chance to observe others in community service and come to appreciate how they can continue caring for others their entire lives. Today, be an example of service to others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323). "[A]nnounce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."

TUESDAY, FEB 02, 2021 FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Teach a faith that grows on you Mary and Joseph bring their beloved firstborn to the temple at the appointed time, so Jesus can enter into the covenant with Yahweh that Jews have revered since Abraham. Not unlike infant Baptism today, it was—among other things—a powerful ritual of belonging that put the child on the right path to growing in faith. As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week—with the focus today being squarely on "the student"—may we never forget or neglect the promise of every young soul, so receptive to our efforts to plant the seeds of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."

WEDNESDAY, FEB 03, 2021 ONE NATION, UNDER GOD

Catholic schools have made a unique contribution to the nation, and today we can recognize and celebrate that contribution. At their very best, Catholic schools train students to grow both as members of the Catholic church and as productive citizens of the nation. By "rendering to Caesar and to God," Catholic schools in the United States have managed to achieve that rare combination in world history, the development of a relatively harmonious church-state relationship that has endured for centuries. See the NCEA website for suggestions on how to celebrate the nation during Catholic Schools Week.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:4-7, Mark 6:1-6 "Many who heard him were astonished. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him?'"

THURSDAY, FEB 04, 2021 LINE THINGS UP

Catholic schools prepare students to discover their vocation, so they can grow to use their gifts in service of church and world. Over the years, our notion of "vocation" has broadened significantly. A word that once designated those who take religious vows or are ordained into ministry is now used more broadly. No one defined vocation better than essayist and theologian Carl Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." Are the two aligned in your life? And if not, how can you bring them into alignment?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13 "Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two."

FRIDAY, FEB 05, 2021 THANK THOSE WHO OPENED YOUR MIND

Where would any of us be without our teachers? They did everything from helping us with our "three R's" to opening our minds to new ways of seeing the world. The really great teachers taught us how to learn for ourselves and thus set us up for a lifetime of discovery and fulfillment. When was the last time you thanked a teacher? Today is the day Catholic Schools Week pays special attention to the faculty, staff, and volunteers that make it possible for these great schools to function. See the NCEA

website for suggestions on how to give thanks and recognition.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327). "The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid."

SATURDAY, FEB 06, 2021 MAKE FAITH A FAMILY AFFAIR

We close Catholic Schools Week by recognizing the central role in Catholic education played by the family. The Second Vatican Council called the family "the domestic church" because it is in the home that faith is first formed and nurtured. Whether you live alone or with others, your home can be a sacred space of prayer and spirituality. Creating sacred space in your home includes prayer and scripture readings at meal times and before bed; praying the Rosary; placing a crucifix in a prominent place; and family traditions based on the liturgical seasons. Look for ways to recognize the family's role in Catholic education and also ways to make your home a domestic church. Have at it!

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328). "The Apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught."

Next Sunday

SUNDAY, FEB 07, 2021 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME GAME ON

TODAY'S READINGS: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39 (74). "Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. . . . [Jesus] grasped her hand, and helped her up."

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CORNER

Jan. 30-31 -- Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel today tells us that the crowds were spellbound by Jesus' teaching "...because he taught with authority..." As a church, we share the privilege and responsibility of living God's truth with authority so that the whole world might hear and believe. Under the leadership of Pope Francis and Bishop Vásquez we call all to protect and defend every person throughout their lives; to promote the dignity of every person by ensuring they have what they need to live with dignity; to grow in solidarity by recognizing our common humanity with everyone. These authoritative teachings are challenging. How are you called to grow in understanding and proclaiming them?

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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31TH, 8:00AM In loving memory of the souls of deceased family members of Holy Cross, requested by The Mullen's

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31TH, 10:00AM

For couples in crisis pregnancy, may God help them find Life-giving help. Requested by The Mullen's

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2021

SUNDAY MASSES

8:00AM 10:00AM

No Noon Mass this week, Feb 2-5, 2021

JANUARY 24, 2021

OFFERTORY	\$2525.00
E-GIVING	1758.35
SVDP(E-GIVING)	20.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	6.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	105.00
DR (E-GIVING)	102.00
Needs of the Parish(E-GIV)	36.00

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR PARISH DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME

Remember, the Church depends on your weekly donation for paying bills, and maintaining of the Church facilities. Even though Masses and other events are cancelled, the Church is still operating. Your weekly offering and donations are direly needed. If you are not online giver, you can still do so by going to www.holycrossaustin.org and give your donation. You also can mail it if you are able to. Thank you for your faith and commitment.

ReachedGoal Congratulations! I am happy to share that our parish has reached our Catholic Services Appeal pledge goal of \$15,500.00. We are at 136% of our pledge goal and 129% of our Challenge Goal. To date, 58 families have made a gift to the appeal. Last year, we had 69 participating families. Our parish has earned 3 tickets for the Parish Incentive Program, which means we have the opportunity to win \$5,000.00 in parish grants. Our hearts are filled with gratitude!

Thank you to everyone who said "yes" to support the priests, seminarians, families and poor of our diocese. If you are still prayerfully considering your CSA gift, it's not too late! You can still make a secure gift online at austindiocese.org/give.



MESSAGE FROM FATHER BASIL

Our Pastor has arrived safely back in the United States and is quarantine at the Rectory for required number of days, and for some much needed rest.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ella Adams	Mary Anthony
Evelyn Battle	Mildred Carter
B.J. Dukes	Jude Ekpc
Vanessa Downey-Little	Bernie Little
Monica Godsey	Lester Johnson
Marion Welch	Sam King, Jr.
Vonnaye Rice-Gardner	Bernadette Phifer
Ella Pease	Betty Ridley
Mary Sobers	Mary Waters
Charlene Postell	Gladie Stelly
Cornelius Harris	Jim Castro
Pearl Cox	Brent Brown
Frances Brown	Naomi White

together with the Office of Worship and the Secretariat of Life, Charity, and Justice, is hosting **Plenty Good Room**, a special virtual event for pastoral musicians on Saturday, February 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We are privileged to have composer, producer, and recording artist **W. Clifford Petty** who will help us to understand the culture, language, talents, and musicality within the Black apostolate.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Register online by February 10 at

www.npmaustin.org

\$20.00/person

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR PLENTY GOOD ROOM.

There are limited scholarships from the Diocesan Office of Black Ministry available. To apply for assistance with virtual registration fee, please complete the [application form](#). *This assistance will NOT be considered for persons outside the Diocese of Austin.* Funding will be awarded on a rolling basis until depleted. The financial aid request form will close on February 5, 2021, unless funding is depleted sooner.

Diocese of Austin
 NPM & Austin
 Featuring **W. Clifford Petty**
 with opening remarks by Bishop Joe

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021 • 9:00 A.M. • VIRTUAL

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The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) Austin Chapter,

