

Website: www.holycrossaustin.org Email: holycross@holycrossaustin.org
FEBRUARY 7, 2021 ~ 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 07, 2021 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME GAME ON

The odds for Super Bowl Sunday 2021 were available last February. Tickets for the game have been on sale for as long. But things don't always happen the way we plan them. Last year, when the Chiefs were pitted against the 49ers, no one imagined how the world would change between one Super Bowl and the next. Still, Jesus comes into our midst wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, and grasps us by the hand. We can't be sure of the game plan for the future. But we can trust that Jesus will be there for us.

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."

MONDAY, FEB 08, 2021 MEMORIAL OF JEROME EMILIANI, PRIEST SHARE THE LOVE TO FEEL THE LOVE

Who hasn't felt all alone before? Perhaps let down or left by a loved one. Perhaps in such dire straits that you thought even God abandoned you. Jerome Emiliani is the saint for those low points. He found God in ultimate isolation—prison. Once free, he became a priest and devoted himself to the abandoned of 16th century Venice—especially orphans and prostitutes. When you feel stricken with an orphan spirit, remember that you are a beloved child of a loving Creator who will never let you go. Show that same love to those who need you most. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56 (329). "They laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak." Tuesday, Feb 09, 2021 Be the change Gregory XV became pope by "popular acclaim" on this day in 1621—interesting, because he changed the tradition soon after. Instead, Gregory made the case for the first secret ballot when electing a pope. He also did other remarkable things, considering his papacy lasted barely two years. He established the first missionary organization of the Vatican, the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith. And he canonized these beloved saints: Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, Francis Xavier, and Philip Neri. Is there a change you've been meaning to make in your own practice of the faith? Begin today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:20—2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330). "The Pharisees and scribes questioned him, 'Why do your disciples not follow the tradition?'"

WEDNESDAY, FEB 10, 2021 MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN GOD'S ASSISTANCE RAINS DOWN

There are few details of Saint Scholastica's early life, but we do know that this sister of Benedict of Nursia entered religious life and lived in a women's monastery a few miles from her brother's in Monte Cassino. Perhaps the most enduring story about Scholastica is one that pits her will against her brother's when she begs him to extend their yearly visit and spend the night in prayer and conversation. Benedict resists, not wishing to break his own rule with a night away from home. Determined, Scholastica asks God for assistance, and a torrential rainstorm ensues that settles the matter in her favor—Benedict will spend the night. Never doubt that you are worthy to ask for God's help. Trust your heart to know what will draw you closer to God.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331). "When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth."

THURSDAY, FEB 11, 2021 MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES TURN TO MARY

Much of Jesus' ministry had to do with some form of healing, and today's memorial, Our Lady of Lourdes, recognizes Mary's 18 reported appearances in Lourdes, France, a place of pilgrimage known for healing powers. Millions of people a year travel to Lourdes in search of healing; many report spiritual peace and transformation, and a handful even report experiencing cures without medical explanation. Today is also World Day of the Sick. It's an ideal day to ask Mary to intercede on behalf of healing that we need—or that our friends and loved ones desire.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332). "Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him. She came and fell at his feet."

FRIDAY, FEB 12, 2021 SAY THEIR NAME

This day, falling between World Day of the Sick and Valentine's Day, brings thoughts of how many are left alone after COVID deaths. Advertisers are pushing candy, cards, and flowery bouquets, but the countercultural church also counsels that we pay kind attention to those who are

grieving. Practical actions are often most helpful: not only shoveling a driveway or baking some bread, but also reaching out and just listening to whatever is on the grieving person's heart. Sometimes all a grieving person wants is to name the beloved and talk about them again. Being a good listener is a welcome gift. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333). "They were exceedingly astonished and they said, 'He has done all things well.'"

SATURDAY, FEB 13, 2021 OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SATURDAYS BELONG TO MARY

For more than a thousand years, the Catholic Church has dedicated most Saturdays to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The reason for choosing Saturday above all other days has been lost to antiquity. But according to tradition, Saturday has been set aside to celebrate the maternal example of Mary and witness to her dedicated discipleship as a woman of God and a follower of Jesus. The weekly memorial serves as a reminder that she is continuously present and operative in the life of the church. Reflect on how the Blessed Virgin Mary has been present and active in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334). "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."

Next Sunday

SUNDAY, FEB 14, 2021 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME STAYING THE COURSE

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31— 11:1; Mark 1:40-45 (77). "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CORNER

Feb. 6-7 -- Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
The reading today from the Book of Job speaks of the human condition we all face: difficulty, sickness, pain and death. However in the Gospel, Jesus comes as one who heals and comforts. Our faith is rooted in the mystery of life and death. None of us escapes our human condition, but in Christ all pain, suffering and even death is transformed to risen life. How can we bring hope to those burdened by suffering and pain this week? Who needs our hand and voice to help them know that God loves and cares for them?

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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 8:00AM

Thanking God for the safe return of our Pastor.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 10:00AM

Happy Anniversary to Troy and Mary Anthony on their 27th Wedding anniversary

Happy Birthday to Adaola Onyenaka on her 30th birthday, requested by her father Patrick Onyenaka

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY MASSES

8:00AM 10:00AM

JANUARY 31, 2021

OFFERTORY	\$4173.00
E-GIVING	2049.56
SVDP(E-GIVING)	176.00
MSP	55.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	11.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	532.00
DR (E-GIVING)	102.00
Needs of the Parish(E-GIV)	41.00
Needs of the Parish	75.00
Ash Wed.	30.00
Albertson's	25.06
Gift Store	15.00

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.

MESSAGE FROM FATHER BASIL



Our Pastor has arrived safely back in the United States and is in quarantine at the Rectory for required number of days, and for some much needed rest. He wants to thank his parishioners for all your prayers for him and his family.



Ash Wednesday is February 17th, Mass times at Holy Cross are 12:00 noon and 6:00PM. **COVID-19** has altered life as we know it — and this year, that means area Catholics will mark Ash Wednesday differently. Following a decision from the Vatican about the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday, all parishes in the Diocese of Austin will follow these new guidelines this year. "Priests or other additional ministers — all in face masks — will sprinkle ashes on each person's head in silence. This is a variation from the customary practice of tracing a sign of the cross on the person's forehead in ashes. These changes are needed due to COVID -19 safety protocols,"

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

On Wednesday, March 24th, 6:30 PM, is a special day and time set aside at Holy Cross to receive God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Confession or Penance, is a sacrament of healing and a light that is calling us home. In Scripture, light is frequently associated with Christ and darkness is always associated with sin or the Evil One. The Catholic Church is sometimes accused of being obsessed with sin. It would be more accurate to say the Church is obsessed with forgiveness. The words "forgive" and "forgiveness" appears frequently in our prayers and liturgy, as well as in the Bible.



This Sunday the Church celebrates "World Day for Consecrated Life".

This feast connects to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also called Candlemas Day, the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. Those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. Let us pray for them and recognize them for what they truly are — a gift for the whole Church.



ROSARY HOUR

Please join us each Sunday at 8:30PM for our Holy Cross Family Rosary.

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.
Vonnys 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

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

