

Holy Cross Catholic Church



*There are different ministries,
but the same Lord.
You then are the Body of Christ.
Everyone of you is a member of it.*

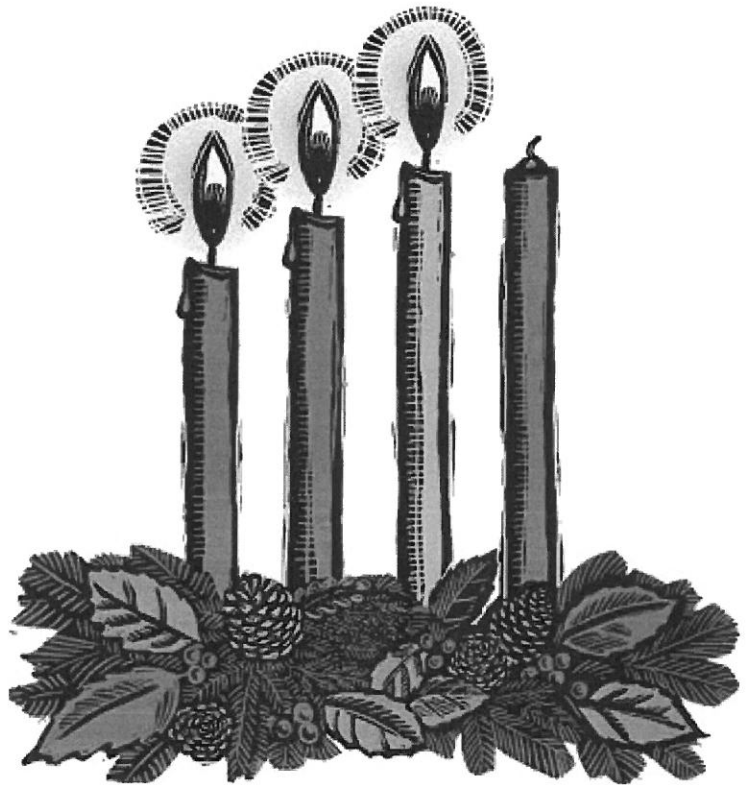
1 Corinthians 12:5 & 27

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

Isaiah 61:1

*The Spirit of the Lord is
upon me, because he
has anointed me to bring
glad tidings to the poor.*



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Adrian & Irma Guerrero, *Maintenance*

Ryan Meliton, *Accompanist*

Mass Times Mon-Fri 9am | Sat 5pm | Sun 8am & 11am | **Reconciliation** Sat 3-4pm or by appt

Office Hours Mon- Thu 9am-1pm | (907) 349-8388 | 2627 Lore Rd Anchorage, AK 99507 | holycrossalaska.net



This Week at Holy Cross

Mon Dec 12

9am- Mass
1pm- Aspen Creek Service
~~6pm- Finance Meeting~~

Tue Dec 13

9am- Mass
5:30pm- Confirmation Class
7pm- OCIA

Wed Dec 14

9am- Mass

Thu Dec 15

9am- Mass
6:30pm- Screwtape Letters

Fri Dec 16-Parish Office Closed

9am- Mass

Sat Dec 17

1pm- Legion of Mary
3-4pm- Confession
5pm- Mass

Sun Dec 18

8am- Mass
9:15am- Faith Formation
11am- Mass followed by Rosary

Mass Intentions

Email the office to schedule your Mass Intention!

12/10	Available
12/11	8am- People of the Parish 11am- Available
12/12-25	Available

Next Sunday's Readings Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14

Behold, the virgin shall conceive.

Psalms 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, descended from David, is the Son of God.

Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus will be born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

Reflection

We don't often see the grand miracles that Jesus enumerates here, but we, too, are called to witness to God's work of healing and giving life. Jesus usually slips in quietly, blessing us with subtle strength and slow growth that we might fail to notice. Very often in our lives, we have to train our eyes to see it.

Joyful Dissonance

Today we are with John the Baptist at a very low point in his life. His ministry is over, and his life is hanging by a thread. He has been imprisoned at the desert fortress of Herod Antipas east of the Dead Sea. Now, to top it off, he hears news about Jesus that puzzles and troubles him. John was expecting the coming of the Messiah to bring a universal cleanup. He had spoken of the "coming wrath" and said "the ax is lying at the root of the trees" (Matt 3:10). Now he hears that Jesus is preaching forgiveness and compassion for sinners.

John is experiencing what today we call cognitive dissonance. And so he sends the question to Jesus: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Jesus responds with a quote from Isaiah which describes the actions he has been performing as signs of the coming "year of favor from the Lord."

He goes on to say, "Blessed is the one who takes no offense in me," who (literally) "does not stumble over me." John will have to adapt his view to the reality of who Jesus really is, which may be contrary to his preconceived notions.

How about us? Today Jesus lives among us in the Church, which is his Body, and we may experience cognitive dissonance, too. Can this institution with abuses and scandals and weak people be the Church of the living God? Isn't a little wrath over the "evils" of secular culture in order? Like John the Baptist, we long for a universal cleanup. As we should.

But don't be scandalized, Jesus says, if I don't do it your way. Don't be offended by the "good" part of the good news.

Indeed, the Lord is near. Rejoice. I say again, rejoice.

Fr. Jerome Kodell

Jerome Kodell, OSB, is former abbot of Subiaco Abbey in Arkansas. He is author of numerous books, including Barnabas, Man for Others in the Little Rock Scripture Study Alive in the Word series.

On the Way Home from Mass...

Jesus was able to make blind people see and lame people walk. What does this reveal to us about who Jesus is?



12/11	K-5	Classrooms
	Gr. 6-12	Family session
12/18	All ages in Family Session	
Classes resume January 15.		

Faith Formation
New families, visit:
holycrossalaska.net/formation

Pancake Breakfast

Sun Dec 18 after 11am Mass.
 Donations greatly appreciated!
 Knights, please come volunteer.



OCIA/RCIA: Sacraments for Adults

To learn more about the faith, or receive sacraments as an adult call Deacon Sandon: 947-9168



Giving Tree: due next week!

The collection continues through next Sunday, Dec 18. Choose a gift tag and return the *unwrapped* gift with the *tag attached* by Dec 18. Items are for Brother Francis Shelter, Clare House, and Covenant House.



Eucharistic Miracles

This week's Eucharistic Revival bulletin board features 7 miracles from Belgium. Take a flyer home or learn more at miracolieuaristici.org.

A Holy Happy Hour: December Edition

A group of parishioners are hosting a Drinking with the Saints social next Friday, Dec. 18. New friends welcome! Contact Pat & Deb Seidl for address/info: (907) 301-4180

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- 3 Enjoy the content you want

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An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and ignatius press

Ministry Schedule for next week (Dec 17/18)

Mass	Music	Sacristan	Servers	Readers	EM	Hospitality
Sat 5 pm	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	Manaois Family	Wisdom Marquez Daniel Muldoon			Matt Williams Susan Gallardo
Sun 8 am	Ryan Meliton (walk-ins welcome)	John Hoppe	Joe and Rose Webb			Dora Castillo Henry Maes
Sun 11 am	Sheila Soukup (walk-ins welcome)	Volunteer Needed	Lora and JR Rivera			Degenhardt Family



ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE-JUNEAU
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

December 9, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always!

The seasons of Advent and Christmas offer us a time each year to remember and renew the love, respect, and friendship that bind us together in so many ways as we celebrate God's coming into our world. It is especially important for us to do this when these bonds are challenged by those who would disrupt them and sow the division and hatred that our Lord came to earth to heal. I am writing you to address a situation that has recently arisen.

There have been two instances of vandalism that have taken place in recent weeks at Saint Andrew's Parish in Eagle River. We do not know what has motivated people to do these serious and disturbing actions. These are especially significant in the context of the many expressions of anger that have become so commonplace in our society, our political system, and even our Church. This must be called out for its attack on the dignity of each person and their religious practice. We, as Catholics, must do what we can to promote peace and respect and restore the trust and security upon which healthy human relationships depend.

We do this primarily, of course, through the witness of our Christian faith and through prayer, seeking love and reconciliation in the face of hopelessness, misplaced anger, and intolerance.

Within our Archdiocese, our response must be more proactive and directed. We are actively pursuing more security measures at our facilities to help prevent such activities from happening. In these measures, and in any response to disruptive and violent actions that do take place, our ministers and staff members will cooperate fully with law enforcement authorities, seeking their immediate and sustained intervention and assisting in any criminal investigations.

Let us pray for all this Advent and Christmas Season, especially those who find themselves consumed with feelings of hopelessness, despair, and paralyzing anger, that they may find the healing, peace, and grace that our Lord, Jesus Christ, offers through His Incarnation. May this season bring us all closer together in love and respect, reconciling our differences and healing our divisions in the Spirit of the One whose coming we celebrate.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Andrew E. Bellisario, C.M.
Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau

Retirement Fund for Religious



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry—educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your support of the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish care, medicine, and other necessities. Please give generously.

Please give at your local parish.

To donate by mail:

National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017-1194

Make check payable to Retirement Fund For Religious

retiredreligious.org

Visit retiredreligious.org/2022photos to meet the religious pictured.

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Our Lady of Guadalupe's feast day is December 12.

3rd Sunday of Advent

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E	T	S	I	T	P	A	B	I	U	O	S	S	L
C	F	I	G	R	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R

- GLORY
- SPLENDOR
- BLOOM
- PATIENCE
- HUNGRY
- SPIRIT
- SEEK
- BAPTIST
- MESSENGER
- JOY
- LAME
- BLIND
- KINGDOM
- HEAVEN
- DEAF
- JUST
- MUTE
- STRANGERS
- DEAD
- VINDICATION
- REJOICE
- SING
- RANSOMED
- FLOWERS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/4509630/>

PARISH MINISTRIES SERVICE TEAM

- Altar Servers- Jess Manaos: 230-9418
 Art & Environment- Marilyn Kerr: 346-1624
 Bereavement & Baked Goods- Joan Karcz: 344-0168
 Blessed Sacrament Monastery- Sandon Broek: 947-9168
 Clare House- Leslie Holland: 337-278-7852
 Faith Formation- Anna Schulten: 306-9363
 Church Maintenance- Mike Likar: 529-9015
 Eucharistic Ministers- John Hoppe: 350-7580
 Finance- Greg Magee: 575-3197
 Parish Nurse Program- Deb Siedl: 301-4180
 Hospitality- Joy Maglaqui: 360-5133
 Knights of Columbus- Pat Seidl: 242-1127
 Lawn & Garden- Kirsten Hoppe: 227-7871
 Legion of Mary- Mercy Acheson: 223-4822
 Library- Debi Wickler: 952-1879
 Liturgical Ministries Coordinator- Julie Thomas: 538-1109
 Livestream- John Roberts: 317-6808
 Music Ministry- Sheila Soukup: 250-6234
 Prayer Chain- Joan Gillis: 346-3147
 Readers- Jason Hlasny: 242-6655
 OCIA- Sandon Broek: 947-9168
 Sacristan- Matthew Williams: 632-4252
 Snow Plowing- Vince Garrouette: 522-3647
 Youth/ Young Adult Ministry- Anna Schulten: 306-9363

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

Financial Corner

TITHING UPDATE

How did we do last week in meeting our weekly offertory goal?

Weekly Offertory Goal:	\$	7,077
Weekly Tithing Period:	11/28-12/04/2022	
Income Sources		
Weekly Collections:	\$	3,085
Holy Day/Holiday Collections:	\$	-
Online Giving:	\$	2,547
Total:	\$	5,632
Over /(Under) Goal:	\$	(1,445)
Actual vs. Goal (%):		79.6%

Year to Date (YTD) Income Comparison: Actual versus Budget Total Incomes for FY23 YTD Period

FY23 YTD Period:	7/1/2022 to 10/31/2022	
FY23 YTD Complete (%):	33.3%	
Annual Budget Total Income FY 2023:	\$	397,600
Actual Total Income for Period:	\$	129,646
Budget Total Income for Period:	\$	132,533
Over /(Under) Budget for Period:	\$	(2,887)
Actual vs. Budget for Period (%):		97.8%

Breakdown of Actual Total Income for FY23 YTD Period

FY23 YTD Period:	7/1/2022 to 10/31/2022		
Weekly Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	77,290	59.6%
Holy Day/Holiday Collections (Basket/Mail):	\$	210	0.2%
Online Giving:	\$	52,146	40.2%
2022 United in Mission Annual Appeal (Rebates):	\$	-	0.0%
Total:	\$	129,646	100.0%



Online Giving

To sign up online giving visit holycrossalaska.net/give

ALERT! Holy Cross staff will not contact you requesting gift cards. Never purchase or send money/gift cards electronically.

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