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[www.holycrossparish.ca](http://www.holycrossparish.ca)



# Holy Cross

## Roman Catholic Parish

252 Dubuc Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 1E3

Phone: 204-233-7367 Fax: 204-233-5355 Email: [office@holycrossparish.ca](mailto:office@holycrossparish.ca)

### PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Fr. Ani Xavier, OFM Cap  
204-688-8633  
[pastor@holycrossparish.ca](mailto:pastor@holycrossparish.ca)

### MASS TIMES

Monday–Friday — 7:45am  
Saturday — 7:45am, 4pm  
Sunday — 7:45am, 10am & 12pm

### RECONCILIATION

Monday–Saturday — after the  
7:45am weekday masses.

### PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday–Friday — 8:30am – 12pm  
**Closed on Mondays, Weekends and  
Holidays.**

### Coordinator of Parish Life

Sister Charlotte Leake, S.N.J.M.

### Office Assistant

Rachel de Jesus

### Custodian

Gerard O'Neill

### Catechetics & Youth Group

Dominique Gougeon-Gagnon

### Holy Cross Food Bank

Marianne Savard

### HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

**Principal**                      **Vice-Principal**  
Catherine Walker    Brett Bourquin  
204-237-4936  
[HCSoffice@holycrossschool.mb.ca](mailto:HCSoffice@holycrossschool.mb.ca)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Baruch 5.1-9

**Psalm 126:** "The Lord has done  
great things for us; we are filled with  
joy."

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Philippians 1.3-6, 8-11

**Gospel:** Luke 3.1-6

### PARISH BULLETIN

2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT • December 8, 2024

### Second Sunday of Advent –

### The Lord has Done Great Things for Us; We are Filled With Joy – Psalms 126:3

I love the season of Advent, a time for preparing both our hearts and our homes for the feast of Christmas. It's important to take time during these weeks of Advent to prepare our hearts, to reflect on the year, and to make right our hearts for the Lord. This season happens at the darkest time of the year when days are becoming shorter. Is this so that we can see the light of Jesus? How are you preparing for the coming of Jesus? Are you praying like Paul, with joy in your heart for your fellow parishioners?

In the Gospel, Luke went into some detail about who was in power. The Bible carries so much history that shows us that real people lived on the same earth we live on. In the Atrium, one of the first presentations that the children are shown, is a globe. The globe is just two colours; blue for the oceans and brown (with sand texture), the continents. The children usually recognize the globe and some even know where they are. We place a red dot indicating Israel where Jesus lived. We do this to show that Jesus lived in a real place. Luke wrote his gospel many years ago, and many of us have never been to Israel. But, with the WORD we hear today, Luke provides us with the details to show who was in power and the location of their rule. The reading then ends with a prophecy from Isaiah. John the Baptist was born before Jesus, and he prepared the way for Jesus' ministry. John's journey was hard as he encountered the people of the region of Jordan. John's birth was a miracle since Zachariah and Elizabeth were advanced in age. After he was born the whole region of Judea wondered what kind of man John would grow up to be (Luke 1:66). Because John said "Yes" to God's mission, he prepared the people for Jesus. Are you sharing the Gospel with others? Do others see you and know that you are a Christian by the way you love others? Share the hope and peace that Jesus gave to us, with someone you see this week.

Diane L'Arrivee PPC Chair [ppc@holycrossparish.ca](mailto:ppc@holycrossparish.ca)

### National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples - December 12, 2024

To mark the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, which takes place on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (CCIC) recalls the profound sorrow expressed by Pope Francis, during his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in July 2022, for the catastrophic effects of the residential school system on Indigenous communities, as well as the journey of reconciliation and healing we have embarked upon together. Two years later, the Pope's words still compel us to recognize this painful legacy and walk alongside the Indigenous Peoples in a spirit of repentance, solidarity, and hope. We contemplate the Holy Father's words: "The Church is the house where we conciliate anew, where we meet to start over and to grow together". This vision of the Church as a "living body of reconciliation" has guided us in our ongoing commitment to justice and healing. Together we pray: *O God, Creator and Father of all, with humility and hope, we, your children, acknowledge the relationship in You of all living things. For this we thank You and praise You. We call on You, Great Mystery, our God who comes to us in Jesus Christ, Your Son – our Lord, teacher, prophet and brother – to open our minds and hearts as we continue to walk the difficult, yet critical journey of reconciliation and healing. In our world of such blessed diversity, we see so many struggles and obstacles to oneness and unity. We implore You to heal our brokenness and division. Show us in Jesus the way to unity among the multiplicity of Your peoples in our world. We also pray that You will guide and lead us in the Truth, and show us how to be a people who walk with You. May we be a people of Respect, Humility, Courage, Honesty, and Compassion - as we find Your Wisdom on the Spirit-led journey that supports deep healing and fosters renewed relationships. Lord, make us channels of Your Peace, Hope, and Love! +Amen*

### Silence in Mass During Consecration

Father Ani has requested that no movement and silence in the church is expected at the time of consecration. This cue can be observed by the ringing of bells. Should this happen while you're in route to/from the washroom, please be considerate by stopping and waiting until after the consecration.

### Sunday 11:00am Fellowship

Please be advised that there will be no Sunday 11:00am fellowship effective immediately. It will resume on **January 5, 2025**.

### Children's Choir

A Children's Choir will be singing some carols **before** the 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass. If your child would like to participate, there will be practices in the multipurpose room after the **10:00am Sunday Mass on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**. If you have any questions, you can email Dominique at [holycrossparishcatechist@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossparishcatechist@gmail.com)

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

**Adoration in the Church on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.** Following the morning Mass on this feast day, there will be silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayer devotion related to the Hour of Grace, ending with Benediction at 1:00pm.



### Bilingual Eucharistic Celebration on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

You are all invited to participate in the **December 9** celebration, patronal feast of the Archdiocese of St. Boniface. Come celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary at **7:30pm at St. Boniface Cathedral**. Following the celebration there will be a time of coffee and fellowship in the Narthex. Together, let us pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to St. Boniface for their intercession, May Christ, the Word of God, the Good News, enlighten and protect us by the powerful love of the Holy Spirit.



### Households of Faith – Silent Night to Star Bright

**Wednesday December 11 & 18, 2024 in the parish basement at 7:00pm.**

Meet new friends, share your journey, and dive into Scripture with a supportive community. Join us Wednesday evenings

for two weeks of meaningful conversation and connection. All backgrounds are welcome—let's grow together! For more information, [click here](#)

### Advent Penitential Service

As we prepare for the Christmas season, we invite you to partake in our Advent Penitential Celebration on **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.**

(Image by [Anna Varsányi](#) from [Pixabay](#))



### \*Holy Hour with Charismatic Prayer

Holy Hour with Charismatic Prayer will be held in the church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 7:00pm. **The next one will be held on Saturday, December 14 at 7:00pm.**

\*The December 1, 2024 bulletin in the "The Week Ahead" section listed that Holy Hour with Charismatic Prayer was on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in error. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

### Medjugorje Prayer Group

Please note that there will not be a Medjugorje Prayer Group meeting in December. The next prayer meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at 7:00pm** in the church. All are welcome!

### Holy Cross Parish Men's Group

Attention men of Holy Cross! All men ages 18 and up are invited to the Holy Cross Men's Faith Sharing and Prayer Group, which meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the every month at 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the church. The format will be video presentation, sharing, and the rosary. We learn, we share, we discuss, and we pray. Please contact Charles at (204) 235-1725 or [cppref@mymts.net](mailto:cppref@mymts.net) or Christophe at (431) 866-5138 or [cmaguet@hotmail.com](mailto:cmaguet@hotmail.com) for more information. **The next meeting is on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**



### Parish Office Holiday Hours

The parish office **will be open from 8:30am to 12:00pm on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and will be closed for the holidays beginning the afternoon of Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. We will reopen in the New Year on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 during office hours.** From everyone at the parish office, we wish you peace, joy and all the best the holiday has to offer. May this season of giving and spending time with family bring you joy that lasts throughout the year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

(Image by [OpenClipart-Vectors](#) from [Pixabay](#))

### Christmas Chocolates for the Food Bank

The Holy Cross Food Bank is collecting boxes of chocolates to hand out to patrons this Christmas. If you can spare a box of chocolates for a family this Christmas, please drop them off at the parish office (during office hours). Thank you kindly for your generosity.

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**December 24: Christmas Eve: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

- 4:00pm Children’s Choir
- 5:00pm Children’s Mass
- 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

**December 25: Christmas Day: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)**

- 7:45am Christmas Day Mass
- 10:00am Christmas Day Mass

**December 31: New Year’s Eve: Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity**

- 7:00pm Adoration in the Church
- 8:00pm New Year’s Eve Mass

**January 1, 2025: New Year’s Day: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God • The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)**

- 7:45am Mary, Holy Mother of God
- 10:00am Mary, Holy Mother of God

Note: The 7:45am Daily Mass is still celebrated on Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) & Tuesday, December 31 (New Year’s Eve). They do not appear on this holiday schedule as they are weekday Masses, *separate* from feast days.

**2025 Mass Intentions**

The Holy Cross Parish mass intention book for 2025 is open. Please review the guidelines on the new mass intention request [form](#) found on our [website](#), parish office, and both entrances of the church, as we have made some changes to be in alignment with the policies established by the Archdiocese of St. Boniface for scheduling mass intentions. Please contact the parish office at [office@holycrossparish.ca](mailto:office@holycrossparish.ca) or (204) 233-7367 with any questions. Thank you for your understanding as we try to follow church guidelines, have masses available for the recently deceased and accommodate those who have regular mass intentions.

**Adoration Chapel Key Cards**

The computer system that issues the adoration chapel key cards is now working. The adoration card fee is \$10.00 and can be purchased at the parish office for \$10.00 (cash, cheque or Interact e-Transfer) to help cover the costs of maintaining the chapel.

**Lectors Needed**

More lectors are needed for the 12:00pm noon mass lectoring ministry team. If interested please reach out to Nicole at [nicolegg1@mymts.net](mailto:nicolegg1@mymts.net) or Marina at [vmari.espinoza@gmail.com](mailto:vmari.espinoza@gmail.com)



**CWL Corner**

The Advent Tree will be in its annual spot at the back of the church. This year, we are asking for your



assistance to decorate it with SOCKS. NEW SOCKS of any size & color for the less fortunate children & adults of the inner city.

(Christmas Tree Image by [Cler-Free-Vector-Images](#) from [Pixabay](#))  
(Socks Image by [anastacia bankulova](#) from [Pixabay](#))

**Grey Cup Winners**

The CWL wishes to thank all who supported us in our recent Grey Cup Pool Fundraiser. Congratulations go to the following winners: Jesus Donat, Warren Moore, Bonnie Makadanski, Jackie Brown, Dean Combob, Linda Patterson, Martin Langelier, Merna Shatford, Jack Synchyshyn, Linda Pingel, Jay Steward, D. Cliteur, Mario Chartrand, Beverly Sais, Pat Beaudry, and Debbie Stasiuk .

**Norwood Knights of Columbus**

We are a Catholic men's service organization, practicing Catholics 18 and over, who are here for the church and community's needs. We have life, disability insurance and investment opportunities. We are rated one of the best insurance providers. We have been with Holy Cross Parish over 65 years. Our church representative is Bryon Burvill (204) 233-7904. We are in need of new members to help us reach our objectives.

**Youth Group Bake Sale**

On behalf of the Holy Cross Parish, the Youth Group would like to extend its gratitude for the support we received from our bake sale. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$1,174.45 for 40-Day for Life! We truly are so thankful for your support! God bless!

<b>Sunday Offerings December 1, 2024</b>	
Loose	\$377.85
Envelopes	\$4,360.00
Pre-Authorized Donations	\$948.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,685.85</b>
<i>Thank you for your generosity. Please no foreign currency.</i>	

*In reply He said to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise." Luke 3: 11*

## Mass Intentions December 7–15, 2024

**Saturday, December 7: Second Sunday of Advent**

4:00pm + Rose & + Alfred Ross by Christine Ross

**Sunday, December 8: Second Sunday of Advent**

7:45am Fr. Robbie McDougall by the Holy Cross CWL

10:00am For the Intentions of All Parishioners

12:00pm + Thomas O’Brien & + Evelyn, + Douglas & + Martin Cairns by Erin & family

**Monday, December 9: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:45am + Claire Chenier by Maria & Carol Slykerman

**Tuesday, December 10**

7:45am Daniel Peña by Claire-Marie Peña

**Wednesday, December 11**

7:45am Jonathan Tan & family by Mom & Dad

**Thursday, December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

7:45am Maria Kucarova by the Gocik family

**Friday, December 13: Memorial for St. Lucy**

7:45am + All Souls in Purgatory, + Antoinette Hamid & All Those Who Died During COVID by Maricelli Peña

**Saturday, December 14: Memorial for St. John of the Cross**

7:45am + Jimmy McCord by Michael & Arlene Soenen

**Saturday, December 14: Third Sunday of Advent**

4:00pm + Omer Malo by his family

**Sunday, December 15: Third Sunday of Advent**

7:45am For the Physical & Spiritual Healing of Rolando & Ricardo Manalang & family

10:00am + George & + Paula Verstraete by the family

12:00pm For the Intentions of All Parishioners



### Stewardship

**December 8, 2024 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)*

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.



### Happy Birthday!!!

Happy Birthday wishes, prayers and blessings to everyone celebrating their birthday in the month of December.

(Image by [Alexandra Koch](#) from [Pixabay](#))



### Happy Wedding Anniversary!!!

Congratulations and blessing to all the couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversary in the month of December.

(Image by [OpenClipart-Vectors](#) from [Pixabay](#))

## The Week Ahead December 8—14, 2024

	Sunday December 8	Monday December 9	Tuesday December 10	Wednesday December 11	Thursday December 12	Friday December 13	Saturday December 14
Morning	*CWL Bake Sale Fundraiser after all Masses	Parish Office Closed 8:30am Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Prayer Devotion related to the Hour of Grace, ending with Benediction at 1:00pm.		9:00am Food Bank 9:30am-11:30am Children’s Atrium			9:30am-11:30am Children’s Atrium
Afternoon	1:00pm The Word of God Heals 2:00pm Legion of Mary	3:30pm-5:00pm Bradbury’s		2:00pm St. Boniface Diocesan High School Mass		1:00pm-3:00pm Ladies Crafting	
Evening				5:00pm-7:00pm Children’s Atrium 7:00pm Household of Faith (HoF)	6:30pm Bible Study Fellowship 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Youth Group	7:00pm Advent Penitential Service	

## Advent Reflections 2024 — Week 2

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Repent

John the Baptist was the greatest of all the prophets, a “voice in the wilderness”, a herald of Christ the King, telling us how to get ready for His coming. The heart of his message was “Repent.” Change.

**Repentance** is what Christ demands.

The Lord loves *us*—not our sin. That is why we must change or—more specifically—repent. We cannot be content with remaining in our sin and brokenness; we must desire to be healed.

In order to become a willing channel of God’s grace for others, we must personally grow in virtue.

As Venerable Fulton Sheen said,

**“The world’s greatest need is someone who will understand that there is no greater conquest than victory over oneself; ..... someone who will gain victories not by stepping down from the Cross and compromising with the world, but who will suffer in order to conquer the world.”**

### True Repentance

Knowing that the weeks leading up to the celebration of Christ’s birth are a special time for repentance, it’s helpful to refresh our understanding of what it means to repent.

True repentance is:

- **Voluntary sorrow** [for having offended] God, for having done something wrong, together with the resolve to amend one’s conduct by taking the necessary means to avoid the occasions of sin.
- **Interior repentance** is a **radical reorientation of our whole life**, a return, a conversion to God with all our heart, an end of sin, a turning away from evil, with repugnance toward the evil actions we have committed. At the same time it entails **the desire and resolution to change one’s life, with hope in God’s mercy** and trust in the help of his grace...
- God gives us the strength to begin anew. **It is in discovering the greatness of God’s love** that our heart is shaken by the horror and weight of sin and **begins to fear offending God by sin and being separated from him.**

—*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1431, 1432

Repentance is interior and usually hidden—a response to grace, an act of the will; an interior wrestling with oneself, a confession of sin in the sacrament established by Christ, and a resolution to resist and overcome one’s faults through the grace of God.

### Subtle Sins and Forgotten Faults

There is incredible freedom in acknowledging sins and offering them to God. He alone can heal us from their effects and set us free from their endless repetition. Sometimes, of course, we are unaware of sins that we commit on a regular basis—we might not even realize certain things are sinful. But how can we uncover faults that we might not be aware of?

For one thing, we can ask the people who live with us and are closest to us, “What are my faults?” And be ready for what they tell you. Other people often know our faults better than we do.

We should also spend time with a detailed examination of conscience before receiving the Sacrament of Confession.

Why detailed? Because, if we are looking at a short examination of conscience that refers to the Ten Commandments, we might read the Second Commandment and ask ourselves, “Do I take the Lord’s name in vain?” and answer, “Hmm. No, I don’t swear.”

But if we read a detailed examination of conscience for the Second Commandment, it might ask us, “Do you consume entertainment that treats God, His Church, and sacred things with irreverence?” And then we might realize, “Oh. I’ve done this—and I didn’t realize that was related to taking His name in vain.”

That’s why a detailed examination is so enlightening and grace-filled. It gives us a greater awareness of how to love God and avoid sin.

### Conclusion

The confessional is the most important place in which repentance takes place. Each confession gives us the graces we need to courageously resist future temptations. We should be sure to receive this sacrament regularly—many priests recommend once a month as a good consistency, though some people find it helpful to go more often.

May this holy season grant us a new spirit of repentance and a new love for the God who saves us.

(Source: goodcatholic.com)

## **CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE**

*Sponsored by  
Holy Cross Parish & The CWL*

**Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
***Following All Masses***

**We would greatly appreciate your donations of any  
baked goods for the sale.**

**Leave Baking at Parish Centre, Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**During Office Hours**

or

**Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 3:00pm**  
**in the Church Basement**

**Not Able to Drop Off?**

Contact **204-254-4659** or **nicolegg1@mymts.net**  
**& Arrange for Pickup**

**Donating **Gluten Free** – Please Mark Accordingly**

**50/50 Draw**

**Winner to be Announced after 12:00pm Noon Mass**

**Ticket Prices - 1 for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00**

**Knitted/Crocheted Items &  
Other Crafts Available for Sale**