

# Prepare the Way

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE as of 11/20/09

"Prepare the Way" Gifts	\$ 612,429
Average Gift from Parish-wide Appeal	\$ 1,943
% of Regular Offertory Contributors	40%
% of Goal	82%

Needed to Achieve our Goal	\$137,571
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GOAL \$750,000

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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**FAITH DIRECT-CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:** As a reminder for those interested in participating in our capital campaign through the use of **automatic credit card or electronic payments**, please enroll with Faith Direct, our secure online program. Forms are available in the back of the Church. However, if you need assistance or do not have the form, there are 3 ways to enroll:

1. **Mail-in Enrollment** - Contact Mary Anne Gadbois at the Rectory for an enrollment form by calling 301-942-1020 x 18, or by emailing her at [gadbois@hccrosschurch.org](mailto:gadbois@hccrosschurch.org).
2. **Phone-In Enrollment** - Call the Faith Direct, Inc. toll-free number 1-866-507-8757.
3. **Online Enrollment** - Visit the Faith Direct, Inc. website, [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net). The Holy Cross Church enrollment code is MD22.

**GIFTS OF SECURITIES:** For gifts of securities, please contact Cecilia Zurita at Merrill Lynch –telephone 703-734-8089. The account number for Holy Cross Church is #795-04G84.



**WHAT ARE YA DOIN' CHRISTMAS EVE?** Are you coming to the 6:30 PM Family Mass? Would your family like to carry one of the Nativity figures in the Procession to the Manger that begins this Christmas Eve Mass? To sign up, call 301-942-8790. Your choice of figure, but first come, first served.

**NO SOR THIS WEEK:** No SOR today, Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> (the first Sunday of Advent), our Thanksgiving break. Classes resume for all students on Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:** We are looking for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist for the Sunday 7:30 and 12 Noon Mass. If you would consider this, please contact Don or Yolaine Watkins at (301) 949-2550 or [donwatkins5@gmail.com](mailto:donwatkins5@gmail.com) or [yolainemarie@gmail.com](mailto:yolainemarie@gmail.com).

**CATHOLIC BOOK GROUP:** On Tuesday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, we will meet to discuss *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. Come join us in the school library at 7:00 PM.

## THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS ARE UPON US!

If your child is in grades Kindergarten through eighth grade, and would like to participate, please contact Yvie Killian **TODAY** at [killiany@verizon.net](mailto:killiany@verizon.net) with your child's name, grade, parent's name, preferred email contact and cell phone number.

*Choir Practices*

*Actors' Practices*

Tuesday Nov. 24	3:10-4:00	Saturday Nov. 28	1:00-2:00
Tuesday Dec. 1	3:10-3:45	Saturday Dec. 5	1:00-2:00
Tuesday Dec. 8	3:10-3:45	Saturday, Dec. 12	1:00-2:00
Tuesday, Dec. 15	3:10-3:45		
Saturday, Dec. 19	9:30-11:30	Saturday, Dec. 19	10:30-11:30
Tuesday, Dec. 22	3:10-3:45		

7th and 8th Grade students: Please indicate if you would be interested in receiving service hours. Please Email Today [killiany@verizon.net](mailto:killiany@verizon.net)!

**Holy Cross School is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.** Please visit the Book Fair in the school library after all Masses On December 6<sup>th</sup>. It is a great place to do some Christmas shopping and help support Holy Cross School at the same time. There will be a large selection of books and gift items to choose from and the school profits from every purchase made. Please contact Jennifer Silva with any questions, 301-933-5989 / [mjmsilva@msn.com](mailto:mjmsilva@msn.com).

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception,** is a Holy Day of Obligation, and Mass will be celebrated at 6:45 AM, 9 AM, 12 Noon, and 7:30 PM.

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS** will be heard after every weekend Mass throughout Advent.

**THE MONTHLY FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE** will take place **next** weekend, after all masses. Non-perishable foods, seasonal clothing, and household items are gratefully accepted outside the school entrance. Please label bags of clothing as to type and size (e.g. Ladies, medium). You may donate **Merchandise Certificates in Lieu of food**. These may be placed in the box on the table where the certificates are sold. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to this monthly project.

**Giving Tree:** Any day this week, take a tag and bring the spirit of Christ to someone less fortunate.

- ✦ Take a tag anytime between now and Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ✦ Buy the suggested gift(s) or one you feel is suitable (and lots of tape).
- ✦ Wrap the gift(s) securely. (Use lots of tape!).
- ✦ Affix the tag to the gift even more securely. (Use even more tape!).
- ✦ Return the gift wrapped and tagged securely by December 13<sup>th</sup>.

On December 13<sup>th</sup> after the noon mass, join the Social Concerns Committee to sort the gifts for delivery

**Merchandise Certificates:** In keeping with the very meaning of Thanksgiving, we wish to THANK our volunteers working with the certificate program, our rectory staff who provide valuable assistance, and our patrons who buy Merchandise Certificates regularly – and express concern that more parishioners do not actively participate in this program.

Last – but certainly not least, we thank two of our most loyal parishioners who have supported our program for over 16 years: Jack Fitzgerald, President of the Fitzgerald Auto Malls – and Scot Shuck, owner of the Grosvenor Market.

Mr. Fitzgerald incurs all the expenses for operating our credit card system. This includes the bank charges for each sale or credit we process, the expenses of his accounting staff who are involved with the program, and sundry other activities related to our credit card operation. It also includes the cost of the computer system we use and related supplies necessary for our credit card program operation.

Mr. Shuck incurs the expense of the 5% discount he offers on purchases you make using his gift certificates which our program sells as well as related expenses such as printing.



**The Devotion Of First Saturdays**, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima, will take place after the 8:30 AM Mass on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. The rosary will be recited for world peace. Please join us! **This Thursday is the Thursday before the First Friday of the month**, so the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Church from 1:15 to 5:45 PM. Then the Sacred Heart Novena will be prayed, followed by Benediction. All are welcome.

**Young Adult Works of Mercy:** Each month, young adults from the Archdiocese of Washington come together to serve those in need. Join us volunteers as we assemble 2,000 reentry kits for those newly released from prison for the Welcome Home Reentry Program on Saturday, December 5 at Centro Maria, 650 Jackson Street, NE, Washington, DC. These kits will help with immediate personal care needs so that no one begins his new life empty-handed. For more information and to RSVP, please email [yam@adw.org](mailto:yam@adw.org).

**ARCHDIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:** All families are encouraged to apply for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington for the 2010-2011 school year. The deadline to apply is December 4, 2009. Families applying for archdiocesan tuition assistance need to complete just one form for all children. The archdiocese hopes to award \$4 million in tuition assistance next year. For more information and to register now online, visit [www.CatholicSchoolsWork.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsWork.org) or call 301-853-5356.

**HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST:** Register your 8th grader to take the High School Placement Test to attend a Catholic high school next fall. The test will be held on December 5 and 12. All students must be pre-registered; no walk-ins are permitted. Please note that registration can fill up early. Visit [www.CatholicSchoolsWork.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsWork.org) for more information and to register online or call 301-853-5304.

**Marriage Matters® but do you know why?** Find out what the Catholic Church teaches about marriage and why it's important, including articles addressing marriage, scriptural passages and reflections on marriage and family life, marriage preparation information, resources for enriching your marriage and more. The Archdiocese of Washington's educational initiative called Marriage Matters® is online at [www.MarriageMattersDC.org](http://www.MarriageMattersDC.org).

**FOR YOUR MARRIAGE** Married couples sometimes speak ill of each other - sometimes in jest, sometimes in carelessness, sometimes out of hurt or anger. Make today the day to stop - or at least make an effort to cut back. [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org)

**Annual Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe:** The Archdiocese of Washington will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, on Saturday, December 12. The bilingual celebration will begin at 11:00 AM with a procession from the Shrine of the Sacred Heart (16th St. and Park Rd., NW, Washington DC) to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (4th St. and Michigan Ave., NE, Washington DC). A bilingual Mass will follow at 2:30 PM with Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl as the principal celebrant. Come relive the memorable Miracle of the Roses and bring your children for a special moment of prayer at the end of Mass. In addition, we will sing "Las Mañanitas" to our Blessed Mother with a group of mariachis at 1:45 PM. The National Shrine is within walking distance from the Brookland-CUA Metro's Red Line; free parking. For more information, please call 301-853-4567.

**Bible TimeLine:** We are presently trying to identify a good time during the week to present the 24 session, 2 hour Bible TimeLine discussion and DVD series with Jeff Cavins. If you are interested in participating please call the Rupperts, 301-933-7646 and let them know the days/hours you are available.

**The Word Became Flesh:** Monsignor Peter J. Vaghi will continue his lecture series on "Prayer: Gift and Response" on Thursday, December 3, 7:00 AM and 7:30 PM at the Church of the Little Flower, 5607 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda. The third of a nine-part series, this talk is entitled "The Word Became Flesh." The morning lecture (with breakfast) will be in the rectory meeting room following the 6:30 AM Mass and the evening lecture will be in the school music room. Admission is free. For more information, call 301-320-4538.

**Boy Scouts of America Awards Dinner:** Monsignor John B. Brady, an Eagle Scout who received his call to the priesthood while visiting the 1950 National Scout Jamboree, will be honored for his 43 years of service by the National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. Consider joining Msgr. Brady for the National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America Awards Dinner, *Salute to Scouting*, on Thursday, December 3, 2009, 6:00 PM at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda. In addition to honoring Msgr. Brady, the event will raise funds to support scouting. Contributions given in his honor will be used to sustain the chapels at Goshen Scout Reservation and Camp William B. Snyder. For more information, please contact 301-214-9111 or [supportscouting@scouting.org](http://supportscouting@scouting.org).



Did you know that Holy Cross School collects Box Tops for Education? Box Tops for Education is an easy way to help our school without costing you anything. Here are three simple ways you can help.

You can clip 10¢ Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products such as Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Juicy Juice®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Hefty® and more!

You can also go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and earn even more.

At the Box Tops Marketplace, you can shop at over 70 online stores like Oriental Trading Co., JCPenney and Lands' End. A percentage of purchases goes back to Holy Cross School!

You can even earn cash for Holy Cross School just by buying the books that you love! Begin your shopping at the Box Tops Reading Room to **earn up to 6%** on purchases made at Barnes & Noble.

Please remember to bring your 10¢ Box Tops coupons to Mass and drop them in the box near the front door of the Church each week.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Virginia Burch; M. Carrio; Thomas & Young Choi; Michael Downey; J. Anthony English; Michael Gouzoulis; Arline Hart; Marianne Joly; Renee Lucas; Anthony Paige; Bill Quinlan; Bonnie Ridenhower; Maxine Saur

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

<b>29 SUNDAY</b>	10:15 -- 11:30 AM	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b> NO SOR Classes ( <i>school</i> )
<b>30 MONDAY</b>	6:45 -- 8:15 PM	<b>ST. ANDREW</b> NO Bible Study ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
<b>1 TUESDAY</b>	9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM:	Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
<b>2 WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM: 7:00 PM -- 8:30 PM:	NO Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> ) Catholic Book Group ( <i>School Library</i> )
<b>3 THURSDAY</b>	9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM: 7:00 PM -- 8:30 PM:	<b>St. Francis Xavier</b> NO Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> ) NO RCIA
<b>4 FRIDAY</b>		St. John of Damascus
<b>5 SATURDAY</b>	9:00 AM:	<b>First Saturday</b> Confessions
<b>6 SUNDAY</b>		<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<u>Monday, November 30, 2009</u>			
6:45 AM	Names on our Altar	8:30 AM	Robert Gosselin
<u>Tuesday, December 1, 2009</u>			
6:45 AM	Peggy Kerwin	8:30 AM	Marianne Joly (L)
<u>Wednesday, December 2, 2009</u>			
6:45 AM	Dee Tobin	8:30 AM	Rose Mary Masucci
<u>Thursday, December 3, 2009</u>			
6:45 AM	Geneveive Ann Deikel	8:30 AM	Marie Walsh
<u>Friday, December 4, 2009</u>			
6:45 AM	Matthew Lampert	8:30 AM	Arcardia Panchame De Quesada
<u>Saturday, December 5, 2009</u>			
8:30 AM	Marianne Joly (Living)		
5:00 PM	Franklin Burch		Fr. Yaga
<u>Sunday, December 6, 2009</u>			
7:30 AM	Joseph & Mae Surmeier		Fr. Perkins
9:00 AM	People of Holy Cross		Fr. Yaga
10:30 AM	Melvin Simmons		Msgr. Hill
12:00 PM	Jim Billerbeck & Barbara Proctor		Fr. Perkins

**Retrouvaille:** A Lifeline for Marriage – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) – helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It offers the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty. For more (confidential) information or to register for a program contact 301-468-6764 or 410-647-0350, [TomnCarol@comcast.net](mailto:TomnCarol@comcast.net) or visit at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com). The next retreat will be January 15-17, 2010.

**FLU-SEASON PRECAUTIONS:** During the flu season, a verbal or other gesture of peace (such as bowing) may be used instead of the traditional hand shake or other close forms of greeting. **Remember**, if you are unable to attend Mass due to illness, the Mass for Shut-ins is on WDCW- 50 (Verizon Ch 3; Comcast Ch 23; RCN Ch 15) at 10:30 AM on Sundays.