

# Prepare the Way

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE as of 11/30/09

"Prepare the Way" Gifts	\$ 684,981
Average Gift from Parish-wide Appeal	\$ 2,458
% of Regular Offertory Contributors	40%
% of Goal	91%

Needed to Achieve our Goal	\$ 65,019
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GOAL	\$750,000
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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@hcrosschurch.org](mailto:gadbois@hcrosschurch.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.



### **CHRISTMAS EVE PROCESSION:**

Only a few Nativity figures are left to be carried in the Procession to the Manger that begins the 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass. To sign up your family, call 301-942-8790. First come, first served.

### **SOR SCHEDULE:**

- Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>: Collection of winter gear for Advent Giving Project
- Sunday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>: Last day to drop off winter gear and last class for 2009
- Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, and Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>: No SOR
- Sunday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>: SOR classes resume
- Sunday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>: No SOR (MLK Holiday)

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL IS HOSTING A SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR DEC. 6th - DEC. 11th.** Please visit the Book Fair in the school library after all Masses on December 6th. 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).

***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 sort the gifts for delivery*

**ARE YOU GOING CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?** Getting your Giving Tree gift? Don't leave home without your merchandise certificates! We now have MACY certificates in \$25 denominations.

**DECEMBER 8TH, 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 on the **last two weekends** of Advent, December 13 and 20.

**DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS?** We now have MACY'S certificates in \$25 denominations. Holy Cross earns 10% on Macy's certificates. We buy them at a discount and sell them to you at face value-so it costs you nothing extra. There is no easier way to support Holy Cross than by buying merchandise certificates. We also sell Grosvenor Market, Safeway, Giant and Shoppers Food certificates in various denominations for all your food purchases, Christmas baking and party needs -- even prescriptions and stamps! **PLEASE SUPPORT HOLY CROSS THROUGH OUR PROGRAM!**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Participants are needed for the Adoration Chapel holy hours. Could you join the 80 + people who make weekly visits to the Blessed Sacrament? Advent is a wonderful time to open the windows of our hearts to let God touch us. On the weekend of Dec 12-13, there will be an Information Table outside of church after the Masses. Get your questions answered or take a tour of the Quinn Hall chapel. Adoration hours are 9 AM-11 PM Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

December 2009

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus instructs us to make our faith visible so that others will be led to God: "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Mt 5:16). Women and men religious heed this call by their witness to gospel values and their commitment to serving those around them. Through their ministries, religious have founded Catholic schools and hospitals and launched initiatives that support the neediest among us. In our often troubled world, they remain a visible sign of Christ's love.

Throughout their lives, women and men religious invest in faith and in the future of others, usually with little concern for themselves. Today, many are frail, elderly and in need of assistance. Often their religious institutes struggle to provide adequate care. The current economic downturn, which has affected so many people, also impacts elderly religious.

This year, the annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be held in our parishes on December 12-13. This fund provides immediate support for aging religious and helps their institutes implement long-term retirement strategies. Through the ongoing generosity of Catholics to this collection, many religious institutes have been able to seed and stabilize retirement savings. Others have collaborated in creating elder care solutions that benefit senior religious while serving the wider community.

I understand that times are challenging and many of you face increased financial burdens. I ask you simply to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for all religious, that they may continue to be beacons of faith and hope who lead others to Christ, and for vocations to religious life.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!**

**K & 1<sup>st</sup> Pageant Roles Available.** We have plenty of costumes for Angels and Shepherds, so Kinders and First graders can still join the pageantry!!! If your child is interested, please contact Yvie Killian at [kiliany@verizon.net](mailto:kiliany@verizon.net).



**JOIN THE CHOIR!!!** Any and all 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders who would like to be in the Christmas Pageant Choir can participate by simply attending the rehearsals in the church with Mary Moyer, the Pageant Choir Director. **SERVICE HOURS!!!!** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students: **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders can earn hours for assisting with the pageant by emailing Mrs. Killian at [kiliany@verizon.net](mailto:kiliany@verizon.net).**

**COLLECTIONS:**

Offertory 4th Sunday of November 2009	..... \$	7,447.86
Offertory 4th Sunday of December 2008	..... \$	7,422.58
Offertory 5th Sunday of November 2009	..... \$	7,696.05
Offertory 5th Sunday of December 2008	..... \$	6,484.15
POOR BOX 11/22 Anchor Mental Health.....	\$	143.76
11/29 Centro Tepeyac .....	\$	148.09
12/6 Social Concerns Committee; 12/13 Birthright		

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

<b>6 SUNDAY</b>	<b><i>Second Sunday of Advent</i></b>
10:15 AM -- 11:30 AM:	SOR Classes ( <i>school</i> )
<b>7 MONDAY</b>	<b>ST. AMBROSE</b>
7:00 PM -- 8:30 PM:	St. John Bible Study ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
<b>8 TUESDAY</b>	<b><i>Immaculate Conception</i></b>
9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM:	Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
<b>9 WEDNESDAY</b>	St. Juan Diego
9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM:	Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
7:00 PM -- 8:30 PM:	RCIA
<b>10 THURSDAY</b>	
9:00 AM -- 11:00 PM:	Eucharistic Adoration ( <i>Quinn Hall</i> )
<b>11 FRIDAY</b>	Pope Damasus I
<b>12 SATURDAY</b>	<b><i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i></b>
9:00 AM:	Confessions
<b>13 SUNDAY</b>	<b><i>Third Sunday of Advent</i></b>

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, December 7, 2009**

6:45 AM Geneveive Ann Deikel 8:30 AM William Mulvey

**Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

6:45 AM Marianne Joly (L) 9:00 AM Avrillo & Irene Bottone  
12:00 PM Melvin Simons 7:30 PM Phil Felts

**Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

6:45 AM Raymond B. Murray 8:30 AM Mike Downey (Living)

**Thursday, December 10, 2009**

6:45 AM Virginia Pedone 8:30 AM Marianne Joly (Living)

**Friday, December 11, 2009**

6:45 AM Anita Unnerstal (Fr. Tobias's Mother) L 8:30 AM Young Joo & Paul Lim families (L)

**Saturday, December 12, 2009**

8:30 AM Noel Wohl  
5:00 PM Anna M. Capozzola Fr. Perkins

**Sunday, December 13, 2009**

7:30 AM People of Holy Cross Fr. Perkins  
9:00 AM Deacon Jerry Donlon Fr. Yaga  
10:30 AM Jean Revell & Young Choi (Living) Msgr. Hill  
12:00 PM Robert Lauta Msgr. Hill

**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 Riddenhower; Maxine Saur; Judith Winslow

**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 or yolainemarie@gmail.com .

**Schedule for Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to serve 2nd Weekend 12/12/09 & 12/13/09**

5:00 PM	Jim Scanlon and/or Colleen Scanlon
7:30 AM	Nancy Heffernan; Margaret Ann Jacques
9:00 AM	Don Watkins and/or Yolaine Watkins
10:30 AM	Elizabeth Reilly and/or Linda Gage
12:00 PM	Holly Heffern