



Holy Cross Parish

December 4/5, 2010

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Team

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Nguyen
Pastoral Assistant: Sandra Morris
Youth Minister: Louise Reeve
Bookkeeper: Erna Woynarski
Administrative Assistant: Heather Melnyk
Caretaker: Alf Kolodniski

www.holycrossregina.ca

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Regina, Sask. S4N 1H7
Phone: 757-1325 Fax: 757-8641
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Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9 a.m.–12 noon, 1- 4 p.m.

Contact the office to arrange for Baptisms,
Marriages & Funerals
Gerein Centre Use: 757-1325

The Action of Hospitality

Do you own any action figures? They've been around since G.I. Joe in 1964... including Star Wars, Spiderman, or The Fantastic Four. Today's gospel brings us a real life action figure: John the Baptist. John was prepared by God in the desert, rough and ready for his task: to announce Jesus to the world. His message? "Reform your lives! The reign of God is at hand."

John says "Turn away from your sins!" But today, he sees dishonest Pharisees and Sadducees coming up for baptism to impress the public. John doesn't pussyfoot around: "*You brood of vipers!... Give some evidence that you mean to reform!*" The Pharisees put on a good outward show, but they had a total lack of spiritual hospitality. They were proud of being Abraham's descendants, but they didn't "walk his walk" by opening their hearts to welcome Jesus. And John knew they had no intention of reforming!

How often are we prone to the same temptations? Christmas is Jesus' ultimate act of hospitality, and Advent is our time to

bring Jesus' "ultimate hospitality" to every situation we find ourselves in: bringing greater warmth, openness, love, and welcome everywhere.

What if, during Advent, we saw every conversation as a way to radiate Christ's hospitality? What if we stripped the complaints out of our talk, and practiced the phrase, "Tell me more"... and then listened with patient encouragement? *Hospitality is an action word!* Do I welcome unexpected changes... new ideas or people into my life? Or do I feel annoyed, or project a "back off or else!" attitude?

May God, the source of patience, give us the same point of view as Jesus this Advent!

Go in peace to love and serve our God!



MINISTRY SCHEDULE – 2nd Sunday

November 13/14, 2010	5:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVER CAPTAINS	Robin Tocker	Kevin Todd	Natasha Bigeau
MINISTRY TEAM	Mary-Anne & Don Harazny	Phyllis Kennedy	Sharie & Bernie Ryma
USHERS		Merv Shuster	Roy Taylor
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Brenna/Tim Patenaude	Jan/Will Genert	Melanie Nargang
MUSIC	Hauck	Anthem	Holy Cross Choir
COLLECTION COUNTERS	Team 3 John Lagus (Bob & Katherine Liska)		

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donations received on November 27/28, 2010

Sunday Envelope: \$3,948.00

Loose: \$166.56

QVE Envelope \$239.00

Stewardship

A steward is a person who manages activities and resources on behalf of another. The biblical concept of stewardship is rooted in the understanding that we are created by God, we are invited to use all that God has given us - time, talent and treasures - to do

God's purpose, as reflected in Jesus' life and ministry.

Second Sunday of Advent

We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care, lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today, cautioning us, "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

CWL NEWS:

- * CWL Christmas Party, (Bring a guest) on Tues, Dec 7, mass at 7 pm, short meeting to begin after "Light up for Christ", followed by the party. Gifts will be collected for the staff of the Marian Centre, also asking for \$3 donation for Teen Parents. Please bring a small plate of appetizers or dainties, and just for fun bring a gently used door prize and plan to attend.
- * CWL membership fees of \$20 are now due. Please place in a envelope marked with your name, address, phone number and „CWL Membership“.
- * Monday December 20, executive meeting at 7:30 p.m.

K OF C:

- "I Am My Brother's Keeper"
- Reminder: Tues., Dec 7- Light up For Christ 7:30 p.m.
Sat.. Dec 11-Christmas Social 6:00 p.m.
Mon., Dec 20-Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

PARISH SURVEY RESULTS: A total of 230 surveys were submitted. 128 (56%) are in favour of permanently dropping one mass on Sunday and 54 (23%) are in favour of dropping one mass from May Long weekend to Labour Day weekend for a total of 79% in favour. 42 votes against change, but many of these "NO" votes suggested that they would agree if it was their choice of Mass time.

As far as the preauthorized payment question, of the 230 surveys, 53 voted in favour, 171 still prefer envelopes and 6 did not fill this part out. Discussions are continuing and no decisions have yet been made.

If you missed the opportunity to fill out a survey but want your voice to be heard, talk to Susan Askin and she will take your concerns to the next Parish Council meeting.

ENVELOPES: The 2011 collection envelopes have arrived and are available for pick up in the Gerein Centre. Although we ask you to pick them up as soon as possible, please do not use these envelopes until the New Year! If a set wasn't issued and you would like a box of envelopes, please contact the office at 757-1325



CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNER:

This weeks winner is Cameron Wensel.

Whist:



Join us on Friday, December 10, 1 p.m. for an Afternoon of cards, laughs and fellowship. Our sponsor is Big Bob's Sausage & Deli.

Thank You!

The Whist Committee would like to thank the following people:

- ♦ K of C for donating items for lunch on November 26
- ♦ Al & Ursula Roesch, for selling us an accordion at a good price which we then resold and were able to donate the funds to the Youth

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2010 CONTRIBUTIONS Deadline December 31

If you wish to make a contribution towards 2010 for tax purposes, please ensure your donation has been received at the parish office before **12 noon on December 31.**

Thank you for supporting our parish!

2010 COMMITTEE REIMBURSEMENT

Please hand all requisition forms into the parish office by noon on December 31. This will help to make sure that all 2010 expense can go through in the appropriate year!

Thank-you for your cooperation.

Evening Retreats for Women

Please join us at Holy Cross on Friday December 12 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Start your weekend with this prayerful evening retreat. Mass is at 7 p.m. followed by reconciliation, meditation, a talk on **Detachment**, Is your stuff suffocating your life? Tickets are \$5 at the door.

For more information contact Elaine at 586-6352 or elainecourchene@sasktel.net

Please see bulletin board for other dates & themes.

Hosted by the women of Regnum Christi

ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the following couple from our parish on the celebration of their wedding anniversary this month.



Felix & Jane Kryzanowski

December 29

36 Years

Sacrament of Reconciliation in Advent - Monday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m.

As part of our preparation for Christmas, it would be beneficial for each of us to take a "spiritual inventory", ask God's forgiveness and renew our personal commitment to Christ our Saviour and the Gospel. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sacred opportunity to humbly approach our Saviour and celebrate the forgiveness and healing obtained for us by his death and resurrection. Remember the Eucharist remains the primary sacrament of reconciliation for sins of a less serious nature. When one is conscious of serious sin, the church requires formal sacramental reconciliation. Confession of all sin is encouraged as a means for the faithful to grow in holiness.

A community Celebration of Reconciliation will be held on **Monday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m.**, at Resurrection Parish. We will gather together to hear the Word of God and examine our consciences on how we live according to the Word. Several priests will be present for individuals to celebrate the Sacrament. Father Thomas is also available every Saturday evening before the 5 p.m. mass.



CALENDAR RAFFLE 2011

Looking for a special Christmas gift for those hard-to-buy-for friends and loved ones? For \$20 your raffle ticket will be entered in a draw to win \$30 each and every week of the year. Draws will be made each Sunday, starting January 3. There will also be four \$100 special draws: New Year's, Easter, Feast of Holy Cross and Christmas. All tickets drawn will go back into the drum so you have the opportunity to win on EVERY draw, that is 52 Sundays of the year, plus four extra prizes.

Four hundred tickets will be sold after Masses or call Bevan & Karen Sthamann (789.7674). Sales close at 12 noon on December 31. All draws will be made at Holy Cross Church & winners' cheques will be mailed out to the name and address recorded on the ticket stub.

Who knows - this could be a gift that keeps on giving - just ask any of our multiple winners. Calendars can be purchased, without the raffle ticket, for \$5.00 each.

Are you going to be next?
SLGA Licence # L10-0509

Light up for Christ - December 7

On the first Tuesday of December, Knights of Columbus around the world conduct blessing services and light Nativity Scenes and Christmas trees to remind us that Christ is the heart of the season. The Monsignor Gerein Council will lead the parish in blessing and lighting our Nativity Crèche in front of the church on **December 7** beginning with mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by the lighting ceremony. Everyone in the parish is encouraged to attend. Hot chocolate will be served in the Lower Gerein Centre after the ceremony.

Advent II

Light two purple candles
Lord Jesus, just as Mary, your Mother, prepared for your coming as she carried you in her womb, help us make ready for your coming at Christmas. Help us respond to your love for us by caring for the poor needy among us, and bring us all to live with you together in heaven. Amen.



Christmas Flowers. Deadline is December 13

Christmas flowers are purchased by donations from parishioners in honour of deceased or living members of their families. We invite you to make contributions if you wish. Fill out the form below and place it in the collection baskets.

Tributes will be published in the Christmas bulletin if indicated on the form.



Christmas Flowers for Holy Cross Church

Parishioner's Name: _____

Phone: _____

Env. # _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please publish my gift in the Christmas bulletin. yes/no

Donations toward Christmas Flowers for the Church:

In memory of: _____
(name of deceased loved one)

or

In honour of: _____
(name of living loved one)

Through the kindness of: _____



The Season of Christmas

Mass Times:

Solemnity of Christmas: Friday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 25, 10:00 a.m.
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Feast of the Holy Family: Sunday, December 26, 10:00 a.m.
(No 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. mass)

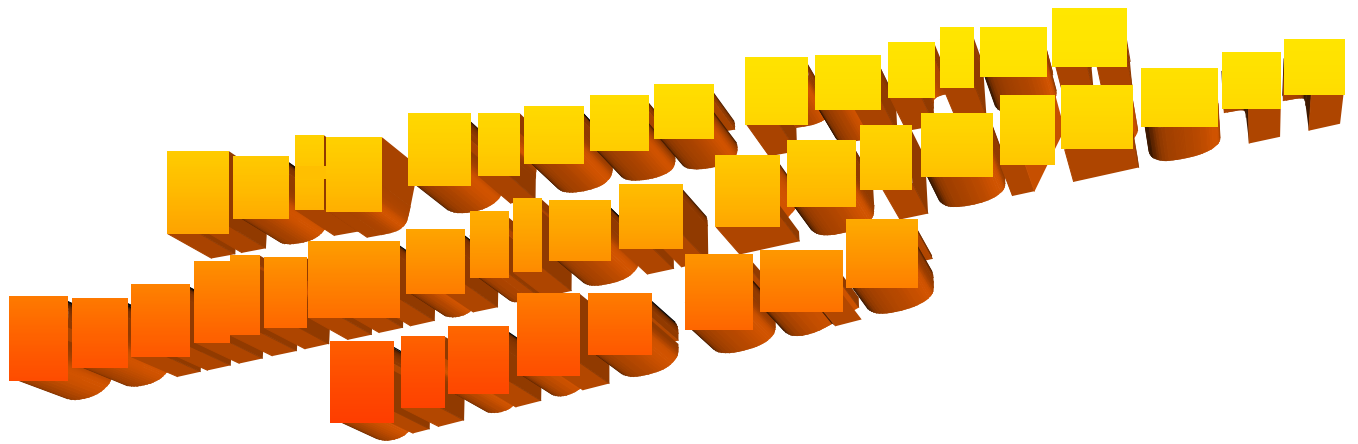
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: Friday, December 31, 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 1, 10:00 a.m.
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Solemnity of the Epiphany: Sunday, January 2, 10:00 a.m.
(No 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Mass)

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord: Saturday, January 8, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 9, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Please note that Christmas, The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, as well as all Sundays, are Holy days of obligation, and liturgically it is proper to celebrate only one celebration per day.





All meetings begin with mass at 5pm.

All Candidates and families are expected to be at mass.

After mass we will share in a meal together with an hour of instruction time.

Each class runs from 5pm-8pm.

Classes-

January 8th, January 22nd, February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd

Holy Spirit Retreat – May 13th 9am-3pm (lunch is provided)

Holy Cross Parish First Eucharist 2010/2011 Grade 2

All meetings begin with mass at 5pm.

All Children and families are expected to be at mass.

After mass we will share in a meal together with an hour of instruction time.

Each class runs from 5pm-8pm.

Classes-

January 15th, February 12th, March 12th, April 16th

Jesus Day/ Holy Spirit Retreat – May 17th 9am-12pm (lunch is provided)

All Children are also strongly encouraged to attend Children's Youth Group as this is where they will partake in fun activities which bring the course to life.

Please Email Louise Reeve at ym.holycross@sasktel.net or
call the Parish office at 757-1325
with any questions or concerns.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS & GIFTS

We are now collecting food for our Christmas Hampers. The deadline is the weekend of Dec. 11/12.

Specific Items Needed for Hampers:

- Rice/pasta/Kraft Dinner
- Canned soup
- Canned fruit
- Cranberry sauce
- Canned milk
- Canned meat/fish
- Packages of jello
- Canned beans/vegetables
- Canned tomatoes
- Cake/cookies/candy
- Peanut butter/jam
- Hot chocolate mix & juice in packages for easy distribution
- 2011 Calendars



Turkeys and oranges are purchased, from money donated by parishioners, the same day the hampers are packed.

Anyone wishing to donate money is asked to put it into the Sunday collection in an envelope marked "Christmas Hampers". If writing a cheque, make it payable to Holy Cross Church designated for "Hampers". The donations help to buy turkeys, oranges, and anything missing in the food already given.

Gift for Hampers: The "tree" outlines are now up on the windows at both entrances. Please take a paper ball label (for example: boy 4 years), purchase a gift, wrap it and **tape the label on it**. Return the gift wrapped and labeled to the church **no later than Dec. 15**. Please do your shopping early and return the gifts **before** the deadline!



Family Christmas Party

A Christmas Party for the Poor will be held
Sunday, December 12
from 2-4 pm.

Anyone who would like to donate sandwiches, cheese/crackers, or oranges, please leave in Gerein Kitchen after the mass you attend on December 11/12.
Thank you!

Reimer Memorial Library

The Nativity Story - DVD

It was the cruellest of times. Under Herod's torturous reign, families struggled to survive and yet, in the midst of utter turmoil, a young woman's faith was put to the test. Join Mary and Joseph on an incredible journey of hope and discovery.

Three copies are available, we ask that you return within one week so that everyone will have an opportunity to enjoy this seasonal adventure. Thank you!

Preparing our Hearts for the Coming of Christ

Holy Cross invites you to an evening of Prayer and Worship

Thursday, December 9, 7:00 pm

Prayer, Scripture and Music by



Reception to follow



December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Prayer Group	2 8:00 AM Mass 8:30 AM Study Group	3 8:00 AM Mass 8:30 AM Adoration 12:00 PM Benediction	4 4:15 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 5:9:00 PM Children's Christmas Part CWL Bake Sale 
5 9:00 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass CWL Bake Sale  Advent II	6 7:00 PM Reconciliation Celebration at Resurrection	7 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Light up For Christ 7:30 PM CWL Christmas Social 	8 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Prayer Group	9 8:00 AM Mass 8:30 AM Study Group 7:00 PM Advent Prayer & Worship 	10 8:00 AM Mass 1:00 PM Whist	11 4:15 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 6:00 PM K of C Christmas Party
12 9:00 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass 2:4:00 PM Family Christmas Party  Advent III	13	14 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Pastoral Council Meeting	15 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Prayer Group Last day for Hamper gifts	16 8:00 AM Mass 8:30 AM Study Group	17 8:00 AM Mass 6-10:00 PM Open Women's Retreat	18 9:00 AM Hamper Packing 4:15 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 
19 9:00 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass  Advent IV	20 7:30 PM CWL Executive Meeting 7:30 PM K of C Meeting	21 7:00 PM Mass	22 4:00 PM Children's Choir Practice 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Prayer Group 	23 8:00 AM Mass 9-11:00 AM Church Decorating	24 10:00 AM Children's Choir Practice 5:00 PM Mass 8:00 PM Mass Office Open 9am-noon	25 10:00 AM Mass  Christmas Day
26 10:00 AM Mass Boxing Day Feast of the Holy Family	27 Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29 7:00 PM Mass 7:30 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Prayer Group Office Open 9am-noon	30 Office Open 9am-noon	31 5:00 PM Mass Office Open 9am-noon	

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE: Everyone is invited to Speers Funeral Chapel on Sunday, December 5 at 2:00 p.m. for the Candlelight Memorial Service. Bring a friend or family member. Service is free of charge and is open to anyone who has ever lost a loved one. Refreshments will be served following the service. Please call 522-3232 to register.

SPIRITUALITY OF SINGLE LIFE: Our goal is to be a place where single adults socialize with other single adults and grow in our Christian faith. On Dec 18, we will be holding a meeting at St. Peter's Parish in the Slezak Room at 7 p.m. We will be doing Bible Study on rejection and forgiveness, please, bring your bible. For more information, please contact Dwaine at 596-1755 or Lloyd at 527-3109.

ADVENT MUSIC CONCERTS: Faith Baptist Church invites everyone to join them for the following three nights.

- Friday, December 10, 7:30 p.m. Cantate Youth Choirs present "December Song" Free will offering.
- Saturday, December 11, 7:30 p.m. Vivace Choral Ensemble presents "A Holy Jolly Christmas" Adults/\$12, Seniors & Students/\$10.
- Sunday December 12, 7:00 p.m. "Christmas Glory" presented by Faith Baptist Church. Free will offering. See posters for more details.

SPIRITUAL CAREGIVING: The Harvest is Plenty, the Laborers are few. Are you called to the ministry of Spiritual Caregiving in hospitals, care homes, or in your parish community? Join us for five sessions to develop basic skills. Wednesday evenings, Jan 12 to Feb 9 from 7-9 p.m. at Good Samaritan Hall. \$50 registration fee. To register call Karen 766-5991 or Cliff 766-3567. For more information, see bulletin boards.

MYRIAM FAMILY ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER:

- **Children**-December 11, 10:11:45 am (French) or 1:30-3:30pm (English) Advent Bible activities.
- **Adults**-Living as Children of God" Dec 8, 7:30-9 pm to grow in our relationship with God and others.
- **All Ages**-"Carolling by the Crib" December 26, 2:30-4:30 pm. "O Come let us Adore Him!" December 31 11:30pm-12:30 am

See bulletin boards for more details.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK December 5-12

SUNDAY	9:00 & 11:00 AM	MASS Advent II
	9:00 & 11:00 AM	CWL Bake Sale
MONDAY	7:00 PM	Reconciliation Celebration at Resurrection Parish
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	MASS (Augusta & Elio Feruglio)
	7:30 PM	CWL Christmas Party
	7:30 PM	Light up For Christ-K of C
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	MASS (John,Rina,Sergio Zampese)
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
	7:30 PM	Prayer Group Meeting
THURSDAY	9:15 AM	MASS with St. Andrew (Norman Kane)
	7:00 PM	Advent Prayer & Worship
FRIDAY	8:00 AM	MASS (Fr. Joe Kane)
	1:00 PM	Whist
SATURDAY	4:15 PM	RECONCILIATION
	5:00 PM	MASS (Rich & Bess Eisler)
	5:00 PM	K of C Christmas Party
SUNDAY	9:00 & 11:00 AM	MASS Advent III
	2:00 to 4:00 PM	Family Christmas Party

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon: Isaiah 35.1-10	Luke 5.17-26
Tues: Isaiah 40.1-11	Matthew 18.12-14
Wed: Genesis 3.9-15, 20	Ephesians 1.3-6, 11-12
	Luke 1.26-38 (Immaculate Conception of Mary)
Thurs: Isaiah 41.13-20	Matthew 11.11-15
Fri: Isaiah 48.17-19	Matthew 11.16-19
Sat: Sirach 48.1-4, 9-11	Matthew 17.10-13

Sunday - 3 Sunday of Advent:

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1st: Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10 **2nd:** James 5.7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11

NEW PARISHIONERS/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are new to the parish or have recently moved, please complete this form and place it in the collection basket.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Postal Code: _____

New _____ Change _____

Would you like Parish Envelopes? _____