



Holy Cross Parish

November 27/28, 2010

1st Sunday of Advent

Parish Team

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

Taking Care of Business

On this first Sunday of Advent, the first day of the new Church year, I have a really important message for you. Are you ready for this? It's been brought to my attention by Management that—you're not busy enough.

Well, the Scriptures don't say it in those words. But children and adults alike are on such jam-packed schedules that it is doing violence to our spirits. We are busy, indeed—but the question that Jesus forces us to face today is: what is the business of our busyness?

We have become almost robotic in "taking care of business" each day. And the more frantic we become, the less we are able to take care of the real business of the heart. Remember what Marley said to Ebenezer Scrooge when Marley appeared wearing a huge, heavy chain, woven of "cashboxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, and heavy purses..."? (Seriously—"heavy purses"!)

Marley wears this chain for misusing his chances to make a difference for others in life. "The common welfare was my

business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence were, all, my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!" (*Chap. 1*)

When Jesus says, "Keep awake," he means take time and silence to pray and choose carefully how to spend your and your family's time. God has a bigger plan at stake. Do our choices build up God's priorities? Or do they waste the short and precious time we have been given to create a more just and loving world, as God's partners? When Jesus returns at "an unexpected hour," may he find us not breathless with exhaustion—but with hopeful expectation!

Go in peace to love and
 serve our God!



MINISTRY SCHEDULE – 1st Sunday

December 4/5, 2010	5:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVER CAPTAINS	Dianna Onyango	Jordan Sylvestre	Myles Bistrizan
MINISTRY TEAM CAPTAINS	John Lebersback	Eugene Achtemichuk	Ed Deck
USHERS		Merv Schuster	Roy Taylor
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Connie Todd Charlotte Dusyk	Kristy White	Chelsea & Carter Holmes Aimee & Taran Garchinski
MUSIC	Youth Choir	Neigum	Joyful Noise
COLLECTION COUNTERS	Team 4 Leonard Jelinski (John Schneider, Dorothy Bresciani, Jack & Gladys Herzberger)		

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Collection Amounts for November 21, 2011
Sunday Envelope : \$2,522.11
QVE Envelope Collection last Week: \$114.00

Stewardship

The story is told of a mother who wanted to teach her daughter a moral lesson. She gave the little girl a quarter and a dollar for church, "Put whichever one you want in the offering plate and keep the other for yourself," she told the girl. When they were coming out of church, the mother asked her daughter which amount she had given. "Well," said the little girl, "I was going to give the dollar, but just before the offering the man at the pulpit said that we should all be cheerful givers. I knew I'd be a lot more cheerful if I gave the quarter, so I did."



First Sunday of Advent

The son of Man will come at an hour you do not expect. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are, and they strive to live in readiness for His coming.

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"
- November is K of C Charitable Foundation Month. Over \$1.4 million has been donated to charities and special needs across Saskatchewan since the Foundation was formed in 1969.
- Our Council has donated \$200 to Campion College for the International Service Learning endowment Fund.
- Reminder-Our Christmas Social is on Sat. Dec. 11

ADVENT BOOKLETS: Advent booklets for children, teens and families are available at each entrance for a donation of \$2.00 each.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNER:

This weeks winner is Malcolm & Dale LaFave, last weeks winner was Eleanor Neigum.



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.

WHIST: Join us on Friday Nov. 26 at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of cards, laughs and fellowship.



'Living Rosary'

The Living Rosary is being prayed in our parish by forty ladies, each one praying one decade everyday.

A total of 400 Hail Mary's everyday!
Our intentions are for youth, and for families.
Congratulations gals, you will receive many blessings in your lives.

Questions or comments call Marlene at 757.3678



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

SNOW SHOVELERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to shovel the entrance ways on Sundays after a snowfall. Our caretaker cleans the snow every other day and is entitled to have Sunday's off. If you are able to help out, please put your name on the sign up sheet in the Gerein Centre. Any youth that may be interested can use the time for Christian Service Hours.



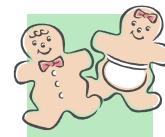
Faith Alive Archdiocese of Regina 1910-2010

Discover the story of the Archdiocese of Regina in this richly illustrated book. It is a hard cover, glossy paper, 296 pages in length, and is full color throughout. Books are on sale in the Gerein Centre or you can pick up a copy at the parish office. Cost of \$30 each.

CWL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE



December 4 and 5 after all masses. Mark your calendars!
 All proceeds go to the Early Learning Centre and the Peru Missions.
 Any parishioners wishing to donate to the bake sale can bring their baking to the church on Saturday Morning at 10 am or before mass. Thank you!



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.

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.



Christ is on His way!

Children & Junior Youth Combined Christmas Party, for Kindergarten to Grade 7, is on Saturday, December 4.

You are invited for an evening of games and movies!

Bring your pillow, \$7 and your favourite board game.

Join us for mass at 5 p.m. and stay until 9 p.m.

To register, email ym.holycross@sasktel.net or call 757-1325

(We need you to register so we can order enough food for supper!)

*****Please note Junior Youth Group on December 11 is cancelled due to this joint event*****



Christmas Flowers. Deadline is December 19

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: _____



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



*Reach Out
with Love*

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. Please return the gifts to the church **no later than Dec. 5.**

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 Vision

Reception to Follow

Congratulations...

To the following children who received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on November 20, 2010:

Makayla Anderson
Serena Beurivage
Cale Duncan
Lauren Focht
Tate Jeannotte
Denah Kletchko
Elizabeth Lipoth
Jared Nelson

Sarah Onyango
Alec Ripplinger
Matthew Shenher
Josephine Sylvestre
Owen Wahl
Jazmine Hamluck-
Thibeau



Glory to the New Born King
Traditional Christmas Carols & Hymns
Lindsey Todd vocalist, Jozeff Kocieda Former organist at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

Lindsey Todd debuted her signing skills at the age of 3 when she sang "Hark the Herald", over the phone, to her grandparents. She has been singing ever since. Now a freshman in high school, Lindsey is one of those special voices that combines a beautiful timbre, a natural vibrato, and a radiant purity. Her first album, "Glory to the New Born King" contains a collection of traditional Christmas carols, performed the way they were meant to be, with beauty and reverence.

**This CD is available at the kiosk
located in the Gerein Centre.
The recommended donation is \$5.00**



CALENDAR RAFFLE 2011

Looking for a special Christmas gift for those hard-to-buy-for friends and loved ones? Try our Holy Cross 2011 Calendar Raffle Tickets!

For \$20, your name, or the name you stipulate, 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 printed and available 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 and 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

Evening Retreats for Women

Please join us at Holy Cross from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The evening begins with mass and there is also time for reconciliation as well as discussion on a different theme each month. Cost is \$5

The next two sessions/themes are:

Dec. 17-**Detachment**-Is your stuff suffocating your life?

Jan. 21-**Maturity**-Who does God want you to be?

Please see bulletin board for other dates & themes.

Hosted by the women of Regnum Christi

Advent I

Light one purple candle
Lord Jesus, be present
to each of us as we
prepare to celebrate
your birth at Christmas.
Teach us to pray, teach
us to live each day in
gentleness and love,
teach us to listen to your
call to be fully alive, and
lead us to our heavenly
home with you. Amen



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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.

SEEKING LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS: A service of prayer to address the issue of Clergy Sexual Abuse in the Church. In the spirit of our Advent journey, inviting Christ to come and illuminate our troubled hearts, all are invited to a time of prayer to initiate a deeper awareness of the reality of clergy sexual abuse within our faith community on Tuesday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Jean Baptiste Church.

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA: Everyone is invited to attend the Christmas craft and bake sale being held at the Girl Guides Centre at 1530 Broadway Avenue on Sunday, Dec 5 from 10 am to 5 p.m. Free admission, wheelchair accessible.

FAMILY MOVIES: Are you looking for some good quality family movies that focus on the real meaning of Christmas? The Archdiocesan Resource Centre has a number of wonderful new Advent and Christmas DVDs that your whole family can watch together. To borrow these resources, please feel free to drop by the Archdiocesan Resource Centre at 45 Broad St. N. or call Teresa at 352.1651 ext 238 or email twhalenlux@archregina.sk.ca. You can also book on-line at www.archregina.sk.ca

2010 CONTRIBUTIONS

2010 CONTRIBUTIONS: The deadline for 2010 donations is **noon** on December 31. **There will be no exceptions.** Please note that **all** contributions made at the 5 p.m. Mass on New Year's Eve will be recorded as a **2011** donation. Also, the cut off for 2010 bills will be **noon** on December 31.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK November 28-December 5

SUNDAY	9:00 & 11:00 AM	MASS Advent I
MONDAY		
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	MASS (Molly Mulcahy)
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM 7:30 PM 7:30 PM	MASS (F & V Rodatz) Choir Practice Prayer Group Meeting
THURSDAY	8:00 AM 8:30 AM	MASS (Alice Mary Kane) Study Group
FRIDAY	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 12:00 PM	MASS (Olga Woroneski) ADORATION BENEDICTION
SATURDAY	4:15 PM 5:00 PM 5:00 PM 5:00 - 9:00 PM	RECONCILIATION MASS (J & G Golding) CWL Bake Sale Children & Junior Youth Combined Christmas Party
SUNDAY	9:00 & 11:00 AM 9:00 & 11:00 AM	MASS CWL Bake Sale

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon: Isaiah 4.2-6	Matthew 8.5-11, 13
Tues: Romans 10.9-19	Matthew 4.18-22
Wed: Isaiah 25.6-10	Matthew 15.29-37
Thurs: Isaiah 26.1-6	Matthew 7.21, 24-27
Fri: Isaiah 29.17-24	Matthew 9.27-31
Sat: Isaiah 30.19-21, 23-26	Matthew 9.35-10.1, 5, 6-8
Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Advent: Page 9-12	
1st: Isaiah 11.1-10	2nd: Romans 15.4-9
Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12	

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? _____