



Holy Cross Parish

December 24, 2011 - January 1, 2012



Parish Team

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Nguyen
Office Manager: Sr. Corazon I. Sanchez
Pastoral Assistant: Louise Reeve
Bookkeeper: Erna Woynarski
Caretaker: Alf Kolodniski

www. holycrossregina.ca

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Regina, Sask. S4N 1H7
Phone: 757-1325 Fax: 757-8641
Rectory: 205-4784
Fr. Thomas email:
fr.tnguyen@yahoo.ca
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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

CHRISTMAS - Nativity of the Lord

January 1: Mary, Mother of God

Reflection: In North American society, preparation for Christmas seems to begin earlier each year. We hardly see the start of a new school year before signs of Christmas begin appearing. The goals of retailers and advertisers take over. We are at risk of being mesmerized by the lights and decorations while at the same time lulled into believing that we simply must have the newest trends if Christmas is to be a meaningful celebration.

Yet the event we have been preparing to celebrate first occurred in such simplicity and obscurity. The child Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem and laid in a manger, with none of the trappings of wealth or fame. He was born to a young unknown woman who silently reflected on her role in God's plan of salvation. Those who first learned of the good news of his birth were poor shepherds tending their flocks in the darkness of the night.

Our 21st century experience is worlds apart from the event we gather to celebrate. However, if we are to be authentic followers of Jesus, we must be faithful to the mission entrusted to us. We must go beyond the clamour surrounding us to what lies at the heart of the Good News - the joy and peace Jesus bring for the whole world, and which we joyfully proclaim in his name and in every age.

Questions:

December 25- Nativity of the Lord:

Adults: *What will you do during this Christmas season to reflect in your heart, as Mary did, on God's gift of the Savior?*

Child: *What would you say to Jesus as you stand before the nativity scene in your church?*

January 1-Mother, Mary of God:

Adults: *Which of God's blessings are you most thankful for right now?*

Child: *What does it mean to you to be a child of God?*

Prayer: I think about my family, my relatives, the neighbors, people with whom we will spend this day. Dear Jesus, as I look at their faces and remember their stories, there are feelings of gratitude and some fear and anxiety. Thank you for these loved ones and please forgive me for the ways I have been less than accepting and loving. Please heal the wounds, division and conflicts that stand between us and help me to remember how dearly you love them. I only want to remember that you have come to save us all. Amen.

WEEKLY READINGS - December 25, 2011 - January 8, 2012

December 25: Nativity of the Lord Page 55 - 65

Midnight Mass: 1st: Is. 9:2-4, 6-7 2nd: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2: 1-16

Mass During Day: 1st: Isaiah 52:7-10 2nd: Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: John 1:1-18

Mon: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59

Matthew 10:17-22

Tues: 1 John 1:1-4

John 20:2-8

Wed: 1 John 1:5-2:2

Matthew 2:13-18

Thurs: 1 John 2:3-11

Luke 2:22-35

Fri: Gen. 15:1-6, 17:3, 15-16, 21:1-7

Luke 2:22-40

Sat: 1 John 2:18-21

John 1:1-18

Sunday, January 1: Mary, Mother of God Page: 83-85

1st: Numbers 6:22-27

2nd: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

Mon: 1 John 2:22-28

John 1:19-28

Tues: 1 John 2:29; 3:1-6

John 1:29-34

Wed: 1 John 3:7-10

John 1:35-42

Thurs: 1 John 3:11-21

John 1:43-51

Fri: 1 John 5:5-13

Mark 1:4-5, 7-11++

Sat: 1 John 5:14-21

John 2:1-12

Sunday January 8: Epiphany of the Lord Page: 91-94

1st: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donations received on December 18, 2011

Sunday Envelope: \$ 6,809.00

Loose: \$ 484.43

QVE Sunday Envelope: \$95.00

Stewardship:

Christmas - The Nativity of the Lord: Dec. 24th/25th

The shepherds who heard the joyous news from the angels on that first Christmas night and then hurried to find the infant Savior must surely have been changed by that experience. How has His coming changed my life?

CWL NEWS:

CWL Membership fees of \$25 are now due. Please place money with your name, address and phone number in an envelope and mark "CWL Membership". Please make cheques payable to "Holy Cross CWL" Thank you.

K OF C: Next meeting is January 16, 7:30 p.m.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNER:

This week's winner is Rae & Gary Cooper.

KNITTING TREE TOTAL:

Thank you to everyone who helped with the donations of knitting. In total there were 209 toques, 42 pairs of mitts, 67 scarves, 45 headbands, 13 pairs of slippers and 5 hat & mitt sets. We filled 5 large garbage bags which were dropped off at 5 community schools in Regina.

HELP NEEDED:

We are in need of two collection counters to help out on January 29, February 5, June 24 and July 1 weekends. This does not have to be a permanent commitment. Help out with one weekend or with all. Please call the office if you are able to give us a hand. Thank you!



NEW YEAR'S DAY LEVÉE

The faithful of the Archdiocese
are cordially invited to
the Archbishop's New Year's Levée
to be held at

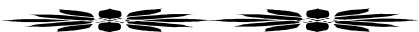
Holy Rosary Cathedral Hall

January 1, 2012,

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*And to receive the Archbishop's blessing
for the beginning of the New Year.*

Please come and meet the Archbishop and
exchange New Year's greetings.



*Welcome to all of you who
celebrate with us at Holy Cross
This Christmas Season!*

CALENDAR RAFFLE 2012

\$20 each with a free 2012 calendar. Calendars are \$5.00 each without a raffle ticket. Calendars & raffle tickets are only available until December 31. Tickets on sale after all masses or call Bevan or Karen at 789-7674.

Don't miss out, get your tickets today!

SLGA Licence # RR11-0371

PLEASE NOTE.....

2012 ENVELOPES are ready for pick up in the Gerein Centre. Please pick yours up as soon as possible. If you were not issued a set, but would like one, call the office at 757-1325. **Do not use your new envelopes until January, since the numbers have changed.**

Guidelines When Using Envelopes:

- Please ensure that the amount is **clearly written** on the envelope. It helps the collection counters immensely if you write an amount in the space provided.
- If you are making a donation with a post-dated cheque, it is helpful to write "**post-dated cheque**" on the outside of your envelope. This will help prevent deposits from being made too soon.
- If you have missed a Sunday or two, it is not necessary to use multiple envelopes. For example, if you usually donate \$20 per week and you are away for one week, simply fill out one envelope the following week & enclose your donation of \$40.
- **2011 DONATION DEADLINE:** The deadline for 2011 donations is noon on December 30. **Note that all contributions made at the 5 p.m. Mass on New Year's Eve will be counted as a 2012 donation.**

2011 COMMITTEE EXPENSES: Please hand all requisition forms and invoices into the parish office by noon on December 30. This will help ensure that all 2011 expenses are properly allocated.

BYZANTINE RITE

Friday, January 6, 1:00 p.m.

Holy Cross Church

Everyone is invited to join St. Andrew School for this special Divine Liturgy. Come and see what the Ukrainian (Christmas Eve) Rite is all about. Rev. Andrei Kachur will be assisting the staff and students with this Celebration.

Please note: there will be no 9:00 a.m. mass January 6.

Christmas Flowers

Thank you to the following parishioners who contributed to the Christmas Flower Fund:

Through the kindness of

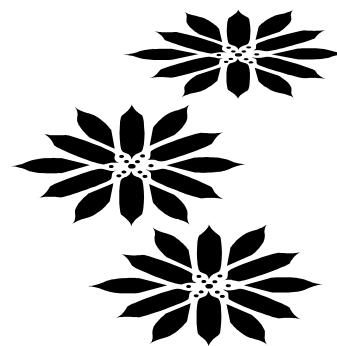
Maureen LeGault & Families
Dorothy Bresciani
Gladis Maier
Theresa Davies
Teresa Dreher & Family
Genelle Nicholson & Family
Shirley Sebastian
Maria Wald
V. & G. Huber
Garry & Wendy Kraushaar
A Zartler & Family
Frances Zerr
Bob, Helen, Janelle & Jeremy Herauf
Carr Family
Marjorie Frison & Family
Adam & Theresa Putz
Karen Eisler
Joseph Deringer
Marilyn Rink
Edwin & Magdalena Pepper
Mike & Cec Duperreault
Ted Buechler
Leo & Dolores Deis & Family
A. & M. Preiner
Tracy Gall & Joanne Patron

In Memory of

Hank LeGault
Hector Bresciani
Emily (mother) & Terry (son)
Joseph Clarkson, Bill & April Davies
George Dreher
Chris Nicholson
Rudy Sebastian
Ambrose Wald
Family Members
Our Parents
Josef Zartler
Joseph Zerr
Bernard & Olga Chomyn & Simon & Agatha Herauf
Lukis Chretien-Carr
Leo Frison
Our Parents
James Kane
Piotta Deringer
Frank & Kay Rink
Our Parents, Henry Seitz
Marjorie Flaman
Jean Buechler
Anton Frank, John & Lena Deis
Our Parents
Family Members

In Honour of

Leo & Dolores Deis & Family
A. Zartler & Family
A. & M. Preiner



A Special Thank You

to our parishioners from Dutch Growers and Rona Home Centre for the donation of the beautiful poinsettias and to all those who contributed anonymously.



THE ARCHBISHOP OF REGINA

Christmas 2011

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, God's own people in the Archdiocese of Regina,

"All the angels cry aloud with joy, for God has come himself to save humanity." The angels have a big part to play in the wonderful telling of the Christmas event. They are truly the messengers of God's love poured out for us. The angel spoke the message of hope and promise to Mary that she would conceive and bear a son whose name was to be Jesus. *"God is Salvation."* And salvation came to the wounded world.

In the dead of night as Joseph tossed in uneasy sleep, troubled by Mary's pregnancy, the angel of the Lord whispered into his heart words of assurance and affirmation and saved Joseph from his fears and worries. Joseph opened his heart in love and trust to God and to Mary. In the deep darkness of the winter night angels spoke to shepherds bringing good news of freedom from fear and words of great joy. The angels speak God's message to us in the moments of deep darkness in our lives. God's message, God's Word, announced by the angel, transforms our lives with messages of hope, promise, assurance, affirmation and above all JOY. God saves us from the threatening darkness.

We see like Mary in many ways. She found herself caught up in the rough realities of life which threatened to take from her all that was her security and her peace. God spoke his invitation and her life was filled with meaning and purpose. God has spoken his Word to us and that Word took on our human flesh, a profound and deliberate immersion into our frail humanity. Jesus, the Word made flesh, speaks words whispered in the recesses of our very soul and these words give us meaning and purpose to our lives. Jesus saves us from drifting and meaningless lives.

And so we welcome the message of joy given by the angel to the shepherds: *"I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you it has been born this day in the city of David a Saviour; who is the Christ, the Lord."* The darkness still hovers close. The economy of the western world reeters precariously, weakened by greed and avarice and without strong moral principles to guide it. Thus it threatens the material security of many but especially of the poor and vulnerable. But the One born to us is our hope in times of uncertainty, our light in the times of darkness and, above all, our loving Saviour who has poured out his life so that we may live forever.

And so I wish each of you and all of you the angel-song joy of Christmas, the hope that can come only from our God who set aside all power and might to take on the helplessness of a new born infant and the love of God and one another that shines gloriously through the birth of Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

☉ Daniel J. Bohan
Archbishop of Regina

Joy to the World

Pastor's Christmas Message 2011

To all Parishioners and Visitors,

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (Jn. 3:16)

God loves us so much that he gave his only Son to save and redeem us. Let this be a time to look for and open our hearts to the blessings sent to us by God. As God's children preparing for the celebration of Christmas, let us truly rejoice! May we have the heart of a child, accepting gratefully the blessings that Jesus sends our way. May we always be willing to say **YES** to those blessings and allow Him to work in our lives.

As we celebrate this Christmas season, may your eyes and hearts be open to Christ, the true light of the world. May you let your light shine by sharing His love and light with all you meet.



On behalf of Sr. Corazon, Louise, Alf and Erna, I wish you the Peace and Joy of God's Love this Christmas. May the New Year, 2012, bring you His Peace and Love as well. May we continue to grow as Church. Thanks for your co-operation, your help and your encouragement. Also, special thanks for many good wishes and gifts received. God Bless You All!

Fr. Thomas Nguyen, Pastor

Holy Cross Parish, 315 Douglas Ave E.R

Regina, SK S4N 1H7, Tel. No. 306-757-1325

www.holycrossregina.ca



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

FACING "REALITY": All grade 6, 7, 8 students are invited to come join us as we have some fun with "Reality" TV (Iron Chef, What Not to Wear, Survivor) and use those adventures to examine what it takes to live as a Christian in the "Real" world. Event is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Regina Youth Ministry Office. It will be held at St. Martin's Parish on Sun., January 8, 2-4 p.m. Cost is \$4. See poster for details. Any questions please call Michelle at 352-1651.

NEW YEAR'S YOGA WEEK END: January 5-6, 2012 *4:00 pm Thursday to 4:00 pm Friday "Rekindle Your Life Spark!" Cozy up to the fire! Renew.. Body, Mind, Spirit. Explore new ways of moving your body. Enjoy the calming effects of guided relaxation and meditation. Experience the fellowship of practicing yoga with others. Certified Yoga Instructor, Lani Knaus, founder of Enjoyoga, will facilitate the sessions. Cost: \$110.00

EYE GLASSES NEEDED!

Father Thomas will be traveling to Vietnam with Archbishop Bohan and Msgr. Ken Miller in January. They will take all used eye glasses to the poor while there. Please bring your old eye glasses to the church, and leave in the drawers indicated, at both entrances. Thank you!



HOLY CROSS PARISH SACRAMENT PREPARATION SCHEDULE



Baptism Prep— Our Next baptisms will take place on Feb 25th at mass. Please call Louise at the parish office to arrange for classes.

First Eucharist (Grade 2 and up) Saturdays 5pm-8pm

Parents and children attend all classes. Classes include supper for the Family.

All Children in Grade 2 must take First Eucharist and Confirmation in the same year as the celebrations will happen together.

Jan. 21, 2012, February 4, 2012, February 18, 2012

(Please also see Confirmation dates)

Jesus day retreat April 25 9am-12pm – Lunch is provided



Confirmation (Grade 2, 4 and 5) All older students who have not been confirmed please contact Louise for options. All Classes are 5pm-8pm For parents and children. Supper is included.

March 3 March 17 March 31 Confirmation Retreat May 4 9am-12pm. **Please email pa.holycross@sasktel.net with any inquiries or call Louise Reeve at Holy Cross 757-1325.**

Registration Forms can be printed from the web site www.holycrossregina.ca

YOUTH EVENTS

Children's Youth

Grades k-5

January 14th 5-8pm

February 11th 5-8pm

March 10th 5-8pm

Children's Liturgy

There will be No Children's liturgy on Dec. 24th/25th or Dec. 31st and January 1st

Children's Liturgy will resume on January 7th/8th

Junior/Senior Youth

Grades 6-12

Youth Formal

January 28th

Register with Louise



Holy Cross Youth

On behalf of our Parish Team thank-you to ALL of the youth who make our parish so vibrant. Holy Cross has three very active youth groups and two extraordinary leadership teams along with a fabulous youth choir. If you are ages 4-104 and you would like to take part as a participant, leader or helper please email ym.holycross@sasktel.net and let Louise know.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
CHRISTIAN UNITY JAN. 18-25



**Please Join us for
Prayer**



**Jan. 22 2012 at
2pm**

*We will all be changed by
the victory of our Lord Jesus
Christ.*

1 Corinthians 15 51-58

Churches Participating include: All Saints Anglican Church, Broadway United Church, ELCIC Lutheran Church, Holy Child R.C. Church, Holy Cross R.C. Church, Little Flower R.C. Church, Resurrection R.C. Church, St. Anthony R.C. Church, and Sunlight Christian Reform Church.

Holy Cross Parish 315 Douglas Ave East.

For more information call 757-1325

PARISH ACTIVITIES
December 25, 2011 to January 8, 2012

Sun-Dec 25	10:00 AM	MASS	Nativity of the Lord	Mon-Jan 2		Office Closed
Mon-Dec 26			Office Closed	Tues-Jan 3	7:00 PM	MASS
Tues-Dec 27			Office Closed	Wed-Jan 4	7:00 PM	MASS
Wed-Dec 28			Office Closed		7:30 PM	Choir Practice
	7:30 PM		Choir Practice		7:30 PM	Prayer Group
	7:30 PM		Prayer Group Meeting	Thurs-Jan 5	9:00 AM	MASS
Thurs-Dec 29	9 AM-Noon		Office Open		9:30 AM	Study Group
Fri-Dec 30	9 AM-Noon		Office Open	Fri-Jan 6	9:00 AM	MASS
	Noon		Deadline - donations/receipts		9:30 AM	Adoration
	9:00 AM		MASS		12:00 PM	Benediction
Sat-Dec 31	4:15 PM		Reconciliation		1:00 PM	St. Andrew Devine Liturgy
	5:00 PM		MASS	Sat-Jan 7	3:00 PM	Youth Choir Practice
			Mary, Mother of God		4:15 PM	Reconciliation
Sun-Jan 1	9:00 AM		MASS		5:00 PM	MASS (Alice Mary Kane)
	11:00 AM		MASS	Sun-Jan 8	9:00 & 11:00 AM	MASS
						Epiphany of the Lord

NOTE: No weekday Masses December 27-29

CWL UMBRELLA FUNDRAISER: The Regina Diocese Catholic Women's League is selling black purse-sized umbrellas in a zipper case with CWL crest as a fundraiser to support our 2013 National Convention. We invite you to purchase umbrellas at a cost of \$12 each. Please make cheque payable to 'CWL 2013 Convention'. Mail to Denise Nelson, 96 Patterson Drive, Regina, SK S4S 3W9. For more information call Denise at 584-2562 and see posters at both entrances. Arrangements will be made for pick up/delivery. Thank you for your generous support.



MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	December 31, 2010 5:00 p.m.	January 1, 2012 9:00 a.m.	January 1, 2012 11:00 a.m.
ALTAR SERVER CAPTAINS	Nikolas Lendvov	Jordan Sylvestre	Myles Bistriztan
MINISTRY TEAM CAPTAINS	John Lebersback	Eugene Achtemichuk	Lori Garchinski
USHERS		Merv Schuster	Roy Taylor
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY UNTIL JANUARY 7/8, 2012		
MUSIC	Youth Choir	Neigum	Joyful Noise
COLLECTION COUNTERS	Team 11 Wayne Rutten (Art Biegler, Marilyn Rink, Carmen Amyotte)		

2nd Sunday - Baptism of the Lord

January 7/8, 2012	5:00 P.M.	9:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVER CAPTAINS	Dianna Onyango	Jennifer/Hayley Keller	Natasha Bigeau
MINISTRY TEAM	Mary-Anne & Don Harazny	Phyllis Kennedy	Sharie & Bernie Ryma
USHERS		Merv Schuster	Roy Taylor
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Brenna & Tim Patenaude	Chelsea Holmes & Bryant Adams	Melanie Nargang
MUSIC		Anthem	Holy Cross Choir
COLLECTION COUNTERS	Team 11 Wayne Rutten (Art Biegler, Marilyn Rink, Carmen Amyotte)		

All the Parish Staff and Pastoral Council Members wish you a Blessed Christmas and an abundance of God's Blessings through out the Year! **Thank you to all who have shared goodies for the Staff!**



The next bulletin will be January 7/8, 2012