

“We adore You, O Christ, and we praise you, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.”

**1109 N. Staples Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401**

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Website: www.holycrosscc.net

Fr. Roy J. Kalayil, Pastor

Dr. David Emrich
Religious Education Director
Office & Facilities Coordinator

Marsha Hardeman
Choir Director

Mary Rangel, Bookkeeper

Holy Cross Church



Weekly Masses:

Sunday, 10:30 am
Wed & Fri, 6:00 pm

Office Hours:

Mon/Wed/Fri, 9 am - 12 noon

Parish Office (361) 888-4012
Emergency (361) 230-9095

Reconciliation (Confession):
By appointment / Upon request

Baptism: By appointment
Marriage: Six months in advance

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Week of March 5, 2017

March 8 Bill & Theresa Kainer

March 10 †Silvia Hernandez

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

March 5 Anthony Wagner

March 12 †Silvia Hernandez

March 19 †Jim Petru

March 26 Joseph & Claudette Rocha

SANCTUARY LAMP

March 5-11 Greg Melton & Denise Speer

ALTAR MINISTRY

Date	Lector	Altar Servers	Ext Ministers
3/5 10:30am	Angel Emrich	Allura Banda Elizeo Banda Raymond Banda, Jr.	Fern Carter Armando Ortiz
3/12 10:30am	Korey Hardeman	Daniel Ortiz David Ortiz Michael Ortiz	Fern Carter Ray Ramos
3/19 10:30am	Terri Longoria	Elijah Ramos Rayven Ramos Emily Witherspoon	Erika Ramos Ray Ramos
3/26 10:30am	Josie Ramirez	Juan Aranda Marylou Aranda Olivia Ramos	Armando Ortiz Norma Ortiz

GREETERS & USHERS

2/26 Liz Gomez, Korey Hardeman, Cynthia Shaw, Elijah Ramos

3/5 Sylvia Davila, Korey Hardeman, Margaret Jeter, William Tilley

3/12 Liz Gomez, Eunice Sharkey, Ann Woodson, William Tilley

3/19 Sylvia Davila, Margaret Jeter, Ann Woodson, Stephanie Woodson



If you will be absent on your assigned day, please arrange a substitute. Arrive to prepare fifteen minutes before Mass. Thank you for your service to God and his people!



**News & Upcoming Events
in our Parish & Diocese**

LENT REMINDER: FAST & ABSTINENCE

During the season of Lent **Roman Catholics ages 18-59 are required to fast on Fridays in commemoration of our Lord's Passion.** When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. **Catholics age 14+ must also abstain from meat.**

FRIDAYS: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday evening **after the 6pm Mass** the Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the main church. **Stations will begin this Friday, March 3.**

WEDNESDAYS: LENTEN HOLY HOUR

Every Wednesday during the season of Lent a special Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in the Msgr. Higgins Adoration Chapel after Mass in the chapel.

PASSION OF CHRIST DISPLAY

All are invited to come to the St. Katherine Drexel Parish Hall to view the inspiring visual display of Our Lord's Passion including a life-size crown of thorns from Bethlehem and scenes from the Passion of the Christ. May this Lenten meditation unite us more closely with Our Savior's work of redemption!



CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

All men are invited to the Catholic Men's Conference in San Antonio on **March 18.** Speakers include Archbishop Gustavo Siller, Fr. Leo Patalinghug (the television "cooking priest") and Carl Anderson, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight. Registration brochures are at the back of the church.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

A representative will be present outside the church today to register those interested in a health screening.

Treasures of Catholic Tradition
Lent: Season of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

The tradition of Lent goes back to the life of Jesus, who fasted and prayed for forty days in the Judean wilderness after his baptism in the River Jordan (Matthew 4:2). Historically, the earliest recorded mention of Lent specifically as a time of preparation for Easter was during the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. In many languages the word for Lent implies "40" but the English word for Lent derives from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," which means "to lengthen," referring to the season of Spring when hours of daylight lengthen. Symbolically Lent should become "a time when we too can 'lengthen' spiritually, when we can stretch out and grow in the Spirit."

Scripture and Sacred Tradition have always emphasized three practices that help the Body of Christ grow spiritually stronger: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Why are prayer, fasting and almsgiving especially important during Lent and how are these practices interconnected?

Prayer: Prayer is our conversation with God. It is through prayer that we find the strength to fast. Through prayer we develop a closer, more intimate relationship with God. This relationship makes us more grateful for the blessings he has bestowed upon us and more eager give to those less fortunate. Without prayer it is impossible to remain in a state of grace, not to mention growing spiritually stronger.

Fasting: Fasting is one of the most ancient actions linked to Lent. The goal of fasting is linked with prayer. Physical hunger increases our desire for God and increases our sensitivity to the spiritual realm. Fasting is often necessary to expel demons and overcome vices as Jesus himself told his apostles: "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting" (Mark 9:29). Prayer and fasting together brings us to what Lent is about - a deeper conversion.

Almsgiving: Almsgiving is a response of generosity to God that we have come to through prayer and fasting. It is an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given us, and because we are grateful, we seek to share God's blessings with others. St. James reminds us, "If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (James 2:15-17).



"Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving, and righteousness. A little

with righteousness is better than much with wrongdoing. It is better to give alms than to treasure up gold."
 -Tobit 12:8 RSVCE

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Marylou Areola, Marchant Bradford, Tony Canales, Fern Carter, Paul Carter, Gail Dement, Louise Gazin, Gloria Hamilton, Doug Hopkins, Otis Jackson, Rodessa Jones, Darell Johnson, Charlester Lewis, Nathan Lopez, Fr. Seamus McGowan, Martha Moore, Billie & Hector Munguia, Emily Petru, Josie Ramirez, Randy Ramirez, Rosanne Ramirez, Phillis Ridgels, Atanacio Sanchez, Renalda Sharkey, Lamont Taylor, Carolyn Satterwhite, Eula Shaw, Les Spear, Dolores Vesely, Patricia Whitfield, Henry G. Winn

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent
 Tuesday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
 Wednesday: St. John of God
 Thursday: St. Frances of Rome
 Friday: Abstinence
 Saturday: *Purim (Jewish festival of Esther)*

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-15; Mt 25:31-46
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-19; Lk 11:29-32
 Thursday: Est C:12-25; Ps 138:1-8; Mt 7:7-12
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-8; Mt 5:43-48
 Sunday: Gn 12:1-4; Ps 33:4-22; 2 Tm 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9



Birthdays
 for the week of
 March 5th

March 5th Jayden Martinez
 March 8th Anthony Wagner
 Eunice Sharkey

"Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
 2 Corinthians 9:7



Tithes and offerings

Weekly Contributions
 (February 26, 2017)

Adult Envelopes (41).....\$ 1562.00
 Children's Envelopes (6).....\$ 12.00
 Loose Currency.....\$ 82.00

TOTAL \$ 1656.00

Today's Second Collection: Black & Indian Mission
May God bless you for your generous support!