

FURTHER PREPARATION

✝ Advent Prayer Books – Pick up a book of meditations for the Year of Mercy that will help focus your daily prayer in preparation for Christmas and beyond. Books are available at Masses and are free.

✝ Stars for Jesus – Select a gift for those in need from the bulletin board in the Church. Bring your gift to the trailer by Sunday, December 13 .

✝ Laudate App – Download the Laudate app to your phone or computer. It features daily readings, lives of the saints, preparation for reconciliation and many other features to help us pray all through the year.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

✝ Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24 – 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM, 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM in the Church. Get there early for a seat!

✝ Christmas Day, Friday, December 25 – 10:30 AM and Noon in the Church.

Please see our website (www.holycrossrumson.org) or the bulletin for more details.

Table Blessing for Advent

Blessed are you, Lord of all creation, in darkness and in light. Blessed are you in this food and in our sharing. Blessed are you as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH



ADVENT 2015

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

Advent begins the Sunday nearest to the Feast of St. Andrew Apostle, November 30, and continues until Christmas Eve. The word “Advent” comes from the Latin “adventus,” which means “coming.” It refers to the four weeks prior to Christmas and always contains four Sundays.

Our anticipation of Christmas makes these four weeks a very special time of year. Advent is the perfect time to rediscover the joy of faith. During these weeks we focus on the “coming” of Jesus in three ways. We start the season by looking forward to the time when Jesus will come again in glory as our Triumphant King. As the days progress, we switch our attention to recalling and celebrating that time when Jesus first came among us as a little child. Throughout the whole season, we prepare for the coming of the Lord in our own hearts. When at last, the big day arrives, we welcome our Savior into hearts prepared for His coming.

During the Advent season, there will be many opportunities at Holy Cross to assist us in our Christmas preparations. We welcome and encourage all our parishioners to participate in the events in our parish this Advent. Please bring family and friends to join in the preparations.

Advent Peace!

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

 Sunday Mass and Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Saturday at 5 PM, Sunday at 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, Noon and 5 PM in the Church. Traditional Latin Mass at 7 PM in the Church.

 Weekday Mass - 9:00 AM in the Church. Mass will begin with Morning Prayer psalms every day in Advent.

 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Every Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM in the Church.

 Reconciliation – Every Saturday following the 9:00 AM Mass and Novena in the Church; also by appointment.

 Holy Cross Choir Concert – Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 PM in the Church. George Frideric Handel’s *Messiah Part I* will be performed. Free will offering for admission.

 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Monday, December 8 at 9:00 AM in the Church.

 Nativity Celebration and Tree Lighting – Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 PM. Join us at the Parish Nativity scene to pray with Mary and Joseph as they prepare for the birth of our Savior. Music, live nativity animals, candlelight and our Parish Christmas tree lighting. Hot Chocolate and cookies at a reception to follow in the gym.

 Carol Sing – Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 at 10:30 PM, in the Church. Holy Cross music ministry will lead us in beautiful choral music.