

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

**Fiscal Year 09/01/2023-08/31/2024**

Weekly Budget: \$3,100 YTD Budget: \$49,600

Weekly Collection **12/17/2023:** **\$1,701** YTD Weekly Collection: \$32,504

Weekly R&M Collection: \$10 YTD R&M Collection: \$2,201

YTD **Surplus** (Shortfall): (\$14,895)

**Special Collections:** Christmas Flowers was \$40, Immaculate Conception was \$5, Christmas Offering was \$10 and Oplatek Donations was \$18. Thank you.



**SANCTUARY CANDLES:** M/M Michael Beaulieu, Dean & Jean Crowley, M/M Victor Dembek, Pat Flynn, M/M Scott Huntoon, M/M Jim Killay, Laura Lawrence, M/M Stanley Lawrence, M/M Yvon LeBlanc, M/M Robert LeVangie, M/M Larry Martin, M/M Frank Moschetti, M/M Pete Valliere, M/M Michael Yablonski, & **In Memory of:** Deacon Arthur & Leah Chartier, Michael John Crowley, Michael Fichtel, Rachel & Chuck Frenier, Stanley & Nellie Koczan, Gloria Magnuson, Anthony J. Manca, Fr. Lawrence Mudduse, Fr. George O'Brien, Damien Royer, Paul Tourigny, and Barbara Yablonski.

***THANK YOU--*** Thank you everyone for your generosity with the gifts of hat, mitten, gloves and socks for our Templeton children and for the donation of food items for our Christmas baskets. *Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor. Proverbs 22:9*

**MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND:** Reminder, our monthly food drive is next weekend. Bring non-perishable food directly to the food pantry at other times. **PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES** of food, as it will be thrown away if it is about to expire. **THANK YOU!**



There will be no Religious Education Class on Sunday, December 24 and 31 due to Christmas and New Year's holidays.

**THANK YOU CAROLERS:** We want to thank all those who attended the caroling and their voices on Friday, December 15. Special thanks to Wilson Bus Lines for donating their bus and driver and to all who helped organized, assist and donated food/desserts for this event.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED:** Due to the Christmas Holiday the Parish Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26. Merry Christmas and Blessings to all.

# Church of the Holy Cross



**December 24, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Rectory: 25 Lake Avenue, Templeton, MA 01468**  
**Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 8:30am-3:00pm**

**Pastor: Rev. Patrick A. Ssekoyole Phone: 978.632.2121**

**Deacon: Dennis J. Cormier Fax: 978.630.3890**

**Administrative Assistant: Laura Lawrence**

**Email: [hcchurchet@comcast.net](mailto:hcchurchet@comcast.net)**

**Website: [holycrossparishet.org](http://holycrossparishet.org)**

**Religious Education K-11: Elizabeth Schroeder, Coordinator**  
**Religious Education Email: [hcchurchet@gmail.com](mailto:hcchurchet@gmail.com)**

**Parish Council: Thomas Royer, Chair, Phone: 978.939.2593**

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

- Holy Days of Obligation: As announced.
- Eucharistic Adoration: Last Tuesday of the month, 7:00-8:00pm.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday: 3:30-4:15pm and anytime by appointment.
- Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the rectory for registration, preparation and details.
- Sacrament of Matrimony: Please call the rectory at least one year in advance of the desired date to begin the Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation Program.
- Sacrament of the Sick/Communion Calls: Please notify the rectory if anyone is hospitalized or confined to home due to illness, handicap or age, so that we may keep them in prayer, visit them and support them with the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and the Sick.

**New Parishioners:** We welcome you into our parish family and invite you to enter fully into our spiritual and social life. Please introduce yourself after Mass and arrange to enroll as a member.

**Coffee Hour:** You are cordially invited to join us in our Church Hall, the first Sunday of every month after the 7:45am Mass. Good conversation and tasty treats. We hope to see you there.

**Parish Bulletin:** All items must be submitted in writing at the rectory prior to 9:30am on Monday mornings, preferably 2 weeks in advance.

**Parish Council:** Every parishioner is welcome to submit items for consideration, by calling the rectory or through any council member. You may contact Thomas Royer, Chair at 978.939.2593.

**Religious Education:** For information about our Religious Education Program, Grades K-11, please contact Elizabeth Schroeder, Coordinator, at hcchurchet@gmail.com.

**AA Meetings:** Wednesdays 7:00 pm in the Church Hall.

**Pastoral Ministries:** There are many opportunities for ministry to our fellow parishioners. You are invited to volunteer your time and talent by expressing your interest to the Pastor or to members of the Parish Council or the Religious Education Program.

**Rosary Devotion:** The Rosary is commonly recited 30 minutes before weekday Masses on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

**Weekday Mass in Winter:** When conditions warrant delays or school cancellations, there will be NO WEEKDAY MASS. Mass intentions for that day will be transferred to the next available mass. We value the lives of our parishioners. Stay Safe!

**ALTAR CARE:** This week Altar Care is provided by \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>MEETING SCHEDULE</b>				
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Fri. Sat.</b>
Tuesday	6:30pm	Knights of Columbus		
Wednesday	7:00pm	AA		

There will be **no Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday, December 26** due to Christmas following on a Monday.



**ROSE OF LIFE:** Each week a parishioner/family places a rose in the vase at the Blessed Mother's statue to express witness to the sanctity of life. Please see the sign-up book at the main entrance to participate.

**LIVING FAITH INITIATIVE**  
*Get more out of Sunday Mass, by reading ahead...*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**December 31, 2023:**  
**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
**Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3**  
**Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19**  
**Luke 2: 22-40, or 39-40**

**Fr. Patrick will be on vacation January 1 – February 9. During this time, visiting priests will be covering weekend masses and there will be no weekday masses. Please pray and wish for Fr. Patrick to have a safe and restful vacation.**



You are requested to remember in your prayers the following: an anonymous cancer patient, Doris Bickford, Stacy Bishop, Jared Blais, Raymond Boudreau, Randall Carrol, Henry Connery III, Judy Davis, Mike Dembek, Ruby Dembek, Diana Earle, Jane Fleck, Frank Flynn, Gail Gabis, Tim Gatautis, Doris Geyster, Marley Guthrie, Paul Jurgelonis, Sandy Kulvete, Marie LeBlanc, Bob LeMieur, Joyce Moschetti, Kirk Moschetti, Simone Nash, Gabe Olszak, Judy Roberts, Jane Royer, Paul Saari, Maria Rose Schroeder, Marie Stellato, Joy Taintor, Marie Valeri, Carolyn Weaver, Gloria Wilder, Michael Young, & All affected by Coronavirus.

*Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we pray for the comfort of your love.*

<b>SCHEDULE OF MASSES</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23</b>
4:30pm	The Souls in Purgatory by Glen Mularella
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24</b>
8:30 am	+Eileen Sisk by Glen Mularella
9:45 am	<b>Mass at St. Martin's</b>
4:00 pm	+Helena M Breton by Priscilla Stacy
Midnight	<b>Mass at St. Martin's</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25</b>
10:00 am	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26</b>
8:00 am	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27</b>
8:00am	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 30</b>
4:30pm	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 31</b>
7:45 am	+Kenneth Weighill by Glen Mularella
9:15 am	<b>Mass at St. Martin's</b>
10:45am	+Fr. Lawrence Mudduse by Holy Cross Parishioners