



Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA
OCTOBER 21, 2015

Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00 AM
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Wednesday: 12:15 and 6:00 PM

Nursery

Sunday
9:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Choir Practice

Sunday: 9:45 AM

The Vestry

Ginger Paul, Senior Warden
Gerry Brooks, Jr. Warden
Becky Snodgrass, Secretary
Monty Walford, Treasurer
Melissa Fowle
Stephanie Hamblin
Robert Henley
Christine Hennigan
Kendall Raymond

Contact Information

Telephone: (318) 222-3325
Fax: (318) 681-9506
Email: holycrossshr1@bellsouth.net

Please visit our website
www.holycrossshreveport.org

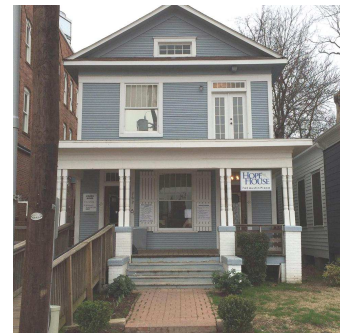
Deadline

Material for *Crossings* must be received by **12:00 Wednesday**.
Please send to
lynn.walford@lsus.edu

Hope House: The Item of the Month is COFFEE



Please remember Hope House when you go to the store. Pick up any of the supplies listed on the back of Crossings—they are ongoing daily needs. But especially remember to buy some coffee for our neighbors. Coffee is served every morning until it runs out, usually around noon, and our offerings greatly help! Coffee and all other supplies may be taken directly to Hope House, 762 Austen Place, or they may be brought to Holy Cross and placed in the baskets in the Narthex. Thank you!



How Do We Approach Stewardship?



In a word, *prayerfully*. The traditional reading of Genesis 1 implies that we, made in God's image, are to "rule," "subdue," "dominate" all else of Creation. Our understanding as we have grown in our faith is that we are to *care* for Creation. More and more, this comes into focus today as science tells us that everything we do has its effects beyond our place and moment. However small, intentional or unintentional, our actions initiate and enter a chain of events that affects for good or for ill the earth, the atmosphere, the creatures, the processes of Creation. How we live into the awesome responsibility God has given us is *stewardship*. We can be seen as "co-creators" with God, shaping and forming a world that is closer and closer to the reality of God's kingdom.

I want to highlight one aspect of stewardship in light of Jesus' mandate to go into all the world and take to all people the Good News of Salvation: that we are loved and valued just as we are and that we come into God's kingdom not

by our own actions but by God's mercy. Matthew tells us the story we call "The Great Commission." Jesus' words to his disciples after the Resurrection are the words we understand to be Jesus' vision for the Church, and, along with all his other teachings and especially his words in Matthew 25, the command by which we engage and measure the ministry of the Church.

We could take each piece of Creation and consider our relationship to it and the way God asks us to live within it. In every area we would end up in the same place: We are all—creatures, vegetation, air, earth, people—connected in ways we cannot fathom, at levels that, although unseen, are real and critical. In the context of Jesus' mandate to the Church, the Church's mission is to educate and empower people and then to go with the people, who *are* the Church, into all the world carrying the saving life of the Gospel. This is what the Church is to do.

In many ways, taken as a whole, the larger Church has turned inward as it has forgotten its mission. In many places where the Great Commission is vocalized, it is misconstrued as meaning to "make Christians" of all people and nations, leaving everyone else out. At Holy Cross we believe that Jesus calls us into the world to show God's love, to witness God's love and mercy, for all people. No exceptions. To know every person we meet as a child of God. We do this most visibly together as a church, the Body of Christ, here in our neighborhood.

The church as we know it operates in some ways as a business. There are administrative and operational costs that make possible our worship and our ministry. Our Vestry works overtime to keep these costs as low as possible. We employ a "bare bones" staff, and we are good stewards of the building given to us and the funds given for its maintenance. We keep utility bills as low as we possibly can. It's important to point out that through the years Holy Cross has not built buildings whose maintenance and utility bills would make demands on our budget. Most importantly 33 1/3% of our annual expenses are devoted to ministry, mainly Hope House and our "in kind" gifts to St. Luke's of office space and payment of utility bills.

Please look on the costs of meeting our budget each year as part of your personal stewardship. Whether you are able to volunteer in one of our ministries or not, Holy Cross' ministry is, directly, your ministry. Your pledges make possible an important part of the convocational medical ministry of St. Luke's in neighborhoods like our own that are underserved. The two clinics St. Luke's has at Hope House each month are the largest of their sixteen monthly clinics. Your pledges make it possible for our neighbors who come to Hope House (forty to eighty people each day, five days a week) to shower, wash their clothes, use the phone, have a mailbox, receive help with medical appointments, food stamps, clothing, some meals, and rest in a place of refuge where they are valued as human beings and can relax and be given a drink of cold water or a cup of coffee. Our Hope House staff is truly amazing. We know God sent them to us.

The ways we choose to allocate our personal resources is, along with the way we exist daily in communion with all of Creation, our stewardship of material possessions. We know that without God's gift of life we would have nothing. And so it is with prayer that we consider the part we will give in ministry. One way to begin to consider this is to decide on a percentage that we will give to the church to answer God's call in ministry. This is one of the most important decisions we will make all year. Please pray about your own ministry and that of your church. Members of Holy Cross will receive a pledge card in the mail, to be returned to the church. We welcome all pledges and gifts, and we ask that members make a pledge. We assure you that we will be good stewards of your gifts for ministry. A copy of our pledge and gift card is printed below for members and friends of Holy Cross to use if you would like to.

Each gift is precious and important in our ministry. We thank you!

The Rev. Mary B. Richard

MY PLEDGE OF THANKSGIVING

In gratitude for God's blessings, I pledge support for the ministry of the Church in 2016 through the Church of the Holy Cross:

Total for the year _____

I will make payments: _____ *one donation enclosed* _____ *weekly* or _____ *monthly*

Please _____ *provide* _____ *do not provide me with offering envelopes*

_____ *I do not wish to pledge at this time*

Signature

Date

A good deal of education consists of unlearning—the breaking of bad habits as with a tennis serve.
Mary McCarthy

Daily Feast: Meditations on the Word, Year B
Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 25, October 25

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

(Hebrews 7:23-28) The blind man is portrayed as a model of Christian discipleship. He comes to Jesus and does so by casting aside his cloak. It is quite reasonable to regard his cloak as representing his most treasured possession. It has kept him warm through the cold nights. It may also hold the meager spoils of his begging. In his act of throwing off his cloak, we see the image of one who leaves his former life behind.

Lincoln E. Galloway

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Day, November 1

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44

(Psalm 24) The barriers to paradise, like the stone rolled away from the empty tomb in the garden, have been pushed aside to give us unfettered access to behold the smiling face of a gracious and accepting God, whose mercy, rather than our own merits, enables us to pass through the open door.

Michael Morgan

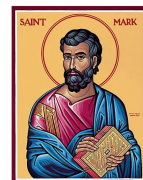
Calendar for October

Wednesdays	Holy Eucharist (Enriching Our Worship)	12:15 PM	Chapel
Thursdays	Holy Eucharist	11:00 AM	Hope House Back Yard
Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 PM	Chapel
Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 AM	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Choir Practice	9:45 AM	Church
	Holy Eucharist II	11:00 AM	Church
Second Sunday each month	Morning Prayer	11:00 AM	Church
October 23-24	Diocesan Convention		Sulphur, Louisiana
Saturday, November 7	Fall Festival	10:00 am-1:00 pm	Undercroft
Saturday, November 14	Makers Fair	10:00 am-4:00 pm	Neighborhood

Please watch for the date when Wednesday Night Study will resume.

The Wednesday Night Classes Resume—at some point!

We are in the “punch list” stage of the kitchen renovations. As soon as we can we will begin again our suppers, Eucharist, studies, and discussion on Wednesday nights. A change of pace has been proposed: We will study the Gospel of Mark, our oldest and sparest Gospel, for the weeks leading to Advent. We begin with supper at 6:00, celebrating the Eucharist afterwards while still at the tables and then move into our study and discussion.



A second class will study the report made to General Convention last summer by the Commission on Liturgy and Worship. It is an excellent and comprehensive piece, giving history and theology of the Church on marriage. People looking toward marriage, those who have been married, even a long time, as well as anyone wanting to learn more about this sacramental rite of our Church will be interested and are invited to the classes. You do not have to be a member of Holy Cross. We welcome everyone!

Watch *Crossings* for the date—it will be as soon as the kitchen is ready. We look forward to meaningful times together, sharing a meal and Communion, and the usual lively and interesting discussions!

Prayer List

Bill Alexander
Wanda Allen
Margaret Boudreaux
Barbara Campbell
Charlie Campbell
Jay Colvin
Patricia Conly
Evelyn Corley
Ron Dean
Jean Dooley
Elizabeth Eglin
Shirley Enani

Floyd “Buzzy” Farrar
Lady Martha Garner
Austin Gleason
Kenneth Jordan
Elizabeth Joyce
George Love
Mim McCoy
Paige McCranie
Marie Nanco
Trish Peyton
Ila Riggs
Laura Rhoades

Sandra Robinson
Brady Sessions
Jack Theurerkauf
Gary Thomas
Jane Thompson
Robert Todd
Cliff Townsend
Mattie Washington
Charlotte Webb
Bill Wright
Larry Wright
Mary Wright

If you would like to request an addition to the Prayer List, please call the church office, 222-3325. Our practice is to keep names on the list for six weeks. If we have an update at that time requesting that we continue to pray for the person, we will leave the name on the list. If not, we will remove it. You can always call if you would like us to add it again.

We pray for those who serve and are served by St. Luke’s Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry; for all who are homeless or hungry; for the people of Mexico, the Middle East and Ukraine and for migrants in Africa and Europe; for people in all the places where there are war and tension and for all who seek peace; for the people of our country, that we may find together the way of compassion and peace from our prejudices and racial tensions; for law enforcement officers and the people they serve; and for our President and Congress, that they may work together to pass legislation to lessen the danger of violence and injustice in our country and provide for the needs of the most vulnerable.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for the Anglican Communion; The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, for the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, for The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop-elect, and baptized persons throughout the world.

Sovereign God, in the face of evil, remind us of the justice of your mercy over us who experience suffering. Grant us the grace to trust in your power when suffering the evils of the world. May we be filled with passion and courage to embody Christ’s love for the world. *Amen.*

Day Ministries

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost October 25, 2015

Sat. 5:00 PM: Lector and Eucharistic Minister: Larry Wright
Sun. 11:00 AM:
Lector: Ginger Paul
Prayers of the People: Lynn Walford
Eucharistic Ministers: Nathaniel Means, Jo Ann Horton
Acolytes: Steve Snodgrass, Hannah Wallace
Ushers: Gerry Brooks, Tommie Sue Brooks
Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: Margaret Heacock, June Kirkland
Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: June Kirkland, Jo Ann Horton

The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost All Saints' Day, November 1, 2015

Sat. 5:00 PM Lector, Stephanie Hamblin
Sun. 11:00 AM:
Lector: Melissa Fowle
Prayers of the People: Reid Raymond
Eucharistic Ministers: Reece Middleton and Kendall Raymond
Acolytes: Herschel Richard, Hannah Wallace
Ushers: Tommie Sue and Gerry Brooks
Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: Margaret Heacock, June Kirkland
Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: Jo Ann Horton, Ginger Paul

If you wish to donate altar flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Laurie, 222-3325, and tell her. This is a beautiful way to contribute to the beauty of our worship and give to the glory of God!



The date of Fall Festival has changed— but it's still just around the corner!

Undercroft of The Church of the Holy Cross
875 Cotton Street, Shreveport
Saturday, November 7
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Every year our ECW coordinates and hosts the Holy Cross Fall Festival. For only \$4.00 you can enjoy a delicious lunch of soup, crackers, dessert, and coffee, and have the opportunity to shop for holiday goodies and maybe get some of your Christmas shopping done before the rush. Items for sale include:

Homemade cookies, cakes, bread, jams, and jellies
Our famous Holy Cross pickles
Vintage jewelry, crystal, china, silver, and candlesticks
Vintage clothing (new or almost new), linens, artwork
Cookbooks from the past
Christmas ornaments
Holy Cross Cookbooks (gift-wrapped for only \$5.00)

If you would like to donate an item, please take it to the church on November 3 or 4 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM.

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal
P. O. Box 1627
Shreveport, LA 71165-1627

Website: www.holycrossshreveport.com
E-mail: holycrossshr1@bellsouth.net

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Return Service Requested

Mission Statement: *The Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, Louisiana, strives to be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through worship of Almighty God, open inquiry, sharing fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership—encouraging all to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel of Hope in programs, to serve without regard for religious affiliation, race, or economic status.*

Hope House: There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent, disposable razors, and personal size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.). Donations can be taken to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Forward Day by Day for **October and November**, in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.

If you cannot get to church and would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit at your residence or the hospital, please call the church office at 222-3325, and Communion will be brought to you.

Crossings is now also available via email. Simply send or call in your email address to the office.



The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Ph.D.
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.
The Rev. Mary B. Richard
The Rev. Sally M. Fox
The Rev. Kenneth W. Paul
The Rev. Donald D. Heacock
Mr. Bruce Power
Mr. Ron Dean
Mrs. Laurie Connell
Mr. Charles Alford

XXVI Presiding Bishop
IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
Rector
Assisting Priest
Rector Emeritus
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement
Organist-Choirmaster
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus
Office Administrator
Sexton