



# Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL  
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
DECEMBER 9, 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

## Sunday School

Sunday: 11:00 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: [holycrossshrv1@bellsouth.net](mailto:holycrossshrv1@bellsouth.net)

## Please visit our website

[www.holycrossshreveport.org](http://www.holycrossshreveport.org)

## Deadline

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

## The Ministry of Holy Cross with Children

Some of you reading this will recall that in years past, Holy Cross had lively and full-blown Church School programs with numerous children of all ages. At this time, we do not have such a large group of children, *but* we do have a small group of delightful young ones among us. We want these children to have the same opportunities and experiences to grow in faith as Holy Cross children have had in years past. In fact, the Episcopal Church has developed a Children's Charter that describes our commitment to and expectations for nurture and faith development of children. This is an excerpt from that Charter:



### Nurture of the Child

*Children are a heritage from GOD, and the fruit of the womb is a gift.  
Psalm 127:4 (BCP)*

### THE CHURCH IS CALLED

- to receive, nurture, and treasure each child as a gift from God;
- to proclaim the Gospel to children, in ways that empower them to receive and respond to God's love;
- to give high priority to the quality of planning for children and the preparation and support of those who minister with them;
- to include children, in fulfillment of the Baptismal Covenant, as members and full participants in the Eucharistic community and in the church's common life of prayer, witness, and service.

To this end, we began last year to provide Church School Packets for parents, grandparents, or other caregivers and their children to bring into the church service. Every week, I enjoy locating the best materials I can find for the upcoming Sunday. Each Sunday, brightly colored plastic clipboard folios containing these packets are available in the Narthex. The Sunday Packet is comprised of materials that correlate with the lessons for the day, and include:

## Activity and Coloring Worksheets related to

- ✘ Scripture lessons for that Sunday,
- ✘ Current season of the Church Year,
- ✘ Notable Saints' Days,
- ✘ Children's prayers, graces, songs, and hymns to learn and use at home,
- ✘ Craft projects to do at home, materials included,
- ✘ Children's online videos to view and enjoy at home with family,
- ✘ Crayons

These materials can be used during the worship service as interesting alternatives for children during parts of the service they find less interesting, *with parent approval, of course*. Parents are encouraged to take home all the pages in the packet to go over with their child(ren) and complete during the week. We do ask that the plastic clipboard folios and the crayons be left in the pew or on the table in the Narthex so they can be refilled for the next Sunday.

Recently, we have begun a multi-age Church School class for children in the Education Building. We are presently using Episcopal Church Lesson Plans written by experienced Church School teachers using practical approaches to respond to the needs of volunteer teachers. The classes are based on the *Revised Common Lectionary*, the lessons we hear and read in church, and are published by the Episcopal Church. The Church School children make use of the Sunday Packet materials described above during their class. When they join their families for Holy Eucharist, the children bring the materials to take home after church so they can use them with their families during the week.

We so appreciate the adults and young adults who teach and work with the children on Sunday mornings from 10:45ish to around 11:30, when they are brought into the Nave to join their families for Communion. Kim Brun has headed up and taught Holy Cross Church School classes over the years. Kim is a professional educator, and is the Principal of Vivian Elementary and Middle School. Our nursery caregivers, Kaleigh and Madison Newman, work with her, and lead the class when Kim is unable to be there. Several parents have offered to teach the class on a rotating basis. To that end, we would welcome any other adults who enjoy teaching the children's class once every month or so. If you are interested, please speak with Sally Fox or call the church office.

Both Priest Mary and I have extensive background and experience in the Christian Formation of children. We plan to continue expanding Christian Formation opportunities for all children who come to Holy Cross. In addition to the developing Sunday morning Church School, *even adding a class when one is needed*, we plan to have early Communion instruction for children, *ages 3 through 8*, who are already receiving or who want to begin to receive Communion. Dates and times for this instruction will be announced early in 2016.

Do not hesitate to give me your thoughts, ideas, requests, and/or concerns regarding the redeveloping Holy Cross Christian Formation for Children, *infants through age 10+*.

*The Rev. Sally Fox*

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## Hope House: COFFEE continues to be our greatest need



*When you go to the grocery store please remember to buy some coffee for our neighbors. Coffee is served every morning at Hope House until noon. You may take it directly to Hope House at 762 Austen Place, or place it in the baskets in the Narthex at Holy Cross. **Thank you!***



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



**The Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 13**

*Zephaniah 3:14-20; Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah (Is.12:2-6)*  
*Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18*

(*Isaiah 12:2-6*) Perhaps the language of Zion—the language of grace, gift, and salvation—is not so strange after all. For what is so strange about a world of winners? Where the environment is not exploited in order to make a profit? Where people don't work for their poverty? And where "homeless person" is an oxymoron? Let us draw deeply from such "wells of salvation" and look forward to the day when homecoming will be a reality for all of God's people.

**Roger J. Gench**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 20**

*Micah 5:2-5a; Canticle 15, The Song of Mary Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)*  
*Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)*

(*Micah 5:2-5a*) It takes one's breath away, this promise. In these few verses, tucked away in a slim prophetic book, Micah captures the ache with which we live each day and the hope that is in us for a future that only God can deliver. Life is precarious, and so too are the so-called securities we purchase with our dollars and in which we place so much trust: insurance policies, savings accounts, credit cards, physicians, and elected officials. Like us, they are here today but gone tomorrow. Christians understand God's provision of true security in the One whose birth the Church is soon to celebrate. Christ is our security. He is bread for our hunger, drink for our thirst, and life for our death.

**Nancy S. Taylor**

I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.

**Rosa Parks**

## An Advent Gift to Holy Cross

**Christine and Tom Hennigan** surprised us all with a beautiful gift: Advent blue hangings and vestments! Every year at our diocesan convention Holy Orders Liturgical Threads of Rogers, Arkansas, has a display of custom-made liturgical appointments. The Advent set is just beautiful, blue with gold crosses. Since Holy Cross has not had a blue set, Tom and Christine gave us one. They couldn't be more stunning. We didn't realize it until we put them on the altar, pulpit, and lectern, but the blue exactly matches the blue in three panels of the window above our altar. **Thank you, Christine and Tom!**



The Wednesday night suppers, Eucharists, and Study will break for Christmas and resume in the Season of Epiphany.

**After preaching at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry was taken to the hospital. A diagnosis of subdural hematoma necessitated surgery. He was in good spirits and expected to recover within a week. Please keep him in your prayers.**

## *Don't forget . . .*

The last Advent Soup Day  
December 16, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM in the Undercroft  
Please help by making vegetable beef soup or a dessert, or by coming to help serve.

Christmas Eucharist  
Christmas Eve, 5:00 PM  
Music for Organ and Violin, 4:30 PM in the Nave

### Calendar for December

Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 AM	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Choir Practice	9:45 AM	Nave
	Nursery	9:45-AM-12:15 PM	Education Building
	Sunday School	11:00 AM	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist II	11:00 AM	Nave
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
Second Sunday each month	Morning Prayer	11:00 AM	Nave
Friday, December 18	Garden Cooking Event	3:00 PM	Education Building
<b>Wednesday Dec. 16</b>	<b>Advent Soup Day</b>	<b>11:00 AM-1:00 PM</b>	<b>Undercroft</b>
<b>Thursday, December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve –Special Music</b>	<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>Nave</b>
	<b>EUCCHARIST</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Nave</b>

### **THERE IS NO CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**

## **A Call for Coffee Cups . . . and a Thank You**



In our new kitchen we now have a commercial dishwasher! We will be better stewards of our church funds by not having to buy paper coffee cups. However, we need to collect a supply of cups and mugs that can be washed. If you have any that you aren't using, please donate them to the cause. We can run them through the dishwasher easily—each washing takes only 90 seconds!

And thank you to all who served on the kitchen committee! ECW members **Tommie Sue Brooks** and **Ginger Paul**, *Continuing Feast* crew **Monty** and **Lynn Walford**, and Grill Team member **Tom Hennigan** did homework, discussed, pondered, and planned a kitchen that will function for many years to come. Tommie Sue coordinated with our contractor, and Tom Hennigan researched prices and saved us a lot of money by ordering equipment directly from a kitchen supplies distributor.

*Many, many, many* thanks to Sexton **Charles Alford**, who cheerfully rolled with the punches during the remodeling. He boxed the supplies, kept everything clean and always managed to know where to find things during the height of the chaos.

We are so grateful to have a well-furnished kitchen to serve the needs of our church and the community! Thank you for adjusting while we were without, and thank you to all who donated to help with the expense.

# Prayer List

Bill Alexander  
Wanda Allen  
Margaret Boudreaux  
Jim Boyd  
Barbara Campbell  
Charlie Campbell  
Jay Colvin  
Patricia Conly  
Laurie Connell  
Evelyn Corley  
The Most Reverend  
Michael Curry  
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 the Philadelphia Center; for all who are homeless or hungry; for the people of Mexico, the Middle East, and Paris; 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 Savannah and San Bernardino; for victims and perpetrators and for their families; for all immigrants seeking acceptance and safety, that our country may be a safe place for all people; 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 St. Paul's, Abbeville, the Rev. Geoffrey Coupland; and for St. James, Alexandria, the Rev. Barb Schmitz.

God of justice, as we kneel before you each day, we make up our mind for justice. Be at our back, O God, and lead us from the front as well. *Amen.*

## Say Ministries

### The Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2015 Morning Prayer

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20, 2015 Holy Eucharist

Sat. 5:00 PM: Lector and Eucharistic Minister: Larry Wright  
Sun. 11:00 AM:  
Lector: Herschel Richard  
Acolytes: Steven Snodgrass, Aaron Horton  
Ushers: Tommie Sue Brooks, Gerry Brooks  
Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: Margaret Heacock, June Kirkland  
Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: Becky Snodgrass, Tommie Sue Brooks

Sat. 5:00 PM: Lector: Stephanie Hamblin  
Sun. 11:00 AM:  
Lector: Maggie Fowle  
Prayers of the People: Reece Middleton  
Eucharistic Ministers: Jo Ann Horton, Monty Walford  
Acolytes: Herschel Richard, Steve Snodgrass  
Ushers: Lynn Walford, Bill Richard  
Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: Margaret Heacock, June Kirkland  
Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: June Kirkland, 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!*

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal  
P. O. Box 1627  
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**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 Austin Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

**Forward Day by Day** for **March and April**, 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. Michael B. Curry, 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

XXVII 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