



Holy Cross Catholic Church

558 Hampton Ave. • Pickens, SC 29671

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - ✠ July 2, 2017

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we looked at the parts and gestures of the Mass common to the priest and lay faithful. This week, the focus is on parts unique to the lay faithful. The offertory song belongs to the faithful -- during this song the priest, assisted by the deacon and servers, prepares the altar and gifts of bread and wine. The "Mystery of Faith" is an acclamation by the lay faithful only.

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with the priest singing or saying "Through him, and with him, and in him ... for ever and ever." Only the people reply "Amen." This is the "great Amen". I leave it for you to find the other 10 times we say Amen, only two of which are spoken by the priest. Amen is an ancient word of assent and commitment. We agree with what has been said, and profess that we plan to change our lives. When the Archangel Gabriel asked if Mary would agree with God's plan for her, she replied "Amen." St. Luke translates this with the words "Let it be done unto me according to your word." She has professed a trust in God's plan, and agreed to do her part. The "Great Amen" and the "Amen" before receiving the Eucharist have exactly the same meaning. God has the plan for Jesus to dwell with us, and even within us. This gift is amazing, and requires a willingness to change any part of our life that does not fit God's ways. When we agree with this, God's Spirit will help us do all kinds of good.

During the homily, the lay faithful sit. Sitting reflects attentive listening. Of course, at the homily we should listen not just to the words spoken by the priest, but also for the quiet voice of God speaking within the heart. When we are really allowing the Mass to be the center of our week, we might hear the rest of the message at any time during the week. Sunday is, of course, the best day for this hearing -- as long as we really dedicate the whole day to God.

Kneeling is a sign of prayer and, or, "adoration" -- the praise that we owe to God and only God. As a sign of both prayer and adoration, the faithful kneel for the Eucharistic Prayer, and during the reception of Communion. We commonly kneel in front of statues as a sign only of prayer. We do not adore statues! In front of the Eucharist we kneel in adoration of Jesus who is present. I suggest that those who cannot kneel should simply sit.

During the blessing at the end of Mass the lay faithful mark themselves with the sign of the cross. In this they receive a blessing from God to empower them for the whole week. Next week we take a look at some gestures that belong only to the priest.

Fr. Jim

Announcements

- ⇒ There will be **No Weekday Masses** through Friday, July 7th.
- ⇒ Holy Cross Outreach Monetary Donations: All Donations for the Catholic Outreach should be placed in the offertory basket. Checks need to be made payable to Holy Cross Catholic Church with a note in the memo field of the check "Outreach". If your donation is cash, please place it in a plain white envelope and write "Outreach" on the outside. Please do not use the offertory envelopes for your Outreach donation.
- ⇒ If you are missing an umbrella, check in the waste basket in the narthex to see if you left it at church.
- ⇒ Any dishes left in the church hall after a celebration for over a month will be donated or added to the church supply cabinets.
- ⇒ The last RCIA class will be held Sunday, July 9th.

Readings for the week of July 3

Mon Eph 2:19-22/Jn 20:24-29
 Tue Gn 19:15-29/Mt 8:23-27
 Wed Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Mt 8:28-34
 Thu Gn 22:1b-19/Mt 9:1-8
 Fri Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Mt 9:9-13
 Sat Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Mt 9:14-17
 Sun Zec 9:9-10/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30



"Thou shall not have on thy cell phone during church".
 - Cellphonians 4:15

Stewardship Report

June 24&25\$2834.10
 Online Giving.....15%
 Growth & Dev.0

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Welcome Msgr. Christopher Lathem and thank you for celebrating Mass with us this weekend.

Mass Times:

Sat 4:00 PM
Sun 11:30 AM
Mon, Wed, Fri 12:15 PM

Office Hours:

Mon-Wed 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Fri 9:00 AM - NOON

Phone: (864) 878-0574

Emergency: (864) 897-7980

Email: holycrosspickens@gmail.com

Website: holycrossstluke.org

Staff:

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Mrs. Carole Rotenbury, Secretary
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Mrs. Faye Fazio, DRE
ffazio@charlestandioocese.org

Father Jim also serves:

Church of St. Luke

4408 Hwy. 86

Easley, SC 29642

Phone: (864) 855-9039

The Week Ahead

Mon. 7/3	10:30 AM	No Men's Prayer Group
	12:15 PM	No Mass (HC)
Tue. 7/4		Independence Day - Office Closed
	6:00 PM	No Choir Practice (HC)
Wed. 7/5	12:15 PM	No Mass (HC)
Thur. 7/6	12:15 PM	No Mass (SL)
Fri. 7/7	10:30 AM	No Women's Prayer Group
	12:15 PM	No Mass (HC)
Sat. 7/8	2:30 PM	Confessions
	4:00 PM	Mass (HC) Offered for All Parishioners
	6:00 PM	Mass (SL) Offered for † Bess Moll
Sun. 7/9	9:00 AM	Mass (SL) Offered for All Parishioners
	9:30 AM	RCIA (CH, last class)
	11:30 AM	Mass (HC) Offered for Theresa Bravo, Birthday by the Villano Family

HC-Holy Cross, CH-Church Hall basement, VH-Villano Hall, SL-St. Luke

For additional information about happenings in the Diocese of Charleston and other churches in our area, please see the bulletin board, contact the church office or visit the church webpage.

Please consider a gift to the **Bishop's Annual Appeal**. In doing so, you will touch the lives of many in a very positive way. Your gifts will provide critical funding to accomplish things such as: pay for the education and formation of seminarians and deacons, help our brothers and sisters in need through Catholic Charities services, evangelize future generations through Youth and Young Adult Ministry programs, and provide pensions and healthcare for our retired priests. **Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Together, we are doing the Lord's work and building His kingdom.**

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Rachel's Vineyard Retreats support individuals after their abortion experience. The retreat can also bring spiritual healing and strengthening of faith through the saving power of Jesus and the forgiveness that He extends to all of us. If you know of someone who could benefit from the retreat, please have them contact: Christy 803 554 6088 - Kathy 803 546 6010 Grace4healing@gmail.com www.rachelsvineyard.org July 7-9, 2017 Charleston, SC

The facilities of Holy Cross are available to all ACTIVE parishioners. This includes the use of the church for Baptism, Weddings & other Sacramental events. Active Membership is determined as follows:

1. Registered in the parish for 6 months.
2. Faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.
3. Financial support of the church according to your means.

Marriage: Those contemplating marriage should contact the office at least EIGHT months prior to the wedding date to schedule an appointment with the Priest.

Baptism: Parents must attend a training class prior to having a child baptized. Please call the parish office to schedule the training.



holycrossstluke.org



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