



NEWSLETTER

The Crucifer

Gratitude and Thankfulness

Dear Holy Cross Family,

November is here, bringing thoughts of apples, pumpkins, potatoes—and of course, thankfulness. In a world that rushes from one moment to the next, I've been reflecting on the power of gratitude—how it has the ability to slow us down, reframe our perspective, and open us up to the joy that is already present in our lives... like apple butter, pumpkin spice everything, and mashed potatoes.

December is quickly approaching, and personally, I often find myself overwhelmed by the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season—the endless to-do lists, crowded schedules, and the pressure to make everything perfect. It's easy to get caught up in the whirlwind and lose sight of what truly matters. But I've discovered that leaning into the gratitude of November, and practicing throughout my day, is the best way to help me stay grounded and centered. It is like a reset button, helping me pause and shift my focus away from the chaos and back to the present moment.

This practice of gratitude doesn't require grand gestures—it finds life in the simplest, everyday moments. It's in the warm comfort of a cup of tea on a chilly afternoon, the unexpected text from a friend checking in, or the joy of crossing off even one thing from a long to-do list. Gratitude appears in the quiet satisfaction of finishing a good book, the scent of familiar spices while cooking dinner, or the sense of peace that comes with a deep breath after a long day. Life can be messy and unpredictable, but choosing to slow down and notice these small blessings helps us reframe the ordinary as sacred. It reminds us that God's goodness is always present—woven through our routines, interactions, and quiet moments, waiting to be seen and celebrated.

Scripture encourages us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." It doesn't say we need to feel thankful for everything, but it reminds us that choosing gratitude—especially in hard or chaotic times—can shift our focus from what we lack to the goodness of God's presence.

At Holy Cross, gratitude is more than a feeling—it's a way of life we live out together as a community. I see it in the volunteers who show up week after week, offering their time and talents with joy. It's present in your generosity toward our outreach ministries, supporting those in need both near and far. And it shines through in the way you care for one another—through prayer, words of encouragement, and simply being present for each other. These small but meaningful acts weave together to create a culture of gratitude, reminding us that God's goodness is often revealed through community, especially in challenging seasons.

And speaking of community, here are a few exciting events coming up that I can't wait to share with you!

Sunday, November 3rd: Consecration Sunday

We'll come together for wonderful worship, a potluck lunch, games for all ages, and a chance for kids to dunk Fr. Rob and the staff in the dunking booth!

Sunday, November 17th: Outdoor Folk Concert

Enjoy music, fellowship, a bonfire, hot cocoa, and apple cider!

Wednesday, November 20th: Gobble Gobble Game Night and Feast

One week before Thanksgiving, at our annual parish thanksgiving feast together, we will provide optional fun games at each of the tables to add laughter and fun to this evening.

As we enter this season of thanksgiving, may we be quick to notice and slow to forget the many ways God is at work in and through us. Let gratitude not only fill our hearts but shape how we live—reminding us that everything, no matter how small, is a gift from God.

Thank you for being part of the Holy Cross family. I am grateful for each of you and the ways you bring God's love to life in this community.

*Love, peace, and potatoes,
Janelle*

Sunday Worship

8:00am – In Person Worship & Live Stream
10:30am – In Person Worship & Live Stream

Library Hours

Saturdays: 9:00am - 12:30pm
Sundays: 9:15 - 12:15pm
Wednesdays: 9:15am - 6:00pm

Sunday Classes

9:25am – Nursery
9:25am – Children’s Ministry
9:30am – EYC Sunday School
9:35am – Resurrection Now (Lanier)
9:35am – Music Reading 2.0 (Nave)
9:35am – Romans (Holy Cross Rm)
9:35am – Women’s Book Study (Chapel)

Wednesday Nights

5:30pm – Church Dinner
6:00pm – Nursery
6:15pm – Adult Class
6:15pm – Youth Group - EYC
6:15pm – Children’s Ministry



NOVEMBER
2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3 <i>Consecration Sunday</i> <i>All Saints' Day</i></p> <p>CLASSES: See Above Outreach Focus: Feed My Sheep 8:00am - Worship 9:00am - Breakfast 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Celebration Luncheon</p>	<p>4:00pm - Pensacola Philatelic Society 5:30pm - Depression Support Group</p>	<p><i>5 Election Day</i></p> <p>6:15pm - AA</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 10:00am - Hagar’s Basket (Rm 3) 5:30pm - Dinner & Classes</p>	<p>7 <i>ECW Dinner</i></p> <p>5:30pm - Handbells 6:15pm - AA 6:00pm - ECW Dinner @ Mellow Mushroom 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00pm - ACA Group (Lanier Hall)</p>	<p>9 <i>ECW Meeting</i></p> <p>9:00am - Library Hours 10:00am - Heavenly Handmade 10:00am - Prayer Shawl / Knitted Knocker (Lanier Hall)</p>
<p>10</p> <p>CLASSES: See Above 8:00am - Worship 9:00am - Hot Delicious Breakfast 10:30am - Worship 3:00pm - Board Games</p>	<p>11 <i>Veteran's Day</i></p> <p>5:30pm - Depression Support Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:15pm - AA 6:30pm - Compassionate Friends</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 10:00am - Hagar’s Basket (Rm 3) 5:30pm - Dinner & Classes</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30pm - Handbells 6:00pm - Neighborhood Watch 6:15pm - AA 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:00pm - ACA Group (Lanier Hall)</p>	<p>16 <i>ECW Monthly Meeting</i></p> <p>8:00am - Brotherhood of St. Andrew (Lanier Hall) 9:00am - Library Hours 9:00am - Daughters of the King (Holy Cross Rm) 10:00am - Private Meeting 11:00am - We Care (Holy Cross Rm)</p>
<p>17 <i>Blood Drive</i> <i>Folk & Fire Concert</i></p> <p>CLASSES: See Above 8:00am - Worship 8:30am - Blood Drive 9:00am - Hot Delicious Breakfast 10:30am - Worship followed by Guatemala Mission Presentation 5:00pm - Folk & Fire Concert</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:00pm - Pensacola Philatelic Society 5:30pm - Depression Support Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30pm - Bunco 6:15pm - AA</p>	<p>20 <i>Thanksgiving Gobble</i> <i>Gobble Game Night & Feast</i></p> <p>9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 10:00am - Hagar’s Basket (Rm 3) 5:30pm - Gobble Gobble Game Night & Feast</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30pm - Handbells 6:00pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:00pm - ACA Group (Lanier Hall)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00am - ECM Monthly Meeting/ Workshop 9:00am - Library Hours 10:00am - ECW Crafts</p>
<p>24 <i>Greening of the Church</i></p> <p>CLASSES: See Above 8:00am - Worship 8:30am - Blood Drive 9:00am - Hot Delicious Breakfast 10:30am - Worship followed by Greening of the Church 11:45am - JUST Pensacola 3:00pm - Board Games</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30pm - Depression Support Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:15pm - AA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 10:00am - Hagar’s Basket (Rm 3) 5:30pm - Dinner & Classes</p>	<p>28</p> <p>HAPPY THANKSGIVING 5:30pm - NO Handbells 6:15pm - AA 6:30pm - NO Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:00pm - ACA Group (Lanier Hall)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am - Library Hours</p>

OUR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES & BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Gobble Gobble Game Night & Feast

5:30pm November 20th

Come for the food- Stay for the fun!
Bring your family's favorite holiday side dish to share!

The Sounds and Stories of GRATITUDE

[gra-ti-tude] noun.

Join Isabelle Peterson in exploring hymns and songs born out of gratitude throughout history and today. We will explore how gratitude brings beauty out of struggles and adversity.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
Nov 6th and 17th

November Birthdays

- 01 - Lily Hodges
- 03 - Steve Roberts
- 03 - Sarah Tarkus
- 04 - Gabe Lukow
- 06 - Daniel Cecil
- 07 - Diane Henehan
- 10 - Samantha Dancer
- 10 - Jeff Simpler
- 11 - Nora Haight
- 11 - Joe Nunnari
- 12 - Britt Landrum
- 13 - Rena Killam
- 14 - Kathy Baggett
- 15 - Paige Hotopp
- 16 - Tiffanie Coleman
- 16 - Camille Lukow
- 16 - Faith Smith
- 21 - Steve Atha
- 22 - Linkon Andrew
- 23 - Ed Austin
- 23 - Howard Johnson
- 24 - Marguerite Byrd
- 24 - Dana Wimmers
- 25 - Warren Jerrems
- 27 - Jonathan Peacock
- 28 - Gordon Haight
- 28 - Anne Ryan
- 29 - Brenda Brown
- 29 - Mike Haskins
- 30 - Paula Clark

November Anniversaries

- 05 - Al & Alla Bressler - 19 Yrs!
- 06 - Jordan & Leslee Williams - 14 Yrs!
- 11 - Roy & Lorrie Wilkinson - 36 Yrs!
- 21 - Chris & Erica Dake - 26 Yrs!
- 25 - Larry & Kaki Chambers - 21 Yrs!
- 26 - Russ & Carla Hardin - 3 Yrs!
- 28 - Fr. Rob & Amanda Dixon - 16 Yrs!
- 29 - Brad & Jen Brennan - 29 Yrs!

Consecration Sunday PARTY LUNCH

Join us for a Potluck Lunch as we celebrate our legacy at Holy Cross!

Sign up in the Narthex to bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Main dish will be ribs, hamburgers, and hotdogs!

Games, fun, and a dunk tank!
Watch Fr. Rob and the staff make a splash!

SUNDAY
NOV 3RD 2024

FOLLOWING
1030 WORSHIP

DONATE BLOOD

Holy Cross Episcopal Church
Sunday, November 17
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

All donors will receive*:
- \$20 eGift Card
- OneBlood Six Reusable Cups
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Donors Receive
\$20 eGiftCARD
Walmart amazon and more!

- PLUS -

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.

FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH

YOU'RE INVITED

A 3-WEEK SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
NOV. 3RD, 10TH & 17TH

9:30AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM
FOR NEWCOMERS OR
ATTENDEES WHO ARE CURIOUS
ABOUT OUR WORSHIP, BELIEFS & JOINING OUR CHURCH.

CLUB 55!

BUNCO NIGHT

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 19
5:30-8pm

PLEASE BRING \$3 PER PERSON & AN HORS D'OEUVRE OR A DESSERT TO SHARE!

For more information, contact Marline Austin (850)-293-9459

For a rollin' good time!
JOIN US IN LANIER HALL!
MEN & WOMEN WELCOME!

Sunday School Class

- BOOK STUDY -
with Anna Goss

**IN THE CHAPEL
BEGINNING
NOVEMBER 17TH**

all are welcome

SUE MONK KIDD
Author of *The Secret Life of Bees*
and
THE DANCE OF THE DISSIDENT DAUGHTER
A Woman's Journey from Christian Tradition to the Sacred Feminine

The art & science of gratitude

A one-week Sunday School Class
November 24th in the Youth Room

Create a piece of art as we consider the findings of a paper produced by the Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley.

All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Holy Cross Episcopal Church
7979 N. 9th Avenue
Pensacola, FL 32514
(850) 477-8596

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID NO. 400
PENSACOLA, FL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.holycrosspensacola.org

www.facebook.com/HolyCrossEpiscopalPensacola

centuries of music
Featuring four

Folk & Fire

@the gazebos
November 17th
5pm Sunday

BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND JOIN US FOR A
FIRESIDE CELEBRATION OF LIVE FOLK MUSIC!
COMPLETE WITH A HOT COCOA BAR AND
HANDMADE PUMPKIN PATCH.