



Holy Cross Parish Bulletin

Auburn • Divernon • Glenarm • Pawnee

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic adoration is held in Sacred Heart church in Virden after Mass each Wednesday morning and concludes with Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00 a.m. each Thursday.

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Fr. James will hear confessions in the reconciliation room in St. Benedict Church. Sunday 7:40-8:05 a.m. and Tuesday evening before Mass by appointment.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one is in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for the healing of body and soul, please contact the Pastor.

BAPTISM

If you wish to have a child baptized, please contact the Pastor.

CONFIRMATION

If you have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation and wish to do so, please contact the Pastor. Confirmation is ordinarily received by students in the C.C.D. and P.S.R. programs.

MARRIAGE

If you wish to be married in one of the three Parishes, please contact the Pastor not less than six months prior to the desired wedding date and prior to reserving a reception hall.

HOLY ORDERS

If you think you or someone you know might be called to the Diaconate or to the Priesthood, please contact the Pastor.

Weekly Bulletin Deadline: Information to be published in the bulletin is due to the parish office by **Noon on Wednesday**. Any exception will be published the week before.



REV. JAMES PALAKUDY, *Pastor*

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WEBSITE

holycrossauburn.com

FACEBOOK

Holy Cross Parish Auburn/Pawnee/Divernon/Glenarm
Illinois

ST. BENEDICT CHURCH

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Auburn, Illinois

HOLY CROSS PARISH

(217) 438-6222 (office/hall)

Secretary Donna Kuentler E-mail: hcp@royell.org

Secretary Lola Caruthers E-mail: hcp.lc@royell.org

Fax: (217) 438-6222

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.— Noon Monday & Tuesday

9:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. Wednesday

8:00 a.m.— Noon Thursday

8:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. Friday

Second Sunday of Advent

The Light in the Window

When we expect company after dark, we turn on the porch light. Our small beacon of welcome streams out to meet the visitor. This is not new.

For centuries people have lit a candle or the oil lamp and set it out as a sign of welcome. The welcoming light stands bravely as the forerunner to words and gestures. The people inside are vigilant and awake.

This Advent season let us also be vigilant and awake as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



“*Breaking Bread*” books—We have extra copies in the entry of the Church. If anyone would like to take a copy home, please do not take them from the pews. You are welcome to take one from the entry of the church. Thank you!



To sign up for the new online giving platform (Push Pay), you may do so by scanning the QR Code at the left or by going to our parish website: holycrossauburn.com and clicking on the “Giving “ button.

THANK YOU for your generosity in supporting our parish.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 8, Mass at 7a.m. at Auburn—Holy Day of Obligation

Server: _____; Lector: Tim Hemberger; C.M./Usher: Ron Waterkotte

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

The Nativity of the Lord, Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 p.m. Mass at Auburn With Overflow at the Parish Center

Volunteers Needed:

Server(s): _____,

Lector: Cindy Smith

C. M. At Church _____, C. M. at Parish Hall _____

Usher(s) at Church: _____, Usher at Parish Hall: Jeannette Forgas

COLLECTION DATA FOR NOV. 29/30, 2025

PARISH ENVELOPES (00 CONTRIBUTORS)	\$	00.00
ONLINE DONATIONS (13 CONTRIBUTORS)	\$	552.00
ONLINE JUSTICE & HOPE (1 CONTRIBUTOR)	\$	10.00

No other donations to report since all Masses were cancelled due to the inclement weather over the last weekend.

Justice & Hope Collection addresses the root causes of poverty. Projects bring poor and low-income people together to work for change in their communities. This is a diocesan effort and grants are awarded for local human development programs.

Retirement Fund for Religious special collection is next weekend. For decades religious men & women have cared for others. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your donations help ensure the aging religious will receive the necessary support, housing & medical care they need.



stewardship

**“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”
Matthew 3:10**

Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused?

Our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these things is our gift back to Him.

What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES

Dec. 6/7 Anointing of the Sick after Mass. Please just stay after Mass. Anointing does not have to be for serious/life-threatening situations.

Dec. 10 Wednesday Office Hours will be 9-4 going forward

Dec. 10 NO PSR—Auburn Choir Concert

Dec. 10 HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FR. JAMES!!



Dec. 11 & 12 Thurs./Fri., PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Dec. 13 Penance: 3:00-3:45p/Girard; 6:30-7:00 p.m./Auburn

Dec. 14 Penance: 7:30-8:10am/Auburn; 11:30a-12:15p/Virden

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Dec. 17/24/31 NO PSR - Christmas Break

Dec. 25/26 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Jan. 5 K of C #10556 Meeting 7:00 p.m. at the Parish Center

Jan. 7 PSR Grades K-8 6:30 –7:30 p.m.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Julie Atwell, Tom Baker, Barbara Conkrite, Gail Courtney, Lisa Davis, Nancy Davis, Chuck DuBois, Dale Fitzpatrick, Paula Gonzalez, JoAnn Hefer, Stephen Hubbard, Anna Jett, Vince & Barb Kelly, Mark Kirby, Ron Knapp, Mary Maley, Milla Manser, Elizabeth Miczulski, Linda Millburg, Mark Millburg, Ken S. Moorman, Linda Nagel, Rita Nardi, Rachel Baker Noble, Danny Pierson, Breanna Rabacchi, Erin Stiver, Steve Stuckey, Steve Underwood, Michael Verschelden, Pat Verschelden, Bonnie Wagner, Barb Zaccari.

Please call parish office w/additions to / removals from list. Please notify us of anyone who would welcome a hospital visit. Thanks.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit parish website at: holycrossauburn.com to see bulletins, liturgical lists, register your children for PSR, any change in office hours and scheduled events! If you choose to do online giving and don't want envelopes anymore, please contact the parish office so that they may be suspended, saving our parish the cost of unused envelopes. **Current Lit Lists** are also always available at entry of church.

St. John's Breadline We are no longer provided bread to "sell" to support the Breadline. There are envelopes in the pews for your donations to St. John Breadline. This free will offering replaces Breadline Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Wednesday Office Hours will be 9 a.m.—4 p.m. starting December 10th. The hours on the other days will remain unchanged.

Parish Office is closed Thursday & Friday this week.

Reminder that inclement weather that causes unsafe driving conditions could change office hours without prior notice.

We thank Father's Pallottine order and Pawnee Monument Co. for their generous donations of 2026 calendars. They are available for pick-up at the back of church.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE ... May they rest in peace

Fr. Daren J. Zehnle

WEEKEND LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Sat., Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 7, 8:15 a.m.

Servers:	Jacob Barth Cayden Bailey	Lydia Millburg Andrew Millburg
Lector:	Todd Atwell	Lance Millburg
C. Mins:	Cindy Smith	Linda Baer
Ushers:	Ron Waterkotte Jim Verschelden	David Dixon Ron Appelt

Sat., Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 14, 8:15 a.m.

Hannah Barth Grifyn Bailey	Abigail Seiz Briana Giron
Cindy Smith	Rob Staudenmaier
John Hemberger	Barb Farris
Jeannette Forgas Volunteer	David Dixon Ron Appelt

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Dec. 6	Girard	Mass	Bill & Agnes Frank (Mike & Marcia Walter)
	5:30 p.m.	Dec. 6	Auburn	Mass	† Ruth DuBois (Gene & Mary Maley)
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Dec. 7	Auburn	Mass	† Travis Clem (Dave & Renee Miller)
	10:15 a.m.	Dec. 7	Virden	Mass	† Nickie Maynerich (Pierce Family)
Mon.	7:00 a.m.	Dec. 8	Auburn	Mass	Manuelito Gonzales (Sonia Gonzales)
	6:00 p.m.	Dec. 8	Girard	Mass	Poor Souls in Purgatory (Annette Cole)
	7:00 p.m.	Dec. 8	Virden	Mass	† Dcn. Rick Schneetzler (JC Nashland & Family)
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	Dec. 9	Auburn	Mass	† Jim Hendricks (Vita DiCarlo)
Wed.	7:30 a.m.	Dec. 10	Virden	Mass	Mason Smith (Ryan Smith) (Adoration)
Wed.	1:00 p.m.	Dec. 10	Courtyd.Est	Mass	Dorothy Peregrin
Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	Dec. 11	Virden	Mass	Sadie Alarid (Linda Carter)
Fri.	7:30 a.m.	Dec. 12	Auburn	Mass	Pro Populo
Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Dec. 13	Girard	Mass	Rosella Adams (Cathy Davis & Family)
	5:30 p.m.	Dec. 13	Auburn	Mass	† Clare Blase (Mom)
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Dec. 14	Auburn	Mass	† Mary Ann Kuentler (Andy & Donna)
	10:15 a.m.	Dec. 14	Virden	Mass	† Linda Hacker (Annette & Adam Edwards Family)

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Dec. 13 “Peace in the Womb” Christmas Caroling at TWO HEARTS PRC offices at 519 N. Bruns Lane, Springfield, 4-5p.m. Song sheets will be provided—with refreshments & open house. Sponsored by Pro-Life Action League, locally by TWO HEARTS PRC Civic Committee.

Dec. 16 Christmas Novena at 6:00—followed by Candlelight Mass at 6:30p.m. at Sacred Heart, Virden. Candlelight speaks of the general theme of Advent, a time of expectation eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Son of God, the Light of the World. Fr. Zach Samples will be celebrating. **Dec. 17 –24th Remaining Nights of Christmas Novena at Virden at 5:00p.m.**

Dec. 21-23 Men’s Discernment Retreat for Catholic men, ages 18-25 at Villa Maria Retreat Center, Springfield. It is free to attend and no commitment is implied by your presence. Go to dio.org/mdr.

Support Those Who Need Food That Catholic Charities Hunger Campaign helps fund the Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry Program, which reaches out to feed disadvantaged people facing poverty in rural communities across our 28-county diocese. The 7 Mobile Food Pantry trucks deliver meat, fresh produce, dairy and non-perishable food items all year long to those in need. They ask you to please consider a gift to help them continue to feed God’s children through their mission. Every gift, no matter how small, makes a difference. You can donate at cc.dio.org.

Victim Assistance Contact To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy, even if it is in the past, individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation number (217)321-1155. Individuals may also contact the Ill. Dept. of Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-ABUSE, or contact your local police.

Contact Gov. Pritzker asking him to VETO SB 1950

As you know, life is sacred from conception to natural death and assisted suicide violates that basic tenet of Church teaching, making it morally unacceptable. The Church also calls us to protect the sick, vulnerable and marginalized of our society. In states where this is legal, physician assisted suicide incentivizes insurance companies to deny lifesaving treatment while offering cheaper lethal drugs; marginalized communities fear coercion and abuse of such a system, and suicide promotion and contagion are real. Assisted suicide in practice is also at odds with the physician’s responsibility to care for patients.

When you request a veto for this bill, morally acceptable suggestions include: encouraging & supporting more hospice and palliative care programs & providing education concerning advanced directives and end of life options. Your voice matters on this bipartisan issue! For more information, go to ilcatholic.org.

Phone # for Gov. Pritzker is 217-782-6830 or write: Office of the Governor, 401 S. Spring St., Springfield, IL 62704

*“May we go forth in peace, filled with the joy of the Resurrection and may our lives be a testament to Your glory.
As we leave this place, let us carry the message of Your love and grace into the world,
reflecting the light of Christ in all that we do.*



Live Your Faith—Join the Knights of Columbus!

Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church.

Auburn Council # 10556

For information, Call 217-741-7333

HOLY FATHER’S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION



UNIVERSAL INTENTION: FOR CHRISTIANS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Welcome to any visitors we may have with us today! If you would like to register as a member of Holy Cross Parish, please contact the parish office at 217-438-6222 or you may fill out the information below, detach and drop it in the collection basket.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____