



NEWSLETTER

The Crucifer

Setting Little Feet on the Path of Righteousness

Stability in my life has not always been easy to maintain. Neither of my parents were Christians and, as a young child, my home life was chaotic. The two people in my life who provided the stability that I craved were my loving grandparents. Grandad and Nanny were devout Catholics whose influence in my formative years continues to be a foundation of stability to me in my adult life. Memories of being nurtured and loved took place at their home. My grandmother taught me to sew, crochet, cook, bake, and garden. She was a gentle and gracious Christian woman. My grandfather sung silly songs to me, told jokes that made me laugh, and gave me chocolate candies hidden in his secret stash.

I was valued by these precious people.

However, their most important act of nurturing was my spiritual nurturing. They lived across the street from St Michaels Catholic Church: our Parish. It was in that little house at 13 St Michaels Ave that I was introduced to Christianity.

Every morning as a small child, I would put on my little shoes, and perhaps a knitted hat and matching mittens that my grandmother had made for me, and the three of us would walk across the street to attend Mass. The church was a formidable grey stone structure that sat upon a hill. Wide stone steps seemed to beckon you to climb. I remember my grandmother taking my little hand in hers and climbing those steps. They seemed gigantic to me as a small child but I felt safe in her clasp. The steps led up to the great wooden doors. The imposing brass handles needed to be grabbed in order to open the doors. My grandfather was kind and considerate; he opened the door so that my grandmother and I could enter. The Narthex was made of stone. The marble floor had beautifully inlaid workmanship and I remember playing little games on the patterns as we walked the length to the Nave. The Holy Water was in an intricately carved marble font with cherubs seemingly inviting you to be blessed.

I remember standing on my tippy toes as I poked my chubby finger in the water. My grandmother watched attentively so I did not spill any water.

We walked into the Nave in silence. The walls were lined with statues of saints and they seemed to be poised to come to life in reenactment of their tales. The stained-glass windows told Bible stories in beautiful artistry. I sat on the hard (HARD!) wooden pews and swung my legs gently as the priest entered. I don't remember what he said or the messages that he spoke; I do remember feeling safe. In this most sacred of settings, I felt whole. Even as a young child I recognized that I was in the presence of God and angels and that I was surrounded by something that was both mystical and yet familiar.

It was my little soul calling out to my Creator.

In those daily quiet and beautiful moments, who I would become was being established. I thank God that He gave me these two people who cared enough about me as a small child to recognize that setting my feet on the path of righteousness was their precious privilege.

This pandemic has been difficult for everyone in so many ways. My heart feels deeply for our families with young children. I am thankful for Zoom meetings and 'safe' outside Children's Church this past year that allowed us to continue to tell our children how much they are loved by God.

Now I am thrilled to welcome back our children and families to our safety minded Children's Ministries this spring at Holy Cross. We should never underestimate the importance of our influence and responsibility in setting our little one's feet on the path of righteousness.

Let the Joy begin!

By Leanne Whalen

Sunday Schedule

Worship

8:00am – In Person Worship & Live Stream
10:30am – In Person Worship & Live Stream
10:30am – Children’s Chapel during worship
3:00pm – Outdoor Worship (ModerrrMusic)

Classes

9:25 am - Children's Ministry - ONLINE
 9:35 am - Youth Sunday School @ the Volleyball Court
 9:35am - Rev. Roger's Class - ONLINE
 9:35am - Chris Dake's Class - IN-PERSON & ONLINE
 9:35am - Melodie Rowland's Class - IN-PERSON ONLY

[illegible]

OUR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES & BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Valentine's Day Dinner!

Can't Go Out For Dinner?

Join us for a special Valentines Day Dinner!

THIS SUNDAY, February 14th
after our 3:00pm Worship Service

Safety Focused Fellowship

Outdoor Worship, Live-Music, Games, Bonfire, Food
& Children's Program

Outside Dining & Drive-thru
SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancake Dinner

February 16th
5:30pm
to
6:30pm



Children's Activities: Bury the Alleluias!
Donations for the Youth Group will be accepted.

Lenten Series: Teachings of Our Faith

Wednesday Nights During Lent

February 24th - March 31st

Dinner Safely Served at 5:30pm

Closing Prayer at 6:55pm

Children's "Play & Pray" 5:30-7:00pm (playground)

RSVP in Narthex or Email office@holycrosspensacola.org



February Birthdays!

03 - Kathy Steenland; 05 - Pamela James; 07- Caiti Bollete;
07 - Aileen White; 08 - Jerry Robbirds; 10 - Ben Boyer;
12 - Zach Dake; 14 - Johnny Armstrong; 14 - Jerry Holzworth;
14 - Ed Hume; 14 - Ann Jewett; 16 - Heather Mikulaschek;
19 - John Holder; 19 - Nate Winn; 20 - Frank Calhoun;
20 - Manuel Kimmons; 20 - Jemison Mims;
21 - Rachel Holder; 26 - Fr. Rob Dixon;
27 - Diane Rickman - Buckalew; 28 - Fran Ausserer

February Anniversaries!

06 - Michael & April Schantz - 11 Years!
19 - Jeffrey & Amy Simpler - 10 Years!


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February 17th

Service Times

7:00am	Imposition of Ashes
12:00pm	Imposition of Ashes
6:00pm	Imposition of Ashes (full service)