

Wednesday Dec 25 & Thursday Dec 26 - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Please call the church office number in case of church emergencies – 650-591-4447.

Saturday January 25 - CRAB FEED

You are cordially invited to our annual Crab Feed. Come and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a scrumptious crab dinner! The main menu will be luscious crab along with salad, Greek-style pasta, olive-oil garlic bread and dessert. A complimentary bottle of wine will be provided with the meal for each table of 10 guests. There will be a no-host full bar with wine, water, coffee and soft drinks along with Greek music and a raffle. Hors d'oeuvres will be served starting at 6:00 PM; Dinner starts at 7:30 PM. \$85 for adults, \$35 for children ages 4-11, and children 3 and under are free. Bring your family, neighbors, and co-workers. Visit the link at our church website or use the QR code on the right. Reserve a place today! Seating is limited! Crabby personality not required.



DID YOU KNOW, IF YOU ARE 73 OR OLDER . . .

. . . you most likely need to take your 2024 required minimum distributions from your retirement plans **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2024**. You may also make a direct transfer of up to \$105,000 this year from your IRA to the Church of the Holy Cross without paying taxes on the amount transferred if you are 70½ or older at the time you make your transfer. Your transfer is not considered taxable income nor a tax deduction and reduces the amount of your annual required minimum distribution. This may be more tax beneficial for you than writing a check from your bank account. Contact your financial advisor for details as soon as possible.



FESTIVAL BLACK FRIDAY SALE CONTINUES – Last chance at these bargain prices!! Just in time for the holidays!! Gyro (\$25 for 5 pound package), Greek wines (\$20 per bottle) and Pita (\$3 for 10 pack or 2 packs

for \$5) are also available for purchase. Quantities are very limited!! Please see Chris Canellos after church today or order the youvetsi at belmontgreekfestival.com!

FAMILY TO FAMILY SHARING! Many families across the Peninsula will be able to celebrate a Merry Christmas this year because of everyone's participation. Thank you for sharing the Glory of Christ's birth.

PERSONALIZED CALL FROM SANTA! Sign up for a personalized virtual call from Santa for your children. Don't miss this opportunity to share the Spirit of Christmas with your family! **NOW thru December 24**. Signup by visiting: www.stnicholas-tele-santa.com

STEWARDSHIP 2025 – Look for your 2025 Stewardship packet in the mail and make your pledge **Today!** Becoming a pledging steward of Holy Cross gives the necessary financial support to our church. Your monthly monetary gift, which is part of your stewardship, helps our parish meet her financial responsibilities . . .in simple terms, pay the bills. Please make every effort to make your pledge in the next few weeks. Members of our Parish Council, Stewardship Committee and Sunday Ushers will be happy to help you with additional information and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your support and joining our Parish Community. Please visit our church website.

CLASSES CONTINUE – after Christmas and Epiphany. We resume the week of **January 7**. Contact k.konstantine@gmail.com for info

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN We have begun enrollment for the 25-26 school year -- please email Director Chris Shreve to schedule a visit for you and your child today! Preschool@goholycross.org Visit our Preschool website: www.holycrossbelmont.com Follow us on Instagram: [@holycrosspreschool](https://www.instagram.com/holycrosspreschool/) [<https://www.instagram.com/holycrosspreschool/>]. Like and follow us on Facebook: [<https://www.facebook.com/holycrossbelmont/>].

CARE CLOSET NEEDS YOU! – Donate basic hygiene and daily care items to children of San Mateo Park Elementary School. Deposit items in collection box in our Fellowship Hall or go to: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref=w1_share and order on-line shipping directly to school. Philoptochos appreciates your support. Email here if you have questions: cphopkins322@gmail.com

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **SERVICES** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Sunday, December 22 – Sunday Before the Nativity – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, December 23 – Vespertal Liturgy of Saint Basil – 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 24 – Great Hours of the Nativity – 8:30 AM

Tuesday, December 24 – Eve of the Nativity of Christ – 7:00 PM, Matins, 8:00 PM, Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, December 25 – Nativity of Christ – 9 AM, Matins, 10 AM, **Divine Liturgy**

Friday, December 27 – Saint Stephen the First Martyr – 8:30 AM Orthros, 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 28 – Great Vespertal, 5:30 PM

Sunday, December 29 – Sunday Following the Nativity – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, January 1 – 8:30 AM, Orthros; 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 4 – Great Vespertal, 5:30 PM

Sunday, January 5 – Sunday Before Holy Theophany – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy / Blessing of the Waters

Monday, January 6 – Holy Theophany – 8:30 AM, Orthros; 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy / Blessing of the Waters

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

If you are visiting us for the first time, send us an email and share your thoughts and suggestions. May God bless and keep you well.



**GREEK ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE
HOLY CROSS**

*Sunday Before
the Nativity of Christ*

December 22, 2024

The Reverend Father Peter G. Salmas
- e-mail: frpeter@goholycross.org
The Reverend Father Manoli Aspiotis
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OUR HOLY CROSS THREE HIERARCHS BOOKSTORE

As we strive to offer a reflection of our Orthodox faith and the significance of each liturgical season, our shelves now include items which convey the Season of Christ's Nativity...icons, books, ornaments for personal and gift-giving purposes. Our always available books, icons, puzzles, games, prayer ropes, crosses and more await your perusal.

