



ADVENT

Make Room

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

Luke 3:4

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

*St. Patrick Church of the Pastoral Region #6 in the Sidney Deanery
with Transfiguration Church, West Milton, Ohio*

Fr. Eric Bowman, *Pastor*
Fr. Michael Samala, *Associate Pastor*
Fr. Joseph Kozar, SM, *Sunday Associate*

PARISH OFFICE | 937-335-2833

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
or by appointment

409 East Main Street, Troy, Ohio 45373

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	7:30 a.m.
	9:30 a.m.
	11:30 a.m.

www.stpattroy.org

MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a community of
Faithful Disciples
who choose to seek the truth
passionately, to love the Lord
and others intensely, and to
give freely of our gifts, because
we believe that we are called
to make the Kingdom of God
visible in the world today.*

Sacramental Emergency After Hours 937-335-2833

PARISH STAFF

PARISH OFFICE

(937) 335-2833 Fax: (937) 335-1453

Pastor:

Fr. Eric Bowman..... ext. 2001
ebowman@stpattroy.org

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Michael Samala ext. 2999
msamala@stpattroy.org

Deacon

John Carlin 339-0726

Director of Music & Liturgy:

Matt Wagner ext. 2005
mwagner@stpattroy.org

Parish Secretary:

Pat Cartwright ext. 2002
pcartwright@stpattroy.org

Business Manager:

Amy Schmidt ext. 2003
aschmidt@stpattroy.org

Bookkeeper/Payroll:

Gail Breisch ext. 2004
gbreisch@stpattroy.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator:

Abby Schmid ext. 2007
youthminister@stpattroy.org

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator:

Pat Smith ext. 2008
psmith@stpattroy.org

Coordinator of Religious Education:

Susan Anderson ext. 2006
sanderson@stpattroy.org

Parish Facility Usage:

Amy Schmidt ext. 2003
aschmidt@stpattroy.org

School Principal:

Cyndi Cathcart 339-3705, ext. 3001
ccathcart@stpattroy.org

Home and School Association:

Julie Dues 339-2219

Education Commission:

Erich Courtad 339-3705

Preschool Director:

Cyndi Cathcart 339-3705, ext. 3001
ccathcart@stpattroy.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Erich Courtad, President 937-233-8715

Bill Rozell 937-335-2743

Carolyn Putnam 937-418-1155

Natalie Rohlfs 937-524-1787

Carrie Williams 937-405-6438

Rosemary Jones 937-339-7926

Dr. Ryan Subler 614-668-0989

Dennis Waller 413-627-0151

Crystal Ayers 419-305-4017

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Mittman 339-7615

Paula Sheridan 339-5853

Jeff Vogelmeier 339-8059

Tom Yenney 339-1587

Amy Schmidt 335-2833, ext. 2003

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, December 11

5:00 p.m. Jack Reddy

SUNDAY, December 12

7:30 a.m. AJ Holter

9:30 a.m. Lane Powell

11:30 a.m. Jerry Goode

12:30 p.m. **Baptism** – Owen Louis Ramsey

MONDAY, December 13

7:45 a.m. Becky Jean Fisher

TUESDAY, December 14

7:45 a.m. Robert & Marjorie Sink

WEDNESDAY, December 15

7:45 a.m. Joe and Anne Steyer

THURSDAY, December 16

7:45 a.m. Jenny Brueckman

FRIDAY, December 17

8:30 a.m. Bridget Burgei

SATURDAY, December 18

5:00 p.m. Ron Sweeney

SUNDAY, December 19

7:30 a.m. Robert Buckwalter

9:30 a.m. Mike Mencsik

11:30 a.m. Brian Hemm

For Mass times of churches throughout the United States, visit www.masstimes.org.

FR. ERIC – RAMBLINGS

*St. John the Baptist...**Below are several quotes from homilies on St. John the Baptist by Pope St. John Paul II...**His name is John (Lk 1:63)...which in Hebrew means "God is benevolent."**God is benevolent to human beings: He wants them to live; He wants them to be saved. God is benevolent to His people: He wants to make of them a blessing for all the nations of the earth. God is benevolent to humanity: He guides its pilgrim way towards the land where peace and justice reign. All this is contained in that name: John!"**"Look today to John the Baptist, an enduring model of fidelity to God and his Law. John prepared the way for Christ by the testimony of his word and his life. Imitate him with docile and trusting generosity."**"Saint John the Baptist is above all a model of faith. Following the example of the great Prophet Elijah, in order to listen more attentively to the word of the one Lord of his life, he leaves everything and withdraws to the desert, from which he would issue the resounding call to prepare the way of the Lord (cf. Mt 3:3 and parallels)."**"He is a model of humility, because to those who saw in him not only a Prophet, but the Messiah himself, he replied: Who do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie." (Acts 13:25)**"He is a model of uprightness and courage in defending the truth, for which he was prepared to pay in his person, even to the point of imprisonment and death."**"You, dear young people, be brave and free! Do not let yourselves be taken in by the deceptive mirages of an easy happiness. Follow the way of Christ: He is demanding, certainly, but He alone can help you to savour the full meaning of life and enjoy peace of heart."**"You, dear parents, prepare the way of the Lord before your children. Bring them up with love, and set a good example by living the principles you teach. And you, teachers and leaders of society, deepen your commitment to promoting the complete development of the human person, fostering in the young a deep sense of justice and of solidarity with the less fortunate."*

READINGS – THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Lk 7:18b-23
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16	Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18	Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19	Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Envelopes for Christmas Memorial Flowers can be found in the vestibule. Please return your donations to the parish office by December 13 to ensure your loved ones are listed in the Christmas bulletin. You can mail in requests with donations as well. Please be sure to print the names clearly.

GIVING TREE 2021 – All gifts are due today, December 12.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Next weekend is Loose Change Collection for St. Vincent de Paul. After Mass, there will be representatives at the door of the church with red baskets to collect your loose change. All money collected is kept local for people of Troy. Thank you for your generosity.

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – HELP AGING RELIGIOUS

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others – educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to today's second collection

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE WILL BE THIS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

St. Patrick Confession Times:

Tuesday-Thursday: 7:00-7:30 a.m.

Tuesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m. with Holy Hour

Saturday: 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Transfiguration Confession Times:

Wednesday-Friday: 7:30-8:00 a.m.

Thursday: 6:00-6:45 p.m.

Saturday: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

***Please note there will not be Confession or Holy Hour on December 21 and 28.**

*** WEEKLY RAFFLE WINNER ***

November 29 – Henry Jones

Month of November – Christina Farrall

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT – NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Sunday Masses	\$12,110.00
Sunday Mail-Ins	\$1,911.00
Electronic Giving	<u>\$2,886.62</u>
Total	\$16,907.62
Amount Needed	\$13,423.00
Variance (shortfall)	\$3,484.62

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

IN SYMPATHY

Please pray for the families of Donald and Shirley Ott. May their souls rest in the glorious peace of heaven.

CHURCH INFORMATION

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

3:00 p.m. Thursday for the following week; submit via email info@stpattroy.org.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
7:00-7:30 a.m.

Saturday: 4:00-4:30 p.m. In Church

Tuesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

With Holy Hour In Church

Anytime by appointment
(In Parish Office)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month,
10:30 a.m. following Mass

2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month,
12:30 p.m. following Mass

Saturday after the 5:00 p.m. Mass
with permission only

Attendance at the Baptismal Program is required – held every other month on the second Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November at 7:00 p.m. Call the Parish Office to reserve a date for both program & Sacrament reception.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK

During Office Hours, call 937-335-2833.

Anointing between Sunday Masses with prior notice. In Emergencies or After Hours, call 937-335-2833.

MATRIMONY

Contact the Parish Office at least 8 months in advance; must be a registered parishioner at least 9 months prior to marriage. Preparation program is required.

CARE OF THE SICK

Visitation Ministers visit homes and nursing facilities with Eucharist for those unable to worship on Sundays. Facilities no longer share this information with the Parish Office. Help identify those in need of Visitation by calling the Parish Office.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Please notify the Parish Office if you or a family member is hospitalized. Hospitals no longer share this information with the Parish Office.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Registrations are taken at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Registration form is also available on our website to complete and mail in to the Parish Office. When leaving the parish, please notify the Parish Office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Parish Office when you have a change of address or phone number.



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 12:

Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Phil 4:4-7

Lk 3:10-18

Monday, December 13:

Memorial of Saint Lucy,

Virgin and Martyr

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a

Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9

Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 14:

Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13

Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23

Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 15:

Advent Weekday

Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25

Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14

Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 16

Advent Weekday

Is 54:1-10

Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b

Lk 7:24-30

Friday, December 17:

Advent Weekday

Gn 49:2, 8-10

Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17

Mt 1:1-17

Saturday, December 18:

Advent Weekday

Jer 23:5-8

Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Mt 1:18-25

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible, Revised Edition
(NABRE) online at <https://bible.usccb.org>

OUR BAPTISM IN JESUS AND HIS SPIRIT

Reflection on Luke Lk 3:10-18

"His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn in unquenchable fire."

Let us choose to read this passage, not as a contrast between the lost (burned in unquenchable fire) and the saved (wheat gathered into the granary), but rather as understanding the fire as a necessary part of the Baptism in Jesus and His Spirit that we all must pass through. For I have my chaff, my weaknesses, sin and temerity, my waste that must be burned away in the fire of Christ's love and mercy. *Winnow me away, O Lord; let this Baptism of Your Holy Spirit and Your fire be for me the refining of the blessed!*

Then John's advice to his questioners in the Gospel passage, and his advice to us, becomes the work of our Baptism, in which our actions become the refining fire of Christ in this world, as we follow through on what love demands of us, do the hard work of justice, create peace, make forgiveness happen.

~ Fr. Jay

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Feast Day: December 12 •

Patron of the Americas, Mexico

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning, December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady.

Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac, when he heard beautiful music, like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually, the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time, Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless, the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary – and the God who sent her – accepts all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God's preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.



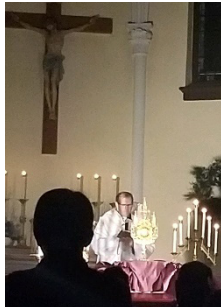
Read the full article: "Our Lady of Guadalupe." Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars,
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/our-lady-of-guadalupe>. (Accessed 23 Nov 2021).

AROUND OUR PARISH



BEHOLD THE GLORY

Behold the Glory filled the church campus and filled hundreds of hearts with two Masses, breakfast, beautiful music, two mini retreats, Reconciliation, Adoration, prayer and fellowship. Thank you to His Own for sharing their testimonies and guiding the "Awaken My Soul" presentation. Women, you are a protected Daughter and chosen Bride of Christ and Mother to all souls you encounter. Men, as Fr. Eric taught, you are the Protectors. Share your gifts with your family and the world. Thank you to His Own and Matt Wagner for leading the beautiful music at the evening Adoration and Pat Smith for all her work in organizing the retreats.



Thank you to our wonderful St. Patrick family for all the prayers, supportive words and condolences during my brother's recent hospitalization and death. Deacon John and I are so very blessed to be part of such a caring and thoughtful parish family. The St. Patrick family has always been there for us.
May God bless all of you,
Shirley

SYNOD 2021-2023

In keeping with the synodal approach that Pope Francis has called every diocese in the world to undertake, we invite the people of the Sidney Deanery to journey together as we discuss and reflect on the 10 themes chosen for the 2021-2023 Synod. All are welcome to the Sidney Deanery Synod on Synodality on January 6, 2022 to be held in St. Michael's Hall in Ft. Loramie from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The themes and reflection questions to be discussed in a "town hall meeting" format can be found on the Archdiocesan website: catholicaoc.org/synod.

Who should attend? Anyone and everyone! All segments of the People of God are invited to contribute, i.e., the elderly, the young, those who have pulled away from the church, those who are actively practicing and those called to religious orders, the poor, the migrants, anyone living on the margins, etc. We are ALL the Church and we are all called to journey together in communion, participation, and mission. Although registration on the archdiocese website is encouraged for planning purposes, walk-ins are welcome. If you are unable to attend the synod meeting in our deanery, we encourage you to check out the schedule and register for another synod meeting being held at other locations in our archdiocese.

Please do not put any flyers, books, crafts etc. on the book rack. All items must be approved through the parish office. Any materials put on the book rack without permission will be removed.

REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like a statement of your 2021 contributions to St. Patrick Church, please complete this form and return it to the parish office ~ **Attention Amy Schmidt**.

A statement will not be sent unless requested.

If you wish to have it sent by **email**, please fill out your name, email address, and envelope number only.

Name: _____

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Prepare the Way: FORMED offers for Advent.

stpattroy.formed.org

Daily Advent Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray – Grow closer to our Lord in the manger this Advent season with Dr. Gray as he leads you through the Mass readings every day during Advent and Christmas. Sign up on FORMED, a gift from your parish.

What is the True Meaning of Christmas?

with Dr. Michael Patrick Barber

Do you love Christmas traditions but don't know where they come from? Tune in for Dr. Barber's Advent reflections called "*The True Meaning of Christmas*" and learn the meaning behind your favorite Christmas pastimes. To go deeper, be sure to get this accompanying book, *The True Meaning of Christmas*, available on Catholic Market. And by the time Christmas comes, you'll be ready to share the light you've found along the way!

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER UPDATES

Your assistance would be appreciated with updating our parish information software, if anything has changed such as:

1. Change in marital status?
2. Dropped your landline or changed cell phone number?
3. Moved/New address?
4. New members in your family?

FATIMA TO LOURDES THROUGH SPAIN.....

For those not ready to travel in 2021, Fr. Eric will be the spiritual director for a pilgrimage beginning in Fatima, across Spain by bus, and finishing in Lourdes in June of 2022. From the time you arrive, you will be introduced to the life of St. Anthony of Padua (Patron Saint of Lost Things.) Then you are on your way to Fatima, home to the three shepherd children who witnessed the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 100 years ago! Continue through the life of St. Teresa of Avila, St. Ignatius of Loyola and ending in Lourdes. Whether you come for prayer at the Grotto or in the Basilica, or if you come to immerse yourself in the famous Healing Baths – Lourdes is the place for true miracles.

For more information, visit our parish website at <https://www.pilgrimages.com/frbowman/fsl/#dates>.

THANK YOU fro

FISH of Troy sends a big THANK-YOU to all the parishioners of St. Patrick for your generous donations totaling \$1,212.00 for Thanksgiving dinners. Your donations enabled FISH to purchase and distribute fully-cooked family-sized meals to 75 local families. Thank you for your generous support!

The Father's of St. Joseph

1st Wednesday Evenings

7:30pm -9:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration
in the Church



3rd Wednesday Mornings

5:30am – 7:00pm

Men's fellowship
in the undercroft

**There is a Way to Become the
Man & Father you Were Created to Be!**

For more information email: FOSJ.Troy@gmail.com

PARTNERS IN HOPE

St. Patrick is a sponsoring church of **Partners in Hope**, and each year we help by donating toys for this Christmas Shop project. You will find the donation bucket in the undercroft. We also collect full-size toiletry items (shampoo, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.) that will be distributed the night of the shop. Boxes were picked up between November 29th and December 5th.

More information about our Wish List and options to donate will be available on their website at www.partnersinhopeinc.org or call Tina Budde, Christmas Shop Coordinator at 937-335-0448. This program is open to families with children from birth to 18 years of age (still in school) in Troy, Casstown, Fletcher, Pleasant Hill, West Milton, Ludlow Falls and Miami East Students. During the Christmas shop, parents shop for three gifts for each of their children. Families also receive a gift bag with personal care items, stocking stuffers, books, cookies and more! If you know a family that can benefit from this program, please pass the word along. The shop will be held December 14-15.

Wanted: 12 dozen cookies from each sponsoring church and business.

Please note change: Due to Covid, we ask that cookies (homemade are the best) be prebagged with three cookies per sandwich bag. This will eliminate all extra handling of cookies. Each client's household will receive a box of prebagged cookies to take home.

Cookies can be delivered to the **First Presbyterian Church** on Monday, December 13, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please use the Walnut Street door, and the secretary will buzz you in.

The PIH Christmas Committee thanks you.

HEAR IN THE NEW YEAR CONTEST

Upper Valley Hearing & Balance is pleased to announce our Third Annual Hear in the New Year contest! We will be fitting a pair of premium hearing aids at no cost to a deserving person in need. To participate in the Hear in the New Year contest, individuals must submit an essay nominating themselves or a loved one who would benefit from receiving new hearing aids.

ESSAY CONTEST CRITERIA

- Hearing need
- Financial need
- Opportunity to impact recipient's life
- Individuals 21 years and older are eligible

Individuals must be local and able to visit either our Troy or Sidney location for evaluation, fitting, and follow-up.

Visit <https://uppervalleyhearing.com/contest> to enter.

Submissions accepted through December 31st, and the winner will be notified in January!

FAITH FORMATION

CCD

December 14 – Last class for 2021

January 4 – Classes resume

CCD classes are on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the school. To register, go to the St. Patrick website or contact Susan Anderson by email at sanderson@stpattroy.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Weekly Discipleship Cells and Monthly Connect Nights

DECEMBER

12 – D Cell in the Parish Center from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

19 – D Cell in the Parish Center from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

December 28-January 2 – Off for Christmas and New Year's Break

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

Confirmation Cells in the Parish Center

DECEMBER

12 – 7th and 8th Grade C Cell Meeting
from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

December 19-January 9 – Off for Christmas and New Year's Break

LEHMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS GIFT WRAPPING BOOTH

Miami Valley Centre Mall in Piqua will be open Thursday, December 16 to Thursday, December 23 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays and Christmas Eve. For special orders/appointments, call or text 937-658-3535 or email helpinghands@woh.rr.com. Donations for gift-wrapping services benefit students in music, sports and more! Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL NEWS



On December 3rd, the school celebrated Behold the Glory Day. We started the day at Mass with music provided by His Own and Matt Wagner. We then had an Advent Bingo. We did an Advent Craft, and then everyone had a pizza party. In the afternoon, we had Adoration which was the most beautiful thing. All the students knelt and sang songs with His Own and worshipped. It was absolutely amazing. We ended the day with a concert from His Own. It was such a memorable day.

Our last day of school before break is the 17th, with an early dismissal. Giving Tuesday was awesome!! We received so much support. There was just about \$15,000.00 donated to the school in one day!! We are so blessed. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

Cyndi Cathcart

Pray, hope and don't worry! – St. Pio

The Pediatric Group

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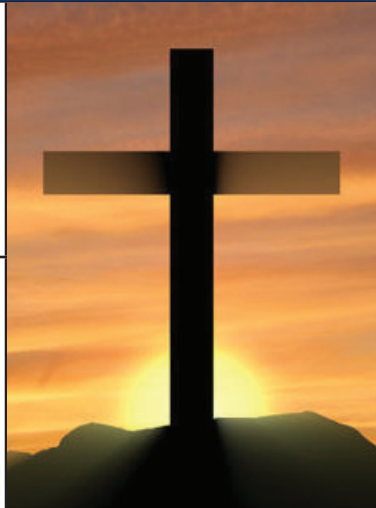
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