HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2033 Kaskaskia Rd **Renault, Illinois**
Sunday School/Table Talks 9:00 a.m. **Worship 10:00 a.m.**

Rev. James Stefanic, Pastor
Rev. Tyler McMiller, Missionary
Michael Conroy, Seminarian

Office: 618-458-6680 **Email: holycros@htc.net**
Website: holycrossrenault.org

Wendy Mueller, Organist **Megan Moeller, Acolyte**

1853 – "COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE" – 2026

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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
March 8, 2026

Welcome to our visitors! This is our Father's House. May no one feel strange or far from home. We hope you will join in our worship, and that you will find Christian friendliness which brings you back again.

Our Worship on the Third Sunday in Lent:

The Liturgy: ..... LSB Divine Service Three, p. 184ff
Opening Hymn: ..... LSB #614 "As Surely as I live," God Said
Sermon Hymn: ..... LSB #823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace
Closing Hymn: .....LSB #421 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing
Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:1-7
Epistle Reading: Romans 5:1-8
The Gospel: Matthew John 4:5-26

If you need to reach Pastor Stefanic, his personal email is jjstefanic15@gmail.com or phone # 414-305-8565.

How We Praised the Lord Last Week in The Parish:

Worship Attendance: .....81; a year ago, ... 51
Communed: .....60; a year ago, ... 40
Lenten Service Attendance: .....38; a year ago, ... 21
Sunday School:.....21; a year ago, ... 11
Adult Bible Class:.....11; a year ago, ... 8

Is meeting today after worship service.

At Work and Worship This Week in The Parish:

Monday: VBS Kick Off Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday: Pastor @ Winkel in Millstadt
Wednesday: Confirmation Class..... 5:00 p.m.
Lenten Service ..... 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School & Table Talks .....9:00 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.

Birthdays and Anniversaries This Week in The Parish:

March 9 – Cory Mosbacher 9 – Larry & Mary Mueller (A)
11 – Kyle Cowell
12 – Konner Ballard
13 – Jamie Matthews
14 – Kade Cowell
14 – Bud Huelsmann

Spiritual Discipline (March): Daily pray one psalm.
Hymn of the Month (March): LSB #453 "Upon the Cross Extended"

In Our Prayers: Glen Meyer; Mark Ottoson; Mark Wilson; Johanna Dougherty; Larry Matzenbacher; Kathy Baker; Jim Keller; Joe Whelan; Ella Guebert. ***Rich in years members***: Anita Mueller; Laverne Hinrichs; Virginia Strong; Roger Johnson; Wilma Heller; Marlene Deterding; Roger Toenjes.
friends and family of members: *Family of Paul Liefer*; Tony Moore; Jonah Cooksey; Kenneth Kelley; Andrea Kuehner; Dave Moore; Floyd Higgerson; Rosemary Schultheis; Riley Foster; Ashley Schrader; Randy Wetzler; Evelyn Marquardt; Doris Wilson; Allison Ford; Zachary Glenn; Carolyn Henry; Janine Drury; Troy Biernbaum.
Members, family, and friends in the military: John Michael Glossip; Brett Biernbaum; Luke Crider; Gage Baldwin; Madelyn Brown; Stephen Beaulieu; Cameron Hill; Cameron Jackson.

Serving on Sunday March 15 & Wednesday 18:

Elder: Mark Seboldt
Head Usher: Jim Seboldt
Ushers: Kenny Schultheis, Bob Keller
Dwight Jacobs, Aimee Corona
Acolyte: Lynnette Candler (15th only)
Counters: Ginny Strong & Bonnie Meyer

It has pleased our Lord Jesus Christ to gather Paul (Sonny) Liefer to His nearer presence. He now rests from his labors. He is a brother-in-law to Wilma Heller and an uncle to Linda (Bob) Keller, Jim (Connie) Seboldt and Mark (Brenda) Seboldt. Visitation will be held at Pechacek Funeral Home in Red Bud on Thursday, March 12 from 3-6. The memorial service will be held at Pechacek following at 6. We pray for all those who mourn Paul's death and look forward to the great and final Easter Day when all in Christ shall be raised to life with Him. Jesus said, "*I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die*" (John 11:25-26).

Table Talks: Join us each Sunday morning at 9am for a Bible Study on the book of Exodus. Today our study continues on chapter 3.

Sunday School: In our Christian education time this week, we study "A Life Restored." Jairus, a synagogue ruler, comes to Jesus, begging Him to heal his critically ill daughter. Along the way, servants come with news of his daughter's death. Taking along Peter, James, and John, Jesus ignores the mourners, takes the young girl by the hand, and tells her, "Arise." And rise she does, demonstrating Jesus' power over death itself.

Communion Registration: Holy Communion will be celebrated next Sunday. If you wish to register your intention to partake, please fill out a registration card and place it in a basket on the bulletin table in the back or in the front of church. Cards may be found by the bulletins and service orders.

books are in the narthex if you have not picked up yours or your families.

Lower Kaskaskia Zone

Spring Renewal

Thursday, March 26, 2026
At Immanuel, Campbell Hill
From 8:30 – 11:30 am
Speaker Deb Mevert
On the Mercy Ship (Floating Hospital Mission)
"Compassion, Forgiveness and Mercy"
Lamentations 3:22-23

We invite you to join
Lutheran Women in Mission
Southern Illinois District

2026 Spring Retreat

See How They Love One Another

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
John 13:34

APRIL | SAT 18 | 2026

FROM 9:00AM- 2:30PM
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & STUDENT CENTER
700 S. UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

Check-In, Coffee & Snacks will be from 9:00-9:30AM
Worship, fellowship & breakout sessions to follow.

Name (First Last): _____
Home Address: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Home Congregation & Location: _____
Permission to photograph (without names) for LWML publicity?
Yes or No

The ingathering will be a monetary donation to Our Savior LWML Refugee Resettlement Project. This project is aiding an Afghan family get to safety.

Registration Fee: $20 per Person
(Lunch will be provided)
Please, select how you would like to pay.
Check Number:_____
Or Cash: _____
Checks should be made out to LWML SID
Kindly, RSVP by April 1, 2026 to:
Mary Gray
835 Thunderstorm Road,
Carbondale, IL 62901

2026 Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Mar 8: Council Meeting 11:00 am
Mar 8: All You Can Eat Chicken Dinner St John Baldwin
Mar 8: All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner Millstadt
Mar 9: VBS Kick Off Meeting 7:00 pm
Mar 10: Pastor @ Winkel, Millstadt
Mar 11: Confirmation Class 5pm /Lenten Service 7pm
Mar 13: Wartburg Family Weekend
Mar 18: Confirmation Class 5:00 pm/Lenten Service 7:00 pm
Mar 20: April Voice Deadline/First Day of Spring
Mar 22: English Country Dance for 7th – 12th grades
Mar 25: Confirmation Class 5:00 pm/Lenten Service 7:00 pm
Mar 26: Lower Kaskaskia Zone Spring Renewal 8:30 am
Mar 28: LYF Laser Tag 10:00 am
Mar 29: Palm/Confirmation Sunday 10:00 am
Apr 2: Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
Apr 3: Good Friday 7:00 pm
Apr 4: LYF Set up for Easter Breakfast 9:00 am
Apr 5: Easter 6:30 & 10:00 am
Apr 12: Confirmation Reunion
Apr 14: Pastor @ Winkel, Renault/Council Meeting 7:00 pm
Apr 18: LWML Spring Retreat
Apr 21: May Voice Deadline
Apr 26: Trivia Event for Holy Cross Family
Apr 27: Voters' Meeting 7:00 pm
May 5: Pastor-Spring Pastors' Conference, Godfrey
May 6: Wm Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm
May 6: Elders' Meeting 7:00 pm
May 12: Mother's Day
May 14: Ascension Day
May 15: June Voice Deadline
May 19: Council Meeting 11:15 am
Jun 3: Wm Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm /Elders' Mtg 7:00
Jun 14: Council Meeting 11:15 am
Jun 15: July Voice deadline
Jun 21: Father's Day Jun 22 – 26: VBS Week
July 6: SS Teachers & Bd of Ch. Ed Mtg 7:15 pm
Sep 13: Rich in Years Sunday

2026 VBS
June 22 - 26
Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with VBS.
The VBS Kick-off meeting will be Monday, March 9 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall.

Please let Pam Melching know no later than
Sunday, March 22nd
if you are interested in purchasing
an Easter Lily this year.
The cost is $9 each.
Cards available in the narthex.
include your name and
"In Thanksgiving of" or "In Memory of".
You can also mail it to:
Pam Melching
5131 Southfork Road
Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
Note: not Renault
Please make checks payable to Pam Melching.
Thank you,
Pam

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BALDWIN, IL
All-You-Can-Eat Chicken Dinner (dine-in only)
Today
Serving from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Carry Outs Available
(1/2 chicken only with sides)
Menu:
Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes-Gravy, Corn,
Green Beans, Slaw, Homemade Desserts,
Tea, Lemonade, Coffee
Prices: Adults - $16 Children - $8 Under 4 – Free
Proceeds support Lutheran Schools in
Red Bud, Prairie, Steeleville and Chester
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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MILLSTADT
will hold its annual Spaghetti Dinner
Today
from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.
The menu includes spaghetti, bread sticks,
salad (featuring Papa Vito's salad dressings),
dessert, and beverages.
Carry-outs will be available.
This is an "all you can eat" dinner;
the cost is $13 for adults,
$5 for children (ages 4 – 10)
and free for children ages 3 & under.
Trinity's address is 503 East Washington, Millstadt, Illinois 62260. The building is walker, wheelchair, and stroller friendly.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF NEW AMERICAN'S 19TH ANNUAL

TRIVIA NIGHT AND SILENT AUCTION

April 11th doors open **6:00 PM** TRIVIA BEGINS AT 6:45 PM	LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH **9515 Tesson Ferry Rd. 63123** Bring snacks and non-alcoholic drinks **$30 per person** **$200 for table of 8**

Please also consider donating an item, service, gift card, or experience for our Silent Auction. Go to our website to learn how.
All donations are due by April 4.

Register and/or donate online at cfna-stl.org/trivia
or scan the QR Code

For questions email Kerry Pozaric at kpozaric@cfna-stl.org

Come join us at Vacation Bible School

June 22-26, 2026
9:00 am - Noon

Holy Cross Lutheran Church-Renault

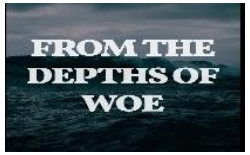
Our world is filled with exciting things to explore and enjoy. But there are also challenges and hardships we face along the way. Our loving powerful God desired to help us. He seeks us out and leads us to faith. We can trust Him!

Registration is open for Pre-K (age 4 years old) through 8th grade.

Join us to learn about our mighty God and Jesus our Savior through Bible stories, sing fun songs, do crazy crafts, eat yummy snacks, play awesome games, and more. Can't wait to see you there!

To register, contact 618-604-6666, seboldt1@htc.net or visit https://vbsmate.com/holycrossrenault

"The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10



"From Depths of Woe: Redemption of the Patriarchs"
Midweek Lenten Services: 2026

Holy Cross Lutheran Church ~ Renault, Illinois

WEDNESDAY AFTER THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 11 AT 7:00 P.M.
"The Redemption of Our Witness"

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WEDNESDAY AFTER THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 18 AT 7:00 P.M.
"The Realization of Our Rest"

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WEDNESDAY AFTER THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 25 AT 7:00 P.M.
"Rebuilding of the House of God"

BUILDING TOGETHER

THE House OF God

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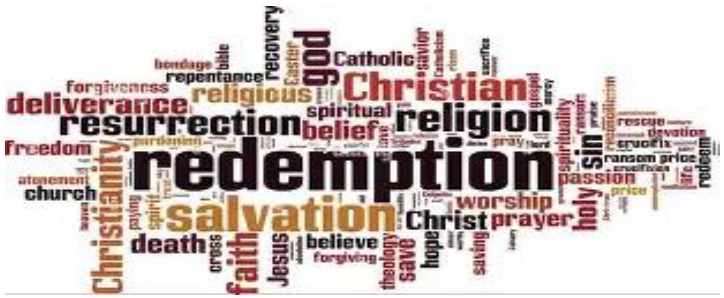

Order of The Service or The Communion

Should it be used at any other than a morning hour?

Certainly. It should always be used when only one service is held on a Sunday; and also whenever the Communion is administered.

What private preparation should the Christian make before attending the Service on the Lord's Day?

He or She should devoutly read the Introit, Collect, Epistle and Gospel of the Day

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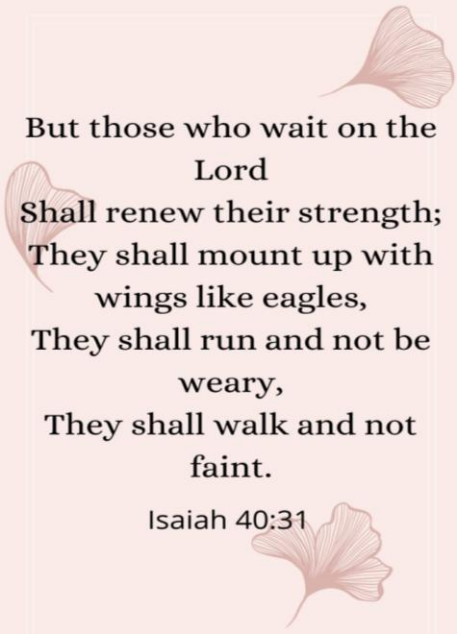
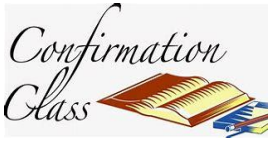


April 5, 2026, at 6:30 a.m.

L Y F serving breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 8:30 am &

Worship Service at 10:00 am



Confirmation Reunion Sunday
Honoring
Class years ending in 1 & 6
On **April 12**