

## 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: [holycross@htc.net](mailto:holycross@htc.net)

Website: [holycrossrenault.org](http://holycrossrenault.org)

Wendy Mueller, Organist

Aubrey Melching, Acolyte

1853 – “COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE” – 2026

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



April 12, 2026

Confirmation Reunion Sunday

**Welcome** to Holy Cross! We are happy to have you worshipping with us this morning. We pray that your worship will glorify God and edify you. May your life's work truly glorify the God of our salvation. God bless your worship. Come again soon.

### Our Worship on the First Sunday in Lent:

The Liturgy: ..... LSB Divine Service Three, p. 184ff  
Opening Hymn: ..... LSB #490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won  
Sermon Hymn: ..... LSB #470 O Sons and Daughters of the King  
Closing Hymn: ..... LSB #587 I Know My Faith Is Founded  
First Reading: Acts 5:29-42  
Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9  
The Gospel: John 20:19-31



### How We Praised the Lord Last Week in The Parish:

Son Rise Worship Attendance: ... 96; a year ago, ..... 96  
Communed: ..... 74; a year ago, ..... 71  
10 AM Worship Attendance: ..... 43; a year ago, ..... 26  
Communed: ..... 27; a year ago, ..... 19  
Sunday School:..... 27; a year ago, ..... 14  
Adult Bible Class:.....0; a year ago, ..... 0

**Spiritual Discipline (April):** Learn or relearn one of the chief parts of the Small Catechism

**Hymn of the Month (April):** LSB #467 "Awake, My Heart, With Gladness"

### At Work and Worship This Week in The Parish:

Today: Confirmation Reunion Sunday  
Tuesday: Pastor @ Winkel at Holy Cross  
Council Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday: SID LWML Spring Retreat ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday: Sunday School & Table Talks ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Worship/Communion Service ..... 10:00 a.m.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries This Week in The Parish:

April 12 – Allison Gonzalez 15 – Brad Schrader  
13 – Johanna Dougherty 16 – Megan Moeller  
13 – Rosemarie Kempfer 17 – Harold & Cindy Keller (A)  
13 – Amari Connor 18 – Micah & Angie Moeller (A)

**In Our Prayers:** Johanna Dougherty; Henry Koch; Glen Meyer; Mark Ottoson; 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:** Ziyah Rain; Jonah Cooksey; Jo Ann Candler; Andrea Kuehner; Dave Moore; Floyd Higginson; Rosemary Schultheis; Riley Foster; Kenneth Kelley; 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.

Dear members of Holy Cross,  
Thank you for your kind and generous gifts of a bookmark and cross. You have all made me feel loved and wanted here at Holy Cross. I look forward to every church gathering. I look forward to the days to come as I grow up here. I would like you all to know that it is beautiful here. We love running free here and enjoying all of nature. Thank you for providing us with this home and being so kind, generous and being there for me. You have all encouraged me so much. Thank you. Sincerely, *Elizabeth Stefanic*



April is the second month in 2026 that is set aside to receive gifts for Together in Mission. Please place your gift in the "Special Mission" envelope that is in your offering envelope box.

**Serving Sunday April 19:**

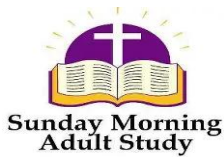
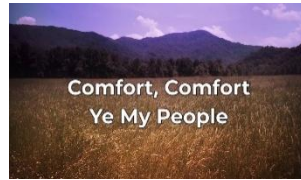
**Elder:** Bill Kunkel

**Head Usher:** Don Roth

**Ushers:** Mark Ottoson, Donald Schultheis  
Kyle Guebert, Austin Melliore

**Acolyte:** John Mark Stefanic

**Counters:** Ginny Strong & Bonnie Meyer

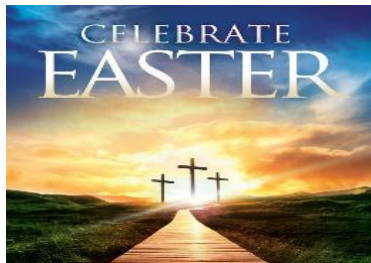


**Table Talks:** Join us each Sunday morning at 9am for a Bible Study on the book of Exodus. Today our study is centered on chapters 4-5.

**Sunday School:** In this week's lesson, "A Mercy-Full Message," Jesus tells the famous parable of the Good Samaritan, who risks his own life to help a Jewish man whose peril was ignored by his own countrymen. In telling the parable, Jesus answers the question "Who is my neighbor?" for His followers as He challenges us to "go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37). As a family, you could discuss ideas to help those in need in your community.

**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 offering plate. Cards may be found by the bulletins and service orders.

\*\* Please sign in the record book in your pew.



You are invited!

## Vacation Bible School

June 22-26, 2026

9:00 am - Noon



## Holy Cross Lutheran Church in 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 (ages 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>  
If possible please register by May 1<sup>st</sup>.



**“The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”**

~ Luke 19:10

### 2026 Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Apr 12: Confirmation Reunion  
Apr 14: Pastor @ Winkel, Renault  
Apr 14: Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
Apr 18: LWML Spring Retreat  
Apr 21: May Voice Deadline  
Apr 26: Potluck and Trivia Event for Holy Cross Family  
Apr 27: Pastor is guest on KFUO's Thy Strong Word 11 a.m.  
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 Joint Service @ Holy Cross  
With Immanuel, Rootbeer Floats to Follow  
May 15: June Voice Deadline  
May 19: Council Meeting 11:15 am  
May 25: Memorial Day  
Jun 1-11: Pastor on vacation  
Jun 10: Wm Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm  
Jun 10: Elders' Mtg 7p  
Jun 14: Council Meeting 11:15 am  
Jun 15: July Voice deadline  
Jun 21: Father's Day  
Jun 22 – 26: VBS Week  
Jul 1: Wm Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm  
Jul 1: Elders' Meeting 7:00 pm  
July 6: SS Teachers & Bd of Ch. Ed Mtg 7:15 pm  
Sep 13: Rich in Years Sunday

**If you need to reach Pastor Stefanic**, his personal email is [jjstefanic15@gmail.com](mailto:jjstefanic15@gmail.com) or phone # 414-305-8565.



Confirmation Reunion Sunday  
Honoring  
Class years ending in 1 & 6



Tuesday, April 14  
7:00 pm



Monday, April 27  
7:00 pm

## Order of The Service or The Communion

The Versicle

Our help is in the Name of the Lord.  
*Who made heaven and earth.*

I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.  
*And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.*

### What is the office of a Versicle?

Versicles are short passages of Scripture intended to incite the worshipers to devotion and to suggest the central thought of what follows. Here the Versicle encourages us to approach.

### Where is this Versicle found?

In Psalms 124 and 32.

### What is indicated in the Versicle?

1. From Whom our help comes.
2. God's power to help.
3. The condition on which help is granted.
4. A word of God assuring help.

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**TRIVIA**  
Afternoon  
Sponsored by LYF  
With our Holy Cross Family  
**APRIL 26, 2026**  
Potluck at noon.  
Please bless our food table with one of your favorite recipes for everyone to try.  
Drinks are provided.  
Trivia from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Join us FOR ALL THE FUN!  
**TRIVIA TIME!**



\*\*\*\* I will be attending the LWML SID  
 Spring Retreat on April 18th at Carbondale.  
 If anyone would like to carpool, please let me know.  
 Linda Keller -- home 618-458-6896 or cell 618-340-1957\*\*\*\*\*

**In Loving Memory of:**

Gross & Prange Family  
 by Betty & Dave Gross  
 Francis Heller & Terry Heller  
 by Joyce Heller and  
 Don & Donna Gariglietti\*  
 Judy & Jerry Melliere, Bill Wilson & Mike Wilson  
 by Mark & Suzanne Wilson & family\*  
 Jerry & Judy Melliere and Glen & Winnetta Ottoson  
 by Mark, Sandra, Andrew & Ashley Ottoson  
 Our loving parents: S. Ray & June Yankey and  
 Judy & Jerry Melliere  
 by Roger & Chrissy Melliere & family\*  
 Ira & Esther Plymale and John & Rose Toenjes  
 John & Diann Toenjes  
 by Roger & Elaine Toenjes\*  
 Carol Seders, Elda Seders & Ruby Liefer  
 by Wayne Seders\*  
 Oliver & Jackie Prange and Eugene Prange  
 by Bill & Sue Kunkel\*  
 Family members no longer with us  
 by Wayne & Therese Johanning  
 Jane Matzenbacher  
 by Larry Matzenbacher & Gina Matzenbacher\*  
 The Hinrichs family and Eddie Roscow  
 by Duke & Linda Hinrichs\*  
 Our Loving Mother Michelle  
 by Emma & Ella Guebert  
 Our loving Mother and Grandmother  
 By Mary, Kayla, Derek, Caiti & Sara Weiser

**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 | 2026  
 18

**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

**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

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



**In Thanksgiving of:**

Prayers answered for sending the Stefanic Family to guide and enrich our lives here at Holy Cross.

By Pam & Augie Melching\*

Cailyn, Abby, Ellie, Isabella, Grandson in August and Jesus for all his blessings

by Mark & Suzanne Wilson & family\*

Our healthy grandkids

by Don & Kathy Roth

Our Beautiful Children & Grandsons, Kade & Xavier

by Roger & Chrissy Melliere\*

Our Grandson Gage Baldwin, who makes it home safe from the Middle East. Prayers for the rest of our family

By Gerry & Don Heller

\* means denoted more than one.

\*\*\*\*\*

Since Easter is the central and highest feast of the entire church year, it calls for the greatest expression of adoration, gratitude, triumph, and joy. Their very number creates the effect of shouting Alleluias. What's more, the Easter Lily as it opens resembles a trumpet proclaiming Christ's victory over death.

*Thank you* to everyone who donated a lily to help create this effect and add to the beauty of our church. Please call the church office if any listing has been inadvertently omitted or incorrectly typed.



**Confirmation  
Reunion Sunday  
Today**

We welcome everyone to join in on the special celebration to be held today.  
We will be recognizing former confirmands  
With class years ending in 1 & 6  
in a special service.  
Following the service  
there will be a fellowship meal in the social hall.  
The Board will provide the meat and drinks.  
Our members may bring sides and desserts.

**JOIN US!  
FELLOWSHIP  
LUNCH AFTER  
THE SERVICE**

Books are the Best!!!

Come check out the newly relocated and updated church library! You will find it in the hallway of the Sunday School department. There have been new books added with more to come. You'll find great reading for yourself and neat books to read and share with nieces, nephews, grandkids and more.

Sharon Bartosik

## Honored guests for this year are:

2026: Elizabeth Stefanic

2011: Rebekah Laufer  
Carolyn Sickmeier (A)

2006: Dallas Robert  
Amy Rosser  
Tara (Seboldt) Lanoue  
Jonathan Seibold

2001: Lisa (Braun) Grohmann  
Stephanie (Huebner) Braun

1996: William, Jr. Freestone  
Angie (Melching) Moeller  
Jason Roth  
Crystal Ward  
Darcel Fausz (A)  
Johanna Dougherty (A)

1991: Lisa (Keller) Keys  
Michael Keller  
Jacob Kremmel  
August Michael Melching  
Catherine (Rodenberg) Rotruck  
Betty Leonard (A)

1986: Robert Cadman  
Rayette (Ellis) Cory  
Melissa (Henerfauth) Doyle  
Pamela Melching (A)  
Dawn (Downing) Parker (A)

1981: Karen (Kent) Kuhn  
Bryan Mueller  
Kevin Shevlin (A)

1976: Steven Bartosik  
Larry Mueller  
Jeffery Hooten  
Donald Schultheis  
Kevin Candler



1976: continued  
William Martin  
Scott Vogt  
Mark Goedecke  
Bobby Fox (A)  
Cynthia Keller (A)  
Dannie Pigg (A)-Deceased  
Roger Strong - Deceased  
Mark Prange - Deceased

1971: Jeffery Baker  
Penny (Goedecke) Wegener  
Bruce Heller  
Cathy (Angel) Griffin  
Linda (Seboldt) Keller  
Randy Wetzler  
Phillip Hooten  
Allen Roth - Deceased  
Michael Strong – Deceased  
Patricia Heller (A)  
Albert Howard (A) - Deceased  
Ruth (Madden) Howard (A) – Deceased

1966: Melvin (Duke) Hinrichs  
Marilee (Meyer) Schueler  
Connie (Nagel) Esker  
Ronald Schultheis – Deceased  
Joyce (Braun) Zeiger (A) – Deceased

1961: Gloria Sickmeier  
Elaine (Plymale) Toenjes  
Geraldine (Keller) Junger  
Sharon (Klemp) Sampson  
Donald Heller  
Henry Koch  
Jerry Baker - Deceased

1956: Gene Offermann  
Cletus Johanning  
Carolyn (Rodenberg) Henry  
Paul Heller - Deceased  
Norma (Sickmeier) Coffel – Deceased



1956: continued  
Carolyn (Heller) Pigg - Deceased  
Judith (Schoenberger) Hillyard – Deceased  
Lee Prange (A) - Deceased  
Delores Braun (A) - Deceased  
Isaac Kirkley (A) - Deceased

1951: Marjorie (Piel) Collias  
Arlyn (Johanning) Widenhoefer  
Perry Koch - Deceased  
Delores (Dehne) Rubemeyer - Deceased  
James Scheibe - Deceased  
Loren Holcomb - Deceased  
Gilbert Baker - Deceased  
Harold Keller - Deceased  
Agnes Keller - Deceased  
Jacqueline Prange (A) – Deceased  
Fred James Woods (A) – Deceased  
Mrs. Fred Woods (A) – Deceased  
Lee Kent (A) - Deceased  
Leona Kent (A) - Deceased  
Donald Kent (A) - Deceased  
Charles Schultheis (A) – Deceased

1946: Helen (Koch) Wetzler - Deceased  
Joyce (Koch) Heller – Deceased  
Margaret (May) Melliere – Deceased  
Mary Lou (Candler) Oelzen – Deceased  
Estelle (Krupp) Sauerwein – Deceased

1941: Dorothy (Jacobs) Decker  
Lorraine Piel - Deceased  
Vernon May - Deceased  
Grace (Dashner) Fischer – Deceased  
Bernice (Prescher) Donius – Deceased  
Mrs. George Schmitz (A) – Deceased  
Alvin William Scheibe (A) – Deceased