



Crossings

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal
875 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Louisiana
August 17, 2022

Services

(until further notice)

Please see calendar.

The Vestry

David Richard, Senior Warden
Ginger Paul, Junior Warden
Becky Snodgrass, Secretary
Tommie Sue Brooks
Georgiana Gleason
Lyman McKellar
Marshall Middleton
Reid Raymond
Jackie Songy
Monty Walford, Treasurer
(non-vestry)

Contact Information

Telephone: (318) 222-3325

Fax: (318) 681-9506

Rector's email:

rector@churchholycross.org

Office email:

church@churchholycross.org

Please visit our website

<https://churchholycross.org>

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Church of the Holy Cross
Shreveport

Contact the Editor

Please send material for articles
to lynn.walford@lsus.edu

The Transfiguration

Raphael, *The Transfiguration*

The story of the Transfiguration is featured twice a year; once on the Last Sunday after Epiphany, and then again in August on the Feast of the Transfiguration. We see in each account that Christ goes to Mount Tabor with Peter, James, and John. And suddenly he is transfigured. His body and clothes shine with a brightness that stuns the disciples. And Moses and Elijah flank him on his left and right.

Often in art the disciples are depicted as being knocked down, covering their eyes. But what is happening here?

The Transfiguration is three kinds of an event. It is a Trinitarian event. It is a Christological event. And it is an eschatological event. What does this mean? This one event relates to the Trinity, the three persons of the one God. It relates to Christ himself, his dual nature in one person. And it relates to the end of all things: that's what *eschatology* means.

Christ, the Son of God, is radiated with light as the Holy Spirit, symbolized here by a cloud, descends upon him and the voice of the Father speaks: "This is my Son. . . ."

Christologically, we see that Christ is revealed to be that which he always was, but is only now manifested as. He was always that radiant light, but it is only now that we and the disciples see him. We see here what it looks like for the divinity of God to dwell in human flesh. It's important to note that Christ did not become something other upon that mountain. He was still fully human, and fully God. And the divine energies did not destroy his body, but enlightened it, made it transparent.



In this way, the Transfiguration expresses in visible form the truth of the Council of Chalcedon. This can be found in your prayer book on page 864, by the way. The truth is that in Christ the fullness of God and the fullness of humanity dwell in perfect harmony. Neither distracts from the other. Neither negates the other. Neither diminishes the other. But in his person, both distinct natures are joined.

And so it is not accurate to say that the glory of Christ shone because he is God, but that his glory shone because he is fully God and fully human. And this is where the eschatological comes into focus.

In Christianity, and in Anglicanism more specifically, we teach that the end goal of God for all people is perfect union with him. And what that means is that God longs for us, all of us, to be joined with him, but not in a way that diminishes our individuality. Just as Christ's humanity was not diminished, but fulfilled, by his humanity, so too will our humanity be enlightened by God's radiance.

Archbishop Rowan Williams writes: "In the Transfiguration, what the disciples [saw was] Jesus' humanity 'opening up' to its inner dimensions." What we see in Christ is the fulfillment of God's desire for all of us. The Transfiguration is but one example of what a human life in perfect union with God looks like. And through Christ, we have been invited into this union. The Transfiguration does more than reveal the glory of God; it also reveals the glory of humanity as it was originally intended.

To quote the Greek Orthodox Bishop Kallistos Ware: "The Transfiguration reveals to us the normal human state, the original beauty of our nature. Christ, the new Adam, transfigured on the mountain, shows us the state before the fall, human nature as it was in paradise."

O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Collect for the Feast of the Transfiguration

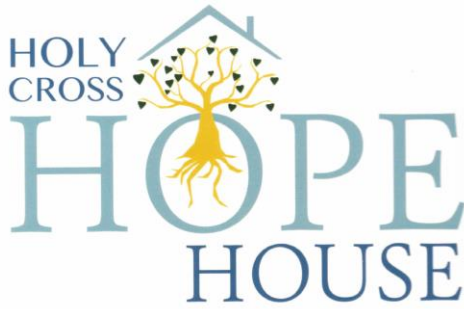
Fr. Garrett Boyte

Calendar for August

Saturdays	Evening Prayer, Rite II	6:00 pm	Online
Sundays	Morning Prayer, Rite II	9:00 am	Chapel
	Parish Choir rehearsal	9:45 am	Nave
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	11:00 am	Nave
Mondays, Tuesdays	Evening Prayer, Rite II	6:00 pm	Online
Wednesdays	Book Club	10:30 am	Library
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Noon	Chapel
	Evening Prayer, Rite II	6:00 pm	Nave and online
	Bible Study	6:30 pm	Library
Thursdays, Fridays	Evening Prayer, Rite II	6:00 pm	Online

Children's Sunday School will resume after Labor Day

Support “Deposit First Fund” at Holy Cross Hope House

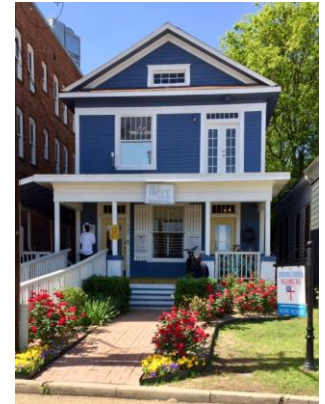


Hope House is Holy Cross’ primary ministry. The blue house on Austen Place is open daily for our neighbors who are homeless, providing showers, laundry facilities, mailboxes, and use of a telephone, all of which are important services helping to make their lives a little more comfortable.

But what if someone is ready to move from homelessness into a home? Hope House doesn’t want only to be a place that makes the homeless comfortable being homeless. We want to be a place that challenges those who are homeless to become comfortable through housing. One of the stumbling blocks that homeless people face when it comes to housing is that they are unable to pay rental and utility deposits and the first month’s rent. Realizing this, Hope House’s “Deposit First Fund” ministry was birthed.

Those people wishing to be housed are screened to assure they have the financial means to pay rent and to help Hope House identify the wraparound services to help them succeed.

Since the “Deposit First Fund” was established in the summer of 2019, we have housed seventy-two people, with forty-three of those being this year. Our long-term success rate is 97%, and we attribute this to the volume of casework that is put into each individual. Hope House has had a huge effect on homelessness, and is directly impacting individual lives. The following are examples of the lives that have been turned around as a result of the efforts of Hope House:



- One young man came to Hope House while he was housed in a shelter. Shelters are temporary housing, not long-term, so this young man knew he would have to find permanent housing. Recently, Father Garrett blessed his new home. At this point he is working two jobs and is very confident of a bright future.
- Another man who had been homeless for years was drawing only a small retirement which kept him financially below the poverty level. Hope House helped him receive Social Security payments, which have more than doubled his income and allowed him to move into his new home earlier this month. The ReNesting Project, which is run by Holy Cross member Baylor Boyd, provided him, and many others, with furniture.
- Many of the women who have been housed through Hope House have come from domestic violence situations. One woman was living in her car and trying to work both a full-time and part-time job. No one at her places of work had any idea she was homeless, much less living in her car. As time went on, it was becoming more and more difficult for her to manage life from the car. We helped this young woman move into a safe home, and she is thriving now.
- We helped a woman who suffers from mental illness move into her own place after she had been in a shelter. Shelters are not beneficial for anyone who has a mental illness. Now she is directly receiving Hope House casework and is using her Social Security Disability Insurance to gain stability for herself.

- Hope House has helped a mom with two young children who was fleeing a domestic violence situation. She has a good job now and is enrolled in classes to further her advancement in her job. The children are in school, and they live in a townhouse with a small, private, fenced back patio where the children can play safely outside. The mother says it such a feeling of freedom to have their own place.
- A man with traumatic brain injury (TBI) from his occupation as a professional boxer was a regular at Hope House. Since the TBI he has spent his share of time in and out of prison. Life will never be the same for him, but he wanted more than he had being homeless. Now he is in an apartment which he has made into a home, and is managing well.

A significant donation was made recently to the “Deposit First Fund” by a husband and wife who are members of St. Mark’s Cathedral. Your donations will be most helpful to continue the success of “Deposit First Fund.” All donations to this program are restricted, and used *only* for this ministry. If you designate a donation to the “Deposit First Fund,” you can be assured that it will go directly to those in need of housing.

Donations can be made at the church website, www.churchholycross.org/donate, where you can set up a one-time or recurring donation. You can also send a check to the church at P. O. Box 1627, Shreveport, 71165.

Please be sure to mark your check or online donation for “Deposit First Fund” so we know where to apply your donation.

Sincerely,

Herschel Richard

Holy Cross member and Hope House volunteer

Prayer List

Steve Abramson	John August Gianforte	Della McCranie	David Walsh
Stella Rhea Bergman	Austin Gleason	Michael McKenzie	Connie Wiggins
Ellen Dunlop Belote	Richard Hadwin	Jesse Paul	Bill Wright
Mark Boydston	Sandra Hadwin	Kelly Rutz	Mary Wright
Nikki Brown	Mike Hathaway	Brady Sessions	Sheryl Wright
Mary Berth	Zoe Hathaway	Mary Ann Shemwell	The people of Ukraine
Margaret Boudreaux	Ann-Marie Henderson	Wade Shemwell	Survivors of gun violence
Sara Lou Coyle	Kay Hunnel	Linda Sirman and family	The faculty, staff, students,
John Craig	Kay Hunter	Angela Smith	administration, and parents
Drew Dodson Family	Elizabeth Ingram	Paul Smith	of Northwest Louisiana
Jean Dooley	Peggy Kirkland and family	Catherine Spaht	parish schools
Deanna Dyck	David Lewis	Paul Spaht	
Floyd “Buzzy” Farrar	Richard Liles	Robert Todd	
Maggie Fowle	Maureen Locke	Cynthia Walker	
Wes Gearhart	Mim McCoy	Louis Wallace	

We pray for those who serve and are served by The Fuller Center for Housing

In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Good Shepherd, Lake Charles, the Rev. Dr. Mitzi George (Kevin), the Rev. Petroula Ruehlen; for St. Michael and All Angels, Lake Charles, the Rev. Seth Donald (Amy); for Leonidas Polk Memorial, Leesville, the Rev. William Phillips (Lynn); and for Trinity, DeRidder, the Rev. James Lueckenhoff (Linda).

Lay Ministries

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: August 21, 2022

Lectors: Becky Snodgrass, Steve Snodgrass
Prayers of the People: Becky Snodgrass
Eucharistic Ministers: Carolyn Mahlen, Herschel Richard
Acolyte: Steve Snodgrass
Ushers: Laura Wilkerson, Mike Wilkerson
Altar Guild: Laura Wilkerson, Mike Wilkerson

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: August 28, 2022

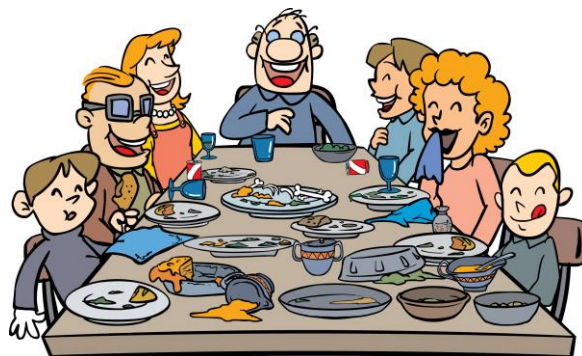
Lectors: Melissa Fowle, Mike Wilkerson
Prayers of the People: Melissa Fowle
Eucharistic Ministers: Carolyn Mahlen, Ginger Paul
Acolytes: Grady Jackson, Hadley Jackson
Ushers: Tommie Sue Brooks, Bill Richard
Altar Guild: Becky Snodgrass, Laura Wilkerson

Good and Continuing Beginnings: A Message from Jackie Songy

Prepare for a truly splendid feast on the next *Continuing Feast* day, Sunday September 4. We will gather in the Undercroft immediately following the 11:00 service, at about 12:15. This will be a celebration of **Beginnings**:

- ❖ The new school year
- ❖ An abundant harvest
- ❖ The pending arrival of cooler weather
- ❖ And most importantly, the forthcoming marriage of Fr. Garrett Boyte and Ryan Eubanks on October 6.

Bring your favorite cool summer dish to share (and, if you wish, the recipe to pass on to the new couple). The Holy Cross family, friends, and neighbors, will celebrate the joyful occasions to come, and offer warm wishes and our love and prayers for **Great Beginnings** all around!



Holy Cross ECW News

Holy Cross Pickle-making: CHANGE OF DATE

The dates have changed for the making of the pickles. It will take place on two days: **Wednesday, September 14, and Wednesday, September 28** at 10:00 am in the Undercroft. Volunteers are needed and welcome! Also, if anyone has the wide-mouth pickle jars left over from last year, please take them to the church.



Fall Festival

The Fall Festival will be held Saturday, November 5, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, and we will need help the week before to set up. More information will be forthcoming about the need for baked goods and soup. Meanwhile, it isn't too early to gather up new or gently-used items to donate for the bazaar. They include:

- | | | | |
|---------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Jewelry | Table linen | Scarves | Nicknacks |
| China | Flatware | Yard art | ????? |
| Crystal | Pictures | Handcrafted items | |
| Books | Purses | Christmas decorations | |





Did you know that Louisiana is one of the intermediate points for people seeking refuge in our country? These immigrants enter LEGALLY, and after having been processed through ICE in the place where they were detained after entering, are given their papers and sent on their way. Most of them have family or sponsors here in the United States who are expecting them. They need help with making their contacts, and with arranging travel by bus or plane to their destination. Some need clothing, a place to stay overnight, or meals between their arrival here and their departure. The people entering our country in this way often have few, if any, resources beyond their backpacks and sometimes a little money.

Working through **Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention (Louisiana AID)**, The Church of the Highlands has initiated a ministry to welcome and help them. Most come from Mexico and Central or South America; some have come from Africa.

Volunteers are needed! Can you help with translating? Grocery shopping? Meals? Transportation to the airport or bus station? Can you contribute air miles, credit card points, or funds to provide these things?

Please pray for this ministry and ask God to lead you in the ways you might help. If you have ever been in a country where you knew little or none of the language, you can imagine the minds and emotions of people seeking refuge in the United States. For more information, please see below:

Facebook.com/LouisianaAID

Volunteer form: <https://tinyurl.com/LAAIDVol>

Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention: www.laid.org

Church of the Holy Cross
P.O. Box 1627
Shreveport, LA 71165-1627

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Permit No. 1197
Return service requested

Website: <https://churchholycross.org>
Email: rector@churchholycross.org
church@churchholycross.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/holycrossdowntown

Mission Statement: *The Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, Louisiana, strives to be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through worship of Almighty God, open inquiry, sharing fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership—encouraging all to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel of Hope in programs, to serve without regard for religious affiliation, race, or economic status.*



Hope House: There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent **pods**, disposable razors, and personal-size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) Please take your donations to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Forward Day by Day for **August** and **September**, in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ph.D., D. D.
The Rt. Rev. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.
The Rev. J. Garrett Boyte, M.Div.
The Rev. Mary Richard
The Rev. Kenneth W. Paul
The Rev. Donald D. Heacock
Mr. Ben Gessner
Mrs. Laurie Connell
Mr. Charles Alford
Mr. Brian Jackson

XXVII Presiding Bishop
IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
Rector
Rector Emerita
Rector Emeritus
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement Agency
Organist/Choirmaster
Office Administrator
Sexton
Assistant Sexton