



# Crossings

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal  
875 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Louisiana  
September 21, 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)

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## Please visit our website

<https://churchholycross.org>

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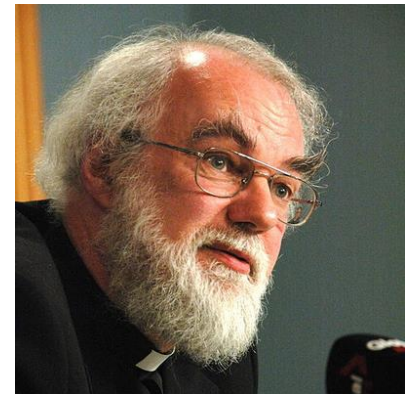
Church of the Holy Cross  
Shreveport

## Contact the Editor

Please send material for articles  
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## Anointing, Vocation, and Identity

Rowan Williams,  
former Archbishop of Canterbury



In a recent online issue of *First Things*, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, wrote a ponderous reflection on the life of Queen Elizabeth II. In addition, he mused slightly on his own ministry and thoughts about priesthood more generally.

He begins with the fact that the Queen was *anointed* at her coronation. He says,

But if we step back a little from the history and think a moment longer about the theology of anointing, we might understand better what the journalist's question was driving at. Anointing—in baptism or ordination—signifies that someone is being given a new place in the community of God's people. It is not a job description, nor is it a blank check for power and privilege. It creates a relationship, with God and with the community of faith, and promises grace to make that relationship live and thrive.

I found myself wondering about anointing, vocation, and identity. I suppose some of these topics are all too natural for one preparing for marriage. How does one live out the vocation of marriage? Who am I when "you and I" become "we?" And in particular, I've been thinking about how marriage relates to priesthood.

The archbishop remarks on the similarities of kingship and priesthood. The Body of Christ is called, after all, to be a Royal Priesthood. But what struck me and resonated with me most deeply was the archbishop's insistence that the value and purpose of priests are not to be found in what they "accomplish," but in the very holding of the office itself. He says,

It is the rationale of the theological tradition that tells us that priesthood is not about an individual's successful or meritorious performance, but about fidelity to a position, for the sake of the community's peace and well-being. It does not exempt priests from censure and judgment when needed, nor does it confer on them an unchallengeable right to win every argument. That is not the point. They are there so that we can gather around something other than our preferences and anxieties and prejudices; around a gift of "kinship" in which we can stand together before God.

I'm sure I'm not alone in this, but I am not free of the pressures of modern life. I have fallen prey over and over to notions of productivity equalling value, and success meaning things going as I have planned them. Like many of you, I have fallen victim to what might be called "The Protestant Work Ethic." As though joy, fulfillment, or love can be earned as a reward and not given as a gift!

And while those of you who work in business might find it reasonable to equate productivity and value, it's a particularly absurd arrangement for a priest.

For example, is the measure of a priest found in how many people come to his or her parish? Perish the thought. I have known too many good, faithful priests with only five or six people in the pews on Sunday. Is the measure of a priest to be found in how many services they provide? Classes they teach? Programs they administer? The answer is no. The same can be said for a parish more generally.

Now, there are things that priests are required to do Surely a priest who never offers communion, never hosts a class, never visits the sick, is not being faithful to his or her promises. But the purpose of a priest, the vocation of a priest, is to call the community together before God and in her own prayers to recall that community again as she stands in the presence of God. Everything else flows from that. Bible studies and women's luncheons, prayer groups and house blessings; all of it sprouts from the seed first planted by the priest when he says, "The Lord be with you."

In thinking of the similarities to marriage, I can think of no marriage in which the couple bases the good of the marriage on how many people attend their dinner parties, or how many friends they have over on a Friday night. And if you are doing this in your marriage, please call me.

The good of a marriage, and really any relationship, is not so easily calculated. But that good is most often found within the relationship itself, in the strength of the bond that has been formed through time. And it's not to say that older marriages are necessarily better marriages. The good of a marriage does not become "better" so much as it manifests new and deeper meanings through the living out of "better and worse, richer and poorer, sickness and health."

In short, it's not so much about what the couple achieves, what goals they accomplish, but as Dr. Williams says, it's about "fidelity to a position," or perhaps more pointedly, fidelity to a person. Likewise, priesthood is not about what any particular priest accomplishes, but fidelity to the community of Christ he or she has been called to serve. In both marriage and priesthood, the principal task is showing up in faithfulness to the promises you've made.

*Fr. Garrett Boyte*



## Calendar for September

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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
Wednesday, Sept. 28	Pickle-making	10:00 am	Kitchen/Undercroft
Thursdays, Fridays	Evening Prayer, Rite II	6:00 pm	Online

## **Sunday, October 2: *The Continuing Feast*— and Sunday, October 30: *Oktoberfest!***

We have two feasts coming up in the month of October. First, *The Continuing Feast* on October 2. Bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, side dish, or dessert, and enjoy good food and fellowship after the 11:00 service.

On October 30 we'll celebrate our annual Oktoberfest with bratwurst, hot dogs, and fixin's courtesy of the Holy Cross Grill Team. More information will be forthcoming in *Crossings*.



### **It's time for Sunday School!**

Summer's over, school's started, and Sunday School will start soon too. We meet most Sundays during the school year before the 11:00 service, and would love for all children of Holy Cross to be with us! Parents and children, please come to a short meeting:

**Sunday, October 2  
10:30 am  
Education Building Sunday School Room**

We want to introduce you to the Episcopal curriculum we use, *Weaving God's Promises*, and to discuss the details of Sunday School times with you. Thank you so much! We hope to see you on October 2.

**Mary Richard, David Richard, Herschel Richard**

# Support “Deposit First Fund” at Holy Cross Hope House

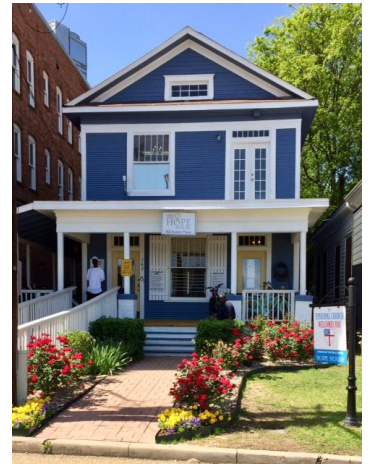


Hope House is Holy Cross’ primary ministry. The blue house on Austen Place is open daily for our neighbors who are homeless, providing showers, laundry facilities, mailboxes, and use of a telephone, all of which are important services helping to make their lives a little more comfortable.

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.



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](http://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 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

**Stay tuned for news of the Hope House birthday party in November!**

# Prayer List

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

We pray for those who serve and are served by St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry

In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Thomas' Monroe, the Rev. Rita Jefferson;  
for St. Patrick's, West Monroe, the Rev. Rob Harkness (Debbie);  
for St. Alban's, Monroe, the Rev. Whit Stodghill (Dawnell+);  
for Iglesia Episcopal La Esperanza de Familia Unidas, Monroe, the Rev. Whit Stodghill (Dawnell+);  
for Trinity, Natchitoches, the Rev. Suzanne Wolfenbarger (Bill);  
and for Epiphany, New Iberia, the Very Rev. Annie Etheridge (Jim).

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## Say Ministries

### **The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 25, 2022**

Lectors: Robert Henley, Pembroke Roeder  
Prayers of the People: Robert Henley  
Eucharistic Ministers: Sr. Cecilia Horton, Ginger Paul  
Acolyte: Aaron Horton  
Ushers: Becky Snodgrass, Steve Snodgrass  
Altar Guild: Laura Wilkerson, Mike Wilkerson

### **The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: October 2, 2022**

Lectors: Pembroke Roeder, Lucie Thornton  
Prayers of the People: Lucie Thornton  
Eucharistic Ministers: Robert Henley, Holly McIntyre  
Acolyte: Lindy Jackson  
Ushers: Carolyn Mahlen, Donna Neal  
Altar Guild: Tommie Sue Brooks

# Service Music

## The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 25, 2022

- Mass:** Decius, Proulx, and Hurd  
**Psalm 146:** Robert Knox Kennedy  
**Anthem:** Jesu, mein Freude—D. Buxtehude  
**Hymns:** 429 Old 113<sup>th</sup>; 568 Was lebet; LEVAS 133 Surrender; WLP 819 Guide My Feet; 625 Darwell's 148th  
**Organ:** Prière—J. Lemmons; Sortie—L. Wély

## The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: October 2, 2022

- Mass:** Rutter, Powell, and Berthier  
**Psalm 37:** Response—Song 1; Plainsong, tone VIII.i  
**Anthem:** Draw us in the Spirit's tether—H. Friedell  
**Hymns:** 11 Morning Hymn; 551 Festal Song; 704 Hereford; 659 de Tar; 655 Nyland  
**Organ:** Prelude—J. Lemmons; Canonic Postlude on the Old Hundredth—G. Hamilton
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## Rest in Peace, Deacon Kay Hunter

It is with great sorrow that we announce that Deacon Kay Hunter died last Wednesday, September 14. She had long been a faithful deacon in the convocation, and was a great supporter of Holy Cross and our ministries, especially Hope House.

Her funeral will be on Friday, September 23, at 1:00 pm at St. Mark's Cathedral. Bishop Jake Owensby will preside.



# Holy Cross ECW News

## Holy Cross Pickle-making:

**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	

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Did you know that Louisiana is one of the intermediate points for people seeking refuge in our country? These immigrants enter LEGALLY, and 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.

Working through **Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention (Louisiana AID)**, The Church of the Highlands has initiated a ministry to welcome and help them.

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. For more information, please see below:

Facebook.com/LouisianaAID

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

Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention: [www.laid.org](http://www.laid.org)

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
SHREVEPORT, LA  
Permit No. 1197  
Return service requested

Website: <https://churchholycross.org>  
Email: [rector@churchholycross.org](mailto:rector@churchholycross.org)  
[church@churchholycross.org](mailto:church@churchholycross.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/holycrossdowntown](http://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 **September** and **October**, 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