

# Holy Cross Ministry Teams and Programs

## In one sentence!

**Acolytes** are a team of children, youth, and adults who serve at the altar.

**Aging Gracefully** is a retired community that meets monthly for lunch and reflection.

**The Altar Guild** cares for the altar, vestments, vessels, and linens used for worship, sets up the sanctuary for services, and cleans up afterwards

**The Arts & Soul Team** provides an annual expression for the artisans at Holy Cross to share their gifts each Epiphany season.

**The Bread Team** provides homemade bread for our communion services.

**The Children's Ministry Team** plans weekly worship experiences to our children in their faith journey, and offer wonderful children's events throughout the year.

**The Choir** rehearses on Thursday evening and supports congregational singing on Sunday morning and at most major feasts.

**The Communications Team** sponsors the Annual Ministry Faire, the booth at the Castro Valley Days, and online communications.

**The Community Care Team** co-ordinates meals, rides, communion, and help with small household tasks for those in our church community in need of these services.

**The Contemplative Prayer Group** meets weekly for a time of readings and reflection.

**The Dead Wardens' Society** is made up of former Rector's wardens, and serves as an ad-hoc team to advise the rector and to take on special projects of the parish.

**Deanery Delegates** are members elected from the congregation to represent Holy Cross at Diocesan convention and deanery ministries.

**DIRT (Disaster, Intervention, & Recovery Team)** meets quarterly to explore how we as a parish might be available and prepared to care for the community around us in times of need.

**ECW (Episcopal Church Women)** hosts bake sales to support outreach programs and sponsors a number of annual outreach events, including the twice-yearly collection of the United Thank Offering to support outreach projects throughout the world.

**Eucharistic Ministers** serve at the altar and assist in the ministration of Communion during corporate worship.

**Eucharistic Visitors** bring the sacrament to those who are ill or recuperating and can not make it to corporate worship.

**The Family Circle** meets monthly during the school year for pizza, with activities for children, and an opportunity for adults to share the adventures of parenting.

**The Finance Team** manages our parish finances, initiates fund raising campaigns, and prepares our annual budget.

**The Healing Team** is available during every Communion service to offer prayers for healing, and meets monthly to learn and support each other.

**The Greeter Ministry Team** works to provide a welcoming presence for all Newcomers and members of Holy Cross with Greeters at Sunday services, Get Better Acquainted Dinners for new members, and Newcomer Classes.

**In His Hands** meets weekly on Monday evening from 7-8pm for reading and discussing books that offer insight and questions that deepen our understandings of our lives and our faith.

**The Labyrinth Team** welcomes all to share the wonder and mystery of this ancient spiritual practice, and provides a guided walk, followed by fellowship time on the first Sunday of the month.

**The Lectors** read lessons at corporate worship.

**The Liturgical Arts Guild** considers how the arts might enhance our corporate worship space and experience.

**Liturgy of the Steward** meets on the third Saturday of each month to say prayers and care for our parish campus.

**The Memorial Garden Team** oversees the administration of the columbarium.

**The Men's Breakfast** meets monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> @ 8AM Saturday morning for breakfast and conversation.

**The Movie On the Labyrinth** meets monthly on a Friday or Saturday evening in the summer for a potluck and Disney movie on the Labyrinth.

**The Oak Creek Team** provides a simple monthly worship service for the residents of Oak Creek hospital.

**On Our Own**, a group for all who fit this description, meets monthly for dinner and conversation.

**OTEG** (youth group) for Middle School and Senior High kids meets twice monthly.

**The Receptions Team** provides receptions for all funerals, major feasts, and celebrations at Holy Cross.

**Saint Andrews Concert team** hosts an annual Celtic concert and meal to support a Holy Cross outreach ministry.

**SAM (Social Action Ministries Team)** is a community of Christians who focus energy and passion in caring for the world through various outreach and justice initiatives.

**The SAM Friday Movie Night** meets monthly at 6:30PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday evening of the month during the school year for a potluck and to watch a movie together.

**The Saturday Morning Book Group** meets monthly to discuss a selected book over coffee, tea, and goodies.

**The Shawl Ministry Team** meets monthly to pray and knit; our completed shawls are blessed and given away as we become aware of likely recipients.

**The Stewardship Team** helps us to consider how we are doing with our Time, Talents, Treasure, and Breath, and orchestrates the fall stewardship campaign.

**Sunday Offering Counters Team** is made up of pairs of non-related members who count the Sunday offering and prepare the deposit for the bank.

**TKA (The Kids Academy)**, staffed by teen counselors and a few adults, is a 6-week program for grade school age children that meets for 2 or 3 times during the school year, to explore the arts and culture, eat snacks, and do homework, with a smattering of fun and games thrown in too!

**VBS (Vacation Bible School)** is a one-week program in early August that explores God's love through the use of a familiar motion picture theme, filled with music, fun, games, crafts and SNACKS (edible works of art)!

**The Vestry** is the "board of directors" of Holy Cross, elected by the congregation to serve on a three-year revolving schedule, to represent the needs and concerns of all the teams and ministries at Holy Cross.

**Wednesday Morning Scripture Sharing** meets in Mark's office to share the journey through scripture.

**The Women's Retreat** is a yearly weekend event for the women of Holy Cross to grow in faith and love.

**The Women's Events** with program, Eucharist, and lunch, are held three times a year for ongoing spiritual learning and sharing.

**Work Camp** is a summer offering for teens and adults to share in a weekend or weeklong outreach project.

**The Wrestling Team** provides a place of discernment and support for aspirants to Holy Orders to struggle with the questions, and seek God's will.