



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

- Lk 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### Christmas Mass Schedule 2021

Christmas Eve Masses - Friday, December 24  
4:00pm, 6:00pm, and 12:00am Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses - Saturday, December 25  
7:30am and 10:30am  
All Are Welcome!

**OUR MISSION** "We are a community of Catholics who draw our strength from the celebration of the Eucharist, so that Christ may live in us and we may express the values He taught by our loving service to family, neighbor and society."

### **Would you like to join us as new parishioner?**

We invite you to become an active participant of our parish community and we welcome you. Please take a census envelope from the racks at each exit or contact the Parish Office.

### **Stay connected with your parish family!**

We are so glad you are here with us at Holy Cross! We invite you to connect with our community. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to get the latest news, photos and stories or subscribe to our Weekly Brief delivered right to your inbox. Visit [www.holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe](http://www.holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe) to see more.



### **Mass Times**

**Daily Mass:** 7:45am

**Saturday:** 9:00am

**Reconciliation:**

Wed. 7:00-8:00pm

Sat. 3:00-3:30pm

**Sunday Mass**

**Vigil Sat.:** 4:00pm

**Sun.:** 7:30am, 10:30am &  
5:00 pm

*Watch Masses online at  
[holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org)*

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Please check page 4 of the bulletin for information on this week's events.**

**Check [holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org) for the latest information on Masses, events, & changes in safety protocols. For information call the office at 315-446-0473.**

**Sun., December 12<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30am Bernadine & Victor Becker/ Family  
 10:30am Herbert & Angeline Silvestri/ Family  
 5:00pm Hilda Loguidice / Agnes, Rose & Karen

**Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Kristen Gerthoffer Woodmance/Cornwall Drive  
 Neighborhood

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Phyllis, Robert Sr. & Kris Reid/ Family

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Parishioners of Holy Cross

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am For victims of neglect, abuse & human  
 trafficking/ Joyce Kotch

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Angeline Silvestri/ Family

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Hilda Loguidice/ Family

4:00pm Tony Kotz/ Kathy Kotz

3:00 to 3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Sun., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> - Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30am Christian Hall/ Maureen Hall & Family

10:30am Aungier - McManus Families/ Karen & Erin

5:00pm Maria Arnesano Musto/ Flavia Musto

**Sunday December 12, 2021**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Zephaniah 3: 14-18a**

**Philippians 4: 4-7**

**Luke 3: 10-18**

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday," a Latin Verb form of "rejoice". Our faith calls us to rejoice in the fact that the earthly birth of our Savior is near! In St.

Paul's letter to the Philippians, he reminds the faithful to "Rejoice in the Lord always." St. Paul is so insistent that the believers show their joy that he repeats himself a second time, imploring them to rejoice! He goes on to remind them that as members of the faithful they should "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God."

On this Gaudete Sunday, we should rejoice in a particularly intense way. Our personal prayer of thanksgiving and petition is a form of rejoicing. We may seldom think of prayer as our rejoicing in our Savior Jesus Christ, but indeed, we do rejoice in the one who calls us to prayer and answers those same prayers in a way that is best for us. Today, as we celebrate together the mid-point of Advent let us give thanks for all the prayers that God has answered for us, and let us remember that the mercies of God are not exhausted!

Rejoice!

Fr. John



This weekend's second collection is:  
 Cathedraticum

**Week of December 12**

**Host, Wine & Sanctuary Lamp**

*In Memory Of:* Herbert & Angeline Silvestri

*Requested By :* Family

**PLANNED GIVING FOR OUR PARISH**

Please consider our parish through:

- Your Will or Trust
- Retirement Assets
- Life Insurance Policies

A Life Income Gift which will provide you with payments for life and ultimately will benefit our parish.

**YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT**

**\$19,704.88 average weekly need**

\$19,758.75 Collection of December 5<sup>th</sup>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT  
 OF YOUR PARISH!**

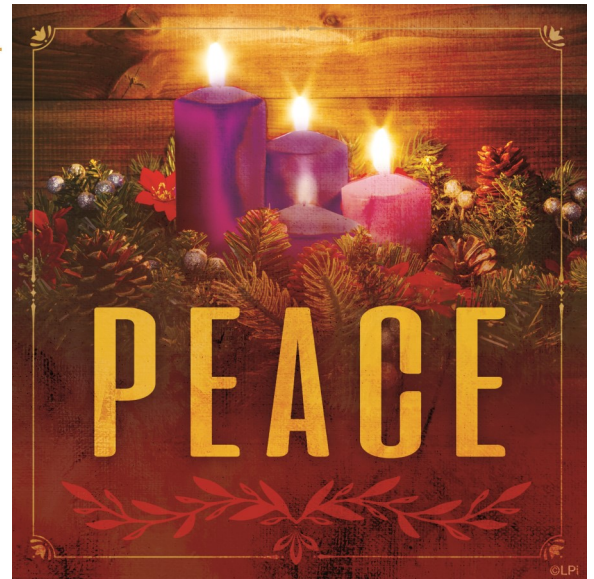
**Your support is invaluable. Thank You**

During these uncertain times, please continue to support Holy Cross parish & her ministries & programs through weekly or monthly offerings. Because of your goodness, we have been able to adapt to this changing landscape & provide updated communications, resources, support & programs to our community and to our neighbors in need. Please remember to help support our mission. You may become an online giver by visiting [www.holycrossdewitt.org/give](http://www.holycrossdewitt.org/give). Online giving is through Vanco, which is a secure site. **You have the option of giving using your credit card number or by having an electronic fund transfer.** Or mail in your gift to the Parish Office (4112 E. Genesee Street, DeWitt, New York 13214).

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2021

- Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a/Is12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday:** Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30
- Friday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
- Saturday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
- Next Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45



## Prayer REQUESTS

Andy Agrasto, Meg Barone, Garth H. Bishop, Eden & Mackenzie Bishop, Barbara Boyd, Oliver Brown, Terry Chylinski, Armand Cincotta, Tom Coyne, Mark Cywilko, Tony Dimento, Joanne & Aidan Gallagher, John Galletta, Sharon Kieffer, Ann Kronner, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Monique Missoff, Mary Elizabeth Morgan, Faith Muller, Nancy Patane, Patricia Pool, Stephen Smith, Rita Smookler, Rev. Georg Stockert, John Toole and Jon Zubieta.

If you would like us to add someone to this list, we ask that only family members call the office or email [Peg@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:Peg@holycrossdewitt.org). We will include them for three months unless you notify us otherwise. Thank you.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7:00 - 8:00pm on Wednesdays.

We begin the hour in the church with Adoration & conclude with Solemn Benediction.

### Confession Wednesday Evenings – Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered every **Wednesday from 7 to 8pm**. The peace of mind and soul which this sacrament imparts to us is one for which there is no substitute. Come enjoy the quietness of our Church and the forgiveness of our Savior.



### Attention: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers:

We have posted sign-up sheets for any Altar Servers, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers who would like to serve the Christmas and the New Year's Day Masses. Please sign up near the main entrance of the church.

### Attention Lectors

Your 2022 Workbook for Lectors is available. Please stop by the office to pick up your copy.

### Now Available

**Holy Cross Church Calendars are available near all the exits. Please take one per family so there will be enough for all to enjoy.**

### Pray the Rosary Daily

Most mornings after daily Mass (8:15am) a group gathers to pray the Rosary. It is informal, and open to anyone who would like to pray.

### **Please join us!**

*Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

*Mt 18:19-20*



### Holy Hour—8:15 to 9:15AM

Join us on Mondays following the 7:45am Mass for a Holy Hour held in the Church.

# ADVENT ACTIVITIES

## Opportunities for Reconciliation

**“The Light is On For You”** - Confessions will be heard on **Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm** at most of the Churches of the Diocese.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> & Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5-6pm.
- Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7-8pm
- Every Saturday in December (except 12/25) from 3:00 - 3:30pm

### Private Prayer Hours

The Church will be open for Private Prayer & Devotion between 9am and 3pm Monday thru Friday.

### Formed

**Listen:** Come, Lord Jesus: Meditations on the Art of Waiting by Mary Francis - Enjoy this Audiobook, listen and mediate on Advent and waiting for Jesus birth.

**Watch:** Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage - A visit to the Holy Land where Jesus was born

**Watch:** Children/Family: Join Brother Francis this Advent!

**Watch:** FORMED Now! Expectant Mother Mary

**Watch:** Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

**Watch:** Children/Family: Juan Diego, Messenger of Guadalupe

To get reminders for Mass, scripture readings, and daily reflections from our clergy, sign up for **The Daily Bread newsletter** — nourishment for each day's journey.

To sign up, visit our website at [holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe](http://holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe)

## *Christmas and New Year's Schedule 2021*

**Christmas Eve Masses** - Friday, December 24

4:00pm Family Mass

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Christmas Concert and Carols begin at 11:30pm

12:00am Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day Masses** - Saturday, December 25

7:30am, and 10:30am

**New Year's Vigil Mass**

4:00pm & 6:00pm Friday, December 31

**New Year's Day Masses** - Saturday, January 1, 2020

7:30 and 10:30am



## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>—Giving Tree Deadline For Gifts**

8:15 AM RCIA - Downstairs

9:15 AM Adult Ministry - rooms 12 & 13

4:30 PM Confirmation Group Session - Yeazel Hall

**Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

3:00 PM HC School Journalism Club - Yeazel Hall

**Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

6:45 AM Faith Formation (HS) - Yeazel Hall

9:30 AM Gift Fair - Yeazel Hall

**Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

6:45 AM Faith Formation (MS) - Yeazel Hall

5:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church

7:00 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation - Church

**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:45 AM Faith Formation (ES) - Yeazel Hall

1:00 PM Knitting Group - rooms 12 & 13

7:00 PM Advent Study - rooms 12 & 13

7:00 PM Discipleship - Yeazel Hall

**Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 PM Christmas Luncheon - Yeazel Hall

3:00 - 3:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM RCIA - Downstairs

9:15 AM Adult Ministry - Yeazel Hall rooms 12 & 13

### Christmas Luncheon

**Saturday-December 18th**



All are welcome to this year's Luncheon at noon in Yeazel Hall. Please make your reservations by **Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** by calling Jo Oliva 446-3328. Tickets \$26

## CHRISTMAS DELIGHT

### Christmas Delight Luncheon

You are invited to join us for Christmas Delight Luncheon (which will replace Coffee and Conversation) this month at 12:00pm on Tues, December 21st in Yeazel Hall. We will be doing an exchange of \$5 gift cards from any store among those present. Also, lunch will be pizza and salad (\$12 donation). Please make your reservation by Dec.16th with Jo Oliva at 446-3328.

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

#### **Monthly Movie**

**Tuesday, December 28th at 1:00pm**

**Look for the title in next weekend's bulletin.**

### HOPE Appeal 2021 "Your Are The Salt Of The Earth"

Thank you to all who have pledged their support to the HOPE Appeal ministries, programs, and services that benefit so many throughout Central New York, including many in our own parish.



Together, when we pledge our gift to the Annual HOPE Appeal, we are giving thanks to Christ for the innumerable gifts we've been given and helping our friends and neighbors who benefit each year from the diocesan good works funded through our annual appeal. If you are not able to make the minimum gift of \$325.00, please give your best gift. If we all give, we will easily meet Holy Cross' 2021 HOPE Appeal goal of \$92,649.06. **If we exceed our 2021 HOPE Appeal goal, 100 percent of the excess will be returned directly to our parish.** We plan to use these funds to continue the mission of Holy Cross Parish.

Please prayerfully consider your gift to this year's HOPE Appeal. Bring your completed pledge card to Mass and drop it in the box along with your weekly contribution or mail it by the office. If you would rather pledge your gift online you may do so at [syrdio.org](http://syrdio.org). **We would like to wrap up this year's drive soon.**

### ADVENT WEEKLY REFLECTION FOR 2021: Week 3

We rejoice this third week of Advent as we wait in joyful hope anticipating Christ's coming to us. With this awareness of God's love, how do we respond with our thanks? John the Baptist gave us specific example responses of compassionate actions. Among our Lord's many gifts to us is our common home, the Earth. How will we respond to God's love with thankful hearts knowing the vitality of God's Earth is being diminished by our excessive use?

### Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) or with AmazonSmile ON in the app and Amazon donates  
**amazonsmile**



**Do you shop on Amazon?** When you do, use amazon smile and support Holy Cross School. There is no cost to you but just by signing up, your shopping will make a difference and help Holy Cross School. Sign up today and do your regular Amazon shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3789417](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3789417) and Amazon donates to Friends of Holy Cross.

### Faith In Action Opportunities

#### Jail Ministry 2021 Christmas Party

Jail can be a sad & lonely place during the holiday season. Jail Ministry is preparing for the holiday season & we are asking for donations for our 400 gift bags, one for each inmate. We try to bring a message of hope & God's love & mercy when we prepare & deliver gift bags while singing Christmas carols on the pods with the inmates.



This year we are requesting:

First class postage stamps or

Instant Coffee from the Dollar Stores

Please drop your donation in the baskets by the front door by **December 12th.**

Thank you for your generosity! For more information, contact Beth Schafer 315-416-4576.

#### Giving Tree Wrap Up

Our Giving Tree program ends this weekend. Thanks to your great generosity, we will be providing over 300 gifts to children and families from 6 local agencies. Thank you for helping to make a Merry Christmas for so many in our community. Merry Christmas and "God bless us, everyone" as Tiny Tim says!



#### Food Giving Weekend Thank You

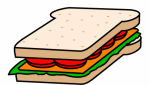
A huge thank you to everyone who participated in getting needed items to our neighbors in need! Your donations of items and energy help many; we were able to provide assistance to 6 different sites. So many donations and so many volunteers, we are truly blessed to do so much! Thank you all.

For anyone who would still like to donate items, Jamesville Food Pantry will be providing pasta sauce and laundry care items with their Christmas baskets.

Looking ahead, we likely will delay the January collection by one week. Again, thank you for making this ministry so fruitful!

#### Sandwich Ministry

The Tuesday Sandwich Ministry will be meeting on **Tuesday, 12/21 at 8:15 AM.** Please join us in Yeazel Hall after daily Mass to prepare our usual variety of sandwiches for Catholic Charities homeless shelter.



**New volunteers are always welcome.**

**Currently we are not taking donations of clothing. Please do not bring any clothing articles to church since we are not able to store them at this time. Thank you!**

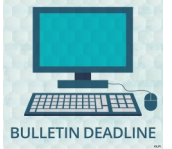
**Syracuse Seminarians Lessons & Carols**

The seminarians of the Diocese of Syracuse cordially invite you to join them for the Solemn Celebration of Advent Lessons & Carols at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on **Sunday, December 19th at 2pm**. The ticket process will go directly to the St. Thomas Aquinas Fund, Inc. for the support of seminary education. A link to tickets can be found at: **Vocations-Syracuse.org**.

**Deadline Changes for Upcoming Bulletins**

**Please make note of the following changes:**

- The deadline for the bulletin of December 26 is **Monday, December 13**.
- The deadline for the bulletin of January 2 is **Wednesday, December 15**



All notices should be received by 9am on the deadline date. Notices after this deadline will be published in the following weekend's bulletin. Thank you!

**Join us for a Live Nativity Celebration at Assumption Church with Christmas Carols! Live Animals!**

**Sunday, December 19th at 2 PM**  
812 N Salina St, Syracuse

All are welcome to come experience the wonder of Christmas!

**World Marriage Day Celebration**

The Annual World Marriage Day will be celebrated on **Feb. 13, 2:00pm**, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse. The Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia will celebrate Mass. He will honor couples who will celebrate their 25th, 50th, and beyond 50th anniversary in 2022. A special blessing will be offered for all couples in attendance.

If celebrating your 25th, 50th or 50+ anniversary in 2022, please contact your parish office to register. **All married couples and their families are invited to attend!**

**EDUCATE - A - KID**

Holy Cross parish has a glorious history of never turning a student away who seeks a Catholic Education. Some parents cannot afford school tuition in whole or part. Your contribution helps provide a Catholic Education for a student. Tuition & operating expenses per student exceeds \$7,800.00 annually.

Holy Cross School is incorporated as "Friends of Holy Cross School Inc." Many companies will match donated funds. The Friends of Holy Cross School Federal Tax I.D.# is 26-3789417.

If you are interested in supporting tuition for a child please complete the form below!

God bless you for bringing a child closer to Him.

Yes, I wish to help a family afford a Catholic education.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Cost per student - Yes, I am interested (\$7,800)

\_\_\_\_ Partial Scholarship - Amount of Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Change in the Mass Request Policy**

Due to the high volume of Masses being requested, we are limiting the number of Masses requested by a person for the same intention to two during a six month period. Any 2023 intentions will be scheduled after Sept. 1, 2022.

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism** ~ Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

**Marriage** ~ Please make an appointment with a priest at least 6 months prior to wedding.

**Reconciliation** ~ Wednesday 7-8pm, Saturday 3 - 3:30pm  
Or by appointment

†To request either the **Anointing of the Sick** or **Communion to the Sick** please call the Parish Office.†

**HOLY CROSS PARISH**

4112 E. Genesee St., DeWitt, NY 13214

Church Office – Phone: 315 446-0473, FAX: 315 446-7608

Website: [holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org) ■ E-Mail: [info@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:info@holycrossdewitt.org)

**Holy Cross Parish Staff ~ Name, Title and Phone Extension**

- Rev. John J. Kurgan, Pastor, ext. 15
- Rev. Brendan Foley, ext. 16
- Rev. Charles S. Vavonese, Weekend Homilist
- Deacon Dare Dutter, ext. 21
- James Buttner, Seminarian
- Ernest J. Camerota, Director of Music, ext. 38
- Brette Cooper, Maintenance
- Josh Corcoran, Communications Assistant & Music Ministry, ext. 13
- Dan Littlepage, Director of Technology, ext. 33
- Leigh C. Marquis, Director of Finance & Human Resources, ext. 24
- Stephen Nepil, Dir. Faith Formation 7-12 & Dir. Youth Ministry ext. 19
- Peg Olson, Office Manager & Administrative Assistant, ext. 22
- Julie Sheridan, Dir. Faith Formation 1-6 & Evangelization, ext. 12
- Matt Stano, Maintenance

**PARISH INFORMATION**

- **Please notify the Parish Office** when a parishioner or family member is confined to home, hospitalized, or entering a nursing home. Hospitals no longer notify us of a patient's admittance. Also, please notify us with change of: address, phone number or email.
- Bulletin items need to be in the parish office no later than Monday at 9am for the upcoming weekend. (holiday deadlines will change)
- E-mail preferred; please send to: [peg@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:peg@holycrossdewitt.org)
- Hearing impaired ear phones are available in the Robing Room in the front lobby.
- Pregnant and Need Help? Please call Catholic Charities 424-1800

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL**

4200 E. Genesee St., DeWitt, NY 13214

School Office – Phone: 315 446-4890, FAX: 315 446-4799

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

E-Mail: [rmccrone@syrdiocese.org](mailto:rmccrone@syrdiocese.org)

**Staff ~ Name and Title**

- Robert McCrone, School Principal
- Joanne Markert - Administrative Assistant, Nina Walters - Nurse