



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

## Official Prayer For The Year of Vocations

*God, My Father, You created me with a specific purpose for my life; this is my vocation. By following your plan, I will be happy on earth, earn the reward of heaven, & help others to do the same. Please help me to hear, understand, and follow Your call with my whole heart, especially when it seems most difficult. Saint Joseph, patron of the universal Church, pray for me to know and accept God's will for my life. Amen.*

## **Mass Times**

**Daily Mass:** 7:45am  
**Saturday:** 9:00am  
**Reconciliation:**  
Wed. 5-6pm & 7-8pm  
Sat. 3:00-3:30pm  
**Sunday Mass**  
**Vigil Sat.:** 4:00pm  
**Sun.:** 7:30am, 10:30am & 5:00 pm

**View Sunday & Daily Mass on  
online - [holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org)**

## **Are you a new parishioner or visiting for the first time?**

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

**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."

## **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.



## **Upcoming Events:**

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

**PLEASE WATCH THE HC WEBSITE FOR CURRENT INFORMATION ON MASSES, REGISTRATION OF MASSES & DEVOTIONS AND REGULATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE.**

**Sun., December 13<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30am Ann Wright/ Holy Cross Pastoral Council

10:30am Herbert &amp; Angeline Silvestri/ Family

5:00pm Pat Testa/ Friends of JD

5:00pm Ben Stabile/ Elaine Lostumbo

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

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

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

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

7:45am The Moore &amp; Bachman Families/

Jim &amp; Mary Kay Moore

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

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

7:45am Blake &amp; Heinrich Families/ Carol Blake

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

7:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Penance

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

9:00am People of Holy Cross

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

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

7:45am Tony Kotz/ Kathy Kotz

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

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

9:00am Janet Farner/ Prince Family

4:00pm Cara Christensen/ Family

3:00 - 3:30pm Penance

**Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

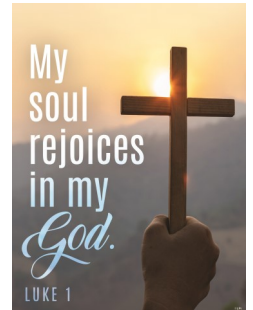
7:30am Joan Elardo Sansone/ Paul &amp; Amy Sansone

10:30am Bernadine &amp; Victor Becker / Family

5:00pm William Sheridan/ Family

**Week of December 13th****Host, Wine & Sanctuary Lamp***In Memory Of:* Stephen Oliva*Requested By:* Wife & Family**Spiritual Reflection for Sunday December 13, 2020****Third Sunday of Advent****Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11****Luke 1: 46-48; 49-50, 53-54****I Thessalonians 5:16-24****John 1:6-8, 19-28**

The Latin and Western Churches, including Roman Catholicism, refer to the Third Sunday in Advent as Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete means Rejoice. So today, as we have reached the mid-point of Advent, we rejoice.



The season of Advent began as a forty-day time of fasting in preparation for the Birth of Christ. This time was commonly known as St. Martin's Lent since Advent began the day after St. Martin's fest day. On Gaudete Sunday, the fast was broken for one day to celebrate the mercy of God in our lives. You can imagine how joyous people would have been on Gaudete Sunday!

The time of Advent was shortened to a four-week period during the ninth century. Although Advent was shortened and we may not practice the stringent fast that our ancestors observed, we should still fast at intermittent times, practice self-denial in the face of overwhelming commercialism, and above all practice social charity to those around us.

We can prepare ourselves for the coming of the Jesus, both a child in the first coming, and as Savior of the world in the second coming, by doing what Jesus did best, forgiving and being good to one another, giving not only when someone asks something of us, but also by being watchful and observing what others may need. After all, the First Sunday of Advent reminds us to be watchful and alert!

Peace,  
Fr. John Kurgan

**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**

\$12,366.38 November 29 collection

December 6 collection will be reported next week

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

**We encourage your support of Holy Cross Church.**

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). Thank you!**

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

- SUN 12/13** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
- MON 12/14** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
- TUE 12/15** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
- WED 12/16** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
- THR 12/17** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
- FRI 12/18** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
- SAT 12/19** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
- SUN 12/20** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



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

Please register online as you do for Mass if you are planning on attending. We begin the hour in the church with Adoration & will conclude with Solemn Benediction.

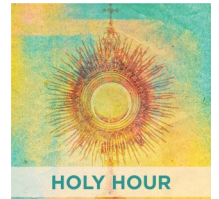


### Confessions Wednesday Evenings – Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered every **Wednesday from 5 to 6pm and 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 Chapel and the forgiveness of our Savior.

### Holy Hour 8:15 to 9:15AM

Join us on Mondays following the 7:45 Mass for a Holy Hour that will be held in the Main Church.



### Monday Night Prayer



Each Monday Night at 8:00 pm, we will be offering Night Prayer live on our Facebook page. Please join us for this time of prayer and reflection.

### Catholic Media - Augustine Institute

#### FORMED

**Watch:** Angels: The Touch of Your Hand: Caring: Bishop Fulton J. Sheen - Compilation of 3 talks

**Read:** Married Saints and Blesseds through the Centuries by Ferdinand Holbrook

**Youth; Watch:** YDisciple: Advent, Session 3:

**Watch, Pray, Read** (age 10 and up): Golden Legend of Young Saints

**Read:** Advent of the Heart: Seasonal Sermons and Prison Writings by Alfred Delp

## PRAYER REQUESTS



Garth H. Bishop, Eden & Mackenzie Bishop, Terry Chylinski, Armand Cincotta, Mark Cywilko, John Galletta, Stanley Jakimek, Sharon & Joe Kieffer, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Monique Missoff, Faith Muller, Patricia Pool, and Rita Smookler.

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 keep them on for three months unless you notify us otherwise.

Thank you.

HAVE YOU  
PRAYED TODAY?



## Christmas and New Year's Schedule 2020

**Christmas Eve Masses** - Thursday, December 24  
4:00 pm, 6:00pm, 10:00pm  
12:00am Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day Masses** - Friday, December 25  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 5:00pm

**New Year's Vigil Mass** - Thursday, December 31  
4:00pm & 6:00pm

**New Year's Day Masses** - Friday, January 1, 2021  
7:30am and 10:30am

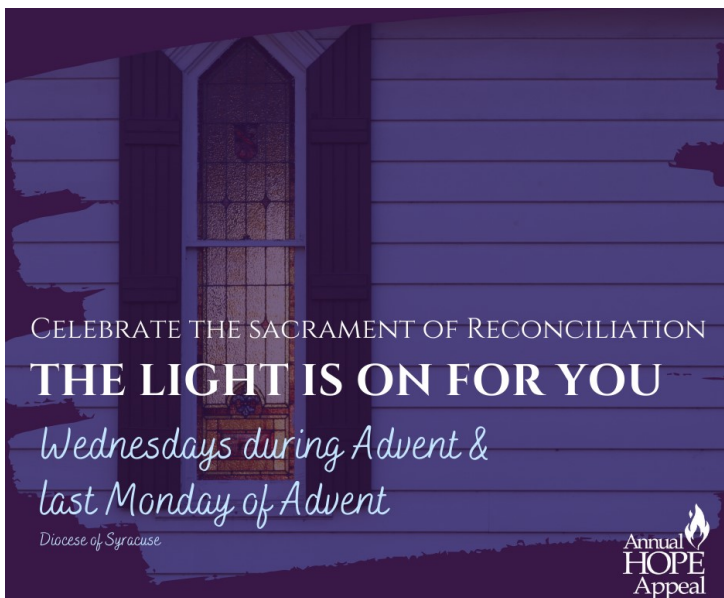
**All Are Welcome!**

**Please note that reservations, masks & social distancing are required.** Sign up on the Holy Cross website ([holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org)).

**The Masses at 4:00pm Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve can be viewed on-line via the Holy Cross website.**

Holy Cross is currently located in an **Orange Zone**. Services are limited to **25 people**. We are offering extra Mass locations at this time to accommodate more individuals. Be sure to make note of the *location* and time you are registering for and follow all instructions and guidelines. Please refer to the Holy Cross website for any updated information.

**Holy Cross Church Calendars and "The Little Blue Book" for Advent & Christmas are available near all the exits. Please take one per family so there will be enough for all to enjoy.**



CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION  
**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU**  
*Wednesdays during Advent & last Monday of Advent*  
Diocese of Syracuse

Annual  
**HOPE**  
Appeal

### Opportunities for Reconciliation

**"The Light is On For You"** - We welcome all for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confessions will be heard in the Chapel

- Wednesdays in December from 5-6pm
- **Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 4-7pm** at Holy Cross and most the Churches of the Diocese.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Wednesdays from 7-8pm
- Every Saturday in December at 3:00- 3:30pm

## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

### **Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM RCIA Session- remote

### **Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

8:00 PM Night Prayer - Live on HC Facebook

### **Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

5:00-6:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

7:00 PM Holy Hour - Church

7:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

### **Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 - 3:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

5:00pm Laudato Si Circle Meeting - remote

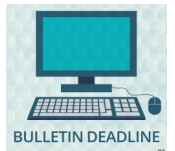
### **Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM RCIA Session - remote

### Deadline Changes for Upcoming Bulletins

- The deadline for the bulletin of Dec. 27 will be **Monday, Dec. 14 at 9am.**
- The deadline for the bulletin of January 3 will be **Monday, Dec. 21 at 9am.**

All notices received after these deadlines will be published in the following bulletin. Thank you!



## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**All events are subject to change. Please watch the bulletin and check on-line to make sure the event will take place or may have changed to remote or online. Sign up for the bulletin brief and up-to-date information will be emailed to you. You may do this by visiting the Holy Cross website, then go to "News" & "Subscribe".**

### Spiritual Adoption Program

#### **Month Four - "I had a dream"**

Your baby's brain has begun maturing - a process that will continue until they are about 14 years old. The baby's eyelids are now sealed and will re-open at 7 months. Their taste buds are now working. Nutrients consumed by their mother are passed on within an hour or two. Three hundred quarts of fluid a day are sent to the baby via the umbilical cord. Fine hair begins to grow on head, eyebrows and eyelashes. Facial expressions similar to parents of the baby can be seen at this time. This month REMS (rapid eye movements) have been recorded - a sign of dreaming. Your baby is now about 9 inches in length. Thank you for praying!



### World Marriage Day Celebration

The Annual World Marriage Day will be celebrated on **Feb. 14, 2:00pm**, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse. The Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia will celebrate Mass and invite all couples in attendance to renew their commitment to Holy Matrimony. He will specially honor couples who will celebrate their 25th, 50th, and beyond 50th anniversary in 2021.

If celebrating your 25th, 50th or 50+ anniversary in 2021, please contact the parish office to receive a special invitation from Bishop Lucia.



**Looking for a way to put your Faith in Action?**

For more information or to volunteer, contact Beth Schafer: 315-416-4576 or [beth@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:beth@holycrossdewitt.org)

**December Collections**

During the month of December we are collecting colorless chapstick donations for Sr Maura Rhode's ministry at the Jamesville Prison. Thank you so much for your generous care for prisoners during the holiday season!

**Sandwich Ministry changes:**

Recent restrictions on gatherings require our sandwich volunteers to change the way to serve our Tuesday sandwiches to the men's shelter. A hybrid solution evolved; one generous volunteer prepared egg salad sandwiches at home & they were delivered with our monthly donation of bananas & fruit punch. Later that day a few members of the first Tuesday crew pitched in to buy pizzas for the shelter.

**Third Tuesday sandwiches on Dec. 15th cancelled:**

A few individuals have volunteered to prepare some sandwiches at home, and a few volunteers are helping with this effort, but let me know if you are interested in helping in this way next month.

**Refugee Closet**

Children's winter clothing is in demand as the weather turns colder. Please donate only freshly laundered clothing, especially coats, snow pants & boots. Children's clothing donations can be placed in the Faith in Action Closet downstairs.



**Laudato Si Circle Meeting:**

**Online Saturday, December 19th, 5pm**

Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical Laudato Si encourages Catholics everywhere to consider care for the environment as essential to a life of holiness. The circle is a small group that gathers every 2 weeks to express concern for our common home and to discuss personal and group actions to sustain and support life on this planet. The meetings are open to all and they include prayer, reflection and actions inspired by the encyclical. To receive the link: [beth@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:beth@holycrossdewitt.org)

**2021 Samaritan Center Dinners**

If you are interested in helping with a meal, our 2021 dates will be: January 24th, March 21st, April 18th, 2021. There are now 2 options for helping with the Sunday meals: 9am to noon or noon to 3pm. To sign up, contact Rick: [philiprcoughlin@gmail.com](mailto:philiprcoughlin@gmail.com)



**2020 Giving Tree**

Our 37th Annual Giving Tree Program concludes this Sunday, **December 13th at noon. Please return your unwrapped gift with the tag attached. Gift cards can be placed in one of the church donation boxes.**



Thank you for helping families in need during this difficult time.

**Merry Christmas!**

**HOPE Appeal 2020 - We are nearing our goal!**

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.



We would ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to the HOPE Appeal. If we all give, we will easily meet the goal of \$101,362.59. You may bring your completed pledge card to Mass next weekend **and drop it in the box along with your weekly contribution. You may also drop it by the office or mail it to the parish office. If you would rather pledge your gift you may do so at [syrdio.org](http://syrdio.org).** We would like to wrap up this year's campaign in the next few weeks.

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.

**Jamesville Food Pantry**

**Are you or someone you know in need of food?**

If you are living in the 13214 or 13078 zip codes you might be eligible for food assistance from the Jamesville Food Pantry. It is located in the old firehouse on East Seneca Turnpike in the hamlet. **The hours are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-1 & the third Saturday of each month from 9-11.** Call 315-469-5093 for eligibility requirements or for more information. Donations from Holy Cross parishioners help to sponsor the Jamesville Food Pantry.



Thank You!

**OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office is open Monday thru Friday from 8am to 4pm except during the noon hour (12pm to 1pm). You may call and leave a message anytime (315) 446-0473.

## Help bring joy this season

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



**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](https://www.amazon.com/ch/26-3789417) and Amazon donates to Friends of Holy Cross.

## EDUCATE - A - KID

Holy Cross parish has a glorious history of never turning a parish student away who seeks a Catholic Education.

Some of our parents cannot afford the tuition in whole or part. If you are able to help Educate-A-Kid, please help us provide a Catholic Education for a boy or girl. Tuition is \$5,500.00.

We have a Holy Cross School Incorporation that also allows matching funds from many companies. Call the Parish Office for more information. It is "Friends of Holy Cross School, Inc." – Federal Tax ID is 26-3789417.

Please complete this form if you can help.

God bless you and I know He will for bringing a child closer to Him.

I wish to help a family afford a Catholic education.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Full Scholarship - Yes, I am interested (\$5,500)

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

## Attention Lectors

- We have your copy of the Workbook for Lectors in the Parish Office. Please stop by to pick up your copy.
- If you would like to be scheduled to lector at one of the weekend Masses please call or email the parish office.
- If you would like to be removed permanently as a lector please call or email the parish office.



## "Pray the Rosary Every Day"



On May 13, 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared in Fatima, Portugal to three shepherd children. She urged the children to "Pray the Rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war (WWI)." Mornings after daily Mass and on weekends a group gathers to pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy. It is informal, and open to anyone who would like to pray.

## NOVENA PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and world-wide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

## 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. Matthew E. Rawson, Parochial Vicar, ext. 16  
 Rev. Charles S. Vavonese, Weekend Homilist  
 Deacon Dare Dutter, ext. 13  
 James Buttner, Seminarian  
 Ernest J. Camerota, Director of Music, ext. 38  
 Brette Cooper, Maintenance  
 Josh Corcoran, Music Sunday 5pm Mass  
 Dan Littlepage, Director of Technology, ext. 33  
 Leigh C. Marquis, Director of Finance & Human Resources, ext. 24  
 Maureen McManus, Sacristan  
 Stephen Nepil, Dir. Faith Formation 7-12 & Dir. Youth Ministry ext. 19  
 Peg Olson, Office Manager & Administrative Assistant, ext. 22  
 Beth Schafer, Director of Faith in Action Ministry, ext. 21  
 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