



4th SUNDAY of Advent

"And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy." - Lk 1:43-44

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

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Christmas & New Year's 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

New Year's Vigil Masses Friday, December 31
4:00pm & 6:00pm

New Year's Day Masses - Saturday, January 1, 2022
7:30 and 10:30am
All Are Welcome!

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

Welcome to Holy Cross Church!

We'd love to have you join our parish. We have a multitude of opportunities for service, education, and ministry, and invite you to join us in ministering, serving and celebrating the opportunities that God has given us to be community. If you are new to Christianity or Catholicism and want to learn more, check out our RCIA program. Parish registration packets can be found in the Gathering Area near the bulletins. Introduce yourself to one of the priests or call the parish office (315) 446-0473 for more information.

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 to see more.



Upcoming Events:

Please check page 5 of the bulletin for information on this week's events.

Check holycrossdewitt.org for the latest information on Masses, events, & changes in safety protocols. For information call the office at 315-446-0473.


Sun., Dec. 19th - Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30am Don Foster/ Family

10:30am Hilda Loguidice/ Lori Detran

5:00pm Beatrice Butler/ Elaine Lostumbo

Monday, December 20th

7:45am Walter Kleinschrod/ Klucsik Family

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

Tuesday, December 21st

7:45am Bill Sovik/ Weeks & Vito Family

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

Wednesday, December 22nd

7:45am Parishioners of Holy Cross

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

Thursday, December 23rd

7:45am Kristen Gerthoffer Woodmansee/ Pat Garvey

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

Friday, December 24th

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

4:00pm Living & Deceased Members of Holy Cross

6:00pm All Victims of Covid 19

Saturday, December 25th -The Nativity Of The Lord

12:00am Pope Francis

7:30am Living & Deceased Priests of the Diocese

10:30am Seminarians of the Diocese

Sun., Dec. 26th -The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
7:30am Stephanie Gaeds & Mary Badera/
Peter & Antoinette Badera

10:30am Dr. Carl Austin/ The Austin Family

5:00pm Roxanne Compoli/ St. Matthew's
Coffee Hour Group
Sunday, December 17, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:1-4a

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

Today's readings take us deeper into the story of Our Lord's Incarnation. There are many wondrous aspects of this miraculous birth which will change the world. This change will not be done through one momentous occurrence, but in many small but cosmic happenings. In our first reading we have a prediction about how the birth of Christ is to take place in Bethlehem – for a long time regarded as a low and insignificant village which couldn't produce anyone or anything of importance. Now it is to be the birthplace of the Lord's restoration. In the second reading from the letter to the Hebrews we see the author speaking about Christ's life and mission on earth. We are told that God did not want the sacrifices and holocausts which the Jews offered up to God in atonement for their sins. What He wanted was to put an end to the sacrifices once and for all. Our Lord was born in human form and became for us the ultimate sacrifice so that no sacrifice will ever again be necessary. All others are nothing by comparison to his sacrifice upon the cross. In our gospel for today we see Mary going to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is herself miraculously pregnant. Elizabeth rejoices at Mary's presence and tells us that even the child within her womb leapt for joy because he recognizes who and what Jesus is. We too stand in the presence of God every time we come to Church. We must also recognize who Jesus is and rejoice as much as Elizabeth and her unborn son did. If we do not, then now is the time to do something about it and to make a special place for Christ in our lives and in our families this Christmas.



The peace of Christ be with you,
Deacon Dare


Week of December 19
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

Collection of Dec. 12th will be reported in the next bulletin

**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. 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 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52



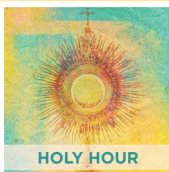
Prayer REQUESTS

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. We will include them for three months unless you notify us otherwise. Thank you.

Holy Hour—8:15 to 9:15AM

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



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.

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.

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

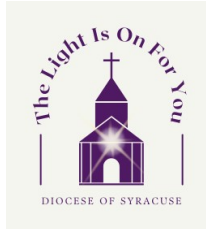
Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered every **Wednesday from 7 to 8pm**. The peace of mind and soul which this sacrament imparts to us is one for which there is no substitute. Come enjoy the quietness of our Church and the forgiveness of our Savior.



Opportunities for Reconciliation

“The Light is On For You” -

Confessions will be heard on **Monday, December 20th** from 4-7pm at Holy Cross and most of the Churches of the Diocese.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Wednesday, December 22nd from 5-6pm.
- Wednesday, December 22nd from 7-8pm
- Every Saturday in December (except 12/25 and 1/1) from 3:00 -3:30pm
- Saturday, January 1st from 3:00 - 3:30pm

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 Masses

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

New Year's Day Masses - Saturday, January 1, 2022

7:30 and 10:30am



Christmas Message

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate Christmas, I am reminded of the struggles Mary and Joseph encountered as they sought a place for the infant to be born. They must have been fearful as the blessed moment drew ever closer, yet I am sure like all parents, we're looking forward to a bright future. After all, God does not disappoint!

I believe we are very much like Mary and Joseph this Christmas. Our lives have been turned upside down and we are again not able to honor our normal patterns of celebration, and yet we long and hope for a better future. Christ will provide us with that future that we long for!

I, along with Father Foley, Deacon Dare, our Seminarian James, and the entire staff of Holy Cross wish you a joyous, anticipation-filled Christmas, as we look forward to the blessings that a new year with our savior, Jesus the Christ, will bring us all!

May the peace of the infant Jesus reside within us all!

Fr. John Kurgan
Pastor



Formed

Watch: 4th Sunday of Advent Year C Opening the Word

Watch: This Week on Formed

Watch: Children/Family: Joy Toons: Brother Francis Collection of Songs

Watch: Joy Filled Faith - Steve Ray (Passing on the faith)

Listen: Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary with Vin Scully

Max's Water for Life Breakfast Dec 29th following the 7:45 am Mass

One of our very own teen's, Max Wysocki, is working to raise over \$10,000 to drill a well for those in need in Africa (and this is his 3rd time doing it!). He has been working hard all year and his charity work will conclude at the end of the year.

To support his cause, the Youth Group will be hosting a benefit breakfast following the 7:45 am Mass on Dec 29th. The breakfast is free but we will be passing a hat for Max during the event.

We hope you will join us! To see more about his work or to donate online, visit www.charitywater.org/maxwaterforlife.

ADVENT WEEKLY REFLECTION FOR 2021: Week 4

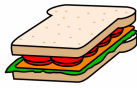
The angel Gabriel visited Mary and announced that the Son of God was coming into her world. Mary in her society was a common woman not born of power, wealth, or other privileges. But, in ways that are most significant, she was truly courageous and extraordinary with her response to the angel, her visit in haste to Elizabeth, and her lifelong faith. Her words and actions spoke volumes!

Let us pray that we can be courageous and extraordinary with our actions and words as we respond to God who loves us more than we will ever realize. God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit has provided a world with vast, life-giving inter-connections that allow life to thrive in every creature. We can thrive only if God's Earth is healthy. What can and will we do that is courageous and extraordinary to respond to God's love and promote the flourishing of life on God's Earth? How will our words and actions speak volumes?

Faith In Action Opportunities

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.

Giving Tree Wrap Up



- Our Giving Tree program has ended.
- 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!

HOPE Appeal 2021

"Your Are The Salt Of The Earth"

I have wonderful news to share! Holy Cross has met our HOPE Appeal goal of \$92,649.06!

Thank you to all who have contributed their support of the HOPE Appeal ministries, programs, and services that benefit so many throughout Central New York and the Southern Tier and at Holy Cross.

All gifts and pledges our parish now receives will be returned to us. We plan to use these funds to improve our Parish Ministries.

If you are still prayerfully considering your HOPE Appeal pledge and would like to make an end of the year gift, please bring your completed pledge card to Mass next weekend or drop it by the parish office. You may also make your gift to our parish campaign online at syrdio.org.

Thank you again.



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sunday, December 19th

8:15 AM RCIA - Downstairs

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

Monday, December 20th

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

3:00 PM HC School Journalism Club - Yeazel Hall

4:00 - 7:00 PM "The Light Is On" - Church

Tuesday, December 21st

8:15 AM Third Tuesday Sandwiches - Yeazel Hall

12:00 PM Christmas Delight - Yeazel Hall

6:30 PM HC School Concert - Church

Wednesday, December 22rd

5:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church

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

Saturday, December 25th

No Sacrament of Reconciliation today

Sunday, December 26th

8:15 AM RCIA - Downstairs

9:15 AM Adult Ministry - rooms 12 & 13



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.


Monthly Movie

Tuesday, December 28th at 1:00pm

This month's feature will be the "Christmas Candle". Deep in the heart of the English countryside lies the enchanting village of Gladbury. Legend has it every twenty-five years an angel visits the village candlemaker and touches a single candle. Whoever lights the Christmas Candle will receive a miracle on Christmas Eve. Movie is free and will be shown in Yeazel Hall.



Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile ON in the app and Amazon donates 



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 and Amazon donates to Friends of Holy Cross.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 24, December 27, and December 31.

You may leave a message on the office phone (315) 446-0473.

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.

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!**

March for Life - January 20-21, 2022

The Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry will be sponsoring a one-day pilgrimage to Washington, DC for adults and families! This trip includes Mass with Bishop Lucia at the National Basilica, participation in the March for Life with the diocesan group, transportation, meals and a diocesan scarf. Watch future bulletins for more information

Upcoming Listening Sessions



The list of Listening Sessions which have been scheduled in our area are below. We invite and encourage you to attend and speak freely, boldly and courageously to our Bishop. Since we are still under COVID protocols, for the protection of all, please wear a mask.

Wed., January 5 - 6:30-8:30pm - All Saints Church, Syracuse
Wed., January 26 - 6:30-8:30pm - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Baldwinsville

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 \$ _____

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 ■ E-Mail: 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
- 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

E-Mail: rmccrone@syrdiocese.org

Staff ~ Name and Title

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