



# THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

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

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### 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.

**NYS MASK MANDATE IN EFFECT** -New York State has instituted a mask mandate in all public places effective December 13 to January 15. It is being done as a safety precaution and out of the utmost concern for one's neighbor. Bishop Lucia expects that all parishes in the Diocese of Syracuse will cooperate with this important public health matter and comply with the mask mandate. Please wear a mask completely covering your nose and mouth when inside the building.

**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



### 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 5 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., Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>—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

### Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

7:45am Stephen Oliva, Sr./ Jo Oliva

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

### Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>

7:45am Hilda Loguidice/ Passonno Family

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

### Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

7:45am Parishioners of Holy Cross

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

### Thursday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

7:45am Richard Griffin/ Pat & Elaine Ryan

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

### Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

7:45am Intentions of Parish Rosary Group/  
Margaret Ingraham

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

4:00pm Parishioners of Holy Cross

6:00pm Maureen McManus/ Ken & Karen Kirkman

### Saturday, January 1, 2022 -

#### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

7:30am John Fennessey/ Fr. Charles Vavonese

10:30am Anne O'Malley/ Tom & Mary Lee

### Sun., Jan. 2 - Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am Anne Fialkovic/ Janice Passono

10:30am Jennie Sala/ Jay & Ellen Pristash

5:00pm MuenchDorothy Marlatt/ Priests, Deacon & Staff

#### Welcome back to Holy Cross!

James Buttner is back with us for a while during his break from the Seminary. Take a minute to say hello.

### Feast of the Holy Family

Our celebration today invites us to consider the holiness of our own families. Can our families even be holy? Is it even possible?! The chaos of life, the struggle of inter-family dynamics, broken relationships, complicated trauma and drama—all together they form an equation that seems to make holiness challenging, if not impossible.



There are several options for readings with this Feast of the Holy Family...Sirach (Sir 3:2-6, 12-14), Colossians (Col 3:12-21)...but while they are beautiful texts—really, even potential Mission Statements for our families—they don't really articulate what makes a family holy per se. Anyone or any family can be compassionate, forgiving, patient, etc. but what is it that specifically makes a family holy?

Well, if we look at the Gospel reading today (Lk 2:41-52), what is of highest priority for the young Jesus? Being in his [heavenly] Father's house. Jesus is found in the Temple, he says he "must" be there. Jesus lives out obedience to Mary and Joseph, and obedience especially to his heavenly Father. What makes a family holy is not simply being loving, kind, committed to service and works of charity, but even more than that, living out a reverence and faithful trust in God the Father as being THE priority of life.

Could I invite you to see the chaos and the difficulty of family life as the context for your holiness? The obstacles and challenges around you—while often may seem insurmountable—they are yours and your family's path to sanctity. Trust in our heavenly Father at all times to provide for your needs and to be your strength. It's what makes a family holy.

Peace,  
Father Foley

### Week of December 26

#### Host, Wine & Sanctuary Lamp

*In Memory Of:* Stephen Oliva, Sr.

*Requested By:* Wife and 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**

\$14,992.85 Collection of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Collection will be reported in an upcoming 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](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 26, 2021

- 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
- Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



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## 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, Teresa Vita, 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.

### 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.

### Attention Lectors

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

### 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 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.**

### Private Prayer Hours

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

### **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

Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 - 3:30pm

### *New Year's Schedule 2022*

**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

## CHRISTMAS SEASON REFLECTION FOR 2021

Perhaps God said, hmmm, what else can I do to show how much I love my people? I have already given them a beautiful and bountiful home called the Earth, so many different types of life, and so many descendants from Adam and Abraham. Oh, I know! I will send to them my Son to save them and show them the way. He shall be the human form of love, mercy, healing, and joy without fear and without end. With Him, they shall more fully understand and feel my love, hope and everlasting life. How can they not help but become my arms and legs in this world showing my love, mercy, and healing to others and to my Earth.



Let's feel it and embody Hope, Joy, and Love for ourselves and for others this Christmas season and throughout 2022. What else matters? The Lord blesses us during this Christmas season and indeed during all the days of our lives (from Psalm 128). Let heaven and nature sing!

## 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:** Christmas as "Christ's Mass": The Manger and the Eucharist

**Listen:** Children/Family: The Story of Christmas with Brother Francis

**Read** (Kindle or EPUB): The Blessing of Christmas - Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger: Pope Benedict XVI

**Watch:** Formed Now: The Twelve Days of Christmas

**Watch:** Formed Now: The Litany of the Infant Jesus



**Faith In Action Opportunities**

**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](http://www.charitywater.org/maxwaterforlife).

**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](http://syrdio.org).

Thank you abundantly.

**Sandwich Ministry**

The Tuesday Sandwich Ministry will be meeting on **Tuesday, 1/4 and Tuesday, 1/18 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.**

**The January Food Giving Weekend has been changed to January 8.**

Thank you for your overwhelming response these past few months.

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Parish Office Closed**

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

**Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**

1:00 PM Monthly Movie - Yeazel Hall

**Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM Water for Life Breakfast - Yeazel Hall

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

**Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Parish Office Closed**

**Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

3:00 to 3:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

8:15 AM RCIA - Downstairs

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

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

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

**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.



**Going Away for the Winter?**

If you are planning on going away this winter, please complete the form below & return it to the office so we can stop mailing your envelopes while you are out of the area. Even if your mail is forwarded, your envelopes come back to us & cost us extra in postage. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date you will be leaving \_\_\_\_\_ Date returning \_\_\_\_\_

**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

**New York State  
Discernment Retreat  
Jan. 2 - 4, 2022**

Have you felt the invitation to follow Jesus Christ as a Catholic Priest?

Come and see by attending this retreat sponsored by the vocation directors of NY. Retreat which will take place at Christ the King Retreat House includes fellowship, great talks on the priesthood, Adoration, prayer, & Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take your spiritual life to the next level. Be inspired! Register at vocations-syracuse.org. For those 18+.

**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](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