



BENEFIT BREAKFAST



CHARITY WATER

The Holy Cross youth group hosts a benefit breakfast to support a friend's mission to provide clean water for those in need.

On Wednesday, December 29, following morning Mass, the Holy Cross youth group (pictured above), Lux Mundi, hosted a benefit breakfast to support the work of fellow friend and parishioner, Max Wysocki. Max, a junior

at CBA (and an alumnus of Holy Cross School), has spent much of his youth giving back in incredible ways.

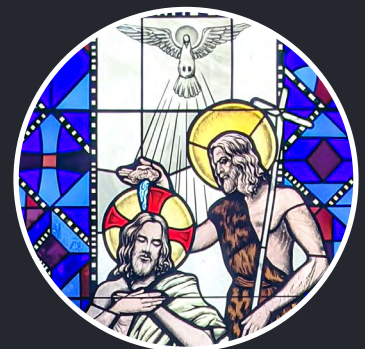
One project that is close to Max's heart is providing clean water for those in need. Working with the organization Charity Water, Max has been able to raise funds and awareness to build multiple wells and give life sustaining water to impoverished areas of the world. Max's latest campaign just closed after raising \$18,000 which will serve an estimated 450 people.

Thank you to everyone that donated and supported Max's campaign. Thank you Max and the teens of Holy Cross for inviting us to participate in this generous act of charity and for inspiring and encouraging us to live as Jesus did in giving drink to the thirsty.

CONTENTS

Readings & Reflection	2
Listening Session Postponed	3
Catholic Schools Week	3
Year in Review: 2021	4-6
Helpful Info	6

"The Lord will bless his people with peace."



Readings & Reflection



SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Today is the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We might wonder why someone like Jesus, who is totally sinless, needs to be baptized, but there are some very good reasons for this to take place. In many ways, the things that were done by Jesus were not just done for the benefit of the specific person helped. For example, when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, he certainly helped Lazarus out of a difficult situation.

But even more importantly, Jesus demonstrated to the world the power of God over death. This was a kind of advertisement to the world that there was something going on that was otherworldly. The same thing can be said of Jesus' baptism. When he came up out of the water, amazing things began to happen: the heavens being opened, the Holy Spirit descending upon him, and a voice coming from heaven saying, "You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased."

Imagine if you were standing there watching these events unfold. Upon hearing and seeing these cosmic happenings, you might begin to think that this Jesus was a special person, and truly the Son of God. This is an important thing to comprehend. The coming of Jesus and all of the astounding events around his birth, his life, and his resurrection are signs to us of the love of God being manifested in our world. God became one of us because he wanted us to realize our need for him in our lives. From the prophecies of Isaiah to the transformation of Peter that we see in the Acts of the Apostles, lives are changed, and God's Kingdom is shared. Let us recognize the power and glory that come with Jesus' first public appearance in the feast of Jesus' baptism.

Peace of Christ,
Deacon Dare

Get daily scripture readings, reflections from our clergy, and the Mass livestream delivered right to your inbox each morning. To sign up, visit holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 9 – Baptism of the Lord

7:30 AM - Sarah & Victor Villani / Anthony & Gisella Mortelliti

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

5:00 PM - Roxanne McAloon Compoli / Elaine Lostumbo

Monday, January 10

7:45 AM – Maureen McManus / Maio Family

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

Tuesday, January 11

7:45 AM – Catherine Collins Bona / Family

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

Wednesday, January 12

7:45 AM – Parishioners of Holy Cross

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

Thursday, January 13

7:45 AM – Jeanette Picciotto / Maio Family

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

Friday, January 14

7:45 AM – Lido P. Regner / Fran B.

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

Saturday, January 15

9:00 AM – Cecilia Davidson / Maureen Murphy

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

4:00 PM – Hilda Loguidice / Diane Harrington

Sunday, January 16 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - John Dawson / Fran B.

10:30 AM - Thomas Dadey, Sr. / Antonacci Family

5:00 PM - John P. Wagner / Elaine Lostumbo

Host, Wine, & Sanctuary Lamp

Ellyn Lubel

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

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, Ann Kronner, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Brianna Messe, Monique Missoff, Mary Elizabeth Morgan, Faith Muller, Nancy Patane, Patricia Pool, Laura Suarez, Stephen Smith, Rita Smookler, Rev. George Stockert, John Toole, Teresa Vita, and Jon Zubieta.

TO ADD TO OUR PRAYER LIST, SEE PAGE 6

News & Events

NYS Mask Mandate

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. If you forgot to bring one, masks (adult and child sizes) are available in the central Gathering Area. If you need help, please ask a staff member for assistance. For updates on policies and procedures at Holy Cross regarding COVID-19, please visit our website at holycrossdewitt.org/coronavirus.

Faith Formation Update

CLASSES POSTPONED

Due to the rise in Covid cases, we've decided it would be best to delay the start of our Faith Formation classes by two weeks. Our next classes will start the week of January 16. We are sorry for any inconvenience. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Steve Nepil (steve@holycrossdewitt.org) and Julie Sheridan (julie@holycrossdewitt.org)

Rite of Acceptance/Rite of Welcome

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 AT 7:30 AM MASS

Our brothers and sisters who are preparing for entrance into the Church at Easter come before our community—the community that they will soon join in full—and declare their intention to the Church, and the Church in turn, carrying out her apostolic mission, will accept them. God showers his grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church (cf. RCIA, 18). Please come and pray with these amazing individuals whom the Lord has been calling to a deeper relationship with himself!

Sandwich Ministry

The Tuesday Sandwich Ministry will be meeting on Tuesday, January 18 at 8:15 AM. Please join us in Yeazel Hall following daily Mass to prepare a variety of sandwiches to be delivered to the Catholic Charities' homeless shelter.

Listening Sessions Postponed

Please be advised that the Synodal Listening Sessions are postponed. Due to concerns for the health and safety for all with the rapid increase and spread of cases of coronavirus, Bishop Lucia feels it is in our best interest to postpone social gatherings at this time. Therefore, the following Synodal Listening Sessions have been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date:

- Saturday, January 8, 2022 (Listening Session and Lunch for Sisters) at Holy Cross in Dewitt.

Rescheduled dates will be available in the near future.



Catholic Schools Week

Mark your calendars for Catholic Schools Week! Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Every year, Holy Cross School participates in this special celebrations with Mass, exciting events, and spirited activities that show off their school pride. This year, CSW will be held from January 30 – February 5. Look for more information and schedules coming soon.

Year in Review

– 2021 –

Twenty twenty-one was a year filled with many challenges, but in the midst of quiet sufferings and pandemic setbacks, God's presence in the people of Holy Cross continued to prevail and triumph in real and touching ways. To honor some of those moments and memories of the past year, we thought we'd share them with you.



January 2021 – Farewell Fr. Matt! On January 30-31, we celebrated Fr. Matt Rawson's last weekend with us as Parochial Vicar at Holy Cross to journey on to his new appointment at Christ Our Hope Parish in Boonville, NY.



February 2021 – Love is in the Air! Bishop Lucia celebrated a special Mass at Holy Cross in honor of World Marriage Day which just so happened to coincide with Valentine's Day!



March 2021 – A Music Lover's March. For St. Patrick's Day, then tenor soloist of Holy Cross Choir, Liam Fitzpatrick (left) produced and directed a virtual concert full of vibrant Irish tunes. We also wished Liam farewell this year as he moved from Syracuse to New York City.

He Reigns – Christ the King Retreat House led a transformative mission during Lent. Chris Spilka, Director of CTK, shared inspiring stories. Jeremy Bobak (right) led prayerful and uplifting worship, and Fr. Jason Hage filled our hearts with the hope and love of Christ and shared that love in Adoration.



April 2021 – Caring for Creation. On Earth Day, parishioners from Holy Cross spent the day cleaning up neighborhoods and town. The Gardening Angels, a group of volunteers committed to pruning and cultivating the grounds at HC, turned out in memory of founding member, Bill Sovik. We were devastated by the tragic loss of Bill this year along with many others. May we find peace and hope in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and honor the memories of our dear friends we lost this year.



May 2021 – Students at Holy Cross School participated in a special May Crowning celebration and 29 children received their First Holy Eucharist!



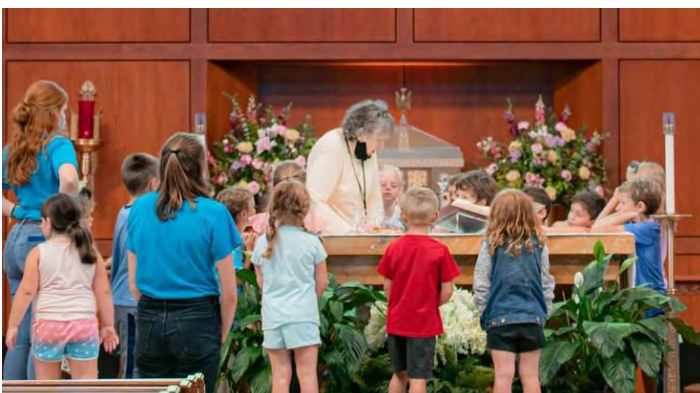
August 2021 – Seminarian James Buttner concluded his pastoral year at Holy Cross and celebrated the Rite of Admission to Candidacy.



June 2021 – Fr. Brendan Foley was ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 2021 and was appointed to Holy Cross as Parochial Vicar on July 1. Holy Cross School students celebrated a year of successful academic work and faith-filled community with graduation celebrations and ceremonies.



September 2021 – We kick off another school year and year of Faith Formation and Youth and Families programming with our annual Fall Festival!



July 2021 – We hosted Totus Tuus, a vacation bible school and summer youth retreat put on by college interns and the Syracuse Diocese Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. We had so much fun while bringing our youth to the depths of the faith.



October 2021 – Come Holy Spirit! Forty-six candidates received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, October 24, 2021.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Year in Review Continued



November 2021 – Parishioners from Holy Cross attend the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), the largest US Catholic youth event.



December 2021 – Faith Formation students and Holy Cross School students finished out the calendar year with some festive fun during the House Winter Olympics!



SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA

While these snapshots only represent a small selection of the many memories of the past year, we hope you find joy and warmth in having experienced so much as a community together. If you don't already, be sure to follow along on Instagram and Twitter ([@holycrossdewitt](https://www.instagram.com/holycrossdewitt)) to keep seeing more snapshots like these, and we hope you will join us in making many more memories together.

Helpful Info

Prayer Requests

If you or someone you know would like to be included on our prayer list in this publication, please have a family member or the individual contact us to have the prayer request included in the next newsletter. Send an email to news@holycrossdewitt.org. The request will be included for three months unless notified otherwise.

Communications Request

If you would like to include an item for consideration in this publication, contact news@holycrossdewitt.org with all pertinent details and information. Deadline to be included for consideration is Mondays at 9:00 AM for the upcoming weekend. Deadlines are subject to change for certain holidays. Content is subject to editing for length and style and must be approved by the pastor.

New to Holy Cross?

We are so glad you are here with us and invite you to learn more about our community and faith tradition. Welcome Packets are available at all of the entrances of the church, or visit us at holycrossdewitt.org/welcome for a helpful guide to Holy Cross Church. Please introduce yourself to our priests at Mass.

New to Catholicism?

If you're new to the Catholic faith, curious about the Church, or just checking it out, we'd love to partner with you on your journey. We have Catholics from all walks of life and all with a different story on finding their faith. If you have questions or would like some helpful resources on Christianity, Catholicism, and the Church, drop us a line at 315-446-0473, send us a message at hello@holycrossdewitt.org, on socials at [@holycrossdewitt](https://www.instagram.com/holycrossdewitt), or drop by the parish office. Be sure to ask about our RCIA program.