



## Rite of Acceptance & Rite of Welcome

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA (now also known as the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, OCIA) is the ancient process through which adults journey together while seeking to be welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church. RCIA is not a class, nor is it a race to see how much information about the faith individuals can consume over the course of a year or more! Rather, it is primarily about one's relationship with the Lord and how he or she is being invited deeper to share in His body, the Church. Individuals will certainly grow in knowledge of the faith, but also they must grow in prayer so as to deepen their readiness to receive

the invitation to the divine life in the Sacraments that Jesus offers to all of us.

This journey is marked by certain rites along the way both for the individuals and for us, the Church they will soon be welcomed into. The timing of these various rites mark their readiness to take the next step and invite our prayerful support as members of their family. This is truly the mission of the Church alive and at work!

Last Sunday at the 7:30 AM Mass, we celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Rite of Welcome, a public display of the desire these individuals have to join the Church. It demonstrates a transition from simply an interested inquirer to active Catechumen (not yet baptized) or Candidate (already baptized). As seen in the intentionality of this rite last Sunday, quite literally, a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## CONTENTS

Readings & Reflection	2
Upcoming Events	3
School News	4
Winter Dodgeball	5
Helpful Info	6

TO VIEW ON  
YOUR PHONE  
USE CAMERA



# Readings & Reflection

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022**

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15  
1 Corinthians 12:12-30  
Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

"You are Christ's body and individually parts of it". These profound words should add meaning to our existence here on this earth. The first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, which we hear today as our second reading, reminds us that we are integral to the Body of Christ. St. Paul reminds the people of Corinth of this fact because as this new community of believers strives to follow Christ, they lose their way, just as we do.

As we have heard recently, we must value ourselves because God has created us, and not by accident, but for a particular purpose. God knows our purpose, a purpose that is there for us to explore and accept as we journey through our life. We being an important part of the Body of Christ makes us recall that we are the hands and feet of Christ on this earth. We are his ears and his mouth; we feel the pain of others and work with our hearts, minds and hands to make Christ come alive in those who seek him for whatever reason.

Paul enumerates the idea that all the parts of the body are important. He helps us imagine what would happen if our foot or hand, eye or ear, were separated from the rest of the body. Certainly, the body would not be complete, and would not function well.

Let us recall how at times the body of Christ fails to function, as it should. What is missing? Perhaps what is missing is the realization that we all are important to God, and that we all together make up the body of Christ on the earth. Perhaps we are the ones missing.

Peace,



Fr. John

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](http://holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe)

# Mass Intentions

## **Sunday, January 23 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 AM - Luke Byrne / Chuck & Regina Harty  
10:30 AM - Bill Sovik / Kirkman Family  
5:00 PM - Theresa G. Bray / Jody & Mark Schappert

## **Monday, January 24**

7:45 AM – Christiene Deville / Sister  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

## **Tuesday, January 25**

7:45 AM – Special Intention / CSV  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

## **Wednesday, January 26**

7:45 AM – John Fennessey / Ann Weeks  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

## **Thursday, January 27**

7:45 AM – Parishioners of Holy Cross &  
Living Intention of the Vito Family  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

## **Friday, January 28**

7:45 AM – Andrew J. Postiglione / Jim & Angela Albanese  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – Private Prayer & Devotion

## **Saturday, January 29**

9:00 AM – Deceased Members of Cathedral Candle Co.  
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM – Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:00 PM – Michael Deberjeois / Sarah Dutter

## **Sunday, January 30 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 AM - Gail Merchant / Michael & Catherine Gaines  
10:30 AM - Laurie Gadsden / Davidson Family  
5:00 PM - Sheila Guinto / Leigh Marquis

### **Host, Wine, & Sanctuary Lamp**

Angeline Silvestri / Family

## **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, Kathryn Muller, Nancy Patane, Laura Suarez, Stephen Smith, Rita Smookler, John Toole, Teresa Vita, and Jon Zubieta.

TO ADD TO OUR PRAYER LIST, SEE **PAGE 6**

# News & Events

---

## Monthly Movie

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022 | 1:00 PM**

This month's feature will be *The Secret: Dare to Dream*. Miranda Wells is a hardworking young widow who's struggling to raise three children on her own. A powerful storm soon brings a devastating challenge and a mysterious man, Bray Johnson, into her life. In just a few short days, Bray's presence reignites the family's spirit—but he carries a secret that could change everything. The movie is free to attend and will be shown in Yeazel Hall.

---

## Winter Blues and Barbecue

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022 | 6:00 PM**

Beat the winter blues and enjoy a barbecue to lift your spirits! Winter Blues and Barbecue at Christ the King Retreat House on Thursday, January 27, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. To further recharge your spiritual life enjoy inspirational speaker Adam Eichelberger. Offering: \$30 includes dinner. Visit [christthekingretreathouse.org](http://christthekingretreathouse.org).

---

## Diocesan Listening Sessions

Listening is an integral part of planning for the future. Make your voice heard. Join us for the Listening Sessions for the worldwide Synod as well as our own diocesan Synod. Below is the schedule for sessions coming up this week in our area. All are welcome to attend.

- **Wednesday, January 26, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**  
at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Baldwinsville
  - **Thursday, January 27, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**  
at St. John the Baptist Church, Syracuse
- 

## Sunday Adult Bible Study

**SUNDAYS AT 9:15 AM**

There are a group of parishioners that meet on a regular basis to grow deeper and learn more about our faith. We meet on Sunday mornings downstairs in rooms 12 & 13

at 9:15 AM. We are reading a book called *The Story Of A Soul*, the autobiography of St. Terese of Liseux. Please join us!

---

## Adoration

From her earliest teachings, the Catholic Church has understood that Jesus, on the last night of his life, took bread and wine and in a literal way changed it into his actual Body and Blood. The early Church developed a special time of prayer with the Eucharist taking a piece of consecrated host, the Eucharist is placed in the center of a display case, known as a monstrance, in order for the faithful to gaze at Jesus and to pray within his midst. This exposition, or praying before the Eucharist is called Adoration and is one of the most intimate and personal methods of prayer for many Christians.

**WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM**—Every Wednesday the parish community has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available in the main church from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. You are invited to come to this hour for as long or as little as you like. Bring your family and friends. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered during this time.

**MONDAYS AT 8:15 AM**—Join us on Monday mornings following daily Mass for a Holy Hour in our Church sanctuary, 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM. Come start your week in quiet reverence and stillness with the Lord. No reservations necessary. All are welcome to attend.

---

## Mask Update

At Holy Cross we are asking you to please continue to 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](http://holycrossdewitt.org/coronavirus).

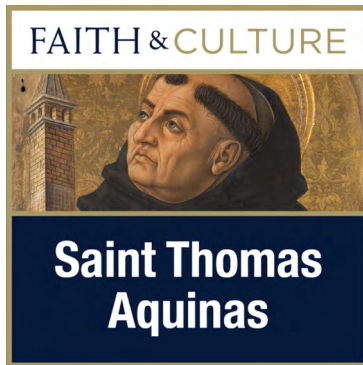
Formed is a digital library of programs, bible studies, movies, audio recordings, and books from trusted creators of Catholic media. It's like the Amazon Prime of Catholic content. And it's free for our parishioners. If you've ever wanted to learn more about a topic in the Church or help your family understand a teaching more clearly, this is the place for you.

To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

## JANUARY 28: MEMORIAL OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS WITH RANDALL SMITH

The Angelic Doctor is often associated with his Summa Theologica among his other great works. Join Ors Christopher Blum and Randall B. Smith as they explore some of the lesser known works of St. Thomas Aquinas.



[Start listening here](#) or search for "Saint Thomas Aquinas" on [formed.org](https://formed.org)



## Catholic Schools Week

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 5, 2022

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 in our next bulletin.

## RITE OF ACCEPTANCE AND RITE OF WELCOME CONTINUED

public step for these individuals takes place as they physically "cross the threshold" into the Church for the first time to be seen by our community. After their sponsor, a helpful friend and mentor in the faith, introduced them to us, we questioned what it is they are seeking. Their answer is "faith," faith that offers "eternal life." After this initial inquiry, these individuals also receive the Word of God. Each receives a Bible to take for themselves, to be nourished daily with the very Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now, we as the Church take their intent very seriously by assuring them our prayerful support.

This year Holy Cross Church hopes to welcome five individuals whom the Lord has been actively at work helping them to hear his call in their lives: three Candi-

dates whom are already baptized Christians: Kewan, Brad, and Erik, and two Catechumens: Lizzy and Sean who are seeking all of the Sacraments of Initiation. Please greet them warmly and welcome them to our faith community whenever you see them! Above all, please accompany them with your prayers that they may continue to know and be transformed by the Lord's grace already at work within them. They are a gift to us!

The RCIA journey is designed for all people looking for answers about the Catholic faith. If you would like to know more or know someone that may be interested, please invite them to get in touch with us!

Learn more at [holycrossdewitt.org/rcia](https://holycrossdewitt.org/rcia) or call the parish office at (315) 446-0473.

# YOUTH & FAMILIES



## WINTER DODGEBALL TOURNEY

Due to the recent surge in Covid-19 resulting in many of our catechists and students being quarantined and with a desire to protect our families and slow the spread of the virus, our in-person Faith Formation classes postponed their January start. Classes just recently started up again following the usual holiday break. We are so grateful to our amazing staff and volunteers that continue to find safe and innovative ways to share the faith and help our young people grow closer to the Lord.

During these first few weeks of the new year, much of our Youth & Families programming was also postponed or taking place virtually. But in an effort to offer a safe, friendly, fun, and edifying opportunity to connect, our

youth office planned an exciting evening that, even in the dark winter, warmed our hearts and souls.

On Thursday, January 13, middle school and high school students braved the cold to compete for the honor of winter dodgeball champion! The evening began with a holy (half) hour in the church in which Fr. Foley led our teens in Adoration. Then everyone came together outside and the games began. Those not playing on the dodgeball "court" warmed under the heated tent with homemade hot cocoa and sweet treats. Thank you to our awesome staff, volunteers, and families for bringing it all together, and thank you to our teens for being a light of goodness and fellowship to our community.

**See you out there!** ❄️🙌❤️

"For it is in giving that we receive."

- ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

## Thank You For Your Generous Support

We are so encouraged by all of the ways that you respond to God's faithfulness and share your gifts. Financial gifts are incredible acts of service that allow us to continue our mission to our community and the world. Did you know Holy Cross offers convenient and secure, online giving? Whether you want to make a one time donation or setup a recurring gift, we've partnered with an industry leader to give you secure and convenient opportunities for supporting our faith community. Online donations helps reduce overhead and administrative costs allowing our staff to focus on the mission of the Church. If you are considering signing up for online giving and have questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. Contact the parish office at (315) 446-0473, visit us online at [holycrossdewitt.org/give](https://holycrossdewitt.org/give), or send an email to [finance@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:finance@holycrossdewitt.org).

### A NOTE ON PRIVACY AND SECURITY

We have taken great care to choose a partner that is dedicated to protecting personal information and privacy. They comply with the highest level of industry security standards and must pass rigorous independent on-site audits annually in addition to other critical assessments. We take information security very seriously and value your right to privacy.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED: \$19,704.88  
COLLECTION WILL BE POSTED IN OUR  
NEXT BULLETIN



SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR  
PHONE'S CAMERA TO GET  
SETUP WITH ONLINE GIVING

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://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 via email at [hello@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:hello@holycrossdewitt.org), or on Twitter/Instagram/Facebook at [@holycrossdewitt](https://www.instagram.com/holycrossdewitt), or drop by the parish office. Be sure to ask us about our RCIA program.