



**HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**JANUARY 8, 2023**

**HOLYCROSSDEWITT.ORG | PHONE: 315-446-0473 | FAX: 315-446-7608**



**FOLLOW ALONG**



@holycrossdewitt

# Welcome to Holy Cross

## A CARING COMMUNITY

"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."

Whether this is your first Mass with us or you are a lifelong parishioner, we are so glad you are here. We hope Holy Cross can be a place for you to call home. If you are new here, check us out online at [holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org) or grab a welcome packet from the church entrances. Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself. We'd love to meet you!

## Sunday Reflection

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

### READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

The focus of the feast of the Epiphany is on the Wise Men or Magi. They were royal astronomers who had detected a star in the sky which led them to Jesus.

An interesting theory is that these magi came from Babylon, a country that is noted for the quality of its scholarly pursuits in astronomy. Theologians connect the story of these astronomers who visit Jesus and Daniel the prophet of God who was exiled to Babylon hundreds of years before and who interpreted the dreams of King Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel is said to have been friends with these astronomers who were a kind of Babylonian royalty. Through Daniel's interactions with them, they were made aware of the biblical prophecies and



especially the coming of Jesus as a little child who was destined to save men from their sins.

The prophecies of Isaiah and the writer of Psalm 72 spoke of the coming of caravans of camels and dromedaries which will bring gold and frankincense to the one who will "govern the people with Justice and the afflicted ones with judgment" and "rescue the poor when he cries out." These magi were aware of these prophecies and the star that they followed brought them face to face with Jesus- the one about whom they were focused.

The gospel of Matthew continues this story with the Magi meeting King Herod, who we are told was "greatly troubled" when he heard that someone else could be called the King of

## Mass Intentions

**Sunday, January 8**  
**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
**7:30AM** Mary Anne Mannara / Catholic Schools Office  
**10:30AM** Judy Hummel / The Davidson Family  
**5:00PM** Roxanne Compoli / Elaine Lostumbo

**Monday, January 9**  
**7:45AM** Joseph & August Simonetta / Lynn Blair

**Tuesday, January 10**  
**7:45AM** Parishioners of Holy Cross

**Wednesday, January 11**  
**7:45AM** Edward Kalin / Susan Thomson

**Thursday, January 12**  
**7:45AM** Lawrence Page /Neil, Barbara Bourcy and Family

**Friday, January 13**  
**7:45AM** Robert E. Hills / Maio Family

**Saturday, January 14**  
**9:00AM** Marie Felice / Pat Humpleby

the Jews. No doubt, he was troubled, since he had murdered everyone he thought could share his title. His troubles quickly became the troubles of the people of Judea who Herod would take his anger out on.

What the Epiphany means for us is that Jesus has come for all people, not just those who were of the Jewish

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# News & Events

## Food Giving Weekend

**JANUARY 7-8, 2023**

This weekend, January 7-8 is Food Giving Weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity and goodness! And thank you to our volunteers who help with sorting and packaging the food donations to be delivered to our pantries.

## Monthly Luncheon

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023 | 12:00 PM**

Join us for lunch at Olive Garden at 3147 Erie Boulevard on Wednesday, January 11 at 12:00 PM. If you plan to attend, please make your reservation by Monday, January 9. Call Jo Oliva at (315) 446-3328 to make your reservation or if you have any questions.



## Syracuse March for Life & Mass

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023 | 9:30 AM**

Middle and high school students (and families) are invited to join our Holy Cross group at the Diocese of Syracuse's Mass and Holy Hour for Life with Bishop Lucia on Saturday, January 14 at 9:30 AM with the Syracuse Right to Life March to follow at 12:00 PM beginning at the MOST. **RSVP** at [holycrossdewitt.org/march](https://holycrossdewitt.org/march)

## Coffee & Conversation

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023 | 12:00 PM**

Join us Tuesday, January 17 from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for Coffee & Conversation. We will be making angel blankets. All sewers are welcome. Bring your bagged lunch and drink.



## World Marriage Day Mass

**FEBRUARY 19, 2023 | 2:00 PM**

Bishop Douglas Lucia invites all married couples and their families to join him at a Mass celebrating World Marriage Day on Sunday, February 19th, 2:00 PM, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. All married couples who attend will be invited to renew their commitment to Holy Matrimony.

Couples married 25, 50, or more years in 2023 will be recognized in a special way. Please contact the parish office so that we can send you a personal invitation. Call **315-446-0473** or send us an email at [info@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:info@holycrossdewitt.org)

## Christ the King Dinner & Comedy Show

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 | 5:00 PM**

Treat your Valentine and/or yourself to a delicious dinner and laugh along with one of America's sharpest comedy acts, Moody McCarthy. Join us for this entertaining evening and support Christ the King Retreat House in their continued efforts to provide spiritual enrichment and a place of welcome for all.

Social begins at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 5:30 PM. Show begins at 6:30 PM. Offering: \$50 per person \$85 per couple.

- For reservations call 315-446-2680, or register online at [www.ckretreat.com](http://www.ckretreat.com).



## Remembering Pope Benedict XVI

December 31, 2022

Statement of Bishop Douglas J. Lucia of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse on the death of Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI:

This morning, in the final hours of 2022, Catholics throughout the world have learned of the death of Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI. Along with Bishop Robert J. Cunningham, our Bishop-emeritus, I join the Catholic community in mourning the passing of the 265th Successor of St. Peter whose only desire was to be a "humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord." His service in the Church spanned decades both as theologian and pastor and he had a key role to play in the Second Vatican Council as theological advisor to the bishops. Yet, the heart of his ministry would focus on being a true icon of Christ, the deacon – Christ, the servant.

It would be summarized in the three encyclicals of his eight-year pontificate: Deus caritas est – God is Love (2005); Spe Salvi – "In Hope We are Saved" (2007); and Caritas in Veritate – "Charity in Truth" (2009).

He was very much aware of his own mission to point out Jesus Christ to others, but like John the Baptist he knew he was not the Christ, and like John knew that he must decrease so that Christ would increase in people's lives (cf. Jn 3:27-36). This awareness would lead Benedict XVI to resign his office as Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pontiff because he recognized his own frailty and inability to continue in that role in 2013.

The years of his pontificate were troublesome ones in the life of the Roman Catholic Church, but what I greatly admired was the Holy Father's humility and gentleness – something I witnessed personally when I met him as Cardinal Ratzinger. Even at World Youth Day in Cologne in 2005, I recognized someone who never wanted limelight for himself, but poured himself out in service of all God's people encouraging them to discover Jesus Christ for themselves and the difference He makes for one's life.

In speaking of this approaching moment in his life, the Pope-emeritus stated: "Quite soon, I shall find myself before the final judge of my life. Even though, as I look back on my long life, I can have great reason for fear and trembling. I am nonetheless of good cheer, for I trust firmly that the Lord is not only the just judge, but also the friend and brother who

himself has already suffered for my shortcomings, and is thus also my advocate, my 'Paraclete.'"

I invite you now to join me in praying for the repose of the soul of Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI – that despite the sinful human condition we all share in – he will now come to know firsthand the meaning of the Christmas season we are in – God saves! Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace! Amen.

*Douglas J. Lucia*

## THIS WEEK AT HC

### MONDAY, JANUARY 9

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

6:45 AM H.S. Faith Form., Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

6:45 AM M.S. Faith Form., Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

12:00 PM Luncheon, Olive Garden

7:00 PM Adoration & Reconciliation

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

7:45 AM Elem. Faith Form., Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

7:00 PM Middle School Night, Y. Hall

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church

3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

7:30 AM Mass, Church

9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Church

10:30 AM Mass, Church

3:30 PM RCIA, Church

5:00 PM Mass, Church

## Reflection

Continued from page 2

race. God's plan has been brought to fruition for every single person in the world who recognizes who Jesus truly is—the Messiah. The Magi were the first non-Jews to recognize Jesus' kingship. We should do the same.

Keep the faith,  
Deacon Dare

Sign up to get the  
Sunday Read in your inbox



## Outreach

If you are looking for ways to serve and help others in the upcoming new year, check out some of these local opportunities to get involved.

### Jamesville Ecumenical Food Pantry

Every month, Holy Cross parishioners collect food to give to local food pantries. One pantry we have a long legacy of support and close partnership with is the Jamesville Ecumenical Food Pantry. Consider volunteering with the food pantry or joining their board.

To learn more, you're invited to attend their next board meeting on **Thursday, January 19 at 5:30 PM** at the pantry. The food pantry is located at 6486 E Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville, NY 13078. Phone: (315)-469-5093

### Joseph's House for Women

Joseph's House for Women, which provides a nurturing home for mothers facing an unplanned pregnancy or homelessness is in need of volunteers. Our home is growing every day, and we rely on our volunteers to help keep this vital mission thriving. Volunteer opportunities can come in many ways. You can volunteer in our day-care, helping take care of our littlest residents, with our building and grounds maintenance or with special events. At this time our greatest need is in our daycare Monday through Fridays during the day as our residents are busy with classes, job interviews, counseling and work. If you are interested in volunteering, call (315)657-7664 or visit [jhfw.org](http://jhfw.org) to fill out a volunteer application.

## Adoration

"Be still and know that I am God."

— PSALM 46:11

### WHAT IS ADORATION?

From the earliest teachings of the Church, 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. He commanded the Apostles to continue to do this in his memory. The cornerstone of the Early Church will become the continual practice of doing this fulfilled Passover meal, and it will come to be known as "the Mass." From the last night of Jesus's life, the Church has continually, for over 2,000 years, celebrated this mystery of changing bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Even today, the Church teaches that the Eucharist is no symbol, but actually God himself. The 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.

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

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. This will be a great opportunity during the week to spend some quiet time with the Lord. The hour will conclude with Evening Prayer from the Divine Office at 7:45 PM followed by Solemn Benediction at 8:00 PM. Bring your family and friends. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is also offered during this time.

### MONDAY MORNINGS

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.



# Giving

"For it is in giving that we receive."

- ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Thank you! We are so encouraged by all of the ways that you respond to God's faithfulness and share your gifts. Gifts of prayer, time and talent serve and support our community in so many meaningful ways. And financial gifts are incredible acts of service that allow us to continue our mission and the work of the Church.

- Visit [holycrossdewitt.org/give](https://holycrossdewitt.org/give) to learn more.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED: \$19,704.88  
 REGULAR COLLECTION DEC. 25: \$9,476.00  
 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: \$63,661.00  
 REGULAR COLLECTION JAN. 1: \$17,646.00

Scan the code to get started with secure & convenient online giving



## New to Catholicism?

If you're new to the Catholic faith, curious about the Church, or just checking it out, we'd love to accompany you on your journey. We know Catholics from all walks of life and all with different stories on finding their faith. If you have questions on Christianity, Catholicism, or the Church, get in touch with us at [holycrossdewitt.org/hello](https://holycrossdewitt.org/hello)

## Holy Cross Communications

If you have important news & events related to the activities, ministries, and parishioners of Holy Cross Church & School, please contact [news@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:news@holycrossdewitt.org).



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Joe Evans, Nancy Ferrara, Celia Flaver,  
 Jeanette Heick, Ann Kronner, Elaine Lostumbo,  
 Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Faith Muller,  
 Nancy Patane, Nash Daniel Stannard,  
 and John Toole

## Thank You

### Dear Holy Cross Family,

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for all you do for our parish! Your faithful support is of great assurance to our staff & myself!

Thank you to those who have given cards & goodies to the priests and staff! We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

I also would like to thank those who helped decorate our church for Advent and Christmas, especially Julie Sheridan, Brette Cooper, and Matt Stano.

Thank you to our incredible music ministry: choir members, soloists, cantors, and music directors as well as our faithful Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers. We are so encouraged by the ways you share your gifts to elevate our liturgies .

Without all of you, we would be limited in what we can do. May the peace of the Christ Child be with you and your family.

*Rev. John Kurgan*

**REV. JOHN KURGAN**  
PASTOR

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subscribe to the weekly brief

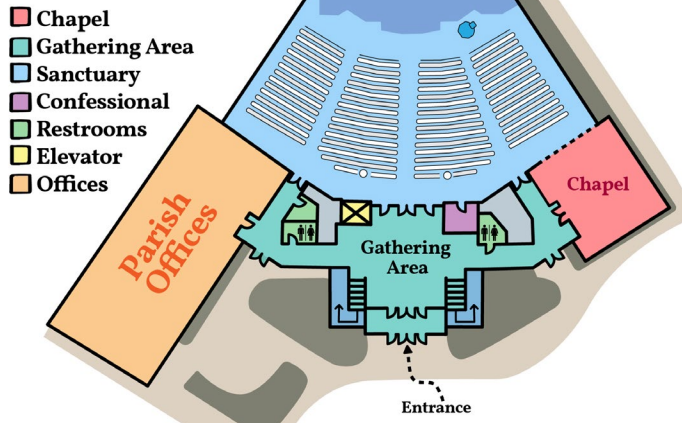
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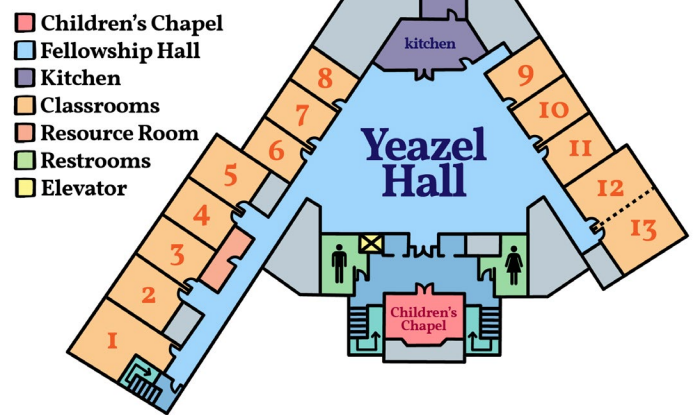
# Parish Office

The parish offices are located at the far entrance from East Genesee. Look for the signs for "Office." Parish Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. The church sanctuary is open for private prayer Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Adoration is available on Wednesday from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM.

## Entry Level



## Downstairs Level



## OUR STAFF

Please know that all of us at Holy Cross are here to be of service to you. Please never hesitate to seek our support whenever it may be needed. The parish office can be reached by phone at (315) 446-0473.

<b>Fr. John Kurgan</b>	Pastor	jkurgan@syrdio.org
<b>Fr. Brendan Foley</b>	Parochial Vicar	bfoley@syrdio.org
<b>Fr. Charles Vavonese</b>	Weekend Homilist	cvavonese@syrdio.org
<b>Dc. Dare Dutter</b>	Deacon	dare@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Nina Walters</b>	School Principal	nwalters@syrdiocese.org
<b>Ernest Camerota</b>	Music Ministry & Choir Director	ecamerota@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Brette Cooper</b>	Maintenance & Facilities	bcooper@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Josh Corcoran</b>	Music, Sunday Evening Mass	josh@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Dan Littlepage</b>	Technology & Communications	dan@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Leigh Marquis</b>	Finance & Human Resources	leigh@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Steve Nepil</b>	Faith Formation (5-12) & Youth Ministry	steve@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Peg Olson</b>	Parish Office Manager	peg@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Julie Sheridan</b>	Faith Formation (1-4) & Safe Environment	julie@holycrossdewitt.org
<b>Matt Stano</b>	Maintenance & Facilities	mstano@holycrossdewitt.org

"We love because he first loved us."

- 1 JOHN 4:19



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