



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



F E B R U A R Y 2 6 , 2 0 2 3

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 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, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

READINGS

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Psalms 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

What should we make of this account of Jesus in the desert? When we hear today's gospel it can be an interesting one to imagine, especially just the captivating opening line: At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil (Mt. 4:1). Why might he intentionally set out to be tempted by the devil? Should we be doing the same? Well, no. But given the context of our readings today, Jesus—who is always about the mission of bringing about our salvation and bringing us back to our communion with God—goes out and endures the same threefold temptation that our first parents, Adam and Eve, faced—yet he does not give in.

Let's go back to the first reading from Genesis 3, the account of "the Fall"

or the original sin that leads to our concupiscence or our inclination toward sin. What goes terribly wrong is that Adam and Eve fall victim to temptation that somehow they were lacking, or that somehow God was holding out on them. They failed to know the goodness of God, they failed to recognize his ability to constantly provide for all of their needs. The only "knowledge" they seem to gain after eating the fruit is of their vulnerability, their nakedness, their need. The letter of St. John teaches specifically what goes wrong and points out how temptation lives in our experience today:

Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. (1 Jn 2:15-16)

This is the pattern of how temptation works. Eve saw that the tree was 1) good for food, 2) pleasing to the eyes, and 3) desirable for gaining wisdom (Gn 3:6).

SEE MORE PAGE 5

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 25

4:00PM VIGIL Giuseppe Mancuso /
Chuck & Julie Greiner & Family

Sunday, February 26

7:30AM Stan Nowakowski /
Maureen Hall & Family

10:30AM Virginia Fallico /
Michael & Annette Krisak

5:00PM Fr. Richard Kapral /
Joyce Rossi

Monday, February 27

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Tuesday, February 28

7:45AM Natalia Monterastelli / Family

Wednesday, March 1

7:45AM Mary Sinnott Darcy /
John H. Heyer

Thursday, March 2

7:45AM Ronald G. Kinney / Wife

Friday, March 3

7:45AM Mass League Intentions
9:30AM School Mass

Saturday, March 4

9:00AM Cyprian Okonkwo / Family
4:00PM VIGIL Nancy Bush / Tom &
Patty Quartier

Sunday, March 5

7:30AM Mary Rose Manno /
Catholic Schools Office

10:30AM Leo & Caroline Lynch /
George & Karen Reck

5:00PM Frank Discenza /
Quartier Family

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
subscribe today!



News & Events

Holy Cross School Raffle Tickets

GATHERING SPACE FOLLOWING MASSES

This weekend, Holy Cross School students will be selling raffle tickets in the Gathering Area to support our annual fundraiser, the Holy Cross School Dinner Auction.

Visit hcschooldewitt.org/auction to purchase tickets online and learn about our sponsor opportunities.

Lenten Day of Reflection

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 | 10:00 AM

Come and join us on Monday, February 27 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall. The day will include a talk by Deacon Dare Dutter along with prayer & Benediction.

Monthly Movie: Laura Lansing Slept Here

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Join us on Tuesday, February 28 at 1:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for a free viewing of Laura Lansing Slept Here. A famous, pampered novelist, Laura Lansing (Katharine Hepburn) accepts a bet suggesting that she can't survive one week of living with an average family. "Rings with laughs" "Gives us Hepburn in a vibrant way." We hope you can join us! Refreshments provided.

Knitting Group

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023 | 1:00 PM

The next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, March 2 at 1:00 PM down in Yeazel Hall. We're always looking for new knitters and are happy to help you learn! Questions? Please call Rita at (315) 472-1478 or Jo at (315) 446-3328.

Refugee Assistance Meeting

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 | 6:30 PM

The Refugee Assistance Committee will meet in Yeazel Hall (Rooms 12 & 13) on Monday, March 6 at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. Hope to see you there!

Food Giving Weekend

MARCH 4-5, 2023

Grab a tote from Holy Cross, fill it with non-perishable food items, and bring it back on March 4-5 to any of the Masses. Thank you in advance for your generous donations! Pantries have emphasized the need of the following items:

- Children's cereals
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Pasta dry, canned, unique
- Pasta Sauce simple flavors
- Canned Chicken & Tuna
- Beans kidney/white/black
- Instant Noodles
- Lentils
- Canned Fruit & Veggies
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Soup & Crackers
- Rice & rice side dishes
- Shampoo & Conditioner,
- Body Wash & Soap
- Cleaning Products
- Easter Candy*

*The food pantry will be providing small Easter baskets to the children of their clients, and are seeking individually wrapped Easter candy.

EMPOWERED

IGNITE 2023

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023

We are so excited to announce that the IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference is back at the SRC Arena and Event Center! We are going BIG this year with our Keynote Speaker: Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York. His Eminence will be joined by Michael McGinn and the return of Gus Lloyd, and of course Bishop Lucia will start the day with Holy Mass celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation. We have a great day planned. Mark your calendar, register and bring a family member and/or friend. Register by March 7 for reduced price.

Visit ignitecatholicmen.org for more info on the speakers, schedule for the day and to register. Contact our parish captain Anthony Grasso with any questions: anthonyjgrasso@yahoo.com



Lenten Book Study & Adoration

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT | 6:30 PM

Starting March 1, join Fr. Foley on the Wednesdays in Lent at 6:30 PM leading into our regularly scheduled hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation. Fr. Foley will unpack spiritual insights from Fr. Jacques Philippe’s classic, *Interior Freedom*, which builds off our Lenten study from last year (Fr. Philippe’s *Searching For and Maintaining Peace*). All who are interested in following along are welcome to just show up to the Church at 6:30! However, the first 75 who register can receive a free copy of the book! We won’t be providing this book to the entire parish, but we hope to provide it for those who register ahead of time! Visit holycrossdewitt.org/lent to sign up.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

TUESDAYS IN LENT & EASTER | 7:00 PM

Let’s try something new! Starting February 28, join Fr. Foley 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM in Yeazel Hall on Tuesdays through Lent and into Easter in unpacking the Acts of the Apostles. Considering our parish’s Advent journey through the recent book, *From Christendom to Apostolic Mission*, let’s get inspired again to live the Church’s identity and missionary task of evangelization by the ones who did it first. We often hear from the Acts of the Apostles at Mass throughout our liturgical year, and of course it is most prominently featured during the Easter season! Consider this opportunity to be transformed by the Word of God not only for a fruitful Lent but also a fruitful Easter, too! Sign up online at holycrossdewitt.org/lent

Evening Prayer

SUNDAYS IN LENT AT 4:30 PM

Join us for Evening Prayer on Sundays in Lent at 4:30 PM (prior to 5:00 PM Mass), starting on February 26, 2023.

Stations of the Cross

**FRIDAYS DURING LENT
8:15 AM & 7:00 PM**



The Stations of the Cross began as the practice of pious pilgrims to Jerusalem who would retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary. Please join us Fridays during Lent as we travel through the stations and identify with Jesus’ journey to Calvary. Stations are on Fridays at 8:15 AM (following 7:45 AM Mass) and at 7:00 PM.

Tenebrae

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 | 7:00 PM

Join us on Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 PM for the special tradition of Tenebrae! Through scripture readings and music we experience the events of the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Light is On

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- Monday, April 3, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Holy Cross
- Tuesday, April 4, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Holy Cross

Lenten Reminders

Catholics ages 14 and older are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday (February 22) and Good Friday (April 7) as well as on all Fridays during Lent.

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast (eat only one full meal; two smaller meals may be taken but may not be equal to the one full meal) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. When possible, the fast from Good Friday should continue until the Easter Vigil. This is called the "Paschal Fast." It is done to enter into the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare more fully to celebrate his Resurrection.

Reflection

Continued from page 2

Lust, Greed, and Pride—all for the purpose of becoming “like God” as the serpent says. When the things of the world become ‘idols’ or replace God in our lives, we begin to neglect our identity of belonging to the Lord as his beloved children, and we put ourselves in place of God. We, too, fall victim to believing that God is “not enough,” or that he cannot provide for all our needs, or that somehow we are not known or loved intimately by him.

Jesus goes into the desert for us to see that like us, he faces the same threefold temptation, and with him, we too can overcome temptations that lead us away from choosing the loving embrace of our heavenly Father. As Christians we are all called to overcome the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and pride. The practices that we do all year but intensify now (fasting, almsgiving, and prayer) are ways that the Lord strengthens us with his grace to know his love and to help us walk the path of life. Fasting pushes against the lust of the flesh. Almsgiving pushes against the lust of the eyes (greed/avarice), and prayer pushes against pride by helping us to acknowledge our dependence on God. May we have the grace to experience the strength that only comes to us from Jesus, and may we feel the closeness of his embrace this Lent.

Peace,

Rev. Brunda Foley

Fr. Foley

Outreach

Serve at the Samaritan Center

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023

Join our team of parishioners that prepare and serve a meal on Sunday afternoons about once a month at the Samaritan Center. If you'd like to help out, contact Rick Coughlin at philiprcoughlin@gmail.com

- The Samaritan Center is a nonprofit 501c3, interfaith effort of community members committed to serving the hungry and those in need in order to promote their welfare dignity and self-sufficiency.

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED: \$19,704.88

COLLECTION FOR FEB. 19: \$15,009.00

BLACK & NATIVE AMERICAN COLLECTION: \$550.00

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



Helpful Info

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.

Hospitalized or Homebound?

Please notify the parish office (315) 446-0473 when a parishioner or family member is confined to their home, hospitalized, or entering a nursing home, so that clergy may make arrangements for a sick visit.

Prayer Requests

Please have a family member or the individual contact us to have their name included. The request will be included for three months unless notified otherwise.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Abrielle Lynch, Ann Kronner, Celia Flaver, Dinita Machlin, Elaine Lostumbo, Faith Muller, Jeanette Heick, Joe Evans, John Toole, Margaret Blanchfield, Nancy Ferrara, Nancy Patane, and Troy Blackchief





THIS SUMMER...

Don't miss the fun, friends, and the faith that brings us all together! Registrations for summer programs for youth of all ages are now open. Learn more & sign up today! Visit holycrossdewitt.org/summer

TOTUS TUUS 2023

Totus Tuus is a vacation bible school day camp and evening youth retreat run by trained college students at Catholic parishes during the summer. It is extremely fun, energetic, and engaging while bringing youth to the depths of the faith.

Holy Cross is hosting Totus Tuus the last week of July!

-  **Grades 1-6**, day camp, 9 AM - 3 PM | Monday, July 24 to Friday, July 28
-  **Grades 7-12**, evening retreats, 7 PM - 9 PM | Sunday, July 23 to Thursday, July 27

See more & sign up at holycrossdewitt.org/tt



Refuge
MT 11:28

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE
JULY 14-16, 2023

Join 9-12th grade students from our diocese for a weekend at Franciscan University packed with dynamic talks, uplifting concerts, transformative prayer & Adoration, and growing deeper through the Sacraments. holycrossdewitt.org/refuge



THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
- 8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church
- 10:00 AM Day of Reflection, Yeazel Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 6:45 AM High School FF, Yeazel Hall
- 7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
- 1:00 PM Monthly Movie, Yeazel Hall
- 7:00 PM Acts Bible Study, Yeazel Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

- 6:45 AM Middle School FF, Yeazel Hall
- 7:45 AM Mass, Church
- 6:30 PM Lenten Book Study, Church
- 7:00 PM Adoration, Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

- 7:45 AM Elementary FF, Yeazel Hall
- 7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
- 1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall
- 7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Yeazel Hall
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

- 7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
- 8:15 AM Stations of the Cross, Church
- 9:00 AM Mom's Group, Room 5
- 9:30 AM First Friday School Mass, Church
- 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross, Church

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

- FOOD GIVING WEEKEND**
- 9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church
 - 3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church
 - 4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- FOOD GIVING WEEKEND**
- 7:30 AM Mass, Church
 - 9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13
 - 10:30 AM Mass, Church
 - 3:30 PM RCIA, Rooms 12-13
 - 4:30 PM Evening Prayer, Church
 - 5:00 PM Mass, Church

Get the latest event details at holycrossdewitt.org/events

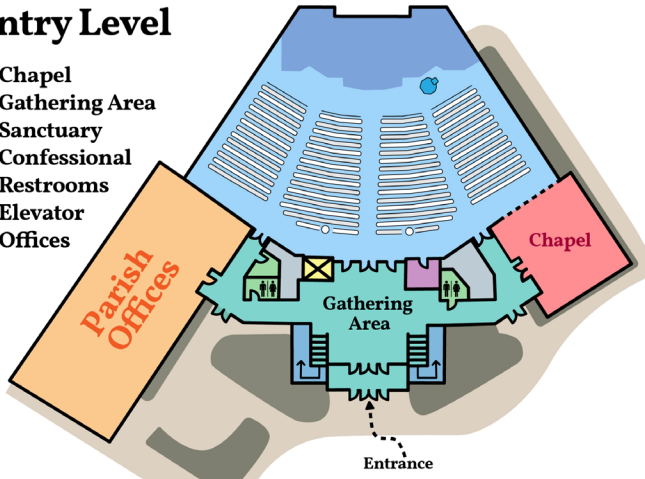


Parish Office

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.

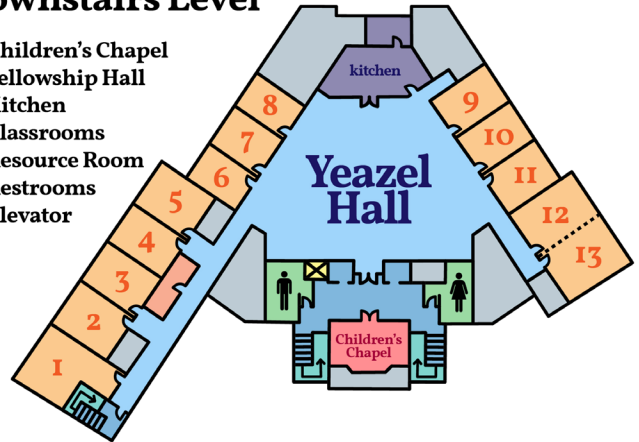
Entry Level

- Chapel
- Gathering Area
- Sanctuary
- Confessional
- Restrooms
- Elevator
- Offices



Downstairs Level

- Children's Chapel
- Fellowship Hall
- Kitchen
- Classrooms
- Resource Room
- Restrooms
- Elevator



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.

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

"We love because he first loved us."

- 1 JOHN 4:19



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