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Dc. Dutter shares a homily with Holy Cross students during School Mass on April 14, 2023 See more photos on page 5

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



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 guide from the church entrances. Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself. We'd love to meet you!

Sunday Reflection

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

READINGS

Acts 2:14, 22-33 Psalms 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 1 Peter 1:17-21 Luke 24:13-35

This week, we experience a microcosm of the journey we are on as followers of Christ. Just as in the Gospel, the two disciples go on a seven-mile journey to a place called Emmaus, we are on a lifelong journey to a different place. The main question we ask (and are asked by our Lord) is this: Are we traveling with Christ or without him? Are we aware of his presence in our lives or are we just walking blindly through the world, oblivious to the importance of Jesus in our lives?

In the first reading from the book of Acts, St Peter addresses the gathering by boldly speaking to them of the Risen Lord. He tells them that it is impossible for Christ to be held in Hades because he now has pow-



The Pilgrims of Emmaus on the Road James Tissot,1886-1894

er over life and death. In the second reading, Peter instructs the people to remain faithful to Christ and to be on their guard whether they be at home or abroad. He reminds them of the tremendous ransom that was paid on their behalf, a ransom which cannot be equated with anything they or the world could ever possess. The gospel passage from St Luke recounts the story of the two disciples on the road SEE REFLECTION, **PAGE 4**

Mass Intentions

FOLLOW ALONG

@holycrossdewitt

Sanctuary Lamp

Anne Gowin / Joe & Mary Ann McCaffrey

Saturday, April 22

4:00pm vigit Filomina Dalope, Melchor Guevarra & Cynthia Marasol / Larry & Marlene Rosales

Sunday, April 23

7:30AM Rose Oltmann / Carol & Carmen Marmillo 10:30AM Deb Norton / The Seltzer Family 5:00PM Pamela Hancock / Delores Petta

Monday, April 24 7:45AM Marianna Sarro / Katie Allen

Tuesday, April 25 7:45AM Charles A. Gaetano / Mike & Jeanne Donovan

Wednesday, April 26 7:45 AM Patricia Wengert / Brenda Casinella

Thursday, April 27 7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Friday, April 28 7:45AM Daniel Gaworecke / Kathy Kotz

Saturday, April 29 9:00AM Cyprian Okonkwo / Family 4:00PM VIGIL Bill Sovik / Wife & Family

Sunday, April 30

7:30AM Clara Macri / Sue & Joe Bombard 10:30AM Dorthey LaBeff / Brenda Cassinella 5:00PM Bill Shaw / Kathy Kotz

News & Events

Ministry Weekends

Spend a few minutes after Mass this weeked to connect with more of our ministries at Holy Cross.

This weekend, April 22-23, we highlight 1) Food Donations and Jamesville Pantry, 2) Ministry to Menorah Park and Pastoral Ministry, 3) Refugee Assistance Committee and 4) Gardening Angels.

Monthly Movie TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Join us on Tuesday, April 25 at 1:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for a free viewing of *Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris*, a heartwarming comedy set in 1950s London about a widowed cleaning lady who saves up to buy a couture Dior dress, and the journey to Paris that changes her life. We hope you can join us! Refreshments provided.

Synod Morning of Reflection AT CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH 134 E. FIFTH STREET IN OSWEGO

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023 | 9AM - 12 PM

Join parishioners from around the diocese on Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, followed by a simple lunch. Bishop Lucia will host. The morning includes prayer, an update on the preparations for the World Synod of Bishops, small group conversations, large group sharing of insights, and an "open forum" with the Bishop. Please register by contacting Kathryne Rakowski at (315) 470-1426 or via email at **krakowski@syrdio.org** to indicate if you intend to stay for lunch and any dietary restrictions.

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

Bible Study Opportunities

Holy Cross Family,

Wayne and Faye Rheaume recently were fully initiated into the Catholic Church here in our parish. The Lord has been leading them on their journey of faith for many years now, and having been guided to the Church through the Catechism and the study of Sacred Scripture, they have come to the fullness of the faith and couldn't be more grateful! They are eager to get to know our parish community, and as a result would like to extend two new opportunities:

EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Friday, June 2, the Rheaume's will be hosting a Bible study (for ages ~40 and up) at their home in Lafayette, and you are invited! The group will meet twice monthly, every other Friday, at 7:00 PM for a time of Bible study and fellowship (and of course snacks!). The first topic will be the Gospel of John, using Emmaus Road Catholic Publishing study books and the Catechism. John's Gospel is the story of Jesus, the Messiah and Son of God and what his incarnation, death and resurrection mean to each of us; a great place to begin our study.

If you are interested in being a part of the group, please contact Wayne at (315) 657-5156 to inquire further. More details to come.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Faye Rheaume would like the women of our parish to be aware that, for the past several years, she has facilitated an ongoing Bible Study on Tuesday evenings, and the same study on Wednesday mornings (you can attend the most convenient session), at Our Lady of Hope Church in Syracuse. Women from several parishes in the area attend and are currently studying the Book of Isaiah.

If you would like to attend on either Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings please call or text Faye at (315) 657-5157.

We are very much looking forward to studying God's word together and growing in our faith!

Reflection

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

to Emmaus. This whole scene has the elements of a liturgy. Jesus is present in the Word which calls the journeyers to a remembering. Then there is the Eucharistic sharing as Jesus presents himself in the taking of bread, blessing it, breaking it, and giving it to his companions. With that their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. The two disciples experience one very important thing on their journey; the Grace of God.

Grace is always appearing even as we walk along in our world. We saw God's grace on Easter Sunday with the empty tomb. We experience God's grace in the Sacraments, such as Baptism, Eucharist, and Reconciliation. But if we walk along without a thought of this grace, we mute its effects. Let us walk with Jesus as we continue our journey through the world. Our destination will be nothing less than heaven if we keep our minds on God and his grace.

Peace,

Deacon Dare

BAPTISMS

Many blessings for the **Spatola Family** who are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Many blessings for the **Nave Family** who are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for **Susan Schill & Michael Dollinger** who will celebrate their wedding at Holy Cross on April 29, 2023.

To schedule a wedding, please call the parish office at **315-446-0473** at least six months in advance.

Let us continue to pray for vocations to marriage and family life!

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.

• To give online, visit holycrossdewitt.org/give

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



FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED: \$19,704.88 COLLECTION FOR APRIL 9: \$44,901.00 COLLECTION FOR APRIL 16: \$15213.00

UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL COLLECTION

HOME MISSIONS APPEAL: APRIL 30, 2023

Helpful Info

HOLY CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

If you have important news & events related to the activities, ministries, and parishioners of Holy Cross Church & School, please notify **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.

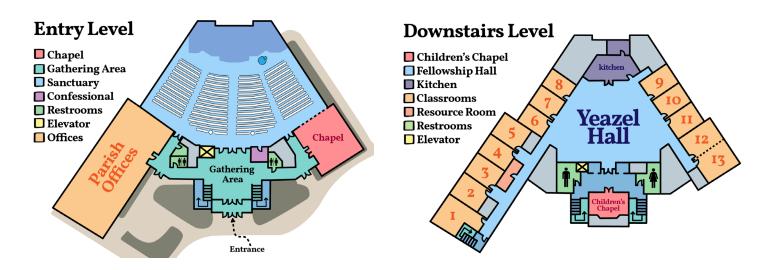
PRAYER REQUESTS

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.



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.



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

Holy Cross School

Educated Minds • Faith-Filled Hearts

Holy Cross School is a private, Pre-K through 6th grade Catholic educational community associated with Holy Cross Parish in Dewitt, New York and part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse. At Holy Cross School, our students get a superior education in an innovative learning institution that produces outstanding overall academic performance year after year. They also learn lifelong values that never change including faith, service, honesty, courtesy, and compassion. Since family is a key value, we also offer flexible hours for busy parents with before and after school programs, are conveniently located, and foster a safe environment for children.

Nationally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools. To learn more or schedule a tour, visit our website at **www.hcschooldewitt.org** or give us a call at **(315) 446-4890**.



Community

We invite you to get connected with our Holy Cross family. There are many opportunities for all walks of life. Here are just a few ways to get connected with our community.

Special Events

Events and special activities throughout the year help connect our parishioners and build community with one another. Events include festivities like our Fall Festival, Breakfast with Santa, and Parish Picnic. These events are always open to all, and we invite you to use them as an opportunity to deepen your friendships, meet new people, and invite others into our community. We also provide unique experiences for our youth like retreats, pilgrimages, vacation bible schools, and youth conferences. Visit our website to see what's coming up next!



Connect

Adult Bible Studies

Throughout the year, there are groups of adults in our parish who get together on a regular basis for Bible study programs. On Sunday mornings our Adult Ministry comes together downstairs in Rooms 12 & 13 for fellowship and scripture study. All are welcome to join! No registration necessary. Other bible studies meet on a rotating basis. To get updated when new studies start, sign up for our weekly newsletter at **holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe**.

Senior Social Activities

We have a variety of regularly scheduled activities for seniors. The last Tuesday of each month is our Monthly Movie. Coffee and Conversation is a monthly gathering of fellowship, coffee, and lunch. Our knitting group meets every other week. Check the church newsletter to find out more about these groups and the next time they meet. All are welcome!

Gardening Angels

Gardening Angels are a faithful group of Holy Cross volunteers who meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM -10:30 AM to make the surrounding landscape of our church home a beautiful, and welcoming place to worship and pray. Specifically, the volunteers plant flowers and bushes, remove weeds and brush, trim bushes, spread mulch as needed. Work begins in the spring and ends in late fall.

Rosary Prayer Group

Most mornings after Daily Mass, a group gathers in the church or in the front circle to pray the Rosary. It is informal and open to anyone who would like to pray. Please join us!

Play & Pray Mom's Group

The Play & Pray Ministry at Holy Cross strives to create opportunities for connection among Catholic mothers with young children. Our mission is to support the vocation of motherhood by providing our infants and toddlers a chance to play and pray in a safe and faith-filled environment with their peers. We meet Fridays from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM in the toddler room (Room 5) of Yeazel Hall.

Follow Along

We are so glad you are connected to our community! To get the latest news, photos and stories, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (@holycrossdewitt). Subscribe to our weekly newsletters to get all of the latest content delivered right to your inbox. Visit us online at holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe to connect!



