



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

APRIL 30, 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 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 30, 2023

READINGS

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6

1 Peter 2:20b-25

John 10:1-10

The fourth Sunday of Easter is celebrated as "Good Shepherd Sunday" and after hearing the readings today, we can easily understand why. Good Shepherd Sunday is an invitation for us to reflect on what tremendous love and sacrifice has been shown us by Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

In a particular way, this is also a Sunday where we intentionally pray for priests and those discerning the vocation to the priesthood. We hear proclaimed boldly the incredible standard your priests must live up to as they are called to radically imitate Jesus the High Priest and Good Shepherd. Unlike the priests of the Levitical covenant, Jesus not only makes the offering, he himself became the offering on the cross. Unlike the typi-



The Good Shepherd
James Tissot, 1886-1894

cal shepherd of the time, Jesus throws all concern for himself aside to care for and seek out his sheep. Neither would've made rational sense. Yet the radical laying down of one's life, this seemingly impossible expectation of love is the gateway to finding the fullness of life.

Not only does Jesus teach us this truth in parable, but he actually embodies it.

SEE REFLECTION, PAGE 6

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 29

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

Monday, May 1

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Tuesday, May 2

7:45AM Mary Sinnott Darcy /

John H. Heyer

Wednesday, May 3

7:45AM Donald Raux /

Diane Harrington

Thursday, May 4

7:45AM Ava Woodard† /

Kathy Kotz

Friday, May 5

7:45AM Mass League Intentions

9:15AM School Mass

Saturday, May 6

9:00AM Joan Garbinski / Jo Oliva

4:00PM VIGIL Henry Keller

Sunday, May 7

7:30AM Kris, Phil, & Robert Reid Sr.

/ Family

10:30AM Edward Loftus / Family

5:00PM Ann & Jack Lowney /

Daughters

MASS LEAGUE ENROLLMENT

Chukwudi Okonkwo / Family

Chinyere Okonkwo / Family

[†]Living Intention

News & Events

Food Giving Weekend

NEXT WEEKEND | MAY 7 - 8

Grab a tote this weekend, fill it with non-perishable food items, and bring it back next weekend, April 1 - 2, 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 & Bar Soap
- Feminine Care Products
- Cleaning Products

Sandwich Ministry for Homeless Shelter

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 | 8:15 AM

Please join us in Yeazel Hall following daily Mass on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 8:15 AM, to prepare a variety of sandwiches for the new Catholic Charities Homeless Shelter. For more information please email Julie Johnson at jjohn27363@aol.com.

Knitting Group

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Our next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, May 4 at 1:00 PM downstairs 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.

Monthly Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Join us for lunch at Olive Garden at 3147 Erie Boulevard on Wednesday, May 17 at 12:00 PM. If you plan to attend, please make your reservation by Sunday, May 14. Call Jo Oliva at (315) 446-3328 to make your reservation or if you have any questions.

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!

Celebration of First Eucharist

APRIL 29 - 30 & MAY 6 - 7

Our children preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist will celebrate with our parish families during Masses on the weekends of April 29 - 30 and May 6 - 7. We thank all of our faithful community for your ongoing prayerful support. Be sure to join us in encouraging and celebrating the faith of these children and their families over the next few weeks.



Lucy Grace Albanese
Karli Lynn Alkhouri
Vincent Andrew Bagley
Preston Joseph Balash
Joseph McKeague Brisson
Lauren Mary Brown
Emerson Rose Burns
Hunter Mathew Cameron
Luke Francis Castaneda
Adrian Anthony D'Amico
Tessa Marie DeKay
Livia Alina Diez
Abigail Teresa Dougherty
Connor Nix Dougherty

Eric Daniel Eno
Elliott Michael Farranto
Weston Hendricks Garner
Frances Fiona Harty
Rowen Joseph Harty
Norah Mary Hebert
Grady Philip Hooks
Georgina Margaret Hucul
Kaylee Jean Larned
Lawson Andrew Locke
William Joseph Lynch
Brianna Lynne Messe
Drew Thomas Meyers
Caleb Joshua Moltion

Gabriel Harrison Moskowitz
Andrew Paulus
Luca Joseph Ranieri
Pia Emilia Ricciardiello
Landon James Shaffer
William Mark Soper
Luciana Rose Sorbello
Isabel Sorensen
Sophia Ileana Soury
Katherine Shannon Truex
Thomas John Truex
Adriana Rose Vacco
Olivia Catherine Woiler
Juliana Elizabeth Zogby



THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, MAY 1

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church

TUESDAY, MAY 2

6:45 AM High School FF, Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

8:15 AM Sandwich Making, Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Acts Bible Study, Yeazel Hall

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

6:45 AM Middle School FF, Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

7:00 PM Adoration, Church

7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, MAY 4

7:45 AM Elementary FF, Yeazel Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall

4:00 PM First Eucharist Practice, Church

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

7:00 PM Middle School Group, Yeazel H.

FRIDAY, MAY 5

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

9:00 AM Mom's Group, Room 5

9:15 AM School Mass, Church

SATURDAY, MAY 6

FOOD GIVING WEEKEND

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church

3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, MAY 7

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

5:00 PM Mass, Church

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

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

Jail Ministry Annual Fundraiser Movie Night

"The Hate U Give"
2018 critically
acclaimed drama

Featuring our First Ever
Envelope Challenge!

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

6:00 pm

Park Central Presbyterian
504 East Fayette Street



Visit JailMinistrySyr.org for tickets
Donations encouraged; all are welcome!



FAITH FORMATION RECAP

We are so grateful to all who were able to join us for our Faith Formation Parent Breakfast. We hope you had as much fun as we did!

Parents, you are the key to all we do. We thank you for your commitment to keeping the Faith alive in your family and allowing us to support you in this effort. This year has brought so much joy to each of us—dedicated leaders, teachers, and volunteers—while sharing the faith with your children through our Faith Formation ministry here at Holy Cross. We are honored to be part of your family's faith journey. We pray you too, have shared in some of this joy! Have your kids wear their house shirts next week, it's the final Olympic Games!



Reflection

Continued from page 2

Peter (in the second reading) applies the fulfillment of Isaiah's Servant of the Lord to the sacrificial love that we received from Jesus on the Cross: "Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was insulted, he returned no insult, when he suffered, he did not threaten...he himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

To the rest of the world or even to our own human perspective of this, it is easy for us to see this as nothing but weakness. Really, nothing about imitating this love is attractive to us. However, when you consider the divinity of Jesus, and his ability to have saved us in any way possible...it is incredible that he chose to suffer. He chose not to exercise force or retaliate with violence, but rather he endured unfathomable suffering out of love for us, out of love for you. He wants you to belong to his flock and to know that he is always seeking you. In this paradox, Jesus shows incredible strength to offer his life in this way, and by this 'example' he calls out from us this same level of strength to live differently in this life and to imitate his gift of self. When we pour out ourselves in love for another, rather than losing our life, we find it—this is not weakness, but rather grace-filled, divine strength.

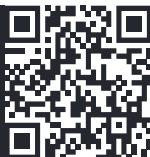
Today on Good Shepherd Sunday, let's respond anew to the invitation to pray fervently that those whom the Lord has called for love and service to his flock, through the ministerial priesthood, may boldly imitate the Good Shepherd. Let's also pray for ourselves that we may learn to recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd more and more who calls all of us to belong to him and to find abundance of life in his flock. Recognizing his voice gives us confidence that we will always know and have his constant protection.

Peace,

Rev. Brenda Foley

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holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe



BAPTISMS

Many blessings to the **Nepil Family** who are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Many blessings to the **Cook Family** who are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

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 23: \$16,331

DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

HOME MISSIONS APPEAL: APRIL 30, 2023

Helpful Info

HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND?

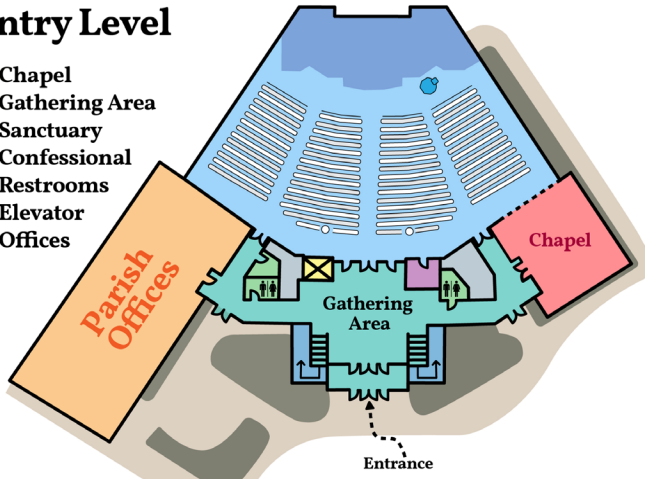
Please notify the parish office (315) 446-0473 when a parishioner or family member is confined to their home, hospitalized, or entering a nursing home, so that clergy may make arrangements for a sick visit.

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.

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

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](https://twitter.com/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!



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