



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires that have ravaged the island of Maui. As a community of faith, we are called to come together and provide unwavering support to those who are suffering. It is in times like these that our collective love, faith, and compassion can make a tremendous difference. Holy Cross is joining many other parishes in our diocese to take up a second collection this weekend to support the relief effort. See more details on page 6.



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, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

READINGS

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

It's hard to believe that last Sunday's remarkable confession of faith from St. Peter about Jesus as the Messiah and today's episode of Peter's equally remarkable misunderstanding of Jesus' identity are in the same exact chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Actually, there are no verses between these two events! In one moment, Peter is experiencing incredible divine understanding, and in the next he has reattached himself to merely human understanding. It is quite intentional on the part of the evangelist who wants us to observe simultaneously the divine promises given to Peter and Peter's human weakness.

Today Jesus gives us a helpful mirror... how often we are immersed in the situations of our lives and we be-

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
subscribe today!

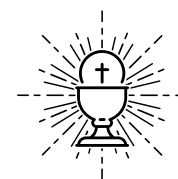


come consumed with resolving all the issues according to what we would assume as logical, or responsible! This of course is not bad, and likely that is what we should do. However, in these situations, do we also pray and ask for the wisdom of the Lord to see things with the eyes of faith, rather than only what we perceive?

Jesus offers the command today that might be one of the most succinct and familiar expressions of the Gospel: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

If we were only to approach Jesus' words from our human perspective, there would be nothing attractive or rational about this command. But rather, it is in the designs of the Divine that this apparent contradiction is, in reality, the path that leads to life. Jesus is not trying to deceive us in this, but truly it is a matter of being invited or led, that continually asks our trust.

SEE REFLECTION, PAGE 4



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 2

4:00PM VIGIL Pauline O'Donnell /
Mary Ellen Brown

Sunday, September 3

7:30AM Deceased Members of the
Colao Family / The Stewart Family
10:30AM David Murano /
Antoinette & Peter Badera
5:00PM Dora Mutone / Daughters

Monday, September 4

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

Tuesday, September 5

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Wednesday, September 6

7:45AM Pamela Hancock /
Delores Petta
7:45AM Dinita Machlin /
Deacon Dare & Marybeth Dutter

Thursday, September 7

7:45AM Joan Garbinski /
John White

Friday, September 8

7:45AM Alyce McNamara

Saturday, September 9

9:00AM Cyprian Okonkwo / Family
4:00PM VIGIL Marly Farnett /
Pilon Family

Sunday, September 10

7:30AM Val / Peter & Donna Zangari
10:30AM Edward Loftus / Family
5:00PM Henry Keller / Mary Duffin

News & Events

Labor Day - Parish Office Closed

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2023

The parish office will be closed Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day. Daily Mass will still take place at 7:45 AM in the church. Please join us!

Sandwich Ministry for Shelter

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 | 8:15 AM

Please join us in Yeazel Hall following daily Mass on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 8:15 AM to prepare a variety of sandwiches for Catholic Charities Homeless Shelter. For more information please email Julie Johnson at jjohn27363@aol.com. Thank you!

Knitting, Needle, & Sewing Group

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 | 1:00 PM

The next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, September 7 at 1:00 PM downstairs in Yeazel Hall. We're always looking for new knitters and are happy to help you learn! Please call Rita at 315-472-1478 or Jo at 315-446-3328 with any questions.

Mass at St. Mary's, Jamesville

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 | 7:00 PM

There will be Mass at St. Mary's Church in Jamesville on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to attend! We hope you can join us.

Food Giving Weekend

SEPTEMBER 9 - 10, 2023

Grab a tote this weekend, fill it with non-perishable food items, and bring it back next weekend, September 9-10. Pantries have emphasized the need of the following:

- Instant Oatmeal Variety
- Children's cereals
- **Peanut Butter** & Jelly
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Canned Tuna
- Dried Beans & Lentils
- Instant Noodles
- Canned Fruit & Veggies
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Soup & Crackers
- Rice & Rice Side Dishes
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash & Bar Soap
- Laundry Detergent (pods)

Refugee Assistance Committee

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 | 6:30 PM

The Refugee Assistance Committee will meet in Yeazel Hall (Rooms 12 and 13) on Monday, September 11 at 6:30 PM. Valerie Hardy from Catholic Charities will present updates to the reconfigured Family Partnership Initiatives as well as new programs to support young children. Some of the new programs may be of interest to those of you seeking regular volunteer opportunities during the day. Please join us to learn about these exciting new opportunities!

Men's Bible Study

BEGINNING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

You're invited to join a group of men from neighboring parishes for a bible study on the Book of John on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM beginning September 12, 2023. The bible study will take place at Our Lady of Hope, 4845 South Salina Street. For more information or if you'd like to sign up, contact Wayne Rheaume by email at One7777@aol.com by phone/text at 315-657-5156.

Monthly Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Join us for lunch at Vito's Ristorante at 320 E First Street in East Syracuse on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 12 PM. If you plan to attend, *please make your reservation by Monday, September 18*. Call Jo Oliva at (315) 446-3328 to make your reservation or if you have any questions.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 | 8 AM - 12 PM

The Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast here at Holy Cross on Sunday, September 17, 2023. The breakfast will run from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM and include pancakes, French toast, home fried potatoes, bacon, sausage, eggs, juice and coffee.

\$12.00/adult, \$7.00/child(7-18), children under 7 free. All proceeds to benefit the youth ministry at Holy Cross.

Reflection

Continued from page 2

What in your life would benefit from you pausing to ask for divine wisdom or the ability to see from a greater, divine perspective? Is the Lord inviting you to a deeper level of trust or patience that might be his helping you to carry a particular cross offering you freedom of life even here and now? Are the prayers of your heart echoing the sentiment of Jeremiah today? Are you feeling discouraged or “duped” by the Lord?

Jesus reveals today that his suffering is not only unavoidable, but that it is also not an end in itself. He himself says that his cross will end in him “being raised.” It takes the wisdom of the Lord for us to be able to have confidence that this is true even for you and me. May we find consolation and intimacy knowing we share a deep communion with the Lord in his own Passion when we find in our own sufferings, as St. Paul says today, the mercy of God. With the help of God’s love and grace, let’s offer our bodies as living sacrifices, as worship to the Lord, confident that he is always guiding us toward eternal life (cf. Romans 12:1-2).

Peace,

Rev. Brunda Foley

School News

JOIN US FOR HOLY CROSS SCHOOL 65TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Calling all alumni & parents of alumni!

This year marks 65 years of Holy Cross School being open! We are inviting all of our alumni (and parents of alumni) to come back to Holy Cross School and celebrate with us on Saturday, September 23, 2023! There will be live music from an alumnus's band, food from your favorite Syracuse eateries, a cash bar*, prizes and lots of memories and stories to be shared. Come see how Holy Cross continues to build on the legacy of so many of our amazing faculty, staff, students, and families. We hope you can join us in celebrating the past, appreciating the present, and looking forward to a bright future at Holy Cross School! **Please note this event is for guests 21 and over.*



Get your tickets today at hcschooldewitt.org/celebration

Around town

Check out these local events happening in our community and in our diocese.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

SEPTEMBER 15-17 | CANANDAIGUA, NY

Enrich your marriage with some time away with your spouse. Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are a space for you to pause, reflect, and reconnect privately. They give busy couples much needed time together to focus on each other and deepen their communication. Learn practical tools for improving communication, and connecting to a wider community of people who support marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is planned for September 15-17 in Canandaigua, NY. For more info, call Mike and Kathy Williams 585-872-5432 or visit wwwme.org.

BIKE FOR BRADY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 | BRADY FARM

Kevin Frank, Director of Brady and two dedicated donors will be biking across New York State from Buffalo to NYC on the Empire State Trail to raise money for the Brady Faith Center, Brady Market, and Brady Farm. That’s 560 miles!

We need your help! Please help us reach our goal of \$70,000 to fund our Mission of Hope, Health and Healing. Get to know us at bradyfaithcenter.org and come in for a personal visit to 404 South Ave.

Participate in our Bike and Walk for Brady event on September 16 and our “God Love Ya” Awards Breakfast on October 22. God bless!



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for

Paige Billy & Patrick King

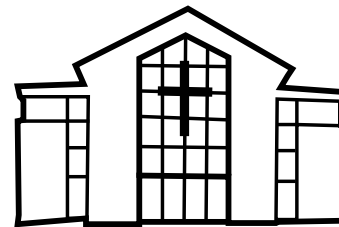
who will celebrate their wedding
at Holy Cross on **September 3, 2023.**



"Awaken your heart
to the Eucharistic love
of His Heart"

Parish Eucharistic Revival

- Bus pilgrimage Saturday, October 21 to Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville. Return registration and payment to the Parish Office by 9/22/2023. (www.nyseucharisticcongress.org)
- Read Bishop Robert Barron's book, *This is My Body*, with fellow parishioners and discuss at small group gatherings. Copies available in the church entrance/exits.
- Watch for news on the upcoming video and discussion study, *Jesus in the Eucharist*
- Celebration of the Eucharist at the Feast Day Mass of Blessed Carlo Acutis on October 12, 2023 at 5:30 PM.
- Stop in anytime to pray in the church and chapel at your convenience when the church is open.
- Learn more about this year of the Parish Eucharistic Revival (an awakening) at www.eucharisticrevival.org.
- Questions, suggestions, comments? Please email info@holycrossdewitt.org



Youth Faith Formation

SIGN UP TODAY!

Registration is now open for our youth & family programs for the 2023-2024 school year including Faith Formation and Sacramental Prep.

Learn more & register at holycrossdewitt.org/youth

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation classes are available for students in grades 1-12 and take place one day a week before school and include breakfast and busing to schools in JD Central School District. *Register before Sept. 10 to get your free house shirt!*

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Youth discipleship builds on the intellectual foundation found in Faith Formation and creates opportunities for fellowship and deeper spiritual growth. Youth discipleship groups for middle school and high school students are usually bi-weekly throughout the school year and also include some fun events and trips. Contact Steve (steve@holycrossdewitt.org) for info.

FIRST COMMUNION PREP - 2ND GRADE

Preparation and celebration for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist is a complementary process that typically take place during a child's second grade year. First Penance is celebrated in the fall, and First Eucharist is then celebrated in the spring. *Deadline to register is September 10, 2023*

**A prerequisite to First Penance and First Eucharist Prep is that students have attended and continue to attend a Catholic school or participated in a Faith Formation program in first grade and continue to participate.*

CONFIRMATION PREP - 10TH GRADE

Confirmation preparation takes place during a teen's sophomore year of high school. *Deadline to register is September 24, 2023.* To learn more and to register, visit holycrossdewitt.org/cdp

**A prerequisite to Confirmation Prep is that students have attended and continue to attend a Catholic school or participated in a Faith Formation program in ninth grade and continue to participate during prep year.*

Giving

“For it is in giving that we receive.”

- ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires that have ravaged the island of Maui. As a community of faith, we are called to come together and provide unwavering support to those who are suffering. It is in times like these that our collective love, faith and compassion can make a tremendous difference. Bishop Lucia is inviting all parishes to take up a second collection for Maui Relief. Checks can be made out to **Diocese of Syracuse - Maui Relief** and mailed to the Finance Office, 240 East Onondaga Street, Syracuse New York 13202. The funds will be sent to The Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation which is a 501(c)(3) non profit corporation to support parish and school communities. Contributions will go directly to HCCF to support relief efforts for community members affected by the wildfires.

FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED:	\$19,704.88
COLLECTION FOR AUGUST 27:	\$16,414.50
RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT:	\$9,39400



DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

MAUI RELIEF FUND	SEPTEMBER 3
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA	SEPTEMBER 10

Helpful Info

HOLY CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

If you have important news & events related to the activities, ministries, and parishioners of Holy Cross Church & School and would like to be included in this publication or on our website, 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 on our prayer list. The request will be included for three months unless notified otherwise.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Margaret Blanchfield, Karlyn Bogdan, Harry Cooper, Kathleen Crouch, Margaret Driscoll-Cheah, Ann Kronner, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Liz and Tony Mollica, Faith Muller, Nancy Patane, Kathy Thompson, John Toole, Sharon and Joseph Wegzyn

THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

7:45 AM Mass, Church

8:15 AM Sandwich Making, Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Exit Interviews, Youth Room

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

FIRST DAY HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

3:30 PM Exit Interviews, Church

7:00 PM Adoration, Church

7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

9:00 AM Safe Environment, Yeazel Hall

1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall

6:00 PM Safe Environment, Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Rooms 1-8

7:00 PM Mass at St. Mary's, Jamesville

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

5:00 PM Holy Cross School Family Picnic

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

HOPE APPEAL KICKOFF

FOOD GIVING WEEKEND

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church

3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

HOPE APPEAL KICKOFF

FOOD GIVING WEEKEND

7:30 AM Mass, Church

9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Room 12-13

10:30 AM Mass, Church

5:00 PM Mass, Church

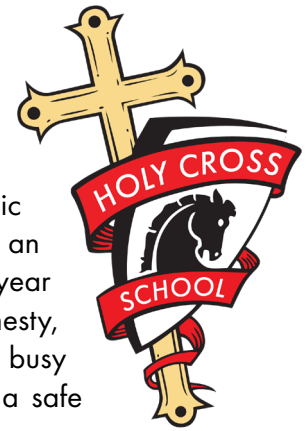
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subscribe to the weekly brief



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](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!



[@holycrossdewitt](https://twitter.com/holycrossdewitt)

