



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

S E P T E M B E R 1 7 , 2 0 2 3

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



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@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 17, 2023

READINGS

Sirach 27:30–28:7

Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35

This week, in the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, we consider the concepts of forgiveness and mercy. It is hard to think of a more important topic in God's eyes than that of His children learning to treat one another with total and complete forgiveness for whatever wrongs we may have done to each other.

Our readings speak to the truths of mercy and forgiveness. Sirach tells us about the destructive power of anger and vengeance, noting that they take us farther away from the mercy of God. Jesus' coming to earth as a human is all about mercy and gives us a path toward salvation, but only if we are able to emulate him in offering mercy to others. The fact is, that if we do not embrace God's generous

Sunday Reflections
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mercy, we not only shut off the fountain of mercy that comes to us from God, but we also bring even greater misery down on ourselves.

In the Gospel from Matthew, we see mercy in action, as well as a lack of mercy. After being relieved of his debt by his merciful master, a servant goes out and refuses to forgive another servant, putting him in prison. This lack of mercy on the part of the first servant causes his master to rescind the mercy he had shown him and putting him in jail. In the same way, God will show us mercy only if we show mercy to others around us.

We may have legitimate reasons for holding a grudge against someone who wronged us in our past. The point of our readings is that despite the legitimacy of our anger or bitterness, God wants us to show forgiveness and mercy to those who have harmed us. Somehow, we need to move away from our anger and find

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 16

4:00PM VIGIL Sean Samilis /
Jim & Terry Dooher
Dinita Machlin / Emma & Katie
Deehan

Sunday, September 17

7:30AM Danny Vito /
Peter & Donna Zangari
10:30AM Elizabeth Miller /
Mary Kay & Jim Moore
5:00PM Frank J. Culley /
Simone Pacilio

Monday, September 18

7:45AM Phyllis E. Hegney /
Joe & Diana Evans

Tuesday, September 19

7:45AM Joseph Trovini /
Lynn & Jerry Lowe

Wednesday, September 20

7:45AM Crystal Hall /
Dympna Callaghan
7:45AM Eileen Ferrara /
Deacon Dare & Mary Beth Dutter

Thursday, September 21

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Friday, September 22

7:45AM Theresa DeSantis /
Kathy Kotz

Saturday, September 23

9:00AM Richard & Margaret Ingraham (Living Intention)
4:00PM VIGIL Patricia Russo / Family

Sunday, September 24

7:30AM John Duran /
Peter & Donna Zangari
10:30AM Pat Bombard / Children
5:00PM Tara Angeli-Johnson /
sJane & Jack Smyth

News & Events

Sandwich Ministry for Men's Shelter

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 | 8:15 AM

Please join us in Yeazel Hall following Daily Mass on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 8:15 AM to prepare PB&J sandwiches for the Catholic Charities Men's Shelter. Volunteers are most needed for this ministry. We want to be able to continue to send these needed sandwiches to the shelter each month. Coffee will be available. Contact the parish office with any questions (315-446-0473).

Coffee & Conversation

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Join us Tuesday, September 19 from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for Coffee & Conversation. Special guest speaker, Eric Shuler, will be joining us for a presentation, The Three Moms! Bring your bagged lunch and drink.

Knitting, Needle, & Sewing Group

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 | 1:00 PM

The next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, September 21 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.

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, September 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. **Please note the change in date.*

Holy Cross School Alumni Celebration

POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING

Our Alumni Celebration will be postponed and combined with our annual Auction event this upcoming spring! We hope you will be able to join us!

Pastoral Council Elections

WEEKEND MASSES SEPTEMBER 23-24

Nominations for new council members have been received and elections will be during Masses the weekend of September 23-24. Candidate profiles are available for distribution and can be found online. Visit our website at holycrossdewitt.org/hcpc to learn more.

Refugee Assistance Committee

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 | 6:30 PM

The Refugee Assistance Committee will meet on Monday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. in Yeazel Hall. We will be discussing new and exciting opportunities to assist refugees newly arriving in our area. Catholic Charities has several different options to choose from. We'd love to have you join us in this important and worthwhile activity!

Monthly Movie

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Join us on Tuesday, September 26 at 1:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for a free viewing of *Do You Believe?* When a pastor is shaken by the visible faith of a street corner preacher, he is reminded that true belief always requires action. His response ignites a journey that impacts everyone it touches in ways that only God could orchestrate. A dozen different souls, all moving in different directions, all longing for something more. Refreshments provided.

A Note of Thanks

We want to thank Susan Jereb for all of her hard work in organizing and coordinating our food donation ministry. Susan and her team of volunteers (and your generous donations) have been instrumental in helping those in our community in need. Susan will be moving away from the Syracuse area this month, and we will dearly miss her but know we are always connected through our Catholic faith and wish her very well. Thank you Susan! God bless.

Follow along on Instagram & Facebook for more!

  [@holycrossdewitt](https://www.instagram.com/holycrossdewitt)

2023 Annual HOPE Appeal



The HOPE Appeal is the annual giving campaign of the Diocese of Syracuse. Every year the programs and services supported by the HOPE Appeal touch countless lives in every city, town, and rural area in our diocese. When the goal of the HOPE Appeal is achieved, we ensure that these programs will receive the funding that is needed. Please take a moment to view this year's HOPE Appeal video and our allocation of funds to see how your gift makes a difference in the lives of so many.

OUR PARISH GOAL

Father Kurgan is asking all parishioners to contribute to this year's HOPE Appeal. If we all give, we will easily meet Holy Cross's HOPE Appeal goal of \$92,649. If we exceed our goal, 100 percent of the excess will be returned directly to our parish. In an effort to meet our goal, Fr. Kurgan is asking every family in the parish to consider a gift of \$325.00 (less than \$0.90 a day or \$27.00 a month). If you are able to contribute more, I strongly encourage you to do so. Your gift, no matter the size, whether it is a pledge or a one-time gift, is important.

ARE HOPE APPEAL DONATIONS USED FOR THE COSTS OF THE SETTLEMENT WITH THE VICTIMS TRUST?

No. 100% of the monies raised by the HOPE Appeal are restricted for use for the ministries and programs of the diocese listed in the HOPE Appeal brochure and on the diocesan website.

WHAT TYPES OF GIFTS ARE ACCEPTED?

Types of gifts accepted: cash, check (made payable to HOPE Appeal) credit card payment online at www.syracusediocese.org/hopeappeal, credit card payment over the phone (315-472-0203), and for gift of securities please contact the Foundation office at 315-472-0203.

Reflection

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a way to forgive these people. It takes a lot of faith for us to trust that in the fullness of time, the Lord will avenge us, as He has promised to do. Let us always remember that it is part of God's plan to reward those who are merciful and punish those who seek revenge for any wrong they may have experienced. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Peace,
Deacon Dare



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Many blessings to our families who are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Outreach

Parish Team at Samaritan Center

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FALL

The Samaritan Center is an interfaith effort of community members committed to serving the hungry and those in need in order to promote their welfare dignity and self sufficiency.

Join our team of parishioners that prepare and serve a meal on Sunday afternoons at the Samaritan Center. Holy Cross teams provide & serve the meal about once a month. Prep shifts start at 11:30 AM and meals begin at 12:30 PM. Clean up is usually concluded by 3:00 PM.

All are welcome to participate in this meaningful and important outreach program. Often families will choose to do prep shift together and many students who use this opportunity to fulfill any necessary service hours.

Dates for our parish team:

- **Sunday, September 17, 2023**
- **Sunday, October 29, 2023**
- **Sunday, November 5, 2023**

To join our team of volunteers on specific date and time or if you have any questions, contact Rick Coughlin at philiprcoughlin@gmail.com



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

Parish Eucharistic Revival

BISHOP BARRON BOOK STUDY

Bishop Robert Barron's book, *This is My Body*, is being distributed in the church entrances. Holy Cross will host book studies led by Dc Dare Dutter. If you would like to join, please sign-up in the church vestibule.

- Our morning group will meet Tuesdays 10 - 11:30 AM September 19, 26 and October 3
- The evening group will meet Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:00 pm September 13, 20 and 27.
- Three chapters in three weeks! Please join us!
- And for those for whom weekends are better, Dc Dare will schedule this book study soon. Watch for details.

Keep checking back for details each week on ways to connect with Jesus in the Eucharist especially during this time of Parish Revival! God bless and find more info at holycrossdewitt.org/Eucharist



CONFIRMATION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 | 4:00 PM

On Saturday evening, during the vigil Mass, thirty-four candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Holy Cross Church by Bishop Cunningham. Confirmation brings us the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Wonder and Awe. We pray that our Confirmation candidates allow these gifts to flourish within them. When the gifts of the Spirit are welcomed into our being we recognize the Fruits of the Spirit, and we experience the joy and peace that comes from walking with our God. Please pray for our Confirmandi, and thank you Bishop Cunningham for joining us!

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ryan Babikian | Sophia Kosty |
| Kyle Broschart | Colin Krupa |
| Sean Broschart | Andrew Laubenstein |
| Emily Bulone | Broderick Leiker |
| Olivia Conley | Luke Patchen |
| Michael Conover | Olivia Quackenbush |
| Bryce Dadey | Declan Reed |
| Alaina DiBiase | Nathaniel Richer |
| Griffon Filighera | Kian Sarmast |
| Maxwell Fisher | Donovan Scullion |
| Alyssa Forgione | William Sherman |
| Garrett Fuller | Hannah Trevisani |
| Eamon Giblin | Kevin Vigneault |
| Kaitlin Hougland | Catherine Walters |
| Claire Hunt | Lillian Wells |
| Meghan Kenna | Dylan Wolfanger |
| Benjamin Kenna | |

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



FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED:	\$19,704.88
COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 3:	\$20,191.00
COLLECTION FOR MAUI RELIEF:	\$1,225.00
COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 10:	\$17,107.00

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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.

FREE LIBRARY/ BOOK SWAP

Check out our free library and book swap area downstairs in the right rear corner of Yeazel Hall. All books are free to take and include titles for a variety of topics and for all age levels.

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 18

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church
5:00 PM Team Leader's Meeting, 9-10

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

7:45 AM Mass, Church
10:00 AM Book Study, Yeazel Hall
12:00 PM Coffee & Conversation, Y. Hall

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
12:00 PM Monthly Luncheon, Vito's
5:30 AM Baron Book Study, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Adoration, Church
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
7:00 PM Choir Practice, Choir Room
7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Conference Room

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:45 AM DPC Meeting, Yeazel Hall
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

7:30 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Room 12-13
10:30 AM Mass, Church
5:00 PM Mass, Church

Get the latest event details at
holycrossdewitt.org/events



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)

