



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 15, 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, OCTOBER 15, 2023

READINGS

Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22:1-14

Over the last few Sundays we've had several parables to digest and apply to our lives and again today we continue this same pursuit! But like our probable distance from owning and operating a vineyard (last Sunday), our familiarity with the practices of weddings and wedding feasts in biblical times is also a bit removed from our present experience. As is the case with this wedding feast, there were stages of invitations to say when it would be, and another to proclaim when it was ready, and this celebration was welcome to not just family and friends, but entire towns and villages (imagine the costs!). What is the intention for us today? All of Jesus' parables have an element of shock to wake us up and invite a response from us.

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
subscribe today!



Biblical Scholars / Commentators, Curtis Mitch and Edward Sri, give us a few "I"s to consider that I think are quite helpful after hearing today's gospel reading. Overall, the parable of the wedding feast pertains to our response to God's invitation and call to relationship. It cautions us first to the dangers of indifference or a lack of enthusiasm to answer. When God the Father invites us into relationship with his Son, Jesus, in freedom, we either choose to respond or we decline and go about our own way or our own plan as though nothing has changed, no new demands on our lives, etc. Let's ask the Lord to strengthen our hearts against indifference to his voice.

Additionally, the parable highlights a danger of indignation. It's not difficult to find others around us who might fight or reject the idea that we are all sinners in need of a savior—or even to hear and receive the call for repentance leads us to think

SEE REFLECTION, PAGE 5

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 14

4:00PM VIGIL Gertrude Kersting /
Bernadette Tierney & Charles Kelly

Sunday, October 15

7:30AM Dave Krisch /
Peter & Donna Zangari
10:30AM Domenic Urciuoli /
Tom & Patty Quartier
5:00PM Lillian Maio / Jo Oliva

Monday, October 16

7:45AM Frank J. Culley /
Renee & Austin McDonald

Tuesday, October 17

7:45AM Edna Cecile Chovan /
Caryn Scuderi

Wednesday, October 18

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Thursday, October 19

7:45AM Frank J. Culley /
Jody & Mark Schappertn

Friday, October 20

7:45AM Barbara Hayes /
Tony & Kay Sgarlata

Saturday, October 21

9:00AM Irene M. VanNess /
Virginia Belge
4:00PM VIGIL Dory Firley /
Lisa A. Langan & Marnie Hall

Sunday, October 22

7:30AM Eileen Ferrara /
Ed & Lola Gualteri
10:30AM Alan Haley /
Loretta Nowicki
5:00PM Maureen McManus /
Holy Cross Parishioner

News & Events

Coffee & Conversation

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Join us Tuesday, October 17 from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for Coffee & Conversation. Come ready to make Rosaries for yourself and for our school children. Volunteers from the CNY Marian Center will be here to help. Refreshments will be served.

Knitting, Needle, & Sewing Group

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Our next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, October 19 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.

Rosary and Reception

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 | 6:00 PM

Join us at Holy Cross Church on Thursday evening October 26 at 6:00 PM for a special opportunity to pray the Rosary led by Deacon Dare Dutter and then enjoy some refreshments at a light reception to follow.

Monthly Movie

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023 | 1:00 PM

Join us in Yeazel Hall for our monthly movie at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, October 31. Refreshments provided.

FOCUS Seek 2024

JANUARY 1-5, 2024 | ST. LOUIS, MO

FOCUS Seek is a national Catholic youth conference for college-aged and young adults. It draws over 30,000 young people and hosts some of the nations best speakers and talent. This year's conference will take place in St. Louis, MO and Fr. Foley will be leading a group from our area. Cost is \$500 per participant and includes hotel, conference fees, flights, and lunches. Open to college students and those in their 20s. Registration deadline is October 19, 2023. Visit holycrossdewitt.org/seek24



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

JOIN US FOR MASS: 10:30AM

Holy Cross Church & School is excited to invite you, your family, and your friends to the Holy Cross Fall Festival! **Come rain or shine!** Join us for 10:30 AM Sunday Mass. Following Mass, head over to Holy Cross School for food, fun, and games.

FREE FOOD, FUN, & GAMES: 11:30AM - 2:00PM

The festival kicks off after Mass at 11:30 AM and runs to about 2:00 PM. The festival will take place at Holy Cross School. There will be a **FREE** BBQ including pulled pork from Brewster Inn, delicious fall treats like pies, cakes, and scrumptious sides! Come bounce around on some incredible inflatables, watch the dodgeball tournament for middle and high school students, and enjoy fun activities like face painting and some exciting entertainment.

PARTICIPATION WAIVER

Please note that this year a parent must sign a waiver before their child can participate on any inflatables. Sign it ahead of time at holycrossdewitt.org/festival or sign a copy at to the event.

WEAR YOUR HOUSE SHIRT!

Faith Formation, Sacramental Prep, and all Holy Cross School students should have their House shirt (if not, pick yours up at the festival). New to the Houses? Learn more at holycrossdewitt.org/youth#family-fun

VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in volunteering at the event, please contact Julie Sheridan at julie@holycrossdewitt.org. We are looking for help with setup on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, clean up after the event Sunday afternoon, serving food and drinks, and supervising the inflatables. Please let us know if you'd like to help.

Around town

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



**SYRACUSE
CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S
CONFERENCE**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 AT THE ONCENTER

The Syracuse Catholic Women's Commission invites all women to the Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference on November 11 at the OnCenter starting at 7:30 AM. The theme this year is, "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done: Preparing for His Eucharistic Reign" and features speakers Immaculee Ilibagiza (survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide and one of the world's leading speakers on faith, hope, and forgiveness), Daniel O'Connor (theologian and professor of philosophy, renowned for his message on the reign of the Divine Will), and Fr. Joseph Esper of the Archdiocese of Detroit (prolific author and speaker on prophecy, spiritual preparation, and the battle for our souls.)

The event will also include Mass with Bishop Lucia, Confession, the Rosary, Brown Scapular enrollment, Adoration, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, plated luncheon, and shopping. Cost is \$55.

- Register with our Holy Cross Group Table 4 Ten, by contacting the parish office or parish coordinator Kathy Kotz at 315-569-390 or register individually at syracusecatholicwomen.org. Deadline for registration is November 1, 2023.

A Journey of Faith:

Coming Back to the Catholic Church

WEDNESDAY, NOV 8 AT ST. PAT'S, CHITTENANGO

Hear St. Patrick's parishioner Jim Herlihy tell the story of his personal journey of faith – growing up in a Catholic family, moving away from his faith as a younger man, becoming a longstanding member of another Church, to his return to the Catholic Church. Join us for Jim's interesting talk and discussion on Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00PM in St. Patrick's Parish Center, Chittenango, NY.

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

Parish Eucharistic Revival

JESUS & THE EUCHARIST STUDY

Starting this week, Jesus and the Eucharist video discussion study will begin. This study is a collaboration of Augustine Institute with the National Eucharistic Revival. Every parish across the country is invited to host the Jesus and the Eucharist study during the Year of Parish Revival. This seven session series will immerse participants in the kerygmatic Gospel proclamation (Sessions 1–4) and unveil God's saving work in the Eucharist (Sessions 5–7).

Each session opens with an exhortation from a different bishop, followed by lectio divina prayer with Sacred Scripture. The main lesson is drawn from content created by the Augustine Institute and will include personal testimonies from Catholics across the country. We will then transition into small group discussions.

The small group discussions will draw upon our own faith journeys. There are two parts to each session so it moves and the study is designed to move in a timely manner. Scheduled dates are: Oct. 19 and 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16 and 30, and Dec. 7 from 9:30AM - 11:30AM. Sign up in the vestibule or reginaharty33@gmail.com.

Sr. Katie Eiffe, CSJ, is facilitating a retreat at Christ the King Retreat House, God's Gift of Self in the Eucharist, 10/27-28. To register call 315-446-2680 or online www.ctkretreat.com

Reflection

Continued from page 2

that our personal happiness in this life or our deepest desires are threatened somehow, we might not have a willingness to change or grow. Naturally we can feel defensive or hostile toward anyone who challenges us with the authentic claims of the Gospel. Let's ask the Lord to help us to live, not in a space of indignation, but rather docility and trust toward the Gospel.

The last important warning we receive is toward incomplete conversion. The man in the parable who enters the wedding without the wedding garment had neither ignored nor refused the invitation to come to the wedding feast, but yet, his 'yes' to respond has not carried all the way through his life. We might say he wanted the good things of the kingdom (or the wedding feast) but not enough to clean himself up or break from his old ways. Let's ask the Lord to help us to see that we are all ongoing in our conversions and that this is not something to be afraid of but will lead to our embracing the fullness of life and friendship with God.

While these "I"s might provoke some discomfort within us, we have the additional assurances in our other readings today that God is generous and chooses to lavish his grace upon us in abundances (cf. Isa 25). St. Paul doubles down for us and says, "My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Phil 4:19). When we choose to live in communion with God and respond to his friendship rather than struggle for everything on our own strength, we receive the fullness of freedom, life, and love from a God who will never cease to provide for our needs both now and in eternity.

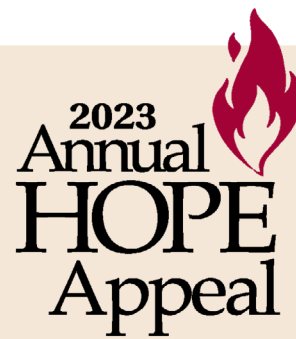
Peace,



Men's Group

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 | 7:00 PM

Catholic Men! If you are interested in exploring your spirituality through reading works by great Catholic writers, then the Holy Cross Men's group is for you! We meet on Thursday evenings in the office conference room at 7 PM. Contact Dc. Dare at dare@holycrossdewitt.org



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.

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 OCTOBER 8: \$18,936.25

UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY OCTOBER 22

Get this bulletin in your inbox;
subscribe to the weekly brief



Helpful Info

HOLY CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

If you have 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 on our prayer list. The request will be included for three months unless notified otherwise.

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER?

If you are planning on going away this winter, please contact the parish office at (315) 446-0473 or info@holycrossdewitt.org so we can pause your envelopes. You will need to provide your name, address, and the dates you will be leaving and returning.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

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

THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

6:45 AM HS Faith Formation, Yeazel Hall
7:45 AM Mass, Church
8:15 AM Sandwich Making, Yeazel Hall
12:00 PM Coffee & Conversation, Yeazel Hall
6:30 PM PTO Meeting, Yeazel Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

6:45 AM MS Faith Formation, Yeazel Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
5:30 PM Alpha, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Adoration, Church
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:45 AM Elementary Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:30 AM Jesus & the Eucharist, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Men's Group, Conference Room
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Room 1

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:00 AM Bishop Grimes Retreat, Y. Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

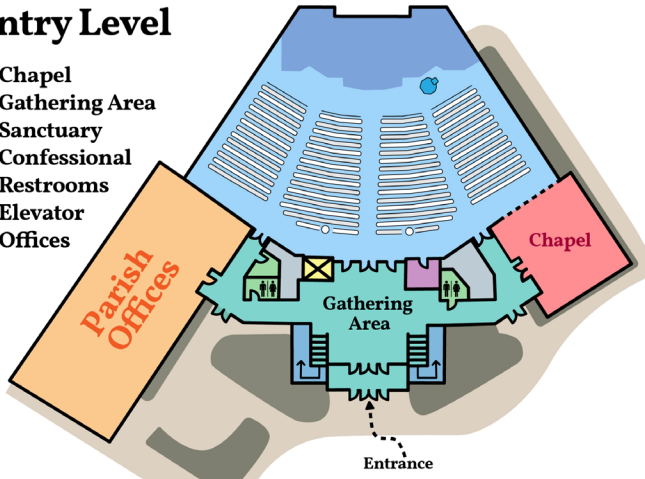
7:30 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Room 12-13
10:30 AM Mass, Church
11:30 AM Fall Festival, Holy Cross School
5:00 PM Mass, Church

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!



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

