



**HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

# THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

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



# 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](http://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, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

### READINGS

Wisdom 6:12-16  
Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

For the past few Sundays, the scripture readings have caused us to reflect on the nature of the Kingdom of God. We have seen the kingdom described as a community focused on justice, working together in the vineyard of God. We will be beneficiaries of the great banquet provided to us by God. This banquet is one, which we could never gain for ourselves; we can only accept it and enjoy it as pure gift!

What is the goal of the kingdom? In the scripture readings today, we see our attention shifting toward the end time. Early Christians thought that the kingdom would be upon them during their lifetime. As the death of early Christians continued, faithful followers began to ask what is the

Sunday Reflections  
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kingdom. Is it something that we only experience after our death? The answer is no. We experience the Kingdom of God here and now, but only in part. We know that the kingdom is here, but not fully here. There is more to come!

As we begin our transition toward the end of the liturgical year, our minds may come to thoughts of our own death, when will it come, what will it be like, is there more for us?

St. Paul assures us that what Christ has said is true. Christ has died; he has risen; Christ will come again, and all the faithful will join him. How this happens, we do not know, and we do not need to know. In what seems like a world of endless questioning, two things are for sure, death will come to all of us, and when it does, Christ will be there to escort us to our final reward!

Peace,

*Rev. John Hergon*

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, November 11

4:00PM VIGIL Durwood H. Cook / Margaret Cook

### Sunday, November 12

7:30AM James F. Collins / Wife/Children  
10:30AM Joseph Wilczynski / Carol Dwyer  
5:00PM Keith J. & Hall / Elaine Lostumbo

### Monday, November 13

7:45AM Joanne Piston / Jeff Owens & Lisa Mitchell

### Tuesday, November 14

7:45AM Clara Macri / Sue & Joe Bombard

### Wednesday, November 15

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

### Thursday, November 16

7:45AM Tecla D'Casta / Claudette Alten  
7:45AM Eileen Ferrara / Deacon Dare & Mary Beth Dutter

### Friday, November 17

7:45AM Matthew Muldowney / Family

### Saturday, November 18

9:00AM Jared Mace (Living Intention) / Mother, Sherry Mace  
4:00PM VIGIL Christian Hall / Maureen Hall & Family

### Sunday, November 19

7:30AM Irene M. VanNess / Alice & Bill Brandt  
10:30AM Dora & Vincenzo Mutone / Daughters  
5:00PM Lenora Stach / Jerome & Ellen Pristash

# News & Events

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## - A PRAYER FOR VETERANS DAY -

Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

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## Altar Server Recognition

### WEEKEND MASSES

This weekend all parishes in the Diocese of Syracuse are invited to recognize and celebrate their Altar Servers. We at Holy Cross are so grateful to our Altar Servers and their faithful service to our liturgy!

John Paul II said, "Your commitment to the altar is not only a duty but a great honor, a true holy service...Therefore in the liturgy you are far more than mere 'helpers of the parish priest.' Above all, you are servants of Jesus Christ, the eternal High Priest. Thus you altar servers especially are called to be young friends of Jesus. Strive to deepen and foster this friendship with him. You will discover that in Jesus you have found a true friend for life." Know someone interested in being an Altar Server? Contact the parish office to get connected.

## Needlework Group

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023 | 1:00 PM**

The next needlework (knitting, sewing, quilting, etc.) gathering will be on Thursday, November 16 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.

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## Here Come the Holidays Luncheon

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023 | 12:00 PM**

Save the date for our "Here Come the Holidays Luncheon!" catered by the Brewster Inn. Join us in Yeazel Hall on Saturday, November 18 at 12:00 PM for a mouthwatering meal and some cordial companions. This year we are moving up our Holiday Luncheon to alleviate some of the busyness of December and catch anyone who might be flying south for the winter. Cost is \$28/person. RSVP to Jo Oliva at 315-446-3328.

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## Thanksgiving Day Mass

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2023 | 9:00 AM**

Please join us for this special liturgy and Blessing of Bread on Thanksgiving Day. All will be invited during the closing hymn to take a loaf of fresh, homemade bread to share with family and friends at your Thanksgiving table. Know that we are so grateful for you and your family.

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## Holy Cross School Nativity Play

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023 | 9:30 AM**

Students at Holy Cross School are faithfully preparing for their upcoming performance of a nativity musical, *The First Christmas*. Kindergarten students are getting into their roles as characters. Fourth grade students will be singing and narrating, and our fifth and sixth grade students will be caroling. The Holy Cross School community joyfully invites you to come experience the story of the first Christmas as told through the heartwarming voices of our amazing students. So save the date and plan to join us at Holy Cross Church on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 9:30 AM for the Holy Cross School Nativity Play.



## Parish Eucharistic Revival

### THE MASS: SILENCE BEFORE MASS

“The General Instruction for the Roman Missal says that there should be a quiet opportunity in the church for the faithful to prepare prayerfully for the Holy Mass (GIRM, 45). During this time before Mass, you can recall the great gifts and graces God has given you since you last came to church. This silence also provides the opportunity to reflect on the generosity of our loving Father and to prepare to thank Him in the worship of the Mass. In addition to thankfulness, you might also recognize any needs you have—you might talk to God about any difficulties, stresses, or anxieties you are experiencing and offer them to the Lord, asking for His help and grace.”

“It can be difficult to enter into this time of silence to help prepare for Mass, especially if we have not yet made it a habit. If you are short on time, Charles Belmonte encourages you to pray on the way to Mass. He writes, “Prepare your soul for Communion with acts of love of God. Make acts of contrition and atonement... pray for the priest that he may truly minister to the needs of the parish. Pray for the congregation... pray that you may understand what you yourself will be taught at Mass” (Understanding the Mass, p 38). Belmonte goes on to also encourage a review of the readings and prayers of the Mass ahead of time. Being familiar with these will also help you to be more attentive and unite your personal prayer more fruitfully with the Mass.”

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog, Fr. Luke Spanggel, December 2, 2022 – [eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org)

### ADORATION

Opportunities for Adoration at Holy Cross Church:  
Monday morning 8:15 AM in the Adoration Chapel  
Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM in the church  
Praying in the church or Adoration Chapel anytime church is open, weekdays 9AM - 3PM.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



## Giving Tree at Holy Cross

### BEGINNING NOVEMBER 25

We know it's a little ways off, but we are already planning our Advent & Christmas seasons. Once again this year we will host our 40th annual Holy Cross Giving Tree! This year we will provide gifts and gift cards to 8 local agencies that work with those in need in our community. Gift tags will be available on the trees in the Gathering Area starting Saturday, November 25. Please plan to return your unwrapped gift/gift card with the tag attached by 11:00 AM on Sunday, December 10. Thank you for continuing to be the caring and generous community for which Holy Cross is known.

## SCHOOL NEWS



### School Poinsettia Sale

#### ORDERS DUE NOVEMBER 19

We are excited to announce the return of the Holy Cross School Christmas Poinsettia sale! This year, Holy Cross School's Caring Crusaders will be selling the poinsettias and all proceeds will be donated to those in need. Please find order forms in the Gathering Area and return to the drop box or any of the collections boxes. Get your orders in as soon as possible; bring them back to Mass next week.

Stay tuned for updates. At the end of the sale the Caring Crusaders will be excited to share with the parish community just exactly how they spread joy to those less fortunate during the Christmas season of giving.

Caring Crusaders is a group of 5th and 6th grade students with a mission of serving others. The students research, organize, and plan service projects for the entire school community to support.

**Follow Holy Cross School on Instagram  
to see more! @hcschooldewitt**





**PRAYING FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Our youth celebrated All Souls' Day in a special way. They learned about heaven, hell, purgatory and praying for the dead. Then after lighting candles for their loved ones, Fr. Foley led them in a liturgy and rosary walk through the cemetery, praying for the dead. Pray for our high school students who are away on retreat this weekend. If you'd like to learn more about youth events, contact Steve Nepil at [steve@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:steve@holycrossdewitt.org).



**ALL SAINTS' DAY AT HOLY CROSS**

All Hallows' Eve, All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day. This time of year, we remember the dead, including martyrs, saints, and all faithful departed Christians. We don't take for granted that our school community has the ability to celebrate these festivals, follow our call to holiness, and remember those that have gone before us.

**CONGRATULATIONS DR. PAUL SANSONE**

Dr. Paul Sansone is completing his second year in the Deacon Formation Program. He received the Rites of Reader last weekend at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. We are so excited for this step in Paul's journey to the diaconate and invite you to keep him and his family in prayer.



**NEEDLEWORK GROUP SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS**

Our needlework group has been hard at work with some impressive projects to serve our community. Here is one example of lap quilts by Maria Mintz honoring members of her family who served. They were made for the VA Hospital to be given out on Veterans Day. Interested in needlework? Come to our upcoming gathering on Thursday, November 16 at 1:00 PM.



# 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](http://holycrossdewitt.org/give)



## FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED: \$19,704.88  
COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 5: \$20,625.39

## UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD) NOVEMBER 19

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# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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, Stanley Jackimeck, Ann Kronner, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Faith Muller, Nancy Patane, Kathy Thompson, John Toole, Dorothy Trust, Sharon and Joseph Wegzyn

## THIS WEEK AT HC

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

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

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

6:45 AM HS Faith Formation, Yeazel Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
10 AM Communion Service, Menorah Park  
7:00 PM HCS PTO Meeting, Yeazel Hall

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

6:45 AM MS Faith Formation, Yeazel Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
3:30 AM First Penance, Church  
5:30 PM Alpha, Yeazel Hall  
7:00 PM Adoration, Church  
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:45 AM Elementary Formation, Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
9:30 AM Jesus & the Eucharist, Yeazel Hall  
1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall  
6:00 PM Men's Group, Conference Room  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church  
11:00 AM First Penance, Church  
12:00 PM Holiday Luncheon, Yeazel Hall  
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church  
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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