



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

– THE SOLEMNITY OF –
**OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST
KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

*The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

N O V E M B E R 2 6 , 2 0 2 3

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 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 26, 2023

READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Psalms 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-61
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Matthew 25:31-46

The Liturgical calendar year concludes with the feast we celebrate today, "Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe," and I think it always offers us an invitation to renewal in our walks with the Lord. With Advent just days away, we begin again to journey together as a Church, seeking again to enter deeper into the life of Christ, and to allow Him to have pride of place in our hearts over and above all else. Contrary to what the world might expect, this humility before Jesus doesn't leave us denying everything in life, but rather it leads us to receive true freedom.

This freedom that only Jesus offers is meant to enliven and animate us, because with his Spirit giving us life, it

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
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is Jesus who then lives and moves in us (so long as we continually desire that).

Reflecting with Jesus as our King, we should consider putting in some effort toward self-evaluation—how am I living in relationship with God, with my neighbor, and with myself? The implications of this feast remind us that if Jesus is King and Lord of the universe, then I am not. It means that my life really isn't about me, but again rather than this truth being a message of slavery or denial for our lives as his disciples, life becomes much more of an exciting, joy-filled adventure. Do I really allow Jesus to have governing authority over my heart and my life? Whom do you serve? Do you prioritize choosing to serve yourself or your own plans/designs, or do you strive to live humbly under the care of Jesus our King?

In our sinfulness and weaknesses we continually struggle to do this, and at

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 25

4:00PM Richard & Nancy Delorenzo
(67th Anniversary) / Family

Sunday, November 26

7:30AM Family of Carl & Pearl Thomas
10:30AM Alan Haley / Erin & Karen
5:00PM Nancy Niland Whitley /
Elaine Lostumbo

Monday, November 27

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Tuesday, November 28

7:45AM Florence K. Brandt /
Alice & Bill Brandt

Wednesday, November 29

7:45AM John DeSantis /
Kathy Kotz

Thursday, November 30

7:45AM Dr. Robert Daly /
Francis & Sally Ward

Friday, December 1

7:45AM Mass League Intentions

Saturday, December 2

9:00AM Mary Sinnott Darcy /
John H. Heyer
4:00PM Rosalind Pristash /
Jerome & Ellen Pristash

Sunday, December 3

7:30AM Donald Petrell /
Richard & Mary Beth Petrell
10:30AM Frank & Jeanne Kirkman /
Kirkman Family
5:00PM Thomas Durkin /
Elaine Lostumbo

MASS LEAGUE ENROLLMENT

Doris & Inocencio Sario /
Rita C & Family

News & Events



Breakfast with Santa Sunday, December 3rd

Breakfast with Santa

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Join us for Breakfast with Santa at Holy Cross! Doors open on Sunday, December 3 at 9:30 AM and festivities last until 1:00 PM. Come enjoy a hot, delicious breakfast and a chance to meet Mr. Claus. Snap a family photo, have more than a few pancakes, and spend some time with your parish family. We hope you'll join us for this festive tradition! \$7/person (under 4 are free) | \$25 family max

Food Giving Weekend

DECEMBER 2-3, 2023

Our three pantries all responded in November that they were overwhelmed and humbled by the Holy Cross generosity to help their clients. We were able to provide 160 bags of groceries to assist Jamesville, St Lucy's and St John the Baptist! Thank you for helping our neighbors in need! This month's list addresses the need for items more suited for December:

- Cereal
- Peanut butter & Jelly
- Coffee
- Hot chocolate
- Chili
- Beef stew
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Soup & crackers
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Body wash & soap



Giving Tree at Holy Cross BEGINS THIS WEEKEND

Christmas will be here before you know it! This weekend we kick-off our 40th annual Giving Tree. Once again, we will be providing gifts and gift cards to 8 agencies that work with those in need, especially children and families in our community.

Many of the requests this year are for gift cards as the agencies have found the families enjoy being able to choose their own gifts. Tags are now available on the trees in the Gathering Area. Please take a tag, purchase the requested item, and then return your gift unwrapped with tag attached no later than Sunday, December 10 at 11:00 AM.

Gifts may be returned during weekend Masses or brought to the parish office during the week. If you are returning gift cards, please deposit them in the collection box in the Gathering Area. Thank you for continuing to be the caring and generous community for which Holy Cross is known!

Parent Breakfast – NOVEMBER 28, 29, & 30

On Nov 28, 29, & 30, parents of Faith Formation students are invited to join their child for breakfast during morning Faith Formation! Enjoy breakfast with your child before their class, then pickup some Advent items to help get you and your house ready for the season!

Monthly Movie – TUESDAY, NOV 28 | 1-3 PM

Join us on Tuesday, November 28 at 1:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for a free movie viewing. All are welcome to attend! Refreshments provided.



Parish Eucharistic Revival

THE MASS: ALTAR KISS

The altar symbolizes the heart of the Church. It is the Lord's table and the center of the Eucharistic action. It has always been considered a symbol of Christ. That is why we cover the altar with a cloth, out of reverence for the celebration of the memorial of the Lord's sacrifice" (Understanding the Mass, p. 49).

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, "altar" comes from the Hebrew word meaning "place of sacrifice" (Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 31). This background leads us to the current altars in our churches, where the Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated and we encounter Christ truly present in the Eucharist. We call the Mass a sacrifice because we are given an opportunity to share in the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Jesus Christ—body, blood, soul, and divinity—becomes present during the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass. Jesus Christ, God Himself, is present there with us! No wonder we give the altar special honor as the place where we encounter Christ dwelling among us!

Given the dignity of the altar, it is fittingly constructed in a special way. "In keeping with the Church's traditional practice and with what the altar signifies, the table of a fixed altar should be of natural stone. Altars typically also have a special set-in stone that contains the relic. The relic is usually a small fragment that is the name-sake for the church building.

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog, Fr. Luke Spannagel, December 14, 2022 – 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.

Reflection

Continued from page 2

times we do this better than others, which is why I think the placement of this feast is the invitation we need to strengthen our resolve to go deeper with Him.

Our readings today present us with several perspectives of Jesus the King—as King we are given the image of shepherd and protector (1st reading), one who has power over sin and everlasting death (2nd reading), and amazingly, one who is concerned with the needs of those who are poor and vulnerable and also identifies himself in relationship with them (Gospel)! What do we learn? Jesus is no typical king, and he certainly doesn't govern like we might expect the kings of the world. He himself takes initiative and seeks out those entrusted to him and desires their wellbeing and fulfillment. He embodies the reality of his words that echo his desire to come to us, not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for us. His crown is a crown of thorns, and his throne is the altar of the Cross.

If we allow him to really be Lord of our lives we can trust that we shall not be left orphan or left wanting (Psalm 23). For he exalts and lifts up those who are bowed down. In the Eucharist, our King humbly pours out his life to give us a share in his life. So what are you waiting for?! Let Jesus be King of your heart and of your life; you will come to know the untouchable freedom of the sons and daughters of God. ¡Viva, Cristo Rey!

Peace,

Rev. Brunda Foley

In Thanksgiving for Gifts from God

SATURDAYS IN ADVENT | 9:30 AM

Following the 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday morning (approximately 9:30 AM), we will pray the Rosary for all bishops, priests, deacons and religious in thanksgiving for their service to our Church. This will begin Saturday, December 2 and continue through all of the Saturdays during Advent. Please join us in this special prayer of Thanksgiving.

Around Town —

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

Advent Reflections at CTK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Come! Participate in the spirit of the Advent season at Christ the King Retreat House. With scripture and song, poetry, and other inspirational texts, Sister Laura Bufano, CSJ, will facilitate a day of reflection and an evening of prayer offering creative ways to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. Day talk: 10AM – 3PM with lunch / \$35. Evening of Prayer, Poetry, Scripture & Song: 5PM – 8PM with dinner / \$35. Both talks with lunch and dinner: \$65. For reservations: www.ctreretreat.com or call 315-446-2680.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and Celebration

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Come celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe with a special Mass and procession at St. Anthony's Syracuse. All are invited to attend whether you speak Spanish or not! Mass (in Spanish), Procession & Celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe will begin at AM on Saturday, December 9 at St. Anthony of Padua (1515 Midland Ave. Syracuse NY 13205). Any questions, see Fr. Foley!

Trip to Sight & Sound

Join a trip with other local parishioners for a fun filled motor coach tour to Lancaster, PA to Sight and Sound this May 8-9, 2024. Check church bulletin board for details to sign up.



Advent Day of Reflection

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

There will be a day of reflection led by Dc. Dare Dutter on Monday, December 4 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall. What better way to prepare for the coming of the Lord than to reflect on the stories and scriptures of this wonderful season. We will start with morning prayer and then dig into the readings to find the peace, joy, and love that our God has sought for us since the beginning of time. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch from Brooklyn Pickle. Choice of sandwiches include: tuna, corned beef, roast beef, or turkey. **Please sign up by Thursday, November 30.** Call the parish office at (315) 446-0473 to sign up or if you have questions.

Evening Prayer

SUNDAYS IN ADVENT – DEC 3, 10, & 17 | 4:40 PM

The Liturgy of the Hours, or The Divine Office, is the ancient, structured way of praying Scripture throughout the day, especially the Psalms. We make this commitment of prayer as a way of sanctifying the hours of the day, and to answer the call to rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing. The first three Sundays in Advent, we will pray Evening Prayer at 4:40 PM prior to Sunday evening Mass. Consider making this simple, solemn prayer part of your Advent this year!

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*. 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. Plan to join us at Holy Cross Church on Wed., Dec. 6 at 9:30 AM for the Holy Cross School Nativity Play!

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 NOVEMBER 12	\$18,897.84
SEMINARY COLLECTION	\$1,128.00
COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 19	REPORTED NEXT ISSUE

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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, 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 27

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

6:45 AM HSFF Parent Breakfast, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
1:00 PM Monthly Movie, Yeazel Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

6:45 AM MSFF Parent Breakfast, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
5:30 PM Alpha, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Adoration, Church
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:45 AM ESFF Parent Breakfast, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:30 AM Jesus & the Eucharist, Y. Hall
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Yeazel Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:30 AM Rosary, Church
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13
9:30 AM Breakfast with Santa Begins
10:30 AM Mass, Church
1:00 PM Breakfast with Santa Ends
4:30 PM Confirmation Group Session
5:00 PM Mass, Church