



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

D E C E M B E R 3 , 2 0 2 3

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, DECEMBER 3, 2023

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
subscribe today!



READINGS

Isaiah 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37

What is hope? I would suppose we each could define hope in our own way based on our life experiences. We may also base hope on those things we look for in the future.

However today, on this First Sunday of Advent, I would suggest that hope is a theological virtue. Instead of hoping for something to make us happy in this life; a momentary salve, "We desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the Holy Spirit" (CCC 1817).

This type of hope demands that we be active, not passive. We must use the gifts that God the Father gives us that help us to look beyond what we know

and experience in our daily lives, towards the eternal kingdom. We may ask how we look for something we have never seen?

The Church tells us that the kingdom is here, but not fully here, meaning that we can see signs of God's kingdom around us, but that there is more to come. We can only hope and dream about what our future with God will entail. The Advent Season reminds us that we are constantly drawing closer to God because the Christ Child is coming near. For this reason, our minds turn to what can be. To hope and dream about God's gift to us is active, not passive. God the Father sent Christ among us as the Good Shepherd to lead us gently toward the place in the kingdom. The Season of Advent prepares us for that journey!

Peace,

Rev. John Horgan

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 2

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

Monday, December 4

7:45AM Anna Squitieri /
Frank Soranno

Tuesday, December 5

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Wednesday, December 6

7:45AM Lillian Maio /
Mary Anne & Claude Pilon

7:45AM Dinita Machlin /
Deacon Dare & Mary Beth Dutter

Thursday, December 7

7:45AM Diana Harding /
Friends from Dynamic

Friday, December 8

7:45AM Lillian Maio /
Tony & Kay Sgarlata

9:15AM Eileen Ferrara /
Mary Duffin

5:30PM Joan Garbinski / Family

Saturday, December 9

9:00AM Peter Thomas / Liz Thomas

4:00PM VIGIL Aungier & McManus
Families / Erin & Karen

Sunday, December 10

7:30AM Don Foster / Family

10:30AM Bernadine & Victor
Becker / Family

5:00PM Henry Keller /
Gardening Angels of Holy Cross

News & Events



Giving Tree at Holy Cross

GRAB A TAG AND RETURN BY DECEMBER 10

Please take a tag, purchase the requested item, and return the gift unwrapped with tag attached no later than next Sunday, December 10 by 11 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!

Food Giving Weekend

THIS WEEKEND | DECEMBER 2-3

This weekend we are collecting supplies to warm the soul for our food pantries, along with personal hygiene products for Christmas. We may be in need of volunteers after Saturday 4 PM and Sunday 7:30 AM Masses. Other volunteer opportunities exist, please stop by the food collection or contact the parish office. Your generosity is so appreciated! Thank you for everything you do.

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 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 your fill of pancakes, and join us for this festive tradition! \$7/person (under 4 are free) | \$25 family max

Sandwich Ministry for Men's Shelter

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023 | 8:15 AM

Please join us in Yeazel Hall on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 8:15 AM (following daily Mass) to prepare a variety of sandwiches for the Catholic Charities Men's Shelter. No need to sign up or RSVP ahead of time. New volunteers are always welcome!

Knitting, Needle, & Sewing Group

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 | 1:00 PM

The next Knitting Group gathering will be on Thursday, December 7 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.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 | 7:45 AM, 9:15 AM, & 5:30 PM

Join us for Mass to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary! Masses will be December 8, 2023 at 7:45 AM, 9:15 AM (school Mass) and at 5:30 PM. There will be no vigil Mass.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation that recognizes the solemn celebration of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. It is universally celebrated on December 8, nine months before the feast of the Nativity of Mary, which is celebrated on September 8. The parish office will be closed on Friday, December 8 in recognition of this holy day.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023 | 10:00 AM

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 10 AM on Saturday, Dec. 9 at St. Anthony of Padua (1515 Midland Ave. Syracuse NY 13205). Any questions, see Fr. Foley!



Parish Eucharistic Revival

THE MASS: DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME: OPENING HYMN

At the beginning of Mass, the options for the “Entrance Chant” are an Entrance Hymn or Antiphon. The purpose of singing at this time is “to open the celebration, foster the unity of those who have been gathered, introduce their thoughts to the mystery of the liturgical time or festivity, and accompany the procession of the Priest and ministers” (GIRM, no. 47). The Entrance Hymn or Antiphon helps us to “get into” what we are about to do; it helps us set aside everything else that is going on in our lives and helps us to prepare our hearts to praise God and participate in the Mass. This singing especially reminds us that we are a community, because it is the first act that we all do together at the Mass.

The General Instruction for the Roman Missal explains the importance of singing: “The Christian faithful who come together as one in expectation of the Lord’s coming are instructed by the Apostle Paul to sing together Psalms, hymns, and spiritual canticles (cf. Col 3:16). Singing is the sign of the heart’s joy (cf. Acts 2:46). Given these admonitions, “Great importance should therefore be attached to the use of singing in the celebration of the Mass” (GIRM, no. 40).

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog Part 4,
Fr. Luke Spannagel,
December 8, 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.



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 Wednesday, December 6 at 9:30 AM for the Holy Cross School Nativity Play!



Made with Love by the Caring Crusaders

One hundred to-go lunch boxes were assembled by the Caring Crusaders and donated to the Samaritan Center. Thank you for the generous sock donations. Our goal of 100 socks was far exceeded, and we were able to include 3 pairs of socks in each box. We started our sandwich and sock ministry in prayer led by Father Foley. Thank you to Shawn Reed and friends from Cheesecake Factory for helping us with this project.

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.ckretreat.com or call 315-446-2680.

Blood Drive at St. Patrick's

PARISH CENTER, CHITTENANGO

DECEMBER 14 | 1:30PM-6:30PM

Shake up your holiday traditions and give blood, donate with the Red Cross on December 14! All who donate will get a \$10 Amazon gift card by email. Go to redcrossblood.org and enter code STPATSCHITT to schedule your appointment today!

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 to see the Biblical Performance of "Daniel" this May 8-9, 2024. Check church bulletin board for details to sign up. Questions? Call Cheryl Conley at 315-457-6090.



Lessons & Carols

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023 | 7:00 PM

Our Advent service of Lessons and Carols will take place on Thursday, December 14 at 7:00pm in the church. Scripture readings and music of the season by the choir & instrumentalists will fill the church with the joy of Advent & Christmas. Take a break from the busyness of the season to enjoy this service. Invite your friends & family to join you. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

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. This prayer maintains the form of a dialogue that draws us into the presence of God, fueled with the very words and wisdom of God. 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!

The Light is On

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023 | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

"The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the story of God's love that never turns away from us." Join us at Holy Cross for The Light Is On For You. Parishes all around the diocese will open during this time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Holy Cross Church will be open for quiet prayer, reflection, and confessions. If you'd like to learn more or need resources for confession, visit our website at holycrossdewitt.org/lightison

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 19 | \$14,187.84 |
| COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 26 | \$19,834.84 |
| COLLECTION FOR CCHD | \$609.00 |

UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

CATHEDRATICUM DECEMBER 10

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 LIST

Margaret Blanchfield,
Connie Chase, Sue Fillinger,
Stanley Jackimeck, Ann Kronner,
Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch,
Marianne Mallaber, Faith Muller,
Nancy Patane, John Toole,
and Dorothy Trust

THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church
10:00 AM Day of Reflection, Yeazel Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:45 AM HS Faith Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
8:15 AM Sandwich Making, Church
7:00 PM HCS PTO Meeting, Yeazel Hall

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:45 AM MS Faith Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:30 AM Nativity Play, Church
5:00 PM Alpha Retreat, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Adoration, Church
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:45 AM ES Faith Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
9:30 AM Jesus & the Eucharist, Y. Hall
1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:00 PM Middle School Group, Y. Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FEAST DAY
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
7:45 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM School Mass, Church
5:30 PM Mass, Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE
7:30 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13
10:30 AM Mass, Church
5:00 PM Mass, Church