



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 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, DECEMBER 10, 2023

READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalms 85:9-10-11-12, 13-141
2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

One of the things that seems really obvious in our current time is that we are living through perhaps one of the most tumultuous periods in the history of mankind. With the uncertainty of climate change, with the violence of wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, with plagues, famines, and political unrest, we wonder where we might look for some sense of calm and peace. Well, look no further than the Lord's divine plan for our lives which is depicted in the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent.

Today's readings seem made-to-order for these difficult times we are living through. From the opening line of the Prophet Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God," to the Psalm, "I will hear what

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
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God proclaims; the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people," to Peter's assurance that God is patient with us, and finally, to the gospel with John proclaiming, "One mightier than I is coming after me," we receive a message of hope and celestial optimism.

All the readings seem to be specifically crafted to address the reality of our world today. These readings can assist us as we are preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus into our world. If the events in our world are causing you grief and anxiety, read and reread the opening lines from Isaiah about comfort. So many of us need comfort right now with all of the chaos and uncertainty we are experiencing.

In all the tumult and craziness of our world there is one thing that we can count on, only one "true north" that we can be guided by. That is the knowledge that God's plan for our

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 9

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

Monday, December 11

7:45AM Catherine Collins Bona /
James Collins

Tuesday, December 12

7:45AM Jim Hughes

Wednesday, December 13

7:45AM Mark Wildrick /
Wed. Sandwich Group

Thursday, December 14

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

Friday, December 15

7:45AM Lillian Maio /
Rosamma Thomas

Saturday, December 16

9:00AM Eileen Ferrara / Rose Tout
4:00PM VIGIL Joseph Wilczynski /
Carol Dwyer

Sunday, December 17

7:30AM Deceased Members of
Colao Family / the Stewart Family
10:30AM Alice & Anthony Jastrem/
Kirkman Family
5:00PM John J. Ziegler /
Elaine Lostumbo

News & Events



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 – 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. 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. Holy Cross Church will be open for quiet prayer, reflection, and confessions.



Giving Tree at Holy Cross

PLEASE RETURN GIFTS/TAGS BY DECEMBER 10

Wow! The generosity of the Holy Cross community is amazing. 100s of tags were taken from the Giving Tree over the past few weeks. Please return your unwrapped gift/gift card by Sunday at 11 am. Thank you so much for helping to make Christmas happier for so many of our neighbors.

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.

Christmas Delight / COFFEE & CONVERSATION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Join us for our Christmas Delight Luncheon (which will replace Coffee and Conversation) this month at noon on Tuesday, December 19 in Yeazel Hall. Bring a \$5 gift/giftcard to participate in our gift swap. Pizza, salad, and drinks will be available for lunch (\$15/person).

- Contact Jo Oliva at 315-446-3328 with any questions or to learn more.



Parish Eucharistic Revival

THE MASS: THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.” Once we have finished the entrance hymn or antiphon at the beginning of Mass, there is a familiar gesture we do at every Mass and frequently with our prayers: we make the Sign of the Cross.

The Holy gesture points us to the Cross of Jesus—it reminds us of his saving sacrifice—the place where Jesus gave everything out of love for us to conquer sin and death. The words we say remind us that we have been brought into the life of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Praying in the singular “name” recalls that God is One God in Three Persons.

Repetition of the Sign of the Cross can sometimes lessen our attention to what we are doing and what it means. Maybe imagine what it looked like when Mother Mary, St. Bernadette, or one of the saints made it. Consider moving your hand and saying the words more slowly. Think about the love Jesus has for you as you trace the shape of the cross. Thank God that you have been given a share in the life of the Trinity through Baptism. What a grace-filled gift the Sign of the Cross truly is!

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog Part 6,
Fr. Luke Spannagel,
December 15, 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.

CHRISTMAS

MASS SCHEDULE

*Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses (12/24) will be at 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM (There will not be a 5 PM Sunday evening Mass as our schedule for Christmas Masses will begin:

- Indicated liturgies will be available via livestream.

The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Eve Vigil

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

- 4:00 PM
- 6:00 PM

12:00 AM* MIDNIGHT

*Carols begin at 11:30 PM

Christmas Day

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023

- 7:30 AM
- 10:30 AM
- 5:00 PM

Feast of the Holy Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

- SAT 4:00 PM
- 7:30 AM
- 10:30 AM
- 5:00 PM

**No vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary*

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

THE OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS

**Not a Holy Day of Obligation in the USA this year*

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

- 7:45 AM
- 10:30 AM

Reflection

Continued from page 2

salvation is unfolding as it should. If we keep the faith and stay strong in our love for God and our neighbor, we will be able to weather any storm that the world throws at us. Jesus is coming, soon we will be once again basking in the glow of Christmas and all the "tidings of great joy" that Jesus' birth as one of us brings. If Jesus is with us, we will be just fine.

Keep the faith,
Deacon Dare



Around Town —

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

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.



Breakfast with Santa Thank You

Thank you to everyone who came out for Breakfast with Santa at Holy Cross! It was such a gift being with you and your family. Thank you to our amazing volunteers led by Jo Oliva, especially our incredible Confirmation group helpers, and of course Mr. Claus for taking time out his busy schedule to be with us! Praying you all have a blessed Advent and very Merry Christmas!

Congratulations

to Immaculata Award Recipients

Anne and Jim Wright

St. Anthony of Padua, Syracuse



Beth and Roger Schafer

Holy Cross Church, DeWitt

Your years of humble service to our community are inspiring and an eternal blessing to our parish family.

Thank you and God bless!

*from the priests & parishioners at
St. Anthony's & Holy Cross*



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 DECEMBER 3 REPORTED IN NEXT ISSUE

UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

CATHEDRATICUM DECEMBER 10

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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 LIST

Margaret Blanchfield,
Connie Chase, Sue Fillingner,
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 11

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

6:45 AM HS Faith Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
7:00 PM HCS Christmas Concert, Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:45 AM ES Faith Formation, Y. Hall
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church
7:00 PM Lessons & Carols, Church
7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Y. Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:45 AM Mass, Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30 AM Mass, Church
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13
10:30 AM Mass, Church
5:00 PM Mass, Church
6:00 PM Youth Group Christmas Party,

Get the latest event details at
holycrossdewitt.org/events

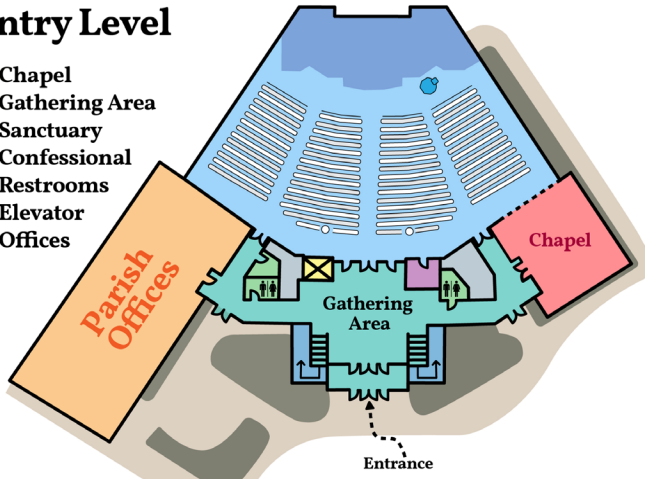


Parish Office

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

