



**HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

F E B R U A R Y 4 , 2 0 2 4

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



FOLLOW ALONG



# 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, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

### READINGS

Job 7:1-4, 6-7  
Psalms 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23  
Mark 1:29-39

The theme of today's readings could be focused on what kind of day people are having. We all know that some days are better or worse than others. It seems that Job is having a really bad day in our first reading, speaking about the hardships of his life after everything has been taken away from him. Things get better with Paul, who describes his need to preach the gospel as an obligation. To Paul, any day that he can preach the gospel is a good day. In the gospel, Jesus brings goodness to Simon's mother when he cures her of a fever. She responds by waiting on him and the apostles, a very motherly response to Jesus' kindness. Her day goes from bad to good in the blink of an eye. Jesus can do that for us.

Sometimes we have bad days. They

Sunday Reflections  
in your inbox;  
subscribe today!



are usually associated with our level of health and how we feel on a given day. If we are sick, we suffer not only the physical pain of our illness, but some emotional pain as well. Other times, we respond to the bad things that sometimes happen to us and those we love. If our friend or loved one is sick and suffering, we feel that any day is not a good one until their misery is relieved. Their misery is our misery. We begin to sound a little like Job when these things happen. Our days become marathons of sleeplessness, sadness, and suffering, while our nights seem to be endless. We are all prone to disappointment and suffering in our lives. This is where Jesus comes in to make things better for us.

Jesus brings light to our darkness. He brings healing to our sickness. The news he brings us is a message of hope in a time where we may be surrounded by hopelessness. As we hear in Psalm 147, our Psalm for this

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## Mass Intentions

### Hosts & Wine

Dan, Agnes & Danny Broader /  
Mary Ellen Brown & Family

### Saturday, February 3

4:00PM VIGIL Dinita Machlin /  
Carol & Don Scullion

### Sunday, February 4

7:30AM Kathleen Foley /  
Leiker Family

10:30AM Dan Glauber /  
Jack & Marian Glisson

5:00PM Living Intention of Frank &  
Linda Ridzi / Frank & Anna & Kids

### Monday, February 5

7:45AM Lillian Maio /  
Holy Cross Rosary Angels

### Tuesday, February 6

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

### Wednesday, February 7

7:45AM Kenna Becker McCay /  
Deacon Dare & Marybeth Dutter

### Thursday, February 8

7:45AM Vivian Morrison /  
Claude & MaryAnne

### Friday, February 9

7:45AM Frank & Mary Cushman /  
Rosemarie & Jim Light

### Saturday, February 10

9:00AM Frank Reynolds /  
Larry & Barb Messina  
4:00PM VIGIL Sally Lawler /  
Bill & Mary Clancy

### Sunday, February 11

7:30AM Nancy Osta /  
Elizabeth Hoffman  
10:30AM Natalia Monterastelli /  
Family  
5:00PM Stephen Bowman /  
Cindy Vacco & Family



# News & Events

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## Food Giving Weekend

**FEBRUARY 3-4, 2024**

Thank you for your continued and generous support. It is amazing that we are able to donate to 3 pantries each month. Thank you again to our volunteers who are so dedicated and for getting the food delivered so quickly.

We are always in need of a few sets of hands in Yeazel Hall, to organize the items, even 15 minutes helps:

- Saturday: 3PM - 4PM, 5PM - 5:30 PM
- Sunday: 8:30AM - 9:15AM, 9:30AM-10AM to load, after 10:30AM & 5PM Masses.

Holy Cross truly is a caring community! Thank you so very much!

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## Sandwich Ministry for Men's Shelter

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024 | 8:15 AM**

Please join us in Yeazel Hall on Tuesday, February 6 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!

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## Play & Pray Mom's Group

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024 | 1:00 PM**

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.

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## Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

Save the date for our annual Bread & Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday, February 14. You can look forward to a delicious variety of hot soups and homemade breads! We are looking for volunteers to help with food prep on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during the day.

- Contact Julie to help: [julie@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:julie@holycrossdewitt.org)

## Joseph's House Baby Bottle Drive

**BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND | FEB 10-11**

The Joseph's House for Women Baby Bottle Drive at Holy Cross Church begins the weekend of February 10th & 11th and runs throughout Lent. The BBD helps to support pregnant women and those parenting young children who are facing homelessness in CNY! Your support provides a warm and nurturing home and the hope for a brighter future! Pick up your bottle at one of the parishes and fill it with your cash, check, or change! Return your bottle to the designated bins by Palm Sunday, March 24. You can also give securely online at [www.jhfw.org/baby-bottle-drive](http://www.jhfw.org/baby-bottle-drive) or mail your donation to 802 Court Street, Syracuse NY 13208. Be sure to make a note about Holy Cross Church online so we can track how we do!

To learn more about their life-saving work, visit [jhfw.org](http://jhfw.org) and follow along at [facebook.com/JosephsHouseSyr](https://facebook.com/JosephsHouseSyr) Thank you for your support and prayers! God Bless You!



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## Lenten Day of Reflection

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024 | 10:00 AM**

Come and join us on Monday, February 19 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in Yeazel Hall. It will include a presentation by Dc. Dutter and lunch. Call Jo Oliva for reservations 315-446-3328. Cost \$15 per person and includes lunch from Brooklyn Pickle. Sandwich choices include: tuna, turkey, roast beef, or corned beef.



## Holy Cross School Raffle Tickets

Holy Cross School students are selling 50/50 raffle tickets to support our annual fundraiser, the Holy Cross School Auction. Winner receives 50% of proceeds. Need not be present to win. Save the date for the Holy Cross School Auction on Saturday, May 18. Tickets are available for purchase online at [hcschooldewitt.org/store](http://hcschooldewitt.org/store)



## Parish Eucharistic Revival

### THE MASS: THE GOSPEL

For many, the Gospel is a favorite part of the Mass. We get to hear stories about Jesus and the Apostles, how Jesus worked miracles, and His teachings. The Second Vatican Council teaches us that the Gospels have a special importance because they are “the principal witness for the life and teaching” of Jesus (Dei Verbum, 18).

What does the word Gospel mean? The glossary of the Catechism defines Gospel as “[t]he ‘good news’ of God’s mercy and love revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Second Vatican Council teaches, “The Church has always and everywhere maintained the apostolic origin of the four Gospels. The apostles preached, as Christ had charged them to do, and then, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they and others of the apostolic age handed on to us in writing the same message they had preached, the foundation of our faith: the fourfold Gospel, according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.” (Dei Verbum, 18).

During the Mass, after we stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the priest or deacon begins with that familiar dialogue: “The Lord be with you!” and the people respond, “And with your spirit!” Then, the priest introduces the Gospel and the people respond, “Glory to you, O Lord!” These back-and-forth dialogues help us to prepare for what is about to happen: the Lord Jesus speaking to us. Another preparation for the words of Jesus is a simple gesture of a sign of the Cross. As the priest or deacon says, “A reading from the holy Gospel according to...,” he will make a sign of the Cross on the Gospel book. At the same time, the people at Mass trace a small sign of the Cross on their foreheads, lips, and heart.

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog Part 20,  
Fr. Luke Spannagel, May 2, 2023  
[eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org)

## Adoration

“Be still and know that I am God.”

— PSALM 46:11

### WHAT IS ADORATION?

From the earliest teachings of the Church, the Catholic Church has understood that Jesus, on the last night of his life, took bread and wine and in a literal way changed it into his actual Body and Blood. He commanded the Apostles to continue to do this in his memory. The cornerstone of the Early Church will become the continual practice of doing this fulfilled Passover meal, and it will come to be known as “the Mass.” From the last night of Jesus’s life, the Church has continually, for over 2,000 years, celebrated this mystery of changing bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Even today, the Church teaches that the Eucharist is no symbol, but actually God himself. The Church developed a special time of prayer with the Eucharist. Taking a piece of consecrated host, the Eucharist is placed in the center of a display case, known as a monstrance, in order for the faithful to gaze at Jesus and to pray within his midst. This exposition, or praying before the Eucharist is called Adoration and is one of the most intimate and personal methods of prayer for many Christians.

### WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

Every Wednesday, the parish community has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available in the main church from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. You are invited to come to this hour for as long or as little as you like. This will be a great opportunity during the week to spend some quiet time with the Lord. The hour will conclude with Evening Prayer from the Divine Office at 7:45 PM followed by Solemn Benediction at 8:00 PM. Bring your family and friends. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is also offered during this time.

### MONDAY MORNINGS

Join us on Monday mornings following daily Mass for a Holy Hour in the church sanctuary, 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM. Come start your week in quiet reverence and stillness with the Lord. No reservations necessary. All are welcome to attend.

## Reflection

Continued from page 2

day, "The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." Our hearts are often broken by the suffering we experience in the world. We are often wounded by the world's indifference to our pain. But we must remember that while each of us suffers through our difficulties, it is Jesus who brings us better days. Let us trust in him.

Keep the faith,  
Deacon Dare



## Thank You

Dear Holy Cross Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to our annual Jail Ministry Christmas Party in the Onondaga County Justice Center this past December. The party was a HUGE SUCCESS!

Each of the 450 individuals in the jail received a gift bag containing an apple, ramen noodles, a deck of cards, hot chocolate, two stamped holiday cards, paper and envelopes, an address/calendar book, a prayer sheet, a puzzle sheet, chocolate, hard candy, cookies, a maximum-security pen, and one pair of socks. THERE WERE MANY SMILES AND MUCH LAUGHTER!

As we went from pod to pod in the jail and sang Christmas Carols with those being held in the jail, for a few minutes we forgot the steel doors and bare walls around us, lost in the celebration. We were all one community, celebrating the birth of Christ and sharing in the hope and love of God.

Many thanks!

Keith Ceplicki  
Jail Ministry



## Prayers for Abrielle

One of our parishioners, 10 year old Abrielle Lynch, continues her 4 year battle with neuroblastoma (a rare cancer that develops in nerve tissue, usually in infants and children). She has been receiving her care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

How can Holy Cross parishioners support Abrielle, her parents Todd and Nicole, and her 15 year old brother Ayden during this difficult time?

**PRAYER:** Cards available for all to take, remember Abrielle and pray for her often. Two special scripture verses for Abrielle and her family to lean into...

- Psalm 27:1 & Deuteronomy 31:6
- Blessed Carlo Acutis
- Also, St. Charbel is one of the Lynch family's favorite saints.

**WEAR:** a special bracelet made in honor of Abrielle ... gold and blue beads.

\*Gold represents pediatric cancer and \*blue represents neuroblastoma. The color gold was chosen because gold is a precious metal and reflects the most precious thing in our lives—our children.

**CARDS:** Abrielle loves cards. Send her a note to lift her spirits and let her know you are thinking of her! (Get your notes to church and we will get them to the family.)

**DONATE:** Help to defray expenses, treatments, and travel costs they have incurred and continue to incur. Gift cards, cash, or checks made payable to Nicole Lynch. Deposit in the Lynch Family Donation Box in the gathering area. If placing a donation for the family in the collection basket or at the parish office, please be sure to use one of the labeled envelopes available in the gathering area.



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



## FINANCIAL REPORT

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED:	\$19,704.88
COLLECTION FOR JANUARY 28:	\$17,367.00

Contribution statements for 2023 will be available starting on 1/23/24 by calling the office 315-446-0473 or by emailing [peg@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:peg@holycrossdewitt.org)

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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.

# THIS WEEK AT HC

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:45 AM Faith Formation (9-12), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
8:15 AM Sandwich Making, Yeazel Hall

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:45 AM Faith Formation (5-8), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
7:00 PM Adoration, Church  
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

7:45 AM Faith Formation (1-4), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
7:00 PM Middle School Group, Room 1  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
1:00 PM Play & Pray, Room 5

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

JOSEPH'S HOUSE BABY BOTTLE DRIVE  
9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church  
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church  
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

JOSEPH'S HOUSE BABY BOTTLE DRIVE  
7:30 AM Mass, Church  
9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13  
10:30 AM Mass, Church  
4:30 PM Confirmation Group Session  
5:00 PM Mass, Church

Get the latest event details at  
[holycrossdewitt.org/events](https://holycrossdewitt.org/events)



## PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following  
people in prayer

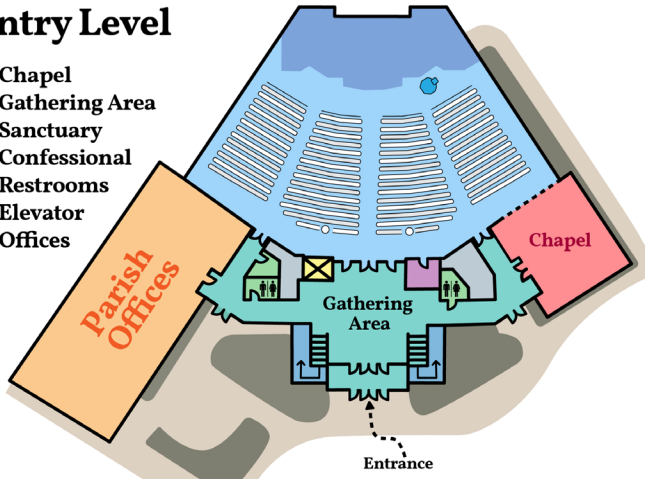
Margaret Blanchfield, Connie Chase,  
Sue Fillinger, Ann Kronner, Elaine  
Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Marianne  
Mallaber, Liz and Tony Mollica, Faith  
Muller, Nancy Patane, Laura Suarez,  
and John Toole

# 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 and Adoration chapel is open for private prayer Monday - Friday, 8:15 AM - 3:00 PM.

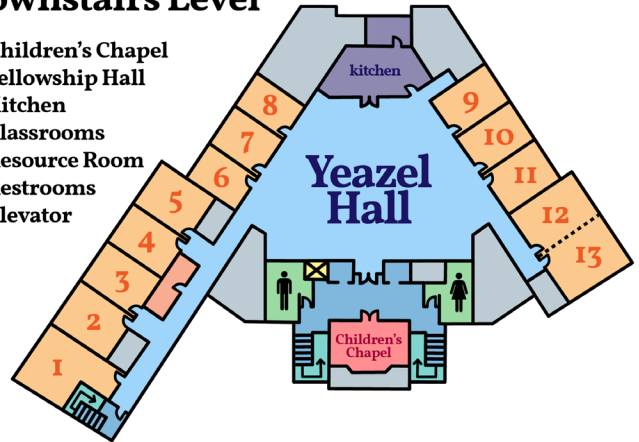
## Entry Level

- 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.

<b>Fr. John Kurgan</b>	Pastor	<a href="mailto:jkurgan@syrdio.org">jkurgan@syrdio.org</a>
<b>Fr. Brendan Foley</b>	Parochial Vicar	<a href="mailto:bfoley@syrdio.org">bfoley@syrdio.org</a>
<b>Fr. Charles Vavonese</b>	Weekend Homilist	<a href="mailto:cvavonese@syrdio.org">cvavonese@syrdio.org</a>
<b>Dc. Dare Dutter</b>	Deacon	<a href="mailto:dare@holycrossdewitt.org">dare@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Nina Walters</b>	School Principal	<a href="mailto:nwalters@syrdio.org">nwalters@syrdio.org</a>
<b>Ernest Camerota</b>	Music Ministry & Choir Director	<a href="mailto:ecamerota@holycrossdewitt.org">ecamerota@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Brette Cooper</b>	Maintenance & Facilities	<a href="mailto:bcooper@holycrossdewitt.org">bcooper@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Josh Corcoran</b>	Music, Sunday Evening Mass	<a href="mailto:josh@holycrossdewitt.org">josh@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Dan Littlepage</b>	Technology & Communications	<a href="mailto:dan@holycrossdewitt.org">dan@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Leigh Marquis</b>	Finance & Human Resources	<a href="mailto:leigh@holycrossdewitt.org">leigh@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Steve Nepil</b>	Faith Formation (5-12) & Youth Ministry	<a href="mailto:steve@holycrossdewitt.org">steve@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Peg Olson</b>	Parish Office Manager	<a href="mailto:peg@holycrossdewitt.org">peg@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Julie Sheridan</b>	Faith Formation (1-4) & Safe Environment	<a href="mailto:julie@holycrossdewitt.org">julie@holycrossdewitt.org</a>
<b>Matt Stano</b>	Maintenance & Facilities	<a href="mailto:mstano@holycrossdewitt.org">mstano@holycrossdewitt.org</a>