



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DeWitt, NY 13214

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Fr. Foley speaks to students about vocations and introduces Sr. Rosemary and Sr. Anna during Catholic Schools Week presentation. See more photos on page 6.

F E B R U A R Y 1 1 , 2 0 2 4



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 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 11, 2024

READINGS

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
Psalms 32:1-2, 5, 11
1 Corinthians 10:31–11:1
Mark 1:40-45

We've come to the end of our time before Lent, and since returning to Ordinary Time, Mark's Gospel has given us beautiful moments of Jesus' life to reflect with—and today's Gospel is no different! Just in 1 chapter of Mark's Gospel, we've already heard Jesus' calling of his disciples and literally journeyed through a "day in the life"—Jesus' early morning routine (Mk 1:21-28), the midday (1:29-31) and evening ministry (1:32-34), what a typical nighttime into the next morning (1:35-38) was like. Jesus was constantly in demand, yet he himself was continually rooted in prayer and eager to meet the needs of the people, and to teach them.

In this opening context, Mark is intent on inviting us to reflect on who Jesus is, His salvific mission and presence

Sunday Reflections
in your inbox;
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among us, and His authority that still reigns to this day. Jesus is God. His words and actions invite 'amazement', 'astonishment', powerful silence from the people (and even the evil spirits/demons) who he encounters.

Now return to the story of the Leper today. Amazing disposition of heart that he recognizes Jesus and knows the power he has. Consider the patience and strength of soul that in the face of having confidence of who Jesus is, he still allows Jesus the freedom to choose to heal him or not. Humility before the will of God to see that somehow even his infirmity could be an instrument of grace or a way that God could still be glorified or that he could be a source of strength for others--should he need to persevere in his suffering. Incredible! Toward this man and attentive to his heart, Jesus is deeply moved with compassion, and then Jesus proves that he cannot be defiled by touching the leprosy and that divine power is truly power over all infirmities and evils.

SEE REFLECTION, PAGE 5

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 10

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

Monday, February 12

7:45AM Joyce Byrd /
Deacon Dare & Holy Cross

Tuesday, February 13

7:45AM William F. Lynn /
Mary Lynn Collins

Wednesday, February 14

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross
10:30AM Liam Zoghby /
Faith Formation Group
12:00PM Bill Nowicki /
Loretta & Family
5:30PM Barbara Santaro /
Ed and Lola Gualtieri

Thursday, February 15

7:45AM Kathleen Foley / CSV

Friday, February 16

7:45AM Clara Macri /
Sue & Joe Bombard

Saturday, February 17

9:00AM Ted Tirinato / Jo Oliva
4:00PM VIGIL Angelina Corbi /
Holy Cross Knitting Group

Sunday, February 18

7:30AM Sehl Burns /
Chuck & Regina Harty
10:30AM Katy Nappi /
Loretta Nowicki
5:00PM Dr. Robert Slavens /
Elaine Lostumbo

News & Events

Joseph's House Baby Bottle Drive

BEGINS THIS WEEKEND | FEB 10-11

This Lenten season we are holding a Baby Bottle Drive at Holy Cross Church! Help support pregnant women and those parenting young children who are facing homelessness at Joseph's House for Women! Your support provides a warm and nurturing home and the hope for a brighter future! Pick up your baby bottle in the church entryway, fill it with your cash, check, or change, and return it to the designated containers at Holy Cross by Palm Sunday, March 24. You can also give securely online at 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 and follow along at facebook.com/JosephsHouseSyr. Thank you for your support and prayers! God Bless You!

KoC Pizza Sale

THIS WEEKEND | FEBRUARY 10-11

The Knights of Columbus are having their annual Pizza Sale. The Knights will take your orders and payment this weekend, February 10-11 and deliver the pizzas on the weekend of March 9-10. The knights will have cheese pizza for \$13/each and pepperoni for \$14/each. All of the proceeds of the pizza sale is allocated to our diocesan seminarians.

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024 | 5:30 PM

Join us for our annual Bread & Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday, February 14! You can look forward to a delicious variety of hot soups (butternut squash, lentil, New England clam chowder, vegetable minestrone) and homemade breads! Suggested donation of \$5/person to support our food ministries.

Needlework Group

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 | 1:00 PM

The next Needlework Group (sewing, quilting, knitting) gathering will be on Thursday, February 15 at 1:00 PM downstairs in Yeazel Hall. Learn more about our group on page 7! Questions? Please call Rita at 315-472-1478 or Jo at 315-446-3328.

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

Safe Environment Training

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT HOLY CROSS

All diocesan, parish, and school employees and volunteers working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults must attend initial safe environment training, and then subsequent recertification every 5 years. Trainings are offered at parishes across the diocese throughout the year. Holy Cross is hosting the following trainings:

EPDR - RECERTIFICATION

- March 6, 9:00 AM March 6, 5:30 PM

PGC - INITIAL TRAINING

- March 13, 5:30 PM & March 20, 9:00 AM

Visit syracusediocese.org/safe-environment to learn more and to register.

LENT



Ash Wednesday

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday is a holy day of prayer, fasting, and repentance. It marks the beginning of Lent. Masses at Holy Cross on Ash Wednesday are at 7:45 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, & 5:30 PM. Join us as we begin our Lenten journey together as a parish family!



Bread & Soup Supper

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024 | 5:30 PM

Following the 5:30 PM Mass on Ash Wednesday, join us as we break fast as a parish family with a simple (and delicious) meal of hot soup and homemade bread. We've got something for everyone. To help support our food ministry for the poor, we're asking for a \$5 per person donation. Takeout will be available.

Scripture Reflection & Adoration

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT | 6:30 PM

Starting February 14, join Fr. Foley on the Wednesdays in Lent at 6:30 PM leading into our regularly scheduled hour of Adoration and Reconciliation as he unpacks scriptural insights each week. Visit holycrossdewitt.org/lenr to get the scripture readings ahead of time.

Evening Prayer

SUNDAYS IN LENT | 4:40 PM

Looking to add some more time for prayer this Lenten season? Join us for Evening Prayer on Sundays at 4:40 PM (just prior to 5:00 PM Mass). The Liturgy of the Hours, or The Divine Office, is the ancient, structured way of praying Scripture throughout the day, especially the Psalms.

Come pray with your parish community, and consider making this simple, solemn practice part of your Lent this year!

Stations of the Cross

FRIDAYS IN LENT

8:15 AM & 7:00 PM

The Stations of the Cross began as the practice of pious pilgrims to Jerusalem who would retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary. Please join us Fridays during Lent as we travel through the stations and identify with Jesus' journey to Calvary. Stations are on Fridays at 8:15 AM (following 7:45 AM Mass) and at 7:00 PM.



The Light is On

Join us at Holy Cross for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Holy Cross Church will be open for quiet prayer, reflection, and confessions.

- Monday, March 25, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Holy Cross
- Tuesday, March 26, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM at Holy Cross

Reflection

Continued from page 2

What about us!? Defilement and leprosy within us, the prison of sin, the hardness of heart, inner shame that we hold on to—we can all feel hesitant to boldly (yet humbly) turn to the Lord in the manner that we see from this man today. The most profound way we can be cleansed, healed, set free, and brought back to life is through the healing power of Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There, just like the moment of healing for today's leper, Jesus is not dismayed, scandalized, or contaminated by our human defilement. There, Jesus says the same thing to us that he said to this man: "I do will it, be made clean."

Thank you, Jesus!

Peace,

Rev. Brunda Foley

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in prayer

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

Lenten Reminders

Catholics ages 14 and older are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as well as on all Fridays during Lent.

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast (eat only one full meal; two smaller meals may be taken but may not be equal to the one full meal) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. When possible, the fast from Good Friday should continue until the Easter Vigil. This is called the "Paschal Fast." It is done to enter into the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare more fully to celebrate his Resurrection.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

JEFF CAVINS and SARAH CHRISTMYER

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING IN LENT

Many Catholics want to read the Bible because they know it is God's Word, but they give up because it seems so complicated. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you get the "big picture" by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows you how to read the Bible so that you can actually understand it.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible will help you discover the story of salvation history and understand how you fit into God's plan. This eight-session study program includes video presentations that explore all twelve time periods of The Bible, followed by an engaging small group discussion led by one of our facilitators.

We have three different small group sessions, so pick one that works well for your schedule. Materials are only \$15.

Go to holycrossdewitt.org/unlock to sign up!

SESSIONS OPTIONS:

TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Facilitator: Dc. Dare Dutter

Feb 27, March 5, 12, April 2, 9, 16, 30, May 7

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS | 12 PM - 1:30 PM

Facilitator: Dc. Dare Dutter

Feb 29, March 7, 14, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9

THURSDAY EVENINGS | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Facilitator: David Hines

Feb 29, March 7, 14, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9



Catholic Schools Week

What a wonderful Catholic Schools Week! It was filled with energy, activity, faith, and service! We had field trips to go bowling and the Most, wild animal visits from a wildlife rehabilitation center, the official drum-line for the Buffalo Bills keeping rhythm with our students, presentations from a Purple Heart recipient, NFL player, firefighters, police officers, sea captains, and more! Backpacks were packed to the brim with supplies for foster children; books were collected to give to children in need, and letters written to veterans. Mass, vocation presentations, and prayer filled every day. The week culminated with Red & White games, a spectacle that rivals the Loud House in energy and excitement. We are so grateful for our school community and the gift of Catholic education!





THIS SUMMER... 🙌☀️

Don't miss the fun, friends, and the faith that brings us all together! Registrations for summer programs for youth of all ages are now open. Learn more & sign up today! Visit holycrossdewitt.org/summer

TOTUS TUUS 2024

Totus Tuus is a vacation bible school day camp and evening youth retreat run by trained college students at Catholic parishes during the summer. It is extremely fun, energetic, and engaging while bringing youth to the depths of the faith. See more & sign up at holycrossdewitt.org/tt

Holy Cross is hosting Totus Tuus the end of July!

☀️ **Grades 1-6**, day camp, 9 AM - 3 PM | Monday, July 29 to Friday, August 2

🌙 **Grades 7-12**, evening retreats, 7 PM - 9 PM | Sunday, July 28 to Thursday, August 1



STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE JULY 12-14, 2024

Join 9-12th grade students from our diocese for a weekend at Franciscan University packed with dynamic talks, uplifting concerts, transformative prayer & Adoration, and growing deeper through the Sacraments. holycrossdewitt.org/illuminate



Knitting & Needlework Group

Pictured at top is a sample of a variety of the hundreds of items donated throughout the year to St. Joseph's Hospital—they go to the preemies and wellness clinic. Other items go to the JD and Emmaus Ministry food pantries.

The first gathering of each month the group celebrates the month's birthdays. Among others, this January happened to be Liz Bullion's 93rd birthday! (See photo above.)

The group is open to new friends to come any time! No experience needed. Group meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in Yeazel Hall.

This is also a fun social gathering, a time to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, and perhaps teach someone or learn a new stitch!

There are a few members who are unable to come in person but continue to contribute from their residence, some even mailing items back to the group from out of state. All of our friends are remembered in prayer.

If you have any questions or want to get connected, please call Rita at 315-472-1478 or Jo at 315-446-3328



Parish Eucharistic Revival

THE MASS: THE HOMILY

In the homily, the bishop, priest, or deacon tries to help us hear what God is saying by explaining the Scripture in order to apply it to our lives. The point is to draw each heart in the congregation closer to Jesus. This is really important: the priest seeks out each heart. That is why sometimes the homily focuses on something you already know, do, or believe; that is why the homily might not always be perfectly on track with what you are thinking about. Because there are many people in the pews with different backgrounds and experiences, preaching a homily that directly addresses everyone can be a little tricky. Have you noticed that sometimes the preacher says the same thing in a couple of ways? This is one way of helping different people to understand the same message.

One of the most important parts of the homily involves everyone sitting in the pews: all are invited to listen with an open heart. Each one is encouraged to follow the homily in his or her heart, taking in what is helpful and being on the lookout for the true needs of the heart. If we believe that God is working through the ordained clergy who are preaching, then there will always be something in the homily for us; we just have to listen for it.

The Lord only asks us to give a good effort at true listening, knowing there will be something there that will help us. An important part of listening to the homily is an openness to being challenged. When you hear something challenging, it is the preacher's duty to proclaim the truth, and perhaps it could be God calling you closer to His heart through the preacher's very words.

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog Part 26,
Fr. Luke Spannagel, June 14, 2023
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.

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 FEBRUARY 4:	\$23,524.00

UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

CHURCHES IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE: ASH WEDNESDAY

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT HC

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:45 AM Mass, Church

8:15 AM Holy Hour, Church

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

6:45 AM Faith Formation (9-12), Y. Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

ASH WEDNESDAY

6:45 AM Faith Formation (5-8), Y. Hall

7:45 AM Mass, Church

10:30 AM Mass, Church

12:00 PM Mass, Church

5:30 PM Mass, Church

5:30 PM Bread & Soup Supper, Y. Hall

7:00 PM Adoration, Church

7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

7:45 AM Faith Formation (1-4), Y. Hall

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

1:00 PM Knitting Group, Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Men's Group, Conference Room

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church

8:15 AM Stations of the Cross, Church

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross, Church

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:00 AM Women's Commission, Y. Hall

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church

3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

3:30 PM Girl Scout Cookie Sales, Lobby

4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30 AM Mass, Church

9:15 AM Adult Ministry, Rooms 12-13

10:00 AM Girl Scout Cookie Sales, Lobby

10:30 AM Mass, Church

4:30 PM Girl Scout Cookie Sales, Lobby

5:00 PM Mass, Church

Get the latest event details at
holycrossdewitt.org/events



FOLLOW ALONG

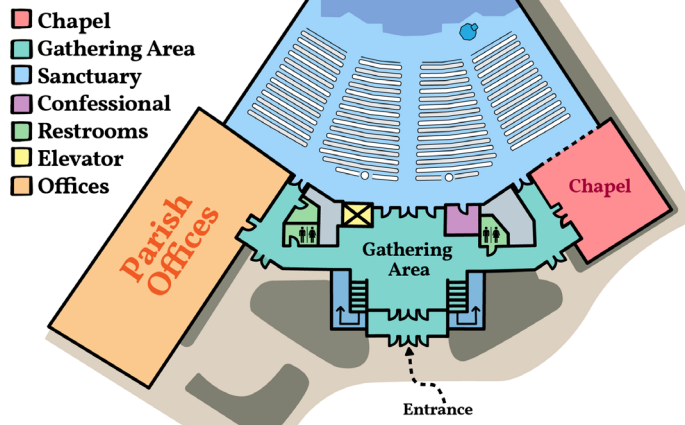


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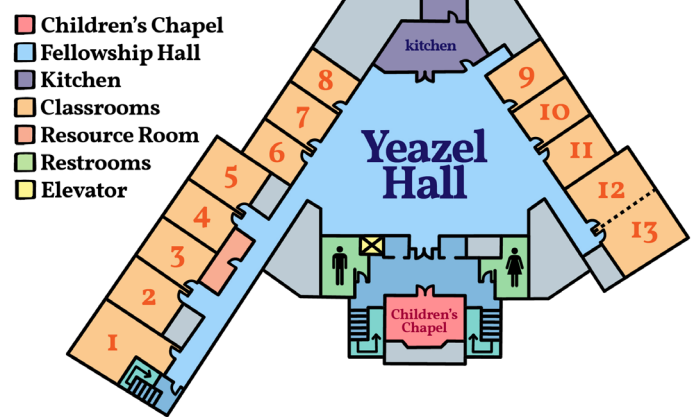
Parish Office

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



Downstairs Level



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