



**HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

4112 EAST GENESEE STREET | DEWITT, NY 13214

# SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



F E B R U A R Y 2 5 , 2 0 2 4

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](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 25, 2024

### READINGS

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18  
Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19  
Romans 8:31b-34  
Mark 9:2-10

This Sunday's readings speak to God's awesome benevolence. While we could never envision ourselves sacrificing one of our children in order to show God that we love him, we need to recognize that this is exactly what God did for us—he offered up his only and beloved son so we could have freedom from sin.

In the first reading from Genesis, God tells Abraham to take his son Isaac to a land called Moriah and sacrifice him as a test of how much Abraham loves him. Abraham takes his son on this journey and just as he raises his knife to carry out God's request he is told to stop. He has passed the test of love for God.

In the second reading from the letter to the Romans, we are reminded that God gave up his only Son for our sake

so that we might have eternal life once again, and that this Son now sits at God's right hand to plead for us.

In the gospel, we read St Mark's account of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Christ was seen in dazzling white robes in a foretaste of godliness and purity. For a few moments, the awesome truth that Jesus is God is there for all to see. This moment of Transfiguration gives us a clear picture of who Jesus truly is; he is the beloved son of the one and only God. The presence of Moses and Elijah brings the picture into full clarity—Jesus is the very incarnation of God as a human being and is every bit as precious and loved as a son could be. His father's words of love echo through the reading as God says; "This is my beloved son, listen to him."

Our readings today bring us the realization that God's sacrifice of his only Son was done out of his great love for us. Our response to this incredible news should be one of great joy and appreciation that we are made clean by the death and resurrection of Jesus. Let us always remember the sacrifice that God offered for us.

Peace,  
Deacon Dare

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, February 24

4:00PM VIGIL Sister Bernadette Mary / CSV

### Sunday, February 25

7:30AM Kathleen Murphy (Living Intention) / Diane Temple

10:30AM Sal Angotti / The Davidson Family (Matt, Suzanne, Maura Kate, Luke, Lydia, and Madeline)

5:00PM Lillian Maio / Loretta Nowicki

### Monday, February 26

7:45AM Parishioners of Holy Cross

### Tuesday, February 27

7:45AM Frank Reynolds / Bob & Nina Walters

### Wednesday, February 28

7:45AM Christian Hall / Hall & Montoya Families

### Thursday, February 29

7:45AM Barbara Santaro / Dan Park

### Friday, February 23

7:45AM Frank Reynolds / Thomas Maguire

9:15AM Nancy A. Hogan AND Mass League Intentions

### Saturday, March 1

9:00AM Kathleen Nappi / MaryLee and Tom Muench

4:00PM VIGIL Douglas Klepper / Joanne & Ken Andrews

### Sunday, March 2

7:30AM Ronald G. Kinney / Wife AND John P. Lynn / Mary Lynn Collins

10:30AM Fran Giacobbi / Holy Cross Faith Formation

5:00PM Daniel Glauber / Tom & Bob Beaudoin

### MASS LEAGUE ENROLLMENT

Lucy McLean / Sally Talarczyk  
Mary Linh Dang / Family

# News & Events

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## Joseph's House Baby Bottle Drive

### GRAB A BOTTLE FROM THE LOBBY

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. 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.** Visit [jhfw.org/baby-bottle-drive](http://jhfw.org/baby-bottle-drive) to give online and learn more.

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## Girl Scout Cookie Sales

### MARCH 2-3, 2024 | 4PM, 1030AM, 5PM MASSES

Thank you to everyone who supported our Holy Cross Girl Scout Troop 60500 last weekend. The girls annually give 10% of their earnings from Holy Cross sales to the Educate-a-Child Fund and donated boxes of cookies go to the food pantry.

They'll be back the weekend of March 2-3 at the 4PM, 1030AM, and 5PM Masses. To have your order ready for pickup, please call/text Kira at 315-383-3148 or email her at [kkrstrategy7@gmail.com](mailto:kkrstrategy7@gmail.com).

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## Monthly Movie: *The Hill*

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 | 1:00 PM

Join us on Tuesday, October 31 at 1:00 PM in Yeazel Hall for a free viewing of *The Hill*, the remarkable true-life story of Rickey Hill's improbable journey to play Major League Baseball. We hope you can join us! Refreshments provided.

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## 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. Learn more at [hcschooldewitt.org/auction](http://hcschooldewitt.org/auction)

Raffle tickets are available for purchase on our website at [hcschooldewitt.org/store](http://hcschooldewitt.org/store)

## Food Giving Weekend

### MARCH 2 - 3, 2024 | GRAB A BAG

Our February collection far exceeded all expectations. For all that was donated and for all of the hours of work to process the 200 bags of goodies and get it to where it was needed most—thank you everyone!

For this collection, the pantries are in need of the usual items, especially:

- Cereal
- Pancake Mix & syrup
- Soup
- Canned Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Dried Beans
- Cake mixes
- Graham Crackers
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Easter candy
- Bar Soap

Feel free to donate Girl Scout cookies!

Volunteers continue to be needed on collection weekend for a few minutes. Anyone can pitch in; we have lots of tasks, mostly before and after Mass. Stop by the food collection for more information. Thank you so much!

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## Parish Team at Samaritan Center

### PARISH TEAM ON MARCH 3

The Samaritan Center is an interfaith effort of community members committed to serving the hungry and those in need in order to promote their welfare dignity and self sufficiency.

Join our team of parishioners that prepare and serve a meal on Sunday afternoons at the Samaritan Center. Holy Cross teams provide & serve the meal about once a month. Prep shifts start at 11:30 AM and meals begin at 12:30 PM. Clean up is usually concluded by 3:00 PM.

All are welcome to participate in this meaningful and important outreach program.

Upcoming dates for our parish team:

- **Sunday, March 3, 2024**

To join our team of volunteers on specific date and time or if you have any questions, contact Rick Coughlin at [philiprcoughlin@gmail.com](mailto:philiprcoughlin@gmail.com)

# LENT



## Scripture Reflection & Adoration

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT | 6:30 PM**

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.

- **FEB 28:** Exodus 12:21-27, Deut 8:2-3; 14b-16a
- **MAR 6:** Hebrews 9:11-15; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

## 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!

## 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

## 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.



# 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](http://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



## Parish Eucharistic Revival

### THE MASS: INTERCESSIONS

As a conclusion to the Liturgy of the Word, we pray together, asking God for our needs. This part of the Mass has several names, including the Prayer of the Faithful, General Intercessions, Universal Prayer, or Petitions. They are prayed in a general way, typically following a pattern of praying for the needs of the Church, for public authorities and the salvation of the world, for those burdened by any kind of difficulty, and for the local community. Often, the final intercession will include prayers for the deceased. While these prayers are envisioned to be “general,” the General Instruction of the Roman Missal does note that for a particular celebration like a Confirmation or a wedding, “the series of intentions may be concerned more closely with the particular occasion” (GIRM, 70). After the series of petitions, the Prayer of the Faithful ends with the concluding prayer said by the priest, asking God to accept our petitions.

Praying together as Christians has been part of our life from the beginning. As Charles Belmonte notes, “To pray for the needs of the Church and the world is an early Christian custom. St. Paul admonishes Timothy, one of his disciples: ‘First of all, then, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity.’ (1 Tim 2:1–2)” (Understanding the Mass, p. 104). This part of the Mass stretches back to those earliest descriptions of the Mass, including the one by St. Justin Martyr (+165 AD).

Having just listened to God’s Word and professed together our Faith through the Creed, we are then standing united in faith as we ask God for what we need. Jesus has told us that our prayers are powerful when even two agree on intentions (Matthew 18:19). How powerful is our prayer when the whole Church is joined together in union.

Excerpt from Eucharistic Revival Blog Part 30,  
Fr. Luke Spannagel, July 11, 2023  
[eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org)

## Council Update

Dear Parishioners,

The Council continues to work and discuss Adoration and Eucharistic Revival, especially in preparation for Lenten devotion. The Council encourages all parishioners to participate in the many Lenten services: morning Masses, Adoration, Sunday Masses, Stations of the Cross (Fridays), Penance, Bible study, and Holy Week. We will be presenting short videos on Adoration, including one being planned by our new Youth Council member, Alaina DiBiase to emphasize the importance of strengthening our relationship with Christ. Father Kurgan focused on this in Sunday’s homily—asking all of us to reflect on, and to build, our relationship with prayer and Christ during the upcoming Lenten season.

Additionally, we are adding an annual event for Holy Cross. Prior to Cookie Dunham’s death, (a Holy Cross trustee) Cookie asked me for any yarn I might have for her sister, Sister Mary Obrist, and the Franciscan nuns at the Villa. I periodically visit Joanne Fabrics to purchase skeins of yarn for the sisters who knit hats for the newborns at St. Joseph’s Hospital. In memory of Cookie and the nuns who continue their charitable service by knitting for newborn and youth for the hospital and our diocese, the Council will have a yarn drive every February. If success exceeds the nuns’ needs, we will share yarn with our own Holy Cross knitting group and others who knit for newborns and youth. So, if you have odds and ends of yarn or happen to buy a few skeins of yarn, please distribute them in the box at the entrance. We will be collecting yarn through March 17. Thank you in advance for helping us remember Cookie and the many sisters who continue to serve our community!

May God Bless us all as we identify our Lenten goals and journey to keep them through the Lenten season.

Karen Markoff

HC Pastoral Council President

Please feel free to contact any Council members if you have concerns or ideas about how we can better serve you. Our next meeting is March 21 at 5:30 PM in Yeazel Hall, and we invite anyone to attend, especially if you would be interested in running for a Council seat in June.

**Holy Cross Council members:** Father Kurgan, Father Foley, Beth Shafer, Bill Leiker, Kathy Relihan, Mary Haley, Kay Sgarlata, Rita Chanthasensak, Ron DeLuca, Carl Thomas, Paul Sansone, Jolie Johnston. Non-voting members: Tom Griffin, Kathy Kotz, Nina Walters

## PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in prayer

Margaret Blanchfield, Connie Chase, Kathleen Crouch, Sue Fillingner, 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

## 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 FEBRUARY 18: REPORTED IN NEXT ISSUE

### UPCOMING DIOCESAN/NATIONAL SECOND COLLECTION

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: MARCH 10, 2024

Contribution statements for 2023 are available by calling the parish office at 315-446-0473 or by emailing [peg@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:peg@holycrossdewitt.org)

## 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.

## THIS WEEK AT HC

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

6:45 AM Faith Formation (9-12), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
9:00 AM Unlocking the Bible, Yeazel Hall  
1:00 PM Monthly Movie, Yeazel Hall

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

6:45 AM Faith Formation (5-8), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
6:30 PM Lenten Reflection, Church  
7:00 PM Adoration, Church  
7:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

7:45 AM Faith Formation (1-4), Y. Hall  
7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
12:00 PM Unlocking the Bible, Yeazel Hall  
6:00 PM Unlocking the Bible, Yeazel Hall  
7:00 PM Lux Mundi, Rooms 1-8  
7:00 PM Men's Group, Conference Room  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

7:45 AM Daily Mass, Church  
8:15 AM Stations of the Cross, Church  
9:15 AM School Mass, Church  
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross, Church

### SATURDAY, MARCH 2

9:00 AM Daily Mass, Church  
9:45 AM DPC Meeting, Yeazel Hall  
3:00 PM Reconciliation, Church  
3:30 PM Girl Scout Cookie Sales, Lobby  
4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Church

### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
SAMARITAN CENTER SERVICE DAY  
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  
11:00 AM HCS Basketball Breakfast, Y. Hall  
1:30 PM FE Practice & Mass, Yeazel Hall  
4:30 PM Girl Scout Cookie Sales, Lobby  
4:40 PM Evening Prayer, Church  
5:00 PM Mass, Church

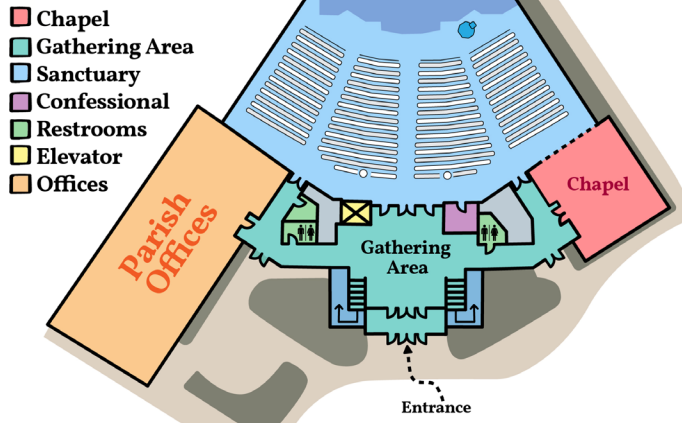
Get the latest event details at [holycrossdewitt.org/events](https://holycrossdewitt.org/events)



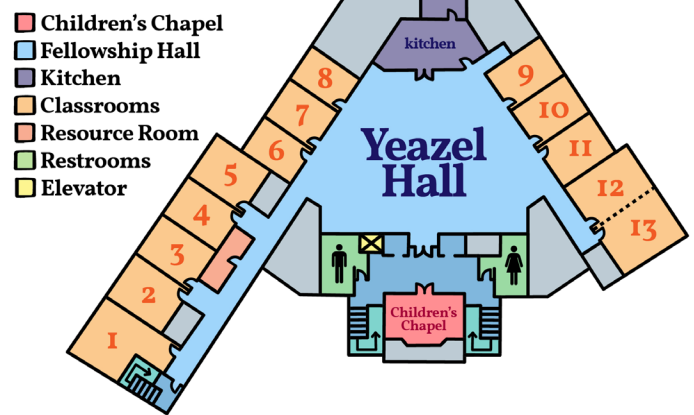
# Parish Office

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 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.

<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>