

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

610

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." - Jn 11:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPi

Readings for the week of March 29, 2020

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/ Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/ Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/ Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/ Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/ Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/ Jn 8:51-59 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/ Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/ Jn 10:31-42 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/ Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/ Jn 11:45-56

Are you a new parishioner or visiting for the first time?

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to one of the priests. We invite you to become an active participant of our parish community and welcome you. Please take a census envelope from the racks at each exit or contact the Parish Office.

OUR MISSION "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."

Stay connected with your parish family!

We are so glad you are here with us at Holy Cross! We invite you to connect with our community. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to get the latest news, photos and stories or subscribe to our weekly brief delivered right to your inbox.

Visit www.holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe to see more.



Mass Times

View Mass on TV or online.

We'll share more resources
at <u>crown.holycrossdewitt.org</u>
for this, but you can find
Masses with Bishop Lucia
at <u>youtube.com/syrdio</u> &
Masses from around the world
at places like <u>CatholicTV</u>.

Upcoming Events:

Please check the Holy
Cross Web site
www.holycrossdewitt.org
for up to date
Information.



Sunday, March 29th Fifth Sunday of Lent

Stanley Germain/ Ed & Lola Gualtieri Aungier & McManus Families/ Family

Betty Galletta/ John Visco

Monday, March 30th

Earl & Helen Steenburgh/ M/M James Barnello 9:00 AM –3:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church **Tuesday, March 31**st

Stanley Blanchfield/ Elizabeth Aliasso & daughters 9:00 AM –3:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church **Wednesday, April 1**st

Serafina "Mary Battaglia/ Al & Joann Paparo 9:00 AM –3:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church 7:00 - 8:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church

Thursday, April 2nd

People of Holy Cross

9:00 AM –3:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church

Friday, April 3rd

Mass League

Maria Lee/ Tina Lee

9:00 AM –3:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church

Saturday, April 4th

Joseph Maio/ The Maio Family

Kenneth Cooper/ Family

12:00 – 2:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church

Sunday, April 5th - Palm Sunday

Don Foster/ Family

Richard J. Pospiech/ Joanne & Bob Gardino

Rosalind Pristash/ Jerome & Ellen Pristash

Due to the suspension of all Public Masses. The weekday and weekend Mass Intentions will be said on the day intended at a Private Mass. We apologize for any inconvenience. Please know of our prayers for each and everyone of you during this difficult time.

March 29th, 2020 5th Sunday of Lent

Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we



are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?

PLANNED GIVING FOR OUR PARISH

Please consider our parish through:

- Your Will or Trust
- Retirement Assets
- Life Insurance Policies

A Life Income Gift which will provide you with payments for life and ultimately will benefit our parish.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Credit card and electronic donations are now possible through the Holy Cross website: www.holycrossdewitt.org/give

What about Mass Offerings? We encourage you to continue to support Holy Cross parish & her ministries & programs through weekly or monthly offerings. Because of your goodness, we have been able to adapt to this changing landscape & provide updates communications, resources, support, & programs to our community and to our neighbors in need. To help support this mission, become an online giver by visiting www.holycrossdewitt.org/give or mail in your envelopes to the Parish Office.

Thank you

YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT

\$19,704.88 Average weekly need \$ Collection of March 22

\$ Catholic Relief Service Collection

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF YOUR PARISH!



Shannon Adams, Diana Arnold, Frank Blizzard, Leana Mae Bonnell, David Carr, Vince Cichello, Armand Cincotta, Linda Cote', Ricco Gauf, Katie Glisson, Richard Griffin, Yvonne Grocott, Virginia Grosso, Mason Hallenbeck, Adriana Hampel, Daniel C. Healy, Elaine Hill, Macey Horbauch, Susan Keller, Jane Koszulka, Kathy Kotz, John Laura, Rory Lennon, Penny Locke, Edward Loftus, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dominick M., Austin & Tres Mahan, Mary McArdle, Noah McNeil, Gail Moloney, Angela Martin, Mary Mayle, Monica Miranda, Tracey Montague, Faith Muller, Al Paparo, Deanna Peters, Wayne Queror, Mona Rawles, Micah Schwiezer, Brian Semerao, Dawn Simmonds, Kay Simon, Joseph Smith, Stephen Smith, Rita Smookler, Eleanor Sullivan, Shelly Tortora, Steve Wafer, and Kristin Woodmansee.

If you would like us to add someone to this list, we ask that only family members call the office or email Peg@ holycrossdewitt.org. We will keep them on for three months unless you notify us otherwise. Thank you.

Notify the Parish Office

If a loved one has been admitted to the hospital, please inform the parish office of which hospital and their room number. The priests or deacon would like to make a pastoral visit, but that cannot happen without being notified by the families. Due to HIPPA laws, the hospitals cannot share that information with the parish. In addition, if a loved one is admitted to a nursing home or rehab facility, please notify the office. Thank you.

More Suggestions

With the disruption of the opportunity to attend Mass, many may be wondering how to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We realize that there is a desire to receive Holy Communion by many of the faithful. The Church encourages those who are not able to receive communion to make an act of Spiritual Communion. We encourage you to make a Spiritual Communion by praying the following:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

View Mass on TV or online. We'll share out more resources at crown.holycrossdewitt.org for this, but you can find Masses with Bishop Lucia at youtube.com/syrdio and Masses from around the world at places like CatholicTV.

Continue to pray from home and participate in at home Stations of the Cross, reciting the Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, meditating on the Scriptures and more. During our Crown Retreat we will give you more resources and depth for doing these if you're new to them.

What about Mass Offerings? We encourage you to continue to support Holy Cross parish and her ministries and programs through weekly or monthly offerings. Because of your goodness, we have been able to adapt to this changing landscape and provide updates communications, resources, support, and programs to our community and to our neighbors in need. To help support this mission, become a recurring online giver by going to the Holy Cross website.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

ALL PUBLIC GATHERINGS FOR MASS, PRAYER, FAITH FOR-MATION, AND CERTAIN PARISH ACTIVITIES ARE

Hours

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

- The Main Church will be open for Private Prayer and Devotion between 9am and 3pm Monday to Saturday and from Noon to 2pm on Sundays. Also, 7-8pm Wednesday.
- Confession at above times by appointment only. Please call the office for an appointment.
- These hours may change so to be sure check the website
- You may call the Parish Office if you are in need of assistance.

Bishop Lucia also asks that you pray the Novena above for 9 days. The Novena can then be restarted.

NOVENA PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and world-wide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

First Friday Mass League Enrollment

Victoria Conte DeFrancisco ~ Husband

Upcoming Bulletin Deadline Change

The deadline for the bulletin of April 12th
(Easter Sunday) will be Wednesday, April
1st at 9am.



All notices received after these deadlines will be published in the following bulletin. Thank you!



Daily Prayer and Formation for ALL

When schools closed and parish Masses and activities were suspended earlier this week, we knew we would be adapting to a whole new way of life that hasn't been seen in our lifetime. As a result of this, our Youth & Families team immediately began putting pre-established plans into motion so that faith formation for our students would continue at home via distance learning. We then had a lightening bolt (aka Steve) of inspiration. That this time of isolation can be a time of spiritual renewal for our entire parish community.

From Isolation to Spiritual Renewal

While we still grapple with the unknowns and extent of this pandemic on the world stage and in our own personal lives, we are confronted with a new style of life lived separated from others and confined to our homes and family members. Like monks that use isolation to develop a rich, inner faith life and grow closer to God, we too can turn our own homes into mini-monasteries. So before you fill all of your time with Netflix binges and Zoom parties, start thinking now how you will introduce more prayer and development into your day. To help with this endeavor and to continue our faith formation studies at home for our students, we have created a website with daily updates encouraging 20 minutes of guided prayer and 20 minutes of guided intellectual formation.

Check it out here: <u>crown.holycrossdewitt.org</u>

To get daily update reminders about The Crown retreat, choose <u>update your subscriptions settings</u>, and be sure the box for "The Crown Daily" is checked.

And stay tuned! As we have some fun, interactive activities and live, online events starting up soon.

2019 Tax Contribution Statements

If you wish to have a tax statement sent to your home, please fill
out the form below. You may put it in the collection basket or
drop it off at the office. You may also email the information to
Peg@holycrossdewitt.org.

Name:	 	 	
Address:			

Message From the Pastor

Dear Holy Cross Family,

I pray that you & your extended family are safe & remaining healthy at this difficult time for our world, nation, & Church.

Seminary taught us how to celebrate Mass in private. The professor told us we would seldom need to do this. I have only done so infrequently, but now along with all



priests in our diocese, find that I do this daily. We celebrate Mass without a congregation so the Mass intention of the day is offered, and that we pray for our parish community. While it is a distinct privilege to do so, I must say that I miss all of you terribly. A parish is not a parish without parishioners! Please know how important all of you are to us!

I would invite us to embrace the difficulty we face with optimism. We must not waste this time of solitude. We need to turn our minds and hearts to God during this time in order to strengthen our relationship with Him. God will see us through this time! Please continue to pray for your fellow parishioners, our diocese, nation and world. Pray especially for all those who have contracted this disease. None of us will ever forget this Lenten Season!

Fr. Kurgan

Important Information

Out of concern for public health & following directives and recommendations from the Diocese of Syracuse, Department of Health, and CDC, ALL public gatherings (including Mass & Stations of the Cross) & parish activities and events at Holy Cross are cancelled until further notice.

PRIVATE PRAYER AND DEVOTION

The main church will be **open** from Monday-Saturday, 9 AM - 3 PM and on Sunday from 12 PM - 2 PM for for private prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available Wednesday evening from 7 PM - 8 PM. Please maintain appropriate social distancing if praying in the church.

ONLINE RESOURCES AND COMMUNICATION

We have online resources and communications available to our parish community to keep you connected and informed during this tumultuous time. Subcribe to our weekly **Youth & Families** newsletter for formation and family resources to encourage you and your youth during isolation, and special editions of our weekly **Bulletin Brief** newsletter with content and resources for prayer, growth, and devotion during this time. **Sign up today to stay informed during these strange days!**

Lenten Reflections

Walk with the Lord daily this Lent. Sign up at https://formed.org/daily to receive daily reflections directly to your inbox. Be inspired & renewed each morning with clips from Catholic authors, speakers, movies, talks, & more. FORMED Daily has turned into LENTEN REFLECTIONS on Ash Wednesday.

A LETTER TO THE PEOPLE FROM BISHOP LUCIA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP March 16, 2020

Dear Diocesan Family,

Peace be with you! I write to you at this time of national and worldwide emergency to encourage you in your own personal prayer, fasting, and charitable works as we enter more deeply into our Lenten journey in ways we never expected.

Today, I announce that due to the Coronavirus and its relentless spread and effect on the most vulnerable of our society, all public gatherings for Mass, prayer, Faith Formation, and certain parish activities (see list) are suspended effective immediately. It is my hope and prayer that I will be able to lift this suspension in time for Holy Week and Easter, but that will have to be a decision for a later date. Correspondingly, during this time period the faithful are dispensed from their Sunday obligation to participate in Holy Mass. This decision is not an easy one. For 57 years ofmy own life, Sunday Mass and Daily Mass during Lent have been a staple for me. Never did I think or ever imagine I would have to ask people not to gather for the Holy Eucharist. Nonetheless, I recognize my own obligation to ensure the health of the faithful, including our clergy, both spiritually and physically. By implementing effective social distancing measures, the Diocese of Syracuse supports the common good of all citizens and prioritizes the dignity of every human life, especially those most susceptible to the virus at this time.

I know that some of the Catholic faithful will be saddened and even upset by the decision to cancel Masses. This decision is based on the recommendations from both local and national emergency management and public health agencies and the immediate need to halt the spread of the Coronavirus. My hope is that this restriction of the public celebration of the Mass will be for a very limited period. For the time being, it is necessary to keep in mind the common good of public health and the importance of doing our part in preventing the spread of the coronavirus by avoiding large gatherings (which operative number according to the Center for Disease Control is 50). My Daily Mass will be livestreamed on the Internet and we are looking to provide also the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration, and a Lenten Retreat by such means.

As Catholics, caring for our spiritual and sacramental lives is paramount. Therefore, priests (physical health and age permitting) are available for sacramental emergencies and pastoral appointments while maintaining the necessary public health precautions. At the pastor's discretion, churches may remain open for personal prayer, but public devotions such as the Stations of the Cross or other prayer services should be suspended to avoid large gatherings. Instead, I encourage you to make these devotions in private; the Diocesan website will provide resources to facilitate such prayer. If a parish already has regularly scheduled or perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, it should take place in a larger space (for example, the main church instead of a chapel) where sufficient social distancing (the CDC recommends at least 6 feet) is possible. If a church is open, pastors are to ensure that there is a thorough daily cleaning of all surfaces and that social distancing is maintained.

A particular concern are weddings and funerals. These may proceed but attendance should be limited to immediate family. Likewise, baptisms already scheduled may proceed but attendance should likewise be limited and fresh water be used for each baptism. Of course, in the case of emergency, baptism should always be conferred. Please also maintain social distancing for these events as described in the above paragraph. The individual reception of the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) may continue to be offered, but we have asked priests to move to a larger room/space for greater distance between priest and penitent and the use of a screen to block airflow between priest and penitent.

In pastoral care of the sick, please assist the priests in their effort to follow all protocols recommended by health professionals. In the event that a priest is asked to anoint someone with the coronavirus, the Code of Canon Law permits the use of an instrument (CIC 1000 §2), for example, a cotton swab. In such case, the used instrument should not come in contact again with the oil stock and should be disposed of in a reverent manner. In case of necessity, a single anointing on the forehead or on any other part of the body with the entire sacramental form ("Through this holy anointing ... May the Lord who frees you from sin ...") suffices (CIC 1000 § 1; PCS, 23). With the temporary suspension of Sunday Mass, the public celebration of the RCIA scrutinies are also suspended. The Office of Worship will provide further guidance and any adaptations for the Easter celebration of the Sacraments will be addressed in future correspondence.

With public masses being cancelled, there will likely be financial and operational impacts to your parish. Parishioners can help their parish out by mailing their offering or by online contributions. I have also decided to postpone the start of the Annual Hope Appeal until we have a better grasp of the economic impact that this national emergency will have on the families of our diocese. At the pastor's discretion, parish offices may remain open with essential staff. If your parish offices are open, be assured that regular cleaning of the office space will occur and appropriate social distancing should be observed.

Many people's lives are being disrupted by the Coronavirus and our attempts to stop its rapid spread. In this season of Lent, let us increase our prayers, fasting and charitable works, so that God's great compassion and love may be a source of hope and consolation for all. Please check in on your neighbor, especially the elderly and those who may be isolated in any way.

Please check our diocesan website for updates & further guidance. Let us keep each other - and all those impacted - in prayer during this time. Know I will remember you at Mass and in my daily prayer.

May God watch over & bless each member of our Diocesan Family!

In Christ our Hope,

Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia Bishop of Syracuse

Looking for a way to put your Faith in Action?

For more information or to volunteer, contact Beth Schafer: 315-416-4576 or beth@holycrossdewitt.org

"If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places--and there are so many--where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction." Howard Zinn, The Optimism of Uncertainty

The Spiritual Works of Mercy & the Coronavirus:

Our food drive is postponed at this time. What would Jesus do? The Spiritual Works of Mercy are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbors with their emotional & spiritual needs.: to pray, instruct, advise, console, comfort, forgive & bear wrongs patiently. The current situation gives us plenty of opportunity to practice those acts of compassion.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Are you homebound or in need of help? Our NHN group is willing to assist you by checking on you by telephone, or running an errand for you if you are homebound. Call Beth (315) 416-4576 or email Diane: helpingneigh-bors@holycrossdewitt.org

Please adopt these tactics as a way of protecting others who may be more vulnerable-even if you are not concerned about the risk to yourself.

Have compassion for those most at risk.

Don't take what you don't need-hoarding worsens the situation and impacts the most vulnerable.

Leave the masks to others-our health care workers are desperately low.

Advocate for the vulnerable and targeted.

Check in on vulnerable neighbors and offer to help with specific tasks.

Thank those who are serving us & protecting us: Be gentle & kind.

Pray for all those affected by the crisis.

All Faith in Action activities during the month of March and April are canceled. Check online for updates: www. holycrossdewitt.org

Refugee Assistance: when you are cleaning out your closet this spring, please keep refugee families in mind: **Refugee Closet:** Clean, gently used clothing, children's clothing can be left in the marked bins located here, in the downstairs hall closet nearest the water fountain.

Refugee Family: Most of the children in the refugee family will be playing soccer in the spring. If you have used soccer cleats, or if you are willing to donate toward the purchase of shoes or cleats, please contact Beth.

Catholic Media - Augustine Institute

FORMED

Watch: Kapaun's Men (a series for men offering opportunities for discussion and weekly challenges)

Watch: Jesus and His Church with Cardinal Dolan

Listen: Relativism: Do you Know how it is Affecting You by

Chris Stefanik

CATHOLIC MEDIA KIOSK

CD: "Seven Last Sayings of Christ" by Dr. Scott Hahn
In this revealing presentation, Dr. Scott Hahn unlocks for us the
deeper significance of Our Lord's last words on the cross, carefully chosen so that we might better understand the immense love of
God for every person and His plan of salvation. Learn how Jesus'
words are as profound and gripping today as when He uttered
them on that first Good Friday.

SACRAMENTS

 $\underline{\textbf{Baptism}} \sim \text{Please call the Parish Office}$

<u>Marriage</u> ~ Please make an appointment with a priest at least 6 months

Penance ~ Wednesday, 7-8PM

to make arrangements Classes required for 1st child's Baptism

prior to wedding

†To request either the Anointing of the Sick or Communion to the Sick please call the Parish Office.†

HOLY CROSS PARISH

4112 E. Genesee St., DeWitt, NY 13214 Church Office – Phone: 315 446-0473, FAX: 315 446-7608 Website: holycrossdewitt.org E-Mail: info@holycrossdewitt.org

Holy Cross Parish Staff ~ Name, Title and Phone Extension

Rev. John J. Kurgan, Pastor, ext. 15

Rev. Matthew E. Rawson, Parochial Vicar, ext. 36

Rev. Charles S. Vavonese, Weekend Homilist

Deacon Dare Dutter, ext. 16

Ernest J. Camerota, Director of Music, ext. 38

Brette Cooper, Maintenance

Josh Corcoran, Music Sunday 5pm Mass

Dan Littlepage, Director of Technology, ext. 33

Leigh C. Marquis, Director of Finance & Human Resources, ext. 24

Maureen McManus, Sacristan

Stephen Nepil, Dir. Faith Formation 7-12 & Dir. Youth Ministry ext. 19

Peg Olson, Office Manager & Administrative Assistant, ext. 22

Beth Schafer, Director of Faith in Action Ministry, ext. 13

Julie Sheridan, Dir. Faith Formation 1-6 & Evangelization, ext. 12

Matt Stano, Maintenance

PARISH INFORMATION

■ <u>Please notify the Parish Office</u> when a parishioner or family member is confined to home, hospitalized, or entering a

nursing home. Hospitals no longer notify us of a patient's admittance. Also, please notify us with change of: address, phone number or email.

■ Bulletin items need to be in the parish office no later than Monday at 9am for the upcoming weekend. (holiday deadlines will change) E-mail preferred; please send to: peg@holycrossdewitt.org

- Hearing impaired ear phones are available in the Robing Room in the front lobby.
- Pregnant and Need Help? Please call Catholic Charities 424-1800

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

4200 E. Genesee St., DeWitt, NY 13214 School Office – Phone: 315 446-4890, FAX: 315 446-4799 Website: hcschooldewitt.org E-Mail: moleary@syrdiocese.org

Staff ~ Name and Title

Martha O'Leary, School Principal

Joanne Markert - Administrative Assistant, Nina Walters - Nurse