



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

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

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### *Prayer for Vocations*

*Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant to our young people the generosity necessary to follow Your call and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation. Give the parents faith, love, and a spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. Let your example and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young people and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.*

### **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](http://www.holycrossdewitt.org/subscribe) to see more.



### **Mass Times**

**Daily Mass:** 7:45am

**Saturday:** 9:00am

#### **Reconciliation:**

Wed. 7:00-8:00pm

Sat. 3:00-3:30pm

#### **Sunday Mass**

**Vigil Sat.:** 4:00pm

**Sun.:** 7:30am, 10:30am &

5:00 pm

**View Sunday & Daily Mass on  
online - [holycrossdewitt.org](http://holycrossdewitt.org)**

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Please check page 5 of the  
bulletin for this week's  
events.**

**PLEASE WATCH THE HC  
WEBSITE FOR CURRENT IN-  
FORMATION ON MASSES,  
REGISTRATION FOR MASSES  
& DEVOTIONS & REGULA-  
TIONS FOR ATTENDANCE.**



**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Lent**

7:30am Family of Patrick Mannion (Living Intention)/  
Kevin & Karly Mannion

10:30am William Pole/ Kathy Kotz

5:00pm Joan McNamara/ Rita & Peter Bergamo

**Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Tamara Ivanova/ Felix Ivanova & Family

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Deceased Members of Cathedral Candle Co.

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Parishioners of Holy Cross

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

7:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Penance

**Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Living Intention for Loretta Nowicki

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

**Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

7:45am Mary Binsley/ Family

8:15am Stations of the Cross

9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Anna Soluri/ Reese Ristau

4:00pm John Stach/ Loretta Nowicki

3:00 - 3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

7:30am Ann Lowney/ Family

10:30am Dennis Bilbo/ Dutter Family

5:00pm Susan Blizzard Halleran/ Tim & Cindy McCall

**Spiritual Reflection for Sunday March 7, 2021**

**Exodus 20: 1-17**

**Ps: 19:8-11**

**I Corinthians 1: 22-25**

**John 2: 13-25**

What do we demand out of our relationship with God? For what do we look? Saint Paul addresses these questions in his First Letter to The Corinthians. Paul says that Jews demand signs and the Greeks (Gentiles) seek wisdom, but for those who God calls, no matter they be Jew or Gentile, they see Christ as the one who is the “power of God and the wisdom of God.”



We must remember that the people to whom St. Paul writes are from divergent faith practices. They are used to demanding signs, or they may desire to relegate faith to something that can be proved, not just believed, but Paul insists that they have been given both signs and proof that Jesus the Christ is the one for whom they search. Paul also suggests those called by God are able to discern the presence of the true Messiah.

Paul goes on to say, “For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” For us who have been called are asked this Lenten season to put aside the doubt that demands a sign, and the doubt that cause us to demand God prove his love for us. The signs of God’s love are among us, and especially in Lent, we can see the desire within ourselves to more closely unite ourselves to Christ. This desire in itself is the proof that we are created by a loving God who wants us to be close to him, not only in his time of suffering, but in his resurrection as well.

Peace,  
Fr. John Kurgan

Next weekend’s 2nd collection is:  
Catholic Relief Service

**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.

**YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT**

**\$19,704.88 Average weekly need**

\$14,641.60 collection of Feb. 21

\$16,722.60 collection of Feb. 28

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT  
OF YOUR PARISH!**

**Your support is invaluable. Thank You**

During these uncertain times, please 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 updated communications, resources, support & programs to our community and to our neighbors in need. Please remember to help support our mission. You may become an online giver by visiting [www.holycrossdewitt.org/give](http://www.holycrossdewitt.org/give). Online giving is through Vanco, which is a secure site. **You have the option of giving using your credit card number or by having an electronic fund transfer.** Or mail in your gift to the Parish Office (4112 E. Genesee Street, DeWitt, New York 13214).

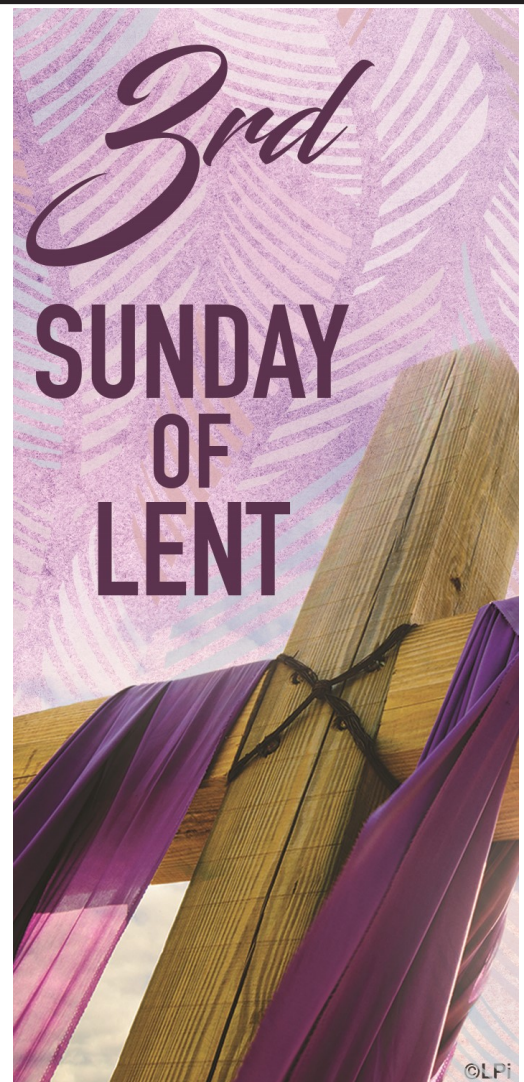
# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2021

- SUN 3/07** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
- MON 3/08** 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30
- TUE 3/09** Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
- WED 3/10** Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20]/Mt 5:17-19
- THR 3/11** Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23
- FRI 3/12** Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
- SAT 3/13** Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14
- SUN 3/14** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2021

- Sunday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** St. John of God, Religious
- Tuesday:** St. Frances of Rome, Religious
- Sunday:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins



### Pray the Rosary Daily

Most mornings after daily Mass (8:15am) a group gathers to pray the Rosary. It is informal, and open to anyone who would like to pray.



**Please join us!**

*Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

*Mt 18:19-20*

### Spiritual Adoption Program -Month Seven

“I can look around!” Beginning this month the baby uses all four senses. It’s eyelids open and close and the eyes look around. The baby can hear, taste, touch, cough, yawn and hiccup. It now recognizes its own mother’s voice. Its grip is even stronger now than it will be after its birth. The hair on its head is growing longer and the downy covering on the rest of its body is disappearing. During this time the baby will receive antibodies from his mother providing him immunity to a wide variety of diseases. The baby is about 15 inches in length. Thank you for praying!



## Prayer REQUESTS

Garth H. Bishop, Eden & Mackenzie Bishop, Barbara Boyd, Terry Chylinski, Armand Cincotta, Tom Coyne, Mark Cywilko, John Galletta, Stanley Jakimek, Sharon Kieffer, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Monique Missoff, Mary Elizabeth Morgan, Faith Muller, Patricia Pool, Rita Smookler and John Toole.

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](mailto:Peg@holycrossdewitt.org). We will keep them on for three months unless you notify us otherwise.

Thank you.

### Private Prayer Hours

The Main Church will be open for Private Prayer and Devotion between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday.

**When visiting the church, you are required to wear a mask and to use social distancing.**

These hours may change so check the website.

 **Lenten Activities** ©LPI

**Christ The King Retreat House “He Reigns” Tour**  
**March 18th at Holy Cross 6-8pm**

Christ The King Retreat House is excited to present the “He Reigns” parish mission tour for the Diocese of Syracuse! This new initiative is inspired by Saint Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio and encourages parish communities to allow the kingship of Christ to prosper in the hearts of the domestic household! Allowing Christ to reign means drawing our families into a more intimate relationship with a Messiah who has promised to rescue, govern and fulfill the deepest longings of His people.

This one-night mission is designed to appeal to family members of all ages! The evening will include: Inspirational praise and worship from Syracuse’ very own Jeremy Bobak, 3 riveting mini talks from the Diocesan Director of Vocations, Father Jason Hage and moments of contemplative prayer led by Christ The King Retreat House Executive Director Chris Spilka. Families will also have an opportunity to pray in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and consecrate their families to Christ The King!

Viva El Cristo Rey! (Long live Christ The King!) -*Saint Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio*

**Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. See the Holy Cross website under “News & Events” for more to sign up.**



**IGNITE 2021 Catholic Men's Conference:**  
**Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

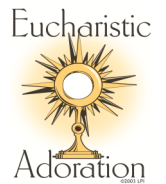
Attention men of the parish, the theme for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual IGNITE Men’s Conference is *Take Refuge in the Lord*. As usual there are 3 tremendous speakers that will challenge all who attend. We will be running a “hybrid” conference this year. You will have 2 ways to participate. Attend in person at a local satellite site, Holy Cross is one of the satellite sites or you can participate at home. When you register you can choose how you would like to participate. With the “hybrid” format, we will have a half day event - 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. **To register go to the Holy Cross website under “News & Events”**. If you have questions- please contact our parish captain Anthony Grasso -[anthonyjgrasso@yahoo.com](mailto:anthonyjgrasso@yahoo.com).

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

- Every Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00pm in the chapel
- Every Saturday at 3:00 - 3:30pm in the chapel
- By Appointment

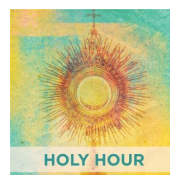
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**7:00 - 8:00pm on Wednesdays.**

Please register online as you do for Mass if you are planning on attending. We begin the hour in the church with Adoration & will conclude with Solemn Benediction.



**Confessions Wednesday Evenings – Chapel**

Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered every **Wednesday from 7 to 8pm**. The peace of mind and soul which this sacrament imparts to us is one for which there is no substitute. Come enjoy the quietness of our Chapel and the forgiveness of our Savior.



**Holy Hour—8:15 to 9:15AM**

Join us on Mondays following the 7:45 Mass for a Holy Hour that will be held in the Church.

**Monday Night Prayer**

Each Monday Night at 8:00 pm, we will be offering Night Prayer live on our Facebook page. Please join us for this time of prayer and reflection.



**Stations of the Cross**

**Please join us Fridays during Lent** as we travel through the Stations of the Cross and identify with Jesus’ journey to Calvary. **Stations are at 8:15 am (following 7:45 am Mass) and at 7:00 pm.**



**Catholic Media - Augustine Institute**

**FORMED**

- Listen:** Freedom Through Forgiveness
- Watch:** Francis, The People’s Pope (Annvy of Pope Francis election)
- Listen:** Understanding the Lord's Prayer - Dr. Scott Hahn
- Listen:** Light in the Darkness: Living a Christian Life in a Secular World
- Listen:** Letter to the Elderly by St. John Paul II



**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](mailto:beth@holycrossdewitt.org)

**First Tuesday Sandwiches**

Thanks to our regular helpers and some new volunteers, we were able to provide Catholic Charities Men’s Shelter with over 350 sandwiches, bananas, cookies and fruit punch. Thank you to all who were able to put the sandwiches together at home and then deliver them to church by 10am on Tuesday morning!

**Thank you to March Hot Meal Volunteers**

On the Third Tuesday of this month, a hot meal for the Men’s Shelter will be prepared by Bill & Sue Sovik, Sue Thompson, and Jo & Ron Rabideau. Thank you to all who donate their time and food to provide a hot meal for hungry people in our community!

**Laudato Si Circle Online: Saturday, March 13th, 5pm**

Join us to talk about the ideas presented in the weekly Laudato Si Lenten Program that is inserted in the bulletin this month: your comments and ideas are encouraged! All are welcome to participate in the discussion about the gift of creation and our responsibility to care for it. Contact Beth for more info and a link to the next online meeting: [beth@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:beth@holycrossdewitt.org).



**Next Samaritan Center Sunday Dinner: March 21st**

Thank you to our wonderful parish volunteers who help to serve our monthly meals at the soup kitchen! There are 2 shift options for helping with the Sunday meals: 9am to noon, or noon to 3pm. Masks & social distancing are required to serve the take-out meals. If you can’t join us next month, another meal is scheduled for April 18th. To sign up for a date & time, contact Rick: [philiprcoughlin@gmail.com](mailto:philiprcoughlin@gmail.com)

**Wednesday Sandwiches at Road to Emmaus Ministry**

Thank you to Michelle Engle, Mark Wildrick, Sue Hines and Melody Foster for their faithful service at Emmaus Ministry on Wednesdays. Emmaus continues to serve hungry families on the southside of Syracuse with sandwiches, hot meals and children’s activity packets. For more information about their work: <https://emmausministry.org>



**Jail Ministry Letters to inmates:**

Have you considered becoming a visitor advocate? Writing letters to inmates is a great way to begin. Currently the Justice Center has eliminated visits and increased the hours of isolation. Parishioners are invited to write to inmates in order to help them know of God’s love-and that they are not forgotten. If your heart is open to helping prisoners in this way, check out the website: <https://jailministrysyr.org/> or contact Keith Cieplicki : [jailministry@gmail.com](mailto:jailministry@gmail.com)

Be sure to pick up a “Little Black Book for Lent” before leaving today. You can find them on the tables near the bulletins.

**THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES**

**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> - Food Giving Weekend**

9:00 AM RCIA Session - virtual

**Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

8:00 PM Night Prayer - Live on HC Facebook

**Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

**Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 AM Stations of the Cross - Church

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross - Church

**Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 - 3:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

5:00 PM Laudato Si Circle – online


**Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM RCIA Session– virtual

**OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office is open Monday thru Friday from 8am to 4pm except during the noon hour (12pm to 1pm). You may call and leave a message anytime (315) 446-0473.

**Daylight Saving Time Begins Next Weekend**



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour next weekend before you go to bed on Saturday night.

**Note From Fr. Matt**

Peace of Christ,

I hope everyone is doing well. I wanted to take this opportunity to let everyone know that I am settling in at my new assignment at Christ Our Hope Parish in Boonville.

I also want to take this time to thank everyone at Holy Cross for your generosity and support throughout my time with you, but most especially during the last few weeks as I settled into my new community. It was a joy to get to know all of you and to work with you in so many ways throughout the parish. Please know of my prayers for all of you.

God Bless,  
Fr Matt Rawson

**Father Matt’s Address**

If you would like to contact Fr. Matt, here is his address:  
Fr. Matt Rawson  
Christ Our Hope @ St. Joseph Church  
108 Charles Street  
Boonville, N.Y. 13309-1334

**Holy Cross School Auction**

Save the date for the 23rd Annual Holy Cross School Auction! Join us on Saturday, May 15th at 5:30pm for live and silent auctions, 50/50 raffle, and an amazing celebration. Registration and more info to come!

Questions? [thehcsauction@gmail.com](mailto:thehcsauction@gmail.com)



**A Family Perspective:**

Today's gospel says Jesus chased the merchants out of the temple, it does not say He was angry. Jesus teaches us to act from conviction and not from anger. He did not condemn the merchants, only their business practice. Attack the behavior and not the person.

**Syracuse Right To Life Oratory Contest**

Share your pro-life views at the 2021 Oratory Contest. Present an original pro-life speech, 5-7 minutes long on the topic of abortion, euthanasia or stem cell research. There are 2 divisions: 9th-10th graders with a first prize of \$50.00 and 11th-12th graders With prizes of \$250.00 for 1st, \$150.00 for 2nd; and \$50.00 for 3rd. For rules, more information & to enroll in the contest, contact Contest Coordinators: Holly Delavan (315)492-3956, Lorraine Kiehl (315)451-1788 or Syracuse Right to Life (315)546-2229. Also, there is a poster on the bulletin board.

**RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE**

Holy Cross School students will be selling raffle tickets after the 4 p.m. 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses to support the school. Raffle tickets are one for \$10.00 and 3 for \$25.00. Stop by the table in the Gathering Area.

**PRE-K ENROLLMENT**



Holy Cross School is beginning Pre-k enrollment for the 21-22 school year. The program is five full days & your child must be 4 by December 1st of that year. Please call (315-446-4890) to set up a private socially distanced tour with your child.

**Virtual Date Night - March 20, 2021**

Could you and your spouse use a dose of fun? Join other couples for some laughs and some time to reconnect. Hosts Chris & Linda Padgett are international speakers and authors who share their marriage journey in a fun, relevant, relatable way! Virtual Date Night is being offered through the Office of Family/Respect Life on the **third Saturday of every month from 8-9 pm on Zoom**. Register for March 20th at [syrdio.date.night.eventbrite.com](http://syrdio.date.night.eventbrite.com). Any questions contact the Office of Family/Respect Life at [familyrespectlife@syrdio.org](mailto:familyrespectlife@syrdio.org) (315) 472-6754 ext. 2.

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism** ~ Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements  
**Marriage** ~ Please make an appointment with a priest at least 6 months prior to wedding  
**Reconciliation** ~ Wednesday 7-8pm, Saturday 3 - 3:30pm  
 Or by appointment  
 †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](http://holycrossdewitt.org) ■ E-Mail: [info@holycrossdewitt.org](mailto:info@holycrossdewitt.org)

**Holy Cross Parish Staff ~ Name, Title and Phone Extension**

- Rev. John J. Kurgan, Pastor, ext. 15
- Rev. Charles S. Vavonese, Weekend Homilist
- Deacon Dare Dutter, ext. 13
- James Buttner, Seminarian
- Ernest J. Camerota, Director of Music, ext. 38
- Brette Cooper, Maintenance
- Josh Corcoran, Music Sunday 5pm Mass
- Dan Littlepage, Director of Technology, ext. 24
- 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. 21
- Julie Sheridan, Dir. Faith Formation 1-6 & Evangelization, ext. 12
- Matt Stano, Maintenance

**PARISH INFORMATION**

- **Please notify the Parish Office** 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](mailto: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](http://hcschooldewitt.org)  
 E-Mail: [rmccrone@syrdiocese.org](mailto:rmccrone@syrdiocese.org)

**Staff ~ Name and Title**

- Robert McCrone, School Principal
- Joanne Markert - Administrative Assistant, Nina Walters - Nurse

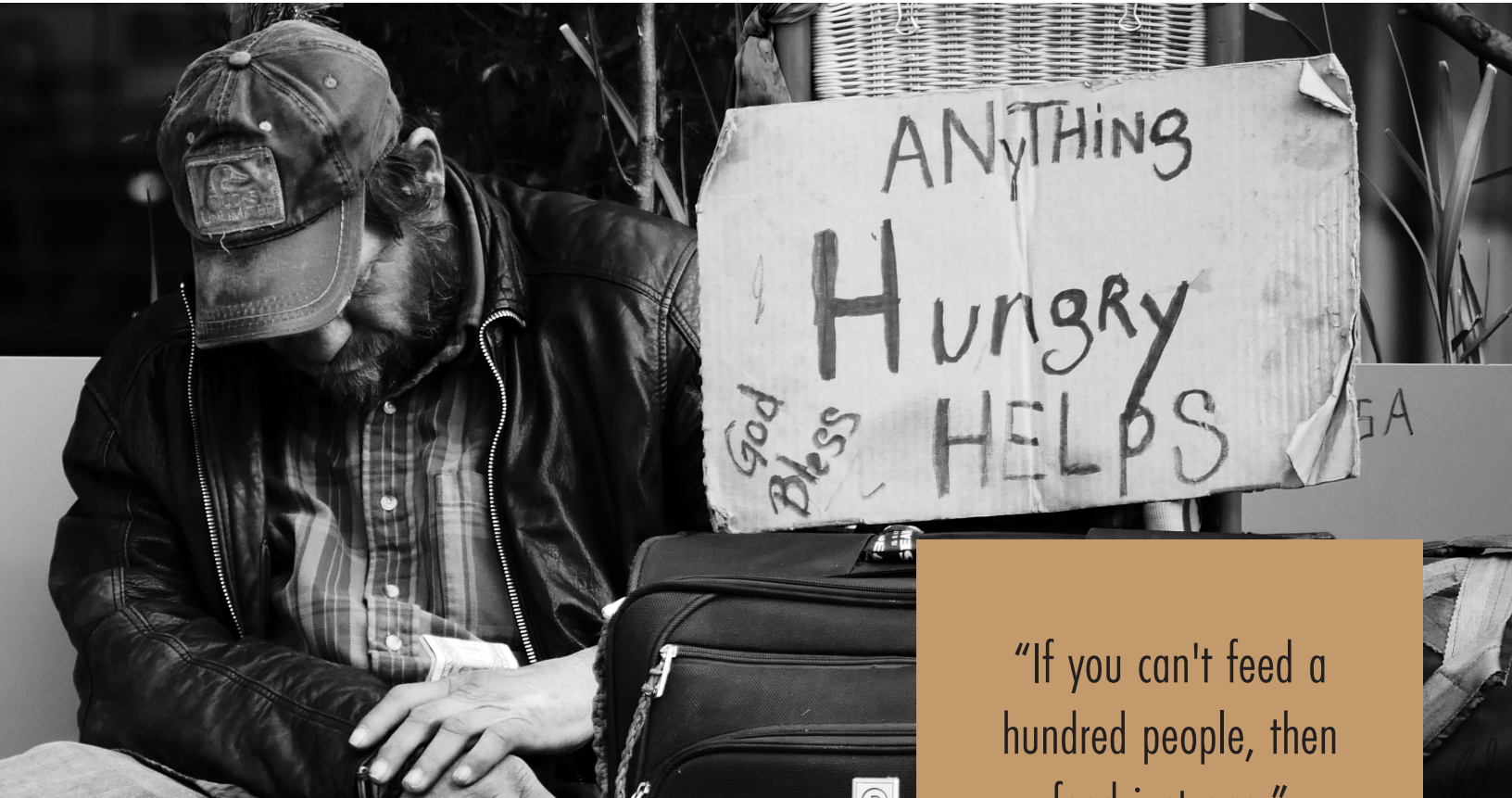


LAUDATO SI' CIRCLE  
HOLY CROSS CHURCH

A LENTEN JOURNEY

WEEK 3 | MARCH 7, 2021

# HUNGER & WANT



"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

– MOTHER TERESA

**W**elcome to our third week of the *Laudato Si'* Circle Lenten Journey! Each week we will share a new theme that will encourage us to grow deeper in our love, knowledge, and concern for creation. Follow our meditation and reflection prompt, research and reading resources, and suggested action steps.

**Meditation:** This week our theme is hunger and want. Spend at least fifteen to twenty minutes reflecting on this. Use our readings and quotations as inspiration. We've provided some initial questions to help you explore

this week's theme on a personal level, but feel free to follow your thoughts wherever they take you. It's not too late to start a journal to help you record and process those thoughts. If you're so inspired, start a conversation about your meditation with a family member or friend.

**Research/Reading:** Spend some time this week learning about food justice issues in our local community and around the world. We'll be looking at local organizations that support the welfare and dignity of each per-

son in our community that is hungry and in need.

**Action:** Follow our steps that you can take individually or as a family that will help you grow deeper this Lent spiritually while having a positive impact on those in need.

For interactive links and more content, find us online.

## MEDITATION:

Read **Matthew 25:31-40** ... Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it for Me.

Consider these quotations from Mother Theresa:

“At the end of life, we will not be judged by how many diplomas or how much money we have. We will be judged by, ‘I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in.’”

“If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”

“When a poor person dies of hunger it is not because God did not take care of him or her, it is because neither you nor I wanted to give that person what he or she needed.”

Take a moment to reflect on these questions.

- How can I give food to the hungry?
- Do I personally know people who do not have enough to eat or go to bed hungry?
- Have I ever had to go without food or worried if I would have enough to eat?
- Do I take having food for granted?
- Do I waste food? How much do I throw away?

## RESEARCH/READING:

- Hunger and food insecurity are global problems that affect people locally as well as millions of people around the world. Here are links to a couple short videos:
  - ▶ In a speech to the Food and Agriculture Organization, an agency of the United Nations (FAO), Pope Francis reflects on the “tragedy of hunger.” [bit.ly/hungertagedy](http://bit.ly/hungertagedy)
  - ▶ A (very brief) introduction to food justice: [bit.ly/foodjusticevideo](http://bit.ly/foodjusticevideo)

The following are a few, local not-for-profit organizations that Holy Cross supports that focus on hunger and want in our community: Visit **Matthew 25 Farm** at [matthew25farm.com](http://matthew25farm.com) – read about their mission to support food pantries with locally grown agriculture. Visit the **Emmaus Ministry** at [emmausministry.org](http://emmausministry.org) and learn about how they bring unconditional love and hope to those in need. Visit the **Samaritan Center** at [samcenter.org](http://samcenter.org) and learn about their mission to ensure support and opportunity to the hungry in Syracuse.

## ACTION:

**1** During Lent, sponsor a crop at Matthew 25 by donating money to buy the seeds and, if possible, plant and maintain the crop & harvest when ready.

**2** Get outside: Volunteer as a family at Brady Farm or Matthew 25 Farm. Go to their website or call them for more information and sign-up.

**3** Help at a soup kitchen: Volunteer at the Samaritan Center or Emmaus Ministry.

**4** Operation Rice Bowl: Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar to guide your prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to watch videos of the people you support through CRS. Donate to CRS through the Sec-

ond Collection next week.

**5** Make a gesture of solidarity: do without something this Lent and donate the money to an organization that feeds the hungry families.

For interactive links and content, find this info online at [holycrossdewitt.org/circle](http://holycrossdewitt.org/circle)