



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
- Jn 20:29

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

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Readings for the week of April 19, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/ Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/ Jn 20:19-31
Monday: Acts 4:23-31/ Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/ Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/ Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/ Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/ Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/ Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/ Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/ Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42/ Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/ Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/ Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]/ Mk 16:15-20
Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-3

Mass Times

View Mass on TV or online.
We'll share resources at crown/holycrossdewitt.org.

You can find daily Mass with Bishop Lucia at youtube.com/syrdio &

Sunday Mass at 6:30 & 9:30am on channel 9

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.



Upcoming Events:

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 19th - Second Sunday of Easter

Charles Beeler/ Marilyn Korol
Marilyn Rowland/ Family
Robert Prednis/ John & Janice Passonno

Monday, April 20th

Helen Downey Cooper/ Family

Tuesday, April 21st

Frank Rettus/ John & Corrine Fix

Wednesday, April 22nd

People of Holy Cross
7:00 - 8:00PM Private Prayer & Devotion - Church

Thursday, April 23rd

Transplant Donors/ Recipient

Friday, April 24th

Eileen Chapman/ Brette Cooper

Saturday, April 25th

William Byron / Mom & Dad
Pamela Hancock/ Delores Petta

Sunday, April 26th - Third Sunday of Easter

Rosemary Coolican/ Husband & Family
Michael Spinoso/ Terry & Annette Putman
Robert Prednis/ Fran & Dan Monti

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.

Holy Cross Church will be closed until further notice. Feel free to call or email the Parish Office if you have any questions or concerns. Confessions by appointment. If no one is in the office, be sure to leave a message. Email is: info@holycrossdewitt.org. Thank you



Week of April 19th

Host, Wine & Sanctuary Lamp
In Memory Of: Stephen Oliva, Sr.
Requested By: Wife and Family

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

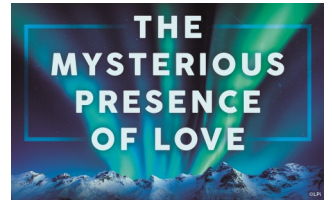
\$19,704.88 Average weekly need

Collection of April 12 will be reported in an upcoming bulletin.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF YOUR PARISH!

April 19, 2020 - Second Sunday of Easter

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, "I am here on purpose and I am loved!" Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.



If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation's grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-I don't know kind of revelation, it is life changing when it takes root in the depth of a person's soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn't require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience and encounter the truth, it doesn't matter how all of the pieces got put together. Truth is simply truth. The "my Lord and my God" responses we utter are not evoked because all of the pieces of faith and life make reasonable sense. The "my Lord and my God" affirmations come when we are lifted up out of our preoccupations and silliness and are in the presence of mystery and mercy.

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation — this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace. "Peace be with you." Breathe in and breathe out. Peace. ©LPi

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 (4112 E. Genesee Street, DeWitt, New York 13214).



Thank you



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

240 E. ONONDAGA STREET, SYRACUSE, NY 13202-2608

April 12, 2020
The Resurrection of the Lord

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Do not be afraid” and “Peace be with you” these are greetings that Jesus used with his disciples on the first Easter day. Today, in a chorus echoing through time and space, we are invited to pick up the new song that Jesus Christ brought in His resurrection from the dead. “We are an Easter People!”

It is a refrain whose vibrant rhythm is seen in the flicker of candlelight. As the Easter Proclamation (Exultet) declares: “May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who...has shed his peaceful light on humanity and lives and reigns forever and ever.”

Such an image illumines a world whose light has been dimmed by suffering and death. The earthquake in Matthew’s account of the resurrection illustrates that Jesus Christ has come to shake us up and awaken us from our sleep. Further he invites us who would be his disciples to journey with him and to carry the good news of the resurrection.

This year, we may not have been able to carry lit candles at the Easter Vigil, but in this Easter Season and beyond, we can carry the light of the Risen Christ to all whom we meet along the way. This commission of the Risen Jesus himself sends us forth to loosen bonds and unlock doors so that the Divine Mercy which flowed from the cross can be experienced by those we encounter in the public square.

The Covid-19 pandemic has certainly given us a Lenten season to be remembered for years to come. Yet, of even more enduring memory, should be all that Jesus Christ has done for the human family so that the coronavirus does not have the final word. Although we have been staring death in the face, our Easter celebration reminds us that “Christ our hope has arisen”...and He goes before us...“our new life obtaining”.

It is in this hope of the Resurrection that I wish you and your loved ones a very blessed Easter season! Know you remain in my prayers and please pray for me.

In Christ, our Risen Savior & Hope,

Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia
Bishop of Syracuse

Faith • Hope • Charity



Daily Prayer and Formation for ALL

When schools closed and parish Masses and activities were suspended, 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 lightning 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: crown.holycrossdewitt.org

To get daily update reminders about The Crown retreat, choose [update your subscriptions settings](#), 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.

Mass Online from Holy Cross Church

holycrossdewitt.org/watch

Join us online for Mass! If you missed Sunday's Mass, you can still watch it on our [website](#). Some have expressed a desire to have Mass available on Saturday evening during our traditional 4 PM time slot. We have Mass beginning Saturday at 4 PM. We hope you can join us!

Moving?

If your future plans include a change of address; would you please contact the Parish Office? You may call 315-446-0473 or email Peg@holycrossdewitt.org with your new address.

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

APPRECIATING OUR INTERCONNECTIONS

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, tells us in his 2015 Encyclical Letter titled *Laudato Si'*:

"The human person grows more, matures more and is sanctified more to the extent that he or she enters into relationships, going out from themselves to live in communion with God, with others and with all creatures." (240)...

As we acknowledge the trials of our current time of separation, we can at the same time more appreciate how interconnected we are with each other and also with all of God's creation. This time of separation will end. As we learn from our current challenges, how in the long term will we change our ways and appreciate our interconnections? As we are now working so hard to come to grips with the threats of this Coronavirus, so may we in the long term more clearly realize our interconnections and come to grips with the challenges of promoting a healthy Earth that is so wondrous to behold and so vital for our existence. From the Syracuse Diocese *Laudato Si'* Committee.

This year marks the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark Encyclical,

On Care for our Common Home- Laudato Si'

The Encyclical is an appeal from Pope Francis addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet.

Laudato Si' can be found online at Vatican.va or purchased at USCCB.org

Earth Day Family Activity- Wednesday, April 22nd

Although our Earth Day gatherings have been cancelled, which means OCRRA will not be picking up our garbage bags on the side of the road, the need for a spring cleaning remains! Take the time this week, when you go outside, to look around for the litter and debris that accumulate each winter near our streets and shared spaces. Celebrate Earth Day by praying for our earth & by acting on behalf of our shared environment:

- Outfit your family with work gloves and a trash bag for each person.
- Find a public space near home & collect the litter that you find.
- Add your trash bag to your weekly garbage pick up.
- Read the prayer for creation (below) as a family

A Christian prayer in union with creation (*Laudato Si'*, no. 246)
Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you.

Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made. Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in the world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Praise be to you! Amen.



PRAYER REQUESTS

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.



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.

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. Subscribe 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 on the Holy Cross Website \(holycrossdewitt.org\)](http://holycrossdewitt.org) to stay informed during these strange days!

OUR RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

ALL PUBLIC GATHERINGS FOR MASS, PRAYER, FAITH FORMATION, AND CERTAIN PARISH ACTIVITIES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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.

Next Weekend's Second Collection

Next week, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today over 40% of dioceses in the U.S. are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of these dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal.

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



FORMED

Divine Mercy Sunday - Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena for those sick and dying.

See the National Shrine of Divine Mercy website www.marian.org and www.thedivinemercy.org for more information.

Listen: The Necessity of Divine Mercy - Fr. Chris Alar, MIC

Watch: Ocean of Mercy

Watch: The Face of Mercy narrated by Jim Caveziel

Watch: Divine Mercy Chaplet: The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

2019 Tax Contribution Statements

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

A Family Perspective:

“Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven” means the grudges we carry only make us miserable. The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today’s gospel through merciful and forgiving demonstrations by their parents.



SACRAMENTS

Baptism ~ Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements **Marriage** ~ Please make an appointment with a priest at least 6 months **Penance** ~ By appointment only prior to wedding

Classes required for 1st child’s Baptism

†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

- **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
- 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