



Earth Day Thank you! This Spring, we gathered outside to celebrate Earth Day! Parish volunteers worked together to clean up discarded garbage and debris in our local area. The Gardening Angels group turned out in memory of Bill Sovik and the Laudato Si group enthusiastically participated to clean up along Erie Blvd roadside and a portion of the new bike path in DeWitt.

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.

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."

Would you a like to join us as new parishioner?

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.

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

- 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

Upcoming Events:

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

PLEASE WATCH THE HC WEBSITE FOR CURRENT INFORMATION ON MASSES, REGISTRATION FOR MASSES & DEVOTIONS & REGULATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE.

**Sunday, May 2nd – Fifth Sunday of Easter**

7:30am Mary Ann Cronin/ Michael Soeder
 10:30am Ben Stabile/ Elaine Lostumbo
 5:00am Susan Blizzard-Halleran/ James & Julie Taft

Monday, May 3rd

7:45am Adeline O'Sullivan / Richard & Roxanne Kopeky
 9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

Tuesday, May 4th

7:45am Jack Lowney / Family
 9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

Wednesday, May 5th

7:45am Pamela Hancock / mother, D. Petta
 9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

Thursday, May 6th

7:45am Parishioners of Holy Cross
 9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

Friday, May 7th

7:45am First Friday Mass League
 9:00am - 3:00pm Private Prayer & Devotion

Saturday, May 8st

9:00am Charles Beeler/ Family
 4:00pm Christian Hall/ Lisa A. Langan
 3:00 to 3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday, May 9th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30am Ann Lowney/ Family
 10:30am Dorothy Poppleton/ daughter, Ellyn
 5:00pm Chuck Gedney/ Elaine Lostumbo

Have you considered having a Mass requested for the intention of someone in your family or a friend?

We have two options available to you. The first is to have a Mass requested for either a daily Mass or a weekend Mass - donation is \$10. The second is the Mass League. Your loved one will be remembered at the 7:45am Mass on the First Friday of the month for one year - \$25. Both can be requested at the Parish Office (info@holycrossdewitt.org).

Spiritual Reflection for Sunday, May 2, 2021

Acts: 9:26-312

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

How much are you willing to give to God?

Following Jesus asks much of us and it offers much in return, including the eternal love of the Father. In the Gospel of John, we hear Jesus say, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower." If we are truly to remain united to Jesus, we must unite ourselves to Christ in two ways. The first is that we must take on the mind of Christ and follow what the Church teaches, and the second is that we must live a moral life as taught by the Church. When we fail to do either of these, we are like leaves that begin to wilt. Although attached to the vine, they begin to lose life and vitality.

What in our life causes us to wilt, or move away from Jesus and his Church? When we explore what causes us to move away from Christ we often find that it is failure to love one's neighbor. Often the cause of this failure to love as we ought is self-centered behavior that leads us into sin. When we focus on ourselves, it is difficult to care for those around us. The fact that Jesus commands us to love one another and live a moral life should be enough cause for us to repent. When we do repent from our sin we will be able to see Christ in the other, and in doing so, Christ will strengthen us!

Peace,

Fr. John Kurgan

Link to Resources Fr. Vavonese Mentioned in this Weekend's Homily

To access the fourteen articles dealing with End-of-Life Medical-Moral and Palliative Care Issues published by Fr. Vavonese, and Holy Cross Parishioner, Dr. Paul Fiocco and the advanced care planning materials from the National Catholic Bioethics Center go to: <https://www.holycrossdewitt.org/healthcareproxy>. If you have a question for Fr. Vavonese you may contact him at cvavonese@syrdio.org.

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

\$12,199.25 Collection of April 25

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF YOUR PARISH!

THANK YOU
for your generosity

Easter Offerings

During the Easter season, it is encouraging to see both new & familiar faces at our worship services. Throughout the year, many of you already support the congregation with your time, talent & financial contributions, but greater participation is always welcome. We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program. It takes just a few minutes to setup a recurring giving plan. Visit the church website & locate the donation link or complete a paper authorization form.

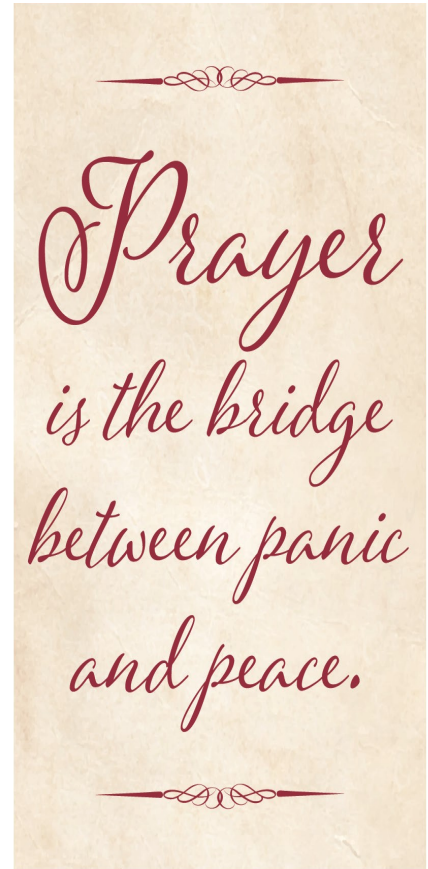
WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 2, 2021

- SUN 5/02** Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/
Jn 15:1-8
- MON 5/03** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
- TUE 5/04** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
- WED 5/05** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
- THR 5/06** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
- FRI 5/07** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
- SAT 5/08** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
- SUN 5/09** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/
1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 2, 2021

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter
- Monday:** Sts. Phillip and James, Apostles
- Wednesday:** Cinco de Mayo
- Thursday:** National Day of Prayer
- Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day



Prayer REQUESTS

Garth H. Bishop, Eden & Mackenzie Bishop, Barbara Boyd, Terry Chylinski, Armand Cincotta, Tom Coyne, Mark Cywilko, John Galletta, Stanley Jakimek, Ken Lu, Sharon Kieffer, Elaine Lostumbo, Abrielle Lynch, Dinita Machlin, Monique Missoff, Mary Elizabeth Morgan, Faith Muller, Patricia Pool, Stephen Smith, 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. 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 & Devotion between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

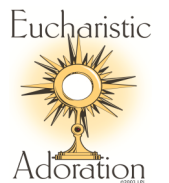
- Every Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00pm in the chapel
- Every Saturday at 3:00 - 3:30pm in the chapel
- By Appointment

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.



Parish 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.

First Communion



The children will celebrate their First Eucharist this weekend. Their beautiful families will have the opportunity to witness and share in the Sacrament of First Eucharist with their precious children. We wish to congratulate the following children and their families:

Michael Albanese
 Arabella Bersani
 Santino Bersani
 Thomas Blum
 Nicholas Centolella
 John Cimino
 Isla D'Amato
 Vander D'Amico
 Nicoletta DiFusco
 Penelope Eason

Julia Eberline
 Nolan Fahey
 Dylan Holdridge
 Cal Hooks
 Hanson Lam
 Max Lieberman
 Rocco Lorenzo
 Madison Lynch
 Jameson Marasia
 Elouise Miller

Olivia Pribula
 Easton Price
 Lexi Read
 Samantha Segretto
 Elanor Sorensen
 Landon Stach
 Giada Vacco
 Gabriella Vavonese

MAY CROWNING Sunday, May 9 @ 10:30am Mass



The First Eucharist children are requested to honor and serve as Mary's court leading the procession. The children are invited to wear their First Eucharist attire. All are invited to join in the May Crowning procession as we pray for Mary's guiding light to continue to shine brightly.

Rosary and Benediction

On Thursday, May 20 at 6pm, we will have the recitation of the Rosary followed by Benediction. All are invited to stay for coffee. This is a great experience and a time of great blessing for all. Come pray with us!



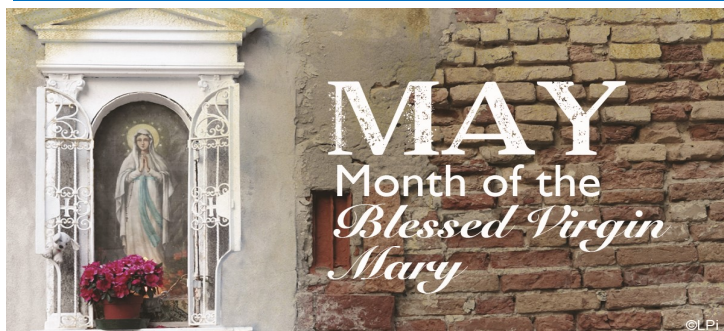
Pray the Rosary Daily

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



MASS LEAGUE

First Friday Mass League Enrollment

IMO Harold Muller ~ Wife
 IMO William Sovik ~ The Staff of Holy Cross Church
 IMO Amelia Wright ~ Risiel Cruz-Bower

First Friday Mass League

What is the Mass League? Your loved one or intention will be remembered at the 7:45am Mass on the First Friday of each month for one year. Donation is \$25 and membership is available by stopping by the Parish Office.

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE

Holy Cross School students will be selling raffle tickets this weekend 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.

Denim and Diamonds

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. In-Person or Virtual setting to be determined. Registration and more info to come!

Questions? Email thehcsauction@gmail.com



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

First Tuesday Sandwiches: May 4th, 8:15am

Good news: restrictions against gatherings have been eased! After many months of sandwich prep in individual homes, sandwich makers can gather downstairs after Mass. We will be required to maintain social distance and wear masks. Join us downstairs in Yeazel Hall by the kitchen to prepare peanut butter & jelly, tuna, egg and chicken salad sandwiches for Catholic Charities Men's shelter. Peanut butter donations are appreciated. Please sign in when you arrive or contact Beth for more information: beth@holycrossdewitt.org

Laudato Si Circle: Saturday, May 8th, 5pm

Join a small group to reflect, pray and act for the benefit of creation. Join us in the prayer circle in front of the church after the vigil Mass next week!

Care For Creation Online Convening: May 25-27th, 7pm

You are invited to participate in an exciting online event! This month our Laudato Si Circle will participate in an effort to encourage prayer and action regarding care for the environment. The Diocese of Syracuse and of Ogdensburg are offering a 3 part program that will include prayer, reflection by prominent members of both Central New York dioceses. For more information or to sign up for this exciting event, look for it on the Diocesan website activities calendar or contact Beth: (315) 416-4576.



Men's Shelter Hot Meal Thank you!

During the winter months our third Tuesday sandwiches were substituted for hot beef casseroles with italian bread & cookies. Thank you to the volunteers who donated toward & prepared the April meal: Kathleen Pagano, Dave Rapp, Rosemarie Light, Lois Collier, Bob Brunette & Girl Scout Troop #60500; your goodness on behalf of our parish community is much appreciated!

Refugee Assistance Committee update:

Over the past 4 years, the Refugee Assistance group has been working with a single Mom and her 9 children. The family fled the war in Afghanistan and are learning a new culture and language in Syracuse. Thank you to the generous parishioners who gave their time, talent and treasure to help this warm and loving family! If you participated in any way with the refugee assistance group during the past 4 years, please share with us any feedback or suggestions that we might use as we reflect & plan future refugee assistance activities. An anonymous feedback form can be found in the parish website: holycrossdewitt.org/outreach or contact Beth for additional information: 315-416-4576.

Food Giving Weekend is This Weekend

Thank you for any food items that were brought in today! If you forgot to bring in your donations you may bring them next weekend.

We would like to thank everyone who donated food or money over the past few months. It was so appreciated by the Jamesville Food Pantry.



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sunday, May 2nd - Food Giving Weekend

9:00 AM RCIA Session- virtual

Monday, May 3rd

8:15 AM Holy Hour - Church

Tuesday, May 4th

8:15 AM First Tuesday Sandwiches - Yeazel Hall

6:30 PM RCIA Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 5th

7:45 AM Fellowship of Believers - Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

Thursday, May 6th

1:00 PM Knitting Group - Yeazel Hall

7:00 PM Youth Alpha - rms. 12 & 13

Saturday, May 8th

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel

Sunday, May 9th

10:30 AM May Crowning - Church

Knitting Group Begins on May 6

We will meet on **Thursday, May 6th -1PM downstairs in Yeazel Hall**. New knitters are always welcome. Please do not bring food to share and wear your mask. **Reservations are required**; call Rita 315-472-1478 or Jo 315-446-3328 to reserve.



Spiritual Adoption Program -Month Nine

"Here I am!" Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month—nine months after his/her mother conceived him/her. The only change is a change in the external life support system of the baby. He/she is no different now than before birth except that the baby breathes and eats differently. He/she is truly a miracle. The baby began as a 46-chromosome cell and has developed over the past nine months into this unique human baby. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist that is just like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved his/her life. Thank you on behalf of all the little babies that you cared enough to pray for and for their mother. **Happy Birthday Baby!**



April Baby Shower for Birthright:

The Spiritual Adoption prayer program is beginning its 9th month and it's time for a baby shower! Birthright is a local organization that provides practical help & emergency assistance to pregnant women and new mothers in need. Holy Cross will be collecting baby items the weekend after Easter until Mother's Day, May 9th. Items can be added to the baskets by the church doors. If you would like to participate, please donate a new or gently used item(s) from their list of needs: diapers and baby wipes, 8oz. baby bottles, sippy cups, baby towels, receiving blankets, clothing items 0-3 months, diaper bags & Walmart gift cards. Thank you for your support of the Spiritual (Spiritual Adoption prayer) and Corporal (supplying needed items) Works of Mercy.





- Unplanned Movie showing on May 14th at 6:30pm.** Unplanned is a movie about former Planned Parenthood Director, Abby Johnson. It is an eye-opening look inside the abortion industry and also shares Abby's transformation from a passionate advocate for choice to an even more passionate advocate for life. The movie will be screened at **St. Joseph the Worker Campus - Parish Center, 1001 Tulip St., Liverpool on Friday, May 14th at 6:30 pm.** To comply with COVID guidelines, please register: www.epiphanyparishliverpool.org/faith-formation---adult.html or by calling Jen at 315-451-5070 ext 108. This event was made possible in part by the Diocesan Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry.
- Bishop Ludden Jr./Sr. High School is proud to announce that they are holding their Spring Drama Performance of **"It's A Wonderful Life"** at the New York State Fair - Chevy Court. Shows will be as follows:
 Friday, May 7th - 7:00 PM
 Saturday, May 8th - 2:00 & 7:00 PM
 Due to the current times and to remain compliant with all New York State and Onondaga County guidelines, pre-sale tickets are required. Call 315-468-2591 for information.
- Family Rosary for Vocations** - Sat., May 22 at 10am on Zoom. Pray the rosary for our clergy and religious and an increase in vocations! Register at: nfpfamilyrosary.eventbrite.com by May 14 to receive your gift package! For more info contact 315-472-6754 x 6 or email nfp@syrdio.org

Catholic Media - Augustine Institute

FORMED

- Watch:** Be Not Afraid Family Hour Ep. 1: The Parent's Mission: Passing on the Faith
- Watch:** Grieving with Great Hope (5 part grief support series)
- Read:** Ask the Bible Geek by Mark Hart (answers to questions that puzzle Catholics)
- Listen:** Put Not Your Trust in Princes by Christopher Check

A Family Perspective:



Like the vine grower in today's gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."

PACE CNY

PACE CNY (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) is a part of the Loretto Family of Care. PACE CNY, based on a national model known as PACE, provides an alternative to placement in a nursing home. PACE CNY is particularly helpful to families desiring to keep their aging loved ones at home. At two Loretto PACE Centers (one in North Syracuse and one in East Syracuse) and their own place of residence, participants receive the home care, medical, rehabilitative, social, transportation, and support services needed to remain at home. For more information or to make a referral, please call Ginny Turley, Intake Specialist, at (315) 452-5800.

SACRAMENTS

- Baptism** ~ Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements
 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. †
- 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

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. 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. 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. 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
- 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: rmccrone@syrdiocese.org

Staff ~ Name and Title

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