



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



“Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.” - Jn 10:2-3

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

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- Holy Cross Church will be closed & all events cancelled until further notice.
- Do not hesitate 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.

Phone ~ (315) 446-0473; Email ~ info@holycrossdewitt.org.

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 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

Upcoming Events:

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 3rd - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Rosemary Coolican/ Husband & Family
Stanley Blanchfield/ Gina Heitzman
Betty Galletta/ Joan Varone

Monday, May 4th

Pamela Hancock / Delores Petta

Tuesday, May 5th

Joseph E. DeMari/ Wife & Family

Wednesday, May 6th

Tina Sindoni/ Family

Thursday, May 7th

People of Holy Cross

Friday, May 8th

Richard Basilone/ Maio Family

Saturday, May 9th

Charles Beeler/ Family

Stanley Blanchfield/ Elizabeth Aliasso & Daughters

Sunday, May 10th - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Henry & James Fiacco/ Family

Dorothy Poppleton/ Daughter, Ellyn

Virginia McBride/ Frank & Donna Vavonese

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.

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](http://holycrossdewitt.org/watch). We have Mass beginning Saturday at 4 PM. We hope you can join us!

May 3, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

With whom do we converse & listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, & sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth



about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, & wrestle with & determine our system of priorities & values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, & cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, & the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, & stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied & busy, & trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around & can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet & realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, & lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, & stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us & keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days & nights & the ebbs & flows of our of lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home. ©LPi

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!

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**

April 21, 2020

Dear Diocesan Family,

Peace be with you! The Easter season we have entered into celebrates the Resurrection of our Lord and all that this epochal moment in salvation history means for the human family. For 50 days, we will contemplate what this particular moment signifies for you and me. Yet, this sacred season still finds us contending with the Coronavirus pandemic and the national emergency that has ensued. It has challenged each and every one of us during one of the holiest seasons in the Catholic Church. I am grateful to our clergy, religious and laity in finding innovative ways to celebrate the Mass and other significant liturgical celebrations. What I have witnessed throughout this time is a real hunger for the Faith and a hunger for the Eucharist.

As you may suspect, I have received emails and letters requesting me to re-open our churches for the celebration of the Sacraments, particularly the Holy Eucharist. There is nothing more that I want to do! However, in conscience, I cannot do so until I am certain that we have the means to safely worship without further spread of disease and that we are not putting the wider community in harm's way. This is not a question of faith, but of God-given common sense. It is becoming evident even now that upon allowing for greater interaction where the infection rate has dropped, a second wave of illness has occurred. Therefore, I feel we must err on the side of caution in order to eradicate this deadly virus from our communities and will continue to follow the directives of local authorities.

This being said, in cooperation and consultation with local civil and health authorities, I am looking for ways by which Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Penance may be celebrated publicly and more readily in the near future. As a first step, I am asking our parish priests to look at the seating capacity of their church buildings using the formula for social distancing. I am also seeking to determine where extra Masses may be added at our larger churches where there is sufficient help and where sanitizing would be available between Masses. The Code of Canon Law permits a priest to offer Mass three times on a Sunday, but I must also take into consideration the age and health of our priests. Finally, where pastors may have access to a large parking lot, I am looking to see if an outdoor Mass with participants staying in their cars is feasible as an interim measure if not permitted to gather in our church buildings. Above all, the Eucharist is to be an expression of our unity and so all that we do must foster this unity.

No matter what is decided, we must all acknowledge that things will not return fully to the way they were. As such, the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place for the foreseeable future because of the vulnerable population and the crowd sizes that will be permitted. I anticipate that once we are able to celebrate public Masses, there will be a seating capacity in our churches which will require the faithful to be flexible about the time they attend Mass. Seating and Communion procedures will have to follow social distancing and safety precautions will have to be used throughout our time together.

Many events in our Diocese will be re-scheduled and some may not happen this year. Again, rules governing public gatherings will dictate the timetable for First Communion and Confirmation celebrations in our parishes. For now, all these ceremonies are postponed until we have a better idea of how we can proceed. It is still my hope that the Ordination of the Transitional Deacons and the Chrism Mass will happen in the latter part of June. We have moved the Ordination to Priesthood to August 15th and are looking to the Fall for the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate.

Unfortunately, there are many things in both parish and diocesan life that remain in limbo and they may do so for a while depending on the status of the pandemic. This can be a great source of frustration for you and me, but I have seen many blessings coming from our trials and tribulations. In fact, although I may want things to return to a normalcy, I don't want you and I to forget the lessons this pandemic is teaching us in terms of love of God and neighbor. In the First Letter of Peter that is being read on the Sundays of the Easter Season, we hear that: "In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that, though perishable is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed" (1 Pt. 6-7). I am encountering a newfound thirst for our faith lives and that is why I am praying that this time in our locked room will produce a new Pentecost – a new public expression of faith in God and a way of life consistent with it.

Our collective knowledge states that we are going to go through phases in the re-opening of our communities. Although difficult, I ask that you join me in the care and concern of our neighbors and do all we can to help put an end to this virus. Sadly, my own family has joined other families in this nation who have lost loved ones because of this disease. It is my hope that by adhering to the public health protocols, we will have fewer families experiencing a loss.

While we wait for the next phase of re-entry, I do want to encourage you to continue to take advantage of all that is available in our parishes and through our Diocesan TV, Catholic Sun and our Diocesan website. It has been a privilege for me to connect with you in these ways and I have very much felt your presence! And please, do not forget to remember your parishes by mailing your weekly financial support or through online contributions. These ventures are setting the stage for our future endeavors in spreading the Gospel and providing spiritual care to Christ's faithful in Central New York and beyond. I assure you of my continued prayers and again express my deep gratitude to all who are caring for us on the front lines of this pandemic. May the Risen Lord give all His grace and peace!

In the Name of Jesus,

Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia
Bishop of Syracuse



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.

Catholic Media - Augustine Institute

FORMED

Read: Holiness is Always in Season by Pope Benedict XVI

Watch: Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead?

Watch: FORMED Live: Easter Monday - The Resurrection - using a Byzantine Icon of the Resurrection for explanation

Are you registered on FORMED? It's free and easy to sign up through your parish. Go to formed.org and click on Sign Up. Follow the directions from there and have all these great resources available to you.

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

Do you have 5 minutes a week to add to your prayer time?
In the spirit and inspiration of St. Clare, make a
Commitment to Contact Congress

Prayer resources available at our parish website:

All of us are learning to adjust to a new way of doing things, but prayer continues to be essential for all we do as members of the Church; check out our website link to the "Crown Retreat" online for some helpful ideas on ways to pray: <https://crown.holycrossdewitt.org>

Consider this invitation from the Franciscan Action Network:

In the midst of this pandemic, we may feel that we are not able to help others in the usual way, but some of us have been given the gift of time. "With steadfastness, like St. Clare's, a weekly 5 minute extension of prayer can make a difference in this sacred space and time in which God has invited us. Just as St. Clare steadfastly devoted her daily life to prayer within the convent, letting herself be enfolded by Love...we too can grow to be enfolded by Love & to see the world and our brothers and sisters through Christ's eyes.

As part of our prayer, we can add on a simple once a week phone call from within our home, to our representatives in Congress interceding on behalf of our God's divine family and creation. Aside from personal visits, constituent calls is the most effective way of influencing our policy makers who work for us and are happy to hear from us."

To make a Phone Call:

Step 1. Contact your three members of Congress (2 senators and 1 representative):

John Katko (202) 225-3701 or 315-423-5657

<https://katko.house.gov/contact/email>

Kirsten Gillibrand (202) 224-4451 or (315) 448-0470

<https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me>

Chuck Schumer (202)224-6542 or (315)423-5471

<https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck>

Step 2. With that information, call their offices directly:

Hello, my name is _____, and I'm part of _____ from [Hometown] . I'm calling today to ask [Representative/Senator _____] to support/not support [Issue] because [Reasons it's important to support/not support] . The effects of [Issue] being supported/not supported could be [List of possible factual effects]. I'd appreciate hearing back from [Representative/Senator _____] on how he/she plans to act on [Issue] . Thank you for your time and please contact me at [Your phone number] and again, my name is _____ if you have any questions about [Issue or what you talked about in your conversation] . Peace and all good.



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.

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

Red Cross Blood Drive at Holy Cross

The Red Cross is continuing their blood drives during May. Healthy individuals are urged to donate now to help patients counting on lifesaving blood! **Drive is being held at Holy Cross School Gym.** Thank you for your donations.

Dates are:

- *5/5 from 1-7pm
- *5/19 from 1-7pm
- *5/26 from 1-7pm
- *5/6 from 8am-2pm
- *5/20 from 8am-2pm
- *5/27 from 8am-2pm

Jamesville Food Pantry

Are you or someone you know in need of food?

If you are living in the 13214 and 13078 zip codes you might be eligible for food assistance from the Jamesville Food Pantry. It is located in the old firehouse on East Seneca Turnpike in the hamlet. **The**



hours are Tuesdays and Fridays from 10-1 and the third Saturday of each month from 9-11. Call 315-469-5093 for eligibility requirements or for more information. Donations from Holy Cross parishioners help to sponsor the Jamesville Food Pantry.

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 \(holycrossdewitt.org\) to stay informed during these strange days!](http://holycrossdewitt.org)**

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.

Prayer for Vocations



God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SECRETARIAT OF CLERGY, CONSECRATED LIFE AND VOCATIONS www.ForYourVocation.org • www.usccb.org
 © 2011, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Good Shepherd, detail from the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Bancel La Farge and Ravenna Mosaic Company, 1926. Photograph courtesy of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, 2011. Photographer: Geraldine M. Rohling.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on Sunday, May 3, 2020, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. You can find many resources to promote a culture of vocations in your parish on the USCCB vocations webpage (www.usccb.org/vocations), Vianney Vocations webpage (www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com), and our own Vocations Syracuse webpage (<https://vocations-syracuse.org>).

Upcoming Live stream events with Bishop Lucia:

All will appear on the diocesan youtube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/syrdio>

- **Daily Mass at noon** - weekdays (continues)
- **May 3** - Holy Hour for Vocations (Good Shepherd Sunday) 2pm
- **Thursdays of May:** 7, 14, 21, 28 - 7pm recitation and brief catechesis on the Rosary
- **Holy Spirit Novena** - TBD
- **Pentecost** - Time to be determined

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

Penance ~ By appointment only

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