

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, August 19
Saint John Eudes, Priest

Thursday, August 20
Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

Friday, August 21
Saint Pius X, Pope

Saturday, August 22
Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The second of 10 children in a poor Italian family, Joseph Sarto became **POPE PIUS X** at 68. Ever mindful of his humble origin, Pope Pius stated, “I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor.” He was embarrassed by some of the pomp of the papal court. “Look how they have dressed me up,” he said in tears to an old friend. To another, “It is a penance to be forced to accept all these practices. They lead me around surrounded by soldiers like Jesus when he was seized in Gethsemani.”

Interested in politics, Pope Pius encouraged Italian Catholics to become more politically involved. One of his first papal acts was to end the supposed right of governments to interfere by veto in papal elections—a practice that reduced the freedom of the 1903 conclave which had elected him. Pius X courageously rejected France’s demand in 1905, for governmental control of Church affairs were not granted, the demand.

While Saint Pius X did not author a famous social encyclical, he denounced the ill treatment of indigenous peoples on the plantations of Peru, sent a relief commission to Messina after an earthquake, and sheltered refugees at his own expense. On the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, Europe was plunged into World War I. Saint Pius X had foreseen it, but it killed him. He died a few weeks after the war began, and was canonized in 1954.

SAINT PIUS X’s humble background was no ob-

Upcoming Events

- 08/16: Rosary after mass
- 08/20: Liturgy of the Word
- 08/23: SPECIAL COLLECTION: Catholic Home Missions
- 08/27: Liturgy of the Word
- 09/04: First Friday Devotion, 2:30 p.m., St. Mary’s Oneonta
- 09/05: First Saturday (Fatima) devotion, 9 a.m., St. Mary’s Oneonta
- 09/06: Christian Formation after mass
- 09/10: Liturgy of the Word
- 09/13: Coffee Hour, Pastoral Council meeting (all are welcome) after mass
- 09/17: Liturgy of the Word
- 09/20: Rosary after mass
- 09/24: Liturgy of the Word
- 09/27: SPECIAL COLLECTION: Catholic Universities
- Annual Diocesan Marriage Jubilee, 3 p.m. Christ Our Light, Loudonville; for info/to register, email marriage.jubilee@rcda.org

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Mass Attendance: 62

Collection: \$1,069.00

Utilities: \$155.00

stacle in relating to a personal God and to people whom he loved genuinely. He gained his strength, his gentleness and warmth for people from the source of all gifts, the Spirit of Jesus. In contrast, we often feel embarrassed by our backgrounds. Shame makes us prefer to remain aloof from people whom we perceive as superior. If we are in a superior position, on the other hand, we often ignore simpler people. Yet we, too, have to help “restore all things in Christ,” especially the wounded people of God.

adapted from: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-pius-x/>



AUGUST 16, 2026

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A
Isaiah 56:1, 6–7
Psalm 67
Romans 11:13–15, 29–32
Matthew 15:21–28

A welcoming, vibrant community committed to growing in and sharing the love of Jesus

Being born and re-born through the Holy Spirit means rediscovering at every age the Gospel in its first freshness... Then there is no day which cannot be God’s today.

–Brother Roger of Taizé

GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY: GIVEN TO ALL PEOPLE

Today’s readings show that faith is not limited by background or nationality. God welcomes those who seek Him with sincerity, and His mercy is always available. These reflections help us see how God calls us to trust Him and to build an inclusive and faithful community.

INCLUSIVE HOUSE OF PRAYER: The First Reading speaks of God’s house as a place for all people, not just for one group or nation. Those who love Him and follow His ways will be welcomed. God does not turn away those who seek Him with sincerity. The Lord asks for righteousness and justice. He calls people to obey His covenant and keep

the sabbath holy. This is not just for the people of Israel, but for all who choose to follow Him. His love and blessings are not limited by background or nationality.

Like the Gospel, Isaiah shows God’s love is greater than human divisions. As followers of Christ, we are called to build a welcoming community. The Church is meant to be a house of prayer for all people. Just as God does not exclude anyone who seeks Him, we must also open our hearts to others.

FAITH BEYOND BORDERS: Today’s Gospel tells the story of a Canaanite woman who asks Jesus to heal her daughter. She is not Jewish, and at first, Jesus seems to ignore her. The disciples even want to send her away, but she does not give up. She keeps asking until Jesus responds. Her persistence shows deep faith. She believes Jesus can heal even when she faces obstacles. Jesus tests her faith, and she proves that she trusts Him completely. In the end, Jesus praises her and grants her request. This shows that faith is not about where one comes from but about trusting in God. The woman was not part of the chosen people, yet her faith was strong. In the end, Jesus saw her belief and answered her prayer.

Today’s readings teach us to welcome others as Jesus did. Faith is not limited by race, culture, or background; God looks at the heart. Anyone who believes in Him will be heard. We are called to live with faith and perseverance. Just as Jesus recognized the faith of the Canaanite woman, He sees our trust in Him. We are reminded to pray without giving up and to welcome others with open hearts.

PRAYER: Lord, You welcome all who seek You with faith. Help us to trust in Your mercy and never give up in prayer. Teach us to open our hearts to others, just as You do. Strengthen our faith so that we may follow You with confidence. Thank You for Your love that never fails. Amen.

For Reflection

- ★ How does this Sunday’s message challenge the way I see others?
- ★ How can I make our church community more welcoming to others?

Holy Cross Parish

96-98 Main Street, PO Box 118

Morris NY 13808

<https://parishes.rcda.org/holycross/>

Facebook: [tiny.cc/HCMorris](https://www.facebook.com/tiny.cc/HCMorris)

Find our bulletin and Pastoral Council minutes on our website. If you have a notice for the bulletin, please email: holycrossRC-church@gmail.com

MISSION

To care for the poor, abandoned, and the marginalized.

SCHEDULE

Mass: Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word: Thursday, 10 a.m.

RECONCILIATION: St. Mary's Oneonta, every Saturday 4–4:45 p.m. Call the parish office (607-432-3920) for a different time.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastoral Associate (Parish Leader)

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Trustees

Marguerite Webster (607) 263-5478

Richard Meyers (607) 263-5588

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Kerry L. Mess (607) 386-1951

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Allan Dangca, Celine Francisco, Scott Kolberg, Chet McAdams, Jackie McAdams, Dana Mochovciak

Liturgical Ministry

Marguerite Webster (607) 263-5478

Faith Formation & RCIA [Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults]

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Ministry to the Homebound

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Pope Leo XIV's August intention: That in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel and build community.

Living Caring Community

HELP TO OFFER? NEED ASSISTANCE?

- ☼ Butternut Valley Food Pantry
166 Marion Avenue, Gilbertsville NY
(607) 783-2267
Thurs., 3–5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
- ☼ The Lord's Table & Food Pantry
305 Main Street, Oneonta NY
(607) 432-1458
Mon./Weds./Fri., 4–5:30 p.m.
- ☼ The Magic Closet
158 East Main Street, Morris NY
(607) 263-5116 or (607) 263-5859
Weds./Sat. 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
- ☼ My Neighbor's Closet
3097 County Highway 11, Hartwick NY
(607) 431-8320/cooperstownangel@gmail.com
Tues/Sat: 9 a.m.–12 p.m. / Weds: 4–7 p.m.
Contact if you need someone to shop for you and coordinate getting you items.
- ☼ Helios Grief Support
Group counseling for adults in Otsego, Schoharie, Delaware counties. See helios-care.org; call (607) 432-5525.
- ☼ Friends of Recovery, Delaware/Otsego
Grassroots addiction recovery by, about, for individuals and families in recovery
22 Elm Street, Oneonta NY
(607) 267-4435
Mon/Tues/Fri: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Weds/Thurs: 9 a.m.–7 p.m.
- ☼ Holy Sews
Sew burial layettes for infants: (607) 432-5125; holysewsoneonta@yahoo.com
- ☼ Oneonta Community Health Center
No-cost healthcare services for uninsured adults (607) 433-0300
Office hours: Tues. 6–8 p.m.

LOVING BEYOND THE BOXES

God and the entire cosmos are about two things: differentiation (people and things becoming themselves) and communion (living in supportive coexistence).

Jesus treats people as very complex—different in religion, lifestyle, virtue, temperament, and success—and keeps the law very simple in order to bring them to God:

A legal expert put him to the test: “Teacher, which commandment in the Law is the greatest?” He replied to him, “**You are to love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind.**” This is the first and foremost, and the second is like it: **‘You are to love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hangs everything in the Law and in the Prophets**” (Matthew 22:35–40).

Jesus allows people the freedom to be themselves and asks a different set of questions, one that takes away our private agendas and remind us of the ways we have not yet begun to love. For Jesus, it is all about union—union with God, others, and what is, however it presents itself.

Author Jen Austin reflects: It is part of the human tendency to put everything into a neat little category. ... However, categories also allow us to include and exclude people based on characteristics that are unfamiliar to us or that we don't understand. ... we spend a lot of time and waste a lot of energy creating and adhering to labels in our culture, quite often at the expense of basic human dignity and common sense. ... God is bigger than all our little boxes. God's love transcends the lines we draw on earth.

adapted from: <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/loving-beyond-the-boxes/>

AUGUST 16, 2026

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Greeter: Pat Kristofik

Deacon: Paul Cerosaletti

Lector: Maureen Joy

Eucharistic Minister: Toni Zaleski

August 23

Greeter: John O'Brien

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Minister: Diane Turner

Mass Intention

FOR THE SOUL OF JOHN ZALESKI (requested by Toni Zaleski)

If you would like to request an intention for a mass, call Kerry (607) 386-1951 with the intention, your name, and call back number OR use the parish email (see left panel).

Pray for

- ✠ for the sick, their caregivers, and all who asked for our prayers, especially Sr. Theresa Ahern MSBT, Kathleen Barry, Jim and Jan Drummy, Jo Franklin, Sarah Grogan, Agnes Huff, Maureen Joy, Jim and Michelle Lee, Fred Lemister, Carol and Jessica MacCumber, Doris Mensch, Jeffrey Meyers, Kelly Meyers, Lucille Meyers, Teresa Meyers, Rich Morley, Mark Muller, Clara Murphy, John Neary, Diane Neczesny, John O'Brien, Kathy Osborne, Maria Papendrea, Scarlett Parry, Evelyn Rowe, Martin Smith, Mike Stensland, Carol Tyson, Janet VanZandt, Royce Webster
- ✠ for all those in our parish family serving in the military and all first responders and emergency personnel: Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer
- ✠ for the deceased members of our parish and their families and friends
- ✠ in thanksgiving for