

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

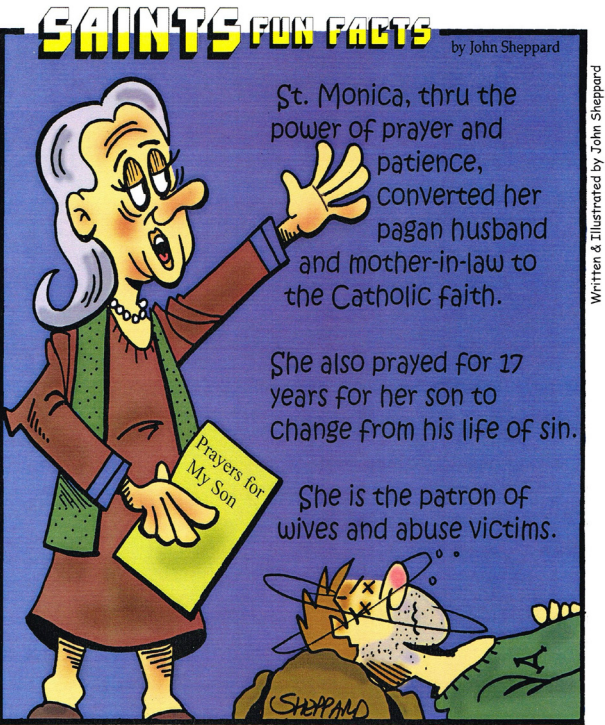
Monday, August 24
SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

Tuesday, August 25
Saint Louis
Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Thursday, August 27
Saint Monica

Friday, August 28
Saint Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Saturday, August 22
Passion of Saint John the Baptist



Saint Monica’s son is Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430), Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

Upcoming Events

08/23: SPECIAL COLLECTION: Catholic Home Missions

08/27: Liturgy of the Word

09/03: 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: Fr. Rouleau will be preaching on the Haitian Missions

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 16, 2026

Mass Attendance: 52

Collection: \$658

Assumption: \$130

HOW DOES THE TRUTH THAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HELD AS PRECIOUS IN GOD’S HEART SPEAK TO THE PARTS OF YOU THAT HAVE FELT REJECTED?



AUGUST 23, 2026

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, A

Isaiah 22:19–23

Psalms 138

Romans 11:33–36

Matthew 16:13–20

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

For the person most devoid of knowledge, just as for the most cultivated, faith remains a humble trusting in God. If faith were to become a spiritual pretension, it would lead nowhere.

–Brother Roger of Taizé

AUTHORITY AND HUMILITY IN LEADERSHIP

This week’s readings show us leadership is not about power alone. In the first reading, Shebna loses his position because of his pride, and Eliakim is chosen to take his place. God gives authority to those who use it wisely. Those who seek power for selfish reasons will not keep it for long. Eliakim is described as a father to the people. He does not rule over them with pride but serves them with care. The key placed on his shoulder shows his responsibility. He has the power to open and close, but this power comes from God. It is not for his own gain.

Leadership in faith should follow this same model. It is not about control but about service. Whether in the Church, the workplace, or the family, true leaders put others first. They do

not seek honor for themselves but honor God by guiding others well. This Sunday reminds us that authority should be used with humility. God does not give positions of honor to boost pride. He gives them to those who will serve with love and wisdom. Like Eliakim, we are called to lead in a way that brings people closer to God.

This Sunday highlights a key moment in the Gospel. Peter declares Jesus is the Son of God, and Jesus blesses him. He tells Peter that he will be the rock on which the Church is built.

Peter’s faith is not perfect. He struggles and makes mistakes, but he trusts in Jesus and speaks with conviction. His faith is strong enough that Jesus gives him a special role in leading the Church.

Jesus gives Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven. This means the Church has a responsibility to guide people in faith. It is not just about rules but about leading people to God. The Church’s foundation is not on human wisdom but on faith in Jesus. This reminds us that faith is what holds the Church together. Like Peter, we may struggle, but Jesus calls us to stand firm. The Church continues because of faith in Christ, and we are invited to be part of that foundation.

This Sunday calls us to recognize Jesus for who He truly is. It also challenges us to trust in God’s wisdom and to lead with humility when given responsibility. Faith is the foundation of the Church, and we are all called to be part of that foundation. As we reflect on these readings, may we grow in faith and serve God with trust and love.

For Reflection

- ★ How do I use any authority or influence I have?
- ★ Do I try to control my life instead of trusting in God ?
- ★ In what ways can I serve others with humility?

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.

THE EYES OF LOVE

I do believe deeply, that in order to live a spiritual life, we have to claim for ourselves that we are “taken” or “chosen.” Let me try to expand a bit on these words. When I know that I am chosen, I know that I have been seen as a special person. Someone has noticed me in my uniqueness and has expressed a desire to know me, to come closer to me, to love me. When I write to you that, as the beloved, we are God's chosen ones, I mean that we have been seen by God from all eternity; long before you were born and became part of history, you existed in God's heart. Long before your parents admired you or your friends acknowledged your gifts, or your teachers, colleagues and employers encouraged you, you were already “chosen.” The eyes of love had seen you as precious, as of infinite beauty of the chosen one, and it chooses without making anyone else feel excluded.

–Henri Nouwen

St. Paul reminds us we cannot fully understand God. He describes how deep and vast God's wisdom is: His ways are beyond human thought. No one can advise Him or claim to know all His plans. Sometimes, we try to figure out everything on our own. We want answers to life's big questions. We want to know why things happen the way they do. But Paul reminds us that we are not in control. Everything exists through God, and He is greater than our understanding. This should not make us feel lost but give us peace. We do not have to know everything. We can trust that God is guiding all things. Let us reflect on our place in God's plan. We are not meant to control everything but to trust in God's wisdom and live for His glory.

AUGUST 23, 2026

Celebrant

Rev. Cebula

Greeter: John O'Brien

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Minister: Diane Turner

August 30

Greeter: Peg Lilley

Lector: Daphne Thompson

Eucharistic Minister: Jim Lee

Mass Intention

FOR THE SOUL OF DAVID 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 Van-Zandt, 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 the love and support of friends and family and the kindness of strangers