

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 18

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday, March 19

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday, March 23

Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

In Catholic tradition, St. Joseph holds a place of profound reverence and affection. His veneration has grown significantly over the centuries, reflecting his unique role in the Holy Family and his status as a protector and intercessor for the faithful.

Saint Joseph is celebrated not only for his silent, steadfast presence in the lives of Jesus and Mary, but also for his embodiment of workmanlike virtue and obedience to God's will. This led to his designation as patron saint of the universal Church, a title that underscores his significance in Catholic spirituality and the belief in his powerful intercession.

The tradition of entrusting important life decisions to St. Joseph's intercession demonstrates the trust the faithful place in his paternal care and wisdom. This devotion is not merely a reflection of the past; it thrives today, with Pope Francis declaring a Year of St. Joseph, encouraging Catholics worldwide to rediscover the virtues of this humble guardian.

<https://young-catholics.com/2453/st-joseph-husband-of-mary/>

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

We are blessed to have you worship with us as we nurture each other in faith. While visiting our community, we humbly ask you to consider investing in our parish offertory and Diocesan Appeal to help ensure our parish and Diocese can be one of your partners in faith. Thank you!

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

In memory/honor of:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| ☼ Joanne Clark | ☼ Joseph Ruocco Jr. |
| ☼ Marguerite & Joseph Ruocco Sr. | ☼ Benjamin Family |
| | ☼ Kristofik Family |

“AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN.”

Matthew 4:19

Thanks to all who worked Friday's fish dinner:

- ☼ Betty O'Brien
- ☼ Kerry Mess
- ☼ Jen Spivey
- ☼ Matthew Tabone
- ☼ Andrew Turner

And to all who spread the word and came to eat in community.



TOTUS, TOTUS, TOTUS (Everyone, everyone, everyone)

Pope Francis has challenged us to include and welcome everyone to the community, including those on the margins. If you see someone new in church, please introduce yourself by name. It helps us get to know one another and create a vibrant parish community life. Thank you!

DIOCESAN APPEAL

As you plan your budget, consider a pledge. Use your bank's Bill Pay feature to set up automatic payments or use envelopes on the back table.

<https://thediocesanappeal.org/>

CURRENT STATUS: \$2,969 / GOAL: \$5,000



MARCH 17, 2024

5th Sunday of Lent, A (Scrutiny)

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to reflect on the themes of life, death, and resurrection through the raising of Lazarus from the dead. In this story, Jesus receives word his friend Lazarus is ill. However, instead of rushing to his side, Jesus delays his journey for two days. By the time he arrives in Bethany, Lazarus has been dead for four days. When he sees Lazarus's sister Martha, Jesus tells her that he is the resurrection and the life, and that whoever believes in him will never die. When Jesus arrives at Lazarus's tomb, he weeps and then commands Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Lazarus emerges, still wrapped in his burial cloths, and Jesus instructs the people around him to unbind him and let him go.

This passage reminds us of the hope and promise of resurrection at the heart of the Christian faith. Jesus' raising of Lazarus prefigures his own resurrection, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday. It reminds us, no matter how difficult or painful life may be, there is always hope for new life and transformation through the power of Christ. The passage also reminds us of the reality of death and the importance of mourning and grieving. When Jesus sees Lazarus's sister Mary weeping, he too is moved to tears. This reminds us it is okay to feel sadness and grief when we lose a loved one; these emotions are part of the human experience.

We are invited to hold both these truths in tension: the reality of death and the hope of resurrection. We are called to embrace the reality of our own mortality and to hold fast to the hope of new life and transformation through Christ. In doing so, we find comfort and strength in the knowledge that no matter what we face in this life, we are never alone; Christ is with us always.

WOMEN OF FAITH

Today's readings also show how Jesus' female disciples heard and understood his words. We know Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were good friends of Jesus and knew him well. So when Lazarus becomes seriously ill, they call on the Lord. But Lazarus dies, and the sisters are distraught. Upon seeing Jesus, Martha expresses her faith in his power, "If you had been here..." And her discussion of the resurrection indicates that she has knowledge of and interest in theology. When Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life..." he asks Martha if she believes. She firmly confesses her faith, "Yes Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ." Then Mary enters the scene. The contrast between the two sisters is evident. Martha reacts from her head, and Mary responds from her heart, with anguish and weeping. With Martha, Jesus responds with knowledge. But with Mary, he responds with emotion, "Jesus wept."

So we see that both women have faith in Jesus despite their different responses. Jesus responds to them in kind. Our Lord experiences life in the many ways we experience it. He is always in solidarity with us.

<https://young-catholics.com/2568/5th-sunday-of-lent-year-a/>

For Reflection

- ★ In what ways do I encounter Jesus during difficult moments in my life?
- ★ How can I balance the reality of death with the hope of resurrection in my own life?

Holy Cross Parish

96-98 Main Street
PO Box 118
Morris NY 13808

holycrosschurch@gmail.com

MISSION

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



SCHEDULE

Mass: Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

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

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Parish Leader

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Trustees

Michael Stensland (607) 783-2764

Richard Meyers (607) 263-5588

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Kerry L. Mess (607) 386-1951

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Dana Mochovciak, Jenna Turner, Carol Tyson, Marguerite Webster

Liturgical Ministry

Marguerite Webster (607) 263-5478

Faith Formation

Daphne Thompson (607) 263-2410

Ministry to the Homebound

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098

Jenn Spivey (207) 539-5094

MARCH 17, 2024

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Lector: Annette Hammond

Eucharistic Minister: Carol Tyson

Mass Intention

If you would like to request an intention for a mass, simply call the office to schedule: (607) 263-5143.

Pray for

- ✕ the deceased members of our parish and their families and friends
- ✕ the sick, their caregivers, and all who have asked for our prayers, especially Sr. Theresa Ahern MSBT, Amy O'Brien, John O'Brien, Jo Franklin, Aggi Huff, Louisa Joy, Lynn Joy, Maureen Joy, Rebecca Joy, Michelle Lee, Teresa Meyers, Clara Murphy, Diane Neczesny, Maria Papendrea and sister Camella, Karina Tabone and (welcome to) new baby Thomas Tabone, Joe and Carol Tyson, Lorraine Tyson, Fr. Chris Welch, John Zaleski
- ✕ all the men and women of our parish family serving in the military and all first responders and emergency personnel: Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS PARISH! CURIOUS? BEING CALLED?

RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults into the Catholic faith.

For more information, go to myrcia.org.

Holy Cross Parish RCIA Contact:
Maureen Joy (607) 263-5132

Pope Francis's March intention: For the new martyrs, may those who risk their lives for the Gospel inflame the Church with their courage.

Engage in Living Community

Diocese of Albany

To help you walk with our Lord this Lent, the diocese has compiled resources, articles, and ideas to delve deep into the season. Visit: www.RCDA.org/Lent/Resources

Talks from the NYS Eucharistic Congress

You can find the talks and homilies from the Eucharistic Congress in Auriesville in October at <https://www.rcda.org/nysec2023>. You can also find the page by clicking the Prayer and Worship tab under Offices & Ministries at <https://www.rcda.org/>

AARP FREE SENIOR TAX PREP: Volunteers will be at Elm Park Church (401 Chestnut St. Oneonta) through April to assist eligible residents with tax returns. For an appointment, call (607) 376-5542.

Do you live, work, or spend time in Otsego County?



We want to hear from you about your transportation needs!

If you need a paper copy, please see Matthew Tabone or Kerry Mess. Scan code for survey.

If you are willing to intentionally distribute paper surveys and collect for the Planning Department, please let Kevin know how many printed copies you would like. If you have thoughts of how this survey can be better distributed (location, specific groups or target populations), please share comments with Kevin Musser at 607-547-4225 or musserk@otsegocounty.com.

Upcoming Events

03/17: Rosary after mass

Communal Penance Service, 4 p.m., Sacred Heart Sidney

03/18: Confessions, 6-7 p.m.

03/19: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

03/18: Synod Listening Session, 6:30-8:30 p.m. (virtual, register: rcda.org/synod)

03/22: Stations of the Cross, 4:30 p.m.

03/26: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

03/29: SPECIAL COLLECTION – Holy Land

Easter Triduum Mass Schedule St. Mary's Oneonta

Holy Thursday: 6:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
10 p.m. Night Prayer

Good Friday: 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
1-4 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Service of the Passion

Holy Saturday: 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 p.m. Great Vigil in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass
10:30 a.m. Mass

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

Mass Attendance: 48

Collection: \$880.00

Special Collection: \$172.00