

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 25

Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Wednesday, August 27

Saint Monica

Thursday, August 28

Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday, August 29

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

AURELIUS AUGUSTINE was born in 354 at Tagaste, Algeria, the son of Patricius, a non-believer, and his devout Catholic wife, Monica. Augustine's mother enrolled him as a catechumen as a child, but Augustine's baptism was deferred in accordance with custom.

In his youth, Augustine had an inquisitive mind. He wanted a career that would bring him wealth and fame. Augustine's parents endorsed their son's goals and wanted to provide their son with the best education. Following his studies in Tagaste and later in Carthage, Tunisia, Augustine taught rhetoric first in his native town and later in Rome and Milan.

Augustine traveled on a deep spiritual journey, searching for inner peace and lasting happiness. His mother played a role in this spiritual journey, ultimately leading him to convert to Catholicism. At age 33, Bishop Ambrose of Milan baptized Augustine who made a commitment to spend his life as a "servant of God."

Augustine agreed to live his life in celibacy despite several years living with a woman whom he deeply loved and fathered a son, Adeodatus. After Augustine's baptism, he, Adeodatus, and a friend Alypius set out for Tagaste, seeking a monastic lifestyle with other

BUILDING COMMUNITY: The Parish Pastoral Council has begun a planning process for realizing our vision (top of front page) and mission (inside left panel). **The next Council meeting is next Sunday, August 31, after mass. Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend and participate!**

men who had experienced a radical conversion to the faith. Augustine's mother became ill and died suddenly but happily as she had witnessed his commitment to Christ and the Church.

After three years, Augustine was called to become a priest while visiting Hippo, about 50 miles from Tagaste. In Hippo, Augustine established a monastic community he directed while assisting the bishop, Valerius. Several years later, Augustine succeeded Valerius as head of the diocese.

Augustine was hesitant to move into the bishop's house; he did not want to disturb the monastic community's peace. Augustine wrote his Rule for the community's continued direction and then established a third community for clerics in his new episcopal residence.

As bishop, Augustine found his desired life of contemplation and separation from worldly concerns. He focused on his many obligations as leader of the local Church and as a civil official. In addition to his pastoral duties within Hippo, Augustine traveled to church councils in the region of North Africa 40 to 50 times in the 35 years he served as bishop and made the nine-day journey to Carthage for meetings with other bishops about 30 times.

Augustine's extensive travels were physically demanding, but they may be considered modest when they are compared to his writings and sermons. Over the course of Augustine's lifetime, he wrote over 200 books and nearly 1,000 sermons, letters, and other works.

Adapted from: <https://augustinian.org/spirituality/saint-augustine-of-hippo/>



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

AUGUST 24, 2025

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, C

Isaiah 66:18–21

Psalms 117

Hebrews 12:5–7, 11–13

Luke 13:22–30

Your aspiration is to follow the Risen Christ. By what sign can you recognize that you have encountered him? When, as you come closer to him, your inner combats do not harden you but lead you to the very wellsprings of his love

—Brother Roger of Taizé

LISTEN FOR THE SOUND OF THE GENUINE

There are many of us ... across the world who claim Howard Thurman as our personal spiritual mentor.... He inspired, challenged, lifted, and comforted us in a thousand ways. —Landrum Bolling

Howard Thurman serves as an exemplar for both the formal ministry of spiritual direction and informal spiritual friendship. Mentoring, at its best, is an exchange. Spiritual guides are vital beacons of light on the spiritual path, and once a person becomes spiritually mature, they naturally begin to serve as spiritual mentors for others. Maya Angelou instructs, "When you learn, teach." Howard Thurman taught and mentored many, although not always in a formal classroom. Students found they could share their personal issues with Thurman and frequently sought him out for spiritual advice. His timeless sermons, public lectures, and written meditations endure because they continue to feed the hunger of the spirit.

Thurman encouraged the graduates of Spelman College to listen to and to become their unique selves: The burden of what I have to say to you this afternoon is, "What is your name, who are you and can you find a way to hear the sound of the genuine in yourself?" There are so many noises going on inside of you, so many echoes of all sorts, so [much] internalizing of the rumble and the traffic, the confusions, the disorders by which your environment is peopled that I wonder if you can get still enough—not quiet enough—still enough to hear rumbling up from your unique and essential idiom the sound of the genuine in you. I don't know if you can. But this is your assignment...

There is something in every one of you that waits, listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself and if you cannot hear it, you will never find whatever it is for which you are searching... You are the only you that has ever lived; your idiom is the only idiom of its kind in all the existences and if you cannot hear the sound of the genuine in you, you will all of your life, spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls...

Who are you? How does the sound of the genuine come through to you?... Don't be deceived and thrown off by all the noises that are a part even of your dreams, your ambitions ... that you don't hear the sound of the genuine in you because that is the only true guide that you will ever have and if you don't have that you don't have a thing. You may be famous, you may be whatever the other ideals are which are a part of this generation but you know you don't have the foggiest notion of who you are, where you are going, what you want. Cultivate the discipline of listening to the sound of the genuine in yourself.

For Reflection

- ★ How can we be more inclusive and welcoming to others in our community??
- ★ In what areas of my life do I need to trust more in God's guidance?

<https://young-catholics.com/3632/21st-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-c/>

<https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-ehikhk-dduxulkd-z/>

Holy Cross Parish

96-98 Main Street, PO Box 118
Morris NY 13808

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

Facebook: tiny.cc/HCMorris

Find our bulletin and Pastoral Council minutes on our website. If you have a notice for the bulletin, please email: holycrossRCchurch@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

Dana Mochovciak, Jenna Turner, Carol Tyson, Marguerite Webster

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

Holy Father's August intention: When coexistence seems difficult, may we not succumb to battle for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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; holysewsononeonta@yahoo.com
- ☼ Oneonta Community Health Center
No-cost healthcare services for uninsured adults (607) 433-0300
Office hours: Tues. 6–8 p.m.

Upcoming Events

08/24: Special Collection for Catholic Home Missions

08/28: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

08/31: Pastoral Council meeting after mass, parish hall – **All are welcome!**

09/04: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

09/06: Confession, 4:15–4:45 p.m., St. Mary's Oneonta (reservation chapel)

09/07: Christian Formation after mass

09/11: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

Virtual book club on *Between Heaven and Mirth*, 12–1:30 p.m., 09/11, 18, 25, Sacred Heart Sidney (register with Paula in Faith Formation Office by Sept. 7)

09/14: Coffee hour after mass

Diocesan Marriage Jubilee Mass, Christ Our Light Church Loudonville, 3 p.m.

09/18: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

09/20: Diocesan Jubilee Gathering, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m., St. Matthew's Church Voorheesville; see QR code

09/21: Rosary after mass

09/25: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

09/28: Special Collection for Catholic Universities

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

Mass Attendance: 48

Collection: \$493.00

Holy Day: \$10.00

AUGUST 24, 2025

Celebrant

Rev. Joseph Cebula

Greeter: Peg Lilley

Lector: Peg Lilley

Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Turner, Toni Zaleski, Jen Spivey

August 31

Greeter: Joe Tyson

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Ministers: Peg Lilley, Carol Tyson, Jen Spivey

Mass Intention

For the soul of Betty O'Brien

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, Jo Franklin, Sarah Grogan, Agnes Huff, Maureen Joy, Nadine Joy, Michelle Lee, Fred Lemister, Carol and Jessica MacCumber, Teresa Meyers, Rich Morley, Mark Muller, Clara Murphy, John Neary, Diane Neczesny, Karen Newell, John O'Brien, Kathy Osborne, Maria Papendrea, Scarlett Parry, Evelyn Rowe, Martin Smith, Mike Stensland, Pat Stensland, Joe and Carol Tyson, Janet Van-Zandt, John Zaleski
- ✠ 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, Betty O'Brien
- ✠ in thanksgiving for soft and steady rain for the earth and our souls