

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday, July 21
Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest
and Doctor of the Church
- Tuesday, July 22
Saint Mary Magdalene
- Wednesday, July 23
Saint Bridget, Religious
- Tuesday, July 24
Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest
- Friday, July 25
Saint James, Apostle
- Saturday, July 26
Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLOUF’S STORY

Although this saint never traveled far from the Lebanese village of Beka-Kafra where he was born, his influence has spread widely. Joseph Zaroun Makloun was raised by an uncle because his father, a mule driver, died when Joseph was only three. At 23, Joseph joined the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya, Lebanon, and took the name Sharbel in honor of a second-century martyr. He professed his final vows in 1853, and was ordained six years later. Following the example of the fifth-century Saint Maron, Sharbel lived as a hermit from 1875, until his death. His reputation for holiness prompted people to seek him to receive a blessing and to be remembered in his prayers. He followed a strict fast and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. When his superiors occasionally asked him to administer the sacraments to nearby villages, Sharbel did so gladly. He died in the late afternoon on Christmas Eve. Christians and non-Christians soon made his tomb a place of pilgrimage and of cures.

Pope Paul VI beatified Sharbel in 1965, and canonized him 12 years later. John Paul II often said that the Church has two lungs—East and West—and it must learn to breathe using both of them. Remembering saints like Sharbel helps the Church to appreciate both the diversity and unity present in the Catholic Church. Like all the saints, Sharbel points us to God and invites us to cooperate generously with God’s grace, no matter what our situation in life may be. As our prayer life becomes deeper and more honest, we become more ready to make that generous response.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-sharbel-makhlouf/>

FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT ST. JAMES

1. Before he worked with Jesus, James was a fisherman: James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee. Both were fishermen by trade, and partners with the disciples Andrew and Simon Peter: James the son of Zebedee is known as “James the Greater,” while James the son of Alphaeus is known as “James the Lesser.”
2. He wasn’t the only apostle named James.
3. James is one of two disciples given a nickname by Jesus: Fiery evangelical zeal a often displayed inspired Jesus to dub James and John “the Sons of Thunder”.
4. He was one of three disciples to witness the transfiguration.
5. James was the first apostle to be martyred.

<https://www.nationalshrine.org/blog/5-things-you-should-know-about-st-james-the-apostle/>

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Learn how to make Jesus a part of your marriage and take your worries away. Participate in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Dates to sign up are: September 19-21 in Huntington, NY Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or <https://www.mectw.org/>.



JULY 20, 2025
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, C
Genesis 18:1–10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:24–28
Luke 10:38–42

Nothing is more harrowing than the break-up of a deep human affection. Sometimes the heart no longer knows where it’s at. To protect itself, to suffer less, it may become hardened.
When Christ was rejected, he did not rebel. And it is this Christ whom we are following.

–Brother Roger of Taizé

THE MYSTICAL PATH

In religious traditions, the word “mysticism” refers to a direct experience of Divine Presence, and to the highest levels of union with Divine Mystery. It also includes the human longing for the ultimate, and the path the soul follows toward intimacy with God. It implies that the mystical quest is intrinsic to human nature—that our souls are constituted to turn toward the divine light as a plant turns toward the sun.... The impetus of one’s entire being never rests until it rests in God. This internal movement toward divine communion—rather than our daily distraction—is the essence of spirituality. When our hearts are diverted from the quest for meaning and love, we suffer. When we experience the true longing of the soul, seeking union with the divine—we know the meaning of life itself and are illuminated by the light of peace.

Yet, haven’t most of us attempted to make excuses for this deep, interior longing, hoping that it would finally go away and we would be able to function in the “real” world?... We tell ourselves we are not worthy of communion; we’re not capable. Yet despite our denial, the mystical heartbeat never abates; its lifeblood courses through our veins, calling us home. When we focus on this one essential need, we discover the soul’s passion to belong to God. And it is this insistent tug from the infinite that guides our souls on the mystic quest and compels openness of heart.

Lanzetta encourages us to nurture our mystical longing for God through all the challenges we face:

Through this pursuit of devotion to God, you will at times grieve over abandoning what society considers necessary for material and professional survival. Daily you will struggle to reconcile the tension between what is socially practical and your desire to give your heart to the quest. Then the false self will resist: “I must be practical, I must take care of my survival needs, I must not give too much.” These are the voices that obstruct the soul’s desire, even as it experiences the inner light and is consumed by a need for love.

No doubt some will view spiritual longing as impractical. But, mystically, the passion for the Divine is extremely practical; in fact, it is the only practicality. For the soul’s longing to rest in God [is] a road map and a key to unlocking the true self.

<https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-sjkdrjt-dduxulkd-v/>

For Reflection

- ★ Why is it important to trust in God’s promises?
- ★ How does taking time for contemplation strengthen my faith?
- ★ How can Martha and Mary’s story inspire my discipleship?

<https://young-catholics.com/3605/16th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-c/>

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

JULY 20, 2025

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Greeter: Peg Lilley

Lector: Kerry L Mess

Eucharistic Ministers: Toni Zaleski, Jen Spivey, Carol Tyson

July 27

Greeter: Joe Tyson

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Turner, Toni Zaleski, Jen Spivey

Mass Intention

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, Betty O'Brien, John O'Brien, Kathy Osborne, Maria Papendrea, Scarlett Parry, Evelny Rowe, Martin Smith, Mike Stensland, Pat Stensland, Joe and Carol Tyson, Janet VanZandt, 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
- ✠ in thanksgiving for community of family, friends, and new life in our parish

Holy Father's July intention: That we learn to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject anything that leads away from Christ and the Gospel.

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.
- ☼ **Jail Ministries of Otsego & Schoharie**
Seeking volunteers "helping troubled lives find hope and wholeness in the Christian walk." www.jmoconline.org.
- ☼ **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.

Upcoming Events

07/24: Liturgy of the Word

Diocese of Albany, Young Adult (ages 20-39) Adoration, BBQ, Corn Hole Tournament, 5:30 p.m. St. Clement's Saratoga; register: <https://forms.gle/EFQ624xK2ndkNnTy8>

07/27: Special Collection for the Holy Father

07/27–08/01: Hartwick Seminary Institute of Theology

07/28: Hymn Sing, 6 p.m. Otsego County Fair

07/31: Liturgy of the Word

08/03: Christian Formation

08/07: Liturgy of the Word

08/09: Step Up Men's Conference, St. Edward the Confessor Church Clifton Park

08/10: Coffee Hour after mass

08/11-08/14: Vacation Bible School, 5-7 p.m. (light supper included), hosted at UMC Morris

08/17: Rosary after mass

WHOM HAVE YOU WELCOMED TODAY?

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2025

Mass Attendance: 57

Collection: \$747.00

Candles: \$15.28

Insurance: \$135.00