

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

Tuesday, August 22

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 24

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

St. Bartholomew was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ. He is mentioned several times in the synoptic gospels. When Jesus first encounters him, he is “sitting under a fig tree.” This is a Jewish figure of speech indicating that he was studying Scripture. A fig tree provides a shady place to pray and contemplate.

Bartholomew is widely thought to be the person identified as Nathaniel in the Gospel of John. After the resurrection of Jesus, he is one of the apostles who saw our risen Lord at the Sea of Galilee. He went on to evangelize in Asia Minor and was martyred.

St. Bartholomew is the patron saint of bookbinders, butchers, cobblers, leather workers, nervous diseases, and neurological diseases.

<https://young-catholics.com/4177/st-bartholomew-apostle/>

Jesus is King throughout all eternity by nature and by right of conquest: through Him, with Him, and subordinate to Him, Mary is Queen by grace, by divine relationship, by right of conquest, and by singular choice [of the Father]. And her kingdom is as vast as that of her Son and God, since nothing is excluded from her dominion.

—Pope Pius XII



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 offeratory and Diocesan Appeal to help ensure our parish and Diocese can be one of your partners in faith. 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 (Please change date to 23-24).

<https://thediocesanappeal.org/>



AUGUST 20, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:9a, 11–13a

Psalms 85

Romans 9:1–5

Matthew 14:22–33

Inclusive House of Prayer

In the first reading, the Lord calls upon us to follow what is right and just, as He prepares to reveal His salvation and justice. The passage speaks of the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, embracing His ways and becoming His servants. Those who love the Lord's name, keep the sabbath holy, and uphold His covenant will find acceptance in His house of prayer.

This reading emphasizes God's all-encompassing love and inclusivity. He welcomes people from all nations and backgrounds into His presence. His house is not exclusive but open to all who seek Him with sincerity and devotion. Just as Jesus embraced the Canaanite woman's faith in the gospel, this passage reminds us that God's love transcends boundaries. As followers of the Lord, we are called to create a welcoming and inclusive community, embracing all as children of God in our house of prayer.

God's Enduring Mercy

In the second reading, we hear St. Paul addressing the Gentile believers. He takes pride in his ministry to the Gentiles, hoping it will stir jealousy in his own people and lead them to salvation. Paul explains that the rejection of some from the chosen people opened the way for the reconciliation of the world, bringing life from spiritual death. God's gifts and calling are unwavering and permanent. Despite past disobedience, both Gentiles and Jews have received God's mercy. As the Jews once disobeyed, their disobedience now paves the path for them to experience God's mercy, just as the Gentiles have.

This reading reminds us of God's boundless mercy and His plan for the salvation of all. God's inclusive love extends to everyone, and through His mercy, He calls us to unity and redemption, embracing the hope that all may receive His salvation.

Faith Beyond Borders

In the gospel, we encounter Jesus engaging with a Canaanite woman. Although Jesus initially seemed distant, His encounter with her teaches us a vital lesson about faith. The woman was not part of the Jewish community and didn't follow their religious laws, making her an outsider. Despite this, her unwavering faith caught Jesus' attention. It is easy to see how Jesus' disciples sought to dismiss her due to their cultural norms, but Jesus recognized the depth of her belief.

This story reminds us that faith knows no boundaries. Jesus looked beyond cultural barriers and saw the sincerity of her heart. As followers of Christ, we should emulate His inclusive love, welcoming all who seek Him with genuine faith, regardless of their background.

For Reflection

- ★ The encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman illustrates the importance of faith beyond borders. In what ways can we recognize and appreciate genuine faith in people who might be considered outsiders in our church communities?
- ★ The Gospel story challenges cultural norms and reminds us of the need for inclusivity. How can we actively break down barriers and make our communities more welcoming to those who may feel excluded?

<https://young-catholics.com/2882/20th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/>

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
open (suggestions welcome)

Parish Council Chair

Kerry L. Mess (607) 386-1951

Parish Council Members

Dana Mochovciak, Carol Tyson, Marguerite Webster

Liturgical Ministry

Marguerite Webster (607) 263-5478

Faith Formation

open — to start in autumn

Ministry to the Homebound

Matthew Tabone (360) 559-4098
Jenn Spivey (207) 539-5094



AUGUST 20, 2023

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Mass Intention

An individual may request a Mass be offered for a certain intention such as in thanksgiving for the intentions of another person. 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, Lynn Joy, Michelle Lee, Teresa Meyers, Clara Murphy, Diane Neczesny, Maria Papendrea and sister Camella, Karina Tabone and (welcome to) new baby Matthew Tabone, Joe and Carol Tyson, Lorraine Tyson, 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

FROM FR. CHRIS: THIS WEEK... I join a group of women to present Cursillio to 7 women candidates. Cursillo, Spanish for "short course," is a lay-lead movement. Candidates participate in a 3-day retreat on Christian living and afterwards continue to meet to share how God is active in their lives to grow closer to God and each other. Please keep the team and candidates in prayer. I will also spend some time with my family in the Finger Lakes. It is so nice to spend time on the water and soak in God's creation. Summer is winding down fast: Let us spend some time tasting the gifts of the harvest.

Pope Francis's intention for August:

For World Youth Day in Lisbon inspiring young people to live the Gospel.

ENGAGE IN LIVING COMMUNITY

- ☼ Email the parish to volunteer as: usher/greeter, lector, altar server or eucharistic minister, homebound minister, church cleaner/landscaper, counter, parish council member
- ☼ Butternut Valley Food Pantry
166 Marion Avenue, Gilbertsville NY (607) 783-2267
Needed: Canned dog & cat food, assorted soups, cup of noodles, top ramen, condiments, syrup, jam/jelly, chips, cake mixes
Please check expiration dates on food!
aluminum foil, laundry detergent, personal hygiene items
- ☼ The Lord's Table & Food Pantry
305 Main Street, Oneonta NY (607) 432-1458
Donate items or call to volunteer (weekdays 4:30–6 p.m.)
Needed: Peanut butter, juice, rice (1 lb box, 2 lb bag), saltine crackers, shampoo
- ☼ The Magic Closet
158 East Main Street, Morris NY
Donate items or call to volunteer: (607) 263-5116 or (607) 263-5859.
Weds. & Sat., 10 a.m.–noon

**WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS PARISH!
ARE YOU CURIOUS? BEING CALLED?
WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US.**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 08/20: St. Mary's Peace and Justice refundable bottle and can collection, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. recyclable container will be in front of the parish garage
Please make sure all bottles/cans are nickel refundable in NY.
- 08/25–27: Faith, Family and the Need for Healing with Fr. Peter Murray, S.J., St. John's, Bainbridge
- 08/25: St. Kateri, adoration, and confession, 6:30–8 p.m.
- 08/26: Mass, Our Faith Journey, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. (*Bring a lunch.*)
- 08/27: Mass, 11 a.m.
- 08/26: Diocesan Charismatic Prayer Meeting, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Christ Our Light RC Church, Parish Hall, 1 Maria Drive, Loudonville
- 09/23: Diocesan Marriage Jubilee, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, 4 p.m.
- 10/20–22: Eucharistic Congress; St. Mary's Oneonta bus, \$50/person; register by Sept. 7.
(<https://nyseucharisticcongress.org>)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023

Mass Attendance: 51

Collection: \$1,646.00

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023

Mass Attendance: 16