

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, October 2
Guardian Angels

Wednesday, October 4
Saint Francis of Assisi

Thursday, October 5
Saint Faustina Kowalska

Saturday, September 30
Our Lady of the Rosary

The essence of the prophetic task is to articulate a vision of the common good that has the power to capture the imagination of the people as a goal worthy of struggle and sacrifice.

—*St. Francis and the Foolishness of God*

For Francis, the order of things was turned upside down, just as it had been for the apostles... Jesus, whom they followed and called friend, embraced, mingled with, touched, loved, cured, and broke bread with the outcasts, the marginal, the unclean of his day... In a social structure shaped by exclusion of the leprous, the ritually unclean, the “non-chosen,” the women, the possessed, tax collectors, sinners—Jesus embraced them all, both individually and as social groups. In fact, Jesus’s very identity was as one who proclaimed the good news to the poor, who announced the inbreaking of the reign of God, and who lived the announcement by being at the side of the poor himself.

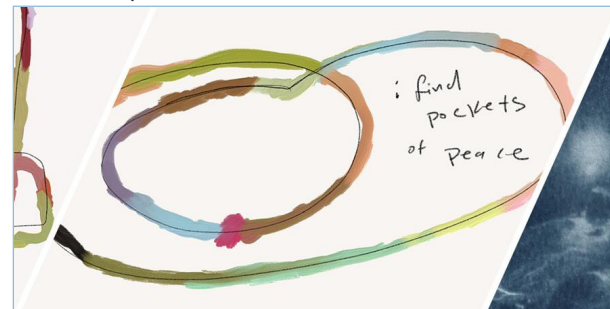
In Francis’s new upside-down order, his encounter with the leper was indeed an encounter with this Jesus in a person who was marginalized... As Francis embraced a vivid example of human misery, he tasted great joy; the sweetness he experienced revealed God’s presence pervading his meeting with the outcast.

The witness of St. Francis and Jesus inspires us to a solidarity that mourns with people in

poverty:

Encountering the impoverished, walking for a while in the world of the marginalized, and being with the have-nots of our world is a necessary aspect of the discipleship journey. Our vision thereafter is shaped by this encounter. We realize, and never forget, the privileged perspective of impoverished people who see reality with a clarity of vision that we may never achieve. Our souls are touched by the encounter as well, and sorrow over the pain and injustice of impoverishment and marginalization fills the crevices of our being...

Deep mourning over the social conditions that make people poor may be the first step we non-poor can take to internalize the beatitudes: “Blessed are you who are now weeping; you shall laugh” [Luke 6:21]. Mourning implies a terrible sense of loss, of regret, an acknowledgment of the real, and a feeling of pain in the face of that reality. Weeping and mourning emerge from our affective side and are profoundly healthy emotions for those of us who are more privileged, who will never fully share the lot of those who are impoverished by the system that creates our wealth, but who at least can weep over the tragedy of human suffering. Emotions help describe us as whole people and, if joined with righteous indignation at the injustices that cause marginalization, can lead us toward a relinquishment of the power and privilege that maintain injustice, and toward a solidarity with those who are poor in their claim on justice.



<https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-vtyhtil-tdduxukld-f/>

Holy Cross Parish

OCTOBER 1, 2023

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A

Ezekiel 18:25–28

Psalms 25

Phillipians 2:1-11

Matthew 21:28–32

ONE SACRED WORLD

Whenever we’re led out of normalcy into sacred, open space, it’s going to feel like suffering, because it’s letting go of what we’re used to. This is always painful, but part of us has to die if we are ever to grow larger (John 12:24). If we’re not willing to let go and die to our small self, we won’t enter into any new or sacred space.

Prophets lead us into sacred space by showing us the insufficiency of the old order; the priest’s role is to teach us how to live in the new realm. Unfortunately, priests too often operate separately from prophets. They talk of a new realm but never lead us out of the old order where we are still largely trapped.

In this new realm, everything belongs. This awareness is sometimes called a second naivete. It is a return to simple consciousness. The first awareness is a dangerous naivete, which doesn’t know but thinks it does. In second naivete, darkness and light coexist, paradox is revealed, and we are finally at home in the only world that has ever existed. This is true knowing. Here, death is a part of life and failure is a part of victory. Opposites collide and unite, and everything belongs.

In mature religion, the secular becomes sacred. There are no longer two worlds. We no longer have to leave the secular world to find sacred space because they’ve come together. That was the significance of the temple veil rending when Jesus died. The temple divided reality into the holy world inside and the unholy world outside. That’s why Jesus said the temple had to fall: “Not a stone shall stand on a stone” (Matthew 24:2). Our word “profane” comes from the Latin words *pro* and *fanum*, meaning “outside the temple.” Teilhard de Chardin said, “Nothing here below is profane for those who know how to see.” [1] There is only one world, and it’s the supernatural one. There is no “natural” world where God is not. It is all supernatural. All the bushes burn now if we’ve seen one burn. Only one tree has to fill up with light and angels, and then we never again see trees the same way. That’s the true seeing we call contemplation.

We need to refresh our seeing through contemplation because we forget. We start clinging and protecting. Unless there is a readiness to let go, we will not see the vision of the whole. God cannot be seen through such a small lens.

I can see why Christians use the language of “born again.” The great traditions seem to recognize the first birth is not enough. We not only have to be born, but also remade. The remaking of the soul and the refreshing of the eye is the return to simplicity.

[1] Teilhard de Chardin, *The Divine Milieu: An Essay on the Interior Life* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1960), 35.

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For Reflection

- ★ Do you agree that people can change their paths through actions, even after making initial mistakes?
- ★ Have you ever had a significant change of heart that led you to act differently?
- ★ What role do you think God’s grace plays in personal change?
- ★ How can you apply the principle of genuine transformation in your own life?

<https://young-catholics.com/2935/26th-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

Richard Meyers (607) 263-5588

Parish Council Chair

Kerry L. Mess (607) 386-1951

Parish 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

OCTOBER 1, 2023

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Lector: Peg Lilley

Eucharistic Minister: Carole Barry

Mass Intention

An individual may request a Mass be offered for a certain intention, for example: in thanksgiving for the intentions of another person such as someone who has died. 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, Lynn Joy, Michelle Lee, Justin Lilley, 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 men and women of our parish family serving in the military, all first responders and emergency personnel: Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer

A candle can only give light if it lets itself be consumed by the flame. It would remain useless if its wax failed to nourish the fire. Allow Christ to burn in you, even at the cost of sacrifice and renunciation. (Pope Benedict XVI)

Pope Francis's intention for October: For the Synod, may the church adopt listening and dialogue at every level, and accept guidance of the Holy Spirit.

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

- 10/01: Religious Ed program begins, opening class grades preK–grade 10**
- 10/03: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
- 10/05: Community Prayer, 11 a.m.** (our parish/villages/state/country/world)
- 10/06: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6 p.m.**
- 10/08: Coffee Hour following mass**
- 10/10: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
Parish Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 10/12: Community Prayer, 11 a.m.** (our parish/villages/state/country/world)
- 10/15: Special collection (Mission Sunday)**
- 10/17: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.**
- 10/19: Consolation Group (grieving loss of a loved one, job, pet, anything important), St. Mary's, 10 a.m.
- 10/19: Community Prayer, 11 a.m.** (our parish/villages/state/country/world)
- 10/20–22: Eucharistic Congress; Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine
- 10/22: Women's Retreat, after mass till 3 p.m.** (details in next week's bulletin)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

Mass Attendance: 59

Collection: \$935.50

Special Collection: \$118.00