

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 19
Saint John Eudes, Priest

Tuesday, August 20
Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday, August 21
Saint Pius X, Pope

Thursday, August 22
The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, August 23
Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

Saturday, August 24
Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

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

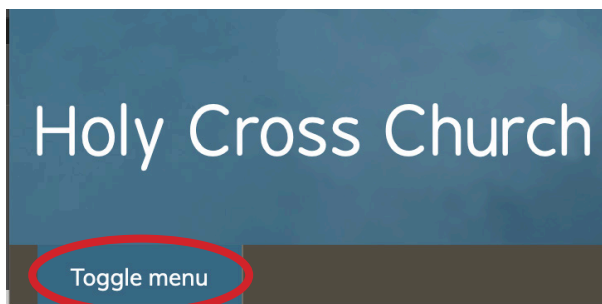
Pope Francis has challenged us to include and welcome everyone to the community, including those on the margins. If you see someone new in church, please introduce yourself by name. It helps us get to know one another and create a vibrant parish community life. Thank you!

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 Sunday, September 8, after mass. Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend and participate!**

ACCESS HOLY CROSS DOCUMENTS

You can access the bulletin and Pastoral Council minutes on the Holy Cross Parish website: <https://parishes.rcda.org/holy-cross/>

When on the parish website, click on the **Toggle menu** below the top banner:



A menu will appear on the left:



Click on **Bulletin** to access all copies of the bulletin for the last year.

Click on **Ministries & Committees** to access the Pastoral Council meeting minutes. Pastoral Council Minutes are on the right side of the page.

You can also contact the parish through email: holycrossrcchurch@gmail.com. If you have notices for the bulletin, please be sure to email those by Wednesday evening, 5 p.m. to ensure inclusion in the weekend's bulletin.

Please also feel free to use the parish email if you have questions or feedback.



AUGUST 18, 2024

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, B
Proverbs 9:1–6
Psalm 34
Ephesians 5:15–20
John 6:51–58

TAKE, THANK, BREAK, GIVE

The greatest gift one can give is thanksgiving. In giving gifts, we give what we can spare, but in giving thanks we give ourselves. —Brother David Steindl-Rast, *Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer*

At his Last Supper, Jesus gave us an action, a mime, a sacred, communal ritual that would summarize his core and lasting message for the world—one to keep repeating until his return. It's significant that the meal and the metaphor are based in physicality; the incarnation continued in the elements of the universe. Good stuff, and yet it has always been a scandal to overly spiritual people, starting at the very beginning: "This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?" (see John 6:60).

The Eucharist, which means "thanksgiving," has four main aspects. In our conscious participation, we become more like the one we follow:

First, we take our whole lives in our hands, as Jesus did. In very physical and scandalously incarnational language, table bread is daringly called "my body" and wine is called "my blood." We are saying a radical "yes" to both the physical universe itself and the bloody suffering of our own lives and all the world.

Second, we thank God (eucharisteo in Greek), who is the Origin of all that life and who allows and uses even death. We are making a choice for gratitude, abundance, and appreciation for Another, which has the power to radically de-center us. Our lives and deaths are pure gift, and must be given away in trust, just as they were given to us as gift.

Third, we break it. We allow our lives to be broken and given away. We don't need to protect them. The sharing of the small self will be the discovery of the True Self in God. "Unless the single grain of wheat dies, it remains just a grain of wheat" (John 12:24); the crushed grain becomes the broken bread, the whole and newly connected "Body of Christ."

Finally, we chew on this mystery! This truth is known by participation and practice, not by more thinking or discussing. "Take this," "eat and drink this"—not alone, but together, "until I return." There we have the heart of the message, a "new covenant" of indwelling love that is not grounded in worthiness in any form, but merely in a willingness to participate and trust. Our drinking and eating are our agreement to "do what I can to make up in my own body all that still has to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body the church" (see Colossians 1:24). Eucharist is a risky and demanding act of radical gratitude for, solidarity with, and responsibility to the work of God—much more than a reward for good behavior or any "prize for the perfect," as Pope Francis says.

For Reflection

- ★ How can I seek wisdom in my daily life?
- ★ What does it mean to me that Jesus is the living bread?

<https://young-catholics.com/3361/20th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-b/>

Holy Cross Parish

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

<https://parishes.rcda.org/holycross/>
Our bulletin and Pastoral Council minutes are posted on our website. Council minutes are under Ministries & Committees. If you have a notice for the bulletin, please email: holycross-rcchurch@gmail.com by Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastoral Associate (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

RCIA Contact

Maureen Joy (607) 263-5132

AUGUST 18, 2024

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Tyson, Peg Lilley, Carole Barry

Mass Intention

For Karen Newall

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

Pray for

- ✠ he 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, Kathleen Barry, Diane DeDominicus, John O'Brien, Jo Franklin, Tony Giambra, Agnes Huff, Louisa Joy, Lynn Joy, Maureen Joy, Rebecca Joy, Michelle Lee, Valerie McCann, Teresa Meyers, Rich Morley, Clara Murphy, John Neary, Diane Neczesny, Karen Newell, Maria Papendrea, Joe and Carol 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

LOOKING FOR MORNING PEOPLE

Holy Cross is looking for a few more good greeters. Would you be willing to arrive 10 minutes before mass and greet people once a month? See the sign up sheet at the back of church or Marguerite Webster.

Pope Francis's August intention: May political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for the common good and caring for those in need.

Engage in Living Community

HAVE 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.

FREE LUNCH MEALS for adults (18 & up):
Monday, Wednesday, Friday,
11-11:30 a.m.
Nehawa Park

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FIBER ARTS CIRCLE The Gatehouse

The Gatehouse Lounge now hosts a fiber arts circle of all ages on Sunday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. Knit, crochet, do needlework, spin: All are welcome. Includes a fiber swap: Bring fiber you don't want and take away what looks good to you (no bringing required for taking away).

WHOM HAVE YOU WELCOMED TODAY?

Upcoming Events

08/18: Rosary after mass

08/19: Small Town Big Band, 5:30-7 p.m., Pathfinder Village Pavillion, Edmeston, free!

08/21: Holy Hour with Exposition, Benediction, and Night Prayer, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Oneonta

08/22: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

Realtime Dixieland Band, 6:30-8 p.m., Community House Lawn, Unadilla, free!

08/25: SPECIAL COLLECTION - Catholic Home Missions

08/29: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

Barnyard Saints, 6:30-8 p.m., Community House Lawn, Unadilla, free!

09/05: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

09/08: Coffee hour, Pastoral Council meeting after mass

09/20-22: Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Huntington; for more info, call Frank/Margie Pearson (860) 337-2447 or visit <https://www.mectw.org>

09/29: 52nd Annual Marriage Jubilee [special wedding anniversary couples], 3 p.m., Christ Our Light Loudonville

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

Mass Attendance: 50

Collection: \$899.00