

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, October 28

Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

Saturday, November 1

Saint John XXIII, Pope

THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL: BRIEF HISTORY

In the night of 18 July 1830, Postulant Catherine Labouré heard a tap on her cell door in the convent on Rue du Bac in Paris. The door opened to a young child who told Catherine to follow him. He was illuminated as they walked the dark hallway to the chapel. Waiting for her was the Virgin Mary sitting in the sanctuary in the Sisters of Charity director's chair. Catherine knelt before the Blessed Mother, placing her folded hands on the Virgin's knees. The Blessed Virgin told her "to come to the altar where great graces are waiting for all who ask for them."

Four months later on 27 November, the Blessed Virgin appeared a second time in the chapel sanctuary standing on a large globe. She held a smaller globe which faded; multiple rings appeared on her fingers from which different colored rays of light beamed. Catherine understood these to be symbolic of the graces that the Blessed Mother will pass on to those who ask for them. The vision changed again when, in the oval framing the standing Virgin, the words: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee" appeared. At that same moment, Catherine heard a voice instructing her to have a medal made of this scene and that any-

one who confidently wore this medal especially around the neck would receive abundant graces. The scene next revolved to show the reverse side of the oval. On it was Mary's monogram which illustrated: "to Jesus through Mary." The third vision nearly identical to the second.

Catherine told her confessor several times about the visions and the instructions given without success. It was not until 1832, that copies of the medal were first struck and not until 1836, that a commission to investigate the apparitions was approved. By then, however, people wearing the medal reported miracles, protections and graces received, especially patience. The popularly given title: Miraculous Medal.

Although it was widely known that a nun of the Sisters of Charity had received the Miraculous Medal, it was not publicized that it had been Catherine Labouré until her death in 1876.

My father, who has since passed away, wore a Miraculous Medal throughout his life. In the late 1960s and early 1970s various terrorist groups would hijack airplanes and take passengers hostage. My father traveled extensively for Exxon International. During one trip his international flight was hijacked and forced to land in Bahrain. The hijackers went through the cabin, taking any passengers they thought were Jewish, including my father. Out on the tarmac the prisoners were lined up and inspected by the hijackers. One guard noticed that my father's Miraculous Medal was sticking out between the buttons of his shirt. My father was put back on the plane and, a few hours later, the plane resumed its flight. None of the other prisoners had been returned to the plane. —Jim Lee

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 offertory and Diocesan Appeal to ensure our parish and Diocese can be your partner in faith.

DIOCESAN APPEAL

As you plan your budget, consider a pledge. Use your bank's Bill Pay for auto-payments or use envelopes on the back table.

<https://thediocesanappeal.org/>

CURRENT STATUS: \$1,508 GOAL: \$6,379



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

OCTOBER 26, 2025

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, C

Sirach 35:12–14

Psalm 34

2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18

Luke 18:9–14

POPE LEO XIV'S APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION DILEXI TE

On the surface, Pope Leo XIV writing an exhortation on the need to give to the poor probably sounds very hum-drum and uncontroversial. But in the life of a Christian, Charity is the foundation, a serious undertaking which cannot be ignored. Therefore, Pope Leo lays out that our service to the poor, our love and our care for the poor are service, love, and care for Christ, "Just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me" (Mt 26:11). This is not a matter of mere human kindness, but a revelation: "Contact with those who are lowly and powerless is a fundamental way of encountering the Lord of history. In the poor, he continues to speak to us."

We could all use encouragement here. Our political parties tend to tell us that poverty will be solved by some new government policy, a plethora of narratives describe giving to the poor as giving a drunk a drink, corrupted charities always seem to be paying out fortunes to the CEO. But you—yes you—should read through (or at least skim) *Dilexi Te*. Plunge in, and like a bucket of ice-cold water over the head it will wake us up once again to the clear teaching of Christ and the Church on our obligation to love the poor.

Here's one such example: "Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople from the late 300s...exhorted the faithful to recognize Christ in the needy: 'Do you wish to honor the body of Christ? Do not allow it to be despised in its members, that is, in the poor, who have no clothes to cover themselves. Do not honor Christ's body here in church with silk fabrics, while outside you neglect it when it suffers from cold and nakedness...'"

I will leave you with Pope Leo's closing thoughts on giving Alms: "Our love and our deepest convictions need to be continually cultivated, and we do so through our concrete actions. Remaining in the realm of ideas and theories, while failing to give them expression through frequent and practical acts of charity, will eventually cause even our most cherished hopes and aspirations to weaken and fade away. For this very reason, we Christians must not abandon almsgiving. It can be done in different ways, and surely more effectively, but it must continue to be done. It is always better at least to do something rather than nothing. Whatever form it may take, almsgiving will touch and soften our hardened hearts. It will not solve the problem of world poverty, yet it must still be carried out, with intelligence, diligence and social responsibility. For our part, we need to give alms as a way of reaching out and touching the suffering flesh of the poor."

—Matthew Tabone

Apostolic Exhortation?

A magisterial document written by the pope, viewed as ranking third in importance after apostolic constitutions and encyclicals. It's essentially a pastoral message the pope sends out to Catholics to highlight key points about a particular issue.

An apostolic exhortation establishes a clear direction for Catholics to critically address issues that are being discussed within the Church and in modern society.

<https://www.romereports.com/en/2018/04/02/what-is-an-apostolic-exhortation/>

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

Pope Leo XIV's October intention: May believers of different religious traditions collaborate to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

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

 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 30: Advent Fair after mass
Join us for a celebration of the beginning of a new church year the season of hope. If you have something you can share with the community—a craft, an art, a food, Christmas ornaments, etc.—and would like to showcase your wares, please contact Matthew Tabone to reserve a spot today.

Upcoming Events

10/28: Cooking with Fr. Joe—Chicken Curry, 4–7 p.m., Sacred Heart Sidney
Register by 10/21, Paula 607-563-7066

10/30: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

11/02: **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!**
Baptism: Anne Tabone

11/03: Life in Christ—Explore what it means to live a moral life, 6 p.m., St. Mary's rectory basement, Oneonta

11/06: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

11/09: Coffee Hour after mass, Pastoral Council meeting

11/06: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.

11/16: Special Collection for Campaign for Human Development
Rosary after mass

NOVEMBER: TABLE OF REMEMBRANCE

This November, we honor All Souls. Feel free to bring in photographs of loved ones who have passed.

HELP LIGHT THE WORLD WITH THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

This year's Otsego County Fairgrounds Holiday of Lights runs from 6–8 p.m. December 12–13 and 19–23. Let's remind people that **Jesus is the reason for the season**. Please see Matthew Tabone if you're interested in helping design and set up a display.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

Mass Attendance: 48

Collection: \$438.00

Mission Sunday: \$183.00

OCTOBER 26, 2025

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Greeter: Marguerite Webster

Lector: Daphne Thompson

Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Turner, Toni Zaleski, Jen Spivey

November 2

Greeter: Pat Kristofik

Lector: Kerry L. Mess

Eucharistic Ministers: Jen Spivey, Carol Tyson, Diane Turner

Mass Intention

For the Soul of Karen Newell

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, John Kristofik, Michelle Lee, Fred Lemister, Carol and Jessica MacCumber, Jeffrey Meyers, Teresa Meyers, Rich Morley, Mark Muller, Clara Murphy, John Neary, Diane Neczesny, John O'Brien, Kathy Osborne, Maria Papendrea, Scarlett Parry, Evelyn 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, Betty O'Brien
- ✠ in thanksgiving for all of our parishioners and their presence at Holy Cross.