

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 2

Presentation of the Lord

Tuesday, February 3

Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr;
Saint Ansgar

Thursday, February 5

Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

Friday, February 6

Saint Paul Miki and Companions,
Martyrs

Saturday, February 7

Blessed Virgin Mary

HOLY CROSS PASTORAL COUNCIL BALLOT

Allan Dangca	Celine Francisco
Kerry L. Mess	Scott Kolberg
Chet McAdams	Jackie McAdams
Dana Mockovciak	Joe Tyson

Parishioners may vote for up to 10 members.
Special thanks to all who entered the discernment process.

**Have you experienced a miracle? Curious?
Come to share your story or learn on Miracle Sunday, February 15 after mass.**

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.

SAINT PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS

Americans know Nagasaki, Japan as the city on which the second atomic bomb was dropped, bringing the end of WWII in the Pacific. Three and a half centuries earlier, 26 martyrs of Japan were crucified on a hill, now known as the Holy Mountain which overlooks Nagasaki. Among the martyrs were priests, brothers and laypersons. They were members of different religious orders, catechists, doctors, artisans, servants, old men and innocent children.

Brother Paul Miki, a Jesuit and native of Japan, has become the best known among the martyrs. While hanging upon a cross, Paul Miki preached to the people gathered for the execution. "The sentence of judgment says these men came to Japan from the Philippines, but I did not come from any other country. I am a true Japanese. The only reason I am being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. ... After Christ's example, I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain."

When missionaries returned to Japan in the 1860s, at first they found no trace of Christianity. But after establishing themselves, they found that thousands of Christians lived around Nagasaki and had secretly preserved the Faith.

Beatified in 1627, the martyrs of Japan were finally canonized in 1862. Their Feast Day is February 6.

—submitted by Jim Lee

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-paul-miki-and-companions/>

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: \$4,533 / GOAL: \$6,379



Holy Cross Parish

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

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A

Zephaniah 23, 3:12–13

Psalms 146

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

Matthew 1:1–12a

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

Nothing is more beautiful than a face made transparent by a whole lifetime of sorrows and joys, of combats and of inner peace.

—Brother Roger of Taizé

Jesus makes it clear that a life lived to fulfill God's dream for creation will involve suffering. But even here, Jesus implies that there is reason for gratitude. You see it in the Beatitudes, Jesus's eightfold way of happiness (Matthew 5:3–12). There is a blessing in poverty, he says; to the degree you miss out on the never-enough system, you partake of God's dream. There is a blessing in the pain of loss, because in your grief you experience God's comfort. There is blessing in being unsatisfied about the injustice in our world, he says; as God's justice comes more and more, you will feel more and more fulfilled....

With these counterintuitive sayings and others like them, Jesus enrolls us in advanced classes in the school of gratitude. He shows us the disadvantages

of advantages, and the advantages of disadvantages. He will make this paradox most dramatic through his own death; his suffering and crucifixion will eventually bring hope and freedom to all humanity, hope and freedom that could come no other way. Here is the deepest lesson of gratitude, then. We are to be grateful not just in the good times, but also in the bad times; to be grateful not just in plenty, but also in need; to maintain thankfulness not just in laughter, but also through tears and sorrow. One of Jesus's followers says that we should even rejoice in trials, because through trials come patience, character, wisdom (James 1:2–3). And another says, "I have learned to be content with whatever I have" (Philippians 4:11), so he can instruct, "Give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

The words "in all circumstances" shouldn't be confused with "for all circumstances," of course. But neither should they be thinned to mean "in easy circumstances." Even in pain, we can find a place of gratitude, a place where alongside the agony of loss we still count and appreciate what remains....

You may lose a loved one, or facet after facet of your physical health, but you can still be grateful for what you have left. And what if you lose more, and more, and more, if bad goes to worse? Perhaps at some point, all of us are reduced to despair, but my hunch is—and I hope I never need to prove this in my own life, but I may, any of us may—having lost everything, one may still be able to hold on to one's attitude, one's practiced habit of gratitude, of turning to God in Job-like agony and saying, "For this breath, thanks. For this tear, thanks. For this memory of something I used to enjoy but have now lost, thanks. For this ability not simply to rage over what has been taken, but to celebrate what was once given, thanks."

<https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-giuldo-tdduxulkd-e/>

For Reflection

- ★ How do the Beatitudes challenge the way I think about success?
- ★ How can I bring peace into your relationships and community?

<https://young-catholics.com/3727/4th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/#thoughts>

Holy Cross Parish

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

<https://parishes.rcda.org/holycross/>

Facebook: [tiny.cc/HCMorris](https://www.facebook.com/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 February intention: May children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive necessary medical care, never losing strength.

Living Caring Community

PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

If you have old palms from Palm Sunday, please bring them in to church. Palms are burned for the ashes distributed on Ash Wednesday, which is February 18 this year.

ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY MINISTRY
Sign up to distribute Ashes to Go at <https://tinyurl.com/AshesWeds>. Mother Tracy will provide ashes and ceremony cards for ministers.

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.

Upcoming Events

- 02/01: Christian Formation after mass
02/05: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.
02/06: First Friday Devotion, 2:30 p.m., St. Mary's Oneonta
02/07: First Reconciliation, 2 p.m.
First Saturday (Fatima) devotion, 9 a.m., St. Mary's Oneonta
Christian Unity choir rehearsal, 10 a.m., Gilbertsville Baptist Church
02/08: SPECIAL COLLECTION: Super Bowl of Caring
Coffee Hour, Pastoral Council after mass
Christian Unity choir rehearsal, Gilbertsville Baptist Church, 2 p.m.
[Join us for Prayer for Christian Unity Service, 3 p.m., Gilbertsville Baptist Church](#)
02/11: Anointing of the Sick, 12:10 p.m., St. Mary's Oneonta
02/12: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.
02/15: Miracle Sunday after mass
02/18: Ash Wednesday mass, 9 a.m.,
St. Mary's Oneonta masses 7:30, 12:30, 6:30
Ash Wednesday Ashes to Go sponsored by Zion Episcopal
02/19: Liturgy of the Word, 10 a.m.
02/20: Stations of the Cross, 4 p.m.
02/22: SPECIAL COLLECTION: Black, Native American & Latin American Mission

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

Mass Attendance: 21
Collection: \$400.00
The Evangelist: \$65.00

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Celebrant

Rev. Chris Welch

Greeter: Pat Kristofik

Lector: Kerry L. Mess

Eucharistic Ministers: Jen Spivey

February 8

Greeters: Chet and Jackie McAdams

Lector: Marguerite Webster

Eucharistic Ministers: Toni Zaleski

Mass Intention

FOR THE SOUL OF NADINE THERESA JOY

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, John Kristofik, Michelle Lee, Fred Lemister, Carol and Jessica MacCumber, Jeffrey Meyers, Kelly 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, 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 all those who entered the discernment process for Pastoral Council, and all those willing to serve on the Council