

The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +
www.pothc.org + www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset

LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!

Vision Statement: *Holy Cross is a vibrant Catholic community striving to maintain a spirit of welcome to all, serving as a guiding beacon to nourish and sustain prayer, work and play.*



Come and pray with us!

First Sunday of Lent - February 21, 2021

We celebrate Eucharist

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM; Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
(The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass are live streamed on Facebook.)

We celebrate Reconciliation

During Lent: Saturdays 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesdays after 9:00 AM Mass

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + parish@holycrossrc.org

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Ralph Rivera
Pastoral Minister, ext.119

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112
Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Kelley Mowat, ext.113
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano
Business Manager, ext.110

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein
Youth Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
Parish Secretary, ext.122

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Music Minister

Mrs. Mary Pannone, ext.111
Religious Education Secretary
(mpannone@holycrossrc.org)

Mrs. Barbara Shipman
P/T Asst. to the Pastor

Mr. Roberto Maza
Mr. Vincent Matula
Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

Please pray for those in our parish who are sick,
their families and caregivers:

Jo Barry	Kathy Barry
Claire Becker	Patricia Becker
Barbara Bombace	Ann Callari
Manuela Diaz	Ann Egan
Jim Emerson	Sienna Fricke
Jeanne Gallo	Phil Graziose
Bob Grieco	Debbie Jablinowski
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Nick Matonti	Olivia Melia
Joseph Santamaria	Barbara Sherry
Marlene Starr	David Velkas
Doreen Velkas	Judy Viskupic
Peter Warns	

If you would like to have the name of your loved one listed in our prayers for the sick, please contact the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 x122.

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of February 21st, 9AM Mass

Mon.	Roberto Fini (living)
Tue.	Pauline Barile
Wed.	Elizabeth Shea
Thu.	Victor Lamarque

Saturday, February 27th, 5 PM Mass

Gennaro Cangiano, James Eng, Eileen Kamine, Vincent Mattera

Sunday, February 28th, Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM	People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Duck Young Hyun
11:30 AM	Veronica Goellner



Celebrants for Upcoming Masses

February 27th/28th



5:00 PM	Fr. Michael
8:00 AM	Fr. Michael
9:30 AM	Fr. Frank Eisele
11:30 AM	Fr. Frank

I GIVE MY LIFE AWAY

by Father Michael

The season of Lent has begun. Throughout these days we will use the theme of "I Give My Life Away" to help focus our prayer. When we began last Lent, we had no idea of the challenges that would unfold by the time we reached Holy Week. (Do you remember we only completed part of a Lenten Mission before we had to cancel the last two evenings?) Most every aspect of our lives was uprooted, and it was (and in some ways still is) a frightening and unsettling time. Job descriptions were rewritten. Parenting was redefined. That which we took for granted became just a memory. In the midst of all this, many people found themselves in a position of having to live life in a heroic way.

Our theme is not to make ourselves out to be saints but, perhaps, to be aware of how we may share more now than ever before in the mystery of the cross. Many have come to appreciate more deeply family and loved ones. Often that appreciation came about through suffering and selfless sacrifices that were made. Jesus literally gave his life for us. In smaller ways we give pieces of our lives away in love. There is a beautiful union with our God and one another when we are able to do the same.

What are you doing this Lent? Life has already thrown us more than a fair share of sacrifices and taken things away from us. Maybe this year your Lenten journey is not about giving something up. This could be a time to focus on what will bring life and hope. How has God's Spirit entered your life because of all that you had to let go? Are we open to welcome God's comforting grace in those voids that life has created? It is only when we truly give part of ourselves away that there is room for God to enter.

On a practical level, this year there were more obstacles than usual in changing the environment of our Worship Area. We had to work around the Presidents' Day holiday, storms and a funeral. The large banner in the atrium was intended to be hung over the entrance doors in the courtyard. However, with snow on the roof of the building, I was not going to send anyone up there to accomplish that task. It will stay where it is until we can safely hang it outside. Traditionally, weekend attendance increases during Lent. We still need to be mindful that we have a limited capacity. We will monitor attendance numbers at Mass and make adjustments if they are necessary.

During these weeks of Lent there will be a weekly reflection in the bulletin, written by a parishioner, which gives some insight into how they lived in the midst of COVID challenges, as well as some of the spiritual insight they gained. I hope these reflections deepen your own Lenten journey. May this be a holy season for you and your loved ones.



Scripture Readings for February 28, 2021

+ *Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18*

+ *Romans 8:31-34*

+ *Mark 9:2-10*

AN RCIA UPDATE

The RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) invites inquirers from various backgrounds into full communion in the Catholic Church. Inquirers would be:

- those who are not baptized;
- those who were baptized in another Christian faith;
- those who were baptized in the Catholic Church but did not complete their initiation by celebrating 1st Communion and Confirmation.



As participants in the RCIA, the unbaptized are called “*catechumens*,” the already baptized are “*candidates*.”

The Parish of the Holy Cross is blessed by the presence of two inquirers in our current RCIA: **Katie Bacigalupo**, our catechumen, and **Bailey Fiedorowicz**, our candidate. While they are journeying together through this process with our RCIA team, looking to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at our Easter Vigil, Katie, as a catechumen, has an intermediate step to take: the Rite of Election.

In the Rite of Election, godparents and catechists give testimony of the catechumens’ readiness to advance in the RCIA process, and the catechumens affirm their commitment. The Church then accepts those catechumens in order that they may move forward to the celebration of the sacraments. “This step is called election because the acceptance made by the Church is founded on the election by God, in whose name the Church acts.” (*RCIA #119*) Thereafter, catechumens are known as “the elect.”

The Rite of Election takes place on the 1st Sunday of Lent. As a sign of its significance, it is normally celebrated by the diocesan bishop. Here in the Rockville Centre Diocese, two celebrations usually occur, one in Nassau County, one in Suffolk County, with hundreds of people in attendance. This year, due to pandemic restrictions, Bishop Barres has delegated his role to pastors, with permission for them to celebrate the Rite in their own parishes.

And so, it is an honor and a privilege for Holy Cross to welcome Katie, her godparent and her family to the 5:00 Mass this weekend as we celebrate the Rite of Election. We know that this will be a special moment of grace for Katie and for our entire parish.

As we move through the season of Lent, and Katie and Bailey continue their journey to the Easter sacraments, may they feel supported and strengthened by the prayers and example of the Holy Cross community.

REFLECTION FROM A PARISHIONER

“I Give My Life Away” (Week 1) *by Carole Porcelli*

I am retired and spend most of my time helping my friend who is ill. My health issues keep me from doing many things I would like. Other than doctor appointments, I don't leave the house because of Covid-19. “Giving my Life Away,” Jesus' plan for me, instead of mine, is often difficult. This year for Lent, I decided to reflect on various forms of poverty and, if present in my life, what effect God's graces have on it and me.



Spiritual Poverty - is what first comes to mind. I guess that's because it would be the most disturbing kind of poverty to me, like not being consciously aware of God in my life. I always trust that He is involved in my life in a real way. I know He is always there for me, but maybe at times I take Him for granted. I believe His presence is a manifestation of His love and goodness, not mine.

Economic Poverty - I have experienced financial difficulties in the early days of my adulthood, and I can tell you that not having money can make you fearful and insecure in many ways. Money makes life much easier, but not happier. I have learned that ALL THINGS COME FROM GOD, to simply do my part, and turn the rest over to God. It was important for me to learn humility and how to ask God for help all the time. I also learned how important it is to be thankful to God for His blessings and gifts, sharing what I have with others. I make it a practice to tithe, and I give to charities I am passionate about, trusting God to take care of me as He always has - to “Give my Life Away” to the Lord in faith and trust.

Relational Poverty - is a lack of human contact. This is surely a result of a new necessity of “Social Distancing.” I genuinely like people and looked forward to seeing friends at church. I am also very affected by my pets. My Golden Retriever, Niki, was with me for 10 years, was my best friend and more. She passed this past June, and I miss her terribly; it has left a void in my heart and life. Loss is something we all experience, and it's only trust in God that makes it bearable.

Poverty of Vitality - aging, ah youth - I was so strong, energetic, unrelenting. I could remember whole discussions word for word. It seemed as if there was nothing I could not do, given patience and perseverance. Time takes away soundness of body and mind and teaches us that we are not in charge. Aches and pains, physical difficulties, my mom taught me to offer them up to the Lord. Acceptance, and faith in a loving God is the only way to happiness.

I am sure there are many other forms of poverty, but what I want to do is reflect on these negatives, so as to find God's graces that He bestows on us to help endure these feelings and situations. Reflecting on God's goodness and love for us, in the way He works His plan in our lives, “I Give My Life Away” to the Lord and those I love. Jesus died for me, this is the least I can do to say thank you.

PARISH OUTREACH

Eat Simply...So Others May Simply Eat

Lent offers us a unique period of time to evaluate our life journey as a follower of Christ. We are encouraged to assess if this journey has led us to an improved understanding and deepening of our relationship with our Lord, with our neighbors and with our brothers and sisters of the world community.

For the last 30 years we at Holy Cross have embraced our Lenten Project **Eat Simply So Others May Simply Eat** as a way to raise our consciousness to the significant needs of our struggling friends. We willingly sacrifice larger or better meals for simpler meals during Lent. Our joint effort to **EAT MORE SIMPLY SO OTHERS MAY SIMPLY EAT** unites us in a special way with one another and also with those who are struggling on Long Island.



We encourage you not only to participate in this program, but also to discuss it at the dinner table with your children and family members. Many of us are not consciously aware of the number of people that are struggling and hungry right here in our own area. **During 2020, our Outreach pantry served an average of 140 people each month.**

The Lenten envelopes marked, **EAT SIMPLY...SO OTHERS MAY SIMPLY EAT**, will be available throughout the weekends of Lent. We suggest that you place the envelope in a prominent place in your kitchen as a reminder of how you and your family will be uniting yourselves with our struggling neighbors and with the starving of the world. *We encourage you to reflect, discuss and to decide how you will eat more basic meals during Lent.* Perhaps you have a favorite simple recipe to share. We'd be happy to put it in the bulletin for fellow parishioners to try.

Each weekend or whenever you choose during Lent, you may place your envelope in the basket on the pillar by the Altar or in the collection basket. The monies donated will be used to help those who come to Parish Outreach for assistance. We are continually grateful for the very generous response of our parishioners of Holy Cross in donating money, food and supermarket gift cards, which enables us to meet their needs.

LITURGY BYTES

These 40 Days ✝

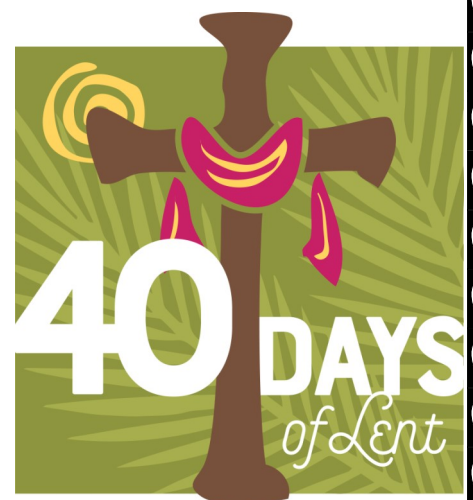
Last Wednesday, February 17th, we began the Lenten season officially. However, as many have told me, the season never ended last year because of the pandemic and our new way of living. I am sure you can relate to those feelings, as I certainly do. The most important thing to keep in mind is Christ never lets us down. Keeping strong thoughts of our faith in our minds and hearts is key. Rejoicing (if you can) in what has been positive is another good place to start.

Perhaps changing up our usual Lenten practices could be a fun thing to explore this year. If you have not already, please be sure to pick up your “little black book” for daily Lenten reflections on the table in the atrium. It is a popular and helpful guide to assist in focusing our thoughts and prayers each day.

Let us think, for a moment, about some ways to reconnect with our faith. First, reconnect with God – meet Jesus again in the Sacred Scriptures. We relive the passion and death through the Stations of the Cross. We renew His constant presence each time we attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. If we can set a time of day to do one of those suggestions, it might evolve into a definite pattern. Second, reconnect with the poor – this season suggests we fast from our excess and give to the poor and marginalized in our society. Think about all we are blessed with and how we use our gifts to love and serve those in need in our society today. Take part in our annual “Eat Simply” drive sponsored by Parish Outreach. Third, reconnect with the Church – attend Mass during the week if you can. Remember, we are live streamed at 9 AM Monday through Thursday if you are unable to be here in person. Fourth, reconnect with ourselves – since Lent is the time for spiritual cleansing, try to get to confession to pave the way to be in the loving arms of our God and truly realize the great things that await us. A lot to think about today, so take it one day at a time!

Have a blessed, safe, and healthy week!

~~~~Michele Hahn



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



The seven students in Megan Maloney and Susan Kurka's Religious Education class created beautiful cards which they sent to veterans residing at the Veterans' Home in Northport.

Below is a letter of thanks from the Veterans' Home.



*Dear Mrs. Maloney & Religion Class:*

*Thank you for taking the time to create Valentine's cards for Veterans who are in the Veterans Medical Center in Northport. Besides them being sick, due to the Corona Virus, they can't have visitors. For this reason, your cards will be extra special to them. You are really doing God's work when you are so kind.*

*Regards,  
Mrs. Bentley*



# YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?

If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions, then you **MUST** check out the **Holy Cross Youth Group**. You will be glad you did! The Holy Cross Youth Group is the perfect opportunity for you to continue to grow in your faith and build relationships with others in the parish. Here are our upcoming events:

**Sunday, February 28: We will be meeting from 6 to 8PM!**

**Sunday, March 7: Join us for another fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM!**

So, if you are thinking about coming to the church to see what we are all about, do it! You will not regret it. Come with a friend or family member, and join us as we continue to grow in the endless love of Christ.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you are thinking about joining us and you would like more information, then please do not hesitate to contact Allie Roecklein, Coordinator of Youth Ministries, at [youthgroup@holycrossrc.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycrossrc.org) or call the parish office.



# SPECIAL COLLECTION

## Share YOUR Faith

Support the Collection for the  
Church in Latin America



This weekend we will also be collecting for **The Church in Need**. The monies collected at this time will go to the Church in Latin America where there is a particular need for help.

For many living in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers make it difficult for people to practice the faith. Your donations fund catechesis, marriage and family life programs, and seminarian formation so people can grow closer to Christ.

The people of Nicaragua, facing difficulties brought on by political strife and violence, look to the Church as a beacon of hope and as a mediator who can foster peaceful and just solutions to ongoing conflict and unrest. The seminarians of Managua's archdiocesan seminary La Purisima are a sign that God continues to call men toward priestly life, even amid hardship. Numbering more than 60 now, these men show promise that the Church will continue to flourish and minister to the future needs of Nicaraguans.

But to continue their formation, they need the support of faithful Catholics like you. Your generous support of the Collection for the Church in Latin America is an expression of solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua. It creates assurance not only for these seminarians but also for all who look to the Church in Nicaragua for hope, peace, and justice.

**Thank you for your support of this important collection!**



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Lent 2021

Dear Friends:

"The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan...After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God."(Mark 1:12 – 14) Each year on the First Sunday of Lent, the Church presents for our reflection and prayer the experience of Jesus in the desert. Jesus's experience in the desert follows immediately upon His baptism by Saint John the Baptist and immediately precedes His public ministry and proclamation of the Kingdom of God, in word and in deed. Saint Mark points out to us that the Spirit, who had just descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, drove Jesus into the desert.

The desert was a barren place, a place of lifelessness, the home of the devil and evil. The Spirit sends Jesus into the desert to prepare himself for the years of His public ministry, ultimately leading to His Death and Resurrection. Jesus spends time away from the world to prepare himself. But He also goes forth into the desert to begin His battle against evil, sin and death. Jesus goes into the very dwelling of evil to begin the confrontation. This battle will continue throughout the rest of Jesus's life. The ultimate victory will come on Good Friday through His ultimate act of love on the Cross.

Our yearly experience of Lent, our forty day "desert experience," can be viewed in the same way. We are inspired and sent by the Spirit to spend some time apart from the world of noise and recover the beauty of silence. But, we are also sent to do battle. Our experience of true silence should allow us the opportunity to both listen to the voice and promptings of God as well as to better know ourselves. This personal battle against sin and evil can be painful, because we come to realize that we are all in need of constant conversion. There are real changes each and every one of us need to make in our lives and our hearts this Lent. But like Jesus, we are not alone. The Lord was ministered to by angels during His forty days in the desert. We are constantly aided by our guardian angels, by the angels and saints in heaven, by the community of the baptized, and by the grace of the sacraments of the Church. Like Jesus, we need to emerge from the desert ready to take on the evils of the world and work to spread the Gospel.

It was only a few short weeks into Lent 2020 that the experience of Covid-19 made radical changes to our society, our Church, and our families. The experience of desert isolation was no longer a metaphor but a lived reality. The experience of having our parishes locked down for months was painful for all of us. Many of us still experience this isolation in many ways. But as Christians we always remain men and women of hope. We know that the Cross of Good Friday leads to the empty tomb of Easter Sunday.

Post Office Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023 • phone 516.678.5800 • fax 516.678.3138 • [bishopsoffice@drvc.org](mailto:bishopsoffice@drvc.org)

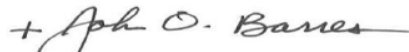
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Pope Francis has declared this year as a special Year of Saint Joseph. In Saint Joseph we find a man of profound hope and strength as well as prayerful silence. Scripture does not record one word spoken by Saint Joseph. But Scripture does tell us of his unwavering faith and trust, which go beyond words. Following Jesus, and like Saint Joseph, men and women in the first centuries of the Church began to leave the towns and villages and settle in the isolation of the desert. Like the Lord, they sought to rid themselves of the distractions of everyday life so they too could do battle with evil, and through their quiet example proclaim the Kingdom of God.

This continued throughout the history of the Church, even to our present moment. Saint Antony, Saint Benedict, Saint Bruno, and so many others show us the lived experience of the desert is not an escape from the reality of life but a privileged encounter with the Lord and a revelation of our true selves. While most of us are not called to the monastic or solitary life, the last twelve months have given each of us an experience of solitude. We are encouraged to remain "socially distant." In the midst of the real suffering and hardships this has caused, perhaps the hidden grace is that it has led us to be "temporary monastics."

Our typical Lenten "desert experience" of forty days has lasted a bit longer. But we will come out of it! And like the Lord, when we emerge our goal is to proclaim the Gospel of God according to our vocation and the graces given to us. In addition to our personal sins and the evils present in our own hearts, we live in a world that is right now suffering from real physical illness as well as real division and hurt of every kind. Jesus emerged from the desert bringing the healing presence of God to all he encountered. As the baptized, the Church, the continuing presence of Jesus in the world, we need to do the same. The same Holy Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert is driving us on.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Homebound and Hospitalized

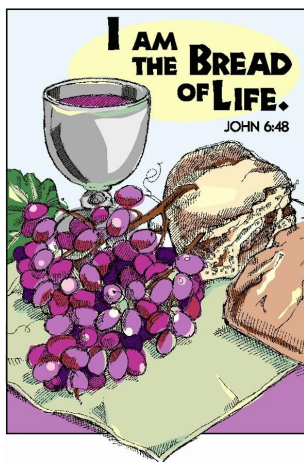
Are you, or someone you know in the parish, homebound or anticipating an operation or treatment for cancer? We in Holy Cross are eager to know in a more personal way our parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Often, we do not hear of a person's illness or inability to join us for Sunday Mass. Please call 265-2200 x113 or stop by the office to let Parish Outreach know of these parishioners who are so special to us. We really depend on you.



Parish Outreach sends cards, on behalf of our parish, to those who are ill or hospitalized. Our homebound folks receive friendly telephone calls by Outreach volunteers to keep up the connection and to assess ways the parish can be present to these loved parishioners. At Advent and Easter time a volunteer will visit them and bring a gift from the parish community. Eucharistic Ministers are also available to bring communion to the homebound who desire it.

These are some of the ways Holy Cross reaches out to the homebound and hospitalized. Please help us by contacting Parish Outreach or a member of the Pastoral Team if you know of anyone we can serve in their time of need.

## YOU MAY WANT TO...



Consider a donation of Altar Bread and Wine for a week, especially if your request for a date for a Mass has been taken. Your special occasion or loved one's name will be printed in the bulletin.

Or, you may want to make a monetary donation to Holy Cross in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone living. We now have a Book of Memorials and a Book of Honorees. Your donation will be used to purchase needed items for our church. Holy Cross has a practice of not engraving names on benches and other items, but your donation will be recorded in the appropriate book for all posterity.

Our Parish Outreach also accepts donations in memory or honor of someone and has lovely cards that you can send.

For more information, please visit or call the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 x122.

# BACKGROUND SCREENING UPDATE

## *The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People:*

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

1. Attend **Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)**
2. Sign the Codes of Conduct
3. Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5-year intervals. volunteers/employees.

### **A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:**

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

1. Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org)
2. Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct - provided during the Virtus registration process.
3. Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application offered during the Virtus registration process.

### **Active Volunteers:**

If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened, you may be at - or beyond - the **5yr. rescreening requirement**. If this is the case, you will receive an email from **Sterling Volunteers** asking you to complete the background screening application on-line. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. ***Please be aware - this is not a scam nor has your email been hacked.*** The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically re-sign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

### **Edit Your Virtus Account:**

To access your Virtus account [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org) you will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or [helpdesk@virtus.org](mailto:helpdesk@virtus.org). Once in your account, review your account information - particularly your email address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen, in the green column, click "Update My Account." You will be able to make the necessary changes. Please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: [mmcmahon@drvc.org](mailto:mmcmahon@drvc.org); [amendoza-cantos@drvc.org](mailto:amendoza-cantos@drvc.org); [jwinter@drvc.org](mailto:jwinter@drvc.org); [pditomasso@drvc.org](mailto:pditomasso@drvc.org)

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.

# MEETINGS THIS WEEK

|                                                                              |                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday, February 20th</b><br>• RITE OF ELECTION                         | 5 PM<br>Worship Area                   |
| <b>Sunday, February 21st</b><br>• BAPTISMS<br>• YOUTH NIGHT                  | 1 PM<br>Worship Area<br>6-8PM Atrium   |
| <b>Monday, February 22nd</b><br>• SPECIAL NEEDS<br>• LEVEL 5 STATIONS/BIBLES | 4 - 6 PM<br>Atrium<br>7PM Worship Area |
| <b>Tuesday, February 23rd</b><br>• IN STITCHES<br>• LEVEL 5 STATIONS/BIBLES  | 10 AM<br>Atrium<br>7PM Worship Area    |
| <b>Wednesday, February 24th</b><br>• FINANCE COMMITTEE                       | 7 PM<br>Atrium                         |
| <b>Thursday, February 25th</b><br>• RCIA                                     | 7 PM<br>Fr. Joe Room                   |
| <b>Sunday, February 28th</b><br>• YOUTH NIGHT                                | 6 - 8 PM<br>Atrium                     |

## Be a Bulletin Advertiser!

**Did you know** that the Holy Cross bulletin is printed for us each week free of charge? **So please frequent the fine establishments that advertise in our bulletin!** If your business could use some exposure, consider advertising in the bulletin. Each weekend, numerous people attend Mass at Holy Cross, most of whom live and shop in Nesconset and the surrounding areas. Also, our bulletin is on our website [pothc.org](http://pothc.org) and reaches thousands of area families with information about your business. If you are interested in advertising, or would like more information, please call The Church Bulletin Inc. at **631-249-4994**.

# LET US PRAY

## A Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:

You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize over the harm done to our brothers and sisters. Breathe wisdom into our prayers, soothe restless hearts with hope, steady shaken spirits with faith. Show us the way to justice and wholeness, enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform our brokenness. Grant us courage and wisdom, humility, and grace, so that we may act with justice and find peace in you.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen

## Catholic Faith Network

**"Religion and Rock"** - a nationally syndicated, 60 minute, classic rock program with Msgr. Jim Vlaun for over 30 years! R&R airs every Sunday from 7 AM to 8 AM on WBAB-FM 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM, and Saturday evenings at 11PM and Sunday evenings at 7 PM on "The Catholic Channel" on Sirius/XM channel 129!

Questions or comments? Email [ReligionandRock@CFNtv.org](mailto:ReligionandRock@CFNtv.org)



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