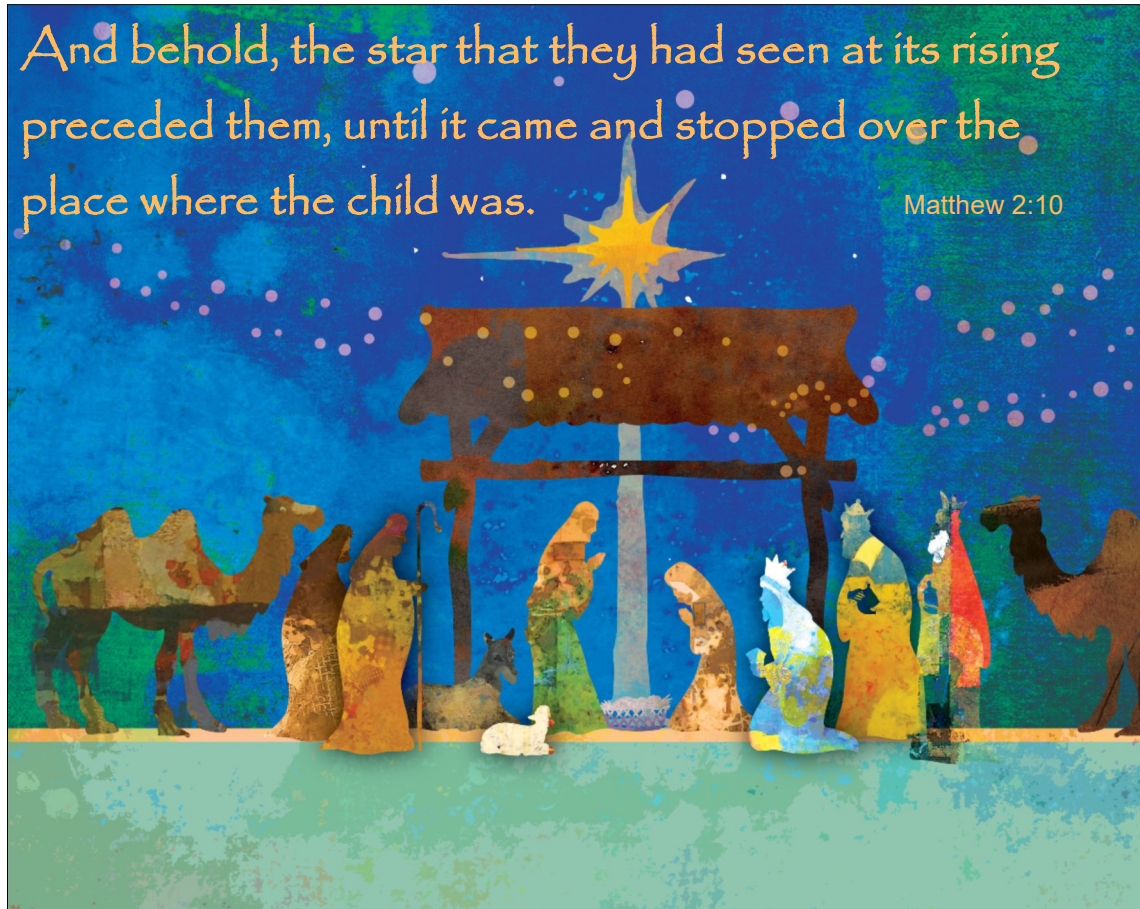


The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +
www.holycrossrc.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!

The Epiphany of the Lord - January 8, 2023

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 livestreamed on Facebook.

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

631.265.2200 + Fax: 631.265.2229 + Email: parish@holycrossrc.org
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12:15 - 1 PM)

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Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Joseph Maffeo
Pastoral Minister, ext.124

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hall
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112
Director of Religious Ed.

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

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
Parish Secretary, ext.122

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Music Minister/Webmaster

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

Ms. Karina D'Angelo
Bookkeeper, ext. 110

Mr. Roberto Maza
Custodian

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

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

Bob Alderdice	Theresa Arzillo
Jo Barry	Kathy Barry
Barbara Bombace	Cole Brennan
Dan Bryan	Ann Callari
Judy Carlson	Pattie Daly-Matonti
Jason DeLuca	Manuela Diaz
Matthew DiPietro	Ann Egan
Syl Evangelista	Ralph Farino
Sienna Fricke	Linda Heinrichs
Debbie Jablinowski	Diane Jones
Maureen Jost	Kristen Kennedy
Roberta Lamb	Dora Libretti
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek	Erin & baby Malley
Jeanne Marie Malley	Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci	Mary Polik-Gunther
Carina Ranieri	Liam Richards
Elaine Ruane	Barbara Sherry
Celeste Sichenze	Kyle Sweeney
Bill Tanner	Peter Warns
Danny Youngworth	

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of January 8th, 2023, 9AM Mass

Mon. Maureen O'Malley (living)
Tue. Craig Hauser (living)
Wed. Steve Valente (living)
Thu. John O'Shea Sr.



Saturday, January 14th, 5 PM Mass

Fr. Donald Babinski, Helen & Walter Tafuri, Scott Collins, Dennis Licker, Audrey Gleason

Sunday, January 15th, 2nd Sun. Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto, Gertrude Lopez, Vicky Lopez, Ellen Brady, Carmine Macedonio, Andréa Marie Vizzini
9:30 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM Celeste E. Babi, Joseph M. Babi

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

MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

by Father Michael

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, which is traditionally known as Little Christmas. We remember the journey of the three magi and the gifts they offered to the Holy Child. I think for all of us as we get older our experience and understanding of receiving gifts changes. As a young child there is great excitement in getting new toys. As we grow older, we appreciate other things such as clothing or other practical items. There then comes a time in life when the desire to receive costly items diminishes. Very simple and symbolic gifts can take on great meaning. Simply being with the people we love itself becomes a gift. Perhaps this was something that was taken for granted when we were younger.

There is another side to the dynamic of gift giving that develops with the passing of years. We can take great delight in being the one giving the gift. To offer something that you know will touch the heart of another becomes in its own way a gift to the giver. As is said so beautifully in the Prayer of St. Francis, "it is in giving that we receive . . ."

On this feast of the Epiphany, it gives us occasion to reflect upon the gifts we receive that truly bring us life as well as the ones we offer. Be filled with gratitude for family and other loved ones in your life. Take delight in that which is offered to you and reflect upon how we may be able to give to another. It is also appropriate to reflect upon how the Eucharist is a precious gift given to us. And in turn, we are called to be bearers of the gift of love to those we meet.

When Christmas falls on Sunday, as it did this year, we had the longest Advent possible. I like when this happens as it allows additional time for preparation (both practically and spiritually) for Christmas. However, the downside of the long Advent means it is a very short Christmas season. Two of the feast days that fall within the Christmas season are Holy Family and the Baptism of the Lord. Normally each of these days are celebrated on a Sunday. However, this year they were bumped to either a Friday or a Monday, which means they received far less attention than they normally do.

A tradition at Holy Cross is to invite all families who have had a baptism within the past year to a special Mass on the Baptism of the Lord. It is a joyful moment to see so many families returning with their babies. Although we were not able to have this special Mass when we usually do this year, we are hoping to schedule it for another time so that we do not lose the opportunity to celebrate those children who were baptized at Holy Cross.

Monday night at 7:00 is the next gathering of the Men's Prayer Group. I look forward to building this group as we move into 2023.

MALE SPIRITUALITY

Men's Prayer Group

All men of the parish are invited to be part of the Men's Prayer Group. Our gatherings will take place on designated Monday evenings from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in the chapel.

- * January 9: *The Male Journey ~ The young man who cannot cry is a savage, the old man who cannot laugh is a fool.*
- * January 30: Archetypes (Part 1)
- * February 6: Archetypes (Part 2)
- * March 6: The Sacred Wound

Meeting Format:

- * Centering Prayer
- * Presentation
- * Counsel (Small Group Discussion)
- * Concluding Prayer/Ritual

Centering Prayer requires a few minutes of silence. If you arrive once the prayer has begun, there will be a sign posted by the atrium door indicating our prayer is underway. Please wait there so as to not disturb the silence in the chapel. As soon as prayer has ended you will be invited into the chapel. Please extend an invitation to anyone you think may benefit from these gatherings. If you are interested in the Prayer Group, but Monday evenings do not work for you, please let Fr. Michael know to see about other times the group can meet.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, January 7th	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
Monday, January 9th	4 - 6 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atr./Fr. Joe Rm.
• KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7PM	Fr. Joe Room
• MEN'S PRAYER GROUP 7-8:30PM	Chapel
Tuesday, January 10th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• CATECHIST PARTY 7PM	Atrium
• RCIA	Fr. Joe Room
Friday, January 13th	6 - 8 PM
• WINTER CARNIVAL	Atrium
Sunday, January 15th	9:30 AM
• BAPTISM GATHERING	Wor. Ar./FJ Rm.

Scripture Readings for January 15th, 2023



- + Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
- + 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
- + John 1:29-34

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, January 14th/15th



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

*The Bread & Wine for the week January 8-14 have been donated in loving memory of **Aubrey Rose Keena & John P. Sibley Jr.** by the Ringhiser family.*



Coming Soon: The Chosen, Season 3

For those who have journeyed with us through Seasons 1 & 2 of The Chosen, the wait will be over soon!

We open with Season 3, Episode 1 on **Wed., Jan. 25 at 7:00 PM** and **Thurs., Jan. 26 at 1:30 PM**

Episodes 2 – 4 will be shown on **Feb. 1,2; Feb. 8,9; Feb. 15/16.**

We will resume with Episodes 5 – 8 beginning May 3,4.

If newcomers wish to join us, you are welcome, but viewing Seasons 1 & 2 beforehand (on YouTube, CFN, or the free Chosen app) is strongly recommended. Questions? Call Jude at ext. 116.

Please **print** and return to Parish Office **by January 20**. Space is limited.

I would like to attend The Chosen on _____ Wednesdays at 7PM or
_____ Thursdays at 1:30PM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____



Special Collections

This week at the offertory we will also be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund. Next week we will also be collecting for our **Regional School Support**. Thank you for your support of these important collections!

LITURGY BYTES

The 3 Kings



One of the many customs centering around the feast of the Epiphany is the blessing of the doorposts in people's homes. Some use chalk to mark the year and the initials of the Kings over their front doors. Others prepare a simple sign and hang it over their door. Here is what it would look like this year:

20 + C + M + B + 23

The year is marked by the year of blessing—2023. The cross marks the points on the compass; the initials stand for the Kings: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The letters CMB can also stand for “Christus Mansionem Benedicat” which means “***May Christ bless this house.***”

Here is a simple prayer of blessing for you to use for your front door:

Lord, God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them (us) with the light of Christ, that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed, safe, and healthy week~~~~~*Michele Hall*

P.S. The Christmas season officially ends tomorrow (January 9) with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Statement of Contributions

A statement of your contributions to Holy Cross for the year 2022 will be sent to you upon request. If you would like a copy, please print your name and address on the form below and drop it in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Name _____

Address _____

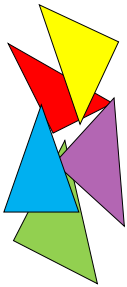
**Thank you for
your support!**

PARISH OUTREACH

Dress a Girl Around the World

Cut-Ups: (those who cut the material and assemble our dress kits)

Our “Cut-Ups” will meet **Thursday, January 19th, from 1 PM - 3 PM** in the atrium. We will continue cutting out dresses for the little ones in need. **Please RSVP to Outreach at 631-265-2200 (limited space available).** No skill required. All are welcome!



We are, once again, looking for donations of larger pieces of cotton fabric (2-3 yards) for the body of the dress. Thank you in advance for your constant support and generosity of our *Dress a Girl* ministry.

Stitch-Ups: (those who sew the dresses found in our dress kits)

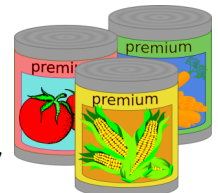
Our “Stitch-Ups” are welcome to pick up completed dress kits by calling the Outreach Office at 631-265-2200. Everything you need to complete a dress is included in a kit including instructions. Any questions—we are just a phone call away! Thank you!



Parish Outreach Needs Volunteers!

Parish Outreach is looking for Eucharistic Ministers who would like to visit Olsen's Rest Home on a Wednesday morning at 10AM to do a short service and distribute communion. If you are interested in this once a month commitment, please call Kelley at 631-265-2200 x113.

Also, we are thankful to our dedicated Pantry Stocking teams that meet every month to stock the monthly food donations from our generous parishioners. This monthly sorting keeps our pantry shelves sorted and “in date” while restocking the shelves with donated food. We are grateful for their dedication and hard work month after month and year after year. We invite you to join the Pantry Stocking team as a new pantry team member or as an alternate. If interested, please call Outreach at 631-265-2200 x113.



A NOTE FROM A VISITOR

Below is a note from a visitor to Holy Cross expressing how much she enjoyed her visit.
We wanted to share it with you.



MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU
WITH *joy* AND *peace*.

Romans 15:13



Dear Holy Cross Parish,

Dec. 2022

My name is Kyra. I was baptized at Holy Cross, but my family moved away when I was little. This week, when I visited my grandparents, I decided to attend daily mass. I'd never been before. I was nervous, but sure. I felt the gentle tug of our Lord to go.

When I got to Holy Cross, I was reminded almost instantly of what a beautiful community is built within the Lord's house there. Thank you for loving and living like Jesus, for giving this weary traveler rest, and for helping my grandmother receive the eucharist.

There are lots of kids my age who have lost their faith. I think that may be because they didn't go to church at a place Holy Cross — one filled to abundance with God's love and mercy. Thank you for all you do.

- Kyra



Christmas Flowers in Honor/Memory of...



We remember and pray for all our loved ones - those living and those who have gone before us.

ELLENOR MURPHY
 JOSEPH PETRE
 MICHAEL A. HOWELL
 JOANNE SAVINO
 MICHAEL FARCO
 GRACE DECRISTOFORO
 MARGARET GRECCO
 PATRICIA SCHUSSLER
 DALY FAMILY
 JANE & JOHN J. DALY
 MARGARET MAHER
 JAMES A. PERRY
 HENRY KNIPPER
 MICHAEL KNIPPER
 JAYNE KIELY
 DONALD STEVENSON
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 ANNETTE PALAMARA
 SALVATORE FARACI
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 RICHARD HAUSER
 JACK AURRICHIO
 ALEXANDER AURRICHIO
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 PLUME FAMILY
 ANTHONY & EMILY FITZPATRICK
 ANN & BILL ZARZANO
 DOMENIC MANIACI
 DELIA RIVERA
 M/M O. DESANTO
 M/M G. GARGIULO

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 DOMINIC BLASI
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Are You Being Called to Serve as a Deacon?

By virtue of Baptism, we are called to holiness—the lay faithful as well as bishops, priests, and deacons.

But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way?

If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 59, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an **Evening of Prayer and Discernment** with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question.

There is no cost to the evening—just your time and openness.

COME TO ANY ONE OF THESE MEETINGS -

**PREPARED - to LISTEN, to PRAY, to REFLECT,
to DISCERN where God is calling you!**

EVENINGS are being offered conveniently at **THREE LOCATIONS.**

7:00PM, Tuesday, January 10—*St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street*

7:00PM, Wednesday, January 11—*Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue*

7:00PM, Thursday, January 19—*St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue*

with an **EARLY WEEKEND OPTION** to be held at

1:00PM, Sunday, January 15 —*St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue*

RSVP to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to diaconateformation@drvc.org

We thank you and look forward to being with you.



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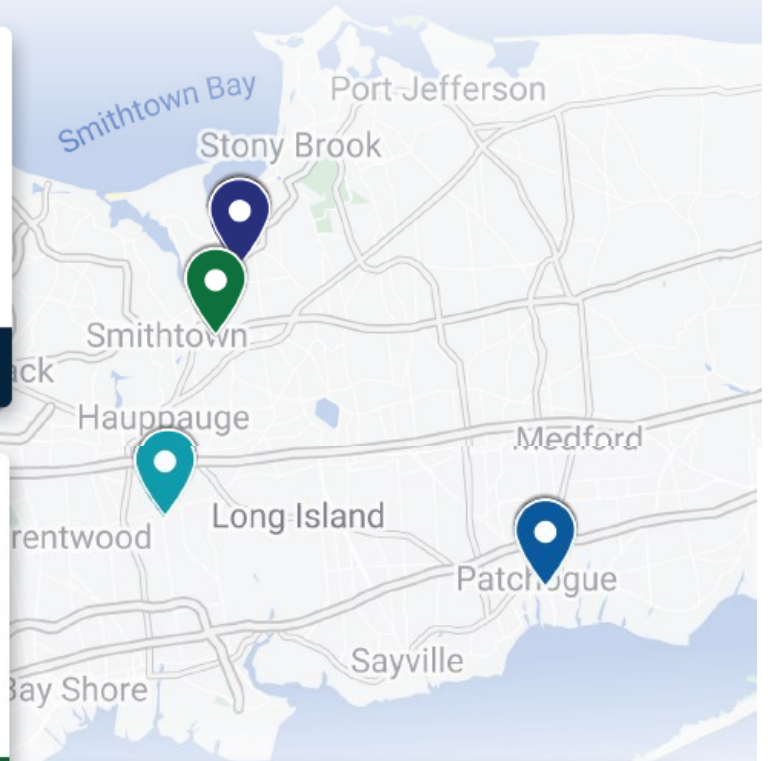
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TAKE A CHANCE!

Winter Windfall

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine. This fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. In addition, many parishioners enjoyed participating in it. Unfortunately, it was one of the many parts of parish life that was lost to COVID. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing. And so, we introduce the "Winter Windfall." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.



- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through December, January and February.
- Drawing will be held February 28.

Because we anticipate smaller participation, there will be a different pay scale:

- * 1 Prize @ \$250
- * 2 Prizes @ \$100
- * 10 Prizes @ \$50
- * 15 Prizes @ \$25



- This formula was based upon selling 250 tickets @ \$10 each. If more than 250 tickets are sold, the number of prizes will be increased. *(In the event the response is strong, we will resume a monthly drawing as soon as possible.)*
- Tickets will not be sold after Mass. Please use the tear-off tickets below. You may return your entries by placing them in an envelope and depositing it in the basket on weekends, or returning them to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
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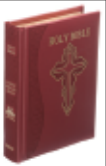
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