

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!

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - November 14, 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 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)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Joseph Maffeo
Pastoral Minister, ext. 124

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

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

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano
Business Manager, ext.110

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

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/Webmaster

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

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

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:

Jo Barry
Patricia Becker
Ann Callari
Manuela Diaz
Jim Emerson
Sienna Fricke
Bob Grieco
Diane Jones
Gerald Losquadro
Amanda Maddox
Michael Maroney
Olivia Melia
David Reichbach
Liam Richards
Joseph Santamaria
Kyle Sweeney
David Velkas
Judy Viskupic

Kathy Barry
Barbara Bombace
Eleanor Daly
Ann Egan
Ralph Farino
Jeanne Gallo
Debbie Jablinowski
Roberta Lamb
Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek
Joseph McManus
Carole Porcelli
Henrietta Renken
Elaine Ruane
Barbara Sherry
Chase Turano
Doreen Velkas
Peter Warns

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.

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of November 14th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Phil Graziose
Tue. Greg Wirth
Wed. (8AM Mass) Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto
Thu. Concetta Brady

Saturday, November 20th, 5PM Mass

Nancy Gallagher, Robert Kieley, Nell Cangiano, Gloria Posimato, Roseann Quintana, MaryAnn Rossi, Mary Sarosy

Sunday, November 21st, Christ the King Sunday

8:00 AM Nicholas Matonti
9:30 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM Luis G. Pelaez, Davy Dwyer, Robert DeStefano, Anthony Haynes, Genevieve Iaboni, Vito Zepperie



Scripture Readings for November 21, 2021



+ Daniel 7:13-14
+ Revelation 1:5-8
+ John 18:33-37

TO THE RESCUE

by Father Michael

When I was a little kid, my favorite show was *Emergency*. I looked forward to a new episode every Saturday night. It depicted paramedics in Los Angeles responding to a variety of calls. At the time this was cutting edge television. It was created by Jack Webb who was also responsible for shows like *Dragnet* and *Adam-12*. These were the first shows based on real-life situations. As a young boy, there was something attractive about the drama that was portrayed. As time moved on I came to the conclusion that as heroic as it was to be the one to chase down bad guys or rescue someone in distress, I did not have the abilities or temperament for that to be my life's work.

But as life unfolded I came to the realization that part of what I was called to do involves a rescue of one sort or another. I'm not so much talking about a physical emergency, but more of a spiritual emergency. Throughout my journey and formation process to priesthood, I was blessed with encountering good and holy people who helped me through difficult times. They also taught me well what it means to be a minister of the Lord. I have had the privilege of having profound and defining experiences on retreat. As precious as these gifts are to receive, even more so is the realization that I am now called to be the one to bring those experiences to others.

On a personal level there is something humbling and profound when I find myself in the situation to be the one to lead someone through a spiritual crisis. To be a minister of the sacraments is a grace-filled moment. It's not like I become the magic answer man, but rather try to allow the presence, compassion and wisdom of Christ to be at work in what I do and say.

While I always try to use my gifts well, it certainly goes beyond me. For many people Holy Cross has become a place of holy ground. There are many who were here from the very first days of the parish. The parish is now old enough to have people who were baptized here, to also now be married here. Holy Cross has woven itself deeply into the hearts of many people. And we are just one small part of a much larger universal Church.

Beyond any single priest or parish community, the presence of God's grace is a gift beyond measure. The Lord has the ability to reach deeply into the hearts of all people and bring life and hope, often out of the darkest moments of life. I don't know if depicting the work of ministry would ever be a successful TV show. But the lived experience of being in ministry reminds us that the Spirit can empower us to do heroic work. May we be grateful for those blessings we have received and be willing to share those blessings with those we meet.

Mass Time Change Alert!

The daily Mass on Wednesday, November 17, is changed to 8AM.

PARISH NEWS

The *Bread and Wine* for the week November 14-20 have been donated in loving memory of **Alfred Izzo** by his daughter, **Celeste DelPrete**, and family.



Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, November 20th/21st



5:00 PM Fr. Michael
 8:00 AM Fr. Michael
 9:30 AM Fr. Frank/Dcn. Joe
 11:30 AM Fr. Frank/Dcn. Joe

Youth Ministry

Join us for our next Youth Nights on Sunday, November 14th & 21st, from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this October are invited to attend. For more information, contact our Youth Minister, Allie Roecklein, at youthgroup@holycrossrc.org.



Remember "Kevin Bacon"

Don't forget to feed "Kevin Bacon" your quarters when you come to Mass on Sundays! Your donation benefits **Heifer International**.



Low-Gluten Hosts

For parishioners who have Celiac Disease or a gluten sensitivity, Holy Cross has low-gluten hosts. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host during Communion, please inform the Sacristan prior to Mass.

Meetings this Week

Sunday, November 14th	6 - 8PM
• YOUTH NIGHT	Atrium
Monday, November 15th	4 - 6 PM
• GREATER NEEDS	Atrium
Tuesday, November 16th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• BAPTISM PREP TEAM	7PM Fr. Joe Room
Wednesday, November 17th	7 PM
• PRE-CANA MEETING	Fr. Joe Room
Thursday, November 18th	10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Atrium
• BEREAVEMENT	1:30-3:30PM Fr. Joe Room
• KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	7PM Fr. Joe Room
Saturday, November 20th	5 PM Mass
• RECOMMITMENT LIT. MINS.	Worship Area
Sunday, November 21st	All Masses
• RECOMMITMENT LIT. MINS.	Worship Area
• BAPTISMS	1PM Worship Area
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM Atrium

Special Collections

This weekend we will be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund.

Next weekend we will be collecting for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. Please see page 10 for information about CCHD.

Thank you for your support of these important collections!

Hearing Devices

For parishioners who have difficulty hearing, Holy Cross has individual devices which can amplify sound. They are simple to use and work for those who wear hearing aids and those who do not. If you are interested in using one of these devices, please see the Sacristan or an Usher prior to Mass.

HERE COMES THE BRIDE

(Lots and Lots of Brides) *by Father Michael*

Marriage Statistics at Holy Cross:

- 2017: 18 (this was the highest number since 2009)
- 2018: 14
- 2019: 7 (an inexplicably low number for the year)
- 2020: 11
- 2021: 19
- 2022: 21 (additional arrangements are still being made)



Marriages at Holy Cross are on the increase. The pandemic caused many weddings to be rescheduled, but at this point we have caught up with all weddings that were impacted by the shutdown and related issues. I'm not sure what factors may be contributing to the increase.

There are two areas of parish life that are impacted by these higher numbers where we could use assistance. It's a happy problem. We love to have couples celebrate their marriages in the Church, but it means lots of helping hands are needed to make things run smoothly.

Pre-Cana: This is a required program for couples who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage in the Church. Married Pre-Cana Team Couples present different aspects of married life, followed by some questions for reflection. The goal is that it might spark conversation for each engaged couple to come to a deeper appreciation of their relationship. Engaged couples consistently report that this process is both helpful and energizing in understanding their relationship with each other.

Within the past two years we have adopted a new model for the structure of our parish Pre-Cana program. The entire program takes place in the course of one weekend. The first gathering is on Friday evening. Saturday is an all day undertaking which concludes with everyone attending the Saturday evening Mass.

Wedding Rehearsals: This is a practical component that allows those involved in the wedding celebration to be comfortable with the procession and logistics of the ceremony or Mass. In addition to walking everyone through the rehearsal, it is most helpful to have someone present on the day of the wedding to make sure everything is in good order.

If you have been blessed with a good marriage, would you consider sharing your experience with engaged couples? If you like the practical aspect of a wedding day, would you consider assisting with the rehearsals?

Please contact Fr. Michael if you have any questions or would like to offer your help for either of these ministries.



Holiday Wreath Sale



Come Join the Fun!!!

The Knights of Columbus and our Fundraising Committee will be holding a "Family Fun Wreath Decorating Day" on Saturday, December 4th, from 1-3pm in the courtyard. Families are invited to come and share in some holiday festivities and, additionally, spend time decorating a wreath together for your home. The Knights will also be selling pre-decorated wreaths and log centerpieces during this time on Saturday and after all the Masses the weekend of December 4th & 5th.

Both wreaths and logs will be priced at \$25 each. No pre-orders this year so, first come first serve. Please fill out below if you plan to attend the Saturday, December 4th, family event. Decorations will be provided for each family. We are also looking for helpers for this event. Please contact Barbara DeStefano at 631-265-2200 x110 or email at bdestefano@holycrossrc.org if you can help before, or on that day. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

"Family Fun Wreath Decorating Day"

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ # of family members: _____



Come and Join the Fun!!!

We are looking for new and old members to reboot our fundraising committee. This group currently runs 3-4 events per year including a holiday wreath sale, a basket raffle, and a variety of raffles (to name a few). If you are creative, friendly, and organized, please consider sharing your talents and time in this way. Any time you have is a gift to our parish!

For questions, call or email Barbara DeStefano at 631-265-2200 x110 or bdestefano@holycrossrc.org

Please fill out below and return to the parish office:

Name: _____ Phone: _____



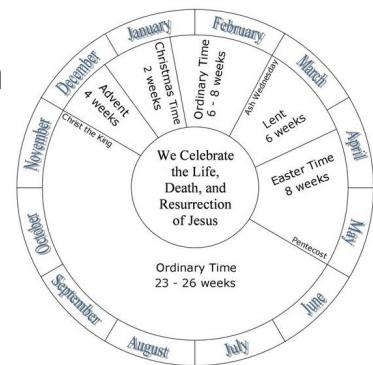
Email: _____

LITURGY BYTES

Church Seasons

Even though it is only November, the Church's year end is fast approaching. In order to help us celebrate and understand more fully the entire mystery of Jesus Christ from his Incarnation, birth, until he ascended into heaven, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of his return in glory, we look to the liturgical calendar and the change of seasons within that special calendar. The Church's liturgical year consists of six seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, Ordinary Time.

The Liturgical Year



In a few weeks we will begin the season of Advent – the four weeks of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Next up is the Christmas season, not just one day, but a few weeks of recalling the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Then for a few weeks we have “winter” Ordinary Time, leading us right into Ash Wednesday and the solemn season of Lent which covers a six-week period. During holy week, we recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus within the Sacred Triduum (a three-day season) leading right into the great feast of Easter which we celebrate for fifty days in many joyful ways. At the conclusion of the Great 50 Days is Pentecost, referred to as the birthday of the Church with the sending forth of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary. Then for two consecutive weeks we have Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi solemnities that return us back to Ordinary time, part two, wherein we consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people.

The mystery of Christ, unfolded through the cycle of the year, calls us to live his mystery in our own lives. This call is best illustrated in the lives of Mary and the saints, celebrated by the Church throughout the year.

So there it is in a nutshell, another year awaiting us to grow in our Faith!

Have a blessed, healthy, and safe week! ~~*Michele Hahn*

PARISH OUTREACH

BE AN ANGEL THIS CHRISTMAS!

ANGEL TAGS are available this weekend in the baskets on the marble pillars on the Altar and throughout the Worship Center. Due to Covid, we have placed extra baskets with Angels to allow for social distancing.



Once again, we are requesting gift cards for both clothing and toys for the households in our area that Outreach assists. Therefore, the **BLUE** angel tags have requests for a store gift card on them. We encourage you to consider providing a holiday gift card so that our neighbors are able to purchase the items that best fulfill their family's needs. When you purchase a gift card, please put it in an envelope and place it in the Gift Box on the table near our Angel sign. Gift cards do not need to be wrapped.

PLEASE BE SURE THE AMOUNT IS NOTED ON THE GIFT CARD OR ENVELOPE. THIS INFORMATION IS NEEDED SO PARISH OUTREACH CAN DISTRIBUTE THE CARDS EQUALLY.

The Angel tags are coded as follows:

- BLUE:** Families of the Holy Cross Outreach Program
- RED:** Our friends at Olsen's Rest Home
- PURPLE:** Talbot House, the Catholic Charities crisis center for those struggling with addiction
- GREEN:** Toys for children in the Brentwood area serviced by Pronto
- ORANGE:** Mercy Haven, an organization that provides community residence housing for those living with mental illness
- PINK:** Supermarket cards to enable a family to have a special meal

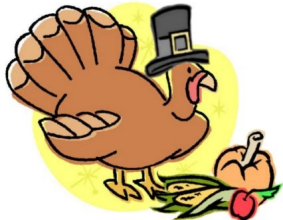
If you choose a tag listing a gift item for Olsen's (red), please wrap and attach angel to top of package. Items for Pronto and Talbot (green or purple) do not need to be wrapped. Gifts and gift cards can be returned for the next three weekends at Mass or dropped off during the week at the Parish Office.

PLEASE NOTE: Sunday, December 5th, is the last day to return gifts and gift cards.

Many thanks to our Holy Cross Angels who give so generously each year to make our Angel program successful!!

PARISH OUTREACH

Monetary Donations in Support of the Outreach Thanksgiving Project



Cash, Check or Supermarket Gift Cards are greatly appreciated to help defray the expenses of our Thanksgiving program. You can mark your envelope **“Thanksgiving”** and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Outreach office. We thank you for your continuing support of our Outreach ministry.

Thanksgiving Basket Project Update

After all the Masses this weekend, **supermarket gift cards will be available for those who signed up to participate in our Thanksgiving Basket Project.** Please look for the Outreach Table in the Atrium where you can pick up your cards. Thank you!

Dress a Girl Around the World

How Can You Help?

We are in need of parishioners who can donate 3 yards of 100% cotton fabric in bright, colorful solids and prints. Please drop off the fabric at our Outreach Office. Thank you!



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Here is an update on the status of the Appeal here at Holy Cross:

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>	<u># of Donors</u>	<u>% of Goal</u>
\$74,200.00	\$48,255.00	(\$25,945.00)	216	65.03%

These numbers do not yet reflect the CMA collection of last week. When payments reach 100% of our goal, we receive a rebate of 20% or \$14,840. Please help your community and your parish by supporting the CMA!



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT WORKING ON THE MARGINS

- **LEARN** about those living in poverty.
- **ACT** and spread the word about poverty by sharing this flier.
- **CONNECT** with the work of CCHD by supporting the collection.
- **PRAY** for those who benefit from this collection.

We all depend on workers in America's meat-processing plants and animal-feeding operations, who are essential to the food supply chain. Many of them are immigrants facing language barriers that leave them at a disadvantage when they advocate for safe working conditions, just wages, and fair treatment from employers. The Rural Community Workers Alliance (RCWA) in Missouri helps these essential workers by advocating on their behalf for safe working conditions and by promoting gatherings to address racial divisions in the community as a way to help immigrants and nonimmigrants discover similarities and share their experiences.

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed working conditions at a pork-processing plant that placed workers at risk of infection due to shoulder-to-shoulder work areas and a lack of protective gear. Workers brought their concerns to RCWA and ultimately filed a lawsuit demanding that the company follow health and safety guidelines established by the federal government. Even before the court ruled

on the lawsuit, the company took action to protect workers by installing protective barriers, sanitizing stations, providing masks, and conducting temperature checks. When you support CCHD's mission of working on the margins, you help groups such as RCWA advocate for the health and safety of the essential workers that we all depend upon.

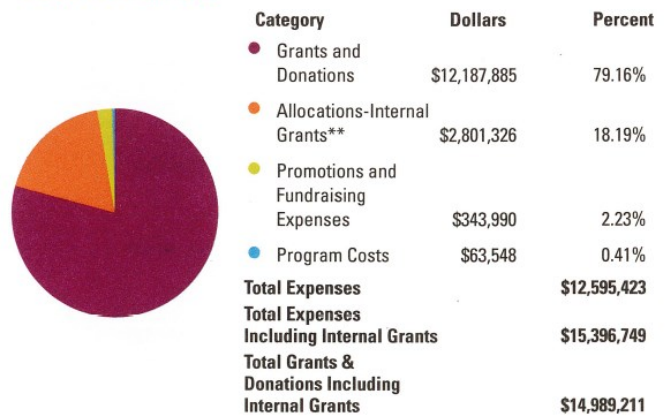
To learn more about the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, visit www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) allocates funds to community projects that promote the mission and vision of CCHD while adhering to the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church. Please visit www.usccb.org/cchd to view funding criteria and see a detailed list of our most recent grants and annual report.

2019-2020 GRANTS



2019 EXPENSES



**Internal grants include a distribution from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection for CCHD operations expenses and for USCCB Justice, Peace and Human Development's Education and Outreach program that includes engaging Catholics in our faith-filled call to address the root causes of poverty.



Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington, DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3346 • www.usccb.org/cchd • www.povertyusa.org

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TAKE A CHANCE!

Fall Cash Fling

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 "Fall Cash Fling." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through September, October and November.
- Drawing will be held November 30.

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!

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Fall Cash Fling

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