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!

1st Sunday of Advent - November 28, 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:

Kathy Barry Jo Barry Patricia Becker Barbara Bombace Ann Callari **Eleanor Daly** Manuela Diaz Ann Egan Ralph Farino Jim Emerson Sienna Fricke Jeanne Gallo Debbie Jablinowski **Bob Grieco Diane Jones** Roberta Lamb **Gerald Losquadro Charlotte Lynch** Amanda Maddox Viola Malek **Michael Maroney** Joseph McManus Olivia Melia Carole Porcelli **David Reichbach** Henrietta Renken **Liam Richards** Elaine Ruane Barbara Sherry Joseph Santamaria **Kyle Sweeney** Chase Turano **David Velkas Doreen Velkas Peter Warns Judy Viskupic**

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 28th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Anthony Brady
Tue. Drey family (living)
Wed. Mary Peck (living)
Thu. Walter O'Hara

Saturday, December 4th, 5PM Mass

Mildred Hoff, Genevieve Iaboni, Maureen Saul, Susan Burton, Urbin Levasseur

Sunday, December 5th, 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30 AM Greg Wirth, Estelle Sternberg, Tammy

Sayres, Joseph Svercel, Robert Burnsides, Ertan Kurtoglu

Duffisides, Ertail Kuru

11:30 AM Father Ed Kealey

Scripture Readings for December 5, 2021



+ Baruch 5:1-9

+ Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

+ Luke 3:1-6

LIGHT A CANDLE

by Father Michael

There are occasions in life where the lighting of a candle takes place. Often the candle lighting is not the end product, but rather it sets the tone for something else which will follow. The variety of events that surround lighting a candle can run the gamut of emotions and experiences. Lighting the candles on a birthday cake is the precursor to a traditional song and shining the spotlight on the guest of honor. Candles can be lit to begin a memorial service or to create a prayerful or reflective environment. A candlelit dinner is not the norm for most meals; it sets the tone for a romantic or celebratory occasion.

The Church shares in this tradition of lighting candles. This weekend we experience one of those traditions as we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. In the coming weeks we will continue to light additional candles as we draw closer to Christmas. While we look forward to Christmas, we cannot ignore the time that precedes it. This time of waiting can be a holy and sacred time in and of itself. What are the prayers of your heart as we light the first candle in preparation to celebrate the birth of our Savior?

I am aware of many parishioners who are carrying heavy burdens at this time. Some are grieving the death of a loved one. Some are sorting their way through difficult medical issues. And some are facing hard financial realities. There are times when the challenges of life feel overwhelming. For others there may not be a personal crisis unfolding, but they are filled with worry, sadness or even anger over events in our nation and beyond. What do we do with these matters of the heart?

There is a part of us that would like to believe that on Christmas day our woes will be resolved, but we know that is not a realistic hope. What is our hope as we light the first candle of the Advent wreath? In what ways is this gesture reflective of what we believe in? What does it mean to once again celebrate the birth of our Savior?

Advent is often a time of contradictory messages and experiences. There are unwritten expectations to shop, decorate, and prepare for a festive Christmas. At the same time the Church proclaims this to be a time of prayerful reflection and preparation. As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, may it be a time to renew our desire to journey with and be led by the Lord. May these days be a holy time. As we anticipate the coming of the Lord, let us allow the present moment to also be a time of grace and life. Happy Advent!

PARISH NEWS

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, December 4th/5th



5:00 PM Fr. Frank Eisele 8:00 AM Fr. Frank

9:30 AM Fr. Michael

11:30 AM Fr. Michael



The **Bread and Wine** for the week November 27-December 4 have been donated in loving memory of **Carmela & Michael Terranova**, **& Eric Schwarz** by their family.



Youth Ministry

Join us for our next Youth Night on Sunday, December 5th, 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.



Holy Hour for Peace

We offer our Holy Hour on the first Saturday of the month from 3:45-4:45PM in the Worship Area. The next one will take place on Saturday, December 4th. Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, November 27th
• ANGEL GIFTS COLLECTED

5PM Mass
Atrium

Sunday, November 28th

• ANGEL GIFTS COLLECTED

All Masses
Atrium

Monday, November 29th
• GREATER NEEDS
4 - 6 PM
Atrium

• WINTER CARNIVAL MTG. 7PM Fr. Joe Room

Tuesday, November 30th
• IN STITCHES
• BAPTISM PREP TEAM

10 AM
Fr. Joe Room
7PM Fr. Joe Room

Thursday, December 2nd
• SCRIPTURE STUDY

10 AM
Atrium

• ADVENT PRAYER 1:30 or 7PM Chapel, Atrium

Saturday, December 4th

• WREATH DECORATING DAY

• HOLY HOUR

• WREATH SALE

• WREATH SALE

• ANGEL GIFTS DUE

1 - 3 PM

Courtyard

Worship Area

Atrium

Sunday, December 5th

• WREATH SALE

• ANGEL GIFTS DUE

• ANOINTING

• AROUTH NIGHT

• AROUTH NIGHT

All Masses

Atrium

Atrium

Atrium

Anointing of the Sick

On the first Sunday of each month, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered after the 9:30AM Mass.

Sunday, December 5th, is the next date the Anointing will be offered.



<u>Christmas Mass Intentions</u> - In lieu of individual announced intentions at the Christmas Masses, there are cards in the atrium on which to write your special intentions. These cards will be placed on the Altar at all the Christmas Masses.

PARISH OUTREACH



Important Reminder For All Our Shoppers

Next weekend, **December 4th/5th**, will be your **LAST OPPORTUNITY** to return your Angel gifts or gift cards. Remember to indicate the amount of the gift card on the envelope or on the card itself.



Our Outreach committee will be sorting the gifts by Sunday, December 5th. Unfortunately, gifts that come in after December 5th may not go to the people in need of them. Thank you for understanding our need to have all Angel items returned by Sunday, December 5th, so that they can be distributed that week.

Reminder: 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

PARISH OUTREACH

Outreach Food Pantry

Next Saturday and Sunday, **December 4th/5th**, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach pantry. The following items would be most helpful:



Rice

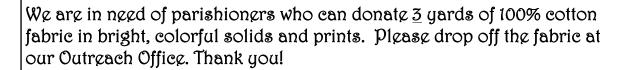
- Hot Cereal
- Canned Chicken

- Potato Flakes
- Snacks
- Beans in a bag

Please don't forget to check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you!

Press a Girl Around the World

How Can You Help?





THE SHEPHERD

As the season of Advent unfolds, the Church invites us to slow down and prepare our hearts for the miracle that is Christmas. Holy Cross is pleased to present

The Shepherd, a video by Dallas Jenkins, producer of The Chosen.

Thursday, December 2, 1:30 – 2:30 PM OR 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Join us for this time of prayer, quiet reflection and sharing.

Please return the tear-off below by November 29:

Trease retain the tear on a	clow by November 23.	
Name: _		Phone:
	I would like to attend	The Shepherd in
	the afternoon	the evening.

LITURGY BYTES

Happy New Year!!

Yes, I know we just celebrated Thanksgiving a few days ago. The wish of Happy
New Year has to do with the Church's liturgical year. The liturgical year ended last
weekend with the feast of Christ the King and begins this weekend with the First Sunday of Advent.

We also will hear a new set of scripture readings, known as Cycle C, with the Gospels being from St. Luke. There are three-year Sunday cycles: A, B and C following every time a different synoptic Gospel. Year A is the Gospel of Matthew, Year B is the Gospel of Mark, and Year C is the Gospel of Luke. The other Gospel, somehow different, of John is used during special Sundays throughout the liturgical year. Each of the evangelists portrays Jesus its own way, as if from a different angle, and seems to address a different set of people.

The Gospel of Luke is read in its entirety on consecutive Sundays every three years. Though the gospel stories appear to be no different from the same ones read last year from Mark or the year before from Matthew, there are some very original stories like that of the Good Samaritan or Prodigal Son that are not found in the other Gospels.

We do not read the Gospel of Luke the way the Jews read the Torah throughout their year, but the texts are selected according to the needs of the season of Advent, which prepares us for the second coming as well as the first coming of Christ. Also this is true in the Christmas season that celebrates the events of Christ's birth, and during Lent where only stories calling for conversion and prayer are used. The most sequential readings from Luke are in Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent, and between Pentecost and Christ the King.

These are just a few thoughts about Luke's Gospel for us to reflect on today. May you enjoy this Advent season of waiting and anticipation!

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

ADVENT REFLECTIONS



This weekend, November 27/28, we begin the holy season of Advent. Be sure to pick up your daily reflections entitled *ADVENT LONGINGS* on your way out of Church after Mass to assist with our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Holiday Wreath Sale

Come Join the Fun!!!

The Knights of Columbus and our Fundraising Committee will be holding a

"Famíly Fun Wreath Decorating Day"

Saturday, December 4th, from 1-3pm in the Holy Cross courtyard.

Families are invited to come and share in some holiday festivities and spend time decorating a wreath together for your home. Decorations will be provided for each family. Wreaths are priced at \$25/ea.(decorations included).



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.

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.

Please fill out the form below if you plan to attend the Saturday, December 4th, family event. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

"Family Fun Wreath Decorating Day"

Name:	Phone:	
Email:	# of family members:	
·		

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



To Our Catechists, Co-Catechists, Volunteers & Helpers, In Thanksgiving for all those who give their gifts to our parish, whose ministry is God's assurance that the Good News will be heard and that young people will be nurtured in the faith.

For your gracious hospitality in opening your hearts and homes to our children, for your faithfulness and joy, for your patience and understanding, for the lives you have touched...We Thank You!! The Parishioners of the Parish of the Holy Cross

Level 2

Anne Abbate Laura Albanese Diana Anderson Eric Barker Melissa Bruno Nicole Chwalek Paula Cottone Patricia Daly-Matonti Kristen Donohue Heather Ferraro Teresa Gandarillas Lori Harned Kristin King Laura Krummenacker Lorraine Maass Nicole Martocci Jennifer Miller Donna Nasso Lorraine Pace Deanna Rosenberg Kathleen Schulz Suzanne Simone Morgan Tavis Christina Udle

Level 3

Melissa Bruno
Tricia & Kevin Clarke
Christina Clifford
Rita Dychkowski
Lisa Eger
Colleen Feulner
Amy Jaekle
Michelle Keane
Nicole Kearnes
Kathleen Nasta

Jennifer Peluso Robin Rostron Kelly Ruggiero Dawn Thelian

Level 4

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Linda Creighton
Jennifer Draney
Amber Lerner
Josephine Matula
Thomas Mayer
Jennifer Miller
Jenine Naples
Lorraine Pace
Beth Rivalsi
Jenise Scanlon

Level 5

Michele Alderdice Diana Anderson Christina Clifford Linda Creighton Susan Cunningham Amy Cusumano Rene Di Peri Colleen Feulner Nicole Heller Kristin King Susan Kurka Wade Lendin Megan Maloney Sally Marselle Jaime McGrade Tracy Reilly Monica Scali Jacqueline Siino

Nicole Taylor Angela Wichtendahl

Level 6

Laura Albanese Jeannine Bernardo Cheryl Crispo Kathleen Delaney Jennifer Draney Darlene Gatien Nicole Heller Michelle Kostas Serena Marz Kristin McNamara Elizabeth Pelan Kristin Prete Diane Rorick Kelly Ruggiero Cari Sacks Jennifer Saidens Monica Scali Dawn Thelian Erin VanDeusen

Level 7

Kimberly Arbocus
Gabriella Bieler
Nicole Chwalek
Christina Clifford
Jennifer D'Agostino
Patricia Daly-Matonti
Theresa DiCocco
Lisa Eger
Christine Farrugia
Colleen Feulner
Giulia Hadity
Jennifer Intintoli

Regina Mackay
Laurie Ann McMahon
Heather Morreale
Kathleen Nasta
Elena Phillips
Vanessa Rivoire
Lauren Romano
Christine Svercel
Mary Ann Visnius
Melissa Wright
Jaclyn Young

Level 8

Lisa & Scott Abrams Laura Albanese Heather Brid Lori Canalini Tricia & Kevin Clarke Amy Cusumano Joanna Fennell Elizabeth Gil Danielle Hroncich Jennifer Hughes Toni Ann Jata Rosalinda Kamor Donna Keller Christopher Mennella Vinessa Monaco Susan Moulton Tricia Renkowski Cari Sacks Amber SanFilippo Nicole Taylor



LAST 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	Fall Cash Fling
Name	Name
Address	Address
Town	Town
Phone	Phone
Fall Cash Fling	Fall Cash Fling
Name	Name
Address	Address
Town	Town
Phone	Phone



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