

# 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!

### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - November 5, 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)

## 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 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  
Business Manager, 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
Ann Callari	Judy Carlson
Jason DeLuca	Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan	Ralph Farino
Sienna Fricke	Linda Heinrichs
Debbie Jablinowski	Kristen Kennedy
Robertta Lamb	Dora Libretti
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek	Jeanne Marie Malley
Olivia Melia	Loretto Narducci
Carina Ranieri	Liam Richards
Elaine Ruane	Casey Schultz
Barbara Sherry	Olivia Susan Shields
Celeste Sichenze	Kyle Sweeney
Bill Tanner	Grace Van Epps
Peter Warns	Danny Youngworth

## Upcoming Mass Intentions



### Week of Sunday, November 5, 9AM Masses

**Mon.** Veronica Follo (living)  
**Tue.** Christina Alonso (living)  
**Wed.** Officer Vincent Pelliccio  
**Thu.** John Schultz

### Saturday, November 11, 5PM Mass

Nancy Gallagher, Bobby Kieley, Nell Cangiano,  
Douglas Sternberg, Stephen Mattera

### Sunday, November 12, 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

**8:00 AM** People of the Parish  
**9:30 AM** Gloria Posimato, Richard Zak, Barbara E.  
Riley, Rocco Loccisano, Floyd Patterson  
**11:30 AM** Patricia Callas

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.

# TO ABSENT FRIENDS

*by Father Michael*

Last Sunday evening I was relaxing by doing something I often do—watching random YouTube clips. I was watching one that was a collection of notable scenes from the old series *The West Wing*. “President” Bartlet (Martin Sheen) was offering a toast and wanted to remember loved ones who were no longer there, and so he raised his glass “to absent friends.” I found that poetic phrase to be very poignant and not needing much explanation.

On Thursday evening we celebrated All Souls’ Day. There are a few days in the life of the Church when a celebration just “makes sense.” There is no need for explanation or reasoning behind having a day which calls to mind our loved ones. While we try hard to make the evening celebration as prayerful as possible, not a lot has to be done. People come to that Mass with an openness to celebrating the Paschal Mystery. While the Mass has a somber tone, it is also very comforting. One of the aspects that adds to the beauty of the day is the awareness that everyone there is sharing in the same experience. While the details of those who have died may be vastly different, there is a sense of unity as we gather together and pray for our loved ones.

No one likes to grapple with a broken or sad heart. As painful as it may be, I am a firm believer that heartfelt emotions are an indication that something profoundly good happened while the person was alive. The absence we feel is proportional to the presence they offered while they were here. We need to appreciate those people in our lives who lead us deeply into the mystery of love. We need to have a few people in this life with whom we can go very deep or soar very high. Without that, life runs the risk of being shallow and fleeting. In a similar way, the deepest we go in any human relationship is proportional to the deepest experience we will ever have of God. I’m a big fan of taking great trips. There is no greater journey than entering deeply into relationships with those who are part of our lives. The sights we can encounter are beyond measure.

President Bartlet did not end his toast by only recalling the friends who were no longer there, he also raised his glass, “and to the ones that are here now.” What a beautiful balance. Together that is a magnificent prayer of thanksgiving. It is great to offer gratitude for what was, as well as for what is.

“To absent friends, and to the ones that are here now.” A sobering tribute to the power that human relationships can have. But beyond that, the recognition of power and presence of Christ is woven into those moments shared with one another. Cheers!

The Sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick** will take place after the 9:30 Mass.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Saturday, November 4th</b>	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
<b>Sunday, November 5th</b>	After 9:30 Mass
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK	Worship Area
• BAPTISMS	1PM Worship Area
<b>Monday, November 6th</b>	4 - 6 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atrium
• MEN'S PRAYER GROUP	7PM Chapel
• KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	Fr. Joe Room
<b>Tuesday, November 7th</b>	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• LITURGY COMMITTEE	7PM Chapel
• RCIA	7:30PM Fr. Joe Room
<b>Wednesday, November 8th</b>	11:30AM-2:30PM
• SENIORS	Atrium
• BEREAVEMENT	1:30PM Fr. Joe Room
• BE ATTITUDES	7PM Chapel, Atrium
• PRE-CANA MEETING	Fr. Joe Room
<b>Thursday, November 9th</b>	10 AM
• WOMEN'S BIBLE CIRCLE	Fr. Joe Room
• BE ATTITUDES	1:30PM Chapel, Atrium
• ALTAR SERVER TRNG.	4PM Worship Area
• YOUTH PLANNING MTG.	7PM Fr. Joe Room
<b>Sunday, November 12th</b>	9:30 AM
• BAPTISM GATHERING	Wor. Ar., FJ Room
• TG BASKET DROP OFF	3-5PM Atrium, FJ Room

## *Scripture Readings for November 12, 2023*



- + Wisdom 6:12-16
- + 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- + Matthew 25:1-3



## **Banns of Marriage** **Second Time**

Tunde Csibi & Richard Russo

## **Celebrants for Next Weekend's** **Masses, November 11th/12th**



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

*The Bread and Wine for the week November 5th - 11th have been donated in loving memory of **Joseph Santamaria** by his wife, sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.*



Next week at the offertory we will also be collecting for our **Repairs and Major Renovations** fund. Thank you for your support!

## **Altar Server Training**

**Are you in fourth grade (or above) and interested in becoming an Altar Server?**



Girls and boys interested in serving are invited to come to trainings and find out all that is involved in being an Altar Server. At the end of the two training sessions, you will be able to assist at Mass as an Altar Server. Training will be held November 9th and 16th beginning at 4 PM.

**Please call the Parish Office to register.**

# PARISH NEWS



## Pray for Our Military

Sgt David Basler  
 Cpl Brian S. Brophy Jr., USMC  
 Cpl Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC  
 FC2 Lane Dyar  
 AS Brandon Ferrara  
 MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA  
 WO Christopher Kaminsky  
 Sgt Michael J. Knipper, USMC  
 SSGT Ryan Mauldin  
 PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC  
 Lt Ryan Montvydas  
 Cpl Michael Palagonia, USMC

We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service. We will continue to pray for them through 2023. Please let us know if their service is finished or their title has changed. May God bless all who serve our nation. Pray for Peace!



*Holy Cross  
 Welcomes These  
 Children Baptized in  
 October*

**Hunter Liam Lopez  
 Julia Claire Mortenson  
 Noah Christopher Zimmermann  
 Tessa Ann Zulferino**



We remember and pray for the following Holy Cross parishioners who passed away recently:

*Donald Cabella  
 Gloria Morello  
 Carole Ann O'Neill  
 Albina Sangemino  
 Eleanor Spirio*

May they rest in peace,  
 and may their loved ones be consoled.

**Help Wanted!** - Our **Consolation Ministry** is in need of bakers to make a cake occasionally and deliver it to the home of a bereaved parishioner. If interested, please call Jude at ext. 116.

# LITURGY FOLKS.....

Can you think about Lent at this time of the year? Well, if you are able to look ahead, we have a very interesting theme we are pondering for Holy Cross' Lent of 2024. The Liturgy Committee is always looking for other interested folks to join the bandwagon of visioning and planning. If you would like to assist, please join us for our next meeting on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL.** We have one favor to better prepare—please RSVP by completing the form below and leaving it in the basket on the table outside the Parish Office.

Yes, I will attend the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Liturgy Committee.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



# LITURGY BYTES



## November Saints & Souls



As we put the Halloween costumes away, the Church calls us to remember those women and men given that special title of Saint (with a capital S). I am sure we all know many people who are saints both here and in heaven. We recognize them with a small “s” when we refer to them as saints. The lives of the Saints show us how they were self-giving, living the example of Jesus in many ways. We give their names to our children and take them at the time of Confirmation to further guide and assist us in being disciples of Our Lord. November 1<sup>st</sup> we remember all of the Saints even though throughout the Church year they are individually remembered on the anniversary of their death. I always enjoyed this day when I was a Director of Religious Education because it became a part of our 4<sup>th</sup> grade program to present our parade of Saints to the parish each year. Eight students would volunteer to talk about the Saint whose costume they wore. We had St. Peter be the Master of Ceremonies introducing each one. Many of the students took that name years later for Confirmation because of what they had learned about that person. Not only did our young people gain insight into the Saints, but many adults did too.

The following day, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Church celebrates all those we love who have gone home to heaven. They are called the communion of saints, and we are united with them. This name reminds us that God has bound us together, and death cannot separate us. In fact, the entire month of November is dedicated to remembering our beloved dead. Many families have Masses offered in November and even on special days for their beloved family member, as well as visit their gravesite.

In most parishes, families who have lost a loved one during the year are invited to a **Mass of Remembrance** where the local faith community prays by name for those buried that year from their parish. Here at Holy Cross, we do this yearly on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Eternal rest is granted unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Have a peaceful, blessed, and prayerful week ahead! ~ *Michele Hall*

## **REMINDER.....** Parish Lectors' Meeting



The  
Word  
of God

Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>,  
at 7 PM in Church

# PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

## HCTV Ministry



The HCTV Ministry that runs the slides at the weekend Masses, is looking ahead to **Christmastime**. Because December 24th lands on the Fourth Sunday in Advent this year, they are going to need a lot of extra help running the slides at the Masses.



From Saturday, December 23rd, to Monday, Christmas Day, there will be ten Masses to cover. If you are a regular parishioner, high school student, or even a college student home for the holidays, please consider helping.

Please call **Wendy at 631-724-0930** if interested. Training included. *Thank you!*



## *Holiday Wreath & Centerpiece Fundraiser*



*Pre Order by November 12<sup>th</sup> \$35.00 Each*

*Pick up December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Masses*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

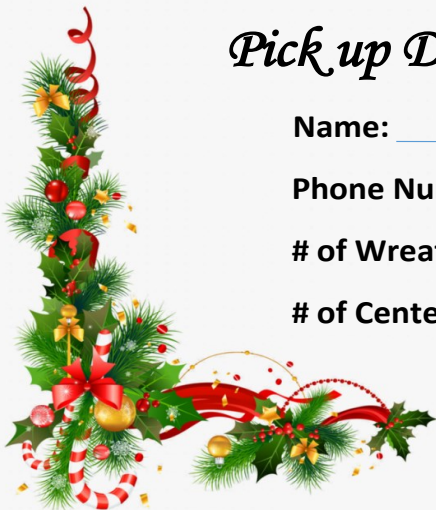
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Wreaths: \_\_\_\_\_ x 35.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of Centerpieces: \_\_\_\_\_ x 35.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to Holy Cross



## Christmas Basket Raffle—Help Needed!

We will be hosting a Christmas Basket Raffle after all the Masses on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Winners will be drawn at the end of the 11:30 Mass. **If you are interested in helping with set up, raffle ticket sales, and clean up, please contact the Outreach Office at 631-265-2200 x113.** Thank you!

# PARISH OUTREACH



## Holiday Bereavement Support Group

For those who are grieving a loss, the holidays can be a particularly difficult time. Grief is like taking the color out of your world at any time of the year, yet during a holiday those grieving often experience a more intense sense of loss.

*This Bereavement Group will consist of those handling the passing of a spouse, either a wife or husband.*

We will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

The dates are as follows:

**November 8<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>**

If interested, please register by calling Holy Cross Outreach at 631-265-2200 ext.113, leave your name and number, and you will be contacted by the Facilitator of the group.

We welcome you to share, listen and find companionship with others who are encountering grief at this time. You may be able to put the rainbow back in your life.





# PARISH OUTREACH

## Christmas Angels Coming Soon!

Next weekend, November 11th and 12th, will be the first weekend of our Parish Outreach Christmas Project.

We are once again requesting **gift cards** to local stores (i.e., Kohl's, Target, Walmart) to enable our Outreach families to purchase for themselves and their children the items they need.

As you may know, we have also helped the following agencies for the last several years and will continue to do so this Christmas:

**Olsen's Rest Home** is a neighborhood facility for frail elderly on Gibbs Pond Road. Residents of the home have always been considered members of our parish community. Holy Cross ministers to our friends at Olsen's in a variety of ways during the year.

**Mercy Haven** is a provider of housing and other services for persons who are elderly, those living with mental illness, those families who are on limited income and those with special needs.

**Pronto** is a human service agency located in Brentwood helping people in need with food, clothing, and other necessities. They assist approximately 500 families for the holidays each year.

**Talbot House** Chemical Dependency Crisis Center is a 24-hour voluntary chemical dependence crisis center licensed by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to provide short-term medically monitored inpatient withdrawal services to adult men and women who are in crisis. This facility provides nourishing meals, counseling, limited transportation, support groups, and referrals.

SEE NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN  
FOR MORE DETAILS ON OUR  
CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROGRAM!



# PARISH OUTREACH

## Thanksgiving Basket Program

Thank you to everyone who signed up to create a Thanksgiving basket for one of our Outreach families. Once again, our volunteers outnumbered our need. Thank you!! We hope you will give us a chance next year to assign you a basket.

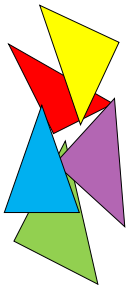
If you were assigned a basket for our Thanksgiving Basket Project, please pick up your envelope in the Parish Office. Please make sure to check off your name when picking up your envelope.

**REMINDER: Completed baskets are due Sunday, November 12th, from 3pm-5pm.** Our families will be picking up baskets on Monday in the morning and throughout the day. Please make every effort to have your basket here on the 12th. Thank you!

## Dress a Girl Around the World

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

**Please take note of the time!**  
↙



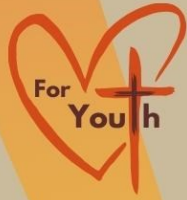
Our “Cut-Ups” will meet **Thursday, November 16, from 10AM to 12PM** in the atrium. We will continue cutting out dresses for the little ones in need. **Please RSVP to Outreach at 631-265-2200 (limited space available).** No skill required. All are welcome!

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!



**Holy Cross Youth Group**  
serving grades 7-12

*Thanksgiving*

**DINNER**

**KICKBALL-FOOD-FUN**

*RSVP Required by November 13th*

RSVP that you are joining us, to:  
[youthgroup@holycrossrc.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycrossrc.org)

If you would like to donate or provide  
a meal item for our dinner,  
please visit the  
parish website  
and click the link



**SUNDAY, November 19, 2023**

**3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**Meet in the Holy Cross Atrium**

**Wear sneakers for a Pre-Dinner Kickball Game!**





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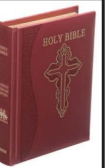
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