

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!

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 11, 2024
+ Ash Wednesday - February 14, 2024

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
Alejandro Astegiano	Jo Barry
Kathy Barry	Liam Bentley
Barbara Bombace	Cole Brennan
Ann Callari	Judy Carlson
Jason DeLuca	Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan	Vincent Esposito
Ralph Farino	Yolanda Fattarusso
Sienna Fricke	Linda Heinrichs
Debbie Jablinowski	Kristen Kennedy
Roberta Lamb	Dora Libretti
Dotty Licausi	Gerald Losquadro
Charlotte Lynch	Viola Malek
Jeanne Marie Malley	Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci	Carina Ranieri
Liam Richards	Elaine Ruane
Casey Schultz	Kathy Schwinn
Dolores Serri	Barbara Sherry
Celeste Sichenze	Bill Tanner
Grace Van Epps	Peter Warns

Upcoming Mass Intentions



Week of Sunday, February 11, 9AM Masses

Mon. Astrid Lopez & Joseph Donlon
(both living)

Tue. Bernie Henry (living)

Wed. Michael Murphy (living)

Thu. Maggie McCartin (living)

*New Life
in Christ*

Saturday, February 17, 5PM Mass

Richard P. Canalini, Aura Gutierrez, James Connor,
Eric Schwarz

Sunday, February 18, First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto

9:30 AM Jean Everts

11:30 AM People of the Parish

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.

THE GREAT SEASON OF LENT

by Father Michael

Not everyone might immediately be willing to call the season of Lent great, but there are reasons for doing so. Although Lent calls us to sacrifice and repent, there is something that makes sense about it. It begins with Ash Wednesday (this week) which is a unique day in many ways. It is not a holy day of obligation, but it is one of the most well attended days in the Church year. It taps into an ancient tradition of imposing ashes. If we tried starting a new ritual like this today, most people would reject it. The day seems to naturally identify with all of us for the need to face the darkness and shadow of our lives and strive to change so that we can be better people.

I am very excited about what will happen here at Holy Cross for these days of Lent. We will be using the same theme throughout our Sunday celebrations as well as other prayer opportunities. This theme first came to life last year when most of the Pastoral Team attended the Religious Education Congress in Anaheim, California. It has been slowly growing and taking on new aspects of how it can be incorporated into life here at the parish. There are many helping hands of parishioners who are contributing to this undertaking. We are hopeful that our efforts will make these days deeply prayerful and meaningful for you.

Our theme will be, "Fight My Battles/Surrounded." It is inspired by an uplifting song by the same title written by Elyssa Smith. At first glance, there might be an element of mystery to it. It might take a bit of time to grow on you, but we ask you to take the journey with it. In no way are we trying to promote any sense of violence. We are inviting you to look deep within your own heart and name the issues that you may be struggling with. Is there someone you are struggling to forgive? Do you often beat yourself up with self-doubt, self-hatred, or fear? Do you find yourself becoming an angry person because of what surrounds us in society or politics? Don't let issues like this become a stumbling block to life. There is nothing we will encounter in this life that is stronger than God's ability to transform, heal, and forgive. Believe you have the strength to fight these battles and allow the healing and transforming presence of Christ into your heart.

Enter these days being open to make an interior journey that truly can bring new life. Giving up Hershey bars for 40 days may not be a bad thing, but is it allowing you to know yourself and God in a deeper and more profound way? We want this season to be a great spiritual journey for our parish and for ourselves individually. Enter the journey and experience the Lord.

By the way, happy Valentine's Day as well.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, February 10th	6 - 8 PM
• YOUTH GROUP MEETING	Atrium
Sunday, February 11th	9:30 Mass
• BAPTISM GATHERING	Wor. Ar., FJ Rm.
• BOY SCOUT SUNDAY	9:30AM Worship Area
Monday, February 12th	4 - 6 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atrium
• LEV. 2 PARENT/STUDENT MTG.	7PM Worship Area
Tuesday, February 13th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 8 RETREAT	6-9PM Atr., Wor. Ar.
Wednesday, February 14th	9 AM
• ASH WEDNESDAY MASS	Worship Area
• PRAYER SERVICES	7AM, 12, 4, 5:30 & 7PM Wor. Ar.
Thursday, February 15th	10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Atrium
Sunday, February 18th	11:30 Mass
• CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Fr. Joe Room

Scripture Readings for February 18, 2024



- + *Genesis 9:8-15*
- + *1 Peter 3:18-22*
- + *Mark 1:12-15*

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, February 17th/18th



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 February 10th-17th have been donated in loving memory of Anne Mattera by the Emerson family.



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 2024. 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 Baptism

Holy Cross Welcomes These Children Baptized in January

Santino Alejandro Cardenas
Carlo Rocco DeMaio
Santino John DeMaio
Shane Robert Gilbert
Arianna Isabel Pena
Adam Alexander Rivero
Miles Nicolas Saporito

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

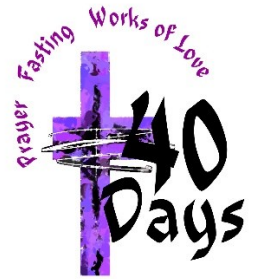


Michael Collins, Jr.
Girolama Falcone
Daniel Rivituso
Margaret T. Sulmasy

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

LITURGY BYTES

Ashes & Lent



As you may have realized, this coming Wednesday, February 14th, is Ash Wednesday and the start of another Lenten season. As always, the Church will be busy Wednesday distributing ashes, offering services of prayer as together we embark on this penitential season.

You will notice at Mass, the Gloria will not be prayed, nor will we sing the Alleluia verse before the Gospel reading. Purple will adorn the environment of the worship space and a somber approach of music will also be used. It is common to see a liturgical “desert” feeling in Church, eliminating flowers too.

Since Lent is a time of return, repentance, renewal, and preparation, we stand in need of prayer guiding us through our challenges, strengths and hopes. Happily we support, guide, and instruct those preparing to become Catholic or those in need of a Sacrament or two that they might have missed in their youth. We are blessed, here at Holy Cross, to have people coming into the Church this Easter. We keep them in prayer on their journey and welcome them to the family of Faith!

You might ask - What will I do this Lent? Give up something, possibly do more of _____. It is a special time to work on our relationship with our God even when we are faced with many battles in life. May we all come to realize that we are always surrounded by His love!

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

Ash Wednesday is February 14th. Ashes will be distributed at 7 AM, 9 AM Mass, 12 Noon, 4 PM, 5:30 PM & 7 PM.

Children and Ashes...

Our 4 PM and 5:30 PM services will be more “child friendly.” These services will be shorter, with a homily geared to a child’s understanding. This will enable the children to enter into the spirit of Lent in a manner appropriate for their age.

Fast and Abstinence

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Monday, March 25, 2024: 7:30 PM (LS)



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Wednesdays in Lent: after 9:00 AM Mass

Saturdays in Lent: 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM

Monday, March 25:

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM & 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Good Friday, March 29: 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Holy Saturday, March 30: 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM



PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24, 2024

Saturday 3/23/24: 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)

HOLY THURSDAY MARCH 28, 2024

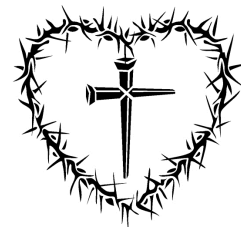
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8:00 PM (LS)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY MARCH 29, 2024

Children's Service - 12:00 Noon (LS)

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 3:00 PM (LS)



HOLY SATURDAY MARCH 30, 2024

Solemn Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM (LS)

NO AFTERNOON CONFESSIONS OR 5:00 PM MASS
ON HOLY SATURDAY



EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31, 2024
Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)

(LS) = Also Live Streamed

PARISH NEWS



Girl Scout Sunday

Tell your Scouting friends...All Are Welcome
March 10th, 2024 9:30 Mass

Scouts should arrive 15 minutes early
Uniforms/Sashes for scouts & leaders
Contact Kim Loh Bodor Akjlb23@optonline.net or 516-996-2297

*Please let us know how many scouts & leaders will be attending by **March 1st** so we have enough reserved seating for your group.*

Special Collection

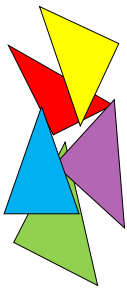
This weekend at the offertory we will also be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund. Thank you for your continued support of this collection!



Dress a Girl Around the World

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

Our “Cut-Ups” will meet **Thursday, February 22, from 1-3 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 2-3 yards of cotton fabric for the body of the dress and **1-3 yards of solid colors for the pockets**. 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!



Mobile Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings and Flu Vaccinations

The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings and **flu vaccinations** in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.



Parish of the Holy Cross
95 Nichols Road
Nesconset NY

Tuesday, February 20th
9A-2P

Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance
- **Free flu vaccination** (senior dose available)

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2024 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre
Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Register online at drvc-faith.org

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at lrobustelli@drvc.org





2024

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith –
Renewed by the Eucharist*

**Please consider making a gift to the
2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**



**For more information, to watch our video
or to make a donation,
visit www.catholicministriesappeal.org
or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296**



TAKE A CHANCE!

Winter Windfall

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine, and this fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing, so we will continue as we have done for the past few years with our quarterly drawing.



- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through December, January and February.
- Drawing will be held **February 29**.

This is the pay scale which will be offered:

- * 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.
- 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 _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____



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