

The Parish of the Holy Cross

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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!

3rd Sunday of Lent - March 3, 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	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
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, March 3, 9AM Masses

Mon. Family of Liam Bentley (living)
Tue. Paul Talbot
Wed. Jose Arnoso
Thu. Maron Brady



Saturday, March 9, 5PM Mass

Charles Chatterton, Bernadette Kuczewski, Mary Semione, Gerald Levasseur, Angel Alvarez

Sunday, March 10, Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Ben Binkowski
11:30 AM Angelo Finocchiaro, George Gunn,
Girolama Falcone, Liam Michael Bentley, Adele Marlow

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.

FIGHT MY BATTLES/SURROUNDED #3

by Father Michael

We are now three weeks into our Lenten season. I pray our theme is helping you through these holy days. I appreciate that the song we are using is a bit of a risk. It creates an energy level that we don't always incorporate into our prayer. Although, in the coming weeks the same song will take on a different tone and flavor. What we are doing may not appeal to everyone, but I hope it is received as a way of trying to enhance this holy season. I am grateful to our music ministry in working so hard to utilize this song. I am also thankful to the many other helping hands that are contributing to our Lenten theme.

There will be three evenings of prayer offered that will build on this theme. The first one will take place this Wednesday. The first is a prayer evening for the men of the parish. Ladies, don't feel slighted, your evening will take place on March 13. We will then all join together for one final evening on March 20. Some of you may remember that, "way back when," this was a common format for parish missions where the men and women gathered on different evenings. Please see the separate notice in this bulletin regarding the Men's Evening of Prayer.

This was an important week for our First Communion children. They received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this week. While hearing all those confessions can become a little tedious, it truly is a prayerful and holy moment to share in. It's precious to see when some of the little ones take so seriously what they are doing in asking for God's forgiveness. We have about 110 children who are preparing to come to the altar for the first time in May.

I'm not exactly a bird watcher, but there are times when they catch my attention. This is one of those moments. I don't know if this is mating season for our feathered friends, but several groups are behaving in ways that are hard to ignore. One couple consists of two very small birds, perhaps finches. They fly around in tight little circles as if they were playing follow-the-leader. There is a playful energy to their movement. They limit their movement to one small area, although I cannot find any nests. The others are two large birds, perhaps a hawk of one kind or another. They move from branch to branch and keep a good distance between themselves. They seem to stare at each other for a minute or two then one moves on to a new branch, and the other will follow soon enough to a new vantage point to watch. I tend to only see this in the early morning. I'm surprised they are so active on some of these chilly winter mornings. I'm not sure exactly what is happening, but it is fascinating to watch.

Our Lenten journey continues. May the spirit of "Fight My Battles/Surrounded" help to make these days holy and prayerful.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered after the 9:30 Mass on March 3.

AN EVENING FOR MEN



Men's Evening of Prayer Wednesday, March 6, @ 7:00PM

The male journey often involves facing a defeat. While facing a battle is never easy, it is often through that time of testing and pain that we come to deeper insight into life, ourselves, and God.

Join us for this evening that will be led by men of the parish who will share parts of their journeys with us. Although the details of our stories may be different, we do share a common path. And, in the end, we come to know the power of the Lord to transform our pain and allow it to become a source of strength.

We come to appreciate how our individual stories are deeply connected to a much greater story beyond ourselves. We are connected in many ways, and it is the awareness that becomes a source of life for us. Please join us for this rich opportunity.

An Evening for Men

Wednesday, March 6, @ 7:00PM

Fr. Michael will lead this evening which invites us to name the brokenness and battles of our lives. Witness talks will be offered by fellow parishioners. We will acknowledge and celebrate that the great battles of our lives, in fact, bring us into greater union with our Savior.



An Evening for Women

Wednesday, March 13, @ 7:00PM

Jude Pickel and Michele Hall will lead this evening which looks at the story of the Woman at the Well. Through her journey we will connect with the struggles and battles of our own lives, which can truly be transformed by the love and acceptance of our Lord.

An Evening for All

Wednesday, March 20, @ 7:00PM

Parishioner Cristian Murphy will lead this evening which celebrates the gift and wonder of MERCY and how it can bring us to peace and new life. This will be an evening of visual images and stories that unite us in the Paschal Mystery of Christ's dying and rising.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Weekly Calendar

- Saturday, March 2nd** 11 AM
 • LEVEL 2 RECONCILIATION Wor. Ar., Atr.
 • HOLY HOUR 3:45-4:45PM Worship Area
- Sunday, March 3rd** After 9:30 Mass
 • ANOINTING OF THE SICK Worship Area
 • CHILDREN'S LITURGY 11:30 Mass Fr. Joe Room
 • BAPTISMS 1PM Worship Area
- Monday, March 4th** 4 - 6 PM
 • SPECIAL NEEDS Atrium
 • LEV. 5 BIBLES/STATIONS 7PM Worship Area
 • KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7PM Fr. Joe Room
- Tuesday, March 5th** 10 AM
 • IN STITCHES Fr. Joe Room
- Wednesday, March 6th** 7 PM
 • LENTEN PRAYER Worship Area
- Thursday, March 7th** 10 AM
 • SCRIPTURE STUDY Atrium
 • LEV. 8 INTERVIEWS 6-8PM Worship Area
- Saturday, March 9th** 5 PM
 • LI CARES FOOD DRIVE Atrium
 • YOUTH GROUP 6-8PM Atrium
- Sunday, March 10th** All Masses
 • LI CARES FOOD DRIVE Atrium
 • GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY 9:30AM Worship Area
 • BAPTISM GATHERING 9:30AM Wor.Ar., FJ Room

Scripture Readings for March 10, 2024



- + 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
- + Ephesians 2:4-10
- + John 3:14-21

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, March 9th/10th



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



Banns of Marriage

First Time

Rachel Mangiapane & Nick Piampiano

Second Time

Jacqueline Verre & Adam Barrett
 AnnMarie Luisi & Sean Yorke
 Pamela Ghigliotti & Darin Mihalik

Special Collection

Next week at the offertory we will also be collecting for **Catholic Relief Services**. Your support aids victims of persecution and poor immigrants and advocates for the powerless. Thank you for your support!



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 Akjl23@optonline.net or 516-996-2297

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

Friends Welcome!

7th - 12th grade

For YOUTH

*Leading Teens
Closer to Christ*

"HEAD RUSH"

Fast-paced Game Night for Teens!

**We're playing games all night!
Hang out! Have Fun! Win Prizes!**

Dinner served after Mass - Dessert too!

**DON'T
MISS OUT!**



JOIN US AFTER MASS

March 9, 2024 Saturday 6-8pm

Stay updated by visiting the parish website: www.holycrossrc.org

Find us on Instagram: [instagram.com/hcforyouth](https://www.instagram.com/hcforyouth)

Contact us at: youthgroup@holycrossrc.org

PARISH OUTREACH

Eat Simply Ideas

Here are some ideas to consider using for your family's participation in our Eat Simply program.

- If you give up sweets for Lent, donate the money saved so that we can purchase cookies and snacks for a family.
- Discuss what a "simple meal" means in your household. Is it soup and bread? Is it a peanut butter and jelly sandwich? Our simple meals can be a gourmet feast for some families struggling to make ends meet.
- Rather than having your Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts coffee, make your morning coffee at home. The money you donate could buy a can of coffee for a family.
- If you are ordering in for dinner, pick up food instead of using Door Dash/Uber Eats. (Many restaurants have curbside pick-up now.) Make a simple homemade dessert for after dinner and donate what it would have cost had you ordered something in.
- Try a plant-based meat alternative. They aren't always a healthier option, but they are gentler on the earth.
- Use the Mercy Meatless Mondays program from the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas to choose alternatives to meat on Mondays and Fridays throughout Lent.



Envelopes are available on the bulletin tables; you may return your envelope in the basket on the pillar by the altar or in the collection basket. Thank you so much for prayerfully participating in our Eat Simply program so that others may simply eat!

PARISH OUTREACH

Long Island Cares Food Drive

Our Parish will again hold a food drive during Lent to benefit Long Island Cares. During difficult economic times we are all aware of the struggles many of our neighbors endure in meeting the food and financial needs of their households. Long Island Cares provides a valuable service in providing food to community agencies and food pantries across Long Island.



Next weekend (March 9th-10th) boxes will be available in the atrium for you to place donated food. Long Island Cares' most needed items: **(No glass jars, please)**

- Pancake/Waffle Mixes
- Hot and Cold Cereal
- Juice (plastic container)
- Shelf-stable Milk (ex. Parmalat)
- Peanut Butter and Jelly/Jam (plastic jars)
- Canned Ham, Chicken, Tuna
- Pasta, Rice, Egg Noodles
- Cooking Oil
- Canned Vegetables, Fruits, Soups
- Cookies, Crackers, Granola Bars
- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
- Diapers and Wipes, Feminine Hygiene Products

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead

A New Day for Dress a Girl

Since the start of our Dress a Girl Ministry at Holy Cross, we have met on Thursday afternoons. Starting in March, we will now be meeting on **Tuesdays** from 1pm-3pm in the Atrium. A new day indeed! This new day is an opportunity to re-introduce our Dress a Girl Ministry to the parish and invite new volunteers to cut or to sew a dress.

Come and check out our next “**Cut-Up**” session and join in the fun! At our gathering we cut out the pockets, bindings, and the body of the dress for one of our Dress A Girl dress kits. Kits are then created and are ready to be sewn. Dress a Girl leaders are there to offer guidance or answer any questions you may have.

What happens to the kits? Kits are available in the Outreach office to all who would like to participate in becoming a “**Sew-Up**” or someone who sews the dresses in the comfort of your home. There is no limit to how many dresses you can sew, we just ask that you craft each dress **with love and skill**.

If you have never taken one of our kits home to sew a Dress a Girl dress but are a **skilled sewer**, we invite you to join this wonderful ministry. We need your talent! Please call with any questions you may have or for further details. We hope you can join us as we continue to strengthen and grow this ministry.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, March 12th, from 1-3pm**. Please call Outreach if you are interested, have any questions, or to let us know you will be joining us! Thank you!

PARISH OUTREACH

Homebound Ministry

Homebound Ministers—We invite you to join this vital ministry!

Can you see yourself ministering to those who are homebound? Can you see yourself sharing a half an hour a week visiting, praying, and delivering the Eucharist to those who are, at times, forgotten? Our Homebound Ministry is growing, and we need your help! A small-time commitment and a loving heart are all that are needed. We invite you to be part of this vital Parish ministry that supports and ministers to those who are unable to join us at Sunday Mass. We are asking for your help in serving those we are called to serve. The impact you will make on a person's life is far beyond the time given. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Outreach Office at 631-265-2200 ext. 113 for more information and any questions you may have. Thank you!

Are you or someone you know in the parish, homebound or anticipating an operation or treatment of cancer? We are eager to know, in a more personal way, our parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Often, we do not hear of a person's illness or inability to join us for Sunday Mass. We need your assistance and invite you to help us see those in need and make the connection to our loved parishioners. Please call 631-265-2200 ext. 113 or stop by Parish Outreach to let us know of these parishioners who are special to us.



COMMUNITY NEWS

A Message from Sisters of St. Joseph

In celebration of National Catholic Sisters Week, March 8th – 11th, the Sisters of St. Joseph at Holy Spirit Convent (located at Cleary School), Sisters Maura, Lynn, Preenika and Emilly, would like to invite you to our home Sunday, March 10, 2024, to share a cup of coffee and some stories of our history, present and future. You're welcome to drop in between 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM.



<https://catholicsistersweek.org/>



TAKE A CHANCE!

Spring Cash Fling

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 March, April and May.
- Drawing will be held **May 30th**.

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!

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

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Town _____
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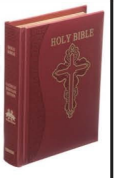
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