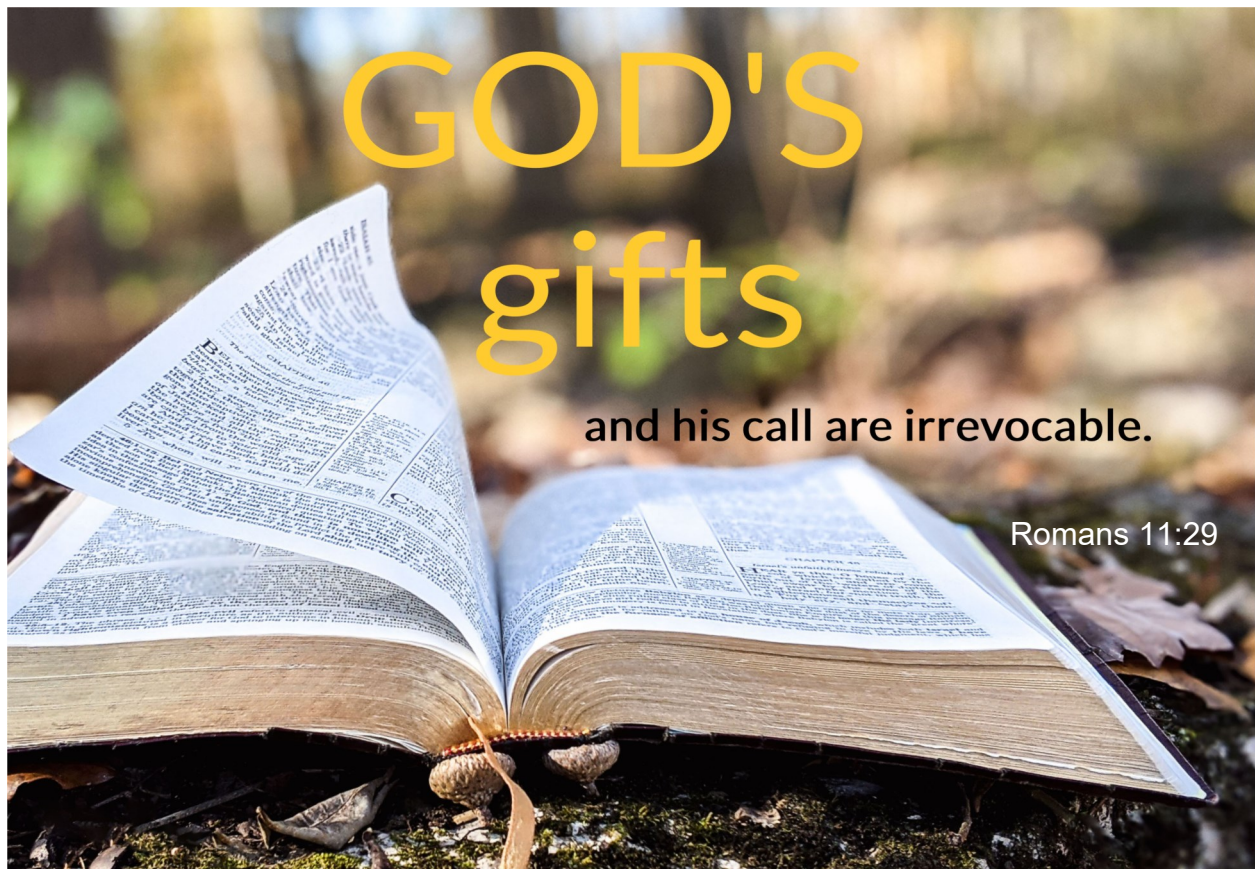


The Parish of the Holy Cross

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!

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 20, 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
Bookkeeper, 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
Elsie Casio	Jason DeLuca
Manuela Diaz	Ann Egan
Ralph Farino	Sienna Fricke
Linda Heinrichs	Debbie Jablinowski
Kristen Kennedy	Robert Lamb
Dora Libretti	Gerald Losquadro
Charlotte Lynch	Viola Malek
Jeanne Marie Malley	Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci	Carina Ranieri
Liam Richards	Elaine Ruane
Carol Ann Schultz	Barbara Sherry
Celeste Sichenze	Kyle Sweeney
Bill Tanner	Grace Van Epps
Peter Warns	Danny Youngworth

Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, August 20th, 9AM Masses

Mon. James Petrunaro
Tue. Caroline Maher
Wed. Mrs. Chicuolo (living)
Thu. Joseph Vernice (living)



Saturday, August 26th, 5PM Mass

Jim Emerson, Lorenzo Paulino, Robert Dillon, Joseph Insalaco, Hunter Joseph Honan

Sunday, August 27th, 21st Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM John Longobardi, Angela Boden, Martin Andrews, Thomas Kelly
11:30 AM Fara Giacalone

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.

LIVING IN THE PRESENT MOMENT (PART 1)

by Father Michael

Because of my vacation schedule and that of Jane, who publishes the bulletin, the next three articles needed to be written at the beginning of August. I am not able to share recent developments or activities that are happening in the parish. Instead, these weeks will have more of a spiritual theme that connects from week to week.

When a couple is going to be married here at Holy Cross, I meet with them about a month before their wedding. At that meeting, we discuss the practicalities of their day. We discuss things like the scripture readings and music, as well as details like how many people are in their procession. I recently met with a young couple who are getting married here in September. They asked me to make an announcement to the congregation prior to the beginning of the ceremony. They asked me to announce that it is their wish that their wedding be “unplugged.” I smiled, but had no idea what they were talking about. They explained, “unplugged” means no electronic equipment: turn off your phones, and please don’t take any pictures. This was the first time I ever received this request.

I give them tremendous credit for asking this of their guests. The couple hired a professional photographer to capture those memorable moments of the day, but as far as their guests are concerned, they want them to simply enter into the holy and sacred time of the wedding and not to have any distractions. We make the same request when we celebrate any of the sacraments within our Religious Education program. Most folks are cooperative, but there are always a few who are intent on doing what they want.

I appreciate that photos and videos can sometimes be instrumental in bringing back fond memories. Moments that are recorded can be passed along to others who may not have been there or for future generations to come. I don’t diminish any of that, but I do abundantly affirm the power and impact that living in the present moment can have on our lives.

This is not a new concept, but great spiritual leaders have understood this for centuries. On some level, we all know that is true. But somehow, we all get caught up worrying about the future, or replaying and reliving the past. As simple as it sounds, it is not an easy discipline to embrace. That is one of the attributes of centering prayer. It teaches us to remain in the present moment with hope that the experience inspires us to strive to make it a way of life.

It is encouraging to know this idea is not fading away as some archaic principle, but rather is being expressed in ways that may speak to newer generations. Perhaps one day the records of great spiritual wisdom will include the word “unplugged,” which addresses one of the great distractions of our day. More to come . . .

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, August 20th	9:30 AM
• BAPTISMS GATHERING	Wor.Ar., FJ Rm.
Tuesday, August 22nd	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
Thursday, August 24th	1-3 PM
• DRESS A GIRL	Atrium
• YOUTH PLANNING MTG.	7PM Fr. Joe Room
Friday, August 25th	1-3:30 PM
• BLESSING BAGS	Atrium
Saturday, August 26th	5 PM Mass
• DRESS A GIRL BLESSING	Worship Area
Sunday, August 27th	All Masses
• DRESS A GIRL BLESSING	Worship Area
• BAPTISMS	1PM Worship Area

Scripture Readings for August 27, 2023



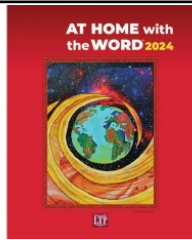
- + Isaiah 22:19-23
- + Romans 11:33-36
- + Matthew 16:13-20

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, August 26th/27th



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

Check out our website holycrossrc.org for Knights of Columbus upcoming events!



If you would like to purchase an *At Home with the Word* book for 2024, please sign up in the hallway by the Parish Office.



If you are interested, there is also a sign up sheet to purchase a 2024 **Missalette**.

Dress a Girl Around the World Weekend



Please join us on the weekend of August 26th and 27th for our **Dress a Girl Around the World Showcase**.

Many of our beautiful dresses will be displayed in the Atrium along with information about this wonderful ministry. At each Mass, a portion of dresses will be blessed by Father Michael before they are sent to Friar Supplies, the organization that delivers the dresses to their last stop, the young girls of Haiti.

If you are in any way part of the Dress a Girl ministry (donated fabric, cut fabric for kits or sewn a dress), you are invited to join us at Mass for not only the blessing of the dresses but a special recognition and blessing for your participation in this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Outreach at **631-265-2200 x113**.

Our next Dress a Girl meeting is Thursday, August 24th, from 1-3 PM.

LITURGY BYTES

Oh Those Psalms!

The 150 psalms in the Bible are a precious legacy that Catholics have inherited from our spiritual ancestors. Did you know that all three of these religions, Jews, Christians, and Muslims, share in the psalms? For thousands of years believers throughout the world have prayed these songs of praise to express to God what was in their hearts.



Jesus prayed the psalms daily himself, so when we pray them we are using the very same words that Jesus used to commune with his heavenly Father. Many of the saints and martyrs died with the words of the psalms on their lips. Modern day great, Dorothy Day, is quoted as saying: “My strength returns to me with my morning cup of coffee and reading the psalms.” The Liturgy of the Hours has the psalms as its backbone, becoming increasingly popular with the faithful as Morning and Evening Prayer.

The psalms have been woven through our culture and history. Great composers have set psalms and psalm verses to music, such as Handel in his beautiful Messiah. Dante put psalm verses throughout the Divine Comedy. Prayer became part of our government in its forming days through Benjamin Franklin who proposed at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 that they begin all sessions with prayer. Astronaut Buzz Aldrin on the return space flight (in 1969) quoted Psalm 8:3-4: “*When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which though hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him?*” The psalms are God’s response to our request, “Teach us to pray.” Doesn’t it make sense that God wants to hear from us so we may praise and love God, our Creator. Take a look at the Psalms for something different this week.

Have a blessed, healthy, and joyful week ahead!!~*Michele Hall*

PARISH OUTREACH

Blessing Bags

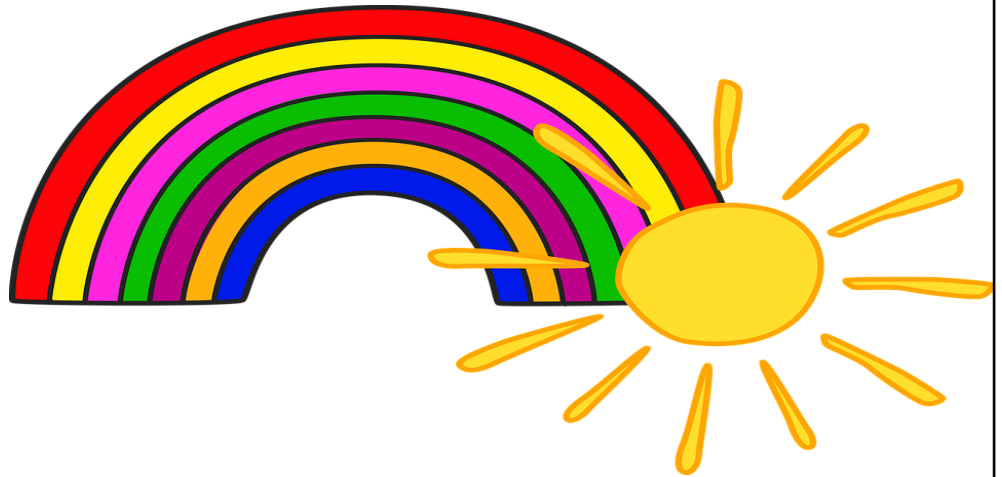
At the start of the summer, we asked for donations of travel size personal hygiene products for our Blessing Bag project. The response has been amazing, with over 200 items collected! Thank you to all who donated their travel size products throughout the summer. Your donations will help us reach our goal of creating individual bags of hygiene products that can be handed out to those in need. All completed bags will be donated to the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. **We need a little more help to reach our goal—You!**

Please join us as we sort and assemble our Blessings Bags on **Friday, August 25th, from 1-3 PM in the Atrium**. Anyone interested is welcome to join us! Please call Outreach to RSVP at **631-265-2200 x113**. (This project is a great way to earn service hours!)



PARISH OUTREACH

*The Parish of the
Holy Cross
Bereavement
Support Group*



Losing a loved one is painful for anyone. How we cope is as unique as our fingerprints. It can be experienced as losing the ability to see the beautiful colors in a rainbow. Our world seems so grey.

Making the time to listen to others dealing with grief enables us to begin to see the colors of life once again. This also allows us to share our stories and gain ways to move forward. Come join us as we work together and share this journey.

*This Bereavement Group is for **anyone dealing with grief.**
All are welcome*

We will meet for six consecutive Wednesdays beginning September 6th through October 11th from 1:30 to 3:30 in the Father Joe room.

- If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please call Outreach at 631-265-2200 x113.
- All who will be attending will be asked to complete a registration form.

“Come to me, all who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you.” Matt: 11:28

Outreach just received a request from a family for size 2 diapers.
Thank you for your continued support of our Outreach families!

TAKE A CHANCE!

Summer Cash Sizzle

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 June, July and August.
- Drawing will be held **August 31st**.

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!

Summer Cash Sizzle

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Town _____
Phone _____

Summer Cash Sizzle

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Summer Cash Sizzle

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