

# 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!

### 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 21, 2022

**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

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

Ms. Karina D'Angelo  
Bookkeeper

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:

<b>Bob Alderdice</b>	<b>Theresa Arzillo</b>
<b>Jo Barry</b>	<b>Kathy Barry</b>
<b>Barbara Bombace</b>	<b>Dan Bryan</b>
<b>Ann Callari</b>	<b>Pattie Daly-Matonti</b>
<b>Manuela Diaz</b>	<b>Ann Egan</b>
<b>Jim Emerson</b>	<b>Ralph Farino</b>
<b>Sienna Fricke</b>	<b>Robert Gann</b>
<b>Debbie Jablinowski</b>	<b>Diane Jones</b>
<b>Maureen Jost</b>	<b>Kristen Kennedy</b>
<b>Roberta Lamb</b>	<b>Dora Libretti</b>
<b>Gerald Losquadro</b>	<b>Charlotte Lynch</b>
<b>Viola Malek</b>	<b>Joseph McManus</b>
<b>Olivia Melia</b>	<b>Freddie Meyers</b>
<b>Loretto Narducci</b>	<b>Mary Polik-Gunther</b>
<b>Carina Ranieri</b>	<b>David Reichbach</b>
<b>Liam Richards</b>	<b>Elaine Ruane</b>
<b>Joseph Santamaria</b>	<b>Barbara Sherry</b>
<b>Celeste Sichenze</b>	<b>Kyle Sweeney</b>
<b>Peter Warns</b>	<b>Danny Youngworth</b>

## Mass Intentions Schedule

### Week of August 21st, 2022, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Anita Fischer  
**Tue.** Eric & Maria Hafker (living)  
**Wed.** Helen Dalamango  
**Thu.** Lorenzo Paulino

### Saturday, August 27th, 5 PM Mass

Donald Stevenson, Betty Watkins, Philip Demino,  
Shaquannah K. Young, Marcela Alana Rodriguez

### Sunday, Aug. 28th, 22nd Sun. in Ordinary Time

**8:00 AM** John Kolk, Jane & Tom Sheehan, Caren  
Gulotta, Vincent Pereira, Joseph  
DiMaggio, Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto  
**9:30 AM** People of the Parish  
**11:30 AM** Marie Otter



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.

# WELLSPRING OF LIFE

*by Father Michael*

When I was in the seminary I once made a retreat during the winter break that was a bit on the rustic side. It was in a cabin on a mountain near Ellenville, NY. It was affectionately known as “Fred’s Mountain.” The cabin was owned by Msgr. Fred Schaefer. Although he was not on the seminary faculty, he often worked with the seminary. Every year he offered this guided retreat to about a half dozen seminarians. The only access to the cabin was via snowmobile. It had no electricity; oil lamps and flashlights were our only source of light. Wood stoves provided the only heat. Water had to be brought in from a well.

My chore for the week was water patrol—call me Gunga Din. Twice a day I had to bring in multiple 5-gallon buckets of water that were needed throughout the day for washing, cooking and flushing. This was my first experience of having to deal with a well. It was a hole in the ground about three feet wide. Although it was winter, the water was not frozen as there was constant movement to it. I would dip a smaller bucket into the hole and slowly fill my fleet of empty larger buckets. No sooner had I taken a bucket of water out, the water returned to the same level. The water never overflowed, but the level never decreased. It was a remarkable experience of taking and having it immediately replace itself.

This is not a complaint. But this was one of the busiest and craziest weeks I have had at Holy Cross. As I write this column, six funerals have already been scheduled and the seventh is on its way. We booked seven appointments with new couples who would like to get married here. About the same number of inquiries came in for baptisms. Throw in a home visit or two, a Holy Day, daily Mass, and the usual desk full of paperwork, and it came out to be a rather remarkable week.

I suppose I could come up with a list of reasons why I could feel overwhelmed and exhausted, but I can’t. As one pastoral need came in after another, it was like the Holy Spirit was there to provide the focus and compassion I needed. I also needed the help of others on the Pastoral Team and Staff to point me in the right direction at the right time. But, as one thing followed another, I just felt the grace of the Lord giving me the strength I needed to minister to the needs before me. I can’t help but think of that well in the middle of winter. The supply of water remained ever abundant. God’s grace and strength remains ever abundant.

I suppose at one point I may need to put my feet up and take a breather. But, for the moment, the Lord is providing what I need to do the work in front of me. There is no reason to how blessed we are. We simply take in what is offered, share it with others, and be filled with gratitude for that which sustains us.

# PARISH NEWS

## Weekly Calendar

- Sunday, August 21st** 11:30 AM Mass  
• SHIPMANS' GOODBYE BLESSING Worship Area
- Wednesday, August 24th** 11:30AM-2:30PM  
• SENIORS Atrium
- Thursday, August 25th** 1-3 PM  
• DRESS A GIRL Atrium
- Sunday, August 28th** After 9:30 Mass  
• BAPTISM GATHERING Fr. Joe Room  
• BAPTISMS 1PM Worship Area

## Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, August 27th/28th



- 5:00 PM Fr. Frank  
8:00 AM Fr. Frank  
9:30 AM Fr. Michael/Dcn. Joe  
11:30 AM Fr. Michael/Dcn. Joe

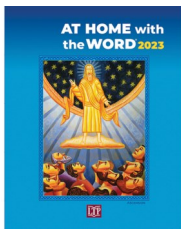
## Scripture Readings for August 28, 2022



- + *Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29*  
+ *Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24*  
+ *Luke 14:1, 7-14*



**Banns of Marriage**  
**Third Time**  
Jaclyn Mahon & Jack Gannon



If you would like to purchase an *At Home with the Word* book for 2023 please sign up in the hallway by the Parish Office.

Our **Holy Cross Senior Group** is always looking for new members to join them for an afternoon of fun and socializing. The meeting is held in the atrium of the church from 11:30AM to 2:30PM. **Our next meeting is August 24th.** We hope to see you there!

## Our Consolation Ministry Needs Your Help!

*Blessed are those who mourn.*

The Ministry of Consolation assists parish families at a time of loss. Planning a meaningful and appropriate funeral for a grieving family can be a daunting task. The Consolation Minister guides a family through the steps of planning the readings and music for the funeral Mass. The minister is also present at the funeral to assist with some of the logistics.

The Ministry of Consolation is in need of additional ministers to assist with this work. If you feel you have the gift to work with families at this difficult time, please call the Parish Office — we would like to speak to you about this important work.



# HAPPY TRAILS TO BARBARA & STEVE

As many of you know, Barbara and Steve Shipman will be leaving this week to move to South Carolina to begin a new chapter in their lives. Both Barbara and Steve play an important role here at Holy Cross. Barbara assists me part-time in my office as my assistant. She is an EM, the coordinator of the blood drive, HCTV, as well as one of the founding members of our stitches ministry. Steve is an EM, he serves as a sacristan, evening security officer, lector, and consolation minister. In addition to that, he is our official “go-to” person when there is some odd task that needs to be done. There are many facets to each of their job descriptions. The departure of Barbara and Steve will leave many empty spaces to be filled.



There is happiness for Barbara and Steve in knowing that they have family to welcome them, and a new home is on the way. But there is great sadness in having to bid them farewell. While there is no shortage of emotions on all sides of this equation, on a personal level, there is also a beautiful commentary on parish life and Holy Cross that cannot be overlooked.

If I can be so bold as to speak for the two of them, Holy Cross was more than a place where they go to Mass. It has become deeply woven into their lives. Their prayer, their ministry, and the people who are closest to them are all part of this faith community. This relationship is reciprocal. Holy Cross is a better place for having them as parishioners. The work they accomplished and the love they have brought have blessed many people. The face of Christ has been seen by others because of their commitment. A parish can take on deep significance in people’s lives. It is the place where the mysteries of our Lord come to life. I know they are filled with precious memories of Holy Cross. And Holy Cross has been enriched by their presence.

I am a firm believer that if saying goodbye is difficult, then something right has been done along the way. When lives get woven together, there will be pain when there needs to be separation. But we are far richer for having entered into the relationships and enjoyed the life created.

Barbara and Steve, we offer you our heartfelt gratitude for all you have done. We wish you the very best for what lies before you. We know you will always carry a piece of Holy Cross in your heart, and a piece of you will always be here.



*Fr. Michael along with the Pastoral Team, Staff  
and Parishioners of Holy Cross.*

# LITURGY BYTES

## *The Sign of the Cross*



We do it all the time, you might say, when you think of the Sign of the Cross! We do it before all prayers, perhaps before you eat and before bedtime. Take a moment and think about how often you make the sign of the cross each day!

One thing I do when I am flying is to bless myself upon take off and when we land. I have noticed others on a plane doing likewise. This action does not mean that we are suspicious or scared, but we are entrusting ourselves completely to God and also being grateful that we landed safely.

So, what are we exactly doing when we make the sign of the Cross? First, there is the action of doing it, and also the words which are a way of calling upon God. When we call upon God, and call upon that beautiful name of Jesus, we're present with him. In Matthew's Gospel, we read Jesus' words: *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."* The Mass for us is the greatest presence of God on earth. It is the real presence of God on earth. When we begin Mass with the sign of the Cross, we are actually gathering in His name, and He is with us.

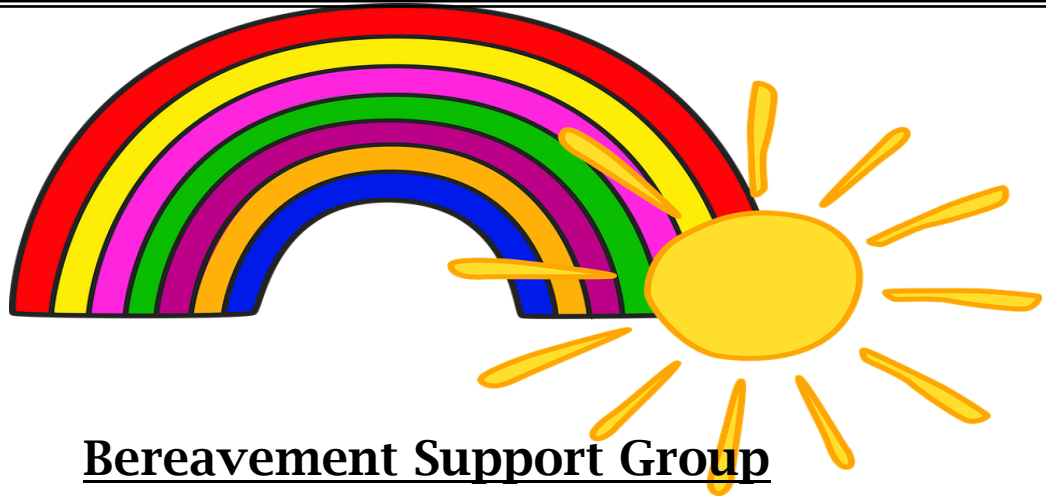
When we make the sign of the cross, we remind ourselves of several things: (a) We are identifying and reaffirming our Baptism in Jesus. When we were baptized, original sin was taken away. We were also made part of the family of God, the Church. (b) We call upon God by name. In the early pagan cultures, each temple had a god that they called upon which was kept by the temple priest and a few others who had access to that name. We all are privileged to have access to our God. God is inviting us into a relationship. No longer are we alone. No longer do we need to feel abandoned in the world with all of our problems. God invites us into communion with Him which we experience through the Eucharist that we receive --- the real Presence.

So, the next time you begin a prayer, or at the beginning of Mass, carefully pray those words: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"

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



# PARISH OUTREACH



## 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 gray.*

*Making the time to listen to others dealing with grief enables us to begin to see the colors once again. This also allows us to share our stories and gain from others new ways to move forward.*

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

*We will meet for six Thursdays beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 3:30 PM. No meeting September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We resume on September 29<sup>th</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and the last day is October 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*If you have any interest in joining, please register as soon as possible by calling Holy Cross Outreach at 631-265-2200 ext. 113.*

*“Come to me, all who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you.”*

*Matthew 11:28*



# PARISH OUTREACH

## Dress a Girl Around the World

Dress a Girl Around the World was presented to me at a Deanery meeting in August of 2021. I don't know why this ministry struck a chord with me, much to my mother's dismay, I do not even sew. I just had a feeling that it would fit here, and we could offer our talent in a unique way. We kicked off in October of 2021, and I admit I was a little unprepared for the great response at the first meeting. I was also amazed at the support shown by this parish from the beginning. Our first meetings, we were still finding our way, trying to be organized, trying to be good stewards to the yards and yards of donated fabric, creating beautiful dresses and enjoying each other and the experience. I can honestly say, there has been a steep learning curve on my part. I can also say that, almost a year later, we are better organized, our "Cut-Ups" are creating and packaging beautiful dresses monthly, our "Stitch-Ups" have completed 200 plus dresses, and we are having a great time doing it!



Of course, this could not be possible without a tremendous amount of support and teamwork. I am grateful for all the wonderful women who have come to our monthly "Cut-Ups" session. If you have stopped by once or every month, you are part of this. Thank you! Thank you to all who donated yards and yards of beautiful fabric to create the dresses. This could not have been accomplished without you. Of course, to all those who have picked up a kit, prayed for the young girl who will receive the dress, and created in my opinion the most beautiful little girl dresses, a special thank-you to you.

I also would like to thank Mary Ann Viscusi, Donna Akuntius, Gerri Schreiber, Ceil Muscarello and Barbara Shipman who are the "boots on the ground" at meetings. The DAG leadership team brings their love and knowledge of sewing and their kind and generous hearts to each meeting and make each meeting possible. Thank you for all that you do.

Last week at Mass, Father Michael blessed all the dresses made in the last year. The first stop on their journey before reaching their final destination will be at St. Mark's in Shoreham where they will then be transported to Friar Suppliers, an organization that provides food and other resources to convents and friaries to the Franciscans of Renewal Community. Their mission also

# PARISH OUTREACH

takes them to Haiti. This trip is focused on creating, building, and improving the living conditions of those in desperate need. The dresses created here at Holy Cross will be part of that mission.

At the end of their journey, these 202 dresses will be given to girls in need and at risk in the world. These dresses could be their first new dress ever. My hope is that each girl who receives one of the dresses we have created will feel the extraordinary amount of love in which it was made. I pray that each dress brings with it a sense of dignity and self-worth. To some, it is just a dress, but it really signifies so much more.

My deepest gratitude to all who made this first year of Dress a Girl Around the World a huge success. I look forward to what our next year can be and what we can do to shine a little light in a young girl's life.

Peace, Kelley



# TAKE A CHANCE!

## Summer Cash Sizzle

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 present the “*Summer Cash Sizzle*.” This is a similar idea, however it is offered on a quarterly basis.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through June, July and August.
- Drawing will be held August 31st.

Because we anticipate smaller participation, there is 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!***

### Summer Cash Sizzle

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Summer Cash Sizzle

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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### Summer Cash Sizzle

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### Summer Cash Sizzle

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