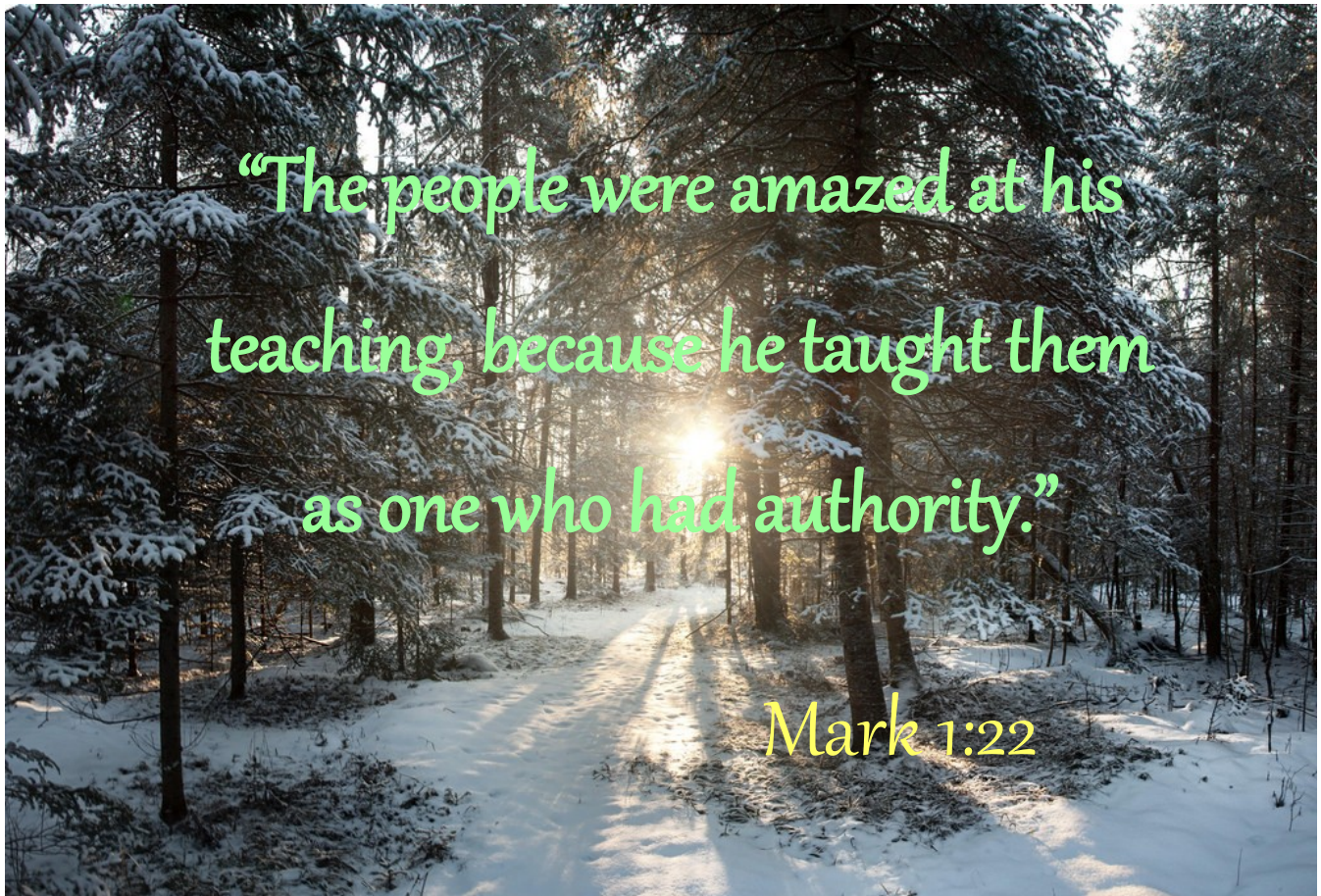


The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +
www.pothc.org + www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset

LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



Come and pray with us!

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 28, 2018

WE CELEBRATE EUCHARIST

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 A.M. (Chapel)

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: 8:00 A.M. + 9:30 A.M. + 11:30 A.M.

WE CELEBRATE RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M.

or call Father Michael for an appointment.

WE CELEBRATE BAPTISM

Baptisms are generally celebrated twice each month at 1 P.M. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

WE CELEBRATE WEDDINGS

Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

We are here for you!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + pothc@optonline.net
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (closed 12:15-1:00 PM)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Reid
Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch
Ms. Patricia Gyscek
Co-Coordiators of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate

Deacon Ralph Rivera
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Elizabeth Shea
Business Manager

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

Mr. Salvatore Finocchiaro
Coordinator of Youth Ministries

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
Parish Secretary

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Music Minister

Mrs. Mary Pannone
Religious Education Secretary
(hcreled@optonline.net)

Mrs. Barbara Shipman
P/T Asst. to the Pastor

Mr. Gerald Farrell
Mr. Vincent Matula
Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses



February 3rd/4th

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

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of January 28th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Bob DeFilippis
Tue. Eileen Dean
Wed. Maron Brady
Thu. William Doughty

Saturday, February 3rd, 5 PM Mass

Patrick Keena Sr., Anthony Carusillo

Sunday, Feb. 4th, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Helen & Joseph Christian
9:30 AM George Sottung, Edward Ragan,
Raymond McCartney, Catherine
Holzmann
11:30 AM People of the Parish

Remembering Our Sick

Please pray for the sick of our parish, their families and caregivers:

Paul Malley Annie Santamaria

If you would like to have the name of your loved one listed for 4 weeks in our prayers for the sick, please contact the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 or email to pothc@optonline.net.

Scripture Readings for February 4, 2018



+ Job 7:1-4, 6-7
+ 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23
+ Mark 1:29-39

A Week of Grace, Joy and Love

(and a Bit of Craziness)

by Father Michael

Holy Cross is an active parish. Most of the time events unfold in a way that is manageable, and life proceeds at a reasonable pace. But, then there are times when the convergence of events creates a frantic and hectic situation. Last weekend was one of those moments.

We had a funeral on Friday morning. We had a Winter Carnival on Friday evening for our Levels 1 and 2 families in Religious Education. We had another funeral on Saturday, which was my Mom's. We had the 30th Anniversary Mass on Sunday. There were tremendous amounts of preparation and logistical details for each of these events. And, in the midst of all of this the baptismal font sprung a leak and one of the front doors needed repair. But, by God's grace and a few very helpful hands around here everything got done.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude to Holy Cross for all the love, prayers and kindness that surrounded the death of my mother. Your presence was a great source of comfort to me and my family. Although these were difficult days, I feel so blessed that they were able to take place within the embrace of this community. In particular, Mom's funeral Mass was beautiful. The presence of so many prayerful and faithful people created a spirit beyond measure. I will always be grateful for all you offered me and my family. Please accept my heartfelt thanks.

In case you did not hear, last Sunday's Anniversary Mass at 11:30 was amazing. The spirit once again was overflowing. There are so many parishioners who are deeply connected to this community. There is a deep sense of gratitude for having Holy Cross as the place to live our faith. It was wonderful to welcome back Fr. Bill and Fr. Joe, and I am so pleased they offered their reflections at the end of Mass.

During my homily, I was asking various questions such as who had been married or confirmed here at Holy Cross. I also asked if there was anybody here for the first time, and one hand went up. After Mass the man approached me and said he had just moved from Boston and was looking around for a new church. He said he was driving down Nichols Rd and wondered why everyone was turning in here, so he followed along. He said, "I think I found my new home." It is remarkable how the spirit works. When we celebrate with gratitude what we have received, that spirit become infectious. Others are able to tap into the joy we have.

May Holy Cross continue to flourish in all we do. There are still so many more opportunities for us to grow and celebrate life and our faith. I would prefer that this took place at a more reasonable pace, but come what may, we will continue to celebrate the goodness of God among us.

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN!

**Holy Cross
Mardi Gras Celebration**



Join us



**Sunday, February 11, 2018
starting at 3:00 PM in the Atrium
for a fun celebration before Lent begins!**

Enjoy ice cream, snacks, crafts, music and games!
We will end the celebration with prayer at 4:30.
RSVP by February 6th if you would like to attend!
Also, bring in your old palms the next two weekends,
and we will burn them at our Mardi Gras Celebration!

Mardi Gras Celebration!

Of course I will be there. I wouldn't miss it!

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of adults _____ # of children _____

Ages of Children _____

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games and activities? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?

If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, then you **MUST** check out the Holy Cross Youth Group! You will be glad you did!



If you made your Confirmation, then come on down with a friend and check out the wonderful opportunities the Youth Group has for you! We would love to see you! The Holy Cross Youth Group is the perfect opportunity for you to continue to grow in your faith and build relationships with others in the parish. Here are our upcoming youth events and happenings! Take a look:

- **Sunday, 1/28: Youth Night, 6 - 8PM**
- **Saturday & Sunday, 2/3 - 2/4: Youth Group Bake Sale! We will be selling delicious baked goods at all of the weekend Masses! Come support the Youth Group for our upcoming Spring Retreat this April.**

So, if you are thinking about coming to the church to see what we are all about... do it! You will not regret it. Come with a friend or family member, and join us as we continue to grow in the endless love of Christ.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you are thinking about joining us and you would like more information, then please do not hesitate to contact Sal Finocchiaro, Coordinator of Youth Ministries, at HCyouthgroup15@gmail.com or call the parish office.

SOME INTERESTING PARKING LOT FACTS

Parking Lot Costs:



Fifth Ave. Paving Costs	\$146,595
Light and Sprinkler Repairs	9,000
Tree Trimming & Removal	2,250
Mailing Costs	<u>1,227</u>
Total	\$159,072

Money Received From:

Donations from Parking Lot Mailing	\$51,112
Transfers from RAMR Account	93,859
RAMR Donations from Sept.-Dec.	<u>14,101</u>
Total	\$159,072

Thank you for your support of our **Renovation and Major Repairs fund (RAMR)** and your generous response to our **Parking Lot Appeal!** Below are some of the comments people wrote along with their donations to the Parking Lot Appeal:

"We are happy to be members of such a great church."

"Father Michael and team are doing a fantastic job. Keep up the good work. So proud to be a member of Holy Cross."

"It has been wonderful to be part of this parish since 1988."

"We love everything about the Parish of the Holy Cross."

"Please keep Mass to thirty minutes."

"Hope this helps so we don't have to install parking meters in the lot."

"Holy Cross will always be our home!" (from a parishioner who moved)

"The ladies who helped with this mailing to 3,500 families are wonderful!!"

"There is so much love in this parish. Proud to be a part of this family."

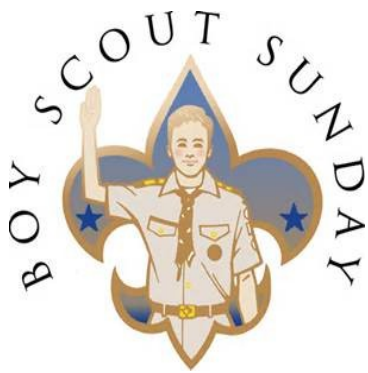
"Parking lot repairing benefits all of us. Looks great!"

"We will contribute what we can—when we can—for as long as we can, being thankful that we can. May our Lord bless us!!"

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

February 11, 2018

9:30 Mass



Scouts should arrive 15 minutes early
Class "A" uniforms for scouts & leaders
Refreshments will be served after the Mass

Celebrate Scouting's 108th anniversary

Please contact

Andy Bodor and Kim Loh Bodor

Akjl23@optonline.net or 516-996-2297 (Kim)

Bring your Troop/Pack Flag & stand

*Please let us know how many scouts & leaders will be attending by **Feb. 5** so we can have enough reserved seating for your group.*

Also please bring cookies, cupcakes, etc. to share.

Save the Date: Girl Scout Sunday March 11th

OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

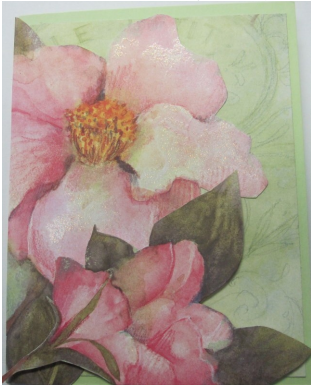
Next Saturday and Sunday, **February 3rd/4th**, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

- Canned Fruit
 - Boxed Potatoes
 - Cookies, Snacks
 - Pasta Sauce
 - Mayonnaise
 - Juice Boxes
 - Soap
- (no canned beans needed)*



Please don't forget to check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Programs for the Bereaved

*St. Joseph Renewal Center
at Montfort Missionaries
26 South Saxon Avenue
Bay Shore, NY 11706
631-647-8683*

Surviving the Loss of a Loved One on Valentine's Day

The evening is for all who experience loss particularly of a partner on so secular a day in the year. Because of the meaning of Valentine's Day, it is important to gather to celebrate our loved ones. Helpful strategies for coping with all that has been lost while celebrating all that has been given and shared will be the focus.

Wednesday, February 7th from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Offering: \$15.00

Preparing to Celebrate Mother/Father's Day

We will focus on how to cope with the loss of a mother/father or a child while everyone else is celebrating the joys. Emphasis will be placed on taking care of one's self during this time and building on a memory that is cherished.

Wednesday, April 18th from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Offering: \$15.00

Presenter: Margie Demshock, MS, LMHC

++++
Registering for the Bereaved Program/Programs _____
Please make checks out to **Montfort Missionaries** & return to St. Joseph Renewal Center, 26 South Saxon Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706. Phone is 631-647-8683.

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

30TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

We had a wonderful time at the 30th Anniversary Mass of Holy Cross last Sunday, January 21st. We would like to thank all our bakers for their delicious desserts. And, we would also like to thank **Macayla Michaels Desserts Inc.**, 82 Lake Avenue, Suite 5, Nesconset, NY for donating a beautiful and delicious cake (see below)! Here are some pictures from the day!



CASH CALENDAR



January 2018 ~ Parish of Holy Cross ~
Cash Calendar

**January 21st is
Holy Cross'
30th Anniversary!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
\$500	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
28	29	30	31			
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$10 PER CHANCE	31 CHANCES TO WIN	\$50 PER DAY \$500 January 21

Cash Calendar JANUARY 2018

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

Cash Calendar JANUARY 2018

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

Cash Calendar JANUARY 2018

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Cash Calendar JANUARY 2018

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TOWN _____

PHONE _____

Cash Calendar JANUARY 2018

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday, January 27th		10:00 AM
• WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT		Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 5 BIBLE BLESSING	5PM	Worship Area
Sunday, January 28th		All Masses
• LEVEL 5 BIBLE BLESSING		Worship Area
• PRAY THE ROSARY	10:30AM	Chapel
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium
Monday, January 29th		1:30 or 7:00 PM
• LEVEL 8 CATECHIST MEETING		Atrium
• SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES	5PM	All Areas
Tuesday, January 30th		10:00 AM
• IN STITCHES		Fr. Joe Room
• K OF C OFFICERS' MTG.	7:15PM	Fr. Joe Room
• TRAVEL CLUB	7:30PM	Atrium
Wednesday, January 31st		1:30 or 7:00 PM
• LEVS. 2-8 CATECHIST MTG.		Atrium
<i>(last call for Catechists who missed previous meetings)</i>		
Thursday, February 1st		10:00 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY		Fr. Joe Room
• RCIA	7PM	Conference Rm.
Saturday, February 3rd		10:30AM or 1PM
• REL. ED. RECONCILIATION		Atrium
• HOLY HOUR	3:45-4:45PM	Worship Area
• YOUTH GROUP BAKE SALE	5PM	Atrium
Sunday, February 4th		All Masses
• YOUTH GROUP BAKE SALE		Atrium
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK	10:30AM	Worship Area

We will offer our next **Holy Hour for Peace** on Saturday, February 3rd, from 3:45-4:45 PM. Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.

If you are having upcoming surgery, are dealing with illness, suffering from addiction, mental health issues or frailty, come to the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** on Sunday, February 4th, after the 9:30 Mass.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Why Religious Freedom Matters

www.cffor.org

As a new year begins in America the stakes for religious freedom are at an all-time high.

Many cases are working their way through the Courts and some will be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. These cases involve prayer, military religious rights, faith-based business owners, and houses of worship.

Unfortunately, many cases don't even make it to the court system since citizens are not aware that many law firms defend religious freedom pro-bono and victims will often capitulate to intimidation out of ignorance of their First Amendment protections, fear of job or societal repercussions, or legal costs.

Some examples:

*At two different Long Island public schools, students were made to turn their t-shirts inside out to hide Bible verses on the shirts.

*A 33-year Air Force veteran, Oscar Rodriguez, was forcibly removed from a private retirement ceremony at a CA airbase because he planned to say the word "God" in his speech.

*MN film makers, Angel & Carl Larsen, are facing large fines or 90 days in jail for declining to video a same-sex wedding.

*An Orthodox Jewish community in Los Angeles was sued by animal rights activists trying to prevent a religious ceremony involving kosher chicken from taking place.



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