

# 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!**



THIRD SUNDAY

OF

Advent

*“Have no anxiety at all,  
but in everything,  
by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving,  
make your requests  
known to God.  
Then the peace of God  
that surpasses all  
understanding will  
guard your hearts and  
minds in Christ Jesus.”*

Philippians 4:6-7

**Come and pray with us!**

**3rd Sunday of Advent - December 16, 2018**

**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.*

**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  
 Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Judith Pickel  
 Pastoral Associate

Deacon Ralph Rivera  
 Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Tricia Clarke  
 Business Manager

Mr. Brian Reich  
 Director of Music Ministry

Mr. Salvatore Finocchiaro  
 Coordinator of Youth Ministries

## PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth  
 Parish Secretary

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

Mrs. Elizabeth Shea  
 P/T Office Assistant

Dr. Vincent Mazurek  
 Music Minister

Mr. Roberto Maza  
 Mr. Vincent Matula  
 Custodians

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

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra  
 Weekend Sacristan

### Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses



#### December 22nd/23rd

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

### Mass Intentions Schedule



#### Week of December 16, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Brian O'Hanlon  
**Tue.** William Scarola  
**Wed.** Jeanette Foy & Charles Haner (living)  
**Thu.** Robert Tavis

#### Saturday, December 22nd, 5 PM Mass

Michael LaVecchia, Mikey LaVecchia, Mary Hall,  
 James Hall, Sam Mason, Joseph Nicoll

#### Sunday, December 23rd, 4th Sunday of Advent

**8:00 AM** Bernard Cornell  
**9:30 AM** Victor Lamarque, Michael Corcoran,  
 Eleanor Rizzo, Paul Pastina, Peggy  
 Fitzgerald, Josephine Giorgio, John  
 Bryan Sr.  
**11:30 AM** People of the Parish

### Remembering Our Sick

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

<b>Maria Conte</b>	<b>Maryann League</b>
<b>Paul Malley</b>	<b>Stephen Reilly</b>

If you would like to have the name of your loved one  
 listed in our prayers for the sick, please contact the  
 Parish Office at 631-265-2200.

### Scripture Readings for December 23, 2018



+ Micah 5:1-4  
 + Hebrews 10:5-10  
 + Luke 1:39-45



### Banns of Marriage Second Time

Nicole Foronjy & William Knipper Jr.

# Joyful Waiting

*by Father Michael*

This third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday; translated, it means a day to rejoice. While Advent can have a serious tone to it, it is meant to be different than Lent. Our time of waiting calls us to be people filled with hope and joy as we await the celebration of our Savior's birth. I pray these days are rich and prayerful for you.

While the universal Church celebrates this day with joy, there is a note of sadness here at Holy Cross. Sal Finocchiaro has been serving as our Youth Minister for the last five years, and it is with a tear in more than a few people's eyes that we announce he is leaving us today.

Sal came to Holy Cross in January of 2014. It did not take long for him to win the hearts of our youth, as well as the Core Group that works so hard to sustain this ministry. He has been a gift to the Pastoral Team as well as our entire parish community. He has a gentle spirit in all that he does; his feathers never get ruffled. He simply moves forward in ministry with joy. Sal was effective in his presentations and brought great enthusiasm to his work. But, beyond what he did was the example he gave by the way in which he lives his life. He gives witness to Christian service and compassion. I'm sure Holy Cross will always have a special place in his heart for a number of reasons, including this is where he celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage with his lovely bride, Danielle, in July of 2016. Thank you for all you have done, Sal. You will be missed.

Although Sal is leaving, our Youth Ministry moves forward. It can continue because of the dedication and passion of our Core Group. They will continue to plan all the activities that normally take place, including the Spring Retreat. In the coming months, we will seek someone who will again take on the role of Youth Minister.

Thank you to the members of our Youth Group who brought a bit of Christmas joy to the residents at Nesconset Nursing Center last weekend.

There is good news to report in regards to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. By the end of the month we will hit our goal! Thank you to those who gave throughout this past year in support of the CMA. We had a collection a few weeks ago which gained over \$3,800. We had a parishioner who agreed to match those gifts. In the end, he generously gave us a total of \$5,000. We were still a few dollars short of the goal, so the parish was going to write a check to make up the difference. Then, at the last minute we received a check from another parishioner for \$1,000. For those who made a pledge, you can still make payments on it through January 31. Final numbers still need to be calculated, but the good news is Holy Cross will receive a rebate of at least \$13,000. Thank you one and all.



**Christmas 2018 Schedule**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Saturday, December 22nd, 2018: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, December 23rd, 2018**

**8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:30 am**

**Christmas Eve Masses**

**Monday, December 24th, 2018**

**4:00 pm, 6:00 pm & 10:00 pm**

**Christmas Day Masses**

**Tuesday, December 25th, 2018**

**8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 noon**

**Solemnity of Mary**

**Monday, December 31st, 2018: 5:00 pm**

**Tuesday, January 1st, 2019: 10:00 am**

**Confessions**

**Saturdays in Advent: 3:45 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Monday, December 17th, 2018 after 9:00 am Mass**

**& 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

# YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith? If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions, then you **MUST** check out the Holy Cross Youth Group! You will be glad you did! If you made your Confirmation, then come with a friend and check out the wonderful opportunities the Youth Group has for you! We would love to see you!

The Youth Group had a wonderful Youth Day Event last Sunday at the Nesconset Nursing Center. The event was an amazing, fun-filled experience as the teens spent time with the residents and worked together to give back to the community.



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! Take a look:

**This weekend, December 16:** The Youth Group will be gathering for an 11:30AM Youth Mass with the Core Band. Then, the YG will participate in an Ugly Christmas Sweater Acoustic Cafe event from 12:30 to 3PM. The event will take place in the Atrium.

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 us at [hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com](mailto:hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com) or call the parish office. Thank you!

# BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

Each year, on the Third Sunday of Advent, children gather with their families in St. Peter's Square in Rome for "*Bambinelli Sunday*." The children bring with them the figures of the Christ Child – the "Bambinelli" – from their family's crèche, and the children and figurines are blessed by the Pope.

This weekend, at all the Masses, Father Michael will give a special blessing. May Jesus fill your hearts and homes with peace, love and joy!



# CASH CALENDAR



## Christmas Blessings



### Parish of the Holy Cross Cash Calendar December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 \$50
2 \$50	3 \$50	4 \$50	5 \$50	6 \$50	7 \$50	8 \$500
9 \$50	10 \$50	11 \$50	12 \$50	13 \$50	14 \$50	15 \$50
16 \$50	17 \$50	18 \$50	19 \$50	20 \$50	21 \$50	22 \$50
23 \$50	24 \$50	25 \$50	26 \$50	27 \$50	28 \$50	29 \$50
30 \$50	31 \$50	<b><i>\$10 PER CHANCE ~ 31 CHANCES TO WIN ~ \$50 PER DAY \$500 ON DECEMBER 8, FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</i></b>				

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

# MEETINGS THIS WEEK

<b>Saturday, December 15th</b>		<b>5 PM</b>
• BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI		Worship Area
<b>Sunday, December 16th</b>		<b>All Masses</b>
• BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI		Worship Area
• YOUTH MASS	11:30AM	Worship Area
• YOUTH DAY EVENT	12:30PM	Atrium
<b>Monday, December 17th</b>		<b>After 9AM Mass</b>
• CONFESSION		Chapel
• SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES	5-6PM	Atrium
• CONFESSION	7-8PM	Chapel
<b>Tuesday, December 18th</b>		<b>7 PM</b>
• COFFEE & CONVERSATION		Atrium

# MUSIC MINISTRY CDs

We have some Holy Cross Music Ministry CDs left and will be selling them at all the Masses this weekend, December 15th/16th. They make great Christmas gifts, so please consider purchasing a CD this weekend!

# 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 important collection!

# CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

In lieu of individual announced intentions at the Christmas Masses, there are cards in the Atrium for you to write your special intentions on. These cards will be placed on the Altar at all the Christmas Masses.



# RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



## Our Rights at the Christmas Season (cont'd. from 12/09)

[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

- \*Public school students may not be prohibited from distributing literature to fellow students concerning the Christmas holiday or invitations to church Christmas events on the same terms that they would be allowed to distribute other literature that is not related to schoolwork.
- \*Private citizens or groups may display a crèche or other Christmas symbols in public parks subject to the same reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions that would apply to other similar displays.
- \*Government entities may erect and maintain celebrations of the Christmas holiday, such as Christmas trees, lights and a crèche, at least so long as the purpose is placed in context with other symbols of the Holiday season through their traditional symbols.
- \*Employees may decorate their offices for Christmas, play Christmas music, and wear clothing related to Christmas, so long as these activities are not used to intimidate others.
- \*Employees whose sincerely held religious beliefs require that they not work on Christmas may be reasonably accommodated by their employers.
- \*Government recognition of Christmas as a public holiday and granting government employees a paid holiday for Christmas does not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Compiled by  
Rutherford Institute Attorneys





**"Caring that Counts"**

[www.moloneyfh.com](http://www.moloneyfh.com)

**MOLONEY**

Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

Peter G. Moloney • Francis D. Moloney, Jr.

**LAKE RONKONKOMA**  
132 Ronkonkoma Avenue  
(631) 588-1515

**HAUPPAUGE**  
840 Wheeler Road (Rte. 111)  
(631) 361-7500

**HOLBROOK**  
825 Main Street  
(631) 981-7500

**CENTRAL ISLIP**  
130 Carleton Avenue  
(631) 234-6000

**BOHEMIA**  
1520 Lakeland Avenue  
(631) 589-1500

**PORT JEFFERSON STATION**  
523 Route 112  
(631) 473-3800



SCAN THIS



**NASSAU SUFFOLK**

Crematory

**Our crematory is right here, close to home.**

132 Ronkonkoma Ave. • Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 • (631) 467-2900



Open for Lunch and Dinner 7 Days • Private Catering Room Available  
Christenings • Confirmations • Communion • Rehearsal Dinners  
Baby/Bridal Showers • Family Events (Bereavement packages) Up to 100 people

451 Hawkins Ave., Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
Tel: (631) 588-9843 • Fax: (631) 588-9846

[www.FlanagansPub.net](http://www.FlanagansPub.net)  
email: FlanagansPub1@gmail.com

**Hawkins & Davis**

FUNERAL HOME  
"Since 1946"

17 Manor Rd., Smithtown

265-1810

Stephen A. Markraf, Owner-Manager  
[hawkinsanddavisfh.com](http://hawkinsanddavisfh.com)

**Panico's Community Market**

Est. 1980 Prime Meats - Poultry • Delicatessen  
Catering For All Occasions  
Picnic's - Bar B-Q's Corp. Parties  
Fresh Pasta & Ravioli's

186 Terry Road, Smithtown 265-5076

**QUALIFIED CUSTOM FRAMING Inc.**  
Building Your Dreams Since 1996  
All Home Improvements  
Dormers/Roofing/Siding  
Additions/Basements  
Sr. Citizen Discounts  
New Consumer Discounts  
Up to 10%  
(631) 585-2914  
Bill Schmoeger, Parishioner

**SMITHTOWN VACUUM**

Central Vacuum Installs & Service  
Residential & Commercial  
172 Terry Road, Smithtown  
631.979.1297  
[www.smithtownvacuum.com](http://www.smithtownvacuum.com)

Meet me at BBG's  
631-656-8437  
199 Smithtown Blvd  
Nesconset  
15% off any entree  
[bbgsboutiqueandsportsbarandgrill.com](http://bbgsboutiqueandsportsbarandgrill.com)

246 Smithtown Boulevard  
Nesconset  
**TOWERS FLOWERS**  
[flowersbytowers.com](http://flowersbytowers.com)  
979-8848 (888) 65TOWERS

**Story Book Homes Inc.**  
Custom Homes • Apartments  
Developers • Planned Communities  
Al Hornberger BUS. OFFICE  
Parishioner 265-6131

**Sundried Tomato**  
Cafe & Pizzeria  
Nesconset Plaza Shopping Center  
366-6310  
Sunday Special 10% off any check eat in only w/d

North Chapel  
551 North Country Rd Rte 25A  
St. James (631) 584-5200

Kenneth J. Maher, Owner, Lic. Manager & Director

**ST. JAMES FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

829 Middle Country Rd (Jericho Tpke) Rte 25 St. James (631) 584-7200  
South Chapel

Kerry J. Maher, Lic Director

Kenneth J. Maher, Jr., Lic. Director

**STAY CONNECTED**  
to your Faith



**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**  
\$20 (10 issues)  
[www.licatholic.org](http://www.licatholic.org)  
[circulation@licatholic.org](mailto:circulation@licatholic.org)  
516.594.1000

**LYON TREE SERVICE**

All Phases of Tree Work  
Safe & Dependable Service  
Highly Skilled Professional Staff  
30 Years of Experience  
Expert Pruning • Expert Removal  
Diagnostics • Fertilization • Spray  
Applications By Certified Arborist  
Free Woodchips Delivered  
[www.lyontree.com](http://www.lyontree.com)  
Lic/Ins 26784 HI 737-6347

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



Susan A. Lampach, CBR  
Lic Real Estate Salesperson  
(631) 240-1226 Direct  
(631) 806-8579 Mobile  
[susan.lampach@cbmoves.com](mailto:susan.lampach@cbmoves.com)  
[www.susanlampach.com](http://www.susanlampach.com)  
Parishioner

**Custom Exteriors**  
Home Improvements  
• SIDING • WINDOWS • ROOFING  
Call for FREE estimate (516) 797-9610

**SACHEM DENTAL GROUP**

General Dentistry • Orthodontics • Periodontics  
Endodontics • Implant Dentistry  
110 Smithtown Blvd., Nesconset 382-8585  
469 Hawkins Ave., Lake Ronkonkoma 588-8280  
470 Patchogue Holbrook Rd., Holbrook 589-8485

24 Hr. Emergency Service  
Phone/Fax (631) 580-7500

**B&R PLUMBING & HEATING**  
Senior Discount 10%  
315 Smithtown Blvd.  
Nesconset Parishioner

**CCS Landscaping**

Spring Cleanups • Lawn Maintenance  
Planting/Trimming • Topsoil  
Lic. & Insured • 20 yrs experience  
Chris 863-1530

**CrossWords & Gifts**

Christian Book & Gift Store  
10% OFF Any Purchase w/coupon or mention of this ad  
Open 10 AM to 6 PM Mon-Sat  
307 Hawkins Ave. Lake Ronkonkoma (next door to BLD's Restaurant)  
[www.crosswordsandgifts.com](http://www.crosswordsandgifts.com)  
631 981 0525  
Communion Confirmations  
Croses Bibles  
Gifts Books  
CDs

**GO TO THE TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS THAT HAVE THE SKILLS TO OPEN THE DOOR TO SUCCESS!**

**Century 21 CASTLE REALTY**  
**NORMA DISPENZA**  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
631.578.4374  
[normadispenza@gmail.com](mailto:normadispenza@gmail.com) • [www.findahome.li.com](http://www.findahome.li.com)  
575 Portion Road, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
Office: 631.588.4663

**CHL CONTINENTAL HOME LOANS INC.**  
"You Forget Starts With Us"  
**CHRISTINE PERLOW**  
Senior Loan Officer - NMLS # 21809  
516.509.0429  
[operlow@chlmtg.com](mailto:operlow@chlmtg.com) • [operlow.continentalhome.com](http://operlow.continentalhome.com)  
76 Medford Ave. (Route 112) Patchogue, NY 11772  
Office: 631.627.6060 x18

Residential/Commercial  
Peter J. Titone  
Licensed/Insured  
**M J ELECTRIC, INC.**  
CRAFTSMANSHIP & PRIDE  
No Job Too Small!  
Bus Cell 516-860-5642



**Branch Funeral Homes**

FUNERALS & CREMATIONS

Trust. Quality. Affordability.

Owned by the Vigilante Family - Henry Vigilante • John Vigilante • Paul Vigilante

TRUSTED CREMATION WITH CARE™ PROVIDER

Smithtown  
190 East Main Street  
(631) 724-9500  
[info@BranchFH.com](mailto:info@BranchFH.com)

Miller Place  
551 Route 25A  
(631) 744-9700  
[BranchFH.com](http://BranchFH.com)