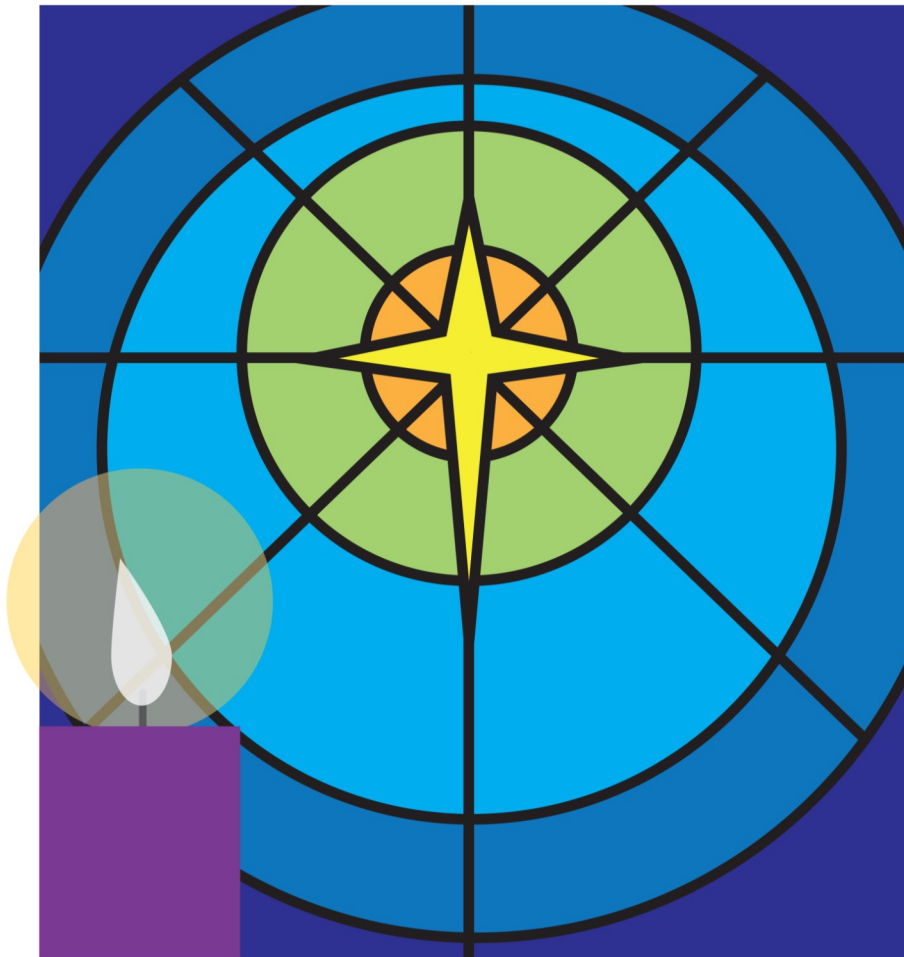


The Parish of the Holy Cross

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LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Brothers and Sisters:

**May the Lord
make you increase
and abound in love
for one another
and for all...**

1 Thessalonians 3:12

Come and pray with us!

1st Sunday of Advent - December 2, 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)

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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 8th/9th

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

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of December 2, 9AM Mass

Mon. Eleanor Rizzo
Tue. Cathe Whittaker
Wed. Millie Rienzi
Thu. Bob DeFilippis

Fri., Dec. 7th, Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass

7:00 PM Henri-Robert Lamarque

Sat., Dec. 8th, Immaculate Conception Mass

9:00 AM Jack Hough

Saturday, December 8th, 5 PM Mass

Frank Schiavone, Peggy Fitzgerald, Helen Tafuri,
 Marie Salom, Vito Bianco

Sunday, December 9th, 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mary Jane & Harold Smith
9:30 AM Walter O'Hara, Marie Rafferty, Arline
 Sullivan, Catherine Malone, Loretta
 Corridan, Frank Clemente
11:30 AM People of the Parish

Remembering Our Sick

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

Maria Conte Maryann League

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 or email to
pothc@optonline.net.

Scripture Readings for December 9, 2018



+ *Baruch 5:1-9*
 + *Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11*
 + *Luke 3:1-6*

A New Season

by Father Michael

Because of early bulletin deadlines, due to Thanksgiving and my retreat time away, this article was written back on November 12th.

This weekend begins the season of Advent, which is the first week in the new liturgical year. Advent flies in the face of everything that surrounds us in our culture. Christmas has been evident everywhere for the past few weeks, but here in Church we wait until the Eve of the 24th to begin our celebrations. Until then, we are called to embrace a spirit of prayerful anticipation and holy waiting. I know it feels like a losing battle, but there is wisdom in prayerful preparation. Use well these weeks, and seek the solitude and hope that the Church calls us to find in these weeks of waiting.

I anticipate that by the time this article is being read, my house will be in the midst of construction shambles. Two projects are being addressed. First, the kitchen is being renovated. It is about 25 years old, and the furnishings were just falling apart. I was told I had one of the original IKEA kitchens. It held up well enough through the years, but now it is returning to Sweden piece by piece.

As many of you know, once you start one project of this nature it is like knocking over the first domino; many more things emerge that have to be dealt with. That's where the second project comes along. The original plan was to replace about 200 square feet of old laminate floor in the kitchen with new tile. Ironically, the flooring in that room was in decent shape. However, throughout the living room, dining room, and hallways the wooden panels were popping up and splitting. The contractor tried coming up with a plan to make repairs, but we came to the conclusion it would look like a patchwork quilt. Now the second project is replacing over 800 square feet of flooring. Hopefully, there will not be too many other surprises that come along.

There is one ministry where we could use an additional helping hand or two. The Ministry of Consolation works with families at the time of death of a loved one. In particular, they assist the family in planning the funeral Mass. If any of you feel as though you might be able to assist families in this time of loss and need, I would love to hear from you. To offer the gift of compassion and kindness in these moments is a beautiful ministry.

I will finally have my Travel Club meeting this Tuesday and can give all the details of the upcoming trips I am planning: Niagara Falls and Toronto in May and the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta in October.

Enjoy these blessed weeks of Advent.

PARISH NEWS



Pray for Our Military

Cpl. Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC
SA Anthony J. DeNicola
FC2 Lane Dyar
Sgt. Daniel Frost
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA
WO Christopher Kaminsky
Cpl. Michael Knipper, USMC
Sgt. Ryan Mauldin
Lt. Ryan Montvydas
IT2 Jason Mulderig
LCpl. Michael Palagonia, USMC

We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service. Please let us know if their service is finished, their title has changed, or you would like continued prayers through 2019.

May God bless all who serve our nation.
Pray for Peace!

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Mass times for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary are as follows:

Friday, December 7th, at 7PM
Saturday, December 8th, at 9AM

Holy Cross Welcomes these Children Baptized in November

Jaxon Joseph Epperson
Olivia Jolie Fernhoff
Lily Angelina Moran
Stella Olivia Perrone
Ryan James Scanlon



We pray for the following parishioners whose funerals were celebrated at Holy Cross in November:

Eleanor Rizzo Millie Rienzi Vito Bianco

May they rest in peace, and may their loved ones be consoled.

FUNDRAISING

Christmas Wreath Sale

Our Annual Wreath Sale is this weekend, **December 1st/2nd**. Each wreath will again be \$25 and can be purchased before or after Mass. Thank you for your generosity and support!



PARISH OUTREACH

A VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

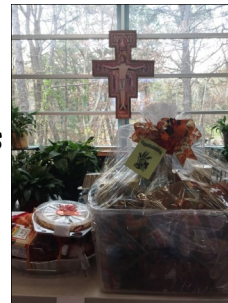
TODAY, DECEMBER 2ND, IS THE LAST DAY TO RETURN YOUR ANGEL GIFT CARDS OR GIFTS. Please be sure all Angel items are here by the end of the 11:30 Mass. This afternoon, our Outreach committee will be sorting and allocating the gift cards for our families so that they have time to shop. The agencies will also be picking up their gift items this week.



We hope you will continue to keep our struggling neighbors in your prayers. Thank you for remembering them during this season of joy, hope and peace.

OUTREACH THANKSGIVING THANK YOU!

This year **58 beautiful baskets** were distributed to our families in need. We are so grateful for the volunteers who shopped and created these one-of-a-kind baskets! The families who received baskets were overwhelmed by the generosity of our parish community.



We also appreciate the volunteers who worked on Basket Day, on sign-up weekend, and those who gave monetary donations and gift cards.

Special thanks go to Susan Lampach, Donna Akuntius and Joellen May who pulled the whole project together. We thank Boulevard Bagels who provided sustenance for our workers during the Basket distribution!

May the blessings of Thanksgiving remain with you and your families during the coming year.

THANK YOU!

At our 9 AM Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Father Michael blessed the bread for parishioners to take home to their Thanksgiving tables.

We would like to thank **Handy Pantry** located at 279 Smithtown Boulevard, Nesconset for their generosity in donating this bread!

HOLY CROSS TRAVEL CLUB

Niagara Falls – Toronto – 1,000 Islands May 29 – June 4, 2019

Highlights: Finger Lakes, Winery Tour, Strong Museum, Niagara Falls (Table Rock, Horseshoe Fall, Floral Clock, Hornblower Niagara Cruise), Dinner in the Skylon Tower, Toronto (Distillery District, St. Lawrence Market, Casa Loma), Cruise of the 1,000 Islands, Turning Stone Casino

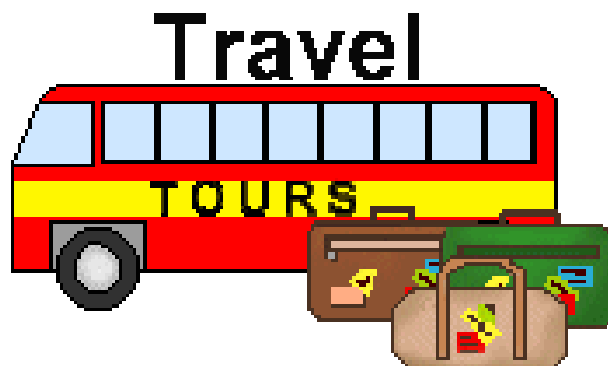
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- * Sightseeing Provided by Rendevous Travel
- * Transportation by Hampton Jitney
- * 6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 5 Dinners

- * Call Parish Office if you are interested
- * Priority Given to Holy Cross Parishioners
- * **Valid U.S. Passport Required**

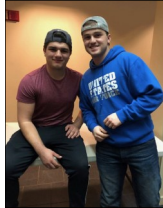
All pricing and itinerary will be finalized for our information meeting:

Information Meeting
Tuesday, December 4th, at 7:30 PM



YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! If you made your Confirmation, then come with a friend and check out the wonderful opportunities the Youth Group has for you! **The Youth Group hopes everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Here are pictures from the Youth Thanksgiving Feast, where current and past members of the YG came together to share a wonderful meal. The night was an amazing, fun-filled experience.**



Here are our upcoming youth events! Take a look:

- **Sunday, December 2nd: The Youth Group will be gathering for a Youth Night from 6 to 8PM. All are welcome! We are having an Advent Wrapping Party and will be wrapping blankets to give to the residents at the Nesconset Nursing Center next week.**
- **Sunday, December 9th: The Youth Group will be gathering for an 11:30AM Youth Mass with the Core Band. Then, the YG will be going out to lunch. After that, they will be joining the residents at the Nesconset Nursing Center for Christmas festivities! :-)**

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. Thank you!

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

For anyone who has lost a child: We invite you to bring a special Christmas ornament and place it on any of the trees in the Children's Memorial Garden. This can be done at any time, and the ornament can be taken home whenever you'd like after Christmas.



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

If you haven't done so already, please be sure to complete your pledge. ***There's still time to make a gift.*** Please remember that all new pledges must be in by December 31, 2018.

Thank you for your generous support of the 2018 Catholic Ministries Appeal.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

Help Write Our Prayer

We are familiar with the part of the Mass when petitions are offered. Today it is referred to as the Universal Prayer, although through the years it has also been called the General Intercessions or The Prayer of the Faithful. The prayers that we currently use come about through a variety of ways. Sometimes we write our own. We also have several on-line resources and books that we use in creating the prayers for each week. Additionally, there is a parishioner who assists in writing them.



We are offering the opportunity for parishioners to suggest needs or intentions that could be prayed for at our weekend Masses. Identify issues within our world, nation, community or Church. This would not be the place to mention individual people or private prayers such as “for my cousin, Daisy.” (Our Petition Book in the atrium is available for these special intentions.) Please suggest any prayers you would like to see included in our worship. Keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Be succinct; the prayer needs to be limited to one or two short sentences.
- Normally prayers begin with “For.” *For our nation, . . .*
- This is not the place for prayers of gratitude. *In Thanksgiving for . . .*
- Prayers should not include any particular agenda or personal opinion.

Depending on how many requests we receive, we will try to include at least one intention per week. It may be necessary to edit the prayer so that its format is consistent with the other prayers.

Please feel free to use the tear-off below to submit your prayer. These can be mailed back to us or placed in the offertory basket. You may also e-mail us your request to pothc@optonline.net .

My Suggestion for a Sunday Prayer Intention

Prayer Intention: “For _____
_____.”

(If you wish you may include your name): _____

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

We had a wonderful celebration at the 11:30 Mass on November 11th as we honored our nation's Veterans. We are so grateful to all the men and women who have served in our armed forces. Below are some pictures of our celebration!



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	<i>\$10 PER CHANCE ~ 31 CHANCES TO WIN ~ \$50 PER DAY \$500 ON DECEMBER 8, FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</i>				

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME _____
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Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

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Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

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PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____



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