

The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +

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LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



THE CHRISTMAS Story

...The shepherds
went in haste
and found
Mary and Joseph,
and the Infant lying
in a manger...

Luke 2:16

Come and pray with us!

Holy Family Sunday - December 30, 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

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



January 5th/6th

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

Remembering Our Sick

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

Charles Armstrong	Maria Conte
Maryann League	Paul Malley

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 January 6, 2019



+ Isaiah 60:1-6
 + Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
 + Matthew 2:1-12

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of December 30, 9AM Mass

Mon. Mel Jackson
Wed. Marie Visco
Thu. John Bryan Jr.

Solemnity of Mary Masses

Mon., Dec. 31, 5PM John J. & Jane Daly
Tue., Jan. 1, 10AM Santo Squillacioti

Saturday, January 5th, 5 PM Mass

Michael Fahey, Anthony Fahey

Sunday, January 6th, The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM Anne Geisel
9:30 AM Angelo & Fay Petrizzo, Michael Cilento,
 John Tipping II, Tony Migliosi
11:30 AM People of the Parish

The Bread and Wine for the week Dec. 30th - Jan. 5th have been donated in loving memory of Matthew C. Rizzo Jr. by his family.



Does My Car Really Need Premium Unleaded?

by Father Michael

Due to early deadlines, this article was written before Christmas. It may help inspire your New Year's resolutions.

You may recall, early in the summer I needed to get a new car. I narrowed my options down and happily chose my little Honda. After about 2 weeks I needed to get my first tank of gas. Much to my dismay I read the instruction, "Premium Fuel Recommended." My objection, of course, is to the additional cost for this gas. I was annoyed with myself because that was one of the items on my checklist to look for in the cars I was considering. Somehow, I failed to take notice of that detail.

Around that same time, I had my annual physical as well as a routine check-up with my cardiologist. Both doctors kindly but firmly told me I need to be regularly exercising. The benefits in doing so are numerous, and the risks in not exercising could be serious. While I heard their words, I did not do much to take their advice. Both these issues kind of got pushed onto a "back burner" in my mind.

Just after Labor Day I was at the gas station. I was debating with myself as to what button to push for which grade of gas. Could I cheat and go for regular? Would 89 octane be a good compromise? Suddenly, it was like someone hit me over the head with a wave of common sense. What are you thinking? Your doctors are telling you to take care of yourself, and you are putting more energy and focus into what kind of gas to buy. You can always fix or replace a broken car. There is no replacing a healthy body and sometimes repairs can be difficult. On that early autumn morning, I had a moment of insight that took place at pump #4 at Cumberland Farms (I like to refer to it as Cucumber Farms.)

In an instant, I had determination; it is time to start exercising. I dusted off my membership card to LA Fitness, which had gone unused for too many years. I figured times in my calendar to make this work, and it has become part of my routine. (I waited until now to write about it to make sure it was not just a passing idea.) It was a holy moment in coming to a deeper appreciation for God's gift of the body and our ability to care for what He has given. Insights into the power of God and the mystery of our lives can come about in unusual ways and at unexpected times.

I like my primary physician, and I have a good cardiologist. I have a spiritual director and others who help keep me on track. All of these folks led me to make a choice for the better in one area of how I live my life. I am grateful for their guidance and the gift of the Spirit that has put me on that path.

By the way, I also have a good mechanic. And, if Fred from Lakeview says use premium unleaded, I use premium unleaded. My car has not stalled yet, and neither have I. 😊

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, a Holy Day are as follows:



Monday, Dec. 31 at 5 PM
&
Tuesday, Jan. 1st at 10 AM

The Parish Office is closed on Jan. 1.

BAKERS NEEDED!



Bakers are needed to make baked goods for the **Baptism of the Lord** celebration which will take place at the **Sunday, 11:30 Mass on January 13th**. This Mass honors those children who have been baptized in 2018. If interested, please contact Nick and Diane Lombardo at **631-698-5930**.

PARISH OUTREACH

Next Saturday and Sunday, **January 5th/6th**, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

Cookies/Snacks Toile Paper Paper Towels Size 4 Diapers Hot Chocolate Oatmeal

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

THANK YOU LITURGICAL MINISTERS!

The Liturgy Committee and Pastoral Team are hosting a "Thank You Luncheon" for our Liturgical Ministers: Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Music Ministers to show our appreciation for their service to Holy Cross. Please join us as we reflect on our ministries and share food and friendship on:

Sunday, January 6th, at 1PM in the Atrium

I will attend the appreciation luncheon.

I am an (circle one) Usher Eucharistic Minister Lector Music Minister

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Place in collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office by January 3.



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 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.

The Youth Group had a wonderful fall season! Thank you all for your endless support and love in making these past couple of months a wonderful experience for the teens! The Youth Group would like to wish everyone a blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year! May the holidays be filled with happiness surrounded by close friends and family.

Sunday, 12/30 - No Youth Day/Night Event - Happy New Year!

Sunday, 1/6 - The Youth Group will be kicking off the New Year with a fun-filled Youth Night from 6 to 8PM. All are welcome! Bring a friend!

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 on down 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 or call the parish office.



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

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 _____
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Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

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Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

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Cash Calendar, DECEMBER 2018

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 30th	10:30 AM
• PRAY THE ROSARY	Chapel
Monday, December 31st	5 PM
• SOLEMNITY OF MARY VIGIL MASS	Worship Area
Tuesday, January 1st	10 AM
• SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS <i>(The Parish Office is closed for the Holy Day.)</i>	Worship Area
Wednesday, January 2nd	11:30AM-2:30PM
• SENIORS	Atrium
Thursday, January 3rd	10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Fr. Joe Room
Saturday, January 5th	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
Sunday, January 6th	10:30 AM
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK	Worship Area
• HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE	Conference Rm.
• LIT. MIN. GATHERING	1PM Atrium
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM Atrium

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Due to an early bulletin deadline, names that didn't make it in the Christmas bulletin, will appear in the bulletin of January 6th.



REMINDER

Anointing of the Sick

In the past, people received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick only when they were gravely ill. However, the Church believes that the Anointing of the Sick should be experienced while we are still able to be aware of God's peaceful presence within us.

You are strongly encouraged to receive this Sacrament if you are having upcoming surgery, are dealing with a chronic or debilitating illness, are suffering from addiction, mental health issues or frailty.

On the first Sunday of each month, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered after the 9:30 AM Mass. **Sunday, January 6th, is the next date the Anointing will be offered.**



REMINDER

Holy Hour for Peace

We offer our Holy Hour on the first Saturday of the month from 3:45 to 4:45PM in the Worship Area.



The next one will take place on **Saturday, January 5th**. Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.



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