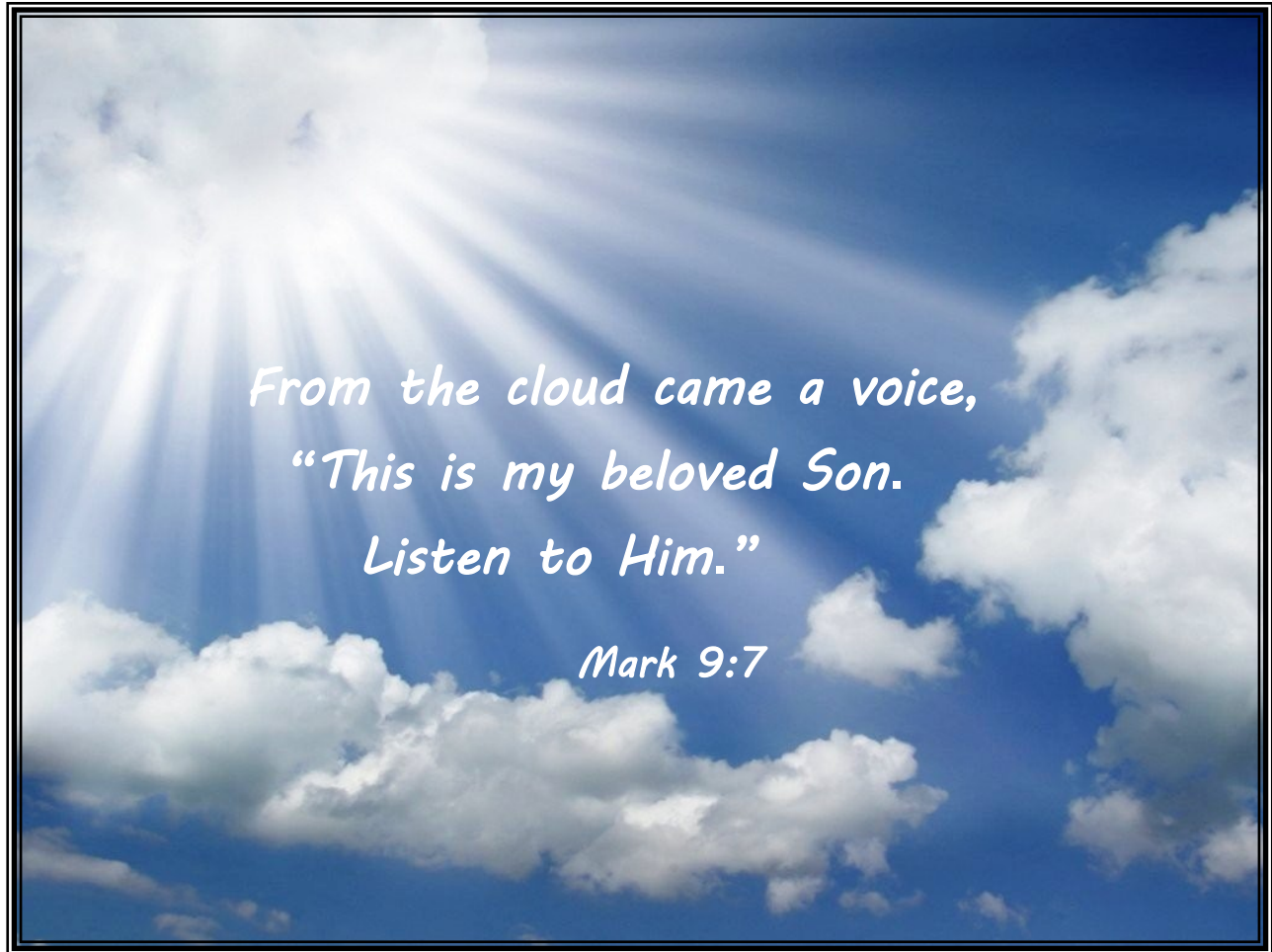


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LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



Come and pray with us!

Second Sunday of Lent - February 25, 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)

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Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
 Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Reid
 Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch
 Ms. Patricia Gyscek
 Co-Coordinators 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



March 3rd/4th

5:00 PM TBA
 8:00 AM Fr. Kenan Peters
 9:30 AM Fr. Kenan
 11:30 AM Msgr. Jim Vlaun

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of February 25th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Margaret Dyer
Tue. John F. Kennedy
Wed. Walter O'Hara
Thu. Yvonne Barto (living)

Saturday, March 3rd, 5 PM Mass

Nicholas Supakoff, Eugenia Delsesto Pattek, Aura Morales, Pastor Norena, Retha VanEpps

Sunday, March 4th, Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Anthony Vion, John Conroy
11:30 AM Margaret Mary Fitzpatrick

Remembering Our Sick

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You...

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

Denise Lamarque 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.

Scripture Readings for March 4, 2018



+ Exodus 20:1-17
 + 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
 + John 2:13-25

The Lenten Journey Continues

by Father Michael

Once a year I am part of a Mission Team that offers a retreat in a parish on Long Island. I am one of four priests who make up the team. Some of you may remember when we came to Holy Cross in 2004 to offer the mission. Three of us were ordained together. You might have heard of the fourth guy, Fr. John Sureau. This Lent we are offering the mission down the road at Good Shepherd parish in Holbrook. I will be preaching at several of the Masses in Holbrook this weekend.

Last weekend before the 11:30 Mass, there was someone in our parking lot soliciting for financial help. The woman told a hardship story about needing gas money to visit her special needs son. It is difficult to know what to do when people approach us with this kind of request. Unfortunately, there are some individuals who exploit the good will of people, and a church parking lot is a ripe spot for finding good natured folks. If you are ever approached on our church property by someone looking for financial assistance, please direct them to come inside to speak to me or one of our weekend Sacristans. By all means we are here to offer assistance if we can, but it is best to allow this type of request to be handled by our Parish Outreach Office.

Thank you to Deacon Ralph for offering several spiritual opportunities on Fridays during Lent. Please see the schedule of events that is listed in today's bulletin.

This week the Holy Father announced that our diocese will be getting a new auxiliary bishop. Bishop Robert Coyle is a native of Long Island. Most of his ministry has been dedicated to military chaplaincy. He was ordained a bishop for the Archdiocese of Military Service many years ago. The Holy Father has now asked him to continue his priestly ministry back on Long Island. He formally arrives on April 2nd.

I enjoy watching the winter Olympics. I have to say some of the sports I just don't understand. Curling certainly has a mystique that surrounds it. I can never understand what they are shouting at that rock, but they are certainly passionate about it. Years ago I tried cross country skiing, but I never had a rifle strapped to my back that I would use to shoot at targets along the way. I was a pretty good downhill skier, but seeing the speed of those athletes boggles my mind. And, the freelance skiing with all the flipping and twirling leaves me dizzy just looking at it. At this point, my winter sport is pretty much limited to negotiating my driveway when it snows.

I have to go get packing now. On Wednesday morning the Travel Club leaves on our latest adventure to New Orleans followed by a five day cruise. I am grateful for all the priests who are assisting next weekend in covering the Masses here at Holy Cross.

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Our Journey through Lent



As we journey through Lent, each of us is called to focus more deeply on prayer, fasting, and alms-giving (acts of charity). How many of the following activities will be part of your Lenten plan?

Eat Simply... So Others May Simply Eat: Our special parish Lenten project - an invitation to families to eat simpler meals together during Lent, and then contribute the monetary savings for our struggling neighbors.

Operation Rice Bowl: A Lenten project for children in our Religious Education Program, in which they save their coins during Lent to donate to Catholic Relief Services for the good work they do throughout the world.

Divine Mercy in the Chapel: Fridays during Lent: **March 2,9,16, 2018 at 3:00 PM.** A time to reflect on the mercy of God and offer our prayers for our loved ones.

Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction: Fridays during Lent: **March 2,9,16, 2018 at 4:00 PM.** Come and sit in the presence of Christ, before the Blessed Sacrament, and offer up your prayers.

Stations of the Cross Video: Fridays during Lent: **March 2,9,16, 2018 at 6:00 PM.** Meditate on the passion and death of Jesus as you make the Way of the Cross.

Parish Soup Supper: Thursday, **March 8, 2018, 6:30 PM.** An opportunity to come together as a parish family and share a simple meal.

Prayer Service with Reconciliation: Tuesday, **March 13, 2018, 7:00 PM.** An evening of prayer followed by the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.

Long Island Cares Food Drive: **The weekend of March 17/18, 2018, all Masses.** Parishioners bring non-perishable food items to Mass this weekend to help support food assistance for over 300, 000 people on Long Island.

Tenebrae: Friday, **March 23, 2018, 7:30 PM.** A prayer service with Scripture readings and music, meditating on the passion and death of Jesus Christ.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Monday, **March 26, 2018, 3:00 – 5:00, and 5:30 – 8:00 PM.** Opportunities to celebrate the sacrament with Fr. Michael.

Watch future bulletins or go to our website for the Holy Week schedule.

PARISH OUTREACH

“Eat Simply So Others May Simply Eat”

Pope Francis has asked us to reconsider the heart of our activities during the Lenten season. According to Francis, fasting must never become superficial:

"Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else, if it helps us cultivate the style of the good Samaritan, who bent down to his brother in need and took care of him."

He often quotes the early Christian mystic John Chrysostom who said:

"No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great."

Your fasting and sacrifices during Lent directly benefit those we serve in Parish Outreach. You make the connection in your heart of how your "giving up" of something is really "giving forth" compassion and assistance to those in need.



The words of Pope Francis also challenge us to discern in what other ways we can assist our struggling neighbors, perhaps in a more personal and involved way.

Thank you for your prayerful participation in our Eat Simply program, which supports our efforts to *"bend down to our brother/sister in need and take care of them."*

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Tell your Scouting friends.....All Are Welcome

When: March 11th at 9:30 Mass (arrive 15 minutes early to sign in)

Where: Parish of the Holy Cross, Nesconset

Who: All Scouts and their families are invited to attend

What to wear: Girl Scout Uniform / Sash



Please let us know who/how many scouts are coming.

Text, call or email any questions you may have.

Girls, please bring a goody for hospitality.

Kim Loh Bodor
516-996-2297
akjlb23@optonline.net

Janine Mehlinger
631-384-1255
cheecheej9@aol.com

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Join us on Fridays of Lent:

March 2,9,16, 2018:



- **3PM-Divine Mercy in the Chapel:** A time to reflect on the mercy of God.
- **4PM-Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction:** Come and sit in the presence of Christ.
- **6PM-Stations of the Cross Video:** Meditate on the passion and death of Jesus.

Soup Supper

PLEASE JOIN US as we share a simple meal with our Parish Community on

March 8, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Please complete the form below and place in the collection by Sunday, February 25. There will also be a sign up sheet in the Atrium on March 3/4.

Name _____ Number Attending _____

Soups, bread and butter provided by
Parish committees.



PARISH OUTREACH

Heifer International

Together We Can Change the World!

The quarters we have recently collected in *Kevin Bacon* will be used to purchase a "Knitter's Basket." A Heifer International Knitter's Gift Basket includes a llama, an alpaca, a sheep and an Angora rabbit. Your gift for knitters also ensures families are instructed on how to properly feed and care for the animals. Each Knitter's Gift Basket:

- Nourishes families with milk from the llama and sheep
- Keeps families warm with wool that can be made into sweaters and scarves
- Provides a source of income from the sale of clothing and blankets made from the wool



These four animals included in the knitting basket provide families with ample wool for warmth, as well as a source of income.

**Thank you for your continual support of
Heifer International.
Your quarters are indeed changing lives!**



Outreach Food Pantry

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

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| • Meals-in-a-Can | • Mayonnaise | • Paper Towels |
| • Macaroni & Cheese | • Peanut Butter | • Cookies |
| • Tuna | • Jelly | • Snacks |
| • Cereal | • Canned Vegetables | • Diapers sizes 5, 6 |



We do not need beans or pasta at this time. Please don't forget to check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you!

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, 2/25: Youth Night 6-8PM.**
- **Saturday, 3/3: Youth Sandwich Making 3-5PM. Then, we will be attending the 5PM Mass!**
- **Sunday, 3/4: Youth Sandwich Drive 7:30AM-2PM in NYC.**

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.

CASH CALENDAR



February 2018 ~Parish of the Holy Cross ~
Cash Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 \$50	2 \$50	3 \$50
4 \$50	5 \$50	6 \$50	7 \$50	8 \$50	9 \$50	10 \$50
11 \$50	12 \$50	13 \$50	14 \$500	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	Notes: \$10 PER CHANCE \$50 PER DAY \$500 ON February 14 28 CHANCES TO WIN		

Cash Calendar FEBRUARY 2018

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

Cash Calendar FEBRUARY 2018

NAME _____

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TOWN _____

PHONE _____

Cash Calendar FEBRUARY 2018

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PHONE _____

Cash Calendar FEBRUARY 2018

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 25th		After 9:30 Mass
• PRAY THE ROSARY		Chapel
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium
Monday, February 26th		5:00 PM
• LEVEL 4 MASS WALK THRU		Chapel
• SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES		Atrium
• ANNIV. DANCE COMMITTEE	7:30PM	Fr. Joe Room
Tuesday, February 27th		10:00 AM
• IN STITCHES		Fr. Joe Room
• COMM. GARDEN CLUB	12:15-1:30PM	Fr. Joe Room
• K OF C OFFICERS' MEETING	7:15PM	Fr. Joe Room
Thursday, March 1st		10:00 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY		Fr. Joe Room
• RCIA	7PM	Conference Rm.
Friday, March 2nd		3:00 PM
• DIVINE MERCY		Chapel
• EUCHARISTIC ADORATION	4PM	Worship Area
• STATIONS OF THE CROSS	6PM	Worship Area
Saturday, March 3rd		3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR		Worship Area
• YOUTH SANDWICH MAKING	3-4:45PM	Fr. Joe Room
Sunday, March 4th		After 9:30 Mass
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK		Worship Area
• YOUTH SANDWICH DRIVE	7:30AM-2PM	NYC

PARISH REMINDERS

Holy Hour for Peace



We offer our Holy Hour on the first Saturday of the month from **3:45-4:45PM** in the Worship Area. The next one will take place on **Saturday, March 3rd**. Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.

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, March 4th is the next date the Anointing will be offered.**



SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend, at the offertory we will also be collecting for our **Renovation and Major Repairs** fund. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important collection!





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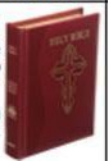
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