

# 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!**

**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.*



**Come and pray with us!**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 21, 2021**

### **We celebrate Eucharist**

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM; Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM  
(The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass are live streamed on Facebook.)

### **We celebrate Reconciliation**

During Lent: Saturdays 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesdays after 9:00 AM Mass

# WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + parish@holycrossrc.org

## PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann  
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Ralph Rivera  
Pastoral Minister, ext.119

Mrs. Judith Pickel  
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn  
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112  
Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Kelley Mowat, ext.113  
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano  
Business Manager, ext.110

Mr. Brian Reich  
Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein  
Youth Minister

## PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth  
Parish Secretary, ext.122

Dr. Vincent Mazurek  
Music Minister

Mrs. Mary Pannone, ext.111  
Religious Education Secretary  
(mpannone@holycrossrc.org)

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

Mr. Roberto Maza  
Mr. Vincent Matula  
Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra  
Weekend Sacristan

## Remembering Our Sick

Please pray for those in our parish who are sick,  
their families and caregivers:

**Kathy Barry**  
**Patricia Becker**  
**Ann Callari**  
**Ann Egan**  
**Sienna Fricke**  
**Phil Graziose**  
**Debbie Jablinowski**  
**Charlotte Lynch**  
**Olivia Melia**  
**Barbara Sherry**  
**David Velkas**  
**Judy Viskupic**

**Claire Becker**  
**Barbara Bombace**  
**Manuela Diaz**  
**Jim Emerson**  
**Jeanne Gallo**  
**Bob Grieco**  
**Gerald Losquadro**  
**Nick Matonti**  
**Joseph Santamaria**  
**Marlene Starr**  
**Doreen Velkas**  
**Peter Warns**

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 x122.

## Mass Intentions Schedule



### Week of March 21st, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Julia Bazik  
**Tue.** Ed Hau  
**Wed.** Josephine O'Shea  
**Thu.** Victor Lamarque

### Saturday, March 27th, 5 PM Mass

Gloria Posimato, Josephine Posimato, Vito Ligabo,  
Gilbert Carnovale, Stephen Eith

### Sunday, March 28th, Palm Sunday

**8:00 AM** Joe Cangelieri, Deirdre Guarino, Rush  
Limbaugh, Ronald Rivellesse  
**9:30 AM** Vincent Preziosi  
**11:30 AM** People of the Parish



### Celebrants for March 27th/28th Masses

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

# A DIFFERENT MARCH FROM 2020

*by Father Michael*

Last year at this time we were in the midst of the first week of everything closing down. Those were frightening and unsettling days. Employees were figuring out how to work from home, parents were grappling with teaching their children how to attend school on a computer, and public Masses were no longer permitted. Watching the news was a scary undertaking. Last March felt like everything was on the verge of a great descent.

Although we are far from putting this saga behind us, we are in a better position. In different ways it feels as though an ascent has begun. Part of what leads us to be more hopeful and energized is that the sun now stays with us later and later each day. The calendar says spring has arrived, although cooler temperatures will likely hang in there with us for a bit longer. Even Holy Week offers us hope. There are a few limitations in what we are able to do, but the good news is we are simply able to gather together and bring to life our great celebrations. (See the schedule of Holy Week events for more detailed info.)

There are also some happy Church feast days this week that add to a spirit of life and activity. St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's day each bring a bit of celebration to this season of Lent. Although you might not be Irish or Italian, each tradition brings a little something for everyone to enjoy.

You may have noticed that some of our technology has been taken over by electronic gremlins the past two weeks. It has mostly impacted the folks who watch on Facebook at home, but we have had a few hiccups that were part of the 11:30 Mass as well. It is important that we continue the livestreaming for those who are not able to be here. On average, we have about 60 live viewers for the 11:30 Mass. By Sunday evening, the recording of Mass will get up to as many as 500 views. That number will increase even more by the end of the week. For some folks, the livestreaming is still a spiritual lifeline, so we will continue to use it. I am mindful that there are some distractions in the use of technology at Mass, and we are striving to minimize those moments. Thank you for your patience.

You may want to plan on arriving early for Mass the next two weekends. Although it is Palm Sunday and Easter, we will use the regular Sunday Mass schedule. We will have additional seating set up in the atrium, and ushers will assist in trying to accommodate as many people as possible. While I hope we do not need to turn anyone away, we do need to be mindful of our reduced capacity.

Continue to make the days of Lent as prayerful as you can. But also be mindful of the signs of life that surround us.



## *Scripture Readings for March 28, 2021*

+ *Isaiah 50:4-7*

+ *Philippians 2:6-11*

+ *Mark 14:1-15:47*

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

## TENEBRAE SERVICE

Friday, March 26, 2021: 7:30 PM (LS)



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Wednesdays in Lent: after 9:00 AM Mass

Saturdays in Lent: 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM

Monday, March 29: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM &  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Good Friday, April 2: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Holy Saturday, April 3: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM



## PALM SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021

Saturday 3/27/21: 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)

← please note  
Mass times

## HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 1, 2021

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8:00 PM (LS)

## GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 2, 2021

Children's Service - 12:00 Noon (LS)

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 3:00 PM (LS)

## HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 3, 2021

Solemn Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM (LS)

NO AFTERNOON CONFESSIONS OR 5:00 PM MASS  
ON HOLY SATURDAY



## EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 4, 2021

Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)

← please note  
Mass times

(LS) = Live Streamed

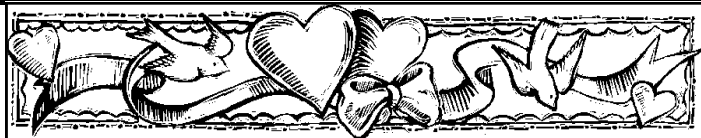
# PARISH NEWS

*The Bread and Wine for the week March 21 - 27 have been donated in memory of*



*Dr. Tomas Capule and Braulio Samson*

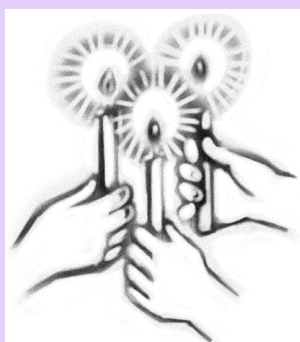
*by Edward and Pilar Modzel.*



## *Banns of Marriage - First Time*

Gabriella Canzona & Ryan Bihn

## Tenebrae Service



**Tenebrae** is a liturgical service of light to darkness, traditionally celebrated during Lent. It is a presentation of the Passion of Jesus Christ through seven Scripture readings, meditations and song. It involves our Choir, Readers and the Congregation. We encourage all parishioners to join us for our Tenebrae Service on **Friday, March 26, at 7:30 PM** as we prepare our hearts and minds for the great gift of Holy Week to follow.

## Eat Simply

We wish to thank our parishioners for their support so far of the Eat Simply program. Your generosity and spirit of prayerful sacrifice inspire us. We offer several more ideas for your Lenten Journey:

- Brown bag your lunch
- Enjoy a soup and grilled cheese sandwich supper
- Order from the “dollar” menu
- Skip your cocktail or dessert at dinner
- Use tap water instead of bottles of water (better for the environment, too)
- Buy store brands instead of name brand items



Envelopes are still available on the bulletin tables and can be returned through Easter Sunday. The money you saved and donated to Outreach will be used to assist families in our area who struggle, enabling them to provide food and maintain housing for their households. Thank you!



# LITURGY BYTES

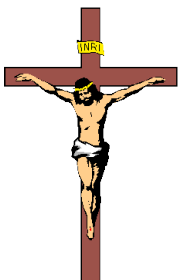
## Stations



A very popular devotion in our Catholic tradition is the Stations of the Cross. This was always a welcome experience for me during my eight years in Catholic elementary school because we stopped schoolwork at 2 PM on the Fridays in Lent and gathered in the church for stations. As we moved up the chain to the upper grades, students were chosen to be readers, and some even got to join Father and the altar boys in the procession to each station. It was not ending the school day early that made me happy on those Fridays, but the experience of this journey that touched my heart. Hence, that is why it is one of my favorite devotions. Through the pandemic, there have been virtual experiences of the Stations of the Cross on some websites. Fortunately, recent changes are seeing some in-person station services in our churches. Of course, you can watch it on our Diocesan TV station, CFN, too. We are additionally blessed to have outdoor stations right here on the church property. With these sunny, warmer days, consider spending time meditating on these wooden structures for something different in your prayer life. Having said all of the above, let us see where and how the stations began.

An ancient tradition has it that the Blessed Mother visited the sites of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection daily after He ascended into heaven. It did not take pilgrims very long to imitate her example and walk this road of Jesus' suffering and death. During the reign of Constantine, various churches and markers were set up at specific points on Jesus' path to Calvary. Travelers to the Holy Land visited these sacred sites for many centuries, sometimes bringing something back from a site to remember this journey. Traveling to the Holy Land was not always easy or even permitted because of religious tension and war. In lieu of traveling to these holy places, the Franciscans throughout Europe decided to create shrines and replicas in local towns. Their goal was to help the people enter into Jesus' passion without having to leave their hometowns. A little later on, in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the Franciscans replicated these holy places within churches. In 1731, Clement XII fixed the number of stations at 14. In these last few weeks of Lent, let us try the Stations of the Cross once again.

Have a blessed, healthy, and safe week. ~~~~*Michele Hahn*



*My Jesus, we have traveled Your Way of the Cross. You saw beauty in the Cross and embraced it as a desired treasure. Help us to trust the Father and to realize that there is something great behind even the most insignificant suffering. There is someone lifting my cross to fit my shoulders – there is divine wisdom in all the petty annoyances that irk my soul every day. Teach me the lessons contained in my cross, the wisdom of its necessity, the beauty of my cross, and the fortitude that accompanies even the smallest crosses. Amen.*

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## PLANT SALE PRE-ORDER FORM

Customer Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4/4/21, ORDERS RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE CANNOT BE FILLED. ALL PLANTS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED, THERE WILL BE NO PLANTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE CHURCH. ALL PRE-ORDERS CAN BE PICKED UP AFTER ALL THE MASSES THE WEEKEND OF 5/1 & 5/2. ORDERS CAN BE PREPAID, PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO PARISH OF THE HOLY CROSS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

### 8" Hanging Baskets: \$15.00

Balkin Ivy Geranium: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_  
Fuchsia: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lantana: Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Two Tone \_\_\_\_\_  
New Guinea Impatiens: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  
Portulaca: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Wave Petunia: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Dk Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Lavendar \_\_\_\_\_ Magenta (purple wave) \_\_\_\_\_  
Wander Jew: (indoor/outdoor-spring/fall): \_\_\_\_\_  
Strawberry Delizz (delicious fruit): \_\_\_\_\_

### Perennials 8" Pot: \$10.00

Astilbe (deer resistant/shade/part sun/attracts butterflies): Peach Blossom \_\_\_\_\_ Montgomery Red \_\_\_\_\_  
Black Eye Susan (Rubeckia) (full sun/part shade/attracts butterflies): \_\_\_\_\_  
Butterfly Bush (Buddleia) (full sun/rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies & humming birds): Purple \_\_\_\_\_  
Cone Flower (Echinacea) (sun/partial shade/deer resistant/attracts butterflies): Pow-wow Wild Berry \_\_\_\_\_  
Lavandula (full sun/deer & rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies): \_\_\_\_\_  
Delphinium (New Millen Dwarf Stars): \_\_\_\_\_  
Stella D'Oro Day Lily (flowers summer-fall/rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies & humming birds): \_\_\_\_\_  
Hosta: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nepeta: Purrsian Blue \_\_\_\_\_  
Autumn Joy Sedum: \_\_\_\_\_

### Flats-32 plants per flat: \$15.00

Begonia: Bronze Leaf: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Green Leaf: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Cosmo (Sonata Mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Dahlia (mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Flowering Vinca: Lilac \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_  
Dwarf Marigold: Orange \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Portulaca (mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Salvia (red): \_\_\_\_\_  
Petunias: Midnight Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Plum \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Impatiens: Coral \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Purple \_\_\_\_\_ Rose \_\_\_\_\_



\*\*\*\*\*We do not guarantee impatiens affected by Downy Mildew\*\*\*\*\*

### Succulents (assorted): \$8.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Culinary Herb Garden 12" Oval Pot (Basil, Parsley, Oregano, Cilantro, Sage): \$13.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sauce in a 6 Pack (2 Basil, 2 Parsley, 2 Roma Tomato): \$9.00 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 1/2" Pots: \$5.00

Coleus Mix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Geranium: Red \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Violet \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  
Helichrysum Licorice: \_\_\_\_\_  
Million Bell Petunia: Dark Blue (Purple) \_\_\_\_\_ Rose \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_  
New Guinea Impatiens: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Deep Purple \_\_\_\_\_  
Roller Coaster New Guinea (double flower): Hot Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Red Racer \_\_\_\_\_ Tangy Taffy \_\_\_\_\_ White Lightening \_\_\_\_\_  
Zinnia Profusion: Orange \_\_\_\_\_ Cherry \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerber Daisy: \_\_\_\_\_

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Homebound and Hospitalized

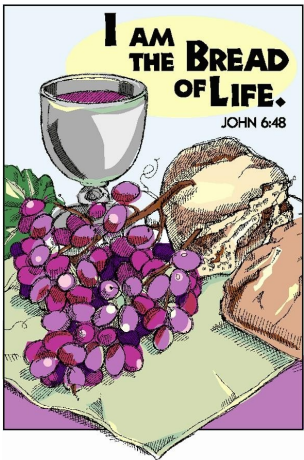
Are you, or someone you know in the parish, homebound or anticipating an operation or treatment for cancer? We in Holy Cross are eager to know in a more personal way our parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Often, we do not hear of a person's illness or inability to join us for Sunday Mass. Please call 265-2200 x113 or stop by the office to let Parish Outreach know of these parishioners who are so special to us. We really depend on you.



Parish Outreach sends cards, on behalf of our parish, to those who are ill or hospitalized. Our homebound folks receive friendly telephone calls by Outreach volunteers to keep up the connection and to assess ways the parish can be present to these loved parishioners. At Advent and Easter time a volunteer will visit them and bring a gift from the parish community. Eucharistic Ministers are also available to bring communion to the homebound who desire it.

These are some of the ways Holy Cross reaches out to the homebound and hospitalized. Please help us by contacting Parish Outreach or a member of the Pastoral Team if you know of anyone we can serve in their time of need.

## YOU MAY WANT TO...



Consider a donation of Altar Bread and Wine for a week, especially if your request for a date for a Mass has been taken. Your special occasion or loved one's name will be printed in the bulletin.

Or you may want to make a monetary donation to Holy Cross in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone living. We now have a Book of Memorials and a Book of Honorees. Your donation will be used to purchase needed items for our church. Holy Cross has a practice of not engraving names on benches and other items, but your donation will be recorded in the appropriate book for all posterity.

Our Parish Outreach also accepts donations in memory or honor of someone and has lovely cards that you can send.

For more information, please visit or call the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 x122.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Highlights

### December 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021

#### Revenues:

- Collections this quarter were down by 14.5%. RAMR was down 24.9%. Yet, our Christmas collection was up 11.3% at a total of \$45,933 (\$4662 over last year). Overall collections for this quarter were down 10.6%.
- Religious Ed. was down 4%. Although our program has had a great response and we have had quite an increase in first grade students this year, we have been unable to have parties and activities that typically bring in a small revenue.
- Outreach was down 3.1% for this quarter but was still up 25.1% overall for this fiscal year. Parishioners continued to flood our doors with food donations and Christmas gift items along with generous monetary gifts.
- Program income, including fundraising, youth ministry, and senior club, was down almost 100%. However, their related expenses were also decreased. We have recently started a fundraiser for the spring called the “Spring Cash Fling.”
- Overall income was down about 20% this quarter over last year. However, we received a large donation of \$25,000 made by one family, and we greatly appreciate the continued generosity of all our parishioners especially during this time when many have suffered the hardships of this year.

#### Expenses:

- Religious Ed. expenses were down 21.7% this quarter over last year. We were careful to order only the necessary books and materials needed for our students, and again, with none of the typical winter parties (due to Covid) we had no expenses in this area.
- Outreach funds were used this quarter quite a bit more than in the past. With the abundance of generous donations that had come in through the year, gift cards were distributed for the holidays and more were purchased in February for an Easter distribution. Additionally, we have been able to assist individual families that have needed a helping hand during this time. Outreach spent \$4,178 this quarter over last year for this quarter.
- Snow removal this year posed quite an expense. We spent \$12,350 for this alone. We were grateful to have not had this much snow in the past few years and recognize that safety is our primary concern when winter weather presents itself.
- Total expenses this quarter were down 9.9% for the quarter.

#### Projects:

- We replaced the main entry way with carpet tiles which are safer and a more desirable look than the metal boards that were coming up and in disrepair.
- Upgraded outdoor lighting for the Parish Outreach door

# WHAT'S NEW?

## Spring Cash Fling

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine. This fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. In addition, many parishioners enjoyed participating in it. Unfortunately, it was one of the many parts of parish life that was lost to Covid. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing. And so, we introduce the "Spring Cash Fling." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through March, April, and May.
- Drawing will be held in May.

Because we anticipate smaller participation, there will be a different pay scale:

- \* 1 Prize @ \$250
- \* 2 Prizes @ \$100
- \* 10 Prizes @ \$50
- \* 15 Prizes @ \$25



- This formula was based upon selling 250 tickets @ \$10 each. If more than 250 tickets are sold, the number of prizes will be increased. *(In the event the response is strong, we will resume a monthly drawing as soon as possible.)*
- Tickets will not be sold after Mass. Please use the tear-off tickets below. You may return your entries by placing them in an envelope and depositing it in the basket on weekends, or returning them to the Parish Office.

***Thank you for your support!***

### Spring Cash Fling

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Spring Cash Fling

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Spring Cash Fling

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Spring Cash Fling


Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# MEETINGS THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, March 21st</b>	<b>1 PM</b>
• BAPTISMS	Worship Area
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM Atrium
<b>Monday, March 22nd</b>	<b>4 - 6 PM</b>
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atrium/Chapel
<b>Tuesday, March 23rd</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
• IN STITCHES	Atrium
<b>Wednesday, March 24th</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
• TENEBRAE REHEARSAL	Worship Area
• BAPTISM PREP	7:30PM Worship Area
<b>Thursday, March 25th</b>	<b>7 PM</b>
• RCIA	Fr. Joe Room
<b>Friday, March 26th</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
• TENEBRAE	Worship Area

## Easter Mass Intentions

*In lieu of individual announced intentions at the Easter Masses, there are **prayer cards** in the atrium on which to write your special intentions. These cards will be placed on the Altar at all the Easter Masses.*



# LET US PRAY

## A Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:

You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize over the harm done to our brothers and sisters. Breathe wisdom into our prayers, soothe restless hearts with hope, steady shaken spirits with faith. Show us the way to justice and wholeness, enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform our brokenness. Grant us courage and wisdom, humility, and grace, so that we may act with justice and find peace in you.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

## Special Collection

This weekend we will be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund. Thank you for your support of this important collection!







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