

# The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +

[www.pothc.org](http://www.pothc.org) + [www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset](http://www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset)

**LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!**



**Come and pray with us!**

**Easter Sunday - April 1, 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 BAPTISM**

Baptisms are generally celebrated twice each month at 1 P.M. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**WE CELEBRATE RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M.

or call Father Michael for an appointment.

**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  
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



### April 7th/8th

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

## Mass Intentions Schedule



### Week of April 1st, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Christine Lofrese (living)  
**Tue.** Catherine Holzmann  
**Wed.** Marie Rizzo  
**Thu.** Tim Drey (living)

### Saturday, April 7th, 5 PM Mass

Henri-Robert Lamarque, Andrea & John Keenan,  
Ron Jensen, Berenice Giordano, John McAlister

### Sunday, April 8th, Divine Mercy Sunday

**8:00 AM** Mrs. O. DeSanto  
**9:30 AM** Catherine Holzmann, Kathleen Laconis,  
Robert Grant, Michael Fiederlein,  
Al Hornberger  
**11:30 AM** People of the Parish

## 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      Edward Newman**  
**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 April 8, 2018



+ Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35  
+ 1 John 5:1-6  
+ John 20:19-31

# Easter Blessings

*by Father Michael*

He is risen! Today is the day that defines our faith. It is from the first reports of an empty tomb that our hope begins to grow. As a holy people we stand at the foot of the cross and allow the gift of God's grace to fill our hearts. This day is offered to us as a reminder that in God's spirit all things can be made new. We need to bring the message of this day to the struggles and fears in each of our lives. And, we need to allow this message to touch the many issues of our community, nation and world.

Next Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. I will be leading the Chaplet of Divine Mercy after the 11:30 Mass. The format I am using has a musical setting. (But fear not, I will not be leading song). It is a simple but beautiful prayer. It is a time to pray for God's mercy and forgiveness. It only takes about 20 minutes. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at the conclusion of the prayer. Please consider joining us, and remember to bring your rosary beads.

Because of the special Easter Mass schedule, the monthly Anointing of the Sick will be moved to next Sunday after the 9:30 Mass.

There are quite a few great opportunities coming to Holy Cross. Our new program of spiritual enrichment entitled *Alpha* begins next week. See today's bulletin announcement for more information. This is the last opportunity to sign up. Mark your calendar for Sunday afternoon, April 15th, for a concert featuring our various music ministries with hospitality following. Also, plans for our June picnic are well underway. Please consider signing up as one of the many helping hands we need for this great undertaking. There are opportunities to sign up in the coming weeks.

We hope this Easter Day finally brings the warmth of spring. Certainly, this winter has hung on longer than any in recent memory. We will all welcome the sun and all the other signs of spring.

This week I plan to go to the Auto Show in NYC. I need some inspiration for getting a new vehicle. It looks like my Jeep is not going to pull through its latest transmission woes. At one point in time I had a more keen interest in cars. I still like to go to the auto show every few years to see what new and exciting buggies will be bouncing down the road.

May the joy of this Easter Day touch the heart of you and your loved ones. May we receive and rejoice in the new life that comes from our loving God. Happy Easter.

# PARISH NEWS



## Pray for Our Military

LCpl. Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC  
Sgt. Daniel Frost  
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA  
WO Christopher Kaminsky  
Cpl. Michael Knipper, USMC  
Lt. Ryan Montvydas  
IT2 Jason Mulderig

We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service. We will continue to pray for them through 2018. Please let us know at any time during 2018 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!



*Holy Cross  
welcomes  
these children  
Baptized in March*

Clell James Hall  
Aaron Edward Madden  
Ella Rose Mastro  
Cherie Nicole Passarelle  
Ava Jo Rello  
Julia Paige Schlick  
Madelyn Agnes Segal  
Aaliyah Ariel Slezak

## Divine Mercy Sunday

*Join Us!*

- Sunday, April 8th
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, after the 11:30 Mass, at 12:45 PM
- Bring your Rosary Beads

# 30TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE!

**CELEBRATE!**

## Holy Cross Dinner Dance!

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Parish of the Holy Cross is celebrating its 30th Anniversary with a Dinner Dance!

**When:** Friday, October 19, 2018

**Where:** The Meadow Club, 1147 Route 112, Port Jefferson Station

**Time:** 7 - 11 PM

Tickets will be on sale beginning the weekend of May 12 & 13 after all the Masses. Plan to be with us as we celebrate this important milestone in the life of our parish!

# 30TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC!

## Holy Cross Parish Picnic

Fun!



**Save the Date!!!**

Sunday, June 10th  
1PM - 5PM

Music!

Food!

at the Nesconset Gazebo  
on Smithtown Boulevard  
(right after the 11:30 Mass at HC)

Games!

Join us for a fun day of food, music and kids' activities! There will be fun for all ages! Free for all parishioners and their families!

Remember the fun we had at the 25th?!!!



A thousand people were there!

Many volunteers will be needed to set up, break down, flip burgers, serve food, supervise and conduct activities, provide entertainment and keep things flowing. There is still lots of planning to do. Whole groups can volunteer to work together. Community service opportunities.

Many hands make light work...won't need to work the whole picnic...plenty of time to play.

Volunteer sign-up opportunities after Masses April 7/8 & April 14/15.  
Or, if you want to offer help sooner or would like to help sponsor the event,  
leave a message in the parish office.

# 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT & MORE!



## Parish Concert!

April 15, 2018

In celebration of our 30 years, there will be an Anniversary Concert! Come see our different music ministers, our choir, and our youth band sing and pray some of our favorites! 3:00 start! We will serve refreshments and light snacks following. Please come and sing along with us!



## Basket Raffles

The wait is over! The Basket Raffle Fundraiser will be taking place the weekends of **April 14th-15th, 21st-22nd, and 28th-29th.**

Following the 11:30 Mass on April 29th, the lucky winners of the baskets will be drawn. Wine and cheese will be served. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting our Parish Fundraiser.



Fundraising Committee

# ALPHA IS COMING!

**Alpha** is an opportunity for adults to explore life and faith in a friendly, open, and informal atmosphere, using 3 key elements: food, information, and discussion.

Beginning on April 10, 2018, *Alpha* will be here at Holy Cross.

For 10 weeks, we will gather at 6:30PM, share a light meal, watch an informative DVD, and engage in small group discussion.

While we would love to see everyone at *Alpha*, space limits us to just 30 participants, so please register right away.

Questions? Call Jude at (631) 265-2200x16



Please fill in and return to the Parish Office (*We need to know how much food to prepare!*):

I am looking forward to participating in *Alpha*:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Eat Simply

HAPPY EASTER! Just a reminder to return your Eat Simply envelopes in the collection basket today.

We are so very grateful for the ways you have sacrificed this Lent in order to participate in our Eat Simply Program. May the Resurrection happen in your life this Easter!



## Community Vegetable Garden—Volunteers Needed!!!

It's Easter Sunday and spring is here which means we need to get our Community Vegetable Garden ready to be planted! The date is **April 21 from 8 to 12**. We need as many volunteers as possible to help clean up; the more volunteers, the faster we can get it done. The vegetable garden is a great thing for those households served by our Parish Outreach who don't have access to fresh vegetables. So, do something wonderful and join us April 21!

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Please mark your calendars for this year's shipwrecked Vacation Bible School at Holy Cross which will be held from Monday, July 9, through Friday, July 13, from 10 am to 1pm.

Registration forms for campers can be found on page 8 of the bulletin or on our web page, [www.pothc.org](http://www.pothc.org). This is for **campers** only, specifically children who are entering grades K through 5 in the fall of 2018. Please fill out the form and mail in your registration, or stop by the Religious Education office to register.



Inquiries regarding this popular, exciting, summer program can be made at 265-2200 ext. 19.

**\*\* Sign-up registration for helpers and counselors will be held at a later date.**

**Please keep posted via the bulletin.\*\***



# The Parish of the Holy Cross VBS Registration Form



July 9-13, 2018 10AM-1PM

Please print clearly / one per child

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering Sept. 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish if not Holy Cross: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/guardian emergency contact # / cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Father/guardian emergency contact # / cell # \_\_\_\_\_

**Important: Allergies or other medical conditions: Yes / No (please circle one)**  
**( if "yes" please fill out "Allergy Action Plan" form at time of registration. )**

**\*\*\* Under No circumstances may outside food be brought in.**

Fees:

\$60.00 for 1 camper

\$100.00 for 2 campers

\$140.00 for 3 or more  
campers

May **request one** name for a child to be placed with:

\_\_\_\_\_

This is only a request.

Campers may be placed in same crew OR group.  
Siblings will be placed together if requested.

*Photography release:* I hereby give / do not give permission for my child  
\_\_\_\_\_ to be photographed during the week at VBS.

(must circle one and sign) \_\_\_\_\_

**For Parish use only:**

Payments Made: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_  Cash  Check # \_\_\_\_\_



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Welcome to Holy Cross Religious Education

The Religious Education Office is planning ahead to the 2018-2019 Formation Year. We need your help so that we can adequately plan to meet the needs of our parish. If you have a child entering **First Grade in September you need to register**. If you have recently moved to our parish you need to register in the parish. Our program is "home based." Classes do not take place at the Church; rather they are held in the homes of our Catechists. Because of this, there are geographical limits on who we are able to accommodate. Please contact our office for more specific information.

- First time registration needs to be done in person at our office.
- Registration needs to be completed by June 15, 2018.
- Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00
- If your child was not baptized at Holy Cross you need to bring a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate.
- For those who are already part of our program, you need to re-register for the upcoming year. Materials will be sent to your home by the end of April and they may be returned by mail. Please note the deadline of June 15, 2018.

A detailed outline of our program is available on-line or at our office. But, there are a few important details to be noted.

- Children must successfully complete each grade level to proceed to the next.
- The Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation require a minimum of two years of preparation.

Most importantly, we need to work together. Faithful attendance at classes and parent workshops is essential. As comprehensive and informative as our program is, this is only one part of your child's faith formation. The greatest thing you can do to nurture your faith and the faith of your child is to regularly be part of our Sunday Eucharist.

The Catechism of the Church states that parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. We are privileged to work with you in this task. We thank you for your cooperation in allowing us to be part of your lives. We look forward to a fruitful year where everyone, young and old, continues to grow in understanding the gift of our faith.





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Easter 2018

Dear Friends:

Truly the Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

Today we speak these words which echo back to the first days of Christ's resurrection. After walking with Christ on the road to Calvary, we now joyfully go forth as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus with hearts burning within us. We celebrate the moment when Christ conquered death and gave us all hope of new life.

Even after nearly 2,000 years, that moment of the Resurrection has not lost any of its power. While myths and stories eventually fade, we celebrate a historical fact, a living Person who left behind lasting evidence of his wonders, evidence that the world still seeks to understand.

This is especially true today, as we find ourselves in an historic moment—archeologists have uncovered the site of Jesus' resurrection for the first time in nearly 500 years. Within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, scholars have restored and conducted research on the tomb of Jesus, also known as the Aedicule. Preliminary findings confirm that the heart of the structure is the same tomb that Roman Christians discovered and venerated as early as 326AD.

These findings offer us a great source of confidence in our faith. Scientific progress, rather than finding evidence against what we believe, through missionary archeology has given us a stronger connection with the place of Christ's burial and resurrection. Further, it provides a powerful image as we reflect upon our own spiritual lives this Easter.

In its 2,000-year history, Christ's tomb has endured many trials. It was covered over by slabs of stone, it withstood earthquakes, fires and the destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and many believed it had been lost. So too the life of Christ in our hearts can experience highs and lows—it may be covered over with our worries and concerns, it may be jeopardized in times of doubt and confusion, or we may even believe it has faded away.

Yet just as archeologists have opened up this holy site today, we are called this Easter to open our hearts once again to the power of Christ's love and mercy. We are called to remove the barriers from our hearts and allow Christ's glorified wounds to touch our wounds and the wounds of all humanity.

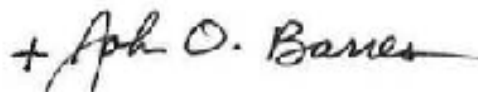
We profoundly experience this reality at the Easter Vigil. In the darkness of the night and in the darkness of our lives, the light of Christ is ignited. Beginning with the Paschal candle, that light is passed on from person to person until the Church is made radiant. The darkness in our hearts is dispelled, and even more beautifully, it is dispelled by the light that is shared by our brothers and sisters in faith. We see in a deeply moving way that Christ's light is spread by each of us who carry him with us. In that moment of unity and love, as the Exsultet proclaims, the Church shakes with joy.

The excitement of that evening is not limited to one day, but extends throughout the eight-day Easter Octave. Each day we are given another story of the Risen Christ, another reason to rejoice. We witness the sorrow of the devoted women at the tomb transform into joy, we see the despair of Christ's disciples transform into hope, and we watch the doubt of St. Thomas transform into faith. And on Divine Mercy Sunday, we celebrate the gift of God's mercy that touches the struggles of our own lives and transforms them into opportunities to grow in holiness. On that day we celebrate the true source of joy in the Gospel, the Good News: we are forgiven our sins and are called by God to strive for sanctity.

During this joyous season then, we recognize that the Risen Christ's presence, his touch, his personal words of assurance tangibly changed the lives of his followers, as they can change our own lives even today. Though Christ ascended into heaven, we remember that we can still have a personal relationship with him through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Church which were given at Pentecost. His presence has never left us.

Indeed most powerfully, Christ's presence remains in the Eucharist. While history tells us Christ lived 2,000 years ago, we know he still lives today. He is waiting in our Churches for us to come spend time with him. He is waiting in our tabernacles for us to come adore him. He is waiting for us to join him at the Mass each Sunday, where we can share in his suffering, death, and resurrection as if we were by his side those many years ago.

We are challenged this Easter to allow Christ to change our lives by his healing touch which gives faith, hope, and love. We commit ourselves to a radical fidelity to Sunday Mass, where Christ can enter our hearts and begin to transform them. And transformed, our hearts will burn within us, driving us all to spread the light of Christ and bring about *dramatic missionary growth* here in the Diocese of Rockville Centre and beyond.

  
Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

## EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF...

ANNE & EDWARD RUDNICKI  
IRENE GARCIA  
LUCY V. MAROTTA  
TRAVERS & THESTRUP FAMILIES  
GENEVIEVE & JOSEPH JAMROCK  
M/M EUGENE MANZO  
M/M ANTHONY BRUNO  
JOHN COCCORESE  
JOHN MCGUIRE & FAMILY  
GUILLERMA BANAGUAS  
ESTERINA SAGLIOCCA

ROCCO CAROFANO  
THERESA CAROFANO  
VITO MINERVA  
ALEC ROSS  
PERRINO-ITALIANO FAMILY  
EDMUND, LOU & JOSEPHINE  
BEATRICE HOLST  
GEORGE HOLST  
DAVID MCKINLEY  
THOMAS WALSH  
JOSEPHINE FERRARA

MICHAEL CASTORO  
LISA CASTORO  
ROBERT TAVIS  
JOSEPH MARINELLI  
ROSE MARINELLI  
NORA TAVIS  
DR. SUGA S. YUVIENCO  
JOSEPH MCLEAN  
THOMAS MCLEAN  
GUY PLOURDE  
M/M SOCCI

MALONEY & RAAB FAMILIES  
JERRY PADRONE  
CAROLYN & CAMILIO BECCARELLI  
PARENTS OF M/M JOHN DIFAZIO  
FRANCES COOPER



# 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** come and 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. Here are our upcoming youth events! Take a look:

**This weekend, on April 1st: There is no Youth Day or Night event: Easter Sunday! The Youth Group would like to wish everyone a wonderful Easter!**

**The following week, on April 8th: Youth Night 6 - 8PM! The activity will take place in the Atrium. All are welcome! :-)**

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



# EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF...

PARENTS OF M/M FRANK ANNUNZIO  
LARRY & CATHERINE FORBELL  
LINDA, ROSE & FRANK MARINO  
HERBERT & JOHN EANNACONE  
JAMES LECHNER  
ROSE & JOSEPH MARINELLI  
ROBERT TAVIS  
M/M FRANK TIBBETTS  
CHARLES TIBBETTS  
M/M W. CROSBY  
HOPE & LAURI ANNE LANG  
CAROLE ADAMSKI  
JULIA MALEK  
GERTRUDE COGLIANO  
MARIAN COMMISSO  
CRETELLA & DEPAOLO FAMILY  
EDMUND & ANNE MERLO  
JOSEPHINE, FLORENCE & ALBERT SASSANO  
EDWARD J. CREAN JR.  
JOHN CATHERALL  
WILLIAM LEMOROCCO  
FRANK & HELEN SACCO  
VINCENT & ROSE CADOLINO  
ARMAND CUTINELLA  
RAYMOND & AGATHA ANZALONE  
THOMAS & LENA MARTINO

VICTORIA CASDIA  
KATHERINE & DOROTHY SCHNEIDER  
IRENE KUCZWAJ  
LORRAINE HARRINGTON  
CARMELA & MICHAEL TERRANOVA  
SICIGNANO & PETRIZZO FAMILY  
J & S LAMARTINA  
T & F DUNN  
BRUNO & SCHREIBER FAMILIES  
TIMOTHY DALY  
HENRY J. KNIPPER  
MICHAEL KNIPPER  
JANE & JOHN J. DALY  
MARGARET MAHER  
CEPRIANO, ERNESTO, VIOLETA BALIWAG  
MADELINE & JOSEPH CROWLEY  
PADOVANO & ROCCO FAMILIES  
DONALD WYNNE  
STEFANO LOPICCOLO  
HOLT FAMILY  
FRED & ELEANOR MEYER  
WESLEY KAMINSKY  
PETER FILIBERTO  
FRANCIS DASTIS  
CATHERINE CLINTON  
ANDREW DRAGUNAT

ANN & AL ZIMMERMANN  
CAROL KLOETZER  
MICHAEL JOSEPH CLIFFORD  
CHARLES KASTEL  
PEGGY & EDDIE SULLIVAN  
REIDY FAMILY  
JOSEPH & DOROTHY GOEBEL  
NIEL & IDA COOKE  
NANI & POP POP COONEY  
SHAWN CORRIGAN  
CYRIL WATSON JR.  
FRANK & THERESA ROMITO  
CYRIL & GLORIA WATSON SR.  
BARBARA DUB  
JEAN GAGLIARDO  
NICK GAGLIARDO  
HANLEY & NOWATIUS FAMILIES  
PETER MEDARO  
M/M JOSEPH SKWAREK  
M/M HANS KRAMER  
DOROTHY & HAROLD KOHLER  
CLIFFORD CANZONA  
THEODORE J. & MARIE KOERICK  
SALVATORE & VINCENZA CASTRONOVO  
CARLO LONGO  
ANN & LARRY TSCHUMI

# EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF...

SUSAN MANUEL  
DOMINICK & MARY VERDI  
SALVATORE ROSSELLI  
ROBERT TALAY  
THERESA BIGOTTI  
MARY CARROLL  
EMMA EMERSON  
ANNE MATTERA  
JOHN & GRACE PERSICH  
JERRY MULDERIG SR.  
MORENO FAMILY  
O'CONNOR FAMILY  
MICHAEL, MARY & PEG TURANO  
GAETANA GROBLUSKI  
CARL WOHLFORTH  
NANCY ANN MCKENNA  
THOMAS & JULIA MORSELLI  
ANTHONY & GRACE MARRAZZO  
SANDRA SAFIANOW  
JEANETTE FOY  
FELIX KUST  
CHARLES HANER  
WILLIAM FORD  
WILLIAM RYDER  
ANN & JIM BRENNAN  
CARMELA & MICHAEL TERRANOVA  
THOMAS BROPHY  
AGNES & JAMES CAIN  
ERNEST TETO  
FLO CANGELERI  
VICTOR LAMARQUE  
HENRI-ROBERT LAMARQUE  
JOHN JACUBOVICS  
RICHARD P. CANALINI  
ADA & NICHOLAS CANALINI  
THERESA & ANTHONY CARACCILO  
ONORINA CAPONE  
FRANK & PATRICIA MESSINA  
DOMENICK & JOHN ABBATE  
HARTMANN FAMILY  
KLEIN FAMILY  
STANISLAW & JANINA KULESZA  
CZESLAWA WOLCZAK  
SHIRLEY BAAS  
PHILIP BIASE  
VIRGINIA FORTUNATO  
SAM & VIRGINIA CHASINOV  
JOSEPH & LUCY LESCINSKI  
MARYLYN EVANS  
ANTONIO & ROSA MARTINS'  
GRANDPARENTS  
MR. LESLIE OLSEN  
GIUSEPPE PELLITTERI  
BRONISLAW MARCHEWKA  
EDMUND KARWOWSKI  
ELEANORA, ANTHONY & JOSEPH TROVATO  
MILDRED & WILLIAM WILKINSON  
FORERO FAMILY

LIPNICKI FAMILY  
NICK LANDIO  
FRANK MOTTO  
FORTE FAMILY  
LEVANDI FAMILY  
DIANE & ENRICO FORTE  
GRACE LEVANDI  
RUBEN VAZQUEZ PINTOR  
ORNELLA & ANTHONY CICERONE  
MARY & DOMINICK IADANZA  
JAMES PICKEL  
PICKEL FAMILY  
CONLIN FAMILY  
MARY & GENE CALHOUN  
ANN & ED HAU  
BARBARA MARTIN  
CATHERINE & JIMMY TAFURI  
PAUL DIGREGORIO  
JOSEPH & JULIA PRIMERANO  
ANTHONY & ANNA SFORZA  
SONNY GARCIA  
RAYMOND FICHTER  
OLGA & HERMANN KUETHMANN  
ROSE RUSSO  
HELEN GUILIANO  
MOM & DAD KUCZWAJ  
MOM & DAD MAKOWSKI  
MARIE & PETER GALLO  
MARGARET & MICHAEL KASCSAK  
WILLIAM F. SHEA  
MARY & EUGENE BISSELL  
ROSE & DANIEL PACIELLO  
RUTH, DANIEL & KEVIN NOLAN  
DONATO & GEORGE RIVERA  
BERNARD CORNELL  
JOHN M. SCHULTZ  
SISTER MARION SNOW  
JOHN GIBBONS  
ANNE M. GEISEL  
ANTHONY FRANGOISE  
PAULINE RAHILLY  
M/M NICHOLAS LAMB  
M/M WILLIAM MCQUADE  
M/M SILVERIO CONTE  
ANNA & SABINO CERVONE  
ZELTMANN FAMILY  
SIMS FAMILY  
BURKE SAMSON  
GENEVIEVE, WILFRED & ROBERT FLINN  
NORA SHEEHY  
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### DOMESTIC JUSTICE AND EDUCATION CHAIRMEN URGE CONCRETE ACTIONS TO ADDRESS SCOURGE OF GUN VIOLENCE

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March 5, 2018

WASHINGTON—In the aftermath of the tragic attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, and Bishop George V. Murry, S.J., of Youngstown, Ohio, Chairman of the Committee on Catholic Education, urged national leaders to finally come together and address the crisis of gun violence in a comprehensive way.

The full statement follows:

"Once again, we are confronted with grave evil, the murder of our dear children and those who teach them. Our prayers continue for those who have died, and those suffering with injuries and unimaginable grief. We also continue our decades-long advocacy for common-sense gun measures as part of a comprehensive approach to the reduction of violence in society and the protection of life.

Specifically, this moment calls for an honest and practical dialogue around a series of concrete proposals—not partisanship and overheated rhetoric. The idea of arming teachers seems to raise more concerns than it addresses. Setting a more appropriate minimum age for gun ownership, requiring universal background checks (as the bishops have long advocated), and banning 'bump stocks' are concepts that appear to offer more promise. We must explore ways to curb violent images and experiences with which we inundate our youth, and ensure that law enforcement have the necessary tools and incentives to identify troubled individuals and get them help.

Most people with mental illness will never commit a violent act, but mental illness has been a significant factor in some of these horrific attacks. We must look to increase resources and seek earlier interventions.

For many years, the [USCCB has supported](#) a federal ban on assault weapons, limitations on civilian access to high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines, further criminalizing gun trafficking, certain limitations on the purchase of handguns, and safety measures such as locks that prevent children and anyone other than the owner from using guns without permission.

The advocacy by survivors of the Parkland shooting—and young people throughout our nation—is a stark reminder that guns pose an enormous danger to the innocent when they fall into the wrong hands. The voices of these advocates should ring in our ears as they describe the peaceful future to which they aspire. We must always remember what is at stake as we take actions to safeguard our communities and honor human life. In the words of St. John, 'let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth' (1 Jn. 3:18)."

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Keywords: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB, Bishop Frank J. Dewane, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, Bishop George V. Murry, Committee on Catholic Education, gun violence, Parkland, Florida, high-capacity weapons, gun trafficking, Second Amendment, U.S. Constitution, common good

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