

# 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!**

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 12, 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 Summer Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:30 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-Coordinator 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



### August 18th/19th

5:00 PM Fr. Michael  
8:00 AM Fr. Michael  
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:

Maria Conte Denise Lamarque  
Maryann League Linda Lebrun  
Paul Malley Connie & Fred Polik

## Scripture Readings for August 19, 2018



+ Proverbs 9:1-6  
+ Ephesians 5:15-20  
+ John 6:51-58

## Banns of Marriage Second Time

Maria Spiteri & Bryan Weber

## Mass Intentions Schedule



### Week of August 12th, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** John McGovern (living)  
**Tue.** Francis Ostrander (living)  
**Thu.** Jeanette Mancuso

### Tuesday, August 14th, 7 PM Vigil Mass

Neal & Concetta Romano

### Wed., Aug. 15th, Assumption of the BVM Masses

7 AM Bob DeFilippis  
9 AM James Helmke

### Saturday, August 18th, 5 PM Mass

Carmela & Michael Terranova, Anthony Misiti,  
Jean Brown

### Sunday, August 19th, 20th Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
9:30 AM Donna Armine  
11:30 AM Al Hornberger, Christopher Scavetta,  
Jerry Pellegrino, Marion Budreo

# Heavenly Thoughts

*by Father Michael*

I continue to enjoy my river cruise on the Danube. As I have done in the past, I try to offer something a little different with my bulletin column when I am away during the summer.

These past few months have been a time of mourning for me as I grieve the death of my Mom. As many of you know, it is a long process of feelings and emotions that have to run their course. Sometimes it feels as though you are moving forward, other times backwards. Sometimes it is reliving happy memories, sometimes it is wishing you could change the past.

I share with you one of my thoughts. First, as a disclaimer, none of what I am about to say is formal Church teaching or doctrine. It is simply one of the images that entered my head. I might be on track, or I could be way off base. The topic of my imagination is reflecting on what heaven might be like.

What if our experience of heaven was based entirely on what happened in this life? What if heaven were simply reliving all the experiences we had in this life? We could add nothing to or change any experience we have had. For all eternity we would rejoice in those moments when we gave or received love here on earth, but now we do so in the presence of our loving God.

Do you have enough material to fill the time? After all, it is eternity. There would certainly be defining moments in our lives that would be easy to recall. But, there would be countless ordinary moments that can easily be forgotten. Many times in our lives we have experiences that are truly gifts and blessings of God's grace. We need to be mindful of the varied events that are part of the human journey: vacations, meals with family and friends, reaching out to strangers, sharing intimate moments with your spouse, celebrations, experiences of grace that come through ministry and service. Maybe that is why we are called to live a reflective life, so that we fully appreciate even those smaller moments we live.

What about our sin and failings? There would be no hitting the rewind button. Perhaps we would relive those moments simply with an awareness of how we could have loved better. There would be no guilt, embarrassment, or shame, just an awareness of how love could have been used in a way to bring about life, not hurt; to be for someone else and not for self. Maybe that is what purgatory is.

I know this is not a perfect image of heaven. But, it is one that prompts us to look at how we embrace life. Jesus often spoke of God's kingdom here among us. Too often we associate God's kingdom with what awaits us after death. There is truth to that. But, there is also truth in knowing we can experience foretastes of that gift here in this life.

If there is any grain of truth to my ramblings, it may encourage us to live life fully now. If ever you had the desire to visit Cleveland, or to help children, or learn to play the banjo, or to make peace with your sister-in-law, this is the time to do it. Don't plan on getting it done after the journey of this life is done.

To reflect upon the hereafter can be a profound exercise. Logic and reason can only take us so far, imagination and prayer can help. But, in the end it is ultimately a gift and mystery not yet fully revealed. So, we strive to be a people who live in hope. We trust in the love of a God who will fill our hearts with joy for eternity. And, we strive to know that same God here and now and realize how blessed we are.

# HOLY DAY SCHEDULE



The Parish Office is closed on Wednesday, August 15th, for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day.

Please note the Mass times:

Tuesday, August 14th, at 7 PM &  
Wednesday, August 15th, at 7 AM & 9 AM

# ATTENTION HOLY CROSS VOLUNTEERS

VIRTUS Training, *Protecting God's Children for Adults*, will be offered at Holy Cross on:

**Thursday, September 27, 2018, 6:30 – 9:00 PM**

As you know, all employees and volunteers are required by the Diocese to attend one of these sessions. (Those who have already attended VIRTUS are not required to go again.) If you have not yet taken VIRTUS training, **please register on-line right away**, as the number of participants is limited to 20.

To register, go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org), click on the yellow tab labeled "Registration," and follow the directions. The name of our *organization* is Diocese of Rockville Centre. Our *center* is Holy Cross RCC (Nesconset).

If you have any questions, or need help with the registration, please call Jude at 631-265-2200x16.

# CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume at the 11:30 Mass on Sunday, September 9th, in the Fr. Joe Room. Children's Liturgy, for children in grades K-3, is held every Sunday from September to May, except for holiday weekends. We are looking for additional leaders and helpers for this fall. Time commitment is dependent on the number of leaders and helpers we have. If you are over 18 and would be interested in becoming a leader or are in grades 4 through 12 and would be interested in becoming a helper, please consider joining this ministry. Community service hours and training are available. Please contact **Karyn at 631-648-3594** for more information.



# PARISH OUTREACH



## School Supplies Program



**It's Not Too Late...**



**...to shop for school supplies or gift cards.**



**New items can be dropped off in  
the Atrium on Monday, August 13th  
until 12:00 noon.**



**Thank you for your generous  
support!**



# RCIA

***Are you seeking Baptism? Are you a baptized Catholic who never celebrated First Communion and Confirmation? Have you been baptized in another Christian faith and now desire to become Catholic?***

If your answer is "YES" to any of these questions, we want to hear from you. The Church gives us a beautiful process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who seek to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This year's RCIA will be starting soon. If you're interested and would like additional information, please contact Jude Pickel at 631-265-2200 x16.



**RCIA**



# HOLY CROSS TRAVEL CLUB



## **ALPINE EUROPE**

*with*

## **The Passion Play of Oberammergau**

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*With Spiritual Director*

***Fr. Michael Holzmann***

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**Price Includes: Roundtrip air from New York, first class/select hotels, hotels & guesthouses in Oberammergau, first class (Category 1) admissions tickets for the Passion Play, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing with an English-speaking guide and more!!**

**Detailed information is available in the Parish Office.**

**Call the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 to hold your seat!**

**Deposits are now being accepted.**

# SAME DATE & TIME, DIFFERENT VENUE!

Due to a fire at the Meadow Club in Port Jefferson Station, the Dinner Dance has a new venue. The date and time are the same, but the location has changed. Spread the word! Come join us. We'd love to see you there!

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

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

**Where:** Miller Place Inn  
195 North Country Road, Miller Place

**Time:** 7 - 11 PM



Thank you for your support.  
We look forward to our  
Anniversary Dinner Dance on  
October 19th.

There will be no ticket sales after Masses during July and August. Tickets can be purchased by check, cash or credit card at the Parish Office during these months (office hours are 9am to 2:30pm).

We will resume ticket sales on the weekend of September 8th/9th after all the Masses. See you in September!

# SAVE THE DATE!



## Guest Speaker!

*Join us on Sunday, September 16th, at 3PM!  
Sister Pat Duffy will be our guest speaker!*

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## A Friendly Reminder from Religious Education

Registration for our 2018-2019 Religious Education Program is past due. If you would like to register your child in our Religious Education program, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!



# CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL UPDATE

Here is an update on the status of the 2018 Appeal here at Holy Cross:

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>	<u># of Donors</u>	<u>% of Goal</u>
\$65,000.00	\$54,455.00	(\$10,545.00)	259	83.8%

When payments reach 100% of our goal, we receive a rebate of 20% or \$13,000. Please help your community and your parish by supporting the CMA!

Make checks payable to:  
Catholic Ministries Appeal

Please note: If you choose to donate on the Diocesan website, [drvc.org](http://drvc.org), our church is listed as **Church of the Holy Cross**.

Parish Parish of the Holy Cross—176

Pledge: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Down payment: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Please join our FORMED online community!

We're pleased to announce the availability of **FORMED**, an online library of movies, classes, inspirational talks, and a great selection of ebooks and other Catholic based programming accessed through your computer.

We are providing this resource free of charge to help our parishioners learn and grow in their faith. Normally, an annual subscription to FORMED costs a parish \$1,750 a year. There was a generous benefactor who created a grant for all the parishes in our Diocese that wished to join. The cost to Holy Cross for this year is only \$600. We thought it was a good opportunity for our parish to participate.

This is a new tool for all of us. In the coming weeks and months ahead the Pastoral Team will make some recommendations for specific presentations that we find helpful. Please feel free to explore on your own and discover programming that you find inspirational and uplifting. **Please follow the instructions below to gain access to this wealth of material.**

**Registration is free and easy:**

- Go to <https://pothc.formed.org>
- Click "Register"
- Enter your name, email address and desired password
- You can also register using our Parish Code: **G3RCZH**

Also, once you have signed up, don't forget to download the free iOS or Android app to put FORMED at your fingertips. We hope you will enjoy this incredible gift, and please spread the word to others.

**Nourish your soul. Spread the word.**

Blessings,  
Fr. Michael

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# CASH CALENDAR

## Parish of the Holy Cross ~ Cash Calendar August 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>\$10 Per Chance</b>	<b>31 Chances to Win \$50 per Day</b>	<b>\$500 on August 15</b>	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 \$50	15 <b>\$500</b>	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	

*Cash Calendar, AUGUST 2018*

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*Cash Calendar, AUGUST 2018*

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*Cash Calendar, AUGUST 2018*

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# MEETINGS THIS WEEK

<b>Saturday, August 11th</b>	<b>5 PM</b>
• SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTED	Atrium
<b>Sunday, August 12th</b>	<b>All Masses</b>
• SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTED	Atrium
• BAPTISMS	1PM Worship Area
<b>Tuesday, August 14th</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• ASSUMPTION OF BVM VIGIL MASS 7PM	Worship Area
<b>Wednesday, August 15th</b>	<b>7 AM &amp; 9 AM</b>
• ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM MASSES	Worship Area
<i>(The Parish Office is closed for the Holy Day.)</i>	

# COMMUNITY NEWS

**Gennesaret Retreat** is for those facing serious illness. A retreat especially designed for persons who live with a serious illness is planned for September 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 2018 at Montfort Spirituality Center in Bay Shore.

This retreat offers a respite, a quiet time, an oasis, to enable one to continue the journey. The retreat focuses on God's love, His forgiveness and His faithfulness.

To register or receive more information about this weekend, please call Colette Fanelli at 631-665-7052.

# SPECIAL COLLECTION

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

# RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



## Religious Liberty & Adoption Services

[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

Faith-based adoption agencies in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., Illinois and California, including Catholic Charities agencies, have been forced to shut down because of anti-discrimination laws. The agencies' policies of placing children only with married husband and wife couples have conflicted with expanding legal requirements to place children with same-sex couples.

These agencies have long provided adoption and foster care services to the neediest of children. Catholic Charities specializes in the most difficult placements, including older, abused children and children with special needs. When state legislatures failed to carve out a religious exemption, these agencies were faced with a difficult choice: violate their consciences or close their doors.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "It's true that the church doesn't have a First Amendment right to a government contract, but it does have a First Amendment right not to be excluded from a contract based on its religious beliefs."

Fortunately, laws supporting religious liberty and granting legal protections to faith-based adoption agencies have been passed in Kansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia and Michigan. Said the Kansas Catholic Conference Director, "This is a matter of activist groups who don't like certain religious beliefs and they want to use the power of the government to crush people that operate according to those religious beliefs."





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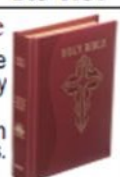
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