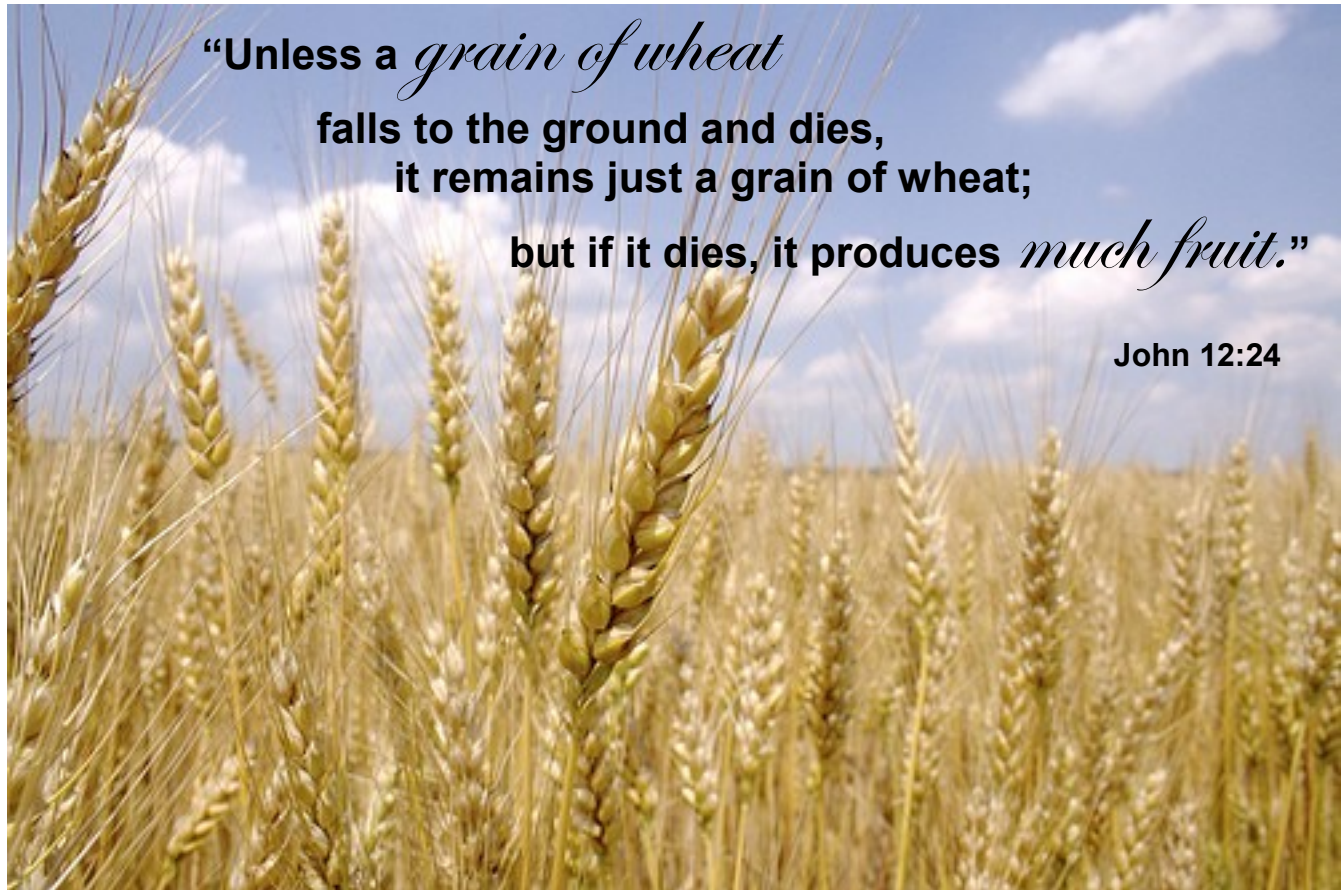


The Parish of the Holy Cross

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LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



“Unless a *grain of wheat*

falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces *much fruit.*”

John 12:24

Come and pray with us!

Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 18, 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)

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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

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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 24th/25th

5:00 PM Fr. Michael
8:00 AM Fr. Michael
9:30 AM Fr. Michael
11:00 AM Fr. Frank Eisele
12:30 PM Fr. Frank

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of March 18th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Michael Corcoran
Tue. Steve & Lorraine Drey (living)
Wed. Tom Matteo
Thu. Marie Rizzo



Saturday, March 24th, 5 PM Mass

Lucy Follo, Isabella Smith, Angelo Buffa, Giuseppe Misiti, Francesca Misiti

Sunday, March 25th, Palm Sunday

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Alec Ross
11:00 AM Victor Lamarque, Catherine Holzmann, Liam Armstrong, Ellen Stack, Robert Talay
12:30PM Josephine O'Shea

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 25, 2018



+ Isaiah 50:4-7
+ Philippians 2:6-11
+ Mark 14:1-15:47

The Calendar Says It's Spring

by Father Michael

This winter is one that is not going to sneak by unnoticed. We have been continually reminded that cold, ice and snow are part of this season. Sometimes it is a tough call whether to open or close the parish. This past Tuesday, early in the morning I made the decision to close for the day. However, by 1:00 PM most of the storm had passed although our lot had not yet been fully plowed. We could have had our evening activities, but at that point we had announced we were closed for the day. I think our schools have to make up at least one day in the spring because of all the snow days this season. But, believe it or not spring arrives this week.

This weekend is St. Patrick's day. Being German and Hungarian, I have never gotten really excited over the day, although I do enjoy a nice dish of corned beef and cabbage. For those of you who are Irish or Irish-in-Spirit, I hope you enjoyed some happy festivities.

As I announced at Mass last weekend, we had a wonderful parish trip to New Orleans along with a 5-day cruise. Unfortunately, when we got off the ship to head to the airport we learned that our flight back to New York was cancelled because of the storm that week. Happily, we had some guardian angels from the bus company help find a hotel for the group for the night as well as some activities to fill our extra day. In addition to those who helped work out the logistics, I am so grateful for the spirit of patience and cooperation that our travelers had. It would have been easy to get grumpy and complain. But, everyone hung in there as we addressed the problem step by step. Most of the group got home about 30 hours later than originally scheduled.

One of the things I was grateful for on the cruise was being able to offer Sunday Mass for the entire ship. The cruise lines offer a private space for our little group to pray and have Mass on a daily basis. But, for some reason they can be reluctant in allowing the Mass to be open to everyone on board the ship. I was pleased that the Group Coordinator on our ship was amenable in allowing and publicizing a large Mass. We had almost 100 folks attend who were grateful that this was offered. Through the years I have said Mass in some unusual locations such as on the stump of a redwood tree in California and at the rim of the Grand Canyon. I can now add a bar and dance club on deck 13 of a cruise ship to my list of holy sanctuaries.

Next weekend is Palm Sunday. We could use some additional helping hands to distribute the palm. If you can arrive about 15 minutes before Mass and assist with this, your help would be most appreciated. Please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the atrium so we know how much coverage we have for each Mass.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

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 23rd, at 7:30 PM** as we prepare our hearts and minds for the great gift of Holy Week to follow.



Diocese of Rockville Centre Golden Wedding Liturgy

This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. Mass will begin at 2:30PM. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at your parish office. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by April 13, 2018. If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800 ext. 504.

Alpha is coming - really!!

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: _____

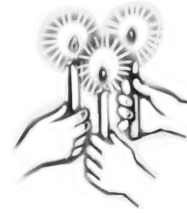
Email: _____

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Easter 2018

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Friday, March 23, 2018 7:30 PM



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Saturday, March 24th: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

*Monday, March 26th: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM &
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM*

Good Friday, March 30th: following 9:00 AM Morning Prayer (up to 10:00 AM)

Holy Saturday, March 31st: following 9:00 AM Morning Prayer (up to 10:00 AM)



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY 2018

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 25, 2018

Saturday 3/24/18: 5:00 PM Mass

*Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,
11:00 AM & 12:30 PM*

← please note Mass times

HOLY THURSDAY

MARCH 29, 2018

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Children's Service - 5:00 PM

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

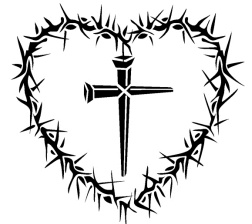
MARCH 30, 2018

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Children's Service - 12:00 Noon

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

with Veneration of the Cross - 3:00 PM



HOLY SATURDAY

MARCH 31, 2018

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Solemn Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM

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



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 1, 2018

Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM & 12:30 PM

← please note
Mass times

PARISH NEWS

Holy Cross Parish Picnic

Save the Date!!!

Sunday, June 10th

1PM - 5PM

at the Nesconset Gazebo



(right after the 11:30 Mass at HC)

Easter Flowers

Easter Flower Offering envelopes may be placed in the collection basket. Names of loved ones will appear in the Easter bulletin.

Easter Intentions

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

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are having their Membership Drive **this weekend** after all the Masses. Please be sure to stop by the table in the Atrium after Mass to find out all the wonderful things our Blessed Sacrament Council Knights of Columbus are doing and how you can become a part of it!



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 in the bulletin (next week) or on our web page, 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.**

YOUTH NEWS

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, 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:

- **March 18th: We will have a Youth Night, 6 - 8PM, in the Atrium!**
- **March 25th: No Youth Day/Night Event—Palm Sunday Weekend!**

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.



Joe Merlino's Eagle Scout Car Wash Fundraiser

Please come support me in helping our parish by buying a ticket to my **Eagle Scout Car Wash Fundraiser** event in the Atrium at all of the Masses on March 17 and 18. (My Eagle Scout Project is to build a fence around the Outreach Community Vegetable Garden.)



You can also just come by without a ticket on **March 24** when the actual Car Wash will be held from **10AM to 2PM** in the Holy Cross parking lot. Any donations are appreciated.

Thank you!
Joe Merlino



PARISH OUTREACH

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
- Students donate the money they would have spent on a snack
- 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. Thank you!

Long Island Cares Food Drive this Weekend!

Please place your non-perishable food items in the boxes in the Atrium. Thank you for reaching out beyond our community to help the struggling on Long Island.



SOUP SUPPER PHOTOS!

On Thursday, March 8th, parishioners gathered at Holy Cross to enjoy a simple meal of soup together. They had a wonderful time! Here are some pictures from the evening:



*Soup is a lot like a family.
Each ingredient enhances
the others; each batch has
its own characteristics;
and it needs time to
simmer to reach
full flavor.*

Marge Kennedy



CASH CALENDAR



Parish of the Holy Cross ~ CASH CALENDAR

MARCH 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
\$10 per chance \$60 per day 31 Chances to win \$500 on March 17				\$50	\$50	\$50
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$500
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50 ^{Good Friday}	\$50

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TOWN _____
 PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TOWN _____
 PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

NAME _____
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Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

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Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

NAME _____
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 PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2018

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TOWN _____
 PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 17th		5:00 PM
• L.I. CARES FOOD DRIVE		Atrium
• K OF C MEMBERSHIP DRIVE		Atrium
• EAGLE SCOUT CARWASH PRE-SALE		Atrium
Sunday, March 18th		All Masses
• L.I. CARES FOOD DRIVE		Atrium
• K OF C MEMBERSHIP DRIVE		Atrium
• EAGLE SCOUT CARWASH PRE-SALE		Atrium
• BAPTISMS	1PM	Worship Area
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium
Monday, March 19th		5:00 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES		Atrium
Tuesday, March 20th		10:00 AM
• IN STITCHES		Fr. Joe Room
• FINANCE COMMITTEE	7:30PM	Fr. Joe Room
• TENEBRAE REHEARSAL		Worship Area
Wednesday, March 21st		5:00 PM
• LEVEL 4 MASS WALK THRU		Chapel
• LEVEL 2 CATECHIST MTG.	7PM	Atrium
Thursday, March 22nd		1:30 or 7:00 PM
• LEVEL 2 CATECHIST MTG.		Atrium
Friday, March 23rd		7:30 PM
• TENEBRAE		Worship Area
Saturday, March 24th		10:00 AM
• WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT		Fr. Joe Room
• EAGLE SCOUT CARWASH	10AM-2PM	HC Parking Lot
• CONFESSION	3:30-4:30PM	Chapel
Sunday, March 25th		8,9:30,11AM,12:30PM
• PALM SUNDAY MASSES		Worship Area

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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Turning Lemons Into Lemonade

www.cffor.org

When the atheist Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) threatened West Branch H.S. in Beloit, Ohio, insisting they ban offering a short prayer before athletic events, they didn't expect that hundreds of young people would arrive at games with a better idea. More than half the attendees at a recent game wore "Prayer Matters" T-shirts and, when the team played on the road, the home team they visited made and wore their own "Prayer Matters" tees in a sign of solidarity.

By mid-February over 5,000 "Prayer Matters" T-shirts were sold.

"Everybody's really coming together to support the prayer issue," said a local pastor. "We're having more conversations about prayer and the Gospel than we've ever had before."

Rather than being discouraged by the FFRF's efforts to censor prayer, a pastor enthusiastically declared, "The opportunities to talk about prayer and the Gospel are tremendous. . .all because of "No Prayer at Basketball Games!"

These students are showing millions of Americans how to thwart the overreach of a special interest minority, just as the Founding Fathers intended.

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28



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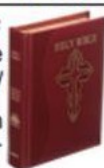
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