



Parish of the Holy Cross

Let All Who Enter 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.

*"Behold, I come;
In the scroll of the book
it is written of me.*

Psalm 40:7-8

*I delight to do Your will, O my God,
and Your law is within my heart."*

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time - January 18, 2026



Come and Pray with Us!

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 livestreamed on Facebook.

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM;

Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200
www.holycrossrc.org + www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

PASTORAL TEAM

Reverend Michael F. Holzmah..... Ext. 115
Pastor

Deacon Joseph Maffeo..... Ext. 124
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Judith Pickel..... Ext. 116
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Michele Hall..... Ext. 120
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Jennifer Miller..... Ext. 112
Coordinator of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Kelley Mowat..... Ext. 113
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

PHONE: (631) 265-2200

FAX: (631) 265-2229

EMAIL: parish@holycrossrc.org

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - THURSDAY
9 AM - 4 PM
(closed 12:15-1 PM)**

**Parish Office
FRIDAY HOURS
9 AM - 12 NOON**

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth..... Ext. 122
Parish Secretary

Mrs. Mary Pannone..... Ext. 111
Religious Ed. Secretary

Ms. Karina D'Angelo..... Ext. 110
Business Manager

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Webmaster

Mr. Roberto Maza
Custodian

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

Mrs. Susan Ribeiro
Bulletin Editor
email: susanr@holycrossrc.org

OUTREACH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Evening Hours by Appointment Only

**Please note: the date of the next Holy Hour
has been changed for February.**



**HOLY HOUR
Saturday, February 14th
3:45pm - 4:45pm
in the Worship Area**

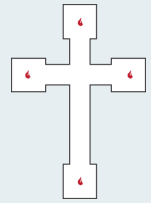
Please come and spend some time
with the Lord in personal prayer
as you pray before
the Blessed Sacrament
during the Parish Holy Hour.

Visit our website at **www.holycrossrc.org**
for more information on how we can serve you.



HAPPY TO BE ORDINARY

Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael



The Christmas season is now behind us and we are once again in Ordinary Time, at least for a few weeks. Ash Wednesday will come soon enough. It was a wondrous and uplifting season here at our parish. Our overall attendance was up a bit from last year. We broke the 2,000 mark in total attendance with the Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 being the most crowded. The Worship Area always looks so beautifully decorated. I am grateful to all the helping hands that allowed our celebration of Christmas to be a joyful and hopeful celebration for all. I am also grateful for all the Christmas goodies and gifts that Santa's helpers left behind. The festivities and decorations of the season are always joyful, but beyond that, it is spiritually nourishing to be reminded that our God has come and dwells among us. I pray your Christmas was a holy one.

The most interesting gift Santa brought me was a Himalayan salt block. At first, I had no clue what it was. It is about an inch and a half thick and about the size of a cutting board. It is slowly heated on the stove top, and then you cook directly on the salt block. It is supposed to add a unique flavor to the recipe. I have been told it is particularly effective when cooking fish. I have yet to give it a try, but I am looking forward to a new cooking experience.

Although attendance was higher, our total Christmas collection was a couple of thousand dollars less than last year. However, regular weekly donations have remained strong. Since the financial report was given in June, there has been a modest increase in overall collections. Additional parishioners signed up for the monthly ACH donations (electronic giving), which helps us tremendously. For example, we had two snowfalls this year that coincided with weekends. Understandably, collections are lower those weekends. The lost income is not gained back the following weekend. Having a regular stream of income through ACH donations minimizes the impact of inclement weekends. Those wintery days make our Worship Area even more picturesque. But the downside to this is we have already spent more on snow removal and sanding this year than we had the past two years. I pray all the fury of this winter has already passed. Thank you to all who regularly and generously support our work and ministry.

The Holy Father officially ended the Jubilee Year on January 6, which was the Feast of the Epiphany. The theme that the universal Church embraced was Pilgrims of Hope. In different ways we tried weaving that theme into our prayer here at Holy Cross, and I hope it was beneficial to your own spiritual journey. Next weekend we will be introducing a theme that we will use more locally here at our parish. The theme is "Called to Compassion/Changing Our World with God's Love." This idea came about from the Religious Education Congress that many of the staff and parishioners attended last February. In different ways we hope to build on that invitation. A deeper commitment to seek compassion can bring about change in our hearts, our community, and beyond. I pray this will be a fruitful endeavor for us. Indeed, there will be more to come on this.

A few last-minute seats have become available for the Ireland trip which is April 18-27. If anyone is interested, let me know and I will get you the necessary information.



2026

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

ON THE CALENDAR

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



JANUARY 24

5:00 PM

FR. MICHAEL

JANUARY 25

8:00 AM

FR. MICHAEL

9:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS for JANUARY 25

+ Isaiah 8:23-9:3

+ 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

+ Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday, January 18th **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**
11:30AM, Fr. Joe Room

Sunday, January 18th **BAPTISMS**
1:00PM, Worship Area

Monday, January 19th **DAILY MASS**
9:00AM Mass, Chapel

Monday, January 19th **PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED**
In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 20th **IN STITCHES**
10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room

Tuesday, January 20th **MOMS' GROUP**
7:30PM, Fr. Joe Room

Wednesday, January 21st **GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER**
1:30PM, Chapel

Thursday, January 22nd **LEVEL 8 PRAYER SERVICE**
7:00PM, Atrium, Worship Area

Thursday, January 22nd **OCIA**
7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room

Saturday, January 24th **YCC HOSPITALITY**
After 5:00PM Mass, Atrium

Sunday, January 25th **YCC HOSPITALITY**
After 11:30AM Mass, Atrium



Practice of Charity

(Excerpt from "At Home with the Word 2026")

The readings this week remind us of how our baptism calls us to practice our faith through acts of charity. St. John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is the Son of God who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. St. Paul tells us we are "sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy" (1 Cor 1:2). Do you know how to answer this call to sanctification? Pope Francis teaches, "This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures" (*Gaudete et exsultate*, 16). Try to practice small gestures of charity this week:

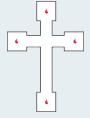
Call or visit someone whom you know is lonely.

Practice attentive driving, give the right of way to other drivers on the road, and look out for the safety of pedestrians.

Bring a donation of food to a food bank or volunteer in a soup kitchen.

Visit our website at www.holycrossrc.org
to find out more about the different ministries we have to offer,
how you can be involved, and when they meet.

WE PRAY...CELEBRATE...REMEMBER



Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, January 18

9:00AM Masses:

Mon. Bob DeFilippis

Tues. Carmen Estevez

Wed. People of the Parish

Thur. Sophie Burns

Saturday, January 24, 5PM Mass

Ann Keena, Teresa Burton,
Gennaro Cangiano, Brendan Costello,
Agnes DelGuidice

Sunday, January 25, Masses

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM Francis Klujsza

9:30AM Giuseppe Pellitteri, Liam Gleason,
Janet Hill, Gloria Posimato,
Carmen Vazquez

11:30AM People of the Parish



Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

James 5:14-15



The next **Anointing of the Sick**
will be held on February 1st
after the 9:30AM Mass



We thank
the men and women
who serve in our military
for their service.

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

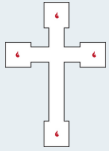
Bob Alderdice	Caroline Lazar
Alejandro Astegiano	Carol Leahy
Jo Barry	Victor Lewandowski
Kathy Barry	Mary Lopez
Alison Bilski	Gerald Losquadro
Cole Brennan	Jeanne Marie Malley
Laurie Bronzino	Janet Mangano
Veronica Buscemi	Olivia Melia
Judy Carlson	Geraldine Muscarnere
Michael Castellano	Loretto Narducci
Mary Champagne	Andrea Nocito
Peter Chirafisi	Darin Pitkanen
William Ciccarelli	Patricia Pitkanen
Stephen Crawford	Colleen Prinz
Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus	Carina Ranieri
Grayson Danielski	Bernardine Reichbach
Anthony DeGennaro	Mary Ann Reilly
Manuela Diaz	Rob Remhild
Peter DiMauro	Christine Ridulfo
Ann Egan	Lynn Rodger
Lisa Eger	Sean Romeo
Vincent Esposito	Elaine Ruane
Ralph Farino	Jacqueline Santamaria
Yolanda Fattarusso	Casey Schultz
Sienna Fricke	Kathy Schwinn
Linda Giordano	John Serri
James Greene	Celeste Sichenze
Linda Heinrichs	Todd Skala
Ralph Hughes	Sue Southard
Ryan Huscher	Bill Tanner
Debbie Jablinowski	Calvin Tatone
Kristen Kennedy	Grace Van Epps
	Peter Warns

**If you would like to have the name of your
loved one listed in our prayers for the sick,
please call 631-265-2200 x122.**

*May my prayer be set before
you like incense; may the
lifting up of my hands be like
the evening sacrifice.*

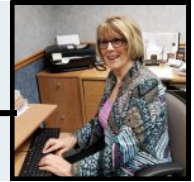
Psalm 141:2





ANOINTING OF THE SICK

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



A Sacrament that is often forgotten about or misunderstood is the Anointing of the Sick. It is also one of the Sacraments of Healing, the other being Reconciliation. This Sacrament has an interesting history, which has led to a great deal of misunderstanding. Some folks refer to it as Last Rites, as for many years it was known as that. Going back, it was called Extreme Unction and was celebrated when a person was close to or already dead. Our understanding today is quite different. Notice the change of name – Anointing of the Sick.

Actually, there is no such thing as the Last Rites in the Church today with the exception of Viaticum which refers to the reception of Holy Communion for the last time. The word Viaticum means “for the journey.” The person is receiving the Eucharist to help them on their way to heaven. Fortunately today, even if someone is not able to go to Mass, we have Eucharistic Ministers who visit the homebound and bring Holy Communion to them weekly.

You might ask, who can and when can we receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick? Here are some examples: one going into the hospital; one going for surgery, one who has a serious illness (mental, emotional, or physical); one who is of advanced age; one who has a recurrence of an illness or a setback; and, of course, anyone with a terminal illness. It is best not to wait but to take advantage of this beautiful Sacrament of healing. This Sacrament is celebrated with the Oil of the Sick, which is blessed by the Bishop each year at the Chrism Mass. The minister of this Sacrament is only a Bishop or a Priest. The reason for this restriction is the person being anointed is also forgiven of their sins, which can only be done by a Bishop or Priest. The person is anointed on their head and hands with this final prayer: “May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.” Amen.

May you have a blessed, healthy, and happy week ahead!

**The next Anointing of the Sick will be held on
Sunday, February 1st, after the 9:30AM Mass.**

GRANDPARENTS’ PRAYER GROUP

**Wednesday, January 21st
at 1:30PM in the Chapel**



Join us with other grandparents to pray for our grandchildren, support what each other is doing and seek ways we can lead and guide them...

New members always welcome!

PARISH OUTREACH



Mobile
Outreach Bus



The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings and flu vaccinations in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.

Free Health Screenings and Flu Vaccinations

Parish of the Holy Cross R.C. Church
95 Nichols Rd., Nesconset, NY 11767

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026
10 am- 2 pm**

No insurance or ID required. No need to fast.

Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance
- Free flu vaccination (senior dose available)

GLOBAL OUTREACH



Next weekend we will be collecting for **Church in Need** which gives assistance to churches in Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Africa.

*Special
Collection*

The Church in Need

On January 25, 2026 a collection will be taken for "The Church in Need." The monies collected at this time will be shared among three areas of the world where there is particular need for help:

- **Church in Central and Eastern Europe** - this collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region.
- **The Church in Latin America** - For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.
- **The Church in Africa** - The Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care.

Thank you for your generosity.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LEVEL 8

PRAYER SERVICE

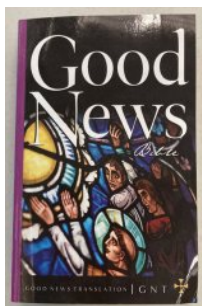


**Thursday, January 22nd
at 7PM in the Worship Area**

Attendance is a requirement
for Confirmation

LEVEL 5

DISTRIBUTION OF BIBLES



**at all Masses the weekend of
January 24th & 25th**

BIBLE CLASS

**Monday, Jan. 26th, at 7PM
in the Worship Area**

LEVEL 8

RETREAT

**in the
Atrium & Worship Area**

**Thursday, February 5th
from 6PM - 9PM**

OR

**Thursday, February 26th
from 6PM - 9PM**

Please check with your catechist
for which date you were assigned.

Attendance is a requirement
for Confirmation



PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



**The next hospitality
weekend is
January 24th & 25th**

*Complimentary refreshments
are served after Mass
by our Youth Volunteers.*

If you are a middle or high school student,
you can sign up to volunteer by joining Remind.
You will receive additional information through the link.

Sign up for Remind at: rmd.at/ycchc

For additional information,
join our Remind group: rmd.at/ycchc

or please email Angela at:
youthcc@holycrossrc.org
to get a Sign-Up Genius Link

Moms' Group



New Year? New Mom?

New Experiences.

Try something new, meet someone new...

Come re-new your spirit.

Whatever stage of motherhood you are in, you are welcome to join our multi-generational group of moms! Together we share our common bond - the joys, the pains, the boring stuff, and the milestones of being a mom. Find solace, find friendship, find wisdom, and support for one of the most rewarding, yet challenging, callings that women can experience.

**We meet every third Tuesday of the month
at 7:30PM in the Fr. Joe Room.**

Light refreshments are served as we gather together.
Come as you are, and receive the grace of God.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 20th.

PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



Baptism Celebration at Holy Cross



On January 11, the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, families of children who were baptized in 2025 attended the 11:30 Mass and received a special blessing. Hospitality followed the Mass. Thanks to our Baptism Team and our Hospitality Committee, and especially our honorees, it was a joyful occasion for all. We are truly blessed.



2025 Statement of Contributions

A statement of your contributions to Holy Cross for the year 2025 will be sent to you upon request. If you would like a copy, please print your name and address on the form below and drop it in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Name_____

Address_____

**Your kindness and generosity are appreciated in support of our parish and its ministries.
We are offering the opportunity to sign up for automated giving if you have not already done so.
It's convenient and easy to sign up!**

You can donate to the parish by ACH. Please complete this form,
bring it to the office or email to **business@holycrossrc.org**

Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road
Nesconset, NY 11767
631-265-2200 ext. 110
business@holycrossrc.org

Authorization Agreement for Automated Giving

I, _____, hereby authorize the Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Cross, at Nesconset NY, to initiate debit entries to my Checking () Saving () account indicated below and the depository named below to debit the same amount, beginning _____.

I choose to have my account debited for this amount: Check one:

Bi-Weekly \$ _____ (Multiply weekly by 2) Monthly \$ _____ (Multiply weekly by 4.33)

Depository/ Bank: Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Banking Transit-ABA #: _____

(9 digits located on the bottom left of your check)

Bank Account #: _____

Please attach to this form a Voided Check if you've chosen a checking Account or a pre-printed savings deposit ticket if you have chosen a Saving Account.

***Note:** This authorization is to remain in full force effect until the Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Cross received written notification at least five business days in advance of the desired termination.*

(Signature)

(PrintedName)

Date: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

NOTES:

1- *This form will be seen by the Business Manager only.* You may mail it to the Parish of the Holy Cross or drop it at the office in a sealed envelope, **Attention: Karina D'Angelo.**

2- For any questions contact Karina D'Angelo by phone or email at **business@holycrossrc.org**



Winter Windfall



For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine, and this fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish.

At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing, so we will continue as we have done for the past few years with our quarterly drawing.

- **\$10 per ticket**
- **Tickets are available for purchase December, January and February.**
- **Drawing will be held FEB. 26TH**

This is the pay scale which will be offered:

- **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.

Please cut out and use the 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!



Winter Windfall

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____



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523 Route 112
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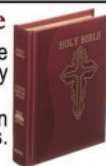
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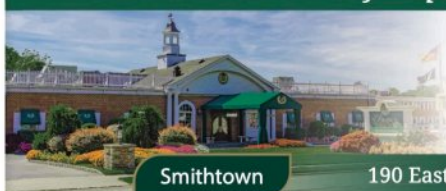
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