

# 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!**



Consider  
yourselves  
dead to sin  
and

ALIVE  
to GOD in  
CHRIST  
JESUS.

ROMANS 6:11

**Come and pray with us!**

**13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 28, 2020**

**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 AM,  
Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM  
(The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass are live streamed on Facebook.)

# We are here for you!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + [pothc@optonline.net](mailto:pothc@optonline.net)

## 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. MaryAnne McCulloch, 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  
([hcreled@optonline.net](mailto:hcreled@optonline.net))

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:

<b>Patricia Becker</b>	<b>George V. Daly</b>
<b>Manuela Diaz</b>	<b>Francesco DiMartino</b>
<b>Ann Egan</b>	<b>Sienna Fricke</b>
<b>Phil Graziouse</b>	<b>Bob Grieco</b>
<b>Angelo LaSala</b>	<b>Chuck Madden</b>
<b>Joseph Santamaria</b>	<b>Marlene Starr</b>
<b>Judy Viskupic</b>	

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 or email to [pothc@optonline.net](mailto:pothc@optonline.net).

## Mass Intentions Schedule



*New Life  
in Christ*

### Week of June 28th, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Bob DeFilippis  
**Tue.** Maria & Vito Ligabo  
**Wed.** Pauline Rahilly  
**Thu.** Neal & Concetta Romano

### Saturday, July 4th, 5 PM Mass

Ann Keena, Judy Keena, Elisa Keena, Ernie Hoffman

### Sunday, July 5th, 14th Sun. in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM Angelina Pellitteri  
11:30 AM Maria & Vito Ligabo, Vincent Preziosi,  
William Burke, Steven Ramunni

## Scripture Readings for July 5, 2020



+ *Zechariah 9:9-10*  
+ *Romans 8:9, 11-13*  
+ *Matthew 11:25-30*



## Banns of Marriage Third Time

Angie St. Cloux & Kenneth Orilus  
Justine Scheller & James Lang

# Whatever Happened to Spring?

*by Father Michael*

When this whole crisis began, the calendar told us we were in the final days of winter. However, April and May were cold and rainy. And, now suddenly, we find ourselves welcoming summer. As each week passed, we were trying to figure out new ways to shop, stay in touch with family, teach children, and go to Mass. On one level they were three very long months, but on another level it seems as though a piece of our lives was taken from us. We certainly hope the warmth of sun and long days may help to restore some peace of mind and balance in our lives.

This week I was supposed to go to Florida to see my grand-niece for the first time. That trip was originally scheduled for April but, needless to say, got cancelled. I was hoping that by this week, a quick trip would be a reasonable thing to do. But, common sense says, it is probably best to continue to wait until things have settled down even more. I'm hoping to get to see her before she begins first grade.

While things are far from where they were before any of this began, we have been able to get back on track with some parts of parish life. We will be able to have a marathon of First Communion celebrations on July 11th and 18th (more Masses than in the past, but with fewer people.) Families are starting to come forward to baptize their children. Planning for Religious Ed is taking place through on-line registration. However, there is still a backload of important events we need to address. There are adults and children who were going to be baptized and received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. There were 10 families for whom we could not offer a Funeral Mass and will be offering them the opportunity for a Memorial Mass. And 2021 is going to be a busy year for weddings as that is when many of them have been rescheduled.

One of the requirements necessary to re-open was the removal of the hymnals. We are using the TV screens to provide the text to the Scripture readings as well as the lyrics to our songs. I understand that screens are not always visible from all areas of the Worship Area. We are working on an improved and more permanent solution. Moving forward, we will become more and more dependent on the TV screens. They not only provide a very practical need for the moment, but as time goes forward, I believe they will become a useful tool in ministry. However, there is a fair bit of behind the scenes work to be done whenever we use them. If anyone has any interest in doing things like creating or running PowerPoints, or if anyone has other creative technological abilities, please let me know. This seems to be a quickly emerging ministry.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Welcome to Holy Cross Religious Education

The Religious Education Office is planning ahead to the 2020-2021 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. Due to Covid-19, our program will be a mix of online and “home based” learning, depending on CDC guidelines. Please contact our office for more specific information.

- Religious Education classes will begin the week of October 19th, 2020.
- First time registration can be done online at [www.pothc.org](http://www.pothc.org) . Go to forms.
- Registration needs to be completed by August 15, 2020.
- Summer Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-2:30.
- If your child was not baptized at Holy Cross you need to send us a copy of your child’s Baptism Certificate. Please email it to [hcreled@optonline.net](mailto:hcreled@optonline.net) .
- For those who are already part of our program, you need to re-register for the upcoming year. Please note that textbooks will not be distributed to your child without a registration form.

A detailed outline of our program is available online or at our office. However, 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 - whether in person or viewing our 11:30 AM live streamed Mass.



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.

# LOOKING BACK, Part 2

In last week's bulletin, I wrote about my experience keeping a "Coronavirus Journal." As helpful as that was in enabling me to see the movement of God in my life during a tumultuous period of time, I also use another way of "looking back" that works equally well as a practice in everyday life. That way is called the Examen of Consciousness, or the Examen.

The Examen is a prayer of daily reflection, usually done before going to bed. Developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola more than 400 years ago, the Examen is a technique to help people of faith become more aware of God in the people and events of their lives.

There are five steps in the Examen; they have been named in various ways over the years. Before beginning the steps, take a moment or two for a few deep breaths and remind yourself that you are in God's presence.

- **Ask God for light** – Ask God for the grace to look back over the day not just with your eyes, but with God's eyes, to know yourself as God sees you.
- **Give thanks** – Express gratitude for the gift of this day, and then look back hour by hour to note those people and happenings that were positive: a friendly smile, a warm conversation, a good meal, a task accomplished, a brilliant sunset, anything small or big that made the day pleasant, and thank God for them.
- **Notice God's presence** – Looking back over those events, what were you feeling? Did you experience love, joy, hope, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, or self-control? All these are gifts of the Holy Spirit. What was God saying to you in those moments?
- **Notice a lack of God's presence** – Looking back, where did you fail to respond to God's invitation? Where did you decide not to bother, or turn away from an opportunity to grow in love? Ask for God's forgiveness.
- **Look ahead** – Ask God for the graces you need for tomorrow, and for an ability to see God's presence more clearly. (End your prayer with an *Our Father*.)



The Grace  
of God is  
with you!

Ignatius believed the Examen was so important that he instructed the Jesuits never to miss saying it. Why? First, because you're doing the Examen *with* God – God is an essential part of the conversation. Second, the Examen builds on the insight that it's easier to see God in retrospect than in the moment. And, third, finding God in your Examen makes you more likely to look for God during the day.

I am grateful for the Examen in my life. It has taught me a lot about myself, deepened my gratitude to God, and revealed many hidden joys. I hope you will try it, and find it fruitful, too.

*Jude Pickel*

# LITURGY BYTES

As we have re-opened for weekend Masses, there is much to be grateful and joyful for as we greet one another (masks and all).

The “crew” at each Mass has done noble work in welcoming and seating parishioners. Those attending Mass have been patient and understanding with some of the new normal experiences we now live with. Those serving as Lectors and EMs have been wonderful witnesses to their ministry and patient with some last-minute changes that occur.

The parish still **at home** is not to be forgotten. Through the wonders of technology, you are connected to us each day (Monday through Thursday) and at the 11:30 Mass on Sunday. We pray with you and for you and look forward to the day when you can join us in person.

We all share in our community as part of the Body of Christ. Ministry within the Body of Christ also leads to mission outside the body into our world. So many examples of reaching out are lived right here within this parish family, as many have contributed generously with food during this pandemic. Many moments of grace are all around us. Sunday is not merely several hours of worship on the weekend; it is a whole attitude of recognizing the sacredness of our entire week.

Have a blessed week!

~~~Michele Hahn



# PARISH NEWS

## *Father's Day Mass Remembrances*

*in Memory of...*

EDMUND MERLO  
ALBERT SASSANO  
ARMAND MACGILLIVRAY  
JAMES P. McALLISTER  
HENRY SWENSON  
VINCENT LOMBARDO

JOSEPH J. MAROTTA  
NICHOLAS DESANTIS  
ROBERT TALAY SR.  
WILLIAM REECE  
JAMES NESFIELD

*in Honor of...*

WILLIAM NESFIELD  
WILLIAM NESFIELD JR.  
LOUIS NECROTO  
BOB TALAY



## Special Collection

This weekend is the collection for **Peter's Pence**. The collection is the way we unite ourselves to the concerns of the Holy Father as members of the Catholic Church. Envelopes may be mailed to Holy Cross, placed in the drop box in our courtyard or basket in the atrium. Thank you for your continued support!

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER:** Mon.-Thu. 9 AM-4 PM this week. Church and Parish Offices are closed Friday, July 3, 2020, for Independence Day.

**WE CELEBRATE RECONCILIATION:** Wednesdays after 9:00 AM Mass & Saturdays from 3:00 PM-4:00 PM or call Father Michael for an appointment.

**WE CELEBRATE BAPTISM:** Baptisms are generally celebrated twice each month at 1 PM. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**WE CELEBRATE WEDDINGS:** Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

## Outreach Food Pantry

Next Saturday and Sunday, **July 4th/5th**, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

- Boxed Potatoes/Rice
- Canned Carrots/Mixed Vegetables
- Summer Drinks/Powdered Mixes
- Mayonnaise
- Pancake Syrup
- Hand Sanitizers/Wipes
- Spaghetti
- Bar/Liquid Soap



Please don't forget to check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you!

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Some Helpful Covid Related Resources

**Did you receive your stimulus check?** You are entitled to receive a stimulus check even if you haven't filed a tax return, but you must complete an online form and you must have earned less than \$12,200 (\$24,400 if married) in 2019. Go to [www.irs.gov/eip](http://www.irs.gov/eip) and click the button for non-filers. Additional information is available at [www.eitcoutreach.org/stimulus](http://www.eitcoutreach.org/stimulus).

**ISLAND HARVEST** can provide food for seniors. Seniors can pick up in Hauppauge (40 Marcus Blvd., Hauppauge, 631-873-4775) on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Case workers can also pick up for them. Clients are self-certifying so they do not need to provide proof of income at this time, but they must be under 130% federal poverty level (\$1383 monthly for individuals and \$1868 for couples to qualify).



**Suffolk Cares launched 6/9/2020.** Please spread the word: there IS a plan in place to address the urgent food needs of homebound/immobile persons throughout Suffolk County. Yes, your information will be kept private. Yes, it is open to all who have need and are homebound/immobile. Yes, you will get food rapidly and safely.

### How Does It Work?

- Call 311 if you are in need of food and do not have ANY access to transportation.
- You will be asked a few questions as part of Suffolk's 311 assessment.
- When approved for food delivery, you will receive a box of non-perishable food items within 24-30 hours of your request.
- Non-perishable food items will be dropped at your place of residence - no contact with delivery person.
- Call 311 Monday-Friday between the hours of 9:00am-4:30pm (if you call on a Friday, food will be delivered on Monday).

**AS ALWAYS, PARISH OUTREACH IS HERE TO ASSIST ANY PARISHIONERS GOING THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES. GIVE US A CALL AT 631-265-2200 ext.113.**

# A LOOK BACK

As we approached three months since our first live streamed Mass, I never envisioned myself in the role I'd partaken in since March. Back in August of 2017, I was originally hired by Holy Cross as a P/T Custodian and have seen that job description change since the health crisis began. For as long as I can remember, I always had a solid background in computers and technology in general. It gives me a sense of joy anytime I can put my knowledge of technology to use and even offer my assistance to others as well.

When this all started, our Pastoral Team and staff decided that we needed to come up with a unique way to remain connected with parishioners. One of the main topics that were brought up



was using Facebook to convey important updates and messages, along with live streaming daily and Sunday Masses. Fr. Michael decided that we should conduct our first live stream at our last Sunday Mass before churches closed (11:30AM on March 15<sup>th</sup>). While I nervously sat there with my phone, taping Mass from the front row, I noticed that we were receiving plenty of support and appreciation from those who were watching. When re-watching the Mass over, Fr. Michael noticed this too and decided this was going to be our new way of celebrating Mass together.

Due to social distancing guidelines and limiting the amount of people inside at once, our Pastoral Team and staff were now tasked with assembling a team that would make Sunday Masses possible going forward. At this point, I did not expect my unofficial role as "IT Specialist" to continue. However, Fr. Michael quickly appointed me to continue this role for as long as we would need. In the beginning, it seemed like this was mainly in part to his limited knowledge of technology. Now, I can honestly say that his knowledge of technology and even his own cell phone has greatly improved in these last three months. With that being said, the remainder of our Sunday team consisted of Fr. Michael and Brian.

Each and every Sunday, I continued to be amazed at the ideas that all three of us were able to create and share with our Parish family. Typically, we were all at Holy Cross around 10:00AM on Sunday to plan Mass in its entirety, along with any other housekeeping that needed to get done beforehand. Some of this included Fr. Michael's positive words of wisdom and Brian's incredibly talented musical abilities. As for myself, I could be found running to the nearest trash can to spit my gum out just as we were about to go live. Regardless of my forgetful ways, I am confident in saying that we all brought such unique elements to the table on a weekly basis.

There's no secret that during these challenging times, sharing a laugh or smile with someone can be hard to do. Despite this, I hope Fr. Michael, Brian and I were able to bring all of our viewers a sense of happiness as we continued to convey our ideas that were sparked from up above while we provided a sense of normalcy to your Sunday mornings.

Vincent Matula

# A LETTER FROM A PARISHIONER

Father Michael was so moved by a letter he received, along with a donation, from a very thoughtful parishioner who's 7 years old, that he wanted to share it with you.



Dear Father,

I have been saving my allowance because I wanted to give to our church. I love our church it makes me happy.

Love,  
Matthew



# The Office of FAITH FORMATION

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



## **Basic** Summer Virtual Religious Studies Course (2020)

*This course is for anyone pursuing a Basic Religious Studies certificate. This series of courses is designed for teachers, catechists and interested adults.*

### **COURSES OFFERED**

#### **Old Testament**

June 29 – July 2, 2020  
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **New Testament**

June 29 – July 2, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

#### **Christology**

July 6 – July 9, 2020  
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **Church**

July 6 – July 9, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

#### **Sacraments and Liturgy**

July 13 – July 16, 2020  
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **Morality**

July 13 – July 16, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Zoom/Online  
*(once registered information will be sent to you regarding the course)*

**Cost:** \$40.00 per person/per session  
or \$30.00 per person if taking more than one course

For more information or to register please visit [www.drvc-faith.org](http://www.drvc-faith.org)  
or contact Elizabeth Ramirez at [eramirez@drvc.org](mailto:eramirez@drvc.org) | 516-678-5800 ext.408