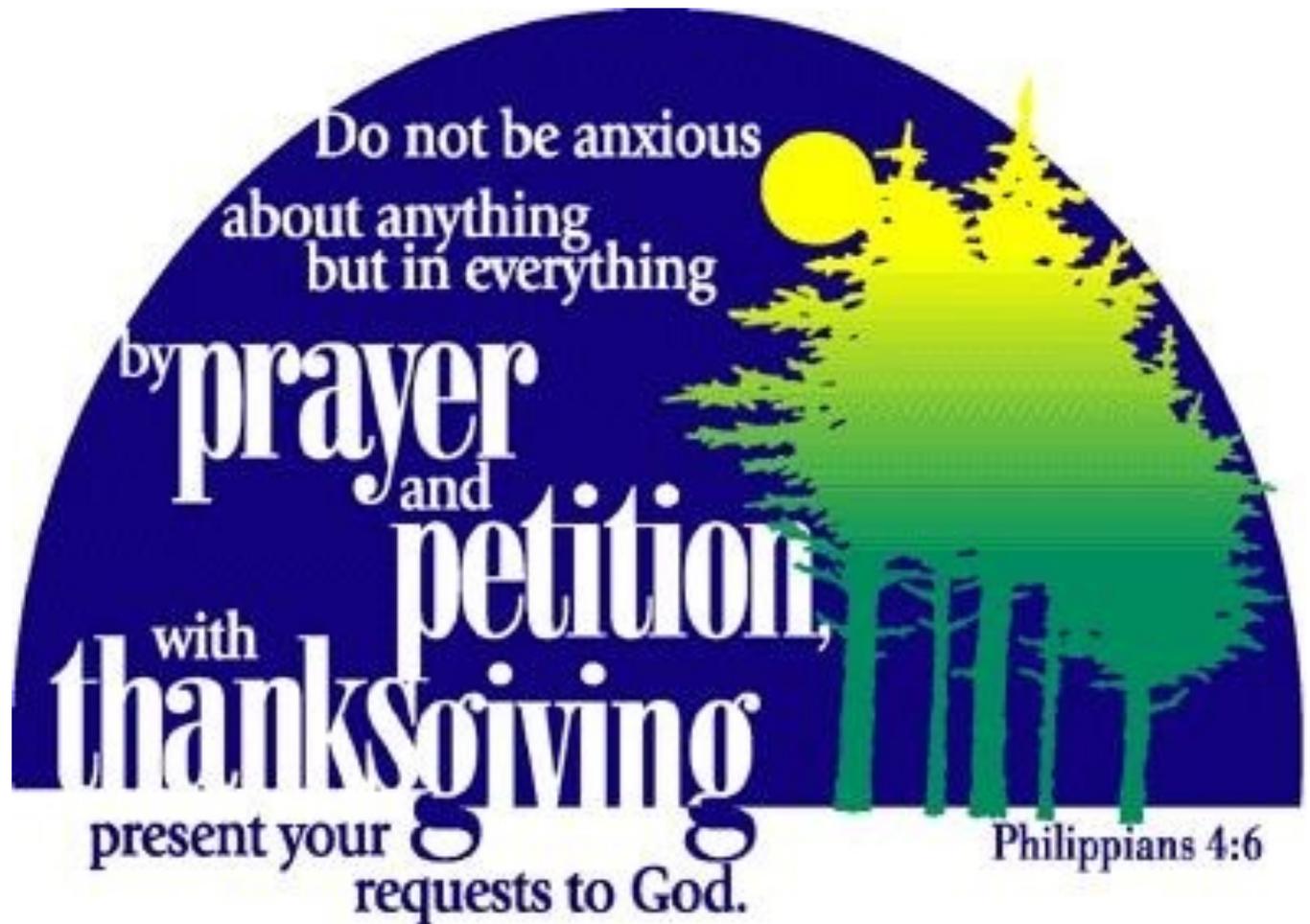


The Parish of the Holy Cross

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

LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



Come and pray with us!

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 4, 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

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)

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:

Claire Becker	Patricia Becker
Susan Ceely-Sack	Ann Egan
Jim Emerson	Sienna Fricke
Phil Graziouse	Bob Grieco
Chuck Madden	Olivia Melia
Joseph Santamaria	Marlene Starr
Judy Viskupic	

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.

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of October 4, 9AM Mass

Mon. Damien Pickel
Tue. Vincent DeStefano
Wed. Henri-Robert Lamarque
Thu. Benito Tucci

Saturday, October 10th, 5 PM Mass

Joseph Capiello, Anthony Fiorito, William Fanning, Greg Wirth, Eric Schwarz

Sunday, Oct. 11th, 28th Sun. in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM George Daly, Rose Schreiber, Sofia Garbe, Claire Hermes
11:30 AM Louis Forero



Scripture Readings for October 11, 2020



+ *Isaiah 25:6-10*
+ *Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*
+ *Matthew 22:1-14*



The Parish Office is closed on Monday, October 12th, for Columbus Day. There will be a 9:00 AM Mass on October 12th.

HAPPY ST. FRANCIS DAY

by Father Michael

October 4 is the feast day for St. Francis of Assisi. Although the Sunday Mass takes precedence, we still remember the spirit that is associated with the day. (I will be available to bless everyone's pets on Sunday from 10:45-11:15AM in the courtyard.) If ever there was a time to call upon the spirit of peace that Francis embraced, this is it. In the midst of turmoil and conflict, we need to remain open to that gift of peace that can be found within all of our hearts and to be bearers of that gift to one another. *Make me a channel of your peace . . .*

I recently heard a bit of spiritual advice that I have found to be quite fruitful. I think all of us can get caught up in the contentious energy that surrounds our political climate. It is easy to feel torn in so many directions. There can be a genuine desire to seek a path that is consistent with the gospel and Church teaching. It can be difficult to find information that is accurate. We may want to stay informed, but we find it an overwhelming task. The suggestion I heard was to commit to spend no more than one hour a day with television, social media, internet news, etc. It is important to stay informed of current events, but it becomes counter-productive to spend hours hearing the same message over and over again. Instead, use that time for prayer, reading, reaching out to family or friends - something life-giving and productive. Somehow balancing the complexity of life with other activity, particularly prayer, gives a broader and deeper perspective. We need to allow the power of God's grace to work within each of us to bring our world to a better place. Pray for the wisdom to seek a path of holiness within your own life.

The project of replacing the air conditioning unit for the atrium is underway. I had announced that it was going to be a \$15,000 repair. However, as we did more investigation it became clear that we would be replacing one critical component in a system that is almost 30 years old. The consensus of those we consulted was that it is probably wiser to replace the entire system for that part of the building. The hard part of doing this is that the cost is now almost \$40,000. The good news is we have the money in our Renovations and Major Repairs fund. The new system will be much more energy efficient. Thank you to all who support us and enable us to maintain our spiritual home.

Next week our bulletin returns to printed form as well as remaining available online. Yay, another small step back to normal.

SEARCHING FOR MORE?

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?



RCIA

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 x116**.

It’s Back: Holy Cross Book Club!

We are happy to announce that Holy Cross Book Club will resume this fall with **The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything**, by James Martin, SJ.

The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything examines the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola in ways that are engaging, humorous, and practical. Covering everyday issues such as relationships, prayer, and decision-making, Fr. Martin provides an excellent, accessible resource for charting a path through life with God. *The book is available on Amazon.*

There will be two opportunities to meet, Tuesday evenings or Thursday afternoons:
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 1:30 - 2:30 PM
Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

In keeping with current protocols during the pandemic,
participation is limited to 12 people for each session

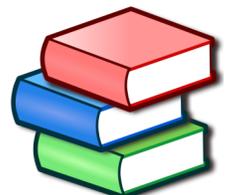
Join us as we explore Ignatius’ goal of “finding God in all things.”

Questions? Call Jude at ext. 116

Please fill in and drop off at the Parish Office, or call the Parish Office to register:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I want to participate in HC Book Club ____ on Tuesday evenings ____ on Thursday afternoons.



LITURGY BYTES



Atrium/Courtyard

In the final overview of our church building, we cannot leave out nor forget the tabernacle which stands between the chapel and the main worship area. When you enter the building and glance down the long hallway (a/k/a the ambulatory), your eyes are drawn to this gold and acrylic structure. Just as the ever-popular “Road to Emmaus” story in Luke’s Gospel reminds us, we see Christ in one another, most especially when we gather for the breaking of the bread. The sanctuary lamp which is positioned near the tabernacle is made up of figures of angels who signify divine presence. This lamp shines brightly to remind us of Christ’s presence. The chapel area offers us the place to kneel before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament in quiet prayer before and after Mass and when the church is open during the week.

Outside, when you walk down the pathway from the parking lot area, you enter the courtyard adorned with the statue of the *Welcoming Christ*. Fr. Buckley, who sculptured everything we see at Holy Cross, commented very specifically about the “Welcoming Jesus” sculpture in these words: “We greet you in the name and out of the energy of Jesus Christ. The whole community of this building, dedicated to his Holy Cross, want you to know the same welcome the children knew when he blessed them; or the disciples felt when he fed them in the fields; or the warmth the couple and their guests at Cana experienced because Jesus and his Mother were there... The first and most obvious thing is the gesture: clearly it should be one of welcome... of offering this building for your stay, your use, your comfort, your peace – in a word for the nourishment of your body and

Continued on next page

LITURGY BYTES **continued**

soul... On a tray beside Him, we see the bread sliced and ready to feed the many levels of our life; the grapes, some whole for simple joys, and some already wine, crushed and pressed for greater celebrations. ALL these happen in this building.”

As you walk through the doors, you come upon a large open space which is the atrium. Our parishioners enjoy gathering before and after Mass, prior to COVID-19, in this space to catch up with friends and neighbors. Prior to the pandemic, this large area served as a meeting space for different groups during the week. We all look forward to the time when we can resume some of our familiar experiences in our church building. In the meantime, look around and sense the spirit of WELCOME that is always apparent at the Parish of the Holy Cross.

Have a blessed, safe, and healthy week!!!

~~~~*Michele Hahn*



## **LET US PRAY...**

*Welcoming God, as we open the door to our church building each week, may it be a sign of the openness of our hearts. May each one who enters here be received with the warmth of your kindness. As each one leaves, may they have experienced the blessedness of your gracious presence in us. Help and guide us to continue to be beacons of light and ministers of welcome. We ask your blessings on all who ENTER THIS SACRED SPACE. Amen.*

# PARISH NEWS



## Pray for Our Military

SPC(E-4) David Basler  
Cpl. Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC  
SA Anthony J. DeNicola  
FC2 Lane Dyar  
Brandon Ferrara  
SSG Daniel Frost  
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA  
WO Christopher Kaminsky  
Sgt. Michael J. Knipper, USMC  
SSGT Ryan Mauldin  
PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC  
Lt. Ryan Montvydas  
IT1 Jason Mulderig  
LCpl. Michael Palagonia, USMC

*We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service. We will continue to pray for them through 2020. Please let us know at any time during 2020 if their service is finished, their title has changed, or you would like continued prayers through 2021. May God bless all who serve our nation. Pray for Peace!*

## Blessing of the Animals

To commemorate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have



individual blessings of your animals in the courtyard on Sunday, October 4th, between 10:45 and 11:15 AM!



*Holy Cross welcomes these children Baptized in September*

**Maximus Anthony Batista**  
**Sophie Mae Colicino**  
**Benjamin Robert Graf**  
**Travis James Graf**  
**Freya Irene Henn**  
**Sean James Holland**  
**Sofia Luz LoGuirato**  
**Rocco Jonathan Mastrangelo**  
**Arielle Paula Passarelle**  
**Kinsley Alexandra Willig**

## Special Collections

*This weekend we will also be collecting for **Respect Life**. Please visit <https://respectlife.drvc.org> for more information.*

*Thank you for your support of this important collection!*



We pray for the following parishioners whose funerals were celebrated at Holy Cross in September:

**Barbara Lofaro**  
**Eugene McNamara**  
**William McQuade**  
**Carl Eric Schwarz**  
**Geraldine Sollecito**

May they rest in peace, and may their loved ones be consoled.

# SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



*Congratulations to the following children who celebrated the  
Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020!*

Carmine Abbate  
Jarrett Abt  
Louis Altrui  
Connor Ashby  
Katherine Ball  
Natalie Bencivenga  
Alexandria Bieler  
William Burns  
John Cali  
Salvatore Capozzola  
Nicole Caputo  
Connor Catania  
Ava Conforti  
Michael Connizzo  
Taylor Conrad  
Jordan Conter  
Nicholas Cottage  
Jessica Cronin  
Julia Daley  
Richard DeRobertis  
Noah DeScalzo  
Ryan DeSimone  
Justin Diaz  
Samantha DiBiasi  
Ryan Diffley  
Vincent DiStefano  
Brandon Doukas  
Kane Doxsee  
Andrew Eaton  
Michael Ehrhard  
Anthony Fedor, Jr.  
Olannah Fikes  
Cameron Fleece  
Laina Firedmann  
Dylan Gallub  
Emily Gebbia  
Matthew Gemmell  
Madeline Gervasi  
Michael Given  
Vanessa Gragnaniello  
Jessica Greenwood

Gillian Grillo  
Edmund Grinius  
Kevin Handelson  
Lisa Heffernan  
Sean Heller  
Ciara Henderson  
Mario Hroncich  
Aidan Hughes  
Anthony Ingrisano  
Mariella Jacobson  
Nicholas Kenna  
Olivia Kennedy  
Emily Kowalski  
Ryleigh Kozlowski  
Brendan Kramer  
Ryan Kunis  
Benedetto LaRosa  
Haily Letizia  
Aiden Lyon  
Amanda Mack  
Juliana Maloney  
Gillian Marotta  
Gianna Marrone  
Joseph Marselle  
Brianna Martinsen  
James Masterson  
Michael Mastriano  
Grace McDonald  
Samantha McNeeley  
Katelin McQuade  
Luke McQuade  
Anthony Medaglia  
Matthew Mennella  
Jacqueline Mestousis  
Madison Monahan  
Karen Nessler  
Emily Nofer  
Adrian Nowacki  
Julia O'Brien  
Emily O'Dea  
Abigail Owenburg

Olivia Palazzo  
John Pelan  
Ryan Phaneuf  
Samantha Photos  
Joseph Pisciotta  
Megan Popielaski  
Isabella Portillo  
Lauren Prete  
Darius Rakowski  
Justine Reichle  
Caitlyn Reilly  
Alphonse Ripandelli  
Zachary Rokosz  
Thomas Rorick  
Christopher Russell  
Benjamin Russo  
Anthony Ryback  
Michael Ryder  
Nicolette Sanicola  
Emily Scali  
Lauren Seitz  
Noella Sexton  
Kerry Ann Sheuchenko  
Alexander Sinatra  
Ashley Sinatra  
Christina Slevin  
Julia Slevin  
Kayla Sottung  
John St. John  
Aidan Story  
Brooke Strafford  
Samantha Succarotte  
Connor Sweeney  
Brendan Tesone  
Charles Tomasino  
Michael Van Brunt  
Mason Van Deusen  
Gavin Van Riel  
Madison Varrichio  
Justin Weisberg  
Lilyana Zimmermann

# PARISH OUTREACH

We would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped with the Outreach garden clean-up on Saturday, September 26th. We appreciate all your hard work. We could not have completed this huge task without all of your help! Thank you again.

Outreach Community Vegetable Garden Committee



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## The Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville Host Virtual Gala

Please join us on Friday, October 23rd, for a special dining experience as guests can cook along with Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello, a professionally trained chef and host of NET TV's popular cooking show *Breaking Bread*, at this year's virtual Dominican Gala. Although we can't gather in person for cocktails and dinner, we can celebrate together remotely!

We are proud to honor Suzanne Pugh, RN, Director of Emergency Services at New York-Presbyterian, Queens and Sister Flor de Maria Buruca, OP, founder of an after-school program and summer camp in El Salvador.

The Dominican Gala raises critical funds in order to support the ministries of the Sisters of St. Dominic. In response to the pandemic, a COVID-19 Emergency Ministry Support Fund (MSF) was created to raise funds for our frontline ministries allowing them to deliver emergency supplies to those in need, expand food pantries and meal programs, and provide other forms of direct assistance. With thousands out of work in our local area alone, soaring food insecurity and vulnerable people pushed further to the margins, we need your help to continue our outreach efforts now more than ever! With your support, the Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville will continue to be a lifeline for those in need.

For more information about tickets, silent auction, 50/50 raffle or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Susan Jappell (631) 842-6000 x 246 or visit:

[www.sistersofstdominic.org/2020gala](http://www.sistersofstdominic.org/2020gala).

\*First 300 guests to RSVP will receive 2 complimentary bottles of wine (shipping included).\*

Thank you!



## Parish of the Holy Cross

### June 1,2020 – August 31,2020- Quarterly Financial Highlights

#### Revenues:

- Collections this quarter were only down by .1%. Parishioners continued to be incredibly supportive during the summer months. Overall collections for the year were down 3.3% (-\$18,000).
- RAMR was down 8.5% (approx. -\$652) for this quarter in comparison to last year. Overall RAMR donations were down 11.2% (approx. \$4,000) for the year.
- Religious Ed registration was at 39% at the end of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. By the end of September, it had reached 60%. We have 714 families active in our program. We continue to have a steady income as we approach our start dates for classes in October.
- Outreach has an increase of \$7,400 over last year. We had a collection for school supplies during this time. Once again, parishioners were extremely charitable. We were able to help many families.
- Overall income went up 2.8% this quarter. This was due to the continued generosity of our parishioners and one large donation of \$10,000, made by a family. This was a help to alleviate the stress of a large repair issue that arose with the driveway in June.

#### Expenses:

- Salaries were down .1% from last year. Fringe benefits were down 6.9%.
- Program income, including fundraising, youth ministry, and senior club, were down almost 100%. However, their related expenses were also decreased. We were unable to hold VBS this summer, or a Fall Festival. We have recently begun hosting some of our ministries again. We have done this slowly, and with precautionary procedures in place.
- Our Perquisites revenue, which includes Masses, baptisms, weddings, and funerals, has gone up 8.7% (\$1,813). We had a bit of “catching up” to do this quarter, due to the shutdown. Additionally, we had more weddings than last summer.
- Total expenses this quarter were down 14% for the quarter.

#### Projects:

- Purchase and installation of two 86” Television sets (including upgrade of technology components and microphones) for the worship area.
- Purchase of new laptop computer.
- Driveway repair.
- Painting of the worship area.
- Replacement of an air conditioning unit in one of the offices.