

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!



"GIVE...
TO GOD

THE THINGS
THAT ARE
GOD'S."

MATTHEW 22:21

Come and pray with us!

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 18, 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
Mrs. Kelley Mowat
Coordinators 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
Ann Callari	Susan Ceely-Sack
Ann Egan	Jim Emerson
Sienna Fricke	Phil Graziose
Bob Grieco	Debbie Jablinowski
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 18, 9AM Mass

Mon. Henri-Robert Lamarque

Tue. Nina Makowicz

(There will not be a morning Mass on Wednesday and Thursday.)

Saturday, October 24th, 5 PM Mass

Marie Guarino, Patrick Keena Jr., Patrick Keena Sr., Butch Hall, Kenneth Wirth, Charles Gilbert Evans

Sunday, Oct. 25th, 30th Sun. in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM Victor Lamarque, Tom Dunn, Michael Burden, George Daly, John Wagner, Fred Basedow

11:30 AM James Conlon



*New Life
in Christ*

Scripture Readings for October 25, 2020



+ Exodus 22:20-26
+ 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
+ Matthew 22:34-40

Banns of Marriage

Second Time



Natassia Miller & Matthew Cotter

PRAYERS FOR YOU, PRAYERS FOR ME, PRAYERS FOR ALL

by Father Michael

If all goes well, I will be away this weekend on retreat. I will hold you in my heart as I spend this time in prayer. The events of the past few months have drawn us closer together. I am very mindful of the struggles and crosses some of you bear on a daily basis. I am mindful of over half our regular congregation who are not yet back for the Sunday Eucharist.

Please hold me in your prayers as well. I cannot help but believe that the energy and focus that I have received these past months is rooted deeply in those who have been praying for me. Our journey continues together. May we continue to support each other and allow the power of God's Spirit to bring us his life and his hope.

A few weeks ago in the on-line bulletin, I wrote about a spiritual suggestion that I heard. I would like to repeat that message as I have found it abundantly helpful. Spend no more than one hour a day watching the news, using social media, or immersing oneself in the midst of political discussion. Within one hour we can learn all the current events and breaking news that we need to know. Spending hours hearing the same message repeated does little to help us grow or to change the circumstances we hear about. The extra time that we might have been devoting to media saturation can be spent in prayer, in deepening relationships and pursuing activity that is creative and prolific.

I know it sounds like a cliché and the kind of thing you would expect a priest to say, but we truly need to unite ourselves in prayer. There will always be the temptation to present an agenda to the Lord with our fingers crossed hoping that God follows our advice. I don't know how fruitful or realistic that approach is. I find simplicity and silence is better than dumping a truckload of thoughts and strategies on God's doorstep. To simply hold in your heart someone who you know is in pain can be an experience of communion. To hold in your heart someone with whom you struggle with can be a moment of grace. May we allow the mysterious and transforming love of our God to touch all of our hearts.

On a different note, allow me to share with you a bittersweet development about an important part of parish life. We are in a time of transition regarding leadership within our Parish Outreach program. MaryAnne McCulloch has been serving in our parish for 28 years. It was her intention to retire last spring, and then all heck broke loose. With great dedication, MaryAnne kept our Parish Outreach office open even during the worst of the crisis. Now that things have calmed down, we are able to address the future of this ministry. We are happy to announce that we have hired Mrs. Kelley Mowat who will continue this work. We are delighted with the enthusiasm she brings. The two will work together over the coming weeks to provide for a seamless transition. More information will be forthcoming.

HOLY CROSS TRAVEL CLUB

We're back . . . 😊

The Holy Cross Travel Club Presents:

“A Scenic Day on the Hudson”

Thursday, October 29, 2020

The Day's Itinerary . . .

- Gather at Holy Cross by 8:15 AM.
- Travel to Kingston, NY, for a lovely sit-down lunch (included).
- Board the *Rip Van Winkle II* for a narrated 2-hour river boat tour on the Hudson River. (It should be the perfect time of the year for leaf watching).
- After the cruise, it is a short drive to the Walkway Over the Hudson. This is an old railroad bridge that has been transformed into a pedestrian walkway offering spectacular views of the river and the surrounding cliffs. For those up for the adventure, it is a 1 ¼ mile trek across the bridge (at sunset). Or you can walk out a little bit on the bridge and then the bus will drive you around.
- Rest stop for a light dinner/snack (not included) enroute home.
- Arrive at Holy Cross approximately 9:30PM.

Here are the details . . .

- ❖ *\$148 per person. Includes: Hampton Jitney Bus, Lunch, Boat Ride, and Bridge Walk.*
- ❖ *Limited seats available.*
- ❖ *For Reservations call Hampton Jitney directly to make a credit card payment. 631 283 4600 ext. 7106. Ask for Kristel.*
- ❖ *Deadline to sign up: Monday, October 19.*



Please keep in mind . . .

- ✓ *Masks will be needed for most of the trip, including inside the motorcoach.*
- ✓ *The bus will only be filled to 2/3 capacity. (At least 18 empty seats)*
- ✓ *The restaurant will serve lunch with social distancing practices.*
- ✓ *Please see Hampton Jitney's website for information regarding sanitizing their coaches and safety precautions that are in place. Hamptonjitney.com*

In the planning stages for December . . . Overnight to Lancaster, PA, for the Sight and Sound Theatre.

PARISH NEWS



THE NEW NORMAL MINISTRY

BE PART OF THE RESERVATION CREW
FOR 5 PM MASS (SATURDAY)
9:30 AM & 11:30 AM (SUNDAY)

At this time, here are the various duties for this new ministry:

1. Seating people
 2. Welcoming & Counting people at the Door
 3. Checking off names at the Table
- Qualifications?



A welcoming smile, able to serve at the same Mass and arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass
For more information, please contact: Michele Hahn at: mhahnholycross11@gmail.com

Special Collections

This weekend we will be collecting for World Mission Sunday. Your prayers and financial help support mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ's witnesses to a world so in need of His healing, love and peace. Next weekend we will also be collecting for our Renovations and Major Repairs fund. Thank you for your support of these important collections!

Youth Ministry

Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?

If you have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, then check out the Holy Cross Youth Group! We will be getting together this Sunday, October 18th, from 4PM to 6PM. Come join us!



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 Allie Roecklein, Coordinator of Youth Ministries, at hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com or call the parish office. Thank you!

PARISH OUTREACH

We Appreciate Our Hard Working Gardeners!!!

As the end of October approaches, we celebrate another successful community garden year that benefits our Parish Outreach families.

We were delighted to provide fresh produce with food from our pantry to those who come to us each month for assistance. We provided vegetables to families on 50 occasions over the course of the growing season.

We know the members of the Community Garden Committee work many hours at all times of the day and in all sorts of weather to reap the tomatoes, cucumbers and string beans for us. We are so very grateful for their hard work and dedication!!



Mary Anne & Kelley

Homebound and Hospitalized

Are you, or someone you know in the parish, homebound or anticipating an operation or treatment for cancer? We in Holy Cross are eager to know in a more personal way our parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Often, we do not hear of a person's illness or inability to join us for Sunday Mass. Please call **265-2200 x113** or stop by the office to let Parish Outreach know of these parishioners who are so special to us. We really depend on you.



Parish Outreach sends cards, on behalf of our parish, to those who are ill or hospitalized. Our homebound folks receive friendly telephone calls by Outreach volunteers to keep up the connection and to assess ways the parish can be present to these loved parishioners. At Advent and Easter time a volunteer will visit them and bring a gift from the parish community. Eucharistic Ministers are also available to bring communion to the homebound who desire it.

These are some of the ways Holy Cross reaches out to the homebound and hospitalized. Please help us by contacting Parish Outreach or a member of the Pastoral Team if you know of anyone we can serve in their time of need.

ELECTION 2020



CIVILIZE IT

DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

2020

A divided country. Fights at the dinner table. Political vitriol. What does it mean to love our neighbors in the midst of such a climate?

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of engagement in the political process as a means of putting our faith into action. We are called to bring the best of ourselves and our faith to the public square—and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at people themselves.

When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities. As Catholics, we

must model a better way. We invite you to join the *Civilize It* campaign by taking the

pledge below as a way to promote civility, love our neighbors, and build community.

Civilize It is about making room in your heart for those with whom you disagree. We are called to recognize that each one of us is a beloved child of God and to respond in love to that reality. *Civilize It* is a non-partisan call to focus on the dignity of all people, even when we disagree, and to put faith in action by bearing witness to a better way forward.

Take the pledge below as an individual, family, or community. Anyone and everyone can commit together to honoring human dignity through civil conversation.

I pledge:

Civility

To recognize the human dignity of those with whom I disagree, treat others with respect, and rise above attacks when directed at me.

Clarity

To root my political viewpoints in the Gospel and a well formed conscience, which involves prayer, conversation, study and listening. I will stand up for my convictions and speak out when I witness language that disparages others' dignity, while also listening and seeking to understand others' experiences.

Compassion

To encounter others with a tone and posture which affirms that I honor the dignity of others and invites others to do the same. I will presume others' best intentions and listen to their stories with empathy. I will strive to understand before seeking to be understood.



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Find this pledge and other resources and prayers at civilizeit.org.





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