

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!

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 11, 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

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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
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Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein
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Parish Secretary, ext.122

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
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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



*New Life
in Christ*

Week of October 11, 9AM Mass

Mon. Denise Lamarque
Tue. Damien Pickel
Wed. Luz Maria Rivera
Thu. Maria Ligabo

Saturday, October 17th, 5 PM Mass

Joseph Singleton, Jeanette Mancuso, Frank Mancuso, Eric Schwarz, Butch Hall

Sunday, Oct. 18th, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM Stasia & Patrick Egan
11:30 AM Edward Lloyd, Maria Eannacone, Jean Straple, George Daly, Luigine Cusano

Scripture Readings for October 18, 2020



+ *Isaiah 45:1, 4-6*
+ *1 Thessalonians 1:1-5*
+ *Matthew 22:15-21*



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

ROLL THE PRESSES

by Father Michael

Very happily, starting today we will once again be printing a weekly bulletin. However, one change is that we will be distributing it only at the end of Mass. This will help us to keep the Worship Area neat and tidy. The bulletin may not be as full as it once was, as meetings and parish events are still somewhat limited, but anything worth noting will be included. It should be noted that the bulletin continued to be published every week through the Covid crisis. (Thank you, Jane!) It was posted on the parish website. Although some parishioners made the effort to read it on a weekly basis, it seems the printed form is the preferred option.

I'm also happy to announce that the Travel Club will be offering its first trip in a long while. It is a simple one-day trip that includes a scenic boat ride on the Hudson River. (See full page ad in this bulletin.) While not everyone may be comfortable in getting on a bus, there were enough people who expressed interest that I want to give it a try. There are many livelihoods and industries that are struggling. This is one small effort in getting a little activity stirring in the travel industry. I hope it is a small step that keeps some workers and businesses hopeful and moving forward.

It's not unusual for me to see deer in the woods by my house. Normally, as soon as they see me, they bolt into the woods. This week I was walking down the path to my house around twilight, and as I came around a small turn there was a young deer standing there; it couldn't have been more than 20 feet away. She looked at me, took a few steps, and went back to munching on a branch. It was as if she was saying, "I won't bother you if you don't bother me." I love when moments like this happen. I feel like Dr. Dolittle.

I have my fingers crossed that a long awaited (and often changed) retreat may be in my future. If all goes well, I will not be here next weekend as I will be taking a week to recharge my spiritual batteries. As much as I searched for a retreat house to spend my time, there were none I could find that were operating their usual programs. So this retreat will be a self-directed one. I will bring a few books and my journal, and I trust the Lord will lead me down the spiritual paths I need to walk. I assure you that this community will be held deeply in my prayers. These past seven months have connected me even more deeply to the people who are part of Holy Cross. I am most grateful to Fr. Frank and Deacon Ralph who will be preaching for allowing me to have a weekend off.

Enjoy the holiday weekend, and have a blessed week. (9:00 Mass will take place as usual on Monday.)

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.

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

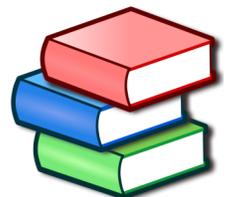
Join us as we explore Ignatius’ goal of “finding God in all things.”

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.



PARISH NEWS

Banns of Marriage First Time



Natassia Miller & Matthew Cotter

Gluten Free Hosts

For parishioners who have Celiac Disease or a gluten sensitivity, Holy Cross has gluten free hosts. If you would like to receive a gluten free host during Communion, please inform the Sacristan prior to Mass.

Remember “Kevin Bacon”

Don't forget to feed “Kevin Bacon” your quarters when you come to Mass on Sundays! Your donation benefits Heifer International.



Special Collections

*This weekend in your envelope packet, you will find an **All Souls' Remembrance** envelope. The envelopes will be placed on the altar to be prayed for on All Souls' Day, November 2nd.*

*Next weekend, we will also 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. Thank you for your support of this important collection!*

Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:

You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross. Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

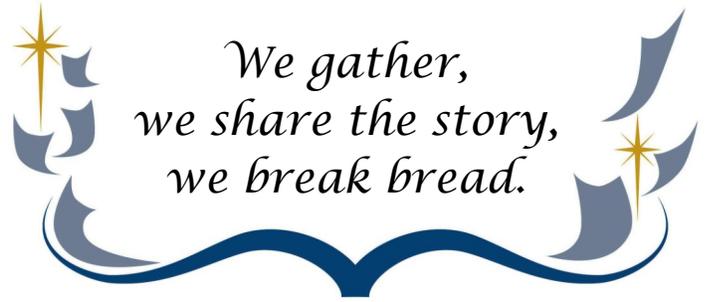
Hear our cries as we agonize over the harm done to our brothers and sisters. Breathe wisdom into our prayers, soothe restless hearts with hope, steady shaken spirits with faith. Show us the way to justice and wholeness, enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform our brokenness. Grant us courage and wisdom, humility, and grace, so that we may act with justice and find peace in you. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

TELLING THE STORIES

Before the Memorial Mass for my son, Damien, this past September 12th, Father Michael related an incident from his youth that illustrated the importance and the power of telling stories. That really resonated with me, especially because telling Damien's story over these last six months has been a great source of strength and comfort for me and my family.



Because Damien lived in Maine, and his wife and younger daughter live there too, our family was not able to gather as we would have in “normal” times. Plans had to be put on hold; there would be no wake or Funeral Mass or burial. That reality compounded the pain of our loss. But, through God's grace, we found ways to connect and support one another.

I'm not a social media fan, but Damien had coaxed me into joining Facebook a few years ago so he could share with me all that was going on with him in Maine. Since his death, it has been Facebook primarily which has enabled many of us to share his story. I posted pictures and events from his childhood to the present, and family and friends from all over shared their photos and memories. I thought I knew my son, but I've learned so much more about his kindness and his compassion. These stories have been a true gift to me, and to others.

As we celebrated the Memorial Mass, I was reminded once again of the beauty of our ritual: we gather; we share the story; we break bread. Every time we come together at Mass, we remember all that our loving God has done for us, and we renew our belief in the dying and rising of Jesus. That story gives hope and meaning to each of our individual stories. Our God is ever-faithful, loving us through all of life's ups and downs, and the death and resurrection of Jesus assure us of life everlasting with God.

Damien's birthday was last Monday, October 5th. Our whole family was not able to be together, but I did mark the day with my “bubble” – my daughter, Christina, and her family. We gathered (with his wife, too, via Facetime); we told stories of Damien; we shared a meal. While unlike previous birthdays, we did feel Damien's presence. And, as we recognize that his life is not ended, but changed, he will continue to be with us as we keep telling the stories.

Jude Pickel

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

LITURGY BYTES

Something Different

We Welcome You!



Most of you who attend Mass in person each weekend have experienced our “new normal” approach to coming to church these days. Because we are limited to how many may be present inside the church for Mass, we have engaged in reserving our seats each week on our website through a wonderful platform known as *SignUp Genius*. Even those who are not computer savvy need not worry. Simply, call the Parish Office to reserve your seat **prior to 8 AM on Friday morning** each week, (best bet – call by 4 PM on Thursday afternoon!)

When you arrive at the door to the church, you are greeted and welcomed in and directed to one of our two reservation tables. Once your name is checked off, you are told what section and row you have been assigned to sit in for that particular Mass. An usher then escorts you to your seat within the worship space.

All of these protocols have been carried out beautifully each week since June by a group, I refer to as our **Reservation Crew**. Most of them serve each week at one particular Mass. They are a very faithful group that I am so grateful to know!

Recently, more and more people are joining us for Mass and filling up those

Continued on next page

LITURGY BYTES continued

seats, which is a GOOD THING! In order to accommodate our numbers and offer our crew a break, we are in need of MORE CREW MEMBERS to assist at our three Masses: Saturday at 5; Sunday at 9:30 and 11:30. The responsibilities vary from greeting people, to checking off names at the table, to escorting people to their seats as ushers. We are hoping to have enough crew members to eventually set up a monthly schedule. We are also looking towards the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses (which normally are very full) to be able to have ample crew members to welcome and seat parishioners and their families. At this time, we invite YOU to consider joining us.

If you are interested, please let me know by emailing me at: mhahnholycross11@gmail.com or leaving a voicemail at the Parish Office 631-265-2200 at extension 120.

So, the next time you are coming to Mass, take a look around and say "hi" to our Crew who faithfully serve and welcome you at each Mass.

Have a safe, healthy, and blessed week!

~~~~Michele Hahn



# ELECTION 2020

## CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

==== 2020 ====

### Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace: A Prayer for Civility

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where uncivil words prevail, show me how to model love.

Help me remember the God-given dignity of all and invite others to do the same.

Show me how to build bridges and not walls

and see first what unites us rather than how we diverge.

Let me seek to understand before asking to be understood.

Give me a listening heart filled with empathy and compassion.

May I be clear in sharing my own position  
and respectful and civil in describing those of others.

Let me never tolerate hateful ideas.

May I invite all to charity and love.

Lord, help me to imitate your compassion and mercy.

Make me an instrument of your peace.

Amen.

*Inspired by Nine Rules for Civility from the Catholic Tradition, Bishop Zubik*



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*Find this pledge and other resources and prayers at [civilizeit.org](http://civilizeit.org).*





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