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!

The Nativity of the Lord - December 25, 2020 & Holy Family Sunday - December 27, 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 8:00 AM, 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

Mrs. Michele Hahn Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano Business Manager, ext.110 Deacon Ralph Rivera Pastoral Minister, ext.119

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112 Coordinator of Religious Education

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Kelley Mowat, ext.113 Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein Youth Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth Parish Secretary, ext.122

Mrs. Barbara Shipman P/T Asst. to the Pastor

Dr. Vincent Mazurek Music Minister

Mr. Roberto Maza Mr. Vincent Matula Custodians Mrs. Mary Pannone, ext.111 Religious Education Secretary (hcreled@optonline.net)

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You...

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

Kathy Barry
Patricia Becker
Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan
Sienna Fricke
Bob Grieco
Gerald Losquadro

Bob Grieco Gerald Losquadro Olivia Melia John Shatinsky Marlene Starr Claire Becker Ann Callari

Joseph DiPalermo

Jim Emerson Phil Graziose

Debbie Jablinowski

Chuck Madden Joseph Santamaria

Barbara Sherry Judy Viskupic

Peter Warns

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 December 27th, 9AM Mass

Mon. No 9AM Mass today

Tue. Matteo SantulinWed. MaryJane & Harold Smith

Thu. Dennis Kelly

Solemnity of Mary Masses

Thu., Dec. 31, 5PM John J. & Jane Daly

Fri., Jan. 1, 10AM Vito Ligabo

Saturday, January 2nd, 5 PM Mass

Matteo Santulin

Sunday, January 3rd, Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30 AM Edith Buckley, Matteo Santulin, Edward

Lampach, Robert Cohan, Matthew Trancheff, Carolina & Enrico Frantellizzi

11:30 AM Maria Eannacone

Scripture Readings for January 3, 2021



- + Isaiah 60:1-6
- + Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
- + *Matthew 2:1-12*

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

by Father Michael

On this Christmas . . .

There are those who mourn,

There are those who are determined,

There are those who feel numb,

There are those who are newly married,



There are those who are angry,

There are those who carry on with heroic strength,

There are those who are alone and isolated,

There are those who offer hope,

There are those whose pockets are empty,

There are those who offer life and encouragement,

There are those who are celebrating a newborn,

There are those who are fed up with technology,

There are those who are weary,

There are those who are grateful for small blessings,

There are those who embrace the wonder of Christmas,

There are those who are sick,

There are those who long for what was.

Choose any and all of those above that apply to your life, and feel free to add a few of your own.

It was to all of these that our Savior was born. It was not a superhero that came into the world, but a small child. As he grew, he invited all God's people to move more deeply into the mystery and wonder of God among us, and in fact, God within us.

This Christmas we are given the opportunity to embrace this day as never before. There are likely sacrifices that have been made, traditions not being carried out, and visits that will not happen. Rather than lament in what cannot be this Christmas, be open to what is offered. Allow the gift of God to simply touch our hearts and offer us peace.

The Christ child bears hope, a promise, and life. May we receive in gratitude that which is offered and allow the gift of God to embrace us this Blessed Day.

Christmas Blessings to you and those you love.

PARISH NEWS



Celebrants for Upcoming Masses



January 2nd/3rd

5:00 PM Fr. Michael 8:00 AM Fr. Michael 9:30 AM Fr. Frank Eisele 11:30 AM Fr. Frank The **Bread and Wine** for the week December 27 - January 2 have been donated with love for prayers for the **Lamarque family**.



Solemnity of Mary Mass Times

Thursday, December 31st at 5:00 PM and Friday, January 1st at 10:00 AM (The Parish Office is closed on December 31st and January 1st.)

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 answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, then you MUST check out the **Holy Cross Youth Group.**

You will be glad you did! The Holy Cross Youth Group is the perfect opportunity for you to continue to grow in your faith and build relationships with others in the parish.

Our next meeting is after the holidays, on January 10th!

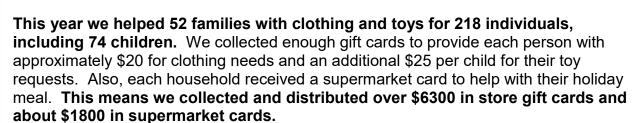
So, if you are thinking about coming to the church to see what we are all about, do it! You will not regret it. Come with a friend or family member, and join us as we continue to grow in the endless love of Christ.

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

AN OUTREACH CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!

We were once again blessed with a tremendous response to our Christmas Angel project. Our struggling households were so very grateful for the gift cards for their families. As parents and family members, we can appreciate how good it is to provide for our children's needs. By enabling these moms and dads to do the same accomplishes so much more than just handing them a gift someone else has bought. They can now provide in a way they couldn't before.



Thank you so much for bringing the Light of Jesus' Birth to those who struggle each and every day. You are truly special ANGELS! Christ is born again every time we choose to give to another, walk with another or empower another.

In addition, the parish also provided gifts to the following agencies:

- 30 Gifts to our friends at Olsen's Rest Home
- 23 Gifts to Mercy Haven
- 127 Toys to Pronto in Brentwood
- 38 Gifts to Talbot House

This is a phenomenal effort that requires many volunteers to accomplish. A very big "THANK YOU" to angel cutters, shoppers, pantry stockers, sorting elves, gift deliverers, wrappers, card writers, those who donated money, gift cards and special donations which helped us and our families so much.

THANK YOU seems an inadequate way to express our appreciation. We wish you and your families a Very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

Gratefully, Kelley and MaryAnne

may where

Due to your overwhelming generosity, the pantry is not in need of specific items at this time. Thank you for your constant support in helping those we serve. Have a healthy and Happy New Year!

LITURGY BYTES

Christmas

Today, a child is born to us, the Prince of Peace, Emmanuel – God is with us!

One of the most profound symbols associated with the birth of Jesus is the manger. St. Luke in his Gospel account tells us: "...the Virgin Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7). As we know, the manger is a feeding trough for animals and was likely the cleanest place in the stable where Mary could place her child.

Christians much later on reflect this profoundly symbolic action and find a connection to the Eucharist, where Jesus himself becomes food for humanity. Down through the years, we read of the writings of some of the saints like St. John Chrysostom, in the 4th century, who encouraged his congregation to attend Mass on Christmas day, where they could approach the altar as if they were going to the manger. He says, "For if we approach with faith, we shall surely behold him lying in a manger. His holy table will supply the place of a manger. For there will be spread the body of our Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes as then, but on all sides surrounded by his Holy Spirit."

Both Saints Cyril of Alexandria (5th century) and Bede (7th century) pointed to the feast of Christmas as a Eucharistic feast on account of the rich symbolism of the manger scene. This year, as we kneel before the Nativity scene, dwell upon the beautiful gift of the Eucharist and how we can prepare to receive Jesus into our hearts not just on Christmas, but every week!



Hope you enjoy a blessed, healthy and safe Christmas.

~~~ Michele Hahn



#### Christmas 2020

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

When he was elected as a Successor of St. Peter on March 13, 2013, our Holy Father chose the name *Francis*. It was a weighty decision with a prophetic message. Especially now, seven years later and with the publication of his latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* from the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi on October 3, 2020, the significance of the choice is clear: Pope Francis connects his papacy to St. Francis.

Through the ministry of our Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi is close to the Church in these times. Therefore, as we draw near to Bethlehem at the end of this difficult year, I wish to recall two points Pope Francis highlights from the life of St. Francis. One will help us celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord; the other indicates a grace for which to pray during the holy season.

First, in his 2019 Apostolic Letter Admirabile Signum: On the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene, Pope Francis emphasizes St. Francis of Assisi's foundational role in our celebration of Christmas. The Holy Father recalls the origins of the crèche and the first nativity scene inspired by the holy friar in 1223, by which the saint sought "to bring to life the memory of that babe born in Bethlehem." Importantly, the remembrance of Christ's birth that St. Francis desired to convey was brought alive in Greccio, a small village in Italy, not by statues but by people from the surrounding towns and countryside. Together with St. Francis, his friars, an ox and a donkey, they gathered at a cave to behold a manger full of hay over which the Eucharist was celebrated. That Christmas night, almost 800 years ago, Pope Francis reminds us, "the nativity scene was enacted and experienced by all who were present." That night, there was "no distance between the original event and those sharing in its mystery." (2) Encountering Christ, there was simply joy and hope.

This Christmas, in our world laden with the Crosses of COVID-19, political and economic turmoil, racism, financial hardship, and so many other societal ills and challenges – challenges that impact us on Long Island – let us remember this lesson from Greccio: Christmas is an event to be lived. It demands our participation. Like the women and men who embodied that first crèche, we must be present to Christ who is born for us. We must behold and receive Him.

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#### DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Second, in *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis shows St. Francis as an icon of Christocentric-listening. With great humility and charity, the saint reverently listened to others. He was present to the various voices in his life – the voice of God, the voice of his neighbor, the voice of the poor, the voice of the sick, the voice of nature – and by truly hearing them, he was an instrument of peace, healing, and understanding. How different it can be for us! The Holy Father says well what we know: "Today's world is largely a deaf world...At times, the frantic pace of the modern world prevents us from listening attentively to what another person is saying." Aware of this fact, the Pope encourages us, in the midst of our hectic and polarized world, to be like St. Francis and "not lose our ability to listen." (48)

This Christmas, when we approach the crib, let us ask for the grace to be attentive listeners. Let us ask for the grace to be like St. Francis, so that we may hear the voice of God and the voice of our neighbor and respond with the radical charity he exhibited.<sup>1</sup>

Like Pope Francis, may we be moved by the example of St. Francis, and may St. Francis of Assisi's love for the Mystery of the Nativity, his ecstatic mysticism, his love for the poor, and his spirit of universal fraternity animate our celebration of Christmas this year.

May God bless you and your families this Christmas.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres Bishop of Rockville Centre

## Christmas Flowers in Honor/Memory of...

We remember and pray for all our loved ones those living and those who have gone before us.

DOM & MARY VERDI SAL & JO ROSSELLI JOHN METZNER JOAN METZNER MARGARET WALKER FREDERICK WALKER RITA RAMMELKAMP WINNIE RAMMELKAMP **LUIS DIAS SIMOES GRANDPARENTS OF ANTONIO** MARTINS GRANDPARENTS OF ROSA MARTINS **ROSE & TOM PETITO** LENA & DOM FANUELE **LENNY CAMPANELLO** JERRY SILECCHIA

PEDRO BANAGUAS **GUILLERMA BANAGUAS** BENVENUTO MONACO FRANCES MONACO PAUL COLLURA THOMASSINA COLLURA ANNE TSCHUMI LAWRENCE TSCHUMI THERESA TRABACCHI ANGELO TRABACCHI FRANK RIZZI **ALEC ROSS** FRANK PERRINO JR. MARY & CHARLIE ITALIANO BERTHA & FRANK PERRINO M/M VINCENZO CHIARELLA

M/M John Slevin Sr.
John Slevin
Thomas Slevin
Joseph & Carmela Pappalardo
Carlo Pappalardo
Anthonet Grivaz
Caroline Downs
Thomas Matula
William McDevitt
Matthew McDevitt
Charles Inghilterra
Lucy V. Marotta
Lucy M. Guiffre
Colagera Marotta
Lucia Marotta

## Christmas Flowers in Honor/Memory of...

We remember and pray for all our loved ones those living and those who have gone before us.

DENNIS KELLY MARGARET & JOHN DORNEY Maureen & John Kelly

ERIC SCHWARZ MR. & MRS. TERRANOVA WARREN SULMASY JR. RONALD DANDREA GEORGE GROBLUSKI GLORIA DANDREA

GAETANA GROBLUSKI **NICHOLAS SVERCEL** 

MARY REID JOHN AURORA FRANK AURORA BETTY STARK **SCHNURR FAMILY BURSKY FAMILY** SONNY GARCIA FRANK RANIERI

PETER & ROSEMARIE GRAUS

LAMPACH FAMILY CAROLINE PENNACCHIA

IDA CHAPMAN ROSE MCDONNELL **CATHERINE STECH** JEAN MORTENSON Lydia Verni JOSEPH PARZIALE BARBARA MARTIN

PAT-BESSIE-TARA LAPORTA

DONNA ARMINE

SISTER DONNA ARMINE **AUNT DONNA ARMINE BUDDY-DONNA ARMINE** 

**GUY PLOURDE GERALD GRIFFIN** 

MICHAEL & MARY DILLON ROGER DILLON DONALD STEVENSON PHILIP PULITANO EDWARD CONATY JOHNNY CONATY ALBERT CANNUSCIO PETER MARSALA JANET MARSALA SOPHIE B. NICHOLS PAMELA A. SMITH RAYMOND W. CONWAY DOROTHY CONWAY RAYMOND M. CONWAY MATTHEW RYAN JACKY GOELZ

WILLIAM FORD

**DAVE FORD** HARRY RENCK RITA RENCK MATTHEW CORAPI

FRANK & GIOVANNA SALADINO

RALPH & REGINA CORAPI PATRICIA COLLINS KATHERINE BALDI LORRAINE SCHILLING

MARIE VISCO

LUCIA VITALE TRAINO ANTHONY DEVITO JR.

ANNA TESTA **DOMINICK TESTA** LUCILLE DEVITO ANTHONY DEVITO SR. RITA MONJELLO JOHN MONJELLO NATALIE DIFAZIO SEBASTIAN DIFAZIO JOSEPH PARISI **GRACE PARISI** JOSEPH GIRARDI **EVELYN GIRARDI MORTON FASS DOLORES FASS** 

HENRY LICHTENBERGER EILEEN LICHTENBERGER

**SOTTUNG FAMILY DUMINUCO FAMILY** 

**CHARLES & ROSE SCHREIBER** 

VINCENT & JEAN BRUNO ERNEST F. CHISENA GRACE M. CHISENA **EDWARD PAGANUCCI** 

Dr. & Mrs. Frank Chisena

**CLAIRE PELLICANI** 

MARIA & HERBERT EANNACONE

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CARMELA & MICHAEL TERRANOVA

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**MARGARET LEPTICH** FRANK PUPPA

SUSAN EHR

PETER LEPTICH

**RAY & KAY ANZALONE** TOM & LEE MARTINO ANNMARIE POLIZZI **DOROTHY KOHLER** HAROLD KOHLER

HAROLD KOHLER JR. ANNE MATTERA VINCENT MATTERA JOHN MATTERA STEPHEN MATTERA **EMMA EMERSON** ANNE CALIA

GERALDINE CAMMARATA JOSEPHINE PORCELLI **CHARLES PORCELLI** RAFFAELE PORCELLI FRANCES MALAZDRA STEPHEN REILLY MIKE BALZER JOSEPH REILLY MARIE REILLY

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**CHARLES BERNARD & FAMILY** 

**AGNES & JAMES CAIN** 

SUSAN & RICHARD BELLISSIMO

FLO & PAUL CANGELERI MARILYN CRISHAM ERNEST TETO

## Christmas Flowers in Honor/Memory of...

We remember and pray for all our loved ones those living and those who have gone before us.

GEN SPIZUOCO
PHILIP SMITH
ROSE MURTHA
JOHN O'DEA
ROHAN MASON
SABLE FAMILIES
ROSE & DOMINICK CARDONE

ANGELINA, JOE, ANTHONY FRANGOSIE

ROSE GICOLA

RITA & MARK CASTELLUZZI IDA, FRANKIE & JOHNNY KOTARSKI MADELINE & RICHIE CATAPANO

LIPNICKI FAMILY
PELECK FAMILY
O'HANLON FAMILY
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WILLIAM BAAS

SAMANTHA RANDAZZO PAUL KASPERSKI JOHN S. MENDOLIA JAMES H. WHITE AGNES WHITE

ELIZABETH MENDOLIA

STEPHANIE & STANLEY ADAMKIEWICZ GLORIA POSIMATO

MARY & AL BRILLAUD BABE & LARRY SHIN STAS ADAMKIEWICZ

MARY SHIN

GIOVANNI & FRANCES GRASS VINCENT & MILDRED SERRANTONIO

MICHAEL SIMMONETTI ROBERT RICCARDI FRANK PERRINO ALEC ROSS LOUIS ITALIANO

MARY & CHARLES ITALIANO

BERTHA & FRANK PERRINO GEORGE HOLST

BEATRICE HOLST
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JOHN & FRANCES COOPER NICHOLAS DESANTIS MARYLOU PELUSO MORANDI FAMILY MARY C. REILLY NICHOLAS DAGGER ELAINE DAGGER

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SANDRA SAFIANOW
JAMES LECHNER
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JOSEPH TALAY KAREN TALAY TOMAS MATTA

GLORIA POSIMATO ROSE GATTO

JOSEPHINE POSIMATO POSIMATO FAMILY D'ESPOSITO FAMILY

MASANGYA FAMILY CELAURO FAMILY VIRGINIA FORTUNATO

JOAN EBERLE JOHN PERSICH GRACE PERSICH

GERALD MULDERIG SR. ELIZABETH MULDERIG

ROBERT TAVIS

Rose & Joseph Marinelli

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ANDREW STERNET MR. & MRS. FRONGOISE

JANE DALY
JOHN DALY
MICHAEL KNIPPER
JAMES A. PERRY
HENRY KNIPPER
MARGARET MAHER
GLORIA POSIMATO

NICHOLAS & JOSEPHINE POSIMATO ANTHONY POSIMATO VITO ORLANDO ANDREW ORLANDO CLARA ORLANDO PETER GALLO MARY GALLO DIROSA FAMILY MULA FAMILY

DAMIEN & JAMES PICKEL

PICKEL FAMILY CONLIN FAMILY

MR. & MRS. JOSEPH DEPAOLO

CRETELLA FAMILY PRAYERS FOR ALL JOHN SCHULTZ

JOHN & MARIE SCHULTZ JOHN & JOSEPHINE O'SHEA

CATHERINE BERDON JOHN & CLARA FERONY

JOSE ABREU

CRISTIAN MALADE

CARLOS & MERCEDES GINEBRA

HAROLD YAGER

GASPAR & MARY LOMBARDO ANN & DOMINICK TRIFILETTI FANNY & ANTHONY MAURO BESSIE & SALVATORE TRIFILETTI BESSIE & CLARENCE KENYON

JUDY KAST

ANA & RAFAEL CARRERA FLORENCE CIANFARANO

SAM CHASINOV VIRGINIA CHASINOV LUCY LESCINSKI JOSEPH LESCINSKI

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ROSELLE GARAFOLA
JAMES EVANS II
MARYLYN EVANS
FORTE FAMILY
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DOROTHY SCHNEIDER
KATHERINE SCHNEIDER

# **MEETINGS THIS WEEK**



Tuesday, December 29th
• IN STITCHES

10 AM Atrium

Wednesday, December 30th

7:30 PM Atrium

• BAPTISM PREP

Friday, January 1st

5PM

Thursday, December 31st
• SOLEMNITY OF MARY VIGIL MASS

Worship Area

(The Parish Office is closed for New Year's Eve.)

10 AM

• SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS

Worship Area

(The Parish Office is closed for New Year's Day.)

Thank you to Mrs.
Rosalinda Kamor's
Level 7 class for
making beautiful
Christmas decorations
for their community
service project! The
money raised by the



sale of these decorations will be sent to Catholic Relief Services. Your hard work and thoughtfulness is a positive example to all of us here at Holy Cross.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** 



## **Merry Christmas from Religious Education!**

As we all rejoice at the coming of Jesus our King, we wish all our Catechists, students and their families as well as our fellow parishioners, a very Merry Christmas and blessings in the New Year.

Tricia and Mary



## **Merry Christmas!**

Thank you to everyone who sent Christmas greetings and expressions of good wishes. In all the ways you show your generosity, it is greatly appreciated. Your kindness fills us with gratitude, for you are our greatest gift. As this year of 2020 comes to a close, we pray that this coming year will be filled with peace in your hearts, in your homes and in our world. We pray that we will all grow in love of God, and that we will find His joy in each other as we serve His people together.

Fr. Michael, Dcn. Ralph, Jude, Michele, Tricia, Kelley, MaryAnne, Barbara, Brian, Allie, Jane, Mary, Barbara, Vince, Roberto, Vincent & Mary



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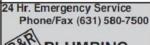
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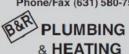
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