

Parish of the

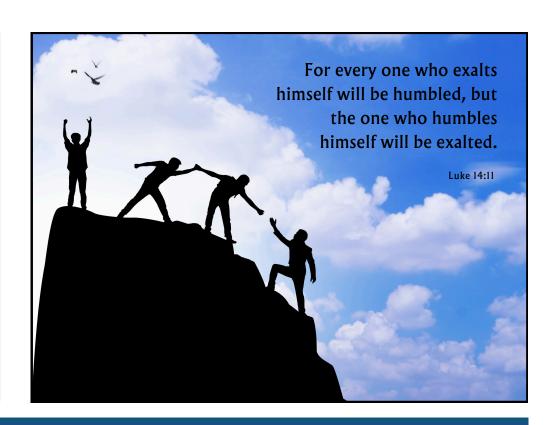
Holy Cross



Let All Who Enter Be Welcomed as Christ!

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.



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 31, 2025



Come and Pray with Us!

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 livestreamed on Facebook.

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

PASTORAL TEAM

PHONE: (631) 265-2200 FAX: (631) 265-2229 EMAIL: parish@holycrossrc.org

> PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12:15-1 PM)

> > Parish Office FRIDAY HOURS 9 AM - 12 NOON

9 AM - 12 NOON

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Vincent Mazurek **Webmaster**

Mr. Roberto Maza **Custodian**

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

Mrs. Susan Ribeiro **Bulletin Editor**

email: susanr@holycrossrc.org

NEW OUTREACH HOURS: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

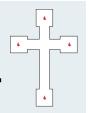
Evening Hours by Appointment Only



Visit our website at **www.holycrossrc.org** for more information on how we can serve you.



IT'S A DRY HEAT



Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael

As you read this column I will be in one of my favorite corners of the world, Phoenix. Yeah, Arizona can be crazy hot in the summer, but there is truth to the expression of it being a "dry heat." The humidity is low so that it remains reasonably comfortable even when the temperature is in the high 90s. As a side note, this combination of high heat and low humidity creates an unusual phenomenon. When I get out of the pool on a scorching hot day, I suddenly feel cold. I have asked Sr. Marie and other friends who are science teachers, and they say the reason for this is evaporation. The humidity is so low that any moisture is quickly absorbed into the air. The warm dry air draws the water so quickly away from the skin that it is also drawing surface body heat away, and the result is feeling cold. In a minute or so things balance themselves out, but it is an odd experience to be shivering when it is 102 degrees.

Much to my surprise, as life goes on, I find I enjoy the warmer temperatures more and more. At one point in time I was an avid skier. I wouldn't think twice about heading out on the coldest of days to be the first one on the slopes. Now it is the thought of warmth and sunshine that makes me smile. It would be a dream that at some point I could become a snowbird with my second home being in the Southwest. It's nice to dream, but I enjoy these opportunities when they come along now.

While I am away I enjoy attending Sunday Mass. It's a good thing for me to sit in the "peanut gallery" every once in a while. It is a different perspective that allows me to experience the liturgy in a different way. As you know, it is a different perspective sitting in the pew. I enjoy walking into a new church and getting a feel for the parish. I look around and try to breathe in the life and energy of that community. Of course, we are always united by the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, but the context in which it is celebrated makes an enormous difference. Music, environment of the worship area, prepared and reverent ministers, and preaching, all play a vital role. I have had some very rich and prayerful times. I have had moments where I felt disengaged and more of an observer than a participant. Whatever experiences I have on the road, it is always a blessing to come back to Holy Cross. As for many of you, this is my spiritual home and it always feels good to come back.

Thank you to Fr. Mickey Bancroft for covering the weekend Masses while I am away. I appreciate his willingness to help. It is also good that you hear the gospel proclaimed with a different voice and different perspective.

For those involved in education, these are likely the final days before the routine of your life makes a dramatic shift. I hope the days of summer were relaxing and renewing for you. The change of seasons will once again be upon us. Fear not, summer will return. But don't worry, it's a dry heat.





ON THE CALENDAR

oPM, Worship Area	Saturday, August 30th 5:00PM, Worship Area
nday, August 31st BLESSING OF BACKPACKS Masses, Worship Area	Sunday, August 31st All Masses, Worship Area
nday, September 1stPARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED (In Observance of Labor Day)	Monday, September 1st
nday, September 1st DAILY MASS OAM Mass, Chapel	Monday, September 1st 9:00AM Mass, Chapel
ooam, Fr. Joe Room	Tuesday, September 2nd 10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room
dnesday, September 3rd BEREAVEMENT OPM, Fr. Joe Room The Journey Continues	Wednesday, September 3r 1:30PM, Fr. Joe Room
ursday, September 4thSCRIPTURE STUDY	Thursday, September 4th 10:00AM, Atrium
surday, September 6th HOLY HOUR 5PM - 4:45PM, Worship Area	
orday, September 6thGRANDPARENT/CHILD BLESSING OPM Mass, Worship Area	Saturday, September 6th 5:00PM Mass, Worship Are
nday, September 7thGRANDPARENT/CHILD BLESSING Masses, Worship Area	Sunday, September 7th All Masses, Worship Area
nday, September 7thANOINTING OF THE SICK er 9:30AM Mass, Worship Area	
er 11:30AM Mass, Atrium	Sunday, September 7th After 11:30AM Mass, Atriu
oday, September 7thBAPTISMS OPM, Worship Area	Sunday, September 7th 1:00PM, Worship Area

CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



SEPTEMBER 6

5:00 PM FR. FRANK

SEPTEMBER 7

8:00 AM FR. FRANK

9:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS for SEPTEMBER 7

+ Wisdom 9:13-18b

+ Philemon 9-10,12-17

+ Luke 14:25-33





Visit our website at **www.holycrossrc.org** to find out more about the different ministries we have to offer, how you can be involved, and when they meet.

WE PRAY...CELEBRATE...REMEMBER



Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, August 31

9:00AM Masses:

Mon. Jo-Ann Loh Tues. Rinaldo family Wed. Bob DeFilippis

Thur. Christopher Giarraputo

Saturday, September 6, 5PM Mass

Jeffrey Knopf, Mary Werner, Eric Schwarz, Carmela Terranova, Salvatore Miliotto

Sunday, September 7, Masses

8:00AM People of the Parish

9:30AM Manuel Coelho, Francisco Veloso,

James W. Corrigan Jr.,

Susanne Boden, Gerald Pisapia

11:30AM Debbie Hahn



We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service.



Sunday, September 7th, will be the next date that the Anointing of the Sick will be offered after the 9:30 AM Mass

Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you.

2 Chronicles 6:19

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

Bob Alderdice Theresa Arzillo Alejandro Astegiano

Jo Barry Kathy Barry Cole Brennan

Veronica Buscemi Judy Carlson Mary Champagne

William Ciccarelli Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus

Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus Grayson Danielski

> Anthony DeGennaro Manuela Diaz

Ann Egan

Vincent Esposito

Ralph Farino Yolanda Fattarusso

Sienna Fricke Linda Giordano

James Greene Linda Heinrichs

Ralph Hughes

Ryan Huscher Debbie Jablinowski

Kristen Kennedy Caroline Lazar Carol Leahy Victor Lewandowski Mary Lopez Gerald Losquadro

Viola Malek Jeanne Marie Malley

Steve Matonti Olivia Melia

Loretto Narducci Andrea Nocito

Darin Pitkanen Patricia Pitkanen

Colleen Prinz Carina Ranieri

Rob Remhild Liam Richards

Liam Richards Amy Rivers Lynn Rodger

Sean Romeo

Elaine Ruane Casey Schultz

Kathy Schwinn John Serri

Celeste Sichenze Todd Skala

Sue Southard Bill Tanner Calvin Tatone

Grace Van Epps Peter Warns

If you would like to have the name of your loved one listed in our prayers for the sick, please call 631-265-2200 x122.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way.

The Lord be with you all.

2 Thessalonians 3:16



PARISH OUTREACH

Outreach is currently in need of the following items for the food pantry. The next collection will be **September 6 & 7**.



Snacks Tuna / Chicken in a Can Mayo Soup Peanut Butter & Jelly

Thank you for checking expiration dates before donating.

Thank you for the donations of bags for our pantry. We are not accepting any more at this time. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support!



Are you or someone you know in the parish, homebound or anticipating an operation or treatment of cancer?

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.

"Sing praises to God and to His name! Sing loud praises to Him who rides the clouds.

His name is the Lord - rejoice in His presence!"

-Psalm 68:4



HOLY CROSS BEREAVEMENT

When Your Journey Continues

We will begin our
4 consecutive week program
starting on
Wednesday, September 3rd,
from 1:30-3:00PM
in the Father Joe Room.

We are starting a bereavement group for those who may be further in their grief journey but who are still struggling with an unresolved loss.

This group is NOT for newly bereaved. Our next newly bereaved support group will begin in November.

If you are struggling and do not feel you have made much progress, please consider joining the support group. The group will focus on helping you understand the grief process and your own individual reaction to loss. By learning coping strategies, you will be able to manage your grief better and begin the critical process of adjusting to living in a world without the deceased. The group is not therapy but simply a discussion group where you will meet other people who have also suffered a loss. Through sharing life experiences, you can learn from one another which will help in your grief journey.

Space is limited, so if you are interested in joining, please contact Kelley Mowat at the Outreach office by calling 631-265-2200 or by email at Outreach@holycrossrc.org, If interested, please contact Kelley as soon as possible.



SIGN UP FOR A FREE CLASS TO LEARN ABOUT PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES

With severe weather events becoming more frequent and more extreme, it is more important than ever that New Yorkers are prepared for disasters. The NY Citizen Preparedness Training Program teaches residents to have the tools and resources to prepare for any type of disaster, respond accordingly and recover as quickly as possible to normal conditions. This training course will provide an introduction to responding to a natural or man-made disaster. Participants will be advised on how to properly prepare for any disaster, including developing a family emergency plan and stocking up on emergency supplies. Each family that attends will receive one preparedness kit.

WHERE: Parish of the Holy Cross 95 Nichols Road

Nesconset, NY 11767

Monday, September 15, 2025 WHEN: 1:30PM

REGISTER:

Registration is required to attend the event. To register visit www.prepare.ny.gov or scan the QR code





THIS EVENT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY GOVERNOR HOCHUL IN CONJUNCTION WITH: CHART



and Parish of the Holy Cross

We will be hosting a free vaccine clinic

in the Atrium in partnership with CVS pharmacy. Our local CVS pharmacist and staff will be available for the following:

Flu shot - COVID - Shingles RSV - MMR - Tdap

Vaccinations are one of the best things you can do to help protect yourself from serious diseases. If any of these is of interest to you, please stop by our Healthy Sunday table in the Atrium between 10am and 1pm. No appointment necessary.



HEALTHY SUNDAY

at Holy Cross

Vaccine Clinic

Sunday, September 14th, from 10am to 1pm in the Atrium



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Please mark your calendars for the following

Religious Ed. Grade Level Meetings:

Books and folders will be distributed, and we will go through the curriculum.

Level 1 - Monday, October 6, 2025, at 1:30pm or 7pm

Level 2 - Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7pm (only) Parents and Students

Level 3 - Monday, September 29, 2025, at 1:30pm or 7pm

Level 4 - Monday, September 29, 2025, at 1:30pm or 7pm

Level 5 - Tuesday, September 30, 2005, at 1:30pm or 7pm

Level 6 - Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at 1:30pm or 7pm

Level 7 - Monday, September 8, 2025, at 7pm (only) Parents and Students

Level 8 - Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 7pm (only) Parents and Students

Kick off Masses for Religious Education



All Religious Education Children and Catechists are invited to join us to celebrate the beginning of the 2O25-2O26 Religious Education year. Please join us at one of these special Mass times.

Saturday, October 11th, at the 5PM Mass Sunday, October 12th, at the 11:3OAM Mass

Thank You

Special thanks to all our volunteer catechists.

We appreciate your dedication to our youth in sharing and teaching them about our faith.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

The Religious Education Office is planning ahead for the 2025 - 2026 Formation Year.

Families who are currently enrolled in our program will receive Re-Registration form through their email. All children who plan on continuing in our program must be re-registered each year. Children need to successfully complete their current Religious Education level before they can move to the next level.

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We are currently accepting new registrations.

If you are new to the Parish,
please call the main office at 631-265-2200 x111.

Once we have your email address,
we can send you a new registration form.

++++

The Religious Education department at Holy Cross will begin the current session October 2025. All catechists will be trained during the summer once we have the program in place. We are dedicated to bringing the same service to our young parishioners that we have had in the past. Textbooks will be distributed only after your child is registered. Please register even if you are not paying at this time to secure a spot for your child in a class. SPACE IS LIMITED!

Religious Education Registration Forms are found on the Religious Ed. Forms Page of our website.

We are asking for your support for one of our biggest fundraisers

of the year, our Basket Raffle!

We are looking for donations of individual items to fill and create baskets and completed themed baskets!

With your help, we hope to make this fundraiser a huge success!

Want to make a themed basket? Here are a few ideas for baskets:

- Coffee Basket
- Golf Basket
- Baker's Basket
- Rest and Relax Spa Basket
- Dinner and a movie basket
- Kid's Basket

Suggested items for baskets: New Items only please

- Gift certificates (for products and/or services)
- Scratch-off tickets
- Wine/Liquor
- Event tickets (play, movies, baseball game)
- Hand crafted items (quilts, jewelry)

DONATIONS NEEDED!

All completed baskets and all individual donated items can be brought into the parish office during business hours from August 18th to September 14th.

If you have any questions and/or would like to be on the Basket Raffle Committee, please call Mary Ann Viscusi at 631-686-5280 or Linda Denninger at 631-265-7111.

Thank you for your continued support!

FALL FESTIVAL FUN

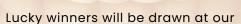




A wide variety
of themed baskets will
be displayed, and tickets sold
after all the Masses on the
weekends of:

Sept. 20-21 & Sept. 27-28

Tickets are **3 for \$5** or **7 for \$10**



FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

on Saturday, October 4th, at 3PM

Winners do not have to be present to win.

Be part of our

BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!

BASKET RAFFLE FUNDRAISER 2025

Last day to donate completed baskets or individual items for baskets is Sunday, September 14th.

Want to make a themed basket? Here are a few ideas for baskets:

- Coffee Basket
- · Golf Basket
- Baker's Basket
- Rest and Relax Spa Basket
- Dinner and a Movie Basket
- Kid's Basket

Suggested items for baskets: New Items only please

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- Scratch-off tickets
- Wine/Liquor
- Event tickets -
- (play, movies, baseball game)
- Hand crafted items -(quilts, jewelry)

All completed baskets and all individual donated items brought on the weekend of September 13th & 14th, can be dropped off in the atrium before each Mass.

> If you have any questions and/or would like to be on the Basket Raffle Committee, please call Mary Ann Viscusi at 631-686-5280 or Linda Denninger at 631-265-7111

Thank you for your continued support!

NIFTY 50/50 does not need to be RAFFLE Drawing will be held at the Holy Cross Family Fall Festival on October 4th, 2025 Email \$10 each Return completed raffle with payment does not need to be present NIFTY 50/50 RAFFLE Drawing will be held at the Holy Cross Family Fall Festival on October 4th, 2025 Email \$10 each Return completed raffle with payment

Try your luck this fall with the

NIFTY 50/50 RAFFLE

Tickets are \$10 each.

Jackpot builds as tickets are sold. Enter as many times as you wish.

How to enter:

Fill out the tickets to the left and return it with payment to the parish office by October 3rd.

Additional raffle tickets for purchase can be found in the parish office, and will be sold up until the drawing on the day of the festival.

Drawing will be held at the Family Fall Festival on October 4th, 2025.

The winner does not need to be present.

PARISH HAPPENINGS



2025 marks the 30th Anniversary of the Parish of the Holy Cross

We will celebrate the opening of our Worship Space and Offices at all Masses on the weekend of

September 13 & 14, 2025 The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross



At the 5:00 PM Mass, we will honor Founding Parishioners and enjoy hospitality following the Mass. Please join us.

PARISH HAPPENINGS



RCIA/OCIA

WHAT IS RCIA/OCIA?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA),
recently renamed OCIA,
or Order of Christian Initiation of Adults,
is the process by which adults are welcomed
into the Catholic Church.

If you know someone who might be interested in OCIA, please pass this information along.

If you wish to participate in OCIA, or if you have any questions about it, please contact Jude at (631) 265-2200 x116 or jpickel@holycrossrc.org

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

OCIA is open to:

- anyone who is unbaptized and has a desire to learn about the Catholic faith;
- anyone who was baptized in another Christian denomination and wishes to explore membership in the Catholic Church;
- Catholics who have been baptized but have not celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist (Holy Communion) and Confirmation.

WHAT CAN ONE EXPECT AT OCIA?

Individuals who go through the OCIA process can expect:

- · to know themselves and God better,
- to be supported in prayer by the entire parish community, and
- · to understand Catholic teachings and practices more clearly.

All that is required is openness to grow and learn.



The Chosen, Season 5

The Chosen is a film series portraying the life of Jesus through the eyes of those who met him.

Based on the Gospels, this series illustrates the stories of everyday people and the profound impact Jesus had on their lives.

Join us as we view all eight episodes of Season 5.

Wednesdays, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12 from 7:00 PM – 8:45 PM or

Thursdays, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 20 from 1:30 PM – 3:15 PM

Each episode is followed by small group discussion.

Participation in **Seasons 1 - 4** is not required for attendance at **Season 5**. However, if you haven't seen any of **Seasons 1 - 4**, it would be a good idea to download <u>The Chosen</u> app (for free) to view it and catch up.

Fill in the tear-off below and return it to the Parish Office by Sept. 21st. Please print clearly!

I would like to attend <u>The Chosen</u> o	on Wednesday evenings / on Thursday afternoons.
Name:	Phone:
Email:	



PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



Youth Community Cares

"Serving our youth as our youth serve others"

YCC will be hosting hospitality in honor of Grandparents' Day after the 11:30AM Mass on Sunday, September 7th

SIGN-UP SLOTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

Please register for these events to participate.

To register,

Email Angela at: youthcc@holycrossrc.org and/or join our Remind group to receive the SignUpGenius link: rmd.at/ycchc.

Additional information about volunteer opportunities will be shared through the **Remind App**.







Prayer Blanket Ministry

Many thanks to the wonderful parishioners who have been sewing, knitting, and crocheting Prayer Blankets for the past 19 years. To date, over 1.500 people have been comforted by

over 1,500 people have been comforted by a Prayer Blanket received from Holy Cross.

Our supply is running low and we could use more help.

If you sew, knit, or crochet, please consider joining this special ministry. There are no meetings to attend; work is done at home.

Interested? Call Jude at ext. 116 for details.

WEEKENO AL

Holy Cross Parish celebrates GRANDPARENTS' WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 6th & 7th



Gather up those special people we call grandchildren and come to Mass together that weekend, or grandchildren, invite your grandparents to Mass here at Holy Cross. A special blessing will be given at all the Masses. Hospitality will be offered after the 11:30 Mass.



HOLY HOUR

Saturday, September 6th 3:45pm - 4:45pm in the Worship Area

Please come and spend some time with the Lord in personal prayer as you pray before the Blessed Sacrament during the Parish Holy Hour.



In Stitches

Join us for conversation and laughs as we work on new or unfinished knitting, crocheting, quilting, needlepoint, crafts or sewing projects.

Tuesday, September 2nd, 10AM to 12PM in the Father Joe Room

Contact: JoEllen May-Wadsworth (631) 360-1373 EMail: <u>jpmclady@yahoo.com</u>

PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

We grow together in faith.





Youth Community Cares

"Serving our youth as our youth serve others"

Those in **6**th **grade and older** are invited to be part of YCC.

This is a great opportunity to earn community service hours while getting to know and serve our church community.

Join our Remind group to receive information for YCC events through the Remind App.

Sign up for Remind at:

rmd.at/ycchc

You will receive Sign-Up Genius links with information on how to participate!



Please stop by for complimentary refreshments which will be served after the 11;30AM Mass on Sunday, September 7th.

We kindly ask that you wait to enjoy these special treats until after Mass, when served in the Atrium by our youth volunteers.

Thank you! We look forward to seeing you then!





Practice of Charity

(Excerpt from "At Home with the Word 2025")

Jesus uses a rule of etiquette to demonstrate a rule of God: ony the truly humble have a place in God's kingdom. The dictates of today's Gospel are simple. As Christians, we are called to give freely, as God does, to those who cannot possibly repay the kindness; to give alms, to invite the poor and the marginalized into our lives.

Study the online Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 2444 and 2448, to learn more about the Church's preferential love for the poor.

At every family dinner, pray especially for the poor.

Contact your local refugee organization and inquire about inviting a refugee family in your community to your home for a meal.

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