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.



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 11, 2026



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: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM;
Monday: 6:00PM - 7:00PM
Wednesday immediately after 9:00 AM Mass

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



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

PASTORAL TEAM

Reverend Michael F. Holzmann..... Ext. 115
Pastor

Deacon Joseph Maffeo..... Ext. 124
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Judith Pickel..... Ext. 116
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Michele Hall..... Ext. 120
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Jennifer Miller..... Ext. 112
Coordinator of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Kelley Mowat..... Ext. 113
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry
email: musicholycrossdir@gmail.com

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth..... Ext. 122
Parish Secretary

Mrs. Mary Pannone..... Ext. 111
Religious Ed. Secretary

Ms. Karina D'Angelo..... Ext. 110
Business Manager

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Webmaster

Mr. Roberto Maza
Custodian

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

Mrs. Susan Ribeiro
Bulletin Editor
email: susanr@holycrossrc.org

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

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

OUTREACH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Evening Hours by Appointment Only



The Sovereign Lord will destroy death forever!
He will wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes and
take away the disgrace his people have suffered
throughout the world. The Lord himself has spoken.

-Isaiah 25:8



HERE COMES EVERYONE

Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael

For some folks, their understanding of a relationship with God is very personal. It is seen as a one-on-one thing. Indeed, all of us need to have that sense of an intimate connection to our God, but that cannot be our only perspective. Sooner or later, we need to embrace the reality that the fullness of God's grace is experienced in a broader way. Community is not a mob of people that distracts us from knowing God. In fact, it is the opposite at work. We have to allow the gift and presence of others to become a means to encounter God. We need to minister to one another and with one another. This is abundantly present in our celebration of the Eucharist. As much as someone may try to hide in the corner by themselves and immerse themselves in private prayer, our celebration of the Eucharist is a communal event.

Two of today's scripture readings use a common image for the kingdom of God, that is, the wedding banquet. A wedding banquet is not something that is experienced as a solo event. It is not a quiet or somber moment. A wedding banquet is a gathering of many people immersed in food, music, and togetherness. There is a life and an energy present that we cannot create on our own. If ever you have been to a ballgame or a concert, you know it is a vastly different experience than staying at home watching a game or listening to music. The connectedness of different lives, even those we don't know, can bring us to a deeper place.

There are two warnings given us in today's gospel to help us appreciate those banquets in which the Lord calls us to share. First, do not take for granted or ignore the invitations you receive. There are many in the gospel story who come up with good excuses as to why they cannot be there. It is a lost opportunity, and there is sadness when that invitation is not embraced. The other reminder is God's banquet has a vastly longer invitation list than we would make on our own. All of us acknowledge the blessings that come from sharing a meal with our family, friends, or those we like. But today's gospel pushes those boundaries. Ultimately, the invitation is extended to all. There are no qualifications or conditions. It seems God may have a place at His table for some who we do not think are worthy. We might grapple to have that same sense of inclusivity that God has.

Be mindful of the ways in which God's Spirit draws us in. God wants us to be people who embrace His presence. Many times, that presence is found in those who surround us. There can be challenges in always seeing that Spirit of God in others. Relationships can be hard. There may be something frightening or unsettling when we find ourselves surrounded by strangers. There is a common ground in that we are all God's children. As our lives unfold, may we not retreat deeper into only those things with which we are comfortable. May we be a people open to experience God's face in the many who surround us. We come to the feast, and it is there that we encounter God.



Next weekend at all the Masses we will have our annual Financial State-of-the-Parish report. The chairperson of our Finance Committee, Tom Muscarello, will offer the presentation. Just to give you a little preview, it is mostly good news to report, thanks to your generosity.

ON THE CALENDAR

2026 OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Saturday, October 10th ..... **CATECHIST MEETING**
9:00AM, Atrium
This is a reschedule from September 26th

Saturday, October 10th ..... **RELIGIOUS ED. KICKOFF MASS**
5:00PM, Worship Area

Saturday, October 10th ..... **YCC HOSPITALITY**
After 5:00PM Mass, Atrium

Sunday, October 11th ..... **RELIGIOUS ED. KICKOFF MASS**
11:30AM, Worship Area

Sunday, October 11th ..... **YCC HOSPITALITY**
After 11:30AM Mass, Atrium

Monday, October 12th ..... **DAILY MASS**
9:00AM, Chapel
The Parish Office is closed in observance of Columbus/Indigenous People's Day.

Tuesday, October 13th ..... **IN STITCHES**
10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room

Tuesday, October 13th..... **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**
9:30AM - 12 NOON, Chapel

Wednesday, October 14th ..... **GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER GROUP**
1:30PM, Chapel

Wednesday, October 14th ..... **THE CHOSEN**
7:00PM, Atrium, Chapel

Thursday, October 15th ..... **SCRIPTURE STUDY**
10:00AM, Atrium

Thursday, October 15th ..... **THE CHOSEN**
1:30PM, Atrium, Chapel

Saturday, October 17th..... **HOLY HOUR**
3:45PM - 4:45PM, Worship Area

Sunday, October 18th ..... **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**
11:30AM Mass, Fr. Joe Room

Sunday, October 18th ..... **BAPTISMS**
1:00PM, Worship Area

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

OCTOBER 17
5:00 PM
FR. MICHAEL

OCTOBER 18
8:00 AM
FR. MICHAEL

9:30 AM
FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM
FR. MICHAEL

SCRIPTURE READINGS for OCTOBER 18

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

You prepare a banquet for me,
where all my enemies can see me;
you welcome me as an honored guest
and fill my cup to the brim.
I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.

-Psalm 23:5-6

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, October 11
9:00AM Masses:

Mon. James W. Corrigan Jr.
Tues. Rosario Martin
Wed. Fred White
Thur. Maria Ligabo

Saturday, October 17, 5PM Mass
Patrick Keena Sr., Patrick Keena Jr., Marie Guarino, Gwyneth Morris, Ruel Morris, Marge Cortegiano

Sunday, October 18, Masses
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM People of the Parish
9:30AM Maria Eannacone, Stasia & Patrick Egan, Manuel Coelho, Francisco Velosa, Cecilia Lopes
11:30AM Mary Vasselman

Banns of Marriage

Colleen Hoyt & Daniel Emerson
Jocelyn Carlson & Christopher D'Arpa





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

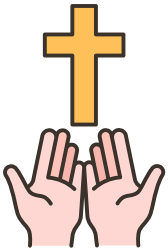
Please pray for those in our parish who are sick, their families and caregivers

Bob Alderdice
Andrew Arbocus
Alejandro Astegiano
Kathy Barry
Alison Bilski
Cole Brennan
Norma Capule
Judy Carlson
Michael Castellano
Mary Champagne
Peter Chirafisi
William Ciccarelli
Maria Ciminiello
Justin Curran
Grayson Danielski
Baby Phoenix Dawson
Manuela Diaz
Peter DiMauro
Claudia DiPalermo
Rose Dugan
Ann Egan
Lisa Eger
Vincent Esposito
Ralph Farino
Yolanda Fattarusso
Irene Feldman
Baby Lorenzo Follo
Sienna Fricke
Linda Giordano
James Greene
Linda Heinrichs
Ryan Huscher
Debbie Jablinowski
Kristen Kennedy
Caroline Lazar
Carol Leahy
Victor Lewandowski
Mary Lopez
Gerald Losquadro
Jeanne Marie Malley
Janet Mangano
Sarah Masi
Hank McCormick
Loretto Narducci
Kevin Neeson
Andrea Nocito
Darin Pitkanen
Patricia Pitkanen
Janine Pixley
Colleen Prinz
Carina Ranieri
Bernardine Reichbach
Mary Ann Reilly
Rob Remhild
Marcello Ricciardi
Lynn Rodger
Sean Romeo
Elaine Ruane
John Saccenti
Jacqueline Santamaria
Casey Schultz
Kathy Schwinn
John Serri
Dennis Shin
Joan Shin
Celeste Sichenze
Elizabeth Skolnick
Tracy Snyder
Sue Southard
Barbara Swingle
Calvin Tatone
Grace Van Epps
Wayne 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.

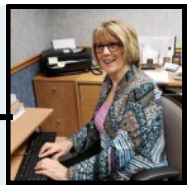
May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.

Psalm 141:2



THE SOUNDS OF SILENCE

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



Have you ever visited a place where you noticed how quiet the area was as you approached it? There are many places in our country that come to mind where the noise of conversation stops and a zone of quiet takes over. I am sure you are thinking of places where you have noticed that behavior. For me, the first one that came to mind was the 9/11 Memorial in lower Manhattan. I am sure we could fill up this page with many other examples. However, for our reflection today I would like to discuss silence opportunities at Mass.

Pope Francis in 2013 said very simply at a morning Mass, "It would do us good to have a little silence." Pope Benedict XVI emphasized that silence should not be just a pause in the liturgy or an absence of speech but actually an integral part of the liturgy---"a silence with content---the only appropriate response to a God of mystery who summons us to silence." Silence is really good for us because it increases our self-awareness, has a cleansing effect, heightens other senses, and helps us to unite with others.

Here is what the General Instructions from the Roman Missal prescribe about silence at Mass:

- Before the opening procession – should be a call to silence before the Processional song is begun.
- Every time the priest says: "Let us pray" - take 30 seconds for silence.
- Following each Scripture reading – allow God's Word to sink in – take 30 seconds before beginning the next reading or the Psalm or Gospel Acclamation.
- After the homily – take 60 to 90 seconds so the people can absorb what was said.
- After each Intercession in the General Intercessions – take 5 to 10 seconds to pause so the people can reflect on that petition.
- After Communion – Two or three minutes should be given to reflect on this profound moment in the liturgy.

It is so helpful to try to use the above moments to help us reflect and recognize these special moments of God's presence.

Be still and know that I am God.
(Psalm 46:10)

FAITH & WORKS

Practice of Faith

(Excerpt from "At Home with the Word 2026")

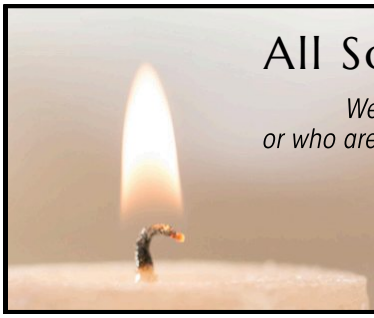
Today's Gospel challenges us with questions of hospitality, invitation, commitment, and consequences - like the first reading from Isaiah. As people of faith, we recall the openness of God's invitation to join the heavenly banquet, to partake in the Eucharistic feast. Do we respond with jubilant enthusiasm, or do we find an excuse to turn down God's invitation?

Have you made time to come to Mass on Sundays and holidays? How might you make some sacrifices, large and small, in order to attend the Eucharistic feast?

When you are at Mass, reflect on the Liturgy of the Eucharist. How is it celebratory or feast-like to you? What does it have in common with the feasts of the first reading and Gospel?

If there is someone in your life who has fallen away from Mass attendance, consider gently and non-judgmentally inviting them to come with you as your honored guest to the feast.

PARISH OUTREACH



All Souls' Mass of Remembrance 2026

We invite all of our parishioners who have lost a loved one during the past year or who are still grieving a loss in their life, to join us as we pray and remember our loved ones.

Monday, November 2nd, at 7PM

All are welcome to join us as we celebrate your loved one's place in the Communion of Saints.

HOLY CROSS BEREAVEMENT

Circle of Friends

Wednesday, October 21st, from 1:30PM to 3:00PM in the Father Joe Room

Please join us for our new monthly Bereavement gathering, **"Circle of Friends,"** which ***offers support and connection to those who have suffered a loss of a loved one in the past year(s) and are still struggling.***

This is a less structured meeting where we gather to discuss new life issues that you are experiencing, helping you to navigate new challenges that may arise after the loss of your loved one in a safe and supportive environment.

The group is not therapy but simply a group of people who have experienced loss and who may need extra support at this time. Topics vary but the main focus is the needs and experiences of the group.

Our meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21st, from 1:30pm to 3:00pm in the Father Joe Room.

If you have any questions, please contact Outreach at 631-265-2200. **To attend, please call the Outreach office at 631-265-2200 by October 20th.** Come and share, pray and make new connections!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



LEVEL 3 STUDENTS– DISTRIBUTION OF ROSARY BEADS

Please join us at one of the Masses during the weekend of
October 24th and 25th
to receive your blessed rosary beads.

Please bring your rosary beads to
Rosary Night on Tuesday, October 27th, at either 5pm or 6:30pm
to say a decade of the rosary and join us for a craft.










HEBREWS 10:24-25

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good works, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."





Holy Cross Family FALL FESTIVAL























TAKE A GUESS















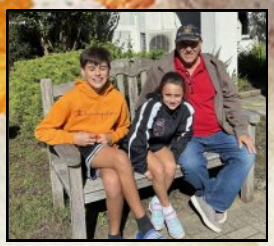


















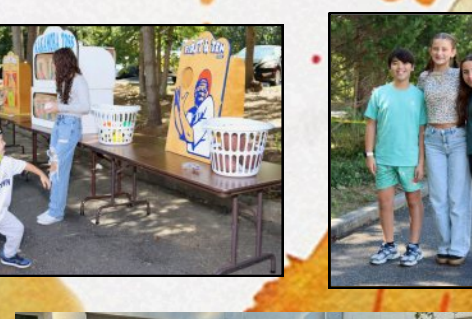












KAKAMORA TOSS











Knights of Columbus











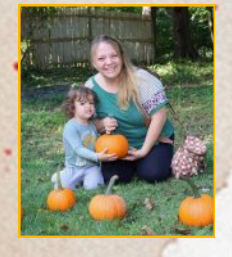








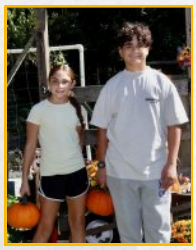











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Once again, this year the Knights were pleased to donate all the food and refreshments for the Holy Cross Fall Festival in support of Parish Outreach and Holy Cross. It was our pleasure to be part of this event, cooking and serving, seeing so many children and their families coming together and enjoying this wonderful day.

PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY

GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday, October 14th at 1:30PM in the Chapel



Join us with other grandparents to pray for our grandchildren, support what each other is doing and seek ways we can lead and guide them...

New members always welcome!

Blessing of the Animals

Last week, on Sunday, October 4th, parishioners brought their beloved pets to receive a blessing from Deacon Joe after the 11:30 Mass.





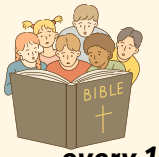








Children's Liturgy of the Word

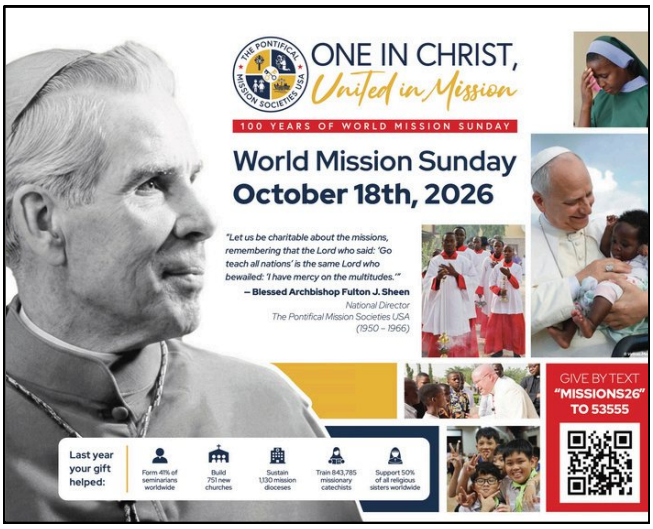


Join Us for Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, at the 11:30 AM Mass, every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

STARTING NEXT WEEKEND, OCTOBER 18TH

During the Mass, children from Kindergarten through 3rd Grade will be invited to move to a separate space and hear God's Word in age-appropriate language. Older children are welcome to assist as helpers. Don't miss this special opportunity for the entire family to experience Mass in a more meaningful way.

Next week at the offertory, we will collect for World Mission Sunday.



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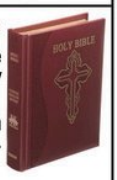
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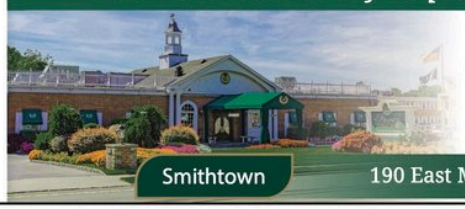
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