

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.



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 19, 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

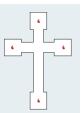
Evening Hours by Appointment Only



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



THE WONDERS AND LESSONS OF A TREE



Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael

As I write this column, the details of the agreement for peace in the Middle East are still unfolding. From a place that normally reports tragic news of killing and suffering, this is an enormous reversal. By all accounts, this seems to be joyful news and a giant step in the right direction. President Trump and his administration had to clear some major hurdles to help achieve this meeting of the minds. It is appropriate to celebrate this good news and the hope it brings. The politics of the Middle East are woefully complicated, and I am sure there are other details yet to be resolved. We pray the power of the Spirit will remain at work in the hearts of all those who can help maintain peace and build a lasting resolution.

Also, as I write this column, we are in the midst of the first nor'easter of the season. Happily, it did not materialize to the extreme that was predicted, but we still got a heavy dose of wind and rain. I live in a house surrounded by trees. When these major storms blow through, I pray I will not suddenly find myself with a new skylight or a barricaded driveway.

Although at times I am nervous about a potential calamity, I love to sit and watch the trees blow in the wind. (It doesn't take much to keep me entertained.) They are amazing creations. Trees weigh a ton. Their branches spread out in all directions, often at angles that defy gravity. You would think what appears to be a heavy and chaotic structure would topple at the slightest breeze. Yet they are amazingly resilient. They can swing and sway in all directions and, in most instances, return to their normal position as if nothing happened. I'm sure for those who understand engineering and architecture, they have an even greater appreciation for them.

In addition to the many large and healthy trees that surround my house, there are several trees that are dead but remain standing. A dead tree does not sway at all. It stands rigid in the midst of the greatest winds. At first glance it appears to have enormous strength. But it is lifeless; there is no foliage or other signs of growth. It will no longer be yielding fruit or becoming larger. It will only slowly decay and fall away.

There are times when what surrounds us in nature can teach us valuable lessons. I'm sure all of us have had moments where we feel as though we are standing in the midst of a hurricane of life. We must learn to spiritually move with the complexity that envelopes our lives. Sometimes we are stretched further than we think we are capable of being stretched. Sometimes we bounce back more times than we thought we could. Recognize in those moments, it is the Spirit and the grace of God that allows us to respond. We need to be cautious of the rigidity of the dead tree. At first glance it appears to be strong, but in fact it is one dimensional and lifeless. Digging in heels and refusing to move rarely fosters new life. Although it is scary when we are swaying in the woes of life, it is a sign we are alive and that is where our hope is found. We pray that we continue to remain open to the movement of the Spirit, whether it be in distant lands, in our own backyards or even our hearts.



OCTOBER 2025

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CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



OCTOBER 25

5:00 PM FR. MICHAEL

OCTOBER 26

8:00 AM FR. MICHAEL

9:30 AM

FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS for OCTOBER 26

+ Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18 + 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 + Luke 18:9-14

ON THE CALENDAR

Saturday, October 18th8:00AM - 10:00AM, Parish Grounds	FALL CLEAN-UP
Saturday, October 18th9:00AM - 5:00PM, Atrium, Worship	PRE-CANA WEEKEND
Saturday, October 18th 5:00PM, Atrium	APPAREL DISTRIBUTION
Saturday, October 18th5:00PM, Atrium	K of C TICKET SALES
Sunday, October 19th All Masses, Atrium	APPAREL DISTRIBUTION
Sunday, October 19th All Masses, Atrium	K of C TICKET SALES
Sunday, October 19th 11:30AM, Fr. Joe Room	. CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sunday, October 19th 1:00PM, Worship Area	BAPTISMS
Monday, October 20th4:00PM - 6:00PM, Worship Area, At	rium SPECIAL NEEDS CLASS
Monday, October 20th7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room	KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Tuesday, October 21st 10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room	IN STITCHES
Tuesday, October 21st7:30PM, Fr. Joe Room NEW TIME!	MOMS' GROUP
Wednesday, October 22nd 11:30AM - 2:30PM, Atrium	SENIORS
Wednesday, October 22nd7:00PM, Chapel, Atrium	THE CHOSEN
Thursday, October 23rd 10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room	WOMEN'S BIBLE CIRCLE
Thursday, October 23rd 1:30PM, Chapel, Atrium	THE CHOSEN
Thursday, October 23rd7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room	OCIA
Friday, October 24th5:30PM - 7:00PM, Parish Parking Lo	t, Atrium
Saturday, October 25th After 5:00PM Mass, Atrium	YCC HOSPITALITY
Sunday, October 26th After Masses 9:30AM & 11:30AM, At	rium

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 19 9:00AM Masses:

Mon. Jaclyn O'Connor (living)
Tues. Vince & Marilyn Veglia (living)
Wed. Officer Michael Hyland (living)
Thur. Waldek Ozga (living)

Saturday, October 25, 5PM Mass

Grace & Eugene DeCristoforo, Gerald Pisapia Margaret & Joseph Grecco

Sunday, October 26, Masses 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

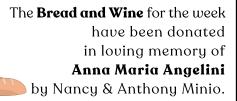
8:00AM Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto

9:30AM Paul & Anne DiGregorio, Charles Speidell, Sister Alice O'Shaughnessy, Cecilia Lopes

11:30AM People of the Parish



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





Banns of Marriage

Cayla Ebbecke & John Tymeck, Jr. Maria Sorto & Michael Borsch

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

Bob Alderdice Alejandro Astegiano Jo Barry Kathy Barry Alison Bilski Cole Brennan Laurie Bronzino Veronica Buscemi Judy Carlson Mary Champagne Peter Chirafisi William Ciccarelli Stephen Crawford Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus Grayson Danielski Anthony DeGennaro Manuela Diaz Ann Egan Lisa Eger 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 Geraldine Muscarnere Loretto Narducci Andrea Nocito Darin Pitkanen Patricia Pitkanen Colleen Prinz Carina Ranieri Bernardine Reichbach Rob Remhild 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.

My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to him who finds them, and healing to all his flesh.



Proverbs 4:20-22



PARISH OUTREACH/PARISH EVENTS

All Souls' Mass of Remembrance 2025

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 on the weekend of November 1 & 2**, as we pray and remember our loved ones.

This year, the feast of All Souls will be celebrated at each of the weekend Masses.

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



HOLY CROSS BEREAVEMENT

Newly Bereaved

This group will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30pm to 3:00pm in the Father Joe Room, beginning November 5th.

Beginning on Wednesday, November 5th, the Parish of the Holy Cross will be offering a 5-week support group for the recently bereaved and those still struggling with unresolved loss.

This group is designed to assist the bereaved in learning about the grief process; develop skills to manage their grief and to learn to live in the world without the deceased.

The group will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30pm to 3:00pm in the Father Joe Room. We will meet on November 5th, November 12th, November 19th, December 3rd and December 10th.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Kelley in the Outreach office at 631-265-2200.

You must register before November 4th. All are welcome to attend.



Every girl should have the chance to receive, own and wear a new dress. Our "Dress a Girl" ministry helps make this possible. We gather monthly to lovingly create dress kits at our "Cut-Ups" session. These dress kits are then available to take home, where skilled sewists create beautiful dresses. We hope that each dress symbolizes how special and loved each girl is. Our prayers are with them all.

We are looking for sewists and donations of fabric to continue our ministry.

Do you like to sew? If creating a beautiful dress in the comfort of your own home, sharing your talent and making a difference to a young girl sounds like something you may be interested in, then the "Dress a Girl" Ministry is for you!

If your talent lies in sewing, contact the Outreach office to make arrangements to pick up your "take home dress kit." Instructions and support are available as you create a dress from one of our dress kits.

If you would like to join us, we meet monthly to create the dress kits. We are so grateful for all those who played a part in our "Dress a Girl" Ministry. This ministry could not exist without the many volunteers who have cut out a dress, sewn a dress or donated fabric. We need fabric to keep creating these beautiful dresses and offering hope. We are in need of 2-3 yards of a cotton blend fabric. We invite you to be part of this ministry by donating fabric and helping to support the good work that we are doing. All donations can be brought to the Outreach office.

If you are interested in joining our "Dress a Girl" ministry or have any questions, please contact Kelley in the Outreach office at 631-265-2200. Thank you!!!

PARISH OUTREACH





"When we are generous in welcoming people and sharing something with them - some food, a place in our homes, our time - not only do we no longer remain poor: we are enriched..." - Pope Francis

We invite you and your families to consider participating in helping a family this Thanksgiving season. We will again be supplying Thanksgiving dinners to people from our community who need assistance. Last year we were able to provide 40 families with a complete Thanksgiving meal. Once again, we look to our parish community for volunteers to help make this possible.

*Each volunteer will be responsible for buying and packaging the food for a basket. They will be given the suggested menu and shopping list with supermarket gift cards to cover the cost.

This has been a long-standing tradition in the parish and the reason is simple. We want everyone to have the opportunity to participate in our Thanksgiving Basket Program. All families, no matter what their financial situation may be, are welcome to participate, shop, prepare a basket and send their best wishes to a family in need. You may not have the treasure, but you may have the talent and time to participate. By supplying gift cards to those who are assigned a basket, we are able to ensure EVERYONE is welcome to participate. For many families, the gift cards that are provided for shopping are given back/not used and returned to Outreach, but this is not required. We are grateful to all those who shop for our Outreach families and help to make our Thanksgiving Basket Program a huge success.

The completed baskets will be brought to the parish Atrium on Sunday,

November 16, between 3pm and 5pm. If you choose to bring it during Mass,

please leave all parcels of your completed basket on the designated tables in the

Atrium clearly marked with your assigned family number. Please mark each

parcel with your family number when returning the complete basket to Outreach.

Thank you!

We hope this program will offer those in our parish the opportunity to share with our struggling neighbors, making Thanksgiving a time of joy and blessings. Over the years we have seen many parish families embrace this project with creativity and enthusiasm. Our Outreach folks are always touched by the caring of the community of Holy Cross.

Anyone interested in participating can sign up in the Atrium after the Masses on the weekend of October 25th and 26th.

Donations of money or supermarket gift cards will also be greatly appreciated and very necessary to help defray the expenses of this program. Envelopes marked "Thanksgiving" can be dropped in the collection basket or brought to the Outreach office.



We are grateful for anything you can do to help make this a day of "Giving Thanks" for everyone in our community.

Parish Outreach



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Kick-Off Weekend Oct. 11/12





















God bless our catechists and children as they continue their faith journey this year.



Our Religious Education Program is expanding and we are looking for a

Special Needs Teacher (Mondays 4-6PM)

If you enjoy working with children and are available to help, please call Jennifer or Mary at the Religious Education office at 631-265-2200





Level 8 Confirmation Covenant Weekend

Please bring your Red Covenant Letter to Mass

Weekend of October 25th and 26th



PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



This weekend at the offertory, October 18 & 19, we will also be collecting for World Missions

World Mission Sunday is always celebrated on the second to last Sunday of October — it's October 19 this year. This day of solidarity and support for the Church's missionary efforts, however, is just a day within an entire month of prayer and recollection for those answering Jesus' command to "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Lk 24:47).

This year's theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is inspired by the Jubilee of Hope: "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples." It is an invitation to bring Christ's light and hope to the world, especially to communities where the Church is young, growing, and often struggling. Join us in this universal mission to spread the Gospel and share the love of Christ!

Mission Prayer

O God of all the nations of the earth:
Remember the multitudes who have
been created in your image
but have not known the redeeming
work of our Savior Jesus Christ;
and grant that, by the prayers and
labors of your holy Church,
they may be brought to know
and worship you
as you have been revealed
in your Son;
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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

MISSIONARIES
OF HOPE

World Mission
Sunday 2025
October 19th

YOUR GIFT
HELPS
B2.408
B.249
B2.408



THANK A VETERAN

Do you want to write a personal "Thank You" note to a Veteran?

Please write your letter to a Veteran and place it in the mailbox in the atrium labeled "THANK A VETERAN"

no later than Sunday, November 9th

and we will personally hand deliver them to Veterans at the VA Hospital in Northport and the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook.

Guidelines for writing a letter:

- "Dear Service Member" or "Dear Hero"
- · Introduce yourself
- Express Gratitude ex: "Thank you for serving our country and protecting our freedoms"
- Share something positive and uplifting share a fun story
- · Keep it kind and respectful
- Choose a friendly closing –
 "With Gratitude" or "Sincerely" or "Best Wishes"
- Add a quote, draw a picture
- If you would like, you may include your return address, however, you may not receive a response.

PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



YOUTH COMMUNITY CARES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



If you are a middle school or high school student looking for community service hours, we currently have great opportunities for you to share your time and talent!

For additional information, join our Remind group: rmd.at/ycchc

> or please email Angela at: youthcc@holycrossrc.org to get a Sign-Up Genius Link



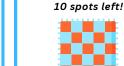
AFTER MASS HOSPITALITY

We are seeking youth members to help serve refreshments after Mass on designated weekends throughout the school year.











PRAYER BLANKET **MINISTRY**

We are seeking youth members to help make "no sew" blankets for the parish prayer blanket ministry on November 14th.





Blessed Sacrament Council of Holy Cross



The Fall Festival on October 4th was a beautiful fun-filled autumn day with many Holy Cross parishioners joining in the games and activities available. For \$5 anyone could have a meal of a hamburger, cheeseburger or hot dog with a choice of chips or cookies and water or soda. All the burgers and hot dogs were barbecued by some Knights while other Knights put the food on buns, handed out chips or cookies and the beverage of choice. Youth volunteers took orders for each meal, picked up the meals from the Knights and brought the meals to the parishioners. These young volunteers were a GREAT help!

Between 11am - 2:30pm a total of over 200 burgers and hot dogs were barbecued and served. All the food was supplied by the Knights for free. All of the money collected went to the Parish of the Holy Cross. The Fall Festival was a fun time for the Knights. the server volunteers, and the parishioners attending.

Why not consider joining the Knights of Columbus Blessed Sacrament Council of Holy Cross? Have some fun with other parish men and work on other charitable events. The Council meets once a month between September and May and sponsors two or three events like the Fall Festival each year. All the Council members have families and many responsibilities but the fun, camaraderie, and satisfaction from what is done more than compensate for the small time-commitment of being a member.

Interested? Contact: Charles Tedeschi Phone number 631-278-0121 Email Inkboy214@ aol.com



We welcome prospective members to join The Knights Visit: www.kofc.org for more info



Practice of Hope

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

In the parable of the widow and the judge, we learn nothing new about God, but much about prayer. Christian prayer is humble and constant. The widow is elderly, and like Simeon and Anna, who were the first to recognize the infant Jesus as the Messiah, she has learned about the rewards of a life of patient prayer and hope.

Read theologian Richard Bauckham's poem, "Wait and See" (https://artandtheology.org/2021/01/27/wait-andsee-simeon-and-anna-richard-bauckham/).

Attend night prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours if possible, and if not, pray the Canticle of Simeon (Luke 22:29-32) at home every night this week.

Visit an elderly person who is isolated or a shut-in.

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PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY





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