

Parish of the

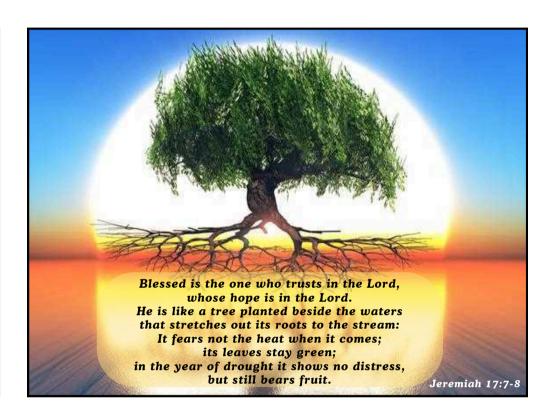
Holy Cross



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.



Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time - February 16, 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

NEW OUTREACH HOURS:

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Evening Hours by Appointment Only

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Vincent Mazurek

Music Minister/Webmaster

Mr. Roberto Maza **Custodian**

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

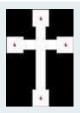
Mrs. Susan Ribeiro **Bulletin Editor**

PILGRIMS

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



A WINTER WONDERLAND, BUT...



Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael

As I commented at Mass last Sunday, our grounds are always beautiful, but I don't think it ever looks prettier than after a snowfall. Sitting in our Worship Area and looking out to see snow covered trees is picturesque. The snow brings with it a softness and serenity which is delightful. However, once you get by admiring the lovely scenery there are some unfortunate practical implications. Having a church on a hill is neat, but once the snow falls, plowing, sanding, salting and shoveling are essential. All of that cost money. There is also the risk of a slip-and-fall as well. Our attendance last weekend was off by about 50%, which means a marked decrease in the collection. Unfortunately, that loss is not normally recuperated in the following week. This may be a good time to offer a reminder that electronic giving remains an option. You can choose to have your contributions transferred from your checking account on a monthly basis or every two weeks. Please contact our Business Manager, Karina, for additional information.

Allow me to fill you in on the saga with my car. A few weeks ago I reported that I was hearing a sloshing sound when I drove after it rained. There was enough water getting in the car that the front passenger footwell had a puddle. I brought the car to a body shop. The diagnosis was a major leak in the firewall that was not easily repaired. They determined that the water had already caused extensive damage to the electrical system. Sadly, after only 60,000 miles, my 2017 orange Rogue was declared to be a total loss.

And so began my quest for a new vehicle. There are not too many things in life that I am fussy about, but if I am going to be spending a lot of money on something, I want it to be on something I really like. I don't buy new cars; I find better value in buying something 2 or 3 years old coming off a lease. I like a fun or funky color, and I like a moonroof. I used to want a manual transmission, but virtually no car offers that these days. I drove a few cars, and the one that made me smile was a 2023 Kia Sportage. They make it in a color called Jungle Green, but they are rare. So, after a few weeks of extensive searching, I found one. The challenge is that it was in Birmingham, Alabama. I ended up with that as my choice. Much to my surprise, even with the cost of shipping, the car was significantly cheaper than anything I could find locally. As I write this article, I am awaiting a car carrier to pull into the parking lot. You can call me crazy.

Next weekend I will not be here. I will be attending the annual Religious Education Congress in California. It will be a group of 17 from Holy Cross who will be making the jaunt out west, including members of the Pastoral Team and Staff. I am confident it is going to be a fruitful conference and that Holy Cross will benefit from some of the ideas we bring back with us. Fr. Mickey Bancroft will be covering most of the weekend Masses, and Fr. Joe Schlafer will be saying the 11:30 Mass.



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ON THE CALENDAR

| Sunday, February 16th 11:30AM Mass, Fr. Joe Room | CHILDREN'S LITURGY |
|---|--------------------------|
| Monday, February 17th 9:00AM, Chapel | DAILY MASS |
| Monday, February 17thIn Observance of Presidents' Day | PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED |
| Tuesday, February 18th 10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room | IN STITCHES |
| Tuesday, February 18th 1:00PM -3:00PM, Atrium | DRESS A GIRL |
| Tuesday, February 18th7:00PM, Atrium | KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MTG. |
| Friday, February 21st | PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED |

CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



FEBRUARY 22

5:00 PM FR. MICKEY BANCROFT

FEBRUARY 23

8:00 AM

FR. MICKEY BANCROFT

9:30 AM

FR. MICKEY BANCROFT

11:30 AM

FR. JOSEPH SCHLAFER



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 23

> + 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

+1 Corinthians 15:45-49

+ Luke 6:27-38



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



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

Bob Alderdice Theresa Arzillo Alejandro Astegiano Jo Barry Kathy Barry Barbara Bombace Cole Brennan Dan Brvan Judy Carlson Hank Champagne Mary Champagne William Ciccarelli Grayson Danielski Anthony DeGennaro Manuela Diaz Ann Egan Vincent Esposito Ralph Farino

Yolanda Fattarusso Sienna Fricke Linda Giordano James Greene Linda Heinrichs Debbie Jablinowski Kristen Kennedy Caroline Lazar Carol Leahy Jo-Ann Loh Mary Lopez Gerald Losquadro Viola Malek Jeanne Marie Malley Steve Matonti Olivia Melia Loretto Narducci Andrea Nocito

Darin Pitkanen Patricia Pitkanen Carina Ranieri Rob Remhild Liam Richards Lvnn Rodaer Sean Romeo Elaine Ruane Louise Scagnelli Casey Schultz Kathy Schwinn John Serri Celeste Sichenze Bill Tanner Grace Van Epps Peter Warns Judith Wimmer Emma Zeidman

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.

Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, February 16, 9AM Masses:

Mon. Jean Everts **Tues.** Susan G. Cecchini **Wed.** Andre'a Marie Vizzini

Thur. Nancy Smith

Saturday, February 22, 5 PM Mass

Ann Mattera, Vincent Mattera, Stephen Mattera, Robert Pellizzi, Jim Reid, Crocefissa Silvana Starace

Sunday, February 23, Masses Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Lucille Cupito **9:30 AM** People of the Parish

11:30 AM Matthew J. Coffey, Debbie Hahn, Zofia Burak, Pedro Banaguas,

Guillerma Banaguas



The **Bread and Wine** for the week have been donated in loving memory of **Richard P. Canalini** by his family.



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



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



ANOTHER MARY FEAST

LITURGY BYTES by Michele Hall



On February 11th, the Church celebrates the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Three years after the Church proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France. That young lady was our Blessed Mother Mary who, during that apparition, told Bernadette "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bernadette was a sick child from a not very religious family. However, she did know her prayers. She was interrogated by Church officials and gave her account of what she saw that day. She described what Mary was wearing: she had a rosary in her hand, wearing a white veil with a yellow rose on each foot. Bernadette was impressed by how Mary spoke very politely. I am sure it is no surprise that Mary, a humble virgin, appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity. As most of us know, people began to flock to Lourdes from various parts of France and all over the world hoping for another appearance of Mary. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions. The actual feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became a worldwide feast in 1907. Throughout this time, Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing and even a place of revitalization of people's faith. The Church has recognized numerous miraculous cures at Lourdes which shows us a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles, now performed through the intercession of His mother, Mary. Many people visit Lourdes and return home with renewed faith. A wonderful movie, *The Song of Bernadette*, brought more interest in people visiting this magnificent place.

Pope John Paul II introduced World Day of the Sick to coincide with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. This was done to remind the Church to pray for the sick and their caregivers and to be in solidarity with them. In addition to remembering our ill parishioners in prayer, the parish provides Eucharistic Ministers to visit the homebound and bring them Holy Communion each week.

May we continue to be a community of caring, loving, and gentle people seeing the dignity in our brothers and sisters as our Blessed Mother has shown us.

Have a prayerful, healthy, and blessed week ahead!



For the Ride Home..... a Gospel Reflection for adults

What did you hear today in the Scriptures?

- It is said that we are Christ's hands and feet, offering hope to the hopeless, food to the hungry, and relief to the suffering. How do we respond in whatever way that we can to being agents of blessedness in our world today?
- What do we need to detach from in order to focus more on God in our lives?

Be Kind, Be Humble, Be Loving, Be Gentle

Gospel Reflection for our young people

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us a lot of things. Most important, Jesus today is telling us how we should behave.



Talk about the words to the left and how you try to live them out at home, at school and with your friends. Ask a parent if you are unsure of what some of them mean.

PARISH OUTREACH





We will meet on Tuesday, February 18th, 1-3PM in the Atrium 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 sewers create beautiful dresses. We hope that each dress symbolizes how special and loved each girl is. Our prayers are with them all.

If you would like to join us, we meet monthly to create the dress kits. If your talent lies in sewing, you are welcome to pick up a dress kit (with instructions) and create a beautiful dress for a girl in need.

All are welcome to join us. Not sure what you can offer? Our ministry leaders will help guide you as you work alongside others.

lomebound

If you are interested, we ask that you please RSVP to the Outreach Office at 631-265-2200 so we can prepare for all those who will attend.

Homebound Ministers - We invite you to join this vital ministry!

Can you see yourself ministering to those who are homebound?

Can you see yourself sharing a half an hour a week visiting, praying, and delivering the Eucharist to those who are, at times, forgotten?

Our Homebound Ministry is growing, and we need your help! A small-time commitment and a loving heart are all that are needed. We invite you to be part of this vital parish ministry that supports and ministers to those who are unable to join us at Sunday Mass. We are asking for your help in serving those we are called to serve. The impact you will make on a person's life is far beyond the time given. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Outreach Office at (631) 265-2200 ext. 113 for more information and any questions you may have. Thank you!

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

We are eager to know, in a more personal way, our parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Often, we do not hear of a person's illness or inability to join us for Sunday Mass.

Please call 265-2200 x113 or stop by the office to let Parish Outreach know of these parishioners who are so special to us. We really depend on you.

Parish Outreach sends cards, on behalf of our parish, to those who are ill or hospitalized. Our homebound folks receive friendly telephone calls by Outreach volunteers to keep up the connection and to assess ways the parish can be present to these loved parishioners. At Advent and Easter time a volunteer will visit them and bring a gift from the parish community. Eucharistic Ministers are also available to bring communion to the homebound who desire it.

These are some of the ways 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.



A Change to the Easter Offering Envelope

Our envelope company decided on their own to change the look of the Easter Flower Offering envelope. They only offer one line for the name of a deceased loved one. We have over the past several years posted the names of both living and deceased loved ones and will continue to do so this year. Please feel free to list on the envelope as many people (both living and deceased) that you wish to be remembered this Easter!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION









On Sunday,
February 2, 2025
Anthony Plunkett
made his
First Holy Communion
at the 11:30am Mass.

Congratulations and God Bless Anthony!

WE GROW IN FAITH





Our parish is always in need of more Ministers of Holy Communion...

to serve at the weekend Masses. The Diocese is offering training this Spring. If you are interested, please speak with Fr. Michael, as a letter on your behalf needs to be submitted to the Bishop's Office. Please check below for the Spring Training dates and sites. If you have any other questions, please contact Michele Hall at: mhall@holycrossrc.org

Date and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part A and Lectors (participant chooses ONE ministry in which to be trained)

Saturday, March 29* - Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach Parish Hall; 9 am - noon; EMHC Part A and Lectors

Thursday, April 3 - St. Agnes Cathedral/Rockville Centre Msgr. Kelly Parish Center; 7 pm - 10 pm; EMHC Part A and Lectors

Tuesday, April 8 - St. Elizabeth/Melville Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm; EMHC Part A and Lectors

*We are offering Part A and B on the SAME day. Those who attend Part A in the morning are welcome to bring lunch or leave for lunch and return for the Ipm Part B session.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B

presented in conjunction with Catholic Health:

Saturday, March 29* - Immaculate Conception Westhampton Beach

Parish Hall; 1 pm - 4 pm

Tuesday, April 29 - St. Elizabeth Melville

Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm

Thursday, May 8 - St. Agnes Cathedral **Rockville Centre**

Msgr. Kelly Parish Center; 7 pm - 10 pm

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." -Colossians 2:6-7



Practice of Hope

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



Today's Scriptures paint a vivid picture for us. Our wellspring of hope, the Lord, is like a tree planted near running streams whose roots receive an eternal source of nourishment. So it is for us when we place our trust in God: hope will feed our hearts and enable us to bear the fruits of Faith.



Trust grows through time spent in a life-giving relationship. Nourish your hope in God by prioritizing time for prayer. Share with God what is in your heart and make space to listen as well.

In what is called "the Sermon on the Plain," Jesus promises the blessing of hope for oppressed community members. Look to the Beatitudes as a litmus test. Take stock of where you fall among the "blessed" and those whom woe awaits.

Plan one action you can take this week to ease the suffering of the needy in your local community. Donate groceries to the local pantry; deliver a meal to a grieving neighbor; bring a supply of new socks and hand warmers to the homeless shelter.





































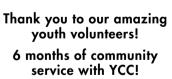


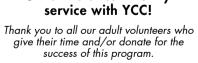


























Youth Community Cares

"Serving our youth as our youth serve others"

Thank you
to all our youth volunteers
who are making a difference
in our church community!

Hospitality after Mass

Prayer Blanket Ministry







20 blankets were made by 33 young people Friday night and blessed at the 5PM Mass last Saturday. **Well done, volunteers!**







































After 30 years, the lighting fixtures in our Worship Area are failing and need to be updated. In addition, the obsolete dimming and control panel must be replaced.

For this reason, we are doing a special fundraiser to cover the \$98,200 cost of the project. We need to be able to make this improvement without utilizing our limited savings. This is an expensive undertaking, and we need your help.

To date we have raised almost \$35,000. The project is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 17. Most of the work should be completed in one week.

We are grateful for your support as a faithful community, together assisting in maintaining the facility, so we can offer Masses, Baptisms, Communions, Confirmations, Weddings and Funerals here at Holy Cross.



You can find envelopes for the "Let there be Light" fundraiser in the atrium, or you can do a direct donation using the Venmo or PayPal QR code.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Parish Office.

God bless you and Thank You for being part of "Let there be Light."

PARISH COMMUNITY





Please contact
Andy Bodor and Kim Loh Bodor
Akjlb23@optonline.net or 516-996-2295

Girl Scout Sunday

Tell your Scouting friends.....All Are Welcome

March 16th, 2025 9:30 Mass

Scouts should arrive 15 minutes early Uniforms/Sashes for scouts & leaders

Please let us know how many scouts & leaders will be attending by March 10th so we have enough reserved seating for your group

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Parish of the Holy Cross welcomes our local Cub Scout Pack 57 and Boy Scout Troop 349





















FOR YOUR INFORMATION



New Year? New Mom?
New Experiences.
Try something new, meet someone new...
Come re-new your spirit.

Whatever stage of motherhood you are in, you are welcome to join our multi-generational group of moms! Together we share our common bond - the joys, the pains, the boring stuff, and the milestones of being a mom. Find solace, find friendship, find wisdom, and support for one of the most rewarding, yet challenging, callings that women can experience.

We meet every third Tuesday of the month from 7PM - 8PM in the Fr. Joe Room.

Light refreshments are served as we gather together. Come as you are, and receive the grace of God.

Due to Presidents' Week, we will not meet this month.

Please consider joining us in March.

Moms of all stages welcome!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Join Us on Sundays, at the 11:30 AM Mass, every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.



During the Mass, children from Kindergarten through 4th 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.







Do You Knit? Do You Sew? Do You Crochet?
We need YOU to make Prayer Blankets.
For details, contact Jude at
jpickel@holycrossrc.org, or ext. 116.

Catholic Faith Network (CFN) 2025 Telethon February 22 - 24, 2025

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) will continue our immense Telethon tradition this year! This exciting event will commence on Saturday, February 22nd from 2 PM and continue through Monday, February 24th at 8:30 AM. Guaranteed to be the most engaging telethon to date, the entertainment will continue with many surprise guests along with our on-air family that you have come to know. Please join the excitement and consider pledging! The process is easy, you can pledge securely online by visiting www.CFNtv.org or by scanning the QR Code below, using a smartphone or any smart device. We know we can continue to count on you, as we always have! CFN is available throughout the Tri-State Area on Optimum, channel 29/137; Verizon FiOS TV channel 296; Spectrum, channel 162/471. Additionally, you can tune in nationwide on the following streaming services – Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Roku, Android TV, and Apple TV.





Winter Windfall

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine, and this fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing, so we will continue as we have done for the past few years with our quarterly drawing.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through December, January and February.
- Drawing will be held February 28.

This is the pay scale which will be offered:

- * 1 Prize @ \$250
- * 2 Prizes @ \$100
- * 10 Prizes @ \$50
- * 15 Prizes @ \$25



- This formula was based upon selling 250 tickets @ \$10 each. If more than 250 tickets are sold, the number of prizes will be increased.
- Please use the tear-off tickets below. You may return your entries by placing them in an envelope and depositing it in the basket on weekends, or returning them to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!

| Winter Windfall | Winter Windfall |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Name | Name |
| Address | Address |
| Town | |
| Phone | 1 51 |
| | |
| Winter Windfall Name | Winter Windfall Name |
| NameAddress | NameAddress |
| (프로스) : 1 (프로스) : | _ Name |

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