

## Parish of the

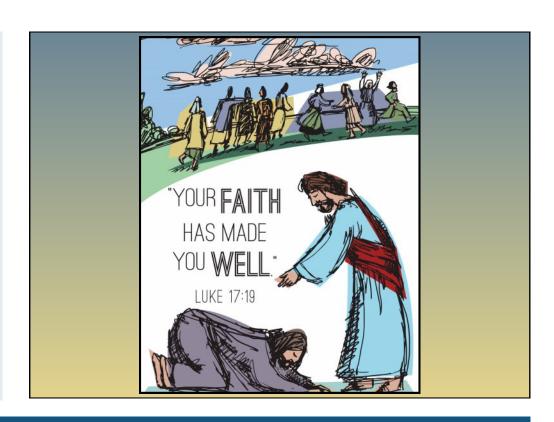
# Holy Cross



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 12, 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

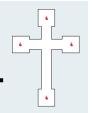
**Evening Hours by Appointment Only** 



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



## **AUTUMN CHANGES**



## Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael

If you have stopped by the Parish Office recently, you may have noticed a bit of a renovation has taken place. What was a small closet has become new office space which affords the Business Manager more privacy in doing her work. It has been a slow and steady project, but I am pleased with the end result. I am very grateful to our parishioner, Michael McAndrew, who was instrumental in removing the closet door and wall and making the new space look seamless. As it happens with home renovations, when you start one small project, it is like tipping over the first domino in a long chain. Now that the "new and improved" part of the office has bright colors, the other part is starting to look a bit shabby. So, it looks like the whole place will be getting a fresh coat of paint.

This project prompted us to look inside the many file cabinets standing throughout the office. My heavens, we keep A LOT of paperwork! Some of it is from decades ago and is no longer pertinent. We emptied out at least two cabinets of obsolete records. The computer now holds more and more of the information we utilize. Things like old census forms are no longer needed. We filled about a dozen cartons of paperwork that will be headed off to the shredder for proper disposal.

While there is tidying up going on inside, there needs to be some outside things done as well. Along the east side of the courtyard there are four plum trees in the raised garden area, two of them are in the Children's Garden. Sadly, some kind of blight must have infected all of them as they have all died. We will be removing them in the coming weeks.

On a more significant note, October is Respect Life Month. The forefront issue for many regarding this is protection of life in the womb. In recent years there have been significant legislative decisions that help to protect human life. Despite that, it seems the number of abortions in New York continues to increase. It is hard to obtain accurate or consistent statistics, but by any measure the numbers remain unsettling. Certainly, having appropriate laws and restrictions in place help to safeguard life within the womb. But the underlying cause lies beyond any decision that can be made in Albany or Washington. The root of the issue is much deeper. As Pope John Paul II wrote in Evangelium Vitae/The Gospel of Life, the "culture of death" is something that all of us are called to be mindful of as we understand the complexity of life today. God inherently instills in every human life a dignity that must be embraced and respected.

Recently Pope Leo echoed those words in reminding us that respect of life is not limited to a single issue. Realities such as the death penalty, euthanasia, treatment of immigrants, care of the mentally ill, disabled, and elderly, poverty, exploitation of women and children are some of the many issues that also need to be embraced. These are complicated and powerful realities. There may be circumstances in life when we encounter a life in need that is before us. It can be frightening and difficult to know what to do. We trust the Spirit will empower us to do what is right and just. Even if we don't find ourselves on the front line of these issues, we can continue to pray. True prayer keeps one in solidarity with those who may be suffering. True prayer keeps us awake as to when we may be called upon to act.



#### OCTOBER 2025

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## **ON THE CALENDAR**

Saturday, October 11th5:00PM, Worship Area	RELIGIOUS ED. KICK-OFF MASS
Sunday, October 12th 11:30AM, Worship Area	RELIGIOUS ED. KICK-OFF MASS
Monday, October 13th9:00AM, Chapel	DAILY MASS
Monday, October 13thIn Observance of Columbus/Indigenous Peop	
Tuesday, October 14th 10:00AM, Fr. Joe Room	IN STITCHES
Tuesday, October 14th 7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room	PRAYER SERVICE MTG.
Wednesday, October 15th 10:00AM - 12:00PM, Atrium	DRESS A GIRL
Wednesday, October 15th 1:30PM, Chapel	GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER
Wednesday, October 15th7:00PM, Chapel, Atrium	THE CHOSEN
Thursday, October 16th 10:00AM, Atrium	SCRIPTURE STUDY
Thursday, October 16th 1:30PM, Chapel, Atrium	THE CHOSEN
Thursday, October 16th7:00PM, Fr. Joe Room	FALL FESTIVAL FOLLOW UP
Friday, October 17th6:00PM - 9:00PM, Atrium	PRE-CANA WEEKEND
Saturday, October 18th8:00AM - 10:00AM, Parish Grounds	FALL CLEAN-UP
Saturday, October 18th9:00AM - 5:00PM, Atrium, Worship Area	
Saturday, October 18th5:00PM, Atrium	APPAREL DISTRIBUTION
Saturday, October 18th5:00PM, Atrium	K of C TICKET SALES
Sunday, October 19thAll Masses, Atrium	APPAREL DISTRIBUTION
Sunday, October 19thAll Masses, Atrium	K of C TICKET SALES
Sunday, October 19thCH 11:30AM, Fr. Joe Room	ILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sunday, October 19th 1:00PM, Worship Area	BAPTISMS

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.

## CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



#### **OCTOBER 18**

5:00 PM FR. FRANK / DCN. JOE

#### **OCTOBER 19**

8:00 AM FR. FRANK / DCN. JOE

> 9:30 AM FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS for OCTOBER 19

+ Exodus 17:8-13

+ 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

+ Luke 18:1-8

## WE PRAY...CELEBRATE...REMEMBER



## **Upcoming Mass Intentions**

#### Week of Sunday, October 12 9:00AM Masses:

Mon. Alycia D'Avino & Gavin Graham (both living)

Tues. Karen DeCaterina

Wed. Jaclyn O'Connor (living)

Thur. Marina Paulino

#### Saturday, October 18, 5PM Mass

Gerald Pisapia, James E. Guiliano, Nettie Soto, Maria Volpe

#### Sunday, October 19, Masses 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00AM** People of the Parish **9:30AM** Stasia & Patrick Egan **11:30AM** Anna Maria Angelini, Charlie Kirk, Joseph Gamba, Michael DiLoreto, Steven Rivers



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



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.

## 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 Peter Chirafisi William Ciccarelli Stephen Crawford 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 Geraldine Muscarnere Loretto Narducci Andrea Nocito Darin Pitkanen Patricia Pitkanen Colleen Prinz Carina Ranieri Bernardine Reichbach Rob Remhild Liam Richards 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.

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



Psalm 141:2



## PARISH OUTREACH/COMMUNITY NEWS

## 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.



#### We will meet on Wednesday, October 15th, 10AM - 12PM 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 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, we ask that you please RSVP to the Outreach Office at 631- 265-2200 so we can prepare for all those who will attend. If you have any questions, please contact Kelley in Outreach. Thank you!!!

## **PARISH OUTREACH**



# "Being Christ"

"Come to me all of you who are burdened and I will give you rest..."

These comforting words greet all who enter the doors of Holy Cross Church. They are the foundation of the mission of Parish Outreach, which is to "Be Christ" to those who are burdened by serious illness, financial instability, loss of a job and other crisis situations. Our ability to do that is only possible through the giving spirit of the parishioners of Holy Cross.

We thank you so very much for your consistent support of Parish Outreach and its programs.

As we draw near to the holiday season (the busiest time for Parish Outreach), we invite you to consider these suggestions on ways to join us in "Being Christ" for our neighbors who continue to struggle in their life journey.



• Monetary "basket" donations (cash, check or supermarket gift cards) will be appreciated to help defray the expenses of our Thanksgiving Basket Program. You can mark your envelope "Thanksgiving" and drop it in the collection basket.



• Volunteer shoppers are needed to purchase and package a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family. You will be given a menu/shopping list and gift cards to cover the cost. We anticipate about 40 baskets will be provided to families in our community this year. If you would like to create a basket, you can sign up after any of the Masses on the weekend of October 25th-26th in the rear of the atrium.



• During last year's winter, Outreach was able to provide 100 gallons of emergency oil to some households as a direct result of your generosity. If you would like to help keep a family warm this winter by donating, please mark "Fuel Assistance" on your envelope.



Participate in our Christmas "Be An Angel" program. Again this year, we will
provide gift cards to the families Outreach assists throughout the year and
gifts for several other agencies. This program will run from November 8th
through December 7th. Future bulletins will contain important information
on this year's Christmas Angel program.

If you have questions about any of the above, please call the Outreach office.

We sincerely appreciate the support we continuously receive from our parishioners.

We are truly blessed with a loving and generous community!

Parish Outreach

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

# Kick off Masses for Religious Education



will be on

Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at the 5PM Mass and Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the 11:3OAM Mass

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.



## Thank You

Special thanks to all our volunteer catechists. We appreciate your dedication to our youth in sharing and teaching them about our faith.

All Religious Ed. classes start the week of October 12th (Columbus Day weekend)

Special Needs Religious Ed. Classes start on Monday, October 20th

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Religious Education Department.

#### Thank you!

#### **Jennifer and Mary**

Religious Education Department Parish of the Holy Cross 631-265-2200



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

# Fall Festival Thank You!!!

Our Family Fall Festival, held this past Saturday, was a wonderful day, filled with fun, food, families, and pumpkins! Thank you to all who attended - we were so happy you could join us!

There are many people to thank, starting with Father Michael. The idea of the festival started with him. This idea grew into what we all shared on Saturday. Thank you, Father Michael, for your vision and your support as we planned and prepared for the festival.

To make the Festival and the Basket Raffle a reality we needed many hands. A special thank you to Linda Denninger and Mary Ann Viscusi, our Raffle Chairs, for making the Basket Raffle such a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated an item, a gift card, a bottle of wine or a scratch off. With your help, we were able to create and offer over 80 beautiful baskets. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped create each basket, set up and sell tickets. We could not have done it without you.

Thank you to Jennifer Miller and Linda Denninger for collecting hundreds of dollars of gift certificates from local businesses. Thank you to all the businesses who supported us with a gift certificate, a donation of an item or a monetary donation. Please see the list below of the businesses that donated, and if you can, please support them with your patronage as a way to say thank you.

I want to thank all the festival committee members for their dedication, support, creativity, and hard work that made the day a wonderful experience for all. Each committee member oversaw one activity, from the planning to the execution of the activity, and what a great job they did. Thank you to all the committee members for helping to make the Family Fall Festival a success.

Thank you to all our YCC volunteers who helped with face painting, sand art, tattoo art, games and concession. Also, thank you to all our volunteers who helped with carnival games, security in the parking lot and especially those who helped with clean up. You all made the day run easier. Thank you all!

Thank you to Kim and Andrew Bodor who graciously donated all the pumpkins for our pumpkin patch. Also, thank you to Barbara and Bill Burger for the two beautiful signs at our entrance and exit.

I must say thank you to our Taste Test judges, Tom Muscarello, Sal Finocchiaro, and Janice Schwarz who had a hard job judging all the wonderful baked items at our Taste Testing Contest. A special thank you to all our bakers for sharing their baking talent with us. Our bakers were Jo-Ellen May Wadsworth, Ingrid Hanley, Linda Marino, Diane Cook, Patrice Saccone, Meg Prybella, Donna Akuntius and Lucy Brown Pugliese. We are grateful to you for being part of our contest.

Congratulations to Linda Marino, Diane Cooke and Donna Akuntius on being the judges' top three choices.

A special thank you to Frank Mondo for spending the day taking pictures of all the activities, capturing all the people who attended and sharing in the fun. Thank you, Frank.

Thank you to the Nesconset Fire Department for participating in our Family Fall Festival. Kids of all ages had a great time on the fire trucks, the smoke house and the ambulance. Thank you for all you do for our community and all the good information you shared with us.

A big thank you to our very own Knights of Columbus Council, The Blessed Sacrament, who generously donated and cooked all the food at our concession stand. Their donation of treasure, time, and talent is greatly appreciated. We are grateful for your help and support in making this day a success.

The sun was out and so were the many families who enjoyed the day. It was a magical day shared by many. Thank you again to everyone who made this day possible. Happy fall, and we hope to see you next year!

Thank you to all the local businesses that supported our Family Fall Festival. Please be sure to support them with your business.

Kelley from Outreach

Our Family Fall Festival Committee is made up of the following volunteers:

Karina D'Angelo Jude Pickel Jennifer Miller Patrice Saccone Joellen May-Wadsworth Gerri Schreiber Arlene Lechner Mary Ann Viscusi Linda Denninger Susan Lampach Donna Akuntius Kim and Joe Pepe Chris Clemente Mary Pannone Chris Hessel Laura O'Donnell Julie Plume Shawn Ryan

# Please support the local businesses who support us!

Panera **Nesconset Cards** The Cutting Room Hair Salon Wine and Liquor Store Starbucks Glenn Wayne Bakery Relaxation Day Spa Philly Pretzel Factory Island Empanada Chick-Fil-A Nappi's Nook **Bagel Gallery** Cabo Fresh Empanadas and More Nesconset Pizza Towers Flowers For You Nail Spa Shoprite BLVD. Bagels Maria's Acropolis CVS Diamond Jewelers **Roseland Dance** Crushed Olive Party Hardy Trader Joe's

Il Trio Restaurant





## PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



This weekend at the offertory we will also be collecting for our Renovations and Major Repairs fund.

Thank you for your continued support!

# Calling all young people – grade 6 & up **BE A JR. LECTOR!**







If you like to read to a large group...

Please consider joining.

Read the Scriptures at Mass once a month.

Training will be provided.

Contact Michele Hall at the Parish Office (631) 265-2200 x120



will be selling chances after all Masses on

October 18 & 19 in the Atrium.

Please stop by and
purchase chances to help support

Holy Cross and other charities.

We welcome prospective members to join The Knights

Visit: www.kofc.org for more info

#### Low-Gluten Hosts

For parishioners who have Celiac Disease or a gluten sensitivity, Holy Cross has low-gluten hosts. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host during Communion, please inform the Sacristan prior to 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 AGAIN OCTOBER 19TH

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.



# GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER GROUP



Wednesday, October 15th 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!

## PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



The Outreach Garden Committee is looking for volunteers for the FALL CLEAN-UP on Saturday, October 18th from 8:00AM to 10:00AM.

Teenagers are more than welcome to join us and will get community service hours for their volunteer time. We would appreciate any help we can get for the clean-up. Thank you so much.

The Outreach Garden Committee

Any questions?

Call JoEllen at 631-360-1373 or email: jpmclady@yahoo.com





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.orgto 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.





#### **Practice of Faith**

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

The leper is healed by Jesus but saved by his recognition of God's action. Our faith cannot be inert; we cannot passively accept the abundant gifts God has given us as simply our due. Instead, we should seek every opportunity to return to the source of our blessings, to give God thanks, yes, but also because with each act of recognition, we affirm our faith and properly orient ourselves to the source of those blessings.

Read the psalm from today. Pray it every evening this week, adding a prayer of thanksgiving each time for a specific blessing God has given you.

Tell someone in your life how grateful you are for all that God has given you.















1 PETER 4:10

"Like good stewards of the varied graces of God, use whatever gift each one of you has received to serve one another."





























































































More photos on the parish website

## PRAYER, ACTION & COMMUNITY



# Blessing of the Animals





Last week, on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, parishioners brought their beloved pets to receive a blessing from Deacon Joe after the 11:30 Mass.

























## Decorated Car Trunks NEEDED

We currently have 6 volunteers to decorate their cars, but we need at least 10 in order to "Treat" our little costumed kiddos...

## Can you help?

Please call or text Paula Reese (516) 532-4040 or email:

michael.reese68@yahoo.com by Tuesday, Oct. 14th

Tentative Date for Trunk or Treat is Friday, October 24th, 5:30pm-7pm, if we can get enough vehicles to participate.

Please call or text Paula as soon as possible to let her know if you can help. *Thank you!* 



#### ORDERS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN FOR HOLY CROSS APPAREL.

Orders that are placed by October 12th will be completed and ready for pick up on the weekend of October 18 & 19 in the Parish Atrium after the Masses.

T-shirts are printed DTF transfers, a digital printing process that delivers high-definition designs with precise details, vibrant colors, and full color prints that pop on any fabric.

This method is durable, cost effective and holds up well to repeated washing.

Our T-Shirt will have Holy Cross Logo DTF printed and underneath we offer different sentences to pick from: "Founding Parishioner" or "All are Welcome" or "Established 1988"



Items and price information (per item) is in the box below:

The colors available for all the shirts and sweatshirts are the following: Red, Cream, Black , Navy Blue.  The colors of the jackets are Dark Grey and Black.  Names can be added to shirts, jackets and sweatshirts (on the right side) for an additional \$5 per item				
Long Sleeve T-Shirt (DTF printed) Short Sleeve T-Shirt (DTF printed) Polo Shirt (Embroidered) Waterproof Hoodie, zipper wind breaker (Embroidered) Waterproof Hoodie, zipper winter jacket (Embroidered) Hoodie Sweater (DTF printed)	Small - XL       \$172XL-up, add'l \$3         Small - XL       \$252XL-up, add'l \$3         Small - XL       \$552XL-up, add'l \$5         Small - XL       \$602XL-up, add'l \$5			
Tote Bags (DTF printed) Aprons (Embroidered)	_			

Please fill order form out completely, and return the form along with payment to the Parish Office on or before October 12th.

Please make checks payable to: Lili Mae Inc.

Name	Phone			
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Choose which line you want ur	nderneath the logo:			
Founding Parishioner	All are Welcome	Establishe	d 1988	NONE
OPTIONAL NAME ON ITEM:			Pleas	e print clearly

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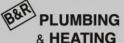
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