

The Parish of the Holy Cross

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

LET ALL 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.*



“Jesus,
son of David,
have pity
on me.”

Mark 10:47

Come and pray with us!

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 24, 2021

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!

631.265.2200 + Fax: 631.265.2229 + Email: parish@holycrossrc.org
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12:15 - 1 PM)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Joseph Maffeo
Pastoral Minister, ext. 124

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112
Director of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano
Business Manager, ext.110

Mrs. Kelley Mowat, ext.113
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein
Youth Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
Parish Secretary, ext.122

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
Music Minister/Webmaster

Mrs. Mary Pannone, ext.111
Religious Education Secretary
(mpannone@holycrossrc.org)

Mrs. Barbara Shipman
P/T Asst. to the Pastor

Mr. Roberto Maza
Custodian

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

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

Celeste Babi
Kathy Barry
Barbara Bombace
Eleanor Daly
Ann Egan
Sienna Fricke
Bob Grieco
Diane Jones
Gerald Losquadro
Viola Malek
Olivia Melia
Liam Richards
Barbara Sherry
David Velkas
Judy Viskupic

Jo Barry
Patricia Becker
Ann Callari
Manuela Diaz
Jim Emerson
Jeanne Gallo
Debbie Jablinowski
Roberta Lamb
Charlotte Lynch
Michael Maroney
Henrietta Renken
Joseph Santamaria
Kyle Sweeney
Doreen Velkas
Peter Warns

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

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of October 24th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Victor Lamarque
Tue. Patricia Kain (living)
Wed. Frederick Kuethman
Thu. Michael Sullivan (living)

Saturday, October 30th, 5PM Mass

Roger Dillon, Gerald Griffin, Gloria Posimato, Colin Dorney, Robert B. Skoblicki

Sunday, Oct. 31st, 31st Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Nick Matonti
9:30 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM Michael Spota, Robert Kerr, Donald Panaro, Tina Campisi, Marian Adamiak



Scripture Readings for October 31, 2021



+ Deuteronomy 6:2-6
+ Hebrews 7:23-28
+ Mark 12:28-34

HOLY VOICES

by Father Michael

I chose this week's title as it summarizes part of my experience of my retreat from two weeks ago. Fear not, I am not hearing voices in the middle of the night, but I did have a sense of receiving holy wisdom from holy people who have gone before me.

On several occasions I had a very strong sense that my mom was with me for the journey. I flew out to Tucson, AZ, which is one of my favorite places. I recall traveling with my mom on many trips throughout the Southwest. The flight there included a layover in Denver. While I was waiting for my connecting flight to Tucson, they announced the flight was oversold and they were looking for two people to give up their seats. I could see the folks who they were trying to accommodate on that flight; it was an elderly woman traveling with her daughter. I gave up my seat. Now before you praise me for my noble gesture, United Airlines was offering quite an incentive: an overnight in Denver, dinner, and \$1,000 travel credit toward future flights. I just had the sense my mom was looking down and smiling throughout the entire adventure. I recalled some of the times our travel plans went awry and we were stuck in an airport somewhere.

I am not the best reader. But I try to use retreat time to get caught up on some spiritual reading. In the weeks leading up to the retreat, I made a little pile of books and articles I wanted to read. Somehow I left most of them at home. Once I was there I needed to come up with an alternative plan, so I stopped by a Redemptorist retreat house to use their library. I spent a good deal of time looking around, but very few things were jumping out at me. I then stumbled upon a book of six homilies written by John Chrysostom. He was a 4th century early Church father. I don't know why I chose this book, but it seemed to be the right one.

All of these homilies were reflections on the Gospel story of Lazarus and the rich man. Woven into each of the homilies were questions and images that touched my heart. At one point I thought to myself, I am probably the only person in the world reading this book at this moment. Why were these words, written sixteen hundred years ago in Constantinople, now coming to life in Tucson? Part of the power of the book was the message of the written words. But part of the power was also, why his words, and why here and now?

I had this amazing feeling that these days were guided by my mom and John Chrysostom. Indeed an unexpected duo, but unmistakably their holy words were part of my retreat. Sometimes God's presence is revealed at predictable moments. Other times his voice is at work in circumstances and people we do not expect. But, nonetheless, God continues to offer his wisdom to us. May we always have the ears to hear and embrace his loving and holy message.

Check out our new website www.holycrossrc.org and subscribe on the homepage to our parish email list. You will never receive spam from the parish, only important notifications!

HERE COMES THE BRIDE

(Lots and Lots of Brides) *by Father Michael*

Marriage Statistics at Holy Cross:

- 2017: 18 (this was the highest number since 2009)
- 2018: 14
- 2019: 7 (an inexplicably low number for the year)
- 2020: 11
- 2021: 19
- 2022: 21 (additional arrangements are still being made)



Marriages at Holy Cross are on the increase. The pandemic caused many weddings to be rescheduled, but at this point we have caught up with all weddings that were impacted by the shutdown and related issues. I'm not sure what factors may be contributing to the increase.

There are two areas of parish life that are impacted by these higher numbers where we could use assistance. It's a happy problem. We love to have couples celebrate their marriages in the Church, but it means lots of helping hands are needed to make things run smoothly.

Pre-Cana: This is a required program for couples who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage in the Church. Married Pre-Cana Team Couples present different aspects of married life, followed by some questions for reflection. The goal is that it might spark conversation for each engaged couple to come to a deeper appreciation of their relationship. Engaged couples consistently report that this process is both helpful and energizing in understanding their relationship with each other.

Within the past two years we have adopted a new model for the structure of our parish Pre-Cana program. The entire program takes place in the course of one weekend. The first gathering is on Friday evening. Saturday is an all day undertaking which concludes with everyone attending the Saturday evening Mass.

Wedding Rehearsals: This is a practical component that allows those involved in the wedding celebration to be comfortable with the procession and logistics of the ceremony or Mass. In addition to walking everyone through the rehearsal, it is most helpful to have someone present on the day of the wedding to make sure everything is in good order.

If you have been blessed with a good marriage, would you consider sharing your experience with engaged couples? If you like the practical aspect of a wedding day, would you consider assisting with the rehearsals?

Please contact Fr. Michael if you have any questions or would like to offer your help for either of these ministries.

ALL SOULS' MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

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 for a special Mass of prayer and remembrance. This year our Liturgy will be celebrated on the:

Feast of All Souls

**Tuesday, November 2nd,
7:00 PM in the Worship Center**



All are welcome to join us for this special Mass which celebrates your loved one's place in the **Communion of Saints**.

YOUTH MINISTRY



Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?

If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, then you **MUST** check out the **Holy Cross Youth Group!** You will be glad you did! The Holy Cross Youth Group is the perfect opportunity for you to continue to grow in your faith and build relationships with others in the parish. Join us for our **Youth Night**:

Sunday, October 24 - The Youth Group will be having a fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this October are invited to attend. Hope to see you there!

For more information, contact our Youth Minister, Allie Roeklein, at youthgroup@holycrossrc.org.

PARISH NEWS

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, October 30th/31st



5:00 PM Fr. Michael
 8:00 AM Fr. Michael
 9:30 AM Fr. Michael
 11:30 AM Fr. Michael

Banns of Marriage



First Time

Niki Marie Pelliccio & Francesco Vescio

Second Time

Lauren Gravagna & William Forte

Third Time

Kathryn Sarmiento & Lorenzo Mercado

Special Collections

This weekend is the collection for **World Missions**. In places like Uganda, people face food uncertainty and violence...in the Philippines, local clergy face martyrdom...in Oceania, people's livelihoods are threatened by climate change...in remote places of Latin America, people are hearing the Gospel for the first time. Thank you for your support of this collection!

Meetings this Week

Saturday, October 23rd 8 AM - 6:30 PM
 • **PRE-CANA WEEKEND** All Areas

Sunday, October 24th After 9:30 Mass
 • **BAPTISM GATHERING** Fr. Joe Room
 • **BAPTISMS** 1PM Worship Area
 • **YOUTH GROUP** 6-8PM Atrium

Monday, October 25th 4-6 PM
 • **GREATER NEEDS** Atrium
 • **USHER MEETING** 7PM Worship Area

Tuesday, October 26th 10 AM
 • **IN STITCHES** Fr. Joe Room
 • **BAPTISM TEAM** 7PM Atrium
 • **LITURGY TEAM** Fr. Joe Room

Wednesday, October 27th 4:30 PM
 • **ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** Worship Area
 • **THE CHOSEN** 7PM Wor. Ar./Atr.

Thursday, October 28th 1 - 3:30 PM
 • **BEREAVEMENT** Fr. Joe Room

Friday, October 29th 6:30 - 8:30 PM
 • **K-5 SPOOKY SPECTACULAR** All Areas

Saturday, October 30th 5 PM Mass
 • **CAR WASH PRESALE** Atrium

Sunday, October 31st All Masses
 • **CAR WASH PRESALE** Atrium
 • **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** 11:30AM Fr. Joe Room

John Gemmell's Eagle Scout Car Wash Fundraiser

Saturday, November 6th, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
The Nesconset Fire Department, 25 Gibbs Pond Road, Nesconset

Please bring: *Dirty Cars and Scout Spirit*

John is raising funds to refurbish the outdoor Stations of the Cross at Parish of the Holy Cross. Pre-sale tickets available next weekend!

Thank you!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Parish of the Holy Cross Religious Education Department

will be hosting a

SPOOKY SPECTACULAR HALLOWEEN PARTY

For All Kindergarten through Level 5 Students

Date: October 29, 2021

Time: 7pm - 9pm

Place: Parish of the Holy Cross Atrium

Cost: Free Will Offering

COSTUMES ARE REQUIRED

Come join us for dancing, refreshments, and thrills & chills.

We will have a DJ, Photo Booth and Trunk or Treat Stations

631-265-2200 or religioused@holycrossrc.org



Religious Education is looking for volunteers Friday, October 29th, from 7pm-9pm to participate in our first ever "Trunk or Treat" Halloween party. If you are able to hand out goodies to our trick-or-treaters from your car, which will be parked in the Holy Cross parking lot, please call Mary or Tricia to sign up!

LITURGY BYTES

GO FORTH!!!



It's an important time for us all! You might be asking, "When is that time?" It is during the concluding rites of the Mass when sometimes parish announcements are made, and then we are all blessed and dismissed by the Presider, or a Deacon will dismiss if present.

Another interesting fact is that the dismissal gives the liturgy its name. The word *Mass* comes from the Latin word *Missa*. At one time in our history, the people were dismissed with the words: "*Ite missa est.*" This literally means "*Go, you (the Church) have been sent.*" The word *Missa* is related to the word *mission*; it is the root of the English word mission. The liturgy does not simply come to an end. Those assembled are sent forth to bring the fruits of the Eucharist to the world. Simply put, we are being dismissed to carry on our mission, as missionaries, to take the Christ that we have received in Word and in Communion out with us into the world. We are being called to bring the Gospel message to our families, neighbors and beyond, which is done so beautifully in our parish.

Today, I ask you to consider mission as possibly being part of the team that assists with Parish Liturgy from planning, visioning, and decorating aspects. We would love some new faces on the Liturgy Team. We meet about six times during the year on Tuesday evenings. For more details, please contact me at the Parish Office or email me at: mhahn@holycrossrc.org .

So the next time you hear the dismissal words, remember the emphasis is on the words "SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!"

Have a blessed, healthy, and safe week ahead! ~Michele Hahn

LITURGY

Attention Ushers!

WE NEED YOUR HELP....

so please join us for an Ushers' meeting on **Monday, October 25th**, at **7PM** in the Worship Area. Discussion will focus on this new revitalized ministry.



USHERS' MINISTRY



HOLY CROSS WOULD LIKE TO REVITALIZE OUR USHERS' MINISTRY! IF YOU ARE A REGULAR AT THE SATURDAY, 5 PM MASS, OR YOU ARE HERE SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EITHER THE 8, 9:30 OR 11:30, WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR ASSISTANCE.

JOIN US FOR A MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, AT 7 PM IN THE WORSHIP AREA AND COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE OR EMAIL MICHELE HAHN AT: MHAHN@HOLYCROSSRC.ORG

I AM INTERESTED IN JOINING THE USHERS' MINISTRY.

NAME _____ PHONE# _____

EMAIL _____



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.



1. Monetary donations (cash, check or supermarket gift cards) will be appreciated to help defray the expenses of our **Thanksgiving Program**. You can mark your envelope “Thanksgiving” and drop it in the collection basket. We anticipate 50-60 families will need our assistance this Thanksgiving.



2. Some winters, Outreach is asked to provide 100 gallons of emergency oil to households in need. We are able to as a direct result of your generosity. If you would like to help keep a family warm this winter by making a donation, please mark “**Fuel Assistance**” on your envelope.

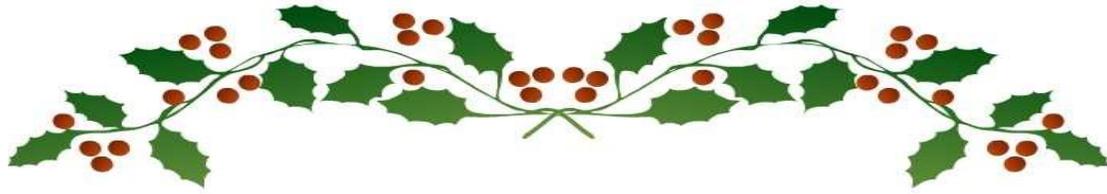


3. Participate in our **Christmas “Be an Angel” program**. Again this year, we will provide gift cards to the families Outreach assists throughout the year and gifts for several other agencies. This program will run from November 14th through December 5th. Future bulletins will contain important information 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



Holiday Bereavement Support Group

If you are grieving a loss, the holidays can be a particularly difficult time. Grief is like taking the color out of your world any time of the year, yet during a holiday those grieving often experience a more intense sense of loss.

Please join us for this three week session focusing on:

“Ways to Handle Grief During the Holidays”

This Bereavement Group will consist of those handling the passing of either a wife or husband. We will meet Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 PM. The dates are as follows:

October 28th, November 4th and November 18th

Please register by calling Holy Cross Outreach at 631-265-2200 ext. 113, leave your name and number, and you will be contacted by the Facilitator of the group. We welcome you to share, listen and find companionship with others who are encountering grief at this holiday time. Hopefully, together we will uncover ways to go through the holidays with a little Joy.



COMMUNITY NEWS

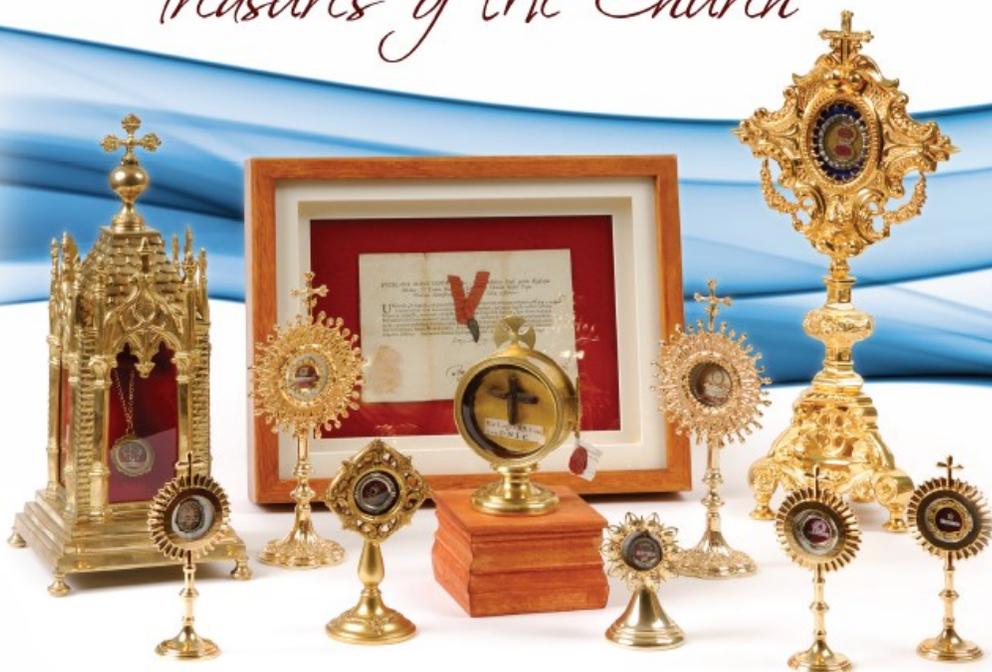
EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS

Treasures of the Church

St. Patrick Parish welcomes you to a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics. Over 150 relics will be shown, some as old as 2,000 years.

Among the treasures will be relics of St. Patrick, St. Luke, St. Joseph, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Maria Goretti, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska.

There will also be a fragment of the Veil that belonged to Our Lady and some of the largest remaining pieces of the Wood of the True Cross in the world.



presented by Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross

St. Patrick Church
280 East Main Street
Smithtown, NY 11787
(631) 265-2271

HELD IN THE CHURCH ON
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9 AT 7:00 PM

See www.treasuresofthechurch.com for more information

Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. Throughout history, many healings have been worked in the presence of relics; and thousands have occurred through this ministry. Do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession. For most, this will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Please spread the word.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOLIDAY VISIT TO CALVERTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

DATE: Wednesday, December 1, 2021

ARRIVAL AT CALVERTON: 9:30 A.M.

DEPARTURE FROM CALVERTON: 1:30 P.M.

BUS PICK-UP TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

(BUS WILL MAKE STOPS AT BOTH LOCATIONS ON RETURN TRIP)

8:15 a.m.

THE BRANCH FUNERAL HOME

190 East Main Street

Smithtown, New York 11787

8:30 a.m.

SMITHTOWN SENIOR CENTER

420 Middle Country Road

Smithtown, New York 11787

YOU MUST CALL **(631) 724-9500** - THE BRANCH FUNERAL HOME TO
RESERVE A SEAT ON THE BUS BY Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

THIS IS A FREE TRIP SPONSORED BY THE BRANCH FUNERAL HOME

*COFFEE, DONUTS AND COLD DRINKS WILL BE SERVED,
ALONG WITH PIZZA ON THE WAY BACK.
THE BUS HAS A LAVATORY.*

PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES BEFORE BUS DEPARTS.

TAKE A CHANCE!

Fall Cash Fling

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine. This fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. In addition, many parishioners enjoyed participating in it. Unfortunately, it was one of the many parts of parish life that was lost to COVID. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing. And so, we introduce the "Fall Cash Fling." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through September, October and November.
- Drawing will be held November 30.

Because we anticipate smaller participation, there will be a different pay scale:

- * 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. *(In the event the response is strong, we will resume a monthly drawing as soon as possible.)*
- Tickets will not be sold after Mass. 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!

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Fall Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

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