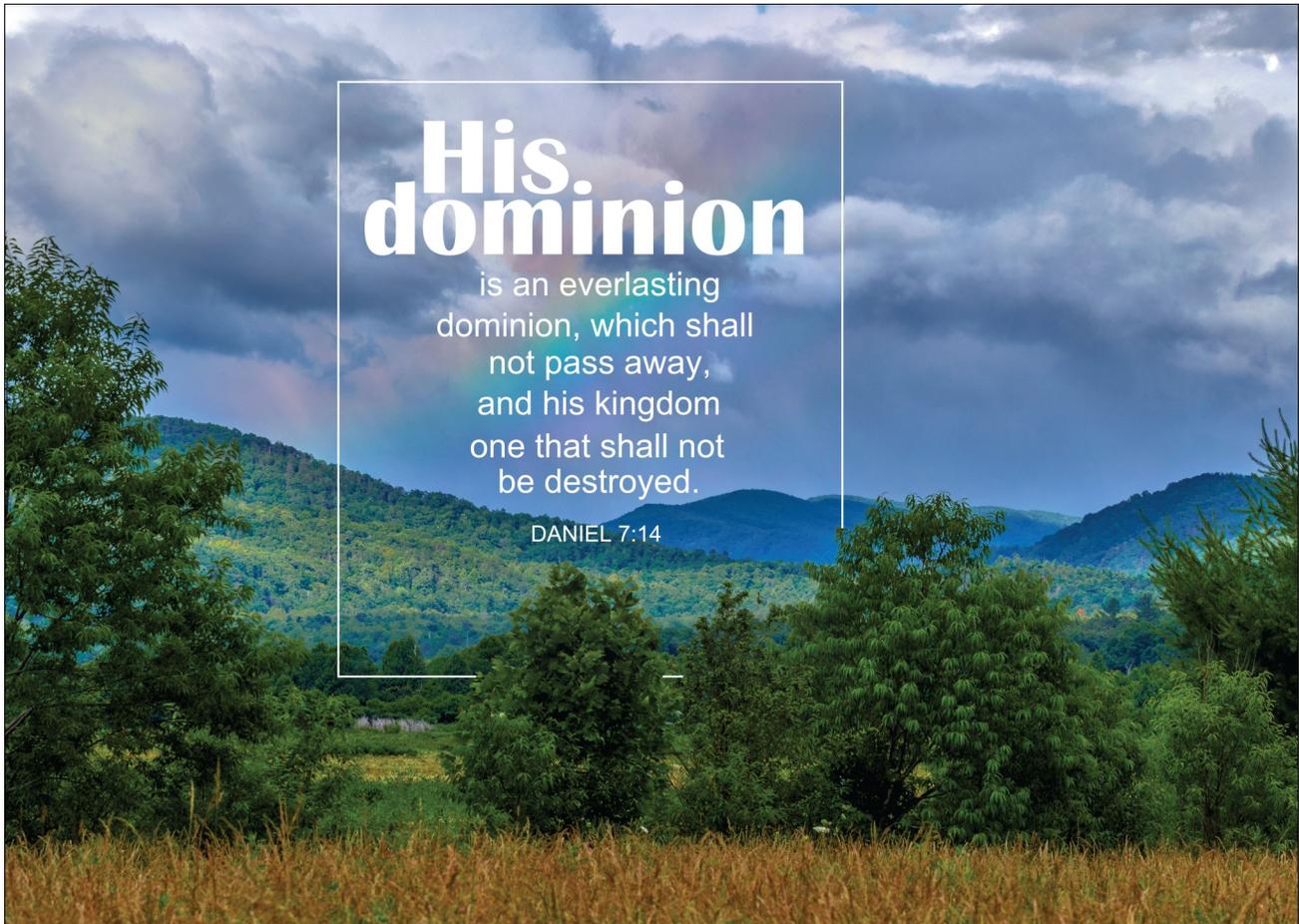


# The Parish of the Holy Cross

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.*



## Come and pray with us!

### Christ the King - November 21, 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:

Jo Barry  
Patricia Becker  
Ann Callari  
Manuela Diaz  
Jim Emerson  
Sienna Fricke  
Bob Grieco  
Diane Jones  
Gerald Losquadro  
Amanda Maddox  
Michael Maroney  
Olivia Melia  
David Reichbach  
Liam Richards  
Joseph Santamaria  
Kyle Sweeney  
David Velkas  
Judy Viskupic

Kathy Barry  
Barbara Bombace  
Eleanor Daly  
Ann Egan  
Ralph Farino  
Jeanne Gallo  
Debbie Jablinowski  
Roberta Lamb  
Charlotte Lynch  
Viola Malek  
Joseph McManus  
Carole Porcelli  
Henrietta Renken  
Elaine Ruane  
Barbara Sherry  
Chase Turano  
Doreen Velkas  
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.

## Mass Intentions Schedule

### Week of November 21st, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Trisha Butler (living)  
**Tue.** Biangardi family (living)  
**Wed.** Victor Lamarque  
**Thu.** People of the Parish

### Saturday, November 27th, 5PM Mass

Lee Montallaro, Allison Hall, Anthony DiMichele, Carolyn Brophy, Barry Armandi, Kenneth Peluso

### Sunday, November 28th, 1st Sunday of Advent

**8:00 AM** People of the Parish  
**9:30 AM** Matteo Santulin  
**11:30 AM** Luis Alvarado, Albert Mandel, Domenica Diadema, Greg Wirth, Lucille Cupito, Mr. & Mrs. Bruno Santana



### *Scripture Readings for November 28, 2021*



+ *Jeremiah 33:14-16*  
+ *1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2*  
+ *Luke 21:25-28, 34-36*

# GOBBLE, GOBBLE, THANKSGIVING IS ON ITS WAY

*by Father Michael*

I was happy to share with you my ideas about renewing our chapel and sanctuary last weekend. In short, I am proposing moving the tabernacle from the chapel to somewhere in the sanctuary. The second part is I have ordered a statue of the Holy Family to go into the location where the tabernacle currently stands. If you were not able to stay for my announcement after Mass, I encourage you to look at a video I made that is available on the parish website. Most parishioners who voiced an opinion were supportive of the ideas I suggested.

There are some points to this renovation about which people may have strong opinions. I am happy to receive as much input as parishioners want to offer. Our decisions will not so much be based on everyone's favorite idea, but rather be guided by Church documents and guidelines that address the specifics of creating a worship area. After Christmas we will be offering opportunities for parishioners to gather to learn some of what the Church teaches and allow those guidelines to lead us to good decisions. I am hoping that parishioners will continue to offer their suggestions but am also hopeful that there will be an openness to deeper growth and appreciation of what the Church teaches regarding our Eucharist. I am excited about this project and am confident it will enhance our prayer. There will be lots more to come regarding this.

Please join us for our annual Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday morning at 9:00. It is always a peaceful and beautiful celebration; it is the perfect way to start the day. After Mass I will be driving to my brother's house in Pennsylvania. With no traffic it is a three-hour drive but on Thanksgiving, who knows?

Next weekend a few of the "old practices" will be returning to our weekend celebrations. Once again, ushers will be passing collection baskets at offertory time. We will continue the practice we had where folks would pass the basket along their row until it reaches the end, then pass it to the person sitting in the row behind. We will also resume bringing forth the gifts of bread and wine along with the collection basket. Initially, it will be the ushers who bring up the gifts. After Christmas we will offer families and individuals the opportunity to bring up the gifts if they choose to do so. More and more pieces of our old routines are returning.

May your Thanksgiving be a peaceful and life-giving day wherever you may celebrate it. We face many challenges, but we are still a blessed people. May we never take for granted all we have received and continue to give thanks to God for all we have. Happy Thanksgiving.

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

# PARISH NEWS

The *Bread and Wine* for the week November 21-27 have been donated in loving honor of **Gianna Saluzzi** for her baptism by Mom, Dad and her big brother.



## Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, November 27th/28th



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

## Youth Ministry

Join us for our next Youth Night on Sunday, November 21st, from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this October are invited to attend. For more information, contact our Youth Minister, Allie Roecklein, at [youthgroup@holycrossrc.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycrossrc.org).



## Schedule for Thanksgiving Week

**Wednesday, November 24th:**  
 9AM Mass, Offices close at 12 noon

**Thursday, November 25th:**  
 9AM Thanksgiving Mass,  
 Parish Office is closed

**Friday, November 26th:**  
 Parish Office is closed

## Meetings this Week

**Saturday, November 20th** 5 PM Mass  
 • RECOMMITMENT LIT. MINS. Worship Area  
 • ANGEL GIFTS COLLECTED Atrium

**Sunday, November 21st** All Masses  
 • RECOMMITMENT LIT. MINS. Worship Area  
 • ANGEL GIFTS COLLECTED Atrium  
 • BAPTISMS 1PM Worship Area  
 • YOUTH NIGHT 6-8PM Atrium

**Monday, November 22nd** 7AM - 11:30 AM  
 • THANKSGIVING BASKETS DUE Atrium

**Tuesday, November 23rd** 10 AM  
 • IN STITCHES Fr. Joe Room  
 • ALTAR SERVER MTG. 5PM Worship Area  
 • LEV. 1 ADVENT WREATHS 7PM Atrium

**Wednesday, November 24th** 9AM  
 • MORNING MASS Worship Area  
 (The Parish Office closes at 12 noon.)

**Thursday, November 25th** 9 AM  
 • THANKSGIVING MASS Worship Area  
 (The Parish Office is closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.)

**Friday, November 26th**  
 (The Parish Office is closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.)

## Special Collection

*This weekend we will be collecting for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.*

*The belief that those who are directly affected by unjust systems and structures have the best insight into knowing how to change them is central to CCHD. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out. For more information please visit [www.usccb.org/cchd](http://www.usccb.org/cchd).*

*Thank you for your support of this important collection!*

# PARISH OUTREACH

## CHRISTMAS ANGELS



This weekend and next weekend, Angels will be available in the baskets on the Altar pillars and throughout the Worship Center. We have placed extra baskets with Angels to allow for social distancing. We ask that you do not congregate at the baskets. If you would like to help a needy family this Christmas, choose an Angel, purchase the item written on it and return by Sunday, December 5th.

We are requesting gift cards to local stores (Kohl's, Target, Wal-Mart) to enable our families to purchase for themselves and their children the items they need. We are also requesting supermarket gift cards to enable each household to have a special holiday meal.

(Reminder: gift cards need to be activated at the register)

Some Angels are coded (orange, purple, green, red) for the agencies we reach out to each year (Mercy Haven, Talbot House, Pronto, Olsen's Rest Home). If you choose one of these Angels, place the Angel tag on top and return to the Atrium by **December 5th**.

**Note: We ask that you do not wrap any of the gifts. Thank you!**

We thank you for the Spirit of Generosity you bring to our project each year.

### **Reminder: The Angel tags are coded as follows:**

- BLUE:** Families of the Holy Cross Outreach Program
- RED:** Our friends at Olsen's Rest Home
- PURPLE:** Talbot House, the Catholic Charities crisis center for those struggling with addiction
- GREEN:** Toys for children in the Brentwood area serviced by Pronto
- ORANGE:** Mercy Haven, an organization that provides community residence housing for those living with mental illness
- PINK:** Supermarket cards to enable a family to have a special meal

# PARISH OUTREACH

**For All Those Who Signed Up For Our Thanksgiving Basket Program!**



We ask that you drop off your completed Thanksgiving Basket on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 7 AM to 11:30 AM in the Parish Center.

Please make sure to check in with a volunteer. We thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness!

## Dress a Girl Around the World

How Can You Help?



We are in need of parishioners who can donate 3 yards of 100% cotton fabric in bright, colorful solids and prints. Please drop off the fabric at our Outreach Office. Thank you!

# THE SHEPHERD

As the season of Advent unfolds, the Church invites us to slow down and prepare our hearts for the miracle that is Christmas. Holy Cross is pleased to present

**The Shepherd**, a video by Dallas Jenkins, producer of The Chosen.

**Thursday, December 2, 1:30 – 2:30 PM OR 7:00 – 8:00 PM**

Join us for this time of prayer, quiet reflection and sharing.

*Please return the tear-off below by November 29:*



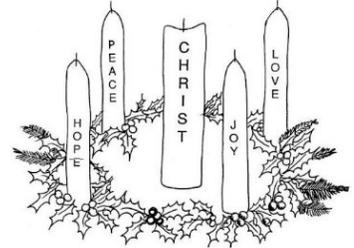
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend **The Shepherd** in  
\_\_\_\_\_ the afternoon \_\_\_\_\_ the evening.

# LITURGY BYTES

## It is Almost Advent!

Can you believe it? It is almost time for Advent! This year the holy season of Advent happens during Thanksgiving weekend. We move from the glorious colors of fall, giving thanks and being grateful, to preparing for the awesome feast of Christ's birth at Christmas.



A few thoughts to ponder as we look towards this season of waiting in the midst of getting swept up into this distracted world of ours. Some traditions often help me to embrace a mindset of waiting – the Advent wreath and lighting of the candles each week, leaving an empty manger/cradle on my dining room table have helped in years past, and I also love some of the Advent hymns as well as the purple color adorning the sanctuary each week.

As we try to tune out the commercialization of Christmas, we still need to live within it for practical reasons such as purchasing gifts, sending cards, and getting our homes ready for that special day that lasts more than 24 hours. We somehow manage walking in both worlds with symbols and sounds keeping us on track!

Perhaps this season we take up one Advent tradition with new fervor. Look into its origin and meaning, and ask the Holy Spirit to refresh a “religious” imagination within you. Be reminded how integral you are as a member of the Body of Christ with eyes of gratitude for the birth of God’s only Son, Christ Jesus, in Bethlehem! I pray we all see goodness—the goodness of the Lord this Advent season.

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

## ADVENT REFLECTIONS



Next weekend, November 27/28, we begin the holy season of Advent. Be sure to pick up your daily reflections entitled *ADVENT LONGINGS* on your way out of Church after Mass to assist with our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

# Holiday Wreath Sale

**Come Join the Fun!!!**

The Knights of Columbus and our Fundraising Committee will be holding a

## *“Family Fun Wreath Decorating Day”*

**Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3pm  
in the Holy Cross courtyard.**

Families are invited to come and share in some holiday festivities and spend time decorating a wreath together for your home. Decorations will be provided for each family. Wreaths are priced at \$25/ea.(decorations included).



The Knights will also be selling pre-decorated wreaths and log centerpieces during this time on Saturday and after all the Masses the weekend of December 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>.



Both wreaths and logs will be priced at \$25 each. No pre-orders this year so, first come first serve.

We are also looking for helpers for this event. Please contact Barbara DeStefano at 631-265-2200 x110 or email at [bdestefano@holycrossrc.org](mailto:bdestefano@holycrossrc.org) if you can help before, or on that day.

Please fill out the form below if you plan to attend the Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, family event. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

---

## *“Family Fun Wreath Decorating Day”*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ # of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOLY CROSS WEBSITE

## JUST SOME WORDS FROM THE WEBMASTER! A NEW PARISH WEBSITE... AND "JUST A LITTLE BIT ABOUT IT"

May I Welcome all of you today along with a statement that many parishioners & staff members have often heard me say. "A Website is a 'Living Entity'... It is never finished or completed... because it is constantly in the midst of updates, changes & growth." Having reiterated this, I hope that you enjoy using this Website as much as I have enjoyed creating it and daily enjoy updating it. With its future growth potential, this Website will excitedly offer to all of our Holy Cross Parishioners as well as our welcomed new, Prospective Parishioners, many more possibilities in the sharing of parish information with all who navigate here.

I have taken great care in creating a Website in which "getting lost" while navigating its pages should be a "thing of the past." At the bottom of each Page there is a Question which asks... "Where Would You Like To Go Now?"... making it easier to navigate through the Pages without having to always return to the Top Menu Bar. Please be sure to "scroll down" to the bottom of each page and surf it in its entirety in order to not "miss out" on any information that may be "lurking" beyond your screen's viewing area. Some Pages are lengthy and filled with an abundance of information as well as with "links to click" which will direct you elsewhere on the Website for quicker navigating. The Home Page is an example of this type of page. The Home Page is the "heart" of the Website and contains much information and "links" to other sources of information. Should you take the time to routinely navigate this page from top to bottom... it would be like "reading" the weekly Bulletin from cover to cover. Doing this will keep you updated on the "pulse" of the Parish... give you "the scoop" on all the Parish news & activities... and will provide you with the "links" to the appropriate pages for more detailed information, all the while eliminating extensive searching. (Always remember that if you had inadvertently misplaced or already discarded your Bulletin, you can find all of the same information on the Website since the Bulletin and the Website are always in "sync" with each other.) If you already know the specific location that you wish to visit on the Website, you can use the traditional Menu Bar at the top of each page or the "E-Z" Navigation Page, which I describe in the next paragraph.

The "E-Z" Navigation Page is a very useful "Find and Go-To" feature that I developed specifically for the Parish Website since all of the Website Pages on this page are sorted by Parish Usage & Departmental Categories. I strongly encourage you to try using this page... It truly makes it "E-Z" to navigate and to find your desired page and information quickly. I also encourage you to "Subscribe" with your EMail to Holy Cross on the Home Page in order for you to be able to receive important urgent announcements & information, in the form of "email blasts" (never spam) from the parish in the future. I reiterate that you will never receive any spam from the Holy Cross Website. But most importantly, this will be just another way for the parish & staff members to inform you of important and useful parish information & events more quickly and easily by "keeping you in the loop" of detailed Parish situations.

Should you have any suggestions or ideas about incorporating any other useful Parish Information into the Website, please do not hesitate contacting the Parish Office with those suggestions. If your suggestions are within the capabilities of the Website Design Software, we will consider them to be implemented in future updates & design changes. We always welcome your suggestions for a better "living" and vibrant Parish Website.

We look forward to all of the days ahead that God graces us as true "family members" in this, our community of the Parish of the Holy Cross!

Blessings to all... Hope that you enjoy your "Surfing"... & Happy Navigating!! ~~~ Vince M. Mazurek

# BACKGROUND SCREENING UPDATE

## *The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People*

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

1. Attend **Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)**
2. Sign the Codes of Conduct
3. Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5-year intervals. volunteers/employees.

### **A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:**

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

1. Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org)
2. Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct - provided during the Virtus registration process.
3. Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application offered during the Virtus registration process.

### **Active Volunteers:**

If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened, you may be at—or beyond—the **5yr. rescreening requirement**. If this is the case, you will receive an email from **Sterling Volunteers** asking you to complete the background screening application online. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. **Please be aware—this is not a scam nor has your email been hacked.** The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically re-sign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

### **Edit Your Virtus Account:**

To access your Virtus account [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org) you will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or [helpdesk@virtus.org](mailto:helpdesk@virtus.org). Once in your account, review your account information—particularly your email address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen, in the green column, click "Update My Account." You will be able to make the necessary changes. Please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: [mmcmahon@drvc.org](mailto:mmcmahon@drvc.org); [amendoza-cantos@drvc.org](mailto:amendoza-cantos@drvc.org); [jwinter@drvc.org](mailto:jwinter@drvc.org); [pditomasso@drvc.org](mailto:pditomasso@drvc.org)

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### Fall Cash Fling

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_



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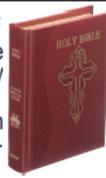
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