

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!

2nd Sunday of Advent - December 4, 2022

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 Hall
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

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

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

Mr. Brian Reich
Director of Music Ministry

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)

Ms. Karina D'Angelo
Bookkeeper, ext. 110

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:

Bob Alderdice	Theresa Arzillo
Jo Barry	Kathy Barry
Barbara Bombace	Cole Brennan
Dan Bryan	Ann Callari
Pattie Daly-Matonti	Manuela Diaz
Matthew DiPietro	Ann Egan
Jim Emerson	Syl Evangelista
Ralph Farino	Sienna Fricke
Debbie Jablinowski	Diane Jones
Maureen Jost	Kristen Kennedy
Roberta Lamb	Dora Libretti
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek	Erin & baby Malley
Jeanne Marie Malley	Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci	Mary Polik-Gunther
Carina Ranieri	Liam Richards
Elaine Ruane	Barbara Sherry
Celeste Sichenze	Kyle Sweeney
Bill Tanner	Peter Warns

Danny Youngworth

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of December 4, 2022, 9AM Mass

Mon. David Reichbach
Tue. William Robertson
Wed. Nick Lombardo

Wednesday, Dec. 7, Immaculate Conception Vigil

7:00 PM Mary Shipman

Thursday, Dec. 8, Immaculate Conception Mass

9:00 AM Mary Jane & Harold Smith

Saturday, December 10, 5 PM Mass

Joseph Svercel, Biagio Chirafisi, Rosemarie Schroeder, Scott Golder, Joyce E. LaGreca, Michael Maggor

Sunday, December 11, 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Jack Hough
11:30 AM John O'Shea, Anthony DeVito Jr.,
Vincenzo Baratta, Charles Inghilterra,
Barbara Wells, Kathy Monti



WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IT?

by Father Michael

Imagine you are a good Jew living near Jerusalem two thousand years ago. You work hard to provide for your family. You are faithful to the rules and expectations of your faith. Life is unfolding without any major obstacles or problems. You start hearing rumors about someone preaching about the long-awaited Savior. This is not startling, these kinds of proclamations come along every once in a while. As time goes by, you hear this preacher has a different message. He is not claiming to be the Savior, but rather is heralding the one to come. He begins doing something that was not done before; he is baptizing people in the Jordan River as they acknowledge their sins. He is not being dismissed as crazy. People are listening to him, people are lining up to be baptized in the river. Who is this John?

You start investigating on your own and what you find is somewhat unsettling. He is an unusual character. He does not live where everyone else does. He does not eat the food of the time. He does not dress as everyone else. But yet he seems to preach and act with some kind of inner authority. You recall the words of Isaiah, "A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." You wonder, could this be the fulfillment of these words?

I would like to believe I would have gone to hear his message. I certainly would have sat in awe of those daring to be immersed in the waters. I don't know how courageous I would have been to get immersed and be one of those who embraced what was being offered by John.

Today we take Baptism for granted. For most of us it has been part of our life for longer than we can remember. (As a related side note, this Easter Vigil will be a busy one. It looks like there will be four people who are to be baptized with us this year!) Although we may not be called to the desert or to be immersed in a river, there are times when God calls us to more. There are times when we are challenged to grow in our thought and understanding. There are times when we need to give more of ourselves. Remain open to the season of Advent being a time for God to invite us more deeply into the waters of our faith. John was saying to his people, "there is more to come." The same message is offered to us if we open ourselves to the Spirit's work.

By the way, for those who did not get baptized by John, it does not mean they missed their one and only opportunity to know Jesus. God's Spirit works in miraculous ways, and sometimes the path of faith is more of a long and winding path for some. The invitation to grow deeper in our faith will always be there. May we stay awake and be ready to grow with the Lord.

The Sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick** will be offered after the 9:30 Mass this weekend.

PARISH NEWS

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, December 3rd	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
• ANGEL GIFTS DUE	5PM Atrium
Sunday, December 4th	All Masses
• ANGEL GIFTS DUE	Atrium
• ANOINTING OF SICK	10:30AM Worship Area
Monday, December 5th	4 - 6:30 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atr./Fr. Joe Room
• WINTER CARNIVAL MTG.	7PM Fr. Joe Room
• MEN'S PRAYER GROUP	7PM Chapel
Tuesday, December 6th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
Wednesday, December 7th	7 PM
• IMMACULATE CONC. VIGIL	Worship Area
Thursday, December 8th	9 AM
• IMMACULATE CONC. MASS	Worship Area
<i>(The Parish Office is closed for the Holy Day.)</i>	
Sunday, December 11th	After 9:30 Mass
• BAPTISM GATHERING	Fr. Joe Room
• BAPTISMS	1PM Worship Area

The Bread and Wine for the week December 4th-10th have been donated in loving memory of
Bobby Alderdice
by Connie Foley.



Scripture Readings for December 11th, 2022



+ Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
 + James 5:7-10
 + Matthew 11:2-11

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, December 10th/11th



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



Pray for Our Military

Sgt David Basler
 Cpl Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC
 FC2 Lane Dyar
 AS Brandon Ferrara
 MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA
 WO Christopher Kaminsky
 Sgt Michael J. Knipper, USMC
 SSGT Ryan Mauldin
 PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC
 Lt Ryan Montvydas
 Cpl Michael Palagonia, USMC

May God bless all who serve our nation!

Next week at the offertory we will also be collecting for the
Religious Retirement Fund.
 Thank you for your support!

Holy Cross welcomes these children Baptized in November

Sofia Lynette Armenti
 Leo Vincent Crivello
 Hailey Joy Doughty
 Beckham Edward Dunbar
 Luke Gregory Gilroy
 Christopher James Hershberger
 Ryan Joseph Klein
 Carmella Amanda Marrapodi
 Ryan Oden Miethé
 Adam Timothy Osburn
 Francesca Alyssa Perrone
 Leonardo Stephen Rappaport

We remember and pray for the following Holy Cross parishioners who passed away recently:



Pegeen R. Amato
Jeffrey Bausch
Joseph Santamaria

May they rest in peace,
 and may their loved ones be consoled.

Immaculate Conception - The Parish Office is closed on Thursday, December 8th, for the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times are Wednesday, December 7th, at 7 PM and Thursday, December 8th, at 9 AM.



Christmas 2022 Mass Schedule
The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th
4:00PM, 6:00PM & 10:00PM
(No 5:00PM Mass)

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th
8:00AM, 9:30AM & 11:30AM

Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, December 31st @ 5:00PM
Sunday, January 1st @ 8:00AM, 9:30AM & 11:30AM

Confessions

Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:15PM (except December 24th)
Wednesdays after the 9:00AM Mass
Monday, December 19th: After the 9:00AM Mass
and 6:30PM to 7:30PM

Christmas Mass Intentions - In lieu of individual announced intentions at the Christmas Masses, there are cards in the atrium on which to write your special intentions. These cards will be placed on the Altar at all the Christmas Masses.

PARISH OUTREACH

A Very Important Reminder

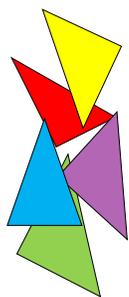
TODAY, DECEMBER 4TH, IS THE LAST DAY TO RETURN YOUR ANGEL GIFT CARDS OR GIFTS. Please be sure all Angel items are here by the end of the 11:30 Mass.



This afternoon, our Outreach committee will be sorting and allocating the gift cards for our families so that they have time to shop. The agencies will also be picking up their gift items this week.

We hope you will continue to keep our struggling neighbors in your prayers. Thank you for remembering them during this season of joy, hope and peace.

Dress a Girl Around the World



Cut-Ups: (those who cut the material and assemble our dress kits)
Our “Cut-Ups” will meet **Thursday, December 15th, from 1 PM - 3 PM** in the atrium. We will continue cutting out dresses for the little ones in need. **Please RSVP to Outreach at 631-265-2200** (limited space available). No skill required. All are welcome!

We are, once again, looking for donations of larger pieces of cotton fabric (2-3 yards) for the body of the dress. Thank you in advance for your constant support and generosity of our *Dress a Girl* ministry.



Stitch-Ups: (those who sew the dresses found in our dress kits)
Our “Stitch-Ups” are welcome to pick up completed dress kits by calling the Outreach Office at 631-265-2200. Everything you need to complete a dress is included in a kit including instructions. Any questions—we are just a phone call away! Thank you!

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Qualified Charitable Donations (QCD)

Direct transfers from IRAs to Charities – a tax benefit for you



This unique opportunity allows taxpayers to make charitable contributions through a direct IRA transfer.

If you would like to make a gift using your Ira and if:

1. You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift
2. Your IRA is a traditional (some Roth IRAs may qualify)
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions

Tax Saving Advantages:

- 1.** QCDs are not included in your adjusted gross income.
- 2.** QCDs deliver a tax benefit while "regular" charitable donations might not since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act almost doubled the standard deductions amounts.
- 3.** QCDs taken from your traditional IRA counts as a distribution for the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules. Therefore, you can donate all or part of your RMD that you would otherwise be forced to receive and pay taxes on.

The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a "qualified charitable distribution." In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form.

VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Charity. If you receive the money first then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

*Bill has \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 to his parish. Upon hearing of the **Charitable IRA Rollover** opportunity, he directs the custodian of his IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2022 directly to the Parish as the family's 2022 gift. He gets to exclude the IRA distribution given to charity from income.*

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

JOIN BISHOP ANDRZEJ



COFFEE with JESUS

Advent Reflections

From the comfort of your home,
with a cup of coffee and ZOOM connection,
join **Bishop Andrzej** at 10:00 am
on Friday mornings during the Advent Season:

December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2022

for Advent Scripture Reflections

...WORD made FLESH...

This is a great opportunity to prepare and
nourish your mind, spirit and heart
in anticipation of Christmas.



To register for **Coffee with Jesus**
please call Suzanne at 516-744-6850 or
email westernvicariate@drvc.org.
Once you are registered, you will receive the
ZOOM information prior to each session.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SEMINARY

Christmas at the Seminary

**Friday
December
16th**



**Main
Chapel
7pm**

Join us for an evening of Christmas Cheer!

A selection of sacred and contemporary Christmas Music featuring special performances by
Fr. Joe Catafago ♦ Fr. Ed Sheridan ♦ St. Anthony H.S. Pipe Band ♦ Trinity Regional School Senior Chorus
The Schubart Family ♦ Nina Baumann ♦ Phoon Yu ♦ and Others!

Reception to follow in the Refectory



Reservations required

Adults \$50

Students \$25

Seminary Development Office

(631)423-0483 x 102

bmalone@icseminary.edu

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

PARISH _____

NO. TICKETS _____ @ \$50. _____ @ \$25. TOTAL \$ _____

CREDIT CARD: VISA AMEX M/C DISCOVER

NAME ON CARD _____ AMT \$ _____

CARD NO. _____ EXP. _____ / _____

Note: 4% fee will be added to credit card charge

Return to: Seminary Development Office • 440 West Neck Road • Huntington, NY 11743

DIACONATE FORMATION

Are You Being Called to Serve as a Deacon?

**COME to ANY ONE of THESE MEETINGS PREPARED
to LISTEN – to PRAY – to REFLECT – to DISCERN
where God is calling you!**

EVENINGS are being offered conveniently at
THREE LOCATIONS.

7:00PM, Tuesday, January 10

St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

7:00PM, Wednesday, January 11

Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue

7:00PM, Thursday, June 19

St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue

with an **EARLY WEEKEND** option to be held at

1:00PM, Sunday, January 15

St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Ave.

**RSVP by Friday, January 6th,
to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179**

OR by email to

diaconateformation@drvc.org

**We thank you and
look forward to being with you.**



TAKE A CHANCE!

Winter Windfall

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 "Winter Windfall." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.



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

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!

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____

Winter Windfall

Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____
 Phone _____



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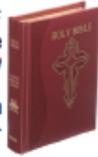
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