

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!

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 4, 2024

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
Business Manager, 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
Alejandro Astegiano	Jo Barry
Kathy Barry	Liam Bentley
Barbara Bombace	Cole Brennan
Ann Callari	Judy Carlson
Jason DeLuca	Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan	Ralph Farino
Yolanda Fattarusso	Sienna Fricke
Linda Heinrichs	Debbie Jablinowski
Kristen Kennedy	Roberta Lamb
Dora Libretti	Dotty Licausi
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek	Jeanne Marie Malley
Olivia Melia	Loretto Narducci
Carina Ranieri	Liam Richards
Elaine Ruane	Casey Schultz
Kathy Schwinn	Dolores Serri
Barbara Sherry	Celeste Sichenze
Bill Tanner	Grace Van Epps
Peter Warns	

Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, February 4, 9AM Masses

Mon. Maureen O'Malley (living)
Tue. Alejandro Astegiano (living)
Wed. Concetta Brady
Thu. Stephen Mattera



Saturday, February 10, 5PM Mass

Patrick Keena Sr., Judy Keena, Lucy Follo, Gennaro Cangiano, James Eng, Isabella Burton Smith, Eileen Kamine

Sunday, February 11, 6th Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Charlotte Wangenstein, Gloria Posimato, Joseph Gatto, John Posimato, Anthony Posimato
11:30 AM Mrs. Irene Ehlich

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.

DARKNESS AND LIGHT

by Father Michael

We just completed a trilogy of days that in one form or another center around the images of darkness and light. Some of them are religious celebrations, but there is even a secular one thrown in there for good measure.

February 2 is a doubleheader. In religious circles it is the Feast of the Presentation. This feast has its roots in Jewish tradition. The practice would have been to bring a newborn child to the temple approximately 40 days after the birth to receive blessings. There is a school of thought that says the Christmas season does not formally end until the Presentation of the Lord. (So, if you still have any Christmas decorations up, you can justify that by saying you are embracing a great tradition of the Church.) At one point, a tradition developed to bless candles on this day. It was the final day of celebrating the birth of Christ, the Light of the World. And so, moving forward into the darkness of the world, people would bring blessed candles as a reminder of our savior. This tradition is more widely celebrated in Eastern Rite churches, but some of you may have grown up with that practice or tradition in your homes or churches.

On a more secular note, February 2 is also Groundhog Day. The folklore of this day says that if the infamous Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, winter will continue for another six weeks. There have been regional adaptations to this day; Staten Island Chuck and Holbrook Hal also try making that prediction on a more local level. I think all of us are hoping for an early spring. Although we have not gotten much snow this season, it feels like most days have been cold and gloomy.

The final day to mention in this trilogy is the Feast of St. Blaise. Although it does not specifically focus on dark and lightness, it does use candles in the traditional blessing of throats. St. Blaise was a fourth century saint. He was a physician before he became a bishop. He is credited with saving the life of a boy who was choking on a fishbone. It seems at one point he was also imprisoned and used two candles that he had in his cell to offer a blessing of the throats for those who were around him. Whenever this day falls on a weekend it is displaced by the Sunday liturgy, so this year we will not be offering the blessing of throats.

I'm happy to report we have a full bus of parishioners who will be heading off to Lancaster in March. The last few trips I offered only had a handful of people signed up, so I am delighted that this offering was received by so many.

Start to get ready for Lent. We have been working hard to create a prayerful and engaging theme for the days of Lent. We will start preparing you for what awaits beginning next week. And this year we have the additional twist of Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day both on the same day. This could be interesting. 😊

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Weekly Calendar

- Saturday, February 3rd** 3:45 - 4:45 PM
 • HOLY HOUR Worship Area
- Sunday, February 4th** After 9:30 Mass
 • ANOINTING OF THE SICK Worship Area
 • CHILDREN'S LITURGY 11:30AM Fr. Joe Room
 • BAPTISMS 1PM Worship Area
- Monday, February 5th** 4 - 6 PM
 • SPECIAL NEEDS Atrium
 • KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7PM Atrium
- Tuesday, February 6th** 10 AM
 • IN STITCHES Fr. Joe Room
 • LEVEL 8 RETREAT 6-9PM Atr., Wor. Ar.
 • RCIA 7PM Fr. Joe Room
- Thursday, February 8th** 10 AM
 • WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Fr. Joe Room
 • YOUTH GROUP PLNG. MTG. 7PM Fr. Joe Room
- Saturday, February 10th** 6 - 8 PM
 • YOUTH GROUP MEETING Atrium
- Sunday, February 11th** 9:30 Mass
 • BAPTISM GATHERING Wor. Ar., FJ Rm.
 • BOY SCOUT SUNDAY 9:30AM Worship Area

Scripture Readings for February 11, 2024



- + Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
- + 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
- + Mark 1:40-45

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



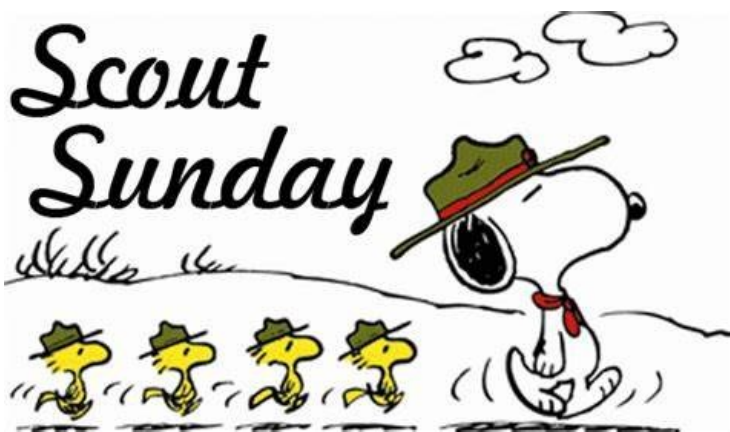
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|----------|----------------------|
| 5:00 PM | Fr. Michael/Dcn. Joe |
| 8:00 AM | Fr. Michael/Dcn. Joe |
| 9:30 AM | Fr. Frank |
| 11:30 AM | Fr. Frank |

Special Collection

Next weekend at the offertory we will also be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund. Thank you for your continued support of this collection!



Scout Sunday



Boy Scout Sunday

February 11, 2024 9:30 Mass
All Scouts are Welcome

Scouts should arrive 15 minutes early
 Class "A" uniforms scouts & leaders

Please contact
 Andy Bodor and Kim Loh Bodor
Akjl23@optonline.net or 516-996-2295

Bring your Troop/Pack Flag & stand

*Please let us know how many scouts & leaders will be attending by **February 4th** so we can have enough reserved seating for your group.*

Save the Date: Girl Scout Sunday - March 10th

LITURGY BYTES

Why Come to Mass?

Generally, people like to get together with one another. We seem to be relational and want to share our lives with one another. It is part of our human instinct. We come together for sporting events, concerts, rallies, and school events. However, you might be thinking, what does all of this have to do with Sunday Mass?



Even though some of the above events are not the same as what we do on Sunday, there are similarities. As Christians we identify who we are and believe that this identity is significant; we share certain values and become more committed when we regularly gather together. On Sunday at Mass, we find a sense of unity and support, and we celebrate that in a special way. We remember all that God has done and is doing for us in Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Keep in mind the kind of remembering we do on Sunday is not simply recalling past events, but rather it is a remembering that calls us to attend to God's activity in our lives at the present moment. God knows our basic instinct of sharing our lives, belonging to something and being in relationship to others firsthand. We are made in God's image, a God who is relational, who shares life with us and invites us to share that with Him. It is no wonder that God would call us together as a community to give thanks and praise. The Mass teaches us a lot about how to live in a right relationship with God, others, and all of creation.

As the Lenten season is fast approaching, perhaps it is a good time to focus our attention on the beauty of the Mass when you gather each Sunday. Go out on a limb and invite a friend or family member who does not attend Mass anymore or infrequently to accompany you to Mass one Sunday. Try to help them embrace its beauty and the special gift of our Lord in Holy Communion. Over a cup of coffee in the diner, see what this experience meant and gently encourage them to come again. For those we love and cherish, we need to help them realize what they are missing and how the faith community misses them too!

Have a blessed, healthy, and joy-filled week ahead! ~ *Michele Hall*



Girl Scout Sunday

Tell your Scouting friends...All Are Welcome
March 10th, 2024 9:30 Mass

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

Contact Kim Loh Bodor Akjl23@optonline.net or 516-996-2297

*Please let us know how many scouts & leaders will be attending by **March 1st** so we have enough reserved seating for your group.*

Bring a Friend

7th - 12th grade

For **YOUTH**

*Leading Teens
Closer to Christ*

"The Battlefield"

**Dinner • Games
Faith • Friendship**



JOIN US AFTER MASS

FEB. 10, 2024 Saturday 6-8pm

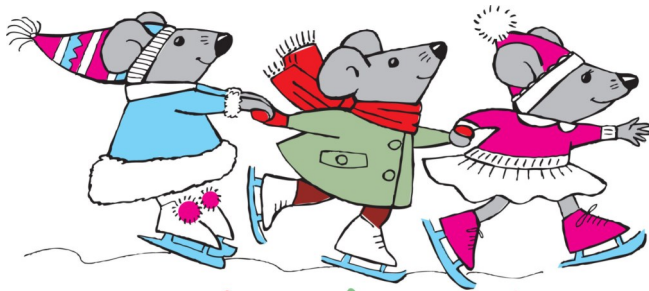
Stay updated by visiting the parish website: www.holycrossrc.org

Find us on Instagram: [instagram.com/hcforyouth](https://www.instagram.com/hcforyouth)

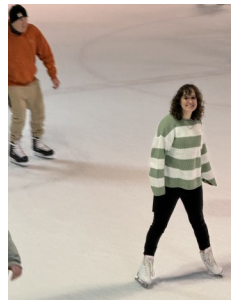
Contact us at: youthgroup@holycrossrc.org

PARISH NEWS

On Sunday, January 28, the Youth Group went skating at the Rinx. We had so much fun! Here are some pictures to enjoy!



JOIN US!



Dress a Girl Around the World

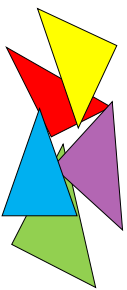
Cut-Ups: (those who cut the material and assemble our dress kits)

Our “Cut-Ups” will meet **Thursday, February 22, from 1-3 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!



Mobile Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings and Flu Vaccinations

The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings and **flu vaccinations** in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.



Parish of the Holy Cross
95 Nichols Road
Nesconset NY

Tuesday, February 20th
9A-2P

Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance
- **Free flu vaccination** (senior dose available)

Silver Rose

News Release

Local Knights of Columbus Sponsors Silver Rose in Honor of Life and Our Lady of Guadalupe

Contact: Grand Knight Philip Goglas 631-258-3433 three7three@gmail.com
Name & Phone Number of Local Knights of Columbus

(Suffolk County, NY) – A silver rose on a nine-month pilgrimage will be the centerpiece of a special prayer service
City, State/Province
at (Parish of the Holy Cross) in (Nesconset, NY) on (February 5, 2024) at (7 PM).
Name of Parish Town/City Date Time
Program is sponsored by Knights of Columbus (Blessed Sacrament #11416) to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe and
Council Name and Number
express both international unity and dedication to the sanctity of human life.

The journey of the silver rose begins each year in March and ends on Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. During that time, Silver Roses travel from town to town along eight routes throughout North America. Several of those routes begin in Canada and end in Mexico.

The Silver Rose Program began in 1960, when the first rose – a real, live one – was blessed by a bishop in Ontario. The rose then traveled to New York and then to Texas where it was taken across the border into Mexico. The rose ended its pilgrimage at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey on Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. To better ensure future annual trips, a silver rose was ultimately made. Today, due to the popularity of the program throughout the North American continent, eight silver roses travel unique routes.

In 2001, when Carl Anderson, Past Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, expanded the Silver Rose Program, he commented: “Through [the Silver Rose Program] we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the [Knights of Columbus], but we also reaffirm the Order’s dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of ‘One Life, One Rose,’ it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses.”

All members of the community are encouraged join Knights of Columbus (Blessed Sacrament #11416)
Council Name and Number
at (Parish of the Holy Cross) in (Nesconset, NY) on (February 5, 2024) at (7 PM) to pray for a
Name of Parish Town/City Date Time
civilization of love and culture of life in our own country and throughout the world.

Please Spread the Word!

Council (11416) in (Nesconset, NY) is one of 17,000 Knights of Columbus councils that make up
Number Town/City
the world’s largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded in 1882 to assist working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States, today the approximately two million members of the Knights put their faith into action through a broad range of charitable causes locally, nationally and internationally through financial contributions and hands-on service.

Faith in Action



Life

The K of C invitation can also be viewed on the Holy Cross website, www.holycrossrc.org

The Diocese of Rockville Centre
**GOLDEN WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2024 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre
Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle
Registration must be received by Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Register online at drvc-faith.org

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at lrobustelli@drvc.org



TAKE A CHANCE!

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 29**.

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

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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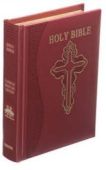
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