

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!

Third Sunday of Lent - March 12, 2023

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
Judy Carlson	Pattie Daly-Matonti
Jason DeLuca	Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan	Syl Evangelista
Ralph Farino	Sienna Fricke
Linda Heinrichs	Debbie Jablinowski
Diane Jones	Kristen Kennedy
Roberta Lamb	Dora Libretti
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Viola Malek	Erin & baby Malley
Jeanne Marie Malley	Olivia Melia
Loretto Narducci	Cornelia Polik
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 Sunday, March 12th, 9AM Masses

Mon. Anthony DellaVecchia
Tue. Maureen O'Malley (living)
Wed. Maureen O'Malley (living)
Thu. Joseph Fasano



Saturday, March 18th, 5PM Mass

Lucy Follo, Kathy Kamine, James Eng, Frank Giambanco, Gene Doherty

Sunday, March 19th, Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Joseph Marcucci
11:30 AM Debra Yarincik, Helen Tafuri, James Emerson, Jason Arbeeny, John Canning, Marlies Bisso

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.

LOTS OF NUTS AND BOLTS

by Father Michael

This week I pass along to you a bunch of practical information and updates on things that are happening in the parish.

My unexpected excavation project at the house was successfully completed at the beginning of the week. I have a dedicated drywell for the washing machine which was overflowing. The pathway to the house had to be torn up to gain access to it. In addition, my cesspool was nearing capacity, so that too was serviced. The cost for all this work was \$1,800. This is the first time since the parish has owned the house (20 years) that these items needed to be addressed. I can now flush, fluff, and fold to my heart's content.

I signed the contract for two new 30-ton HVAC units. Although our current units are functioning, they are coming to the end of their lives. I want to be proactive in getting this done before they break down and we find ourselves waiting months for new units to be available. The new equipment should arrive by late spring. The cost of this project is approximately \$155,000. Fortunately, we have this money in our Renovations and Major Repairs account. This single item will completely drain that account, but I am grateful we have the cash on hand to pay for this project. Thank you to all who regularly support this collection; you make improvements like this easy to accomplish. Other maintenance items that need attention will be priced out and prioritized. Once we have an accurate picture of what needs to be done, we may need to consider a special fundraising effort to pay for these projects.

I thought that we might make it through the winter without having to plow and sand the parking lot. But that changed on February 28 when we had our first snowfall of a couple of inches. The good news is that we had a credit with our contractor, so we did not have to pay out of pocket for the services this time around.

I had reported previously that support for our quarterly cash raffles was declining, and we needed to evaluate if it was wise to continue offering this fundraising effort. Well, my warning seemed to spur great interest. We had a surge in ticket sales for the winter drawing so much so, that we were able to add four additional prizes to the most recent prize pool. Thank you for your support. Tickets for the Spring Cash Fling are now available.

Next weekend Mr. Jim Ryan will be speaking at all the Masses. This is in preparation for the Parish Mission he will be offering on March 20-22. We hope you can make these days part of your Lenten journey. The 40 days of this holy season continue.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, March 11th	9 AM - 6 PM
• PRE-CANA WEEKEND	Atr., Wor. Ar.
Sunday, March 12th	1 PM
• BAPTISMS	Worship Area
Monday, March 13th	4 - 6 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS	Atr., FJ Room
• LEVEL 5 STATIONS	7PM Worship Area
Tuesday, March 14th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 5 STATIONS	7PM Worship Area
• RCIA	Fr. Joe Room
Wednesday, March 15th	5 PM
• VBS MEETING	Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 2 PARENT MTG.	7PM Atr., Wor. Ar.
Thursday, March 16th	10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Fr. Joe Room
• LITURGICAL MINS. NIGHT	7PM Worship Area
Sunday, March 19th	9:30 AM
• BAPTISM GATHERING	Wor. Ar., FJ Rm.

Scripture Readings for March 19, 2023



- + 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
- + Ephesians 5:8-14
- + John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, March 18th/19th



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

Attention Prayer Blanket Ministers!

Our supply of Prayer Blankets is running low. Please help us re-stock so we'll have enough for all in need. Thank you!



Easter Adult Choir



It's been a while since we've had the whole choir together, but we would like to call back former choir members as well as invite new members. We will be singing on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil with three rehearsals prior to Easter. Please contact Brian Reich our Music Director at 631-949-9134. Join us for the following rehearsals:

Thursday, March 23, and Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Women's Prayer Group

Women's Prayer Group has not met since before the pandemic, and we would like to resume this ministry. The format is simple: women from the parish meet for 1 hour and pray with Scripture, with time for quiet reflection and sharing. No experience is required, just a desire for some time with God. If interested, please check your availability on the tear-off below and return it to the Parish Office by Easter Sunday, April 9. Questions, call Jude at ext. 116.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I could meet on: Saturday, 10:00AM Wednesday, 10:00AM Thursday, 7:00PM



EVENING FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Parish of the Holy Cross

*Evening of Reflection for
All Liturgical Ministers*

Guest Speaker: Sr. Mary Alice Piil, CSJ

**Thursday, March 16th, at 7 PM
in the Worship Area**

*“Liturgical Ministry: A Unique
Opportunity to Lead Others into
the Paschal Mystery”*

Easter Triduum



SAVE THE DATE!

**Volunteer Appreciation Party
Sunday, May 21st, 3-6 PM**

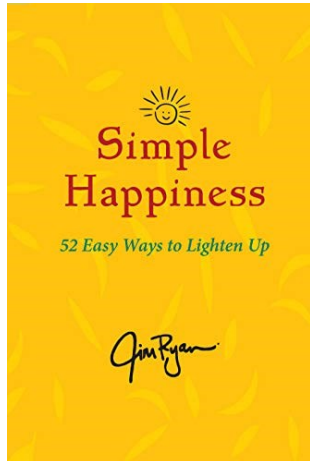
PARISH MISSION

Join us for our Parish Mission

**Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
March 20, 21 & 22 at 7 PM**



With Motivational Speaker
Jim Ryan



Jim Ryan is the author of the book,
Simple Happiness: 52 Easy Ways to Lighten Up.
Thousands of people all over the United States have
been inspired and motivated to change and live more
joyful and fulfilled lives.

Topics for the Evenings

Monday, March 20

Simple Happiness - Eight Characteristics of Happy People

Tuesday, March 21

Managing Thought, the Key to Experiencing God's Love

Wednesday, March 22

Start to Live Heaven on Earth

*Treat yourself to three hours of graced listening
and spiritual refreshment. Allow the gifts of God
to pour over you as you open your heart to God's
love for you!*

*We look forward to welcoming you and sharing
in this week of reflection and prayer.*



LITURGY BYTES

Reconciliation – Part 2



Last week's column laid a little groundwork about reconciliation. Many Catholics treasure the Sacrament of Reconciliation. How do you feel? The peace of mind and soul which this sacrament imparts to us is one for which there is no substitute. It is a peace that flows from a certainty, rather than from an unsure hope, that our sins have been forgiven and that we are right with God.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also known as penance and confession, among other names. Penance seems to describe the process best, although most of us refer to it as confession.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sacrament in which the priest, as the agent of God, forgives our sins when we are truly sorry for them and willing to do better in the future. By His death on the Cross, Jesus Christ redeemed us all from sin and from the consequences of sin. So, it is not surprising that on the very day He rose from the dead, Jesus instituted this sacrament. It was on Easter Sunday evening that Jesus appeared to his Apostles gathered together in the Upper Room where they had eaten the Last Supper. Jesus spoke to them reassuringly with these words from John's Gospel (20:19-23): *"Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, 'Peace be to you!' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced at the sight of the Lord. He said to them again, 'Peace be to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you.' When he had said this, he breathed upon them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.'"*

Have a peaceful, blessed, safe and healthy week ahead!~*Michele Hall*

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Diocesan Statement Regarding St. Patrick's Day

The holy Season of Lent is a time of spiritual preparation for the celebration of our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection at Easter, the holiest of days. Through prayer, fasting and works of charity, we draw closer to the Lord, deepen our faith, and prepare for eternal life. The obligation of abstinence from meat on Fridays of Lent is an important element of the Church's observance of the penitential nature of this holy season. However, if you choose not to abstain from meat on March 17th (St. Patrick's Day), please substitute some other penance, prayer, and work of charity in its place.

PARISH OUTREACH

Eat Simply Ideas

Here are some ideas to consider using for your family's participation in our Eat Simply program.

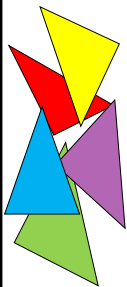
- If you give up sweets for Lent, donate the money saved so that we can purchase cookies and snacks for a family.
- Discuss what a "simple meal" means in your household. Is it soup and bread? Is it a peanut butter and jelly sandwich? **Our simple meals can be a gourmet feast for some families struggling to make ends meet.**
- Rather than having your Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts coffee, make your morning coffee at home. The money you donate could buy a can of coffee for a family.
- If you are ordering in for dinner, pick up food instead of using Door Dash/Uber Eats. (Many restaurants have curbside pick-up now.) Make a simple homemade dessert for after dinner and donate what it would have cost had you ordered something in.



Envelopes are available on the bulletin tables; you may return your envelope to the basket in the atrium or in the collection basket. Thank you so much for prayerfully participating in our Eat Simply program, so that others may simply eat!

Dress a Girl Around the World

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



Our "Cut-Ups" will meet **Thursday, March 30th, from 1PM to 3PM** 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!

In the month of February, with your help, Outreach served 61 households in our community. These households were made up of 28 children, 75 adults and 15 seniors, and they received 215 services. Thank you for your continued support of Outreach.

PARISH OUTREACH

Long Island Cares Food Drive 2023

- 316,000 Long Islanders experience domestic hunger and high food insecurity. That's more than 1 in every 9 people.
- Over 89,030 children on Long Island face food insecurity.
- Long Island Cares distributes nearly 7 million pounds of product annually to Nassau and Suffolk counties only.
- 92.9 cents of every dollar donated to Long Island Cares goes into programs. The other 7 cents goes toward administration.

As we have done for the last few years during Lent and as part of our Baptismal call to live out the Beatitudes, our parish will sponsor a food drive on behalf of Long Island Cares.

Long Island Cares is an organization that collects and delivers food to more than 600 community-based agencies in Nassau and Suffolk. In a typical year, it distributes over 7 million pounds of food.

Please bring your non-perishable food items to Mass on the weekend of March 25th/26th and place them in the large boxes in the atrium (please no glass).



We thank you for being a community that consistently stocks our own food pantry, reaches out to our surrounding communities, and finds ways to assist our global family (through Heifer International).

Special Collections

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

Next week our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. For more information about the collection visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



Thank you for your support of these collections!

SAVE THE DATE!

Our new For YOUth group met last Saturday after the 5PM Mass and enjoyed food, fun and fellowship.

Join us for our next meeting on April 15th after the 5PM Mass.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

 **Smithtown Youth Bureau**
54m · 📍

We are looking for students to help us in creating cards to be sent to residents of local nursing home facilities for Valentines Day, St. Patrick's Day, and general "cozy" winter wishes. Students who submit 8 cards can earn a maximum of 1.5 hours of Community Service Credit. Cards can be mailed in or dropped off in person at our Youth Bureau office at the Town of Smithtown Horizons Center, 161 East Main Street Smithtown, NY 11787.



Cards for Community Service
Submit 8 cards & earn a maximum of 1.5 hours of Community Service Credit.

 Due 2/13 by 4pm	 Due 3/16 by 4pm	 Due 3/24 by 4pm
---	---	---

Cards can be mailed in or dropped off in person at our office at 161 East Main Street Smithtown, NY 11787.



When the Smithtown Youth Bureau posted their need for students to make cards for the local nursing homes, the students in Catechist Robin Rostron's 4th grade class stepped up to the task. They did a terrific job as you can see from the pictures on the left!

TAKE A CHANCE!

Spring 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 “*Spring 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 March, April and May.
- Drawing will be held May 31st.

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!

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Spring Cash Fling

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____



"Caring that Counts"

www.moloneyfh.com

MOLONEY

Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

Peter G. Moloney • Francis D. Moloney, Jr.

LAKE RONKONKOMA

132 Ronkonkoma Avenue
(631) 588-1515

HAUPPAUGE

840 Wheeler Road (Rte. 111)
(631) 361-7500

HOLBROOK

825 Main Street
(631) 981-7500

CENTRAL ISLIP

130 Carleton Avenue
(631) 234-6000

BOHEMIA

1320 Lakeland Avenue
(631) 589-1500

PORT JEFFERSON STATION

523 Route 112
(631) 473-3800



OLSEN'S
REST HOME

Administrator George Olsen Jr.
366 Gibbs Pond Rd - PO Box 256
Nesconset (631) 588-5676

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC

24/7 SERVICE 0% INTEREST

FREE ESTIMATES
1 (631) 487-0939
1 (516) 417-8403

Lenny Mannino
Master Electrician
Licensed & Insured

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

10% OFF

Little Vincent's PIZZA

RONKONKOMA, L.I.
981-9631

OTHER LOCATION: HUNTINGTON, L.I.

Since 1972

TOWERS FLOWERS

246 Smithtown Boulevard
Nesconset

flowersbytowers.com
979-8848 (888) 65TOWERS

Story Book Homes Inc.

Custom Homes • Apartments
Developers • Planned Communities

Al Hornberger BUS. OFFICE
631-265-6131

24 Hr. Emergency Service
Phone/Fax (631) 580-7500

B&R

PLUMBING & HEATING

Senior Discount 10%
315 Smithtown Blvd.
Nesconset Parishioner

StateFarm

Kaitlin Handley Agent
110 Lake Ave, S 46, Nesconset
631-656-9100
kaitlin@insurewithkait.com



Lake Auto Service

11 Church St., Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
Honest Reliable Service
Hrs. 8AM-5:30PM
Sat. 8AM-12PM

J & S
Used Auto Sales, Inc.
Dave Izzo - Owner
11 Church St., Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
Phone (631) 981-4500
30 yrs experience

Fireside Catholic Heritage Edition Bible

The Catholic Heritage Edition in the New American Bible Revised Edition translation is the ideal Catholic Family Bible.

Features: Our Catholic Family, Family Record section and Burgundy padded cover with gold-gilded page edges.

Only \$79.99 post paid

C/O The Church Bulletin, Inc.
200 Dale Street • W. Babylon, NY 11704

Enclosed please find check/money order for \$ _____ to cover the cost of _____ (quantity) copies of the Fireside Family Bible, to be shipped post paid to:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____



KERRY J. MAHER **ST. JAMES FUNERAL HOME** **KENNETH J. MAHER, JR.**

829 Middle Country Road (Jericho Turnpike) Route 25, St. James
(631) 584-5200 ~ HONORING THE LEGACY OF DEACON KENNETH J MAHER & AELYSCHÉ M. MAHER ~

~ A Home for Funerals & Cremations ~

"Personal Attention & Dignified Service - Our Continuing Tradition"
www.StJamesFuneralHome.com

Susan A. Lampach
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
(631) 806-8579 Mobile
slampach@cbamhomes.com

Parishioner

COLDWELL BANKER AMERICAN HOME

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC

24/7 SERVICE 0% INTEREST

FREE ESTIMATES
1 (631) 487-0939
1 (516) 417-8403

Lenny Mannino
Master Electrician
Licensed & Insured

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

10% OFF

Premier Printing of Long Island

FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS

- Wedding Books
- Save the Dates
- Invitations
- Envelopes
- Thank You Cards
- Color Flyers
- Birth Announcements
- Brochures
- Christmas Cards

Call or email us for a free quote today!
631-213-2128
premierprintingli@gmail.com

Catholic Health

Exceptional care. Personalized support. Inspired by you.

(866) MY-LI-DOC | chsl.org



IF YOU LIVE ALONE YOU NEED A MEDICAL ALERT At HOME or AWAY

- GPS • Fall Alert • 24/7 • 365 Monitoring
- Ambulance • Police • Fire • Family/Friends

MDMedAlert™

As Low As \$19.95 /month*

No Contract • No Fees • E-Z Setup • md-medalert.com CALL 800 867-7250



NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC

24/7 SERVICE 0% INTEREST

FREE ESTIMATES
1 (631) 487-0939
1 (516) 417-8403

Lenny Mannino
Master Electrician
Licensed & Insured

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

10% OFF

Catholic Health

Exceptional care. Personalized support. Inspired by you.

(866) MY-LI-DOC | chsl.org



Branch Funeral Homes

FUNERALS & CREMATIONS

Trust. Quality. Affordability.

Owned by the Vigilante Family - Henry Vigilante • John Vigilante • Paul Vigilante

TRUSTED CREMATION WITH CARE™ PROVIDER

Miller Place
551 Route 25A
(631) 744-9700
BranchFH.com

Smithtown
190 East Main Street
(631) 724-9500
info@BranchFH.com