

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!

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 4, 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 live streamed 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 Ralph Rivera
Pastoral Minister, ext.119

Deacon Joseph Maffeo
Pastoral Minister, ext. TBD

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112
Coordinator 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
Mr. Vincent Matula
Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

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

Kathy Barry	Patricia Becker
Barbara Bombace	Ann Callari
Manuela Diaz	Ann Egan
Jim Emerson	Sienna Fricke
Jeanne Gallo	Bob Grieco
Debbie Jablinowski	Diane Jones
Gerald Losquadro	Charlotte Lynch
Michael Maroney	Olivia Melia
Liam Richards	Joseph Santamaria
Barbara Sherry	Marlene Starr
David Velkas	Doreen Velkas
Judy Viskupic	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 July 4th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Vito & Maria Ligabo
Tue. Matteo Santulin
Wed. Henri-Robert Lamarque
Thu. Lola Onorato

Saturday, July 10th, 5PM Mass

Matteo Santulin, Helen O'Hara, Philip Graziouse, Stephen Neville, Anthony Michael Arzillo

Sunday, July 11th, 15th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Alberico Grella
11:30 AM Lucille Divers, Rich Michta, Kristin Burkard, Thomas Swenson, Charles Vincent Dassaro



Scripture Readings for July 11, 2021



+ Amos 7:12-15
+ Ephesians 1:3-14
+ Mark 6:7-13

SUMMER IS UPON US

by Father Michael

There is no escaping that the days of summer are surrounding us. This past week we were reminded that heat and humidity can be part of the experience. I remember as a kid, the days of summer felt timeless. In particular, the evenings seemed to last forever. Games with kids in the neighborhood would slowly wind down as nighttime descended. I hope you too have some of those great memories.

As adults it is difficult for us to experience these days as timeless and carefree. We all have responsibilities that keep us grounded in life. But I do hope, in spite of that, that you can make these days special. The travel industry is exploding with activity as people anxiously get back to travel and relaxation. If you are not able to get away from home, I hope you can make some plans to make that time at home to be life-giving. Perhaps you will be able to gather with folks you have not seen for a long time. Creating a list of fun projects can help us focus and use the time well. There is something very satisfying in checking off items on a to-do list. There is a lot of summertime in front of us, so don't let these days get away from you.

I feel blessed that I will be able to do a fair bit of traveling this summer. In two weeks, I will be with thirty-six parishioners on a little four-day bus jaunt to New Hampshire. After that, I will be spending a few days with some of my priest friends in a vacation house about an hour and a half outside the city. Those days will be filled with peace and quiet concluding with a nice meal at the end of the day. Later in August I will be traveling with a few of my former colleagues from when I worked at the high school. We will be heading out to explore the wonders of Yosemite National Park. The National Parks are being inundated with waves of visitors, as many folks are not yet comfortable heading to Europe or other international destinations. I'm hoping that the high numbers will not take away from the experience of the park.

We also cannot overlook that this is a national holiday. When I was a child, I didn't think much about the meaning of the day. I remember as a young teen sharing in the excitement of the bicentennial. I suppose I took for granted that the safety, security and unity we experienced as a nation was simply a given. Indeed, our Nation faces challenges. We pray for courageous and wise leaders that will help balance some of the unrest that surrounds us. But all of us need to think about our own attitudes and actions. We have been blessed to live in this great nation. We cannot forget the sacrifices that were made for us to share in this gift. We also need to do our part to foster unity, peace, and justice.

Pictures from Fr. Michael's 60th birthday party will appear in next week's bulletin. Get ready!

PARISH NEWS



Pray for Our Military

SPC(E-4) David Basler
 Cpl Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC
 SA Anthony J. DeNicola
 FC2 Lane Dyar
 AS Brandon Ferrara
 SSG Daniel Frost
 MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA
 WO Christopher Kaminsky
 Sgt Michael J. Knipper, USMC
 SSGT Ryan Mauldin
 PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC
 Lt Ryan Montvydas
 IT1 Jason Mulderig
 Cpl Michael Palagonia, USMC

We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service. We will continue to pray for them through 2021. Please let us know at any time during 2021 if their service is finished, their title has changed, or you would like continued prayers through 2022. May God bless all who serve our nation. Pray for Peace!



The Parish Office is closed on Monday, July 5th, for the Independence Day holiday. There is a 9:00 Mass Monday morning.



Banns of Marriage Second Time

Caitlyn Mazzeo & Matthew Bronk



Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses

July 10th/11th



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

The Bread and Wine for the week July 3-10 have been donated in loving memory of
Vincent Gallo
by Angie Gallo.



We pray for the following parishioners whose funerals were celebrated at Holy Cross in June:

William Augustus Baly
William Bergan
Biagio Chirafisi
Pauline C. Kenny
Barbara Maida
Nicholas L. Matonti
Joseph Svercel
Elaine Wilkinson

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



Holy Baptism

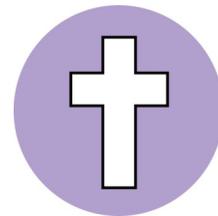
Holy Cross welcomes these children Baptized in June

Julia Skye Culmo
 Madeleine Grace DeRosa
 Kaylee Victoria Dillon
 Lawson Leo Fatone
 Viviana Grace Mancuso
 Lukas Jacob Martinez
 Charley Megan Miethe
 Dominick Francis Mortenson
 Olivia Claire O'Connell
 Sofia Michelle Ortiz
 Madison Nicole Quinones
 Joseph John-Patrick Rello
 Sophia Grace Rosales
 Audrey Fallon Serrano
 Blake Rose Ventimiglia

LITURGY BYTES

The Sign of the Cross

The simple gesture of the sign of the cross which precedes our prayer experiences – what is it all about? Many people will sign themselves for a variety of reasons, even people who are not Christian use this gesture. We see it in all walks of life – at sporting events by athletes, before taking an exam or undergoing a medical procedure, to name a few.



Even back in the 3rd century, it was written that Christians were making the sign of the cross over their bodies. In the 4th century, St. Cyril of Jerusalem said that we should not be ashamed to confess the Crucified. It is believed that the early tradition of marking one's body with the cross was inspired by a passage in the book of Ezekiel where it says, "And the Lord said to him, 'Go through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark upon the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.'" (Ezekiel 9:4) These early Christians believed that the sign of the cross set them apart and "marked" them as a chosen people who belong to the one true God.

The sign of the cross that Catholics make before prayer or any other activity is not meant to be a superstitious act, but an outward profession of faith. In the CCC (Catechism of the Catholic Church) we read that "Christians begin their day, their prayers and their activities with the sign of the cross. The baptized person dedicates the day to the glory of God and calls on the Savior's grace which lets him act in the Spirit as a child of the Father. The sign of the cross strengthens us in temptations and difficulties."

The cross is at the very center of what we believe, and crossing ourselves is supposed to be a constant reminder of the price Jesus paid for our sins. It is both a profession of faith and a simple prayer that has such great power. In the end it is a simple gesture that has ancient and biblical roots, and as we enter Church, we bless ourselves with the holy water making the sign of the cross, reminding us of our Baptisms where it all began for us as Catholics.

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



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Parish of the Holy Cross

Thursday, August 12, 2021

2:30pm - 8:30pm



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nybc.org

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 **New York** Blood Center

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
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 you will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or 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; amendoza-cantos@drvc.org; jwinter@drvc.org; pditomasso@drvc.org

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

3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Parish of the Holy Cross, March 1, 2021 – May 31, 2021

Revenues:

- Collections this quarter were up 20.9%. RAMR was up 54.6%. Our Easter collection was up 106.8% at a total of \$44,171 (\$22,806 over last year). Overall collections for this quarter were up 33.2%.
- This spring, as an alternative to the “Cash Calendar,” we introduced the “Spring Cash Fling” to generate fundraising income. In its entirety, we profited \$2,240 for the 3 months it ran. In the first half of last fiscal year, we had made a profit of approximately \$1,650 per quarter for the “Cash Calendar.” It appears folks were happy to participate and return to some fun, while contributing to the parish in this way. Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Spring Cash Fling!
- Religious Ed. brought in \$11,500 this quarter. Contributing to that number were Communion donations and some Confirmation donations.
- Outreach was down 6.3% for this quarter but still up 11.6% overall for this fiscal year. Parishioners continue to give generously in many ways to this program. This quarter we were able to collect 15 boxes (totaling 1,605 lbs.) of food for LI Cares, and over 10 boxes of items for a Mother’s Day drive for Pronto.
- Youth Ministry was up 4.2% over last year. They brought in \$1,089 from their Spring Plant Sale.
- Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, and Mass Intentions were all up considerably over last year as we were unable to have any in-person services during these months last year. Some of these were in fact still “catch up” from the “Covid-19 Shutdown.” Overall, we brought in \$17,100 from all these items included for this quarter.
- Our rental income which is generated from the Verizon tower, brought in \$8,636 this quarter. This continues to be a beneficial source of income for the parish.
- Compared to the same time last year, overall income was up 3.8% this quarter. We thank you, our generous parishioners, for your ongoing support and dedication to our parish. Additionally, the PPP Loan that was issued to us in May of last year in the amount of \$68,390 was forgiven. The loan offered us a helping hand and a sense of reassurance in the midst of a very uncertain time.

Expenses:

- Salaries were up 8.7% this quarter. This is primarily because of the “shutdown” last year which omitted the extra priests’ salaries, extra expenses with weddings & funerals, and the increase of hours our employees worked this year over last. We are truly grateful for this increase, as it reflects a return to parish life and ministry as we know it.
- For obvious reasons, most all our parish programs were up this quarter over last year, 54.9% in total. Once again, this is a welcome reminder that we have almost fully returned to our intended parish ministry. Furthermore, Religious Ed. continued to carry out its good work as the year wound down, while Outreach was able to continue to assist those in need of a helping hand. This included the distribution of flowers for our homebound this Easter. We also resumed some evening spirituality with our Book Club and hosted two Pre-Cana weekends for our engaged couples.
- Building and office expenses were slightly higher this quarter over last year. One reason for this is simply that the building was not occupied during this time last year. Additionally, some utilities have gone up and upgrades to HCTV were made to offer an additional screen in the chapel and move the operator’s area there. Repairs to the alarm system were made, as well as repairs and painting to one of the offices, and there was also work in the courtyard to beautify the grounds this spring.

WHAT'S NEW?

Summer Cash Sizzle

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 "Summer Cash Sizzle." This is a similar idea, however it will be offered initially on a quarterly basis.

- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through June, July and August.
- Drawing will be held August 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!

Summer Cash Sizzle

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Summer Cash Sizzle

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Summer Cash Sizzle

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

Summer Cash Sizzle

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Phone _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday, July 3rd • HOLY HOUR	3:45 - 4:45 PM Worship Area
Sunday, July 4th • ANOINTING OF THE SICK	After 9:30 Mass Worship Area
Monday, July 5th • MASS <i>(The Parish Office is closed for the Independence Day holiday.)</i>	9 AM Worship Area
Tuesday, July 6th • IN STITCHES • FINANCE COMMITTEE	10 AM Fr. Joe Room 7PM Fr. Joe Room
Sunday, July 11th • BAPTISMS	1 PM Worship Area

Anointing of the Sick

In the past, people received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick only when they were gravely ill. However, the Church believes that the Anointing of the Sick should be experienced while we are still able to be aware of God's peaceful presence within us.

You are strongly encouraged to receive this Sacrament if you are having upcoming surgery, are dealing with a chronic or debilitating illness, are suffering from addiction, mental health issues or frailty.



On the first Sunday of each month, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered after the 9:30 AM Mass. **Sunday, July 4th, is the next date the Anointing will be offered.**

Special Collection

Next weekend we will also be collecting for our Renovations and Major Repairs fund. Thank you for your continued support!

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Spotlighting Religious Freedom on Independence Day - July 4th

www.cffor.org

"Freedom is not a gift bestowed upon us by other men, but a right that belongs to us by the laws of God and nature." Benjamin Franklin, Founding Father

The American Founders gathered in Philadelphia in 1776 to draft the Declaration of Independence, which dissolved the political ties that had bound the American people to Great Britain. A new nation was born, **free and independent.**

Religion played a major role in the American Revolution since freedom, and especially religious freedom, was encouraged by the "black-robed regiment" of preachers during the religious revival of the first Great Awakening and by offering a moral sanction for opposition to the British. These ministers supported the idea that civil and religious liberty was ordained by God.(1)

History tells us that the Pilgrims came to America aboard the *Mayflower* to escape religious persecution in 1620, followed by the Puritans in 1630 for the same reason. However, while these early settlers wanted religious freedom for themselves to practice their own faith, achieving religious freedom for all was an ideal that would take many years leading up to the Declaration of Independence in 1776.(2)

The 56 Signers of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, were men of remarkable courage since they knew they were committing treason against the British Crown and that, if caught, they risked torture and death. Ultimately, five were captured and brutally tortured as traitors, nine others died from wounds, many had their homes and property pillaged and burned, while others lost their fortunes in helping to fund the Continental Army.
(loc.org, truthinhistory.org(1) ; smithsonianmag.com(2); nationalhumanitiescenter.org; todayscatholic.org, 7/7/15; education views.org, 3/28/21; 1.cbn.com)

"The day when Americans could take the Founders understanding of Religious Freedom as a given is over."

"It seems there is a real danger to Religious Freedom now and in our country - mostly because people aren't serious about religion or religious freedom."
Archbishop Charles Chaput



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