

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.*



*But the **wisdom** that comes from heaven
is first of all **pure**, then **peace-loving**,
gentle, **friendly**, full of
compassion & good deeds,
impartial & sincere.*

James 3:17

Come and pray with us!

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 19, 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:

Ada Agugliaro	Celeste Babi
Jo Barry	Kathy Barry
Patricia Becker	Barbara Bombace
Ann Callari	Eleanor Daly
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	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 September 19th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Teresa & Nicholas Lamb
Hannah Cully Maikish
Tue. Phil Graziose
Wed. Nicholas Matonti
Thu. Jenna Pobjecky (living)



Saturday, September 25th, 5PM Mass

John Eannacone, Herbert Eannacone, Anthony Michael Arzillo, Eric Schwarz, Eugene Kerrigan

Sunday, Sept. 26th, 26th Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Teresa Aufiero, Janina Gren, Steven Cherry, Rudy Oswald, Kate Strockbine
11:30 AM Charles Tumminia

Scripture Readings for September 26, 2021



+ Numbers 11:25-29
+ James 5:1-6
+ Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A LETTER CAN MAKE

by Father Michael

I am sure there are many organizations, businesses, and avenues of life that have an array of terms that sound like a can of alphabet soup. The Church is no exception. If there are adults who want to be received into the Church, they will go through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) process. Someone who has been previously married will need to work with a priest or deacon to get a DF (Defect of Form) if they want to be married in the Church. When it comes to Religious Education, the one in charge of the program may be called a DRE. The D stands for director. Not everyone can use that title; there are specific credentials that are required. If the person does not have the proper degree, they are likely referred to as a Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE). In some instances, there is an Administrator of Religious Education (ARE).

I am very happy to report that our own Mrs. Tricia Clarke has gone from a C to a D. She recently completed her Masters in Theology. She began to pursue this degree before she ever worked in Religious Education. This is an area of ministry that she has long felt called to and wanted to do what was necessary to do the job well. I give Tricia tremendous credit. She finished her degree in the midst of a pandemic, while successfully coordinating our program even throughout the “shutdown.” And in her free time, she carried on the duties of wife and mom. She received her degree from St. Joseph’s College of Maine. We are very proud of her hard work. We are blessed to have her direct our program.

For as long as I can remember, the Long Island Catholic newspaper has been part of life in the Church in our diocese. I still have the pictures that were published for my ordination. For several years I used to write the reflection piece based on the Sunday readings. Sadly, the most recent issue will be its last. Fewer subscriptions, decline in interest in print media, and excessive cost factors led to the decision to cease publication. While other forms of media will continue to cover life within our Diocese, it will be something that will be missed.

Please regularly check the bulletin and parish website for new opportunities and programs that we are offering. A new bereavement ministry is underway. Michele Hahn has thirty parishioners registered for her “View from the Pew” series. And there are many new and creative offerings coming out of our Outreach Office. Be sure to tell a friend that good things are happening here at Holy Cross.

Check out our new website 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

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses, September 25th/26th



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

Altar Servers Needed!

Are you in fourth grade (or above) and interested in becoming an Altar Server?

Girls and boys interested in serving are invited to come to trainings and find out all that is involved in being an Altar Server. At the end of the three training sessions, you will be able to assist at Mass as an Altar Server. Training will be held from 4:30 to 5:30 PM on three consecutive Wednesday afternoons: October 20, 27 and November 3. **Please call the Parish Office to register.**



Meetings this Week

Saturday, September 18th 11AM & 1PM
 • LEVEL 8 RECONCILIATION Worship Area

Sunday, September 19th 11:30 AM Mass
 • CHILDREN'S LITURGY Fr. Joe Room
 • TEEN HEALTH NIGHT 7PM Worship Area

Monday, September 20th 1:30 PM
 • LEV. 2 CATECHIST TRNG. Atrium
 • LEV. 3/4 PARENT MTG. 7PM Worship Area

Tuesday, September 21st 10 AM
 • IN STITCHES Fr. Joe Room
 • VIEW FROM THE PEW 7PM Chapel
 • LEV. 2 CATECHIST TRNG. Atrium

Wednesday, September 22nd 11:30AM-2:30PM
 • SENIORS Atrium
 • CONFIRM. RECONCIL. 7PM Wor. Ar./Ch.

Thursday, September 23rd 1:30 - 3:30 PM
 • BEREAVEMENT Fr. Joe Room

Saturday, September 25th 8 AM
 • VEGETABLE GDN. CLEANUP Vegetable Gdn.

Sunday, September 26th After 9:30 Mass
 • BAPTISM GATHERING Fr. Joe Room
 • BAPTISMS 1 PM Worship Area
 • PARENT HEALTH NIGHT 7PM Worship Area

Banns of Marriage First Time

Amelia Balestrieri & Robert Bailey

RCIA

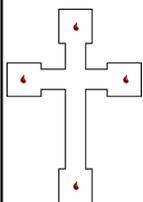
Are you seeking Baptism? Are you a baptized Catholic who never celebrated First Communion and Confirmation? Have you been baptized in another Christian faith and now desire to become Catholic?

If your answer is "YES" to any of these questions, we want to hear from you. The Church gives us a beautiful process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who seek to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This year's RCIA will be starting soon. If you're interested and would like additional information, please contact Jude Pickel at 631-265-2200 x116.



RCIA

PARISH NEWS



Exaltation of the Holy Cross

As part of our celebration of the *Exaltation of the Holy Cross* this weekend, a blessing will be offered for your own special cross.

Help Needed!

Our Community Vegetable Garden has once again provided Outreach and those we serve with a delicious bounty of vegetables. Our **Market Days** were an enormous success due to the hard work of our Gardeners. We are grateful to all those who worked tirelessly harvesting, weeding, and sharing with us an array of vegetables and herbs. Your hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated. Thank you for another successful year in our garden!!

For those interested, the Community Vegetable Garden and its gardeners still need your help. On Saturday, September 25th, at 8AM, we are looking for volunteers to help clean up and prepare the garden for the winter months. If you could spare an hour or two, it would be greatly appreciated. All are welcome. (The rain date is September 26th at 1PM). Any questions, please call Joellen at 631-235-2784.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word allows children in grades K-4 to hear God's Word in language they can understand and gives them the opportunity to ask and answer questions.

Beginning **September 19th**, we will be meeting in the Fr. Joe Room two or three Sundays per month during the 11:30 Mass. **Children are required to wear masks, and families should arrive early to sign up at the Fr. Joe Room. Limited to first 15 children to sign up.**

We are looking for additional adult leaders (18 years and older) and helpers (5th grade and above). Training and community service hours are available. Time commitment will be dependent on the number of leaders and helpers we have. If you are interested in joining this ministry or have any questions, please contact Karyn at **631-648-3594**.



Special Collection

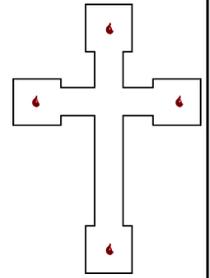
This weekend will be the collection for the **St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility**. The retired priests residing at the facility have given their lives to the Church, and your donation ensures that they can receive the accommodation, special care and support they need in their retirement.

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

LITURGY BYTES

Triumph of the Cross

September 14th is the feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Triumph of the Cross or the Elevation of the Cross. This is the day that the Church celebrates both the discovery and the recovery of the true Cross of Jesus Christ. It is also our parish's feast day. Even though this year the feast occurred last Tuesday, this weekend we celebrate it as a parish enriched by the Cross!

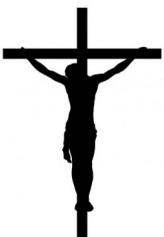


There is an interesting history surrounding this ancient feast day beginning with the Roman emperor, Constantine's mother, St. Helena. She was a convert to Christianity and went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to locate where the important events in the life of Christ occurred, and to preserve the relics of the Christian faith that remained there. It is written that one of her goals was to find the place of Jesus' crucifixion and the very Cross on which he was hung. She interviewed many local people, and with the assistance of the Bishop of Jerusalem, she discovered the spot and found the true Cross which had been hidden by the Jews. According to the historian, Rufinus, the identity of the true Cross was confirmed by a miraculous healing. According to my research, the date of the discovery and the miracle occurred on May 3rd, 326 A.D. St. Helena had a church built on the original site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Her son, Constantine, dedicated this church on September 13/14 in the year 335 A.D. Even today, the Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem end at this very spot.

The true Cross was considered a most valuable treasure of the Church and became a highly venerated object, and the feast honoring the exaltation of the Holy Cross has continually been celebrated. On the old Roman calendar, it was celebrated on May 3rd (the date of its discovery) and on September 14th in Jerusalem and eventually by everyone. The date of September 14th became the official day to acknowledge this special feast day. Interestingly, in its history, the true Cross was stolen by the Persians in 614 A.D. but was recovered by 629 A.D. and brought back to Jerusalem on September 14th.

One long tradition that the Church has regarding the Cross is veneration which is most popular on Good Friday. This is common for both Catholic Christians and Eastern Orthodox Christians who have large crosses in prominent places within their churches. Many people of these traditions keep crosses and crucifixes in their homes on the wall. In fact, a cross or a crucifix put in a place of honor is a sure mark of a Christian home. In addition, both women and men wear crosses around their necks as another sign of their beliefs.

Why not consider giving a cross as a gift to family or friends this year for Christmas?



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

Happy Feast Day Parish of the Holy Cross!

A VIEW FROM THE PEW



LITURGY IS WOVEN THROUGH OUR LIVES. IT BRINGS THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY TOGETHER BEFORE THE LORD.

JOIN US FOR A SHORT SERIES ON 3 TUESDAYS:

**SEPTEMBER 21, 28 AND OCTOBER 5
AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL**

TO HELP WITH HANDOUTS, ETC., PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE BY COMPLETING THE FORM BELOW OR EMAILING: MHAHN@HOLYCROSSRC.ORG

ALL OUR LITURGICAL MINISTERS (EMS, LECTORS & USHERS) ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

PLEASE RETURN TO THE PARISH OFFICE

I will be attending the Liturgy Series on September 21, 28 & October 5.

Name _____ **Phone#** _____

Email _____



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE



Religious Education classes will begin the week of October 18th. Please check our parish website — holycrossrc.org — and our bulletin for upcoming September parent meetings. You will be able to pick up your child's books and folders at your meeting. If you have not registered, please do so **asap**. **Children must be registered in order to receive their materials.** We look forward to a wonderful year with you!!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?

If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, then you **MUST** check out the **Holy Cross Youth Group!** You will be glad you did! The Holy Cross Youth Group is the perfect opportunity for you to continue to grow in your faith and build relationships with others in the parish. Join us for our **Fall Kickoff** event!



Sunday, October 17: The Youth Group will be having a fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this September are invited to attend. Hope to see you there!

PARISH OUTREACH

Cooking out of the Pantry

See Flyer on Next Page

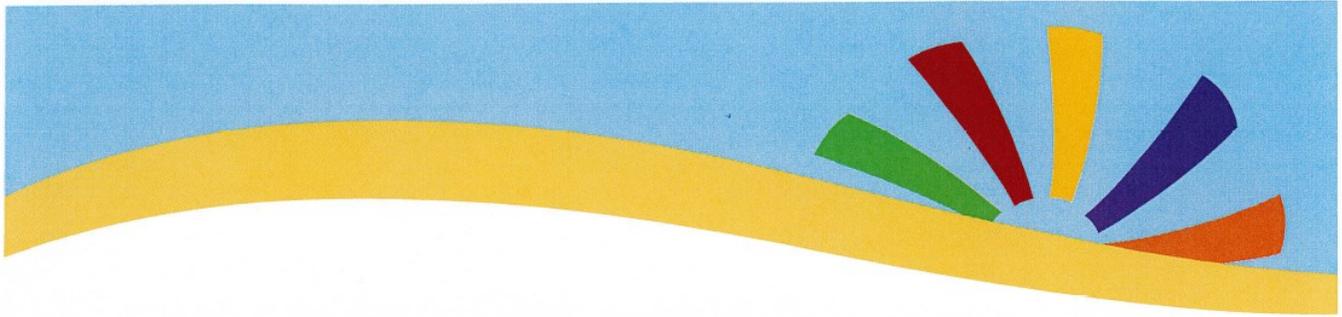
“Cooking out of the Pantry” needs many hands to make the night a success. Please consider sharing some of your time to volunteer before, during and after the event. Any time would be appreciated.

Volunteers are needed for the following:

- Setup - help setting the table for dinner service
- Cleanup - clearing table, disposing of garbage, and sanitizing tables
- Servers - helping to serve food and drinks throughout the night
- Shoppers - shopping for ingredients, drinks, and paper products

Contact Kelley at Outreach at 631-265-2200 Ext. 113 to find out more information and/or sign up. This is a great opportunity for service hours.

PARISH OUTREACH



Cooking out of the Pantry with Jackie Vecchiarelli

Our Outreach Pantry is filled with shelf stable, healthy foods that we share with those we serve.

Join us as we explore new and exciting ways to create new dishes using ingredients from our Pantry.

Jackie is a Registered Dietician who will lead us in an inventive and interactive cooking demonstration.

Dinner will be served after.

*Please be sure to list any food allergies

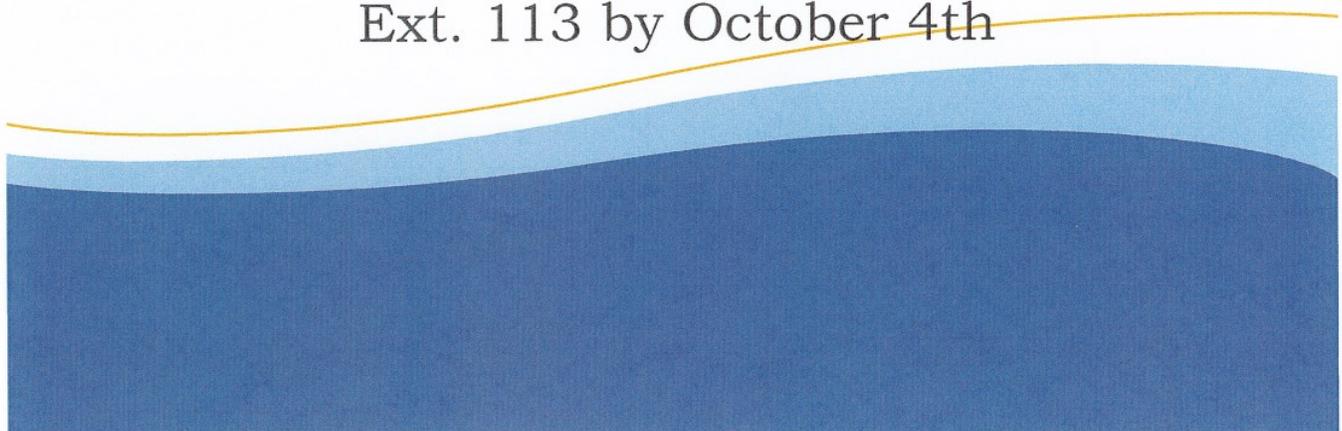
Please join us Sunday, October 10, 2021

at 3:00 PM

in the Atrium

RSVP to Kelley at Outreach 631-265-2200

Ext. 113 by October 4th



PARISH OUTREACH

Dress a Girl Around the World

This unique organization donates dresses to young, vulnerable girls suffering from extreme poverty around the world. By providing a new dress, you may be changing a young girl's destiny and how she and the world see her. It tells them they are loved by someone and reminds them they are loved by God.

How Can You Help? Two Ways!

We are looking for volunteers who will cut the fabric using the patterns provided. You can do this in the comfort of your own home or with a group. Fabric will be provided.

Are you able to sew and want to share your gift for this project? Outreach is looking for volunteers who are interested in creating these dresses by sewing them in their own homes, using pre-cut fabric.

If you are interested, please call Outreach at 631-265-2200 ext. 113 for further details.



Thank you!



PARISH OUTREACH

*Are you feeling stressed out or anxious?
Are you experiencing depression or constantly overthinking?
Is returning to school causing you concern?*

You are not alone.

You are invited to join us for a



Teen Mental Health Awareness Night

Featuring Tony Bellizzi and Cindy Garcia

Tony Bellizzi is a spiritual animator directing annually over 500 retreat, workshop, youth ministry, and prison ministry events. He is also an activist, founder, and director of the Hope for the Children Foundation.

Cindy Garcia is a licensed therapist who has worked with Tony in helping teens and young adults.

**Where: Parish of the Holy Cross
95 Nichols Road
Nesconset, NY 11767**

When: Sunday, September 19, 2021

Time: 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Join us for a mental health “checkup” with Tony and Cindy as we explore these feelings and learn strategies to cope and move forward. This is a safe place to listen, share and get a mental health “check-up.” Refreshments will be served.

Teens Only Please

For more information, please call the Outreach Office at **631-265-2200 ext. 113.**

PARISH OUTREACH

As we transition into a new school year and navigate our way through the never-ending changes of life, we are reminded that you cannot pour from an empty cup.

Let us help you “**fill up your cup**” with a

Parent Mental Health Check Up and Check In



with **Special Guest Speakers**

Tony Bellizzi, Youth Minister, Inspirational Speaker and Activist &
Cindy Garcia, New York State Licensed Therapist

Join Tony and Cindy as they share strategies to cope, feel empowered and move forward. This is a safe place to share and listen. All are welcome.

**Where: Parish of the Holy Cross
95 Nichols Road
Nesconset, NY 11767**

When: Sunday, September 26, 2021

Time: 7:00pm to 8:30pm

For reservations, please call Parish Outreach at **631-265-2200 ext. 113.**

PARISH OUTREACH

10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S

An education program presented by the Alzheimer's Association®



Alzheimer's and other dementias cause changes in memory, thinking and behavior that interfere with daily life. Join us to learn about 10 common warning signs and what to watch for in yourself and others.

The one-hour program covers:

- » Typical age-related changes.
- » Common warning signs of Alzheimer's.
- » How to approach someone about memory concerns.
- » Early detection, the benefits of a diagnosis and the diagnostic process.
- » Alzheimer's Association resources.

September 22 | 2 p.m. | Via Zoom

To register call the 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900 or Kelley Mowat at 631-265-2200 Ext. 113

In partnership with The Parish of Holy Cross, Nesconset

Visit [alz.org/CRF](https://www.alz.org/CRF) to register online and explore additional education programs in your area.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF LONG ISLAND OPEN HOUSES

You are invited to explore the benefits of a
Catholic High School Education

Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below.

SEPTEMBER 2021

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL
SUNDAY, SEPT. 26 2 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2021

SATURDAY, OCT. 2 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. KELLENBERG MEMORIAL H.S.
10 A.M. - 2 P.M. CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL
GROUP TOURS - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
11 A.M. - 2 P.M. SACRED HEART ACADEMY
SUNDAY, OCT. 3 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY
1 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL
SATURDAY, OCT. 16 11 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. HOLY TRINITY DIOC. H.S.
SUNDAY, OCT. 17 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DIOC. H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL FAIRS

MONDAY, SEPT. 20 5 P.M. - 7 P.M. ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
TUESDAY, SEPT. 21 5 P.M. - 7 P.M. MOLLOY COLLEGE
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. VISIT WWW.CHSEE.ORG TO REGISTER.

TEST FOR ADMISSION TO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS ONLINE FOR 2021-2022



NOVEMBER 6, 2021
REGISTER TODAY
WWW.TACHSINFO.COM
REGISTRATION DEADLINE
OCT. 24, 2021

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 _____
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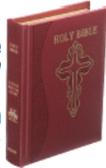
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