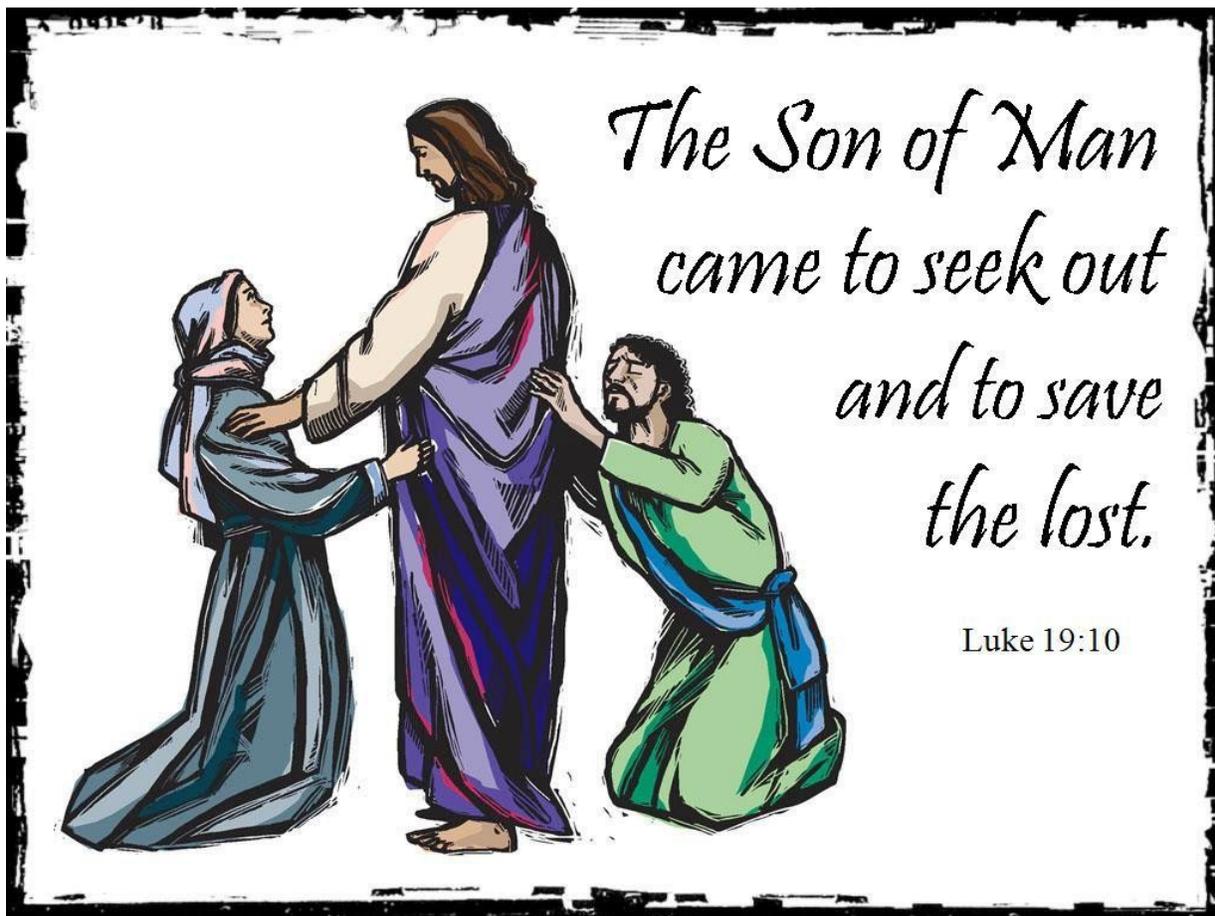


The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +

www.pothc.org + www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset

LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



Come and pray with us!

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 3, 2019

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.*

WE CELEBRATE EUCHARIST

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 A.M. (Chapel)

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: 8:00 A.M. + 9:30 A.M. + 11:30 A.M.

WE CELEBRATE BAPTISM

Baptisms are generally celebrated twice each month at 1 P.M. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

WE CELEBRATE RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M.

or call Father Michael for an appointment.

WE CELEBRATE WEDDINGS

Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

We are here for you!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + pothc@optonline.net
 Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (closed 12:15-1:00 PM)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
 Pastor

Deacon Ralph Rivera
 Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Judith Pickel
 Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Michele Hahn
 Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Tricia Clarke
 Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch
 Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano
 Business Manager

Mr. Brian Reich
 Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein
 Youth Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
 Parish Secretary

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
 Music Minister

Mrs. Mary Pannone
 Religious Education Secretary
 (hcreled@optonline.net)

Mrs. Barbara Shipman
 P/T Asst. to the Pastor

Mr. Roberto Maza
 Mr. Vincent Matula
 Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
 Weekend Sacristan

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses



November 9th/10th

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

Remembering Our Sick

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

Vincent Gallo	Phil Graziuse
Peggy Grieco	Doreen Hau
Jeanne Marie Malley	Santamaria family
Marlene Starr	Richard Zak

Scripture Readings for November 10, 2019



+ 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14
 + 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5
 + Luke 20:27-38

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of November 3rd, 9AM Mass

Mon. Frank Mancuso
Tue. Tom Rahilly
Wed. Catherine Holzmann
Thu. Henri-Robert Lamarque

Saturday, November 9th, 5 PM Mass

Josephine Kouril, Patricia Maloney, Nicholas DeSantis, Marion Tizzano, Jennifer Connell

Sunday, Nov. 10th, 32nd Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto
9:30 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM John Schultz, Juan Diaz, Dom Costagliola, Vito Bianco, Maryann Lohan, Vincent DeStefano

Go Climb a Tree

by Father Michael

No, I am not trying to be flippant or dismissive with the title of this article. Rather, I am trying to connect with the desire and enthusiasm of Zacchaeus that we hear about in this week's gospel. He had to know that his actions would draw criticism and attention from those who knew him. He was drawn to Jesus, and on some level knew there needed to be a change in his life. Former ways of behavior were no longer serving him well. I don't know how many of us will be prompted to climb a tree, but there may be moments in our life when we discern that God is calling us to more. We may need to move beyond our comfort zone in order for us to experience God's grace in a deeper way. May all of us live our lives with an openness to all that God reveals to us.

Last week my schedule brought me to Rockville Centre for three distinct gatherings. I am part of the Presbyteral Council that meets several times a year. This is a group of priests that serves as a sounding board for the Bishop regarding different aspects of parish and diocesan life. I am happy to serve in this capacity. Beyond that business meeting, there were two prayer services that affirmed the ministerial efforts of some of our parishioners. Tuesday evening were the Catechetical Awards which celebrates milestone anniversaries for those involved with faith formation within the parish. (Last week's bulletin had the names and pictures of the recipients.) Last Sunday brought me back to share in the St. Agnes Award ceremony. Each parish recognizes the committed service to ministry of an individual or married couple. This year Annmarie Zimmermann received the award. I am grateful to all those who serve Holy Cross in very selfless ways.

This weekend would have been when our Youth Ministry went on their fall retreat. Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled for a very unusual reason. The retreat house they normally use could not be used as a mold condition was detected. There are not many retreat houses that still operate on Long Island, so it was impossible to find an alternate location. It is being addressed, and hopefully they will be back on schedule for their spring retreat. I am grateful to the Core Group for their creativity in being able to continue the program even in the absence of a retreat weekend.

This week I also attended the annual Town of Smithtown Supervisor's Prayer Breakfast. It is a social gathering of local business leaders along with clergy from many congregations. It is a worthwhile community gathering that helps to remind all that we are called to be grounded in God's presence in all we do.

I hope you enjoyed your extra hour of sleep this weekend as we adjusted our clocks. However, this change emphasizes the dwindling hours of sunlight as we move toward the winter equinox. Keep your spirits up in spite of increased darkness, and enjoy these days of autumn. And, if inspired to do so, go climb a tree.

PARISH NEWS



Pray for Our Military

PFC Anna Brady
Cpl. Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC
SA Anthony J. DeNicola
FC2 Lane Dyar
SSG Daniel Frost
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA
WO Christopher Kaminsky
Sgt. Michael J. Knipper, USMC
SSGT Ryan Mauldin
Lt. Ryan Montvydas
IT1 Jason Mulderig
LCpl. 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 2019. Please let us know at any time during 2019 if their service is finished, their title has changed, or you would like continued prayers through 2020.

May God bless all who serve our nation.
Pray for Peace!



*Holy Cross
welcomes
these children
Baptized in October*

**Cole James Albers
Kyle Dylan Albers
Eliana Rose Barbuto
Liliana Marie Coffey
Isabella Angel Garced
Nicolai Michael Georgatos
Greyson Lyle Keane
Liana Grace Koch
Nicholas Joseph Leocata
Jayce Anthony Maniaci-Buttigieg
Connor James Militello
Ryan Patrick Scala
Millie McKenna Scimone
Dakota-Mae Simmons
Kora Lynn Tartaglione
Penelope Joy Vallone**



Banns of Marriage Second Time

Jacqueline Kwartka &
Thomas Drapala



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

**Dolores Holzapfel
Nina M. Makowicz
Ercole Ricciardi**

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

Anointing of the Sick

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.

The Sacrament will be offered after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, November 3rd.

PARISH OUTREACH

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

“When we are generous in welcoming people and sharing something with them—some food, a place in our homes, our time—not only do we no longer remain poor: we are enriched...” *Pope Francis*

We invite you and your families to consider participating in helping a family this Thanksgiving season.

We will again be supplying Thanksgiving dinners to people from our community who are in need of assistance. Last year we were able to provide 58 families with a complete Thanksgiving meal. Once again, we look to our parish community for volunteers to help make this possible.

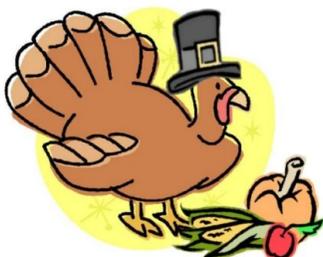
Each volunteer will be responsible for buying and packaging the food for a basket. They will be given the suggested menu and shopping list with supermarket gift cards to cover the cost.

The completed baskets will be brought to the parish center on Monday, November 25th, between 7:00 a.m. and 11:30 am.

We hope this program will offer those in our parish the opportunity to share with our struggling neighbors, making Thanksgiving a time of joy and blessings. Over the years we have seen many parish families embrace this project with creativity and enthusiasm. Our Outreach folks are always touched by the caring of the community of Holy Cross.

Anyone interested in participating can sign up in the Atrium after the Masses next weekend, November 9th and 10th.

Donations of money or supermarket gift cards will also be greatly appreciated and very necessary to help defray the expenses of this program. Envelopes marked “**Thanksgiving**” can be dropped in the collection basket or brought to the Outreach office.



We are grateful for anything you can do to help make this a day of “**Giving Thanks**” for everyone in our community.

ST. AGNES MEDAL OF SERVICE

On Sunday, October 27, 2019 at St. Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre, the St. Agnes Medal of Service Award was presented to lay people who generously give of themselves as volunteers in the parishes of our diocese.

Holy Cross was proud to nominate Annmarie Zimmermann as this year's recipient of the St. Agnes Award.

Annmarie is a long time parishioner of Holy Cross and has been an active participant in the faith life and service life of the parish. She has served as a Lector and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and has served on the Baptism, Liturgy, Stewardship, Pastoral Council and Vacation Bible School Committees. Annmarie is also quick to respond and come up to the office whenever help is needed!



We are blessed to have Annmarie as a member of our parish. Her faith and call to live her Baptism is evident in her commitment to our parish and the selfless way she gives of her time and talent.

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS!

We know it seems early, but we are starting to plan for the Christmas schedule.

Would you like to serve at a Christmas Mass? Please circle your choices and drop in the collection basket or return to the Parish Office by **November 17th**.



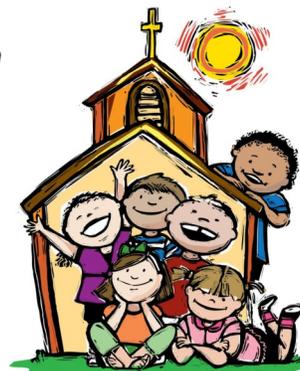
Name: _____

I am an: Altar Server Eucharistic Minister Usher Lector

I would like to serve at Mass: Christmas Eve 4PM 6PM 10PM
 Christmas Day 8AM 10AM 12Noon

LITURGY BYTES

by Michele Hahn



As a parent and grandparent, I like to look back on those memorable days of bringing children to Mass. So many of our young parents hold back from attending Mass with their younger children and feel they do not want to disturb the other parishioners. Keep in mind that some young children attending Mass with their families find it a good experience. However, for others, the experience can be frightening or challenging, especially if going to Church becomes associated with frequent reminders to keep quiet and sit still----accompanied by stern glances!!! (Not here at Holy Cross for sure!)

Please hear me loud and clear. We all want our children to enjoy Church as much as they do all their activities. Since each child is different, you, as Parent, are the best person to decide what will work for you and your child when it comes to Mass!

Below are some tips I have gathered (and learned from) that might be helpful in going to Church with young children:

- ♥ Always provide a cheerful atmosphere at home prior to attending Mass. Try not to rush or become irritated as you get ready. Our attitude during preparation sends a powerful message concerning how we feel about attending Mass.
- ♥ Before (if you arrive early) or even after Mass, walk around the Church with your child, pointing out certain things like candles, the crucifix and the altar. Be sure to always take your child to the Baptismal font, let them feel the water and then bless themselves.
- ♥ If possible when you arrive at your seat, keep your child on your lap or next to you. If time allows, whisper this little prayer in their ears: "Hello God, we are happy to be here with you in Church." Then explain that the Church is a special place where people come to spend time with God, and that when we are in Church, we try to be quiet, so we whisper and don't talk out loud.
- ♥ Pack a small bag with a few "church" toys. Quiet toys such as books or a

LITURGY BYTES continued

stuffed animal are good choices. During quiet moments of the Mass, it is best to take out these “quiet” toys.

- ♥ It is also good to direct your child’s attention to various colors in the Church, to the sounds and to movements during Mass. Smile at your child frequently during Mass, too. When you say the simple responses such as Amen or Alleluia, etc. gently put your toddler’s hands together to begin to show them how to pray.
- ♥ No matter what choice you make about taking your child to Mass, celebrate Sunday as a special day in your home. Help your child from early on to understand that this is an important day. Spend time together, visit loved ones, do something together-----these traditions will send the message that God’s love and presence are celebrated on Sunday.
- ♥ Teaching children about Mass begins early. The old proverb “actions speak louder than words” is true. Not only does this mean modeling good habits about participating at Sunday Mass, but it is just as important that parents understand that there is a link between Mass and the family table. Even though meals shared with young children are often not tidy occasions, the regular sharing of prayer, food and conversation at the family table provides a ritual building block for your child’s future understanding and preparation for First Communion.
- ♥ Continue to establish daily routines and rituals that provide security, stability, love, acceptance and belonging. These are important elements in teaching Christian and human values and will enhance your child’s emerging self-image. A good sense of self-worth is necessary for relating well with others and developing an ongoing relationship with God.
- ♥ PAT YOURSELF ON THE BACK.... you are continually discovering that being a parent requires a great deal of time and patience. Stop each day and think about the value of your vocation as a Parent. Here’s a wonderful Parent’s Prayer to keep handy:

Lord, I raise my family from my heart to yours.
Please guide us, watch over us and bless us.
Help us to recognize your presence in our home,
and find contentment and joy in our daily routine. Amen.

PRE-ORDER YOUR DECORATED WREATHS & LOG CENTERPIECES

This year the Fundraising Committee will be selling pre-decorated wreaths and "new this year" log centerpieces.

The outside diameter of the wreath will measure between 18-21 inches and will be double-sided.



The log centerpieces are perfect for your holiday table and are also decorated with greens, a 10 inch candle and ornaments.

Wreaths will be priced at \$25 each. Log centerpieces will be priced at \$25 each.

Pre-orders and payment must be received by November 17th. Pick-up is Saturday, December 7th, from 9am to 12noon.

Please drop forms and payment at the Cash Calendar table after or before Mass. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting our fundraiser!

Please fill out the form below and enclose your payment (cash or check). Checks can be made out to Parish of the Holy Cross.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

	<u>Amount</u>		<u>Price</u>		<u>Total</u>
Wreath	_____	x	\$25	=	\$ _____
Centerpiece	_____	x	\$25	=	\$ _____

\$ _____ TOTAL



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.

Here are some upcoming events!

- **November 9/10: Veterans' Day Weekend—No Youth Group meeting**
- **Sunday, November 17: Youth Night from 6 to 8 PM in the atrium!**
- **Sunday, November 24: Youth Group Thanksgiving Feast from 6 to 8 PM! (Alumni invited)**

So, if you are thinking about coming to the church to see what we are all about, do it! You will not regret it. Come with a friend or family member, and join us as we continue to grow in the endless love of Christ.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you are thinking about joining us and you would like more information, then please do not hesitate to contact Allie Roecklein, Coordinator of Youth Ministries, at hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com or call the parish office. Thank you!

ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES

Every three years, the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) requests financial help to provide pastoral care for over 1.5 million Catholics on ships, in combat, on bases and in 153 VA hospitals.



The AMS receives no funding from the U.S. Government or U.S. Military in support of their effort to provide this care. If you would like to assist them, there is more information including envelopes on the bulletin table in the atrium.

Thank you for your consideration to this important cause!

**20
19** **CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL**
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Supporting *Dramatic Missionary Growth* in Our Community



Witnessing Forgiving Loving Helping Teaching Igniting Evangelizing
Teaching Igniting Evangelizing Forgiving Loving Helping Witnessing

The Catholic Ministries Appeal supports our efforts to:



LIVE AND SHARE OUR FAITH by providing support for religious education programs for public school children, faith formation for those receiving the Sacraments, and vocations for the formation of our Priests, Deacons and Lay Leaders.

CARE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE through support for the great works of our Parish Outreach programs and Catholic Charities. The Appeal also supports other programs that help us care for God's people, including: our hospital and prison ministries, Respect Life initiatives, and our Mission in the Dominican Republic.



BUILD GOD'S KINGDOM by supporting programs that reach out to Catholics of all races and backgrounds, celebrate special needs Masses for children and adults, and support vibrant college campus ministry and dynamic youth ministry programs.

Please make a gift - if you have not already done so - to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Thank You! www.CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org

Make checks payable to:
Catholic Ministries Appeal

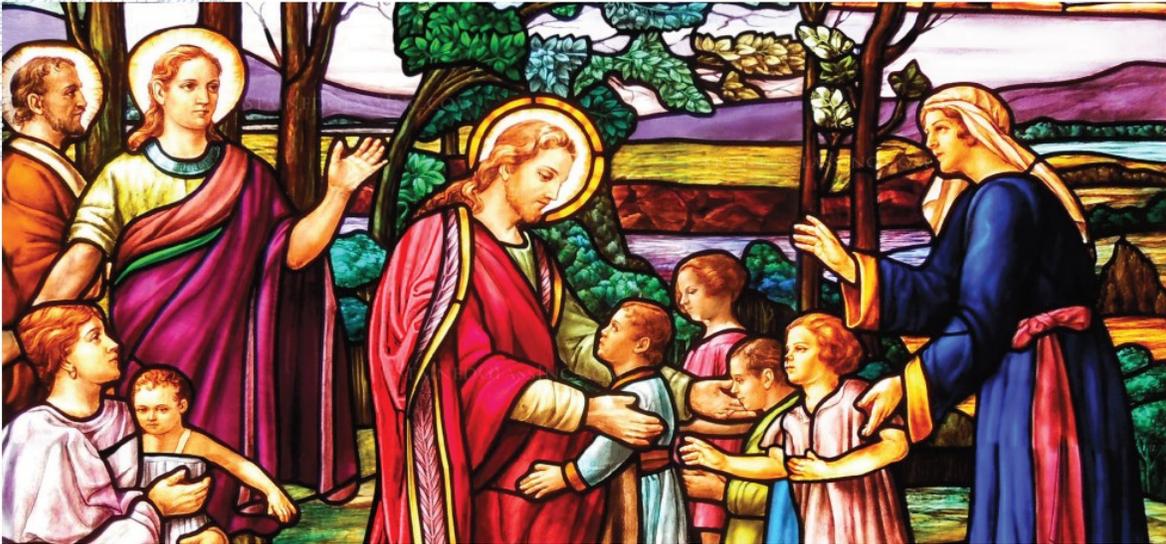
Parish Parish of the Holy Cross-176 Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____



31st Annual Mass For Deceased Children

*Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to these.
Matthew 19:14*

All are welcome

**Saturday, November 16, 2019
12:30 p.m.**

PRESIDER MSGR. WILLIAM KOENIG
St. Agnes Cathedral
29 Quealy Place, Rockville Centre, New York

Come early to inscribe your child's name in the
"Book of Families"
No Registration is required.

For more information contact
Lucy Creed, Associate Director
516-678-5800 x236 | lcreed@drvc.org

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complete list of our current job opportunities

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Worldwide Religious Freedom Abuses

www.cffor.org

The persecution of Christians around the world has increased in 2019 with concern for believers in China, India, and Nigeria. Watchdog group, Release International, reports 215 million believers face violence and discrimination for their faith.

China: One underground church leader wrote in 2018: "Things are getting tighter here ... Brothers & sisters are facing difficulties and suffering for their faith. My sister (& family) were put in jail for gathering with about 30 people ... They were beaten and shocked by the electric sticks ..."

India: Hate crimes and targeted violence rose 57% during the first two months of January. The Religious Liberty Commission pointed to violent radical mobs that have stormed prayer meetings, ransacked churches, and beaten believers. Recently, Indian authorities jailed church leaders and their families after hardline Hindus disrupted a worship service, beat individuals, and live-streamed the events on Facebook.

Radical Hindu nationalists use social boycotts to pressure Christians into converting to Hinduism. Christian families are cut off from electricity, water, the ability to cultivate agricultural fields, and even the ability to socialize with Hindu villagers.

Nigeria: Militants such as Boko Haram continue devastating attacks against Christians in the north and central Nigeria. In a six month period, 6,000 people were killed and 50,000 were driven from their homes. Release International said there is a "deliberate plan to destroy and take over the predominately Christian communities in the region." The Christian Association of Nigeria said what is happening is "pure genocide and must be stopped immediately."

(christianpost.com/persecution; bbc.com/china; persecution.org, 9/7/19, 4/30/19; breitbart.com, 3/20/19)

"All religious minorities must be protected, and the evidence demonstrates that in some countries, Christians face the greatest risk." U.K. Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt

CASH CALENDAR



Parish of the Holy Cross November 2019



Sun	Mon			Thu	Fri	Sat
\$10 PER CHANCE	30 CHANCES TO WIN	\$50 PER DAY	\$500 on NOVEMBER 11	VETERANS DAY	1 \$50	2 \$50
3 \$50	4 \$50	5 \$50	6 \$50	7 \$50	8 \$50	9 \$50
10 \$50	11 \$500	12 \$50	13 \$50	14 \$50	15 \$50	16 \$50
17 \$50	18 \$50	19 \$50	20 \$50	21 \$50	22 \$50	23 \$50
24 \$50	25 \$50	26 \$50	27 \$50	28 \$50	29 \$50	30 \$50

Cash Calendar, NOVEMBER, 2019

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TOWN _____
 PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, NOVEMBER, 2019

NAME _____
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Cash Calendar, NOVEMBER, 2019

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Cash Calendar, NOVEMBER, 2019

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