

# 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!**

**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.*



**“TRULY  
THIS MAN  
WAS THE  
SON OF  
GOD!”**

**Mark 15:39**

**Come and pray with us!**

**Palm Sunday - March 28, 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**

During Lent: Saturdays 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesdays after 9:00 AM Mass

# WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + parish@holycrossrc.org

## PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann  
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Ralph Rivera  
Pastoral Minister, ext.119

Mrs. Judith Pickel  
Pastoral Associate, ext.116

Mrs. Michele Hahn  
Pastoral Associate, ext.120

Mrs. Tricia Clarke, ext.112  
Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Kelley Mowat, ext.113  
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano  
Business Manager, ext.110

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

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**  
**Ann Callari**  
**Ann Egan**  
**Sienna Fricke**  
**Phil Graziose**  
**Debbie Jablinowski**  
**Charlotte Lynch**  
**Olivia Melia**  
**Barbara Sherry**  
**David Velkas**  
**Judy Viskupic**

**Claire Becker**  
**Barbara Bombace**  
**Manuela Diaz**  
**Jim Emerson**  
**Jeanne Gallo**  
**Bob Grieco**  
**Gerald Losquadro**  
**Nick Matonti**  
**Joseph Santamaria**  
**Marlene Starr**  
**Doreen Velkas**  
**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 March 28th, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Dennis & Janet Cannizzaro

**Tue.** Damien Pickel

**Wed.** Bob DeFilippis

*(No morning Mass on Thursday)*

### Holy Thursday, April 1st, 8PM Mass

People of the Parish

### Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3rd, 8PM Mass

All Easter Prayer Card Intentions

### Easter Sunday - April 4, Masses at 8, 9:30, 11:30AM

All Easter Prayer Card Intentions



## Celebrants for Easter Masses

### April 3rd/4th



8:00 PM Fr. Michael

8:00 AM Fr. Michael

9:30 AM Fr. Michael

11:30 AM Fr. Michael

# JESUS GAVE A LOUD CRY AND BREATHED HIS LAST

*by Father Michael*

This verse from Mark's gospel is what we hear this weekend during the traditional reading of the Passion story. This is the moment when Jesus gives his life away. During these days of Lent we have offered the theme of "I Give My Life Away" as a source of reflection. We readily recognize the faith Jesus had as he faced his cross. He had trusted deeply that the Father had led him to this place. While we need to affirm the holy path that Jesus walked, we cannot make his story far removed from our own. This year, perhaps more than ever before, many people have shared in that same path of holiness. Facing our own physical death will be our own final moment in this journey of life. But these months have taught us that we can surrender our lives in many different ways before we breathe our last.

Once again, I invite you to recognize the many ways in which we were given witness during these months of countless people who gave their lives away. Health care workers, educators, parents, essential workers are some of those we identify as having lived heroically. It is good and important to affirm that inner determination in the lives of others. But it is also important to understand that same spirit at work in our own lives. We may be reluctant to acknowledge the good we have done. We may want to dismiss it as simply doing our job. But woven deeply into our Covid experience is a deep union with Jesus on his cross. We need to humbly embrace it.

One final thought related to this... There were many people for whom the pandemic meant remaining isolated and staying at home. They were not necessarily considered as being on the "front line." However, they were very much in the midst of this crisis as everyone else was. Their turmoil with the crisis may not have been as public as some, it was more silent and internal. But, in a very real way, they too had to let go, surrender, and trust in the midst of solitude. ALL of us have been in a position to realize we give our lives away, and in doing so, we draw closer to the Lord.

If you recall, last Palm Sunday was absurd. Public Masses were canceled. We were prohibited from distributing Palm. At that point, I had barricaded myself in my house. Palm Sunday Mass was live streamed from my dining room. Holy Week followed in a similar fashion with our holiest days being watched via Facebook or on CFN from Rockville Centre. Happily, this year we are in far better shape and are able to celebrate our feast days in person. (They will also be live streamed for those who are still not able to join us in person.)

I am delighted that we can be together in person in our Worship Area. But I am concerned that we will not be able to accommodate everyone today or on Easter. Many parishes have the option of "overflow Masses" in a parish hall or auditorium. Needless to say, that is not an option for us. Have a blessed and holy week.



## *Scripture Readings for Easter, April 4, 2021*

+ Acts 10:34, 37-43

+ Colossians 3:1-4

+ John 20:1-9

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)

*Saturday, March 27: 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM*

*Monday, March 29: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM &  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM*

*Wednesday, March 31: After Morning Mass*

*Good Friday, April 2: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM*

*Holy Saturday, April 3: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM*



## PALM SUNDAY      MARCH 28, 2021

*Saturday 3/27/21: 5:00 PM Mass*

*Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)*

← please note  
Mass times

## HOLY THURSDAY      APRIL 1, 2021

*Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8:00 PM (LS)*

## GOOD FRIDAY      APRIL 2, 2021

*Children's Service - 12:00 Noon (LS)*

*Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 3:00 PM (LS)*

## HOLY SATURDAY      APRIL 3, 2021

*Solemn Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM (LS)*

NO AFTERNOON CONFESSIONS OR 5:00 PM MASS  
ON HOLY SATURDAY



## EASTER SUNDAY      APRIL 4, 2021

*Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (LS)*

← please note  
Mass times

**(LS) = Live Streamed**

# MORE HOLY WEEK NEWS

## Holy Week for Children



During the holiest week of the Church year, we remember what Jesus did for us on Good Friday. Children and their families are invited to commemorate this important day at a special prayer service, designed especially for our youngest parishioners.

Please join us at Holy Cross for our:  
**Children's Good Friday Prayer Service, April 2nd, 12:00 Noon**

*Come, bring your family, bring a friend.  
Let this holy day deepen your appreciation of God's great love for us!*

## Easter Mass Intentions

*In lieu of individual announced intentions at the Easter Masses, there are prayer cards in the atrium on which to write your special intentions. These cards will be placed on the Altar at all the Easter Masses.*



## Holy Land Collection

**On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land.** Each day, the news reminds us of the violence and instability plaguing the Middle East, but we rarely hear of the shrinking Christian community there, a community that struggles to remain in the land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. This Pontifical Collection allows the Franciscans and others to continue caring for Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people in the Holy Land. Thank you for supporting this important collection!

## Reminder on Fasting

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and **Good Friday**. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day.

*The Parish Office is closed on Good Friday, April 2nd.*

# LITURGY BYTES



## Holy Week

### The Triduum

The word triduum means three, and it also is another liturgical season! Officially, Lent ends Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. We then begin the holiest of times for the Church: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Last year, because of the pandemic, we did not have the opportunity to celebrate these sacred times in person. It seemed to me that these days came and went. However, I am happy to say, “Not this year!” With some of the usual rituals being omitted (for safety reasons), most of what we celebrate will allow us to experience the true Paschal mystery.

On Holy Thursday we will celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s Supper when our senses are attuned to the procession and presentation of the Sacred Oils, newly blessed by our Bishop, singing the Gloria that we have not heard for six weeks, incense and the procession with the Blessed Sacrament which concludes the liturgy. This night we celebrate the priesthood and the institution of the Eucharist. You might realize that I did not mention the washing of the feet which is a normal part of this liturgy, reminding us of the example that Jesus gave us and how each of us is called to “wash feet” by serving others. During this past year, we have all seen this beautiful example lived out by many in a variety of ways. Even though we are not able to include this ritual this year, we need only recall the beautiful ways of service shown to us and how each of us is called to keep this way of life as a natural part of our lives.

Moving onto Good Friday, which shows us a totally different visual as we enter the stark, subdued environment of the church building, the liturgy picks up from yesterday and begins in silence. There is a lengthy prayer of intercessions and silent prayer. The emphasis is on the cross, and those in attendance have the opportunity to venerate this sacred symbol of our salvation. The Eucharist that was consecrated the night before is distributed to those in attendance. The music is solemn and usually includes the ever familiar “Were You There.”

Similar to Good Friday, the Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday) liturgy begins in silence where the fire is prepared, as well as the Paschal candle. The church is in darkness as the candle (the light of Christ) is brought into the church in procession. Scripture readings are proclaimed telling the story of salvation history. The Gloria is sung, lights are turned on and bells are rung! We welcome the Gospel reading with the Alleluia that has been buried these past six weeks! Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia we sing. It is also at this liturgy that adults wishing to become Catholic, celebrate these very special moments. Some receive all three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, and some already baptized receive Confirmation and Eucharist. It is a very beautiful experience for the parish community to witness this each year and welcome our new members to the parish family.

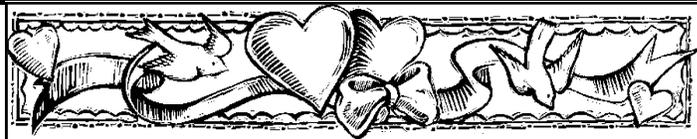
Even though these three days are not like holy days of obligation, attendance is a must, as these moments are life-giving celebrations of our beautiful faith in Christ Jesus! If you never have been able to attend, why not try to get to one of the three this year. Trust me, you will not be disappointed!

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



# PARISH NEWS

*The Bread and Wine for the week March 28 - April 3 have been donated in loving memory of Vincent Preziosi by the Preziosi family.*



**Banns of Marriage - Second Time**  
Gabriella Canzona & Ryan Bihn

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Eat Simply

Next Sunday is the beautiful celebration of Easter. Our Lenten journey is coming to an end as we anticipate the joy of Christ's Resurrection! If you haven't already done so, we ask that you return your "Eat Simply" envelopes by next weekend.



On behalf of the hungry we serve each day, we thank you for participating in this special Lenten activity. Your prayerful sacrifices will help feed our brothers and sisters in Christ.

## Long Island Cares Food Drive 2021

Thank you to all who generously donated to our Lenten food drive for Long Island Cares. The weekend before the official Kick-Off, five boxes left for donations were filled thanks to your generosity. The actual weekend of the Food Drive, five more boxes were filled to overflowing! In total, your donations filled fifteen boxes totaling 1,605 pounds of food. Clearly our Long Island Cares Food Drive was a tremendous success thanks to your generous support. All the food collected will be distributed across Long Island to eliminate hunger amongst our neighbors.

## Outreach Food Pantry

Next weekend would normally be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. But, since it's Easter, we would like you to bring your donations the following weekend. The items most needed are:

***Shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant and pasta sauce***

Please don't forget to check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

## PLANT SALE PRE-ORDER FORM

Customer Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4/4/21, ORDERS RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE CANNOT BE FILLED. ALL PLANTS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED, THERE WILL BE NO PLANTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE CHURCH. ALL PRE-ORDERS CAN BE PICKED UP AFTER ALL THE MASSES THE WEEKEND OF 5/1 & 5/2. ORDERS CAN BE PREPAID, PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO PARISH OF THE HOLY CROSS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

### 8" Hanging Baskets: \$15.00

Balkin Ivy Geranium: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_  
Fuchsia: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lantana: Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Two Tone \_\_\_\_\_  
New Guinea Impatiens: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  
Portulaca: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Wave Petunia: Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Dk Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Lavendar \_\_\_\_\_ Magenta (purple wave) \_\_\_\_\_  
Wander Jew: (indoor/outdoor-spring/fall): \_\_\_\_\_  
Strawberry Delizz (delicious fruit): \_\_\_\_\_

### Perennials 8" Pot: \$10.00

Astilbe (deer resistant/shade/part sun/attracts butterflies): Peach Blossom \_\_\_\_\_ Montgomery Red \_\_\_\_\_  
Black Eye Susan (Rubeckia) (full sun/part shade/attracts butterflies): \_\_\_\_\_  
Butterfly Bush (Buddleia) (full sun/rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies & humming birds): Purple \_\_\_\_\_  
Cone Flower (Echinacea) (sun/partial shade/deer resistant/attracts butterflies): Pow-wow Wild Berry \_\_\_\_\_  
Lavandula (full sun/deer & rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies): \_\_\_\_\_  
Delphinium (New Millen Dwarf Stars): \_\_\_\_\_  
Stella D'Oro Day Lily (flowers summer-fall/rabbit resistant/attracts butterflies & humming birds): \_\_\_\_\_  
Hosta: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nepeta: Purrsian Blue \_\_\_\_\_  
Autumn Joy Sedum: \_\_\_\_\_

### Flats-32 plants per flat: \$15.00

Begonia: Bronze Leaf: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Green Leaf: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Cosmo (Sonata Mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Dahlia (mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Flowering Vinca: Lilac \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_  
Dwarf Marigold: Orange \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Portulaca (mix): \_\_\_\_\_  
Salvia (red): \_\_\_\_\_  
Petunias: Midnight Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Plum \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_  
Impatiens: Coral \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ Mix \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Purple \_\_\_\_\_ Rose \_\_\_\_\_



\*\*\*\*\*We do not guarantee impatiens affected by Downy Mildew\*\*\*\*\*

### Succulents (assorted): \$8.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Culinary Herb Garden 12" Oval Pot (Basil, Parsley, Oregano, Cilantro, Sage): \$13.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sauce in a 6 Pack (2 Basil, 2 Parsley, 2 Roma Tomato): \$9.00 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 1/2" Pots: \$5.00

Coleus Mix: \_\_\_\_\_  
Geranium: Red \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Violet \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  
Helichrysum Licorice: \_\_\_\_\_  
Million Bell Petunia: Dark Blue (Purple) \_\_\_\_\_ Rose \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_  
New Guinea Impatiens: Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Lavender \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Deep Purple \_\_\_\_\_  
Roller Coaster New Guinea (double flower): Hot Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Red Racer \_\_\_\_\_ Tangy Taffy \_\_\_\_\_ White Lightening \_\_\_\_\_  
Zinnia Profusion: Orange \_\_\_\_\_ Cherry \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerber Daisy: \_\_\_\_\_

# PARISH OUTREACH

## Heifer Corner

Thank you to our parishioners who consistently support Heifer International by keeping our "Kevin Bacon" filled with quarters. It may seem that 25 cents could never amount to anything significant; yet to families in many struggling and impoverished areas of the world, our quarters have provided an increase in their income and household stability.

Those quarters have piled up, and we are now able to spend \$545 to purchase a Water Buffalo, a pig, an alpaca, and honeybees.

Water Buffalo sow the seeds of success. They are gentle giants that allow farmers to plant four times as many crops, allowing them to sow the fields in days that once took weeks to plant by hand.



The gift of an alpaca means a child will finally get a chance at an education, thanks to the money earned from selling the wool. Donating an alpaca also means a family will have the opportunity to provide care for themselves - one step closer to lifting themselves out of poverty.

Pig gift donations are an excellent fit for some of the poorest families Heifer serves. Our donation not only supplies a pig for a family, but it will also educate them its care and feeding.



Honeybees sweeten a family's financial future. A Heifer honeybee donation includes a bee package, hive, box, and training in beekeeping techniques. Our gift will increase the global honeybee population that helps support the environment, will boost income through sales of honey, wax and pollen, and helps to stimulate the growth of a family's crops through pollination.



*Thank you so much for recognizing that even though the World is an exceptionally large place, our faith community in little Nesconset, Long Island, can make a real difference in many parts of that world.*

# WHAT'S NEW?

## 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 in May.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

# MEETINGS THIS WEEK

<b>Monday, March 29th</b>	<b>3-5PM &amp; 5:30-7:30PM</b>
• CONFESSION	Chapel
<b>Tuesday, March 30th</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
<b>Wednesday, March 31st</b>	<b>After 9AM Mass</b>
• CONFESSION	Chapel
<b>Thursday, April 1st</b>	<b>8 PM</b>
• MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER <i>(No Morning Mass)</i>	Worship Area
<b>Friday, April 2nd</b>	<b>9 - 10 AM</b>
• CONFESSION	Chapel
• CHILDREN'S SERVICE	12PM Worship Area
• LORD'S PASSION	3PM Worship Area
<i>(The Parish Office is closed for Good Friday.)</i>	
<b>Saturday, April 3rd</b>	<b>9 - 10 AM</b>
• CONFESSION	Chapel
• EASTER VIGIL	8PM Worship Area

# PARISH NEWS

## Easter Flowers

Easter Flower Offering envelopes may be placed in the collection basket. Names of loved ones will appear in the Easter bulletin.



## Be a Bulletin Advertiser!

Did you know that the Holy Cross bulletin is printed for us each week free of charge? **So please frequent the fine establishments that advertise in our bulletin!** If your business could use some exposure, consider advertising in the bulletin. Each weekend, numerous people attend Mass at Holy Cross, most of whom live and shop in Nesconset and the surrounding areas. Also, our bulletin is on our website **pothc.org** and reaches thousands of area families with information about your business. If you are interested, please call The Church Bulletin Inc. at **631-249-4994**.

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In our final days of Lent, may we continue to grow in a spirit of holiness and mission so that we can truly be missionary disciples of our Lord. Through prayer, almsgiving, service and the Catholic Ministries Appeal, we show our gratitude of God's love for us.

**Every gift counts and makes a difference in the lives of others! Thank you!**

Make checks payable to:  
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Parish Parish of the Holy Cross—176

Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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