

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!

The Prodigal Son



“His father saw him and ... ran to his son,
threw his arms around him and kissed him.” Luke 15:20

Come and pray with us!

Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 31, 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 RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M.

or call Father Michael for an appointment.

WE CELEBRATE BAPTISM

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

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

Ms. Kathleen Reid
Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch
Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Mrs. Judith Pickel
Pastoral Associate

Deacon Ralph Rivera
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Tricia Clarke
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



April 6th/7th

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



Banns of Marriage-Third Time

Kailey Stolte & Thomas Price Jr.

Remembering Our Sick

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

Jeff Lawson Maryann League

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 or email to
pothc@optonline.net.

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of March 31st, 9AM Mass

Mon. Henrietta Pilienci
Tue. Stanley Czwartacki
Wed. Maria Conte
Thu. Michael Zeidman (living)

Saturday, April 6th, 5 PM Mass

Maria Conte, Peter & Marie Gallo, Ed Daily,
Richard Kuczawaj, Susan Papandrea

Sunday, April 7th, Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Henri-Robert Lamarque, Rev. Leslie
Colaco, Ron Jensen, Ellen M. Kraics,
Caroline Langton
11:30 AM Catherine Berdon



Scripture Readings for April 7, 2019

+ Isaiah 43:16-21
+ Philipians 3:8-14
+ John 8:1-11

Excited About the Church

by Father Michael

Last weekend, the Pastoral Team attended the Religious Education Congress in Anaheim, California. It was a rich and amazing experience. As I wrote about in the bulletin, it is remarkable to see tens of thousands of people who are passionate about ministry within the Church. There were parts of the weekend we attended together, such as the Opening Ceremony and Mass on Saturday evening. Between all of us, we attended over two dozen workshops. Some were educational, some were more inspirational, but all provided food for thought for our respective ministries. We now have the task of discerning all that we experienced and figuring a way to incorporate some of what we gained into the life at Holy Cross. Some of the things might be more immediate, such as introducing a new song or two. Some may take more time to implement. We are most grateful to the parish for supporting this undertaking and look forward to the new life it may bring to Holy Cross.

I am happy to announce that we have someone to take the role of our Youth Minister. Ms. Allie Roecklein will be carrying on in this work. Allie is a familiar face here at Holy Cross. She has been part of the Youth Ministry's Core Group for 10 years. She has served on the Pastoral Council as well as at Mass as a Eucharistic Minister. She brings with her the knowledge and skills that are necessary for this job. She has worked well with the Core Group for years, so there can be a continuation of that same spirit that has been successful for so long. I appreciate her willingness to step up and embrace this leadership position; I am confident in her ability to do great work. Holy Cross is blessed to have our Youth Ministry program. It offers a rich opportunity for our young people to not only have fun, but to be enriched in the faith. Thank you to our Core Group who work long and hard to serve the youth of our parish.

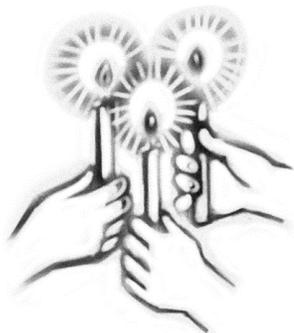
And, there is one final bit of good news to share (it is good news from my perspective, and I hope you feel the same). I met with Bishop Barres on Wednesday morning where he formally confirmed my second term as Pastor here at Holy Cross. Pastors are given six-year terms. Normally, a second term is granted if the priest wishes one. It is unusual for a Pastor to serve more than two terms. It is hard to believe that my first term of six years ends this June; time really does fly by.

I feel richly blessed to have been assigned here. It takes time for a place to truly feel like home, but that is what Holy Cross has become for me. I look forward to all the opportunities and challenges that await us in the coming years. I am sure we will face what we need to in a spirit of cooperation, with great faith and trust in our Lord, and with good humor. Happy to be here and happy to stay!

*Join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the Fridays in Lent,
March 29 & April 5, from 6—7PM in the Worship Area.*

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Tenebrae Service



Tenebrae is a liturgical service of light to darkness, traditionally celebrated during Lent. It is a presentation of the Passion of Jesus Christ through seven Scripture readings, meditations and song. It involves our Choir, Readers and the Congregation. We encourage all parishioners to join us for our Tenebrae Service on **Friday, April 12th, at 7:30 PM** as we prepare our hearts and minds for the great gift of Holy Week to follow.

Lenten Soup Supper

Guest Speaker - Tom Petriano, Ph.D.

On **Thursday, April 4, at 6:30 PM** the Liturgy Committee will again be sponsoring a **SOUP SUPPER**. For the past two years we have enjoyed a variety of scrumptious, homemade soups made by various parishioners. The **SOUP SUPPER** provides a wonderful Lenten opportunity to gather as a community, share a simple meal, and to reflect on those who are in need. If you wish to attend, please complete the first part of the form below and drop it in the collection basket or sign up at the table in the atrium by March 31. If you wish to contribute a soup, please complete the second half of the form.

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE SOUP SUPPER:

Name: _____ # attending: _____

+ + + + +

I WOULD BE HAPPY TO MAKE A SOUP:

Name: _____ Type of Soup: _____

Telephone #: _____

Please note: Soup will be served in crock pots. If you are making soup, but don't have a crock pot, please indicate here and one will be provided:

I will bring a crock pot _____ I need a crock pot provided _____



EXCITING HAPPENINGS!

Basket Raffles

The Basket Raffle Fundraiser is taking place the weekends of **March 30-31 and April 6-7.**

Following the 11:30 Mass on April 7th, the lucky winners of the baskets will be drawn. Refreshments will be served.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting our Parish Fundraiser.



The Fundraising Committee

Alpha is Back!!

Alpha is an opportunity for adults to explore life and faith in a friendly, open, and informal atmosphere, using 3 key elements: food, information, and discussion.

Beginning on April 25, 2019, *Alpha* will be here again at Holy Cross.

For 9 weeks, we will gather on Thursdays at 6:30PM, share a light meal, watch an informative DVD, and engage in small group discussion.

What did parishioners say about last year's *Alpha*? It was "**awesome**," "**enriching**," "**eye-opening**," "**wonderful**," "**deep**," "**comforting**," "**family**."

While we would love to see everyone at *Alpha*, space limits us to just 30 participants, so please register right away. Don't miss out!

Questions? Call Jude at (631) 265-2200x16



Please fill in and return to the Parish Office (*We need to know how much food to prepare!*):

I am looking forward to participating in *Alpha*:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

PASTORAL COUNCIL



The members of the Pastoral Council serve as representatives of parishioners, and they advise the Pastor and the Pastoral Team. Their main contribution is to offer vision for the future growth of the parish and the pastoral needs of the people of the parish.

Two new members have been added to the Pastoral Council. Congratulations to Kathy Wangenstein and Kevin Clarke on being chosen to serve on the Council. And, we thank them for their willingness to serve the people of the Parish of the Holy Cross.

Below are pictures and bios of our two new members!

Kathy Wangenstein

My husband, Paul, and I have been members of Holy Cross for 8 years. We have been married for 47 years and are blessed with 7 grandchildren. I grew up in St. Albans, Queens with my 3 brothers and 1 sister, and attended St. Pascal Baylon RC Church from first through twelfth grade. It was a foundational experience for me, as it provided me with a strong faith and lifelong friends. I am a retired reading teacher from the Huntington SD. My career began as a 4th grade teacher in West Hempstead and St. Cyril and Methodius School in Deer Park. After receiving my Reading Degree, I taught at the Edmund Miles Middle School in Amityville. My career continued in Huntington as a Reading Recovery Teacher. I feel honored to have been asked to be a part of the Pastoral Council. Holy Cross is a joyful and caring parish. I feel blessed to be part of this special community.



Kevin Clarke



My name is Kevin Clarke. I am originally from Bayside, Queens where I attended Sacred Heart and graduated from Holy Cross High School in Flushing. I've been a resident of Ronkonkoma since 1990. My wife and I were married at Parish of the Holy Cross, and my children have received their Sacraments here as well. I have worked at Long Island Tin Smith Company in Glendale for over 20 years, and I am currently a Level 5 co-Catechist. I am honored to be asked to be a member of the Pastoral Council at Holy Cross.



RCIA

Our Parish Community Supports in Prayer:

Sebastián Carazo, who will celebrate Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist,

Rebecca McHone, who will celebrate Confirmation and

Lisa Karras, who will be received into the Catholic Church and celebrate Confirmation and Eucharist

at our Easter Vigil.

God bless them as their journey continues.



BAKERS NEEDED!



Bakers are needed to make baked goods for the **Easter Vigil** celebration which will take place on Holy Saturday, April 20th, at 8PM. If you are interested in baking, please contact Nick and Diane Lombardo at **631-698-5930**. Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the Date!!

This year's ROAR! vacation Bible School will take place

July 8-12, 2019!

Come join us for a week of fun and faith!!



PARISH OUTREACH

Eat Simply Ideas

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

- If you gave up sweets for Lent, donate the money saved so that we can purchase cookies and snacks for a family.
- Discuss what a "simple meal" means in your household. Is it soup and bread? Is it a peanut butter and jelly sandwich? **Our simple meals can be a gourmet feast for some families struggling to make ends meet.**
- Rather than having your Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts coffee, make your morning coffee at home. The money you donate could buy a can of coffee for a family.
- If you go out to dinner, have coffee and dessert at home and donate what it would have cost you at the restaurant.



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

Long Island Cares Thanks You!

Many thanks to our parishioners who contributed to our Lenten food drive for Long Island Cares. A very generous amount of food was collected and will be distributed across the Island to eliminate hunger among our neighbors. Thank you so much!

Outreach Food Pantry

Next Saturday and Sunday, **April 6th/7th**, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

- Rice
- Meals-in-a-Can
- Pasta Sauce
- Boxed Potatoes
- Mayonnaise
- Canned Vegetables



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

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, then you **MUST** check out the **Holy Cross Youth Group!**



If you made your Confirmation, then come with a friend and check out the wonderful opportunities the Youth Group has for you! We would love to see you! 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 pictures from our last Youth Night.



Our teens listened to the speaker discuss "peer pressure" and the effect it has on them.

And, here are our upcoming events. Take a look!

- **March 31 - Join us for a fun Youth Night in the atrium from 6 to 8PM!**
- **April 5-7 - Youth Group Spring Retreat!**

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 us at hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com or call the parish office.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

SOUP SUPPER

Thursday, April 4, 2019 6:30 PM



TENEBRAE SERVICE

Friday, April 12, 2019 7:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Saturday, April 13th: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

*Monday, April 15th: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM &
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM*

Good Friday, April 19th: following 9:00 AM Morning Prayer (up to 10:00 AM)
Holy Saturday, April 20th: following 9:00 AM Morning Prayer (up to 10:00 AM)



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY 2019 PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14, 2019

Saturday 4/13/19: 5:00 PM Mass

*Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,
11:30 AM & 1:00 PM*

← please note Mass times

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2019

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Children's Service - 5:00 PM

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8:00 PM

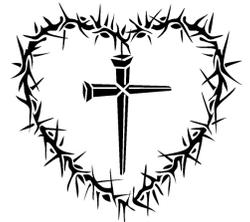
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19, 2019

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Children's Service - 12:00 Noon

*Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
with Veneration of the Cross - 3:00 PM*



HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2019

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Solemn Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM

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



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2019

Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM & 1:00 PM

← please note Mass times

REMINDERS

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, April 7th, is the next date the Anointing will be offered.**

Holy Hour for Peace

We offer our Holy Hour on the first Saturday of the month from **3:45 to 4:45PM** in the Worship Area. The next one will take place on Saturday, **April 6th**. Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.



Special Collection

This weekend, at the offertory, we will also be collecting for **Catholic Relief Services**. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Please consider donating this week to Catholic Relief Services and **help Jesus in disguise**.



Easter Mass Intentions

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

**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

Caring Teaching Loving Forgiving Helping Igniting Evangelizing

Pope Francis has asked us to embrace our vocation as missionary disciples – to be instruments of ***Dramatic Missionary Growth***. Our support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal throughout the year is a wonderful way for us to respond to this call. The essence of the Catholic Ministries Appeal is to ignite, evangelize, witness God’s love through leading, educating, and sharing our gifts with our diocesan family. Our efforts to support the CMA have helped us to serve more than 600,000 people on Long Island and collectively raise more than \$10,000,000 each year.

Next week, we will host a speaker from Catholic Charities Talbot House, Mr. Bill Brennan. He will speak on behalf of the Catholic Ministries Appeal and Catholic Charities. He will offer testimony regarding the important services provided by Talbot House, which is a stabilization center and provides support and guidance to chemical dependent patients. Additionally, he will give an overview of the many services supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal, such as faith formation programs for youth and young adults, social service programs to those in need, and formation for our priests and deacons so they can inspire our faith community to grow closer to God and become servant leaders.

We would also like to thank the families who supported last year’s Appeal. Last year we received a rebate of more than \$14,000 to use to cover our expenses. It is so important that everyone in our church family participate – no gift is ever too small and all gifts make a difference in the lives of others. We ask that you please prayerfully consider a gift to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal.

On behalf of all those who are touched and served by the Catholic Ministries Appeal, thank you for your commitment to Pope Francis’ message... *“A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father’s plan.”*

For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish #176- Parish of the Holy Cross

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please pick up a brochure from the bulletin table in the Atrium!

CASH CALENDAR



Parish of the Holy Cross Cash Calendar March 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 \$50	2 \$50
3 \$50	4 \$50	5 \$50	6 \$50	7 \$50	8 \$50	9 \$50
10 \$50	11 \$50	12 \$50	13 \$50	14 \$50	15 \$50	16 \$50
17 \$500	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
31 \$50	\$10 PER CHANCE.....31 CHANCES TO WIN \$50 PER DAY.....\$500 on ST. PATRICK'S DAY.....MARCH 17					

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2019

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TOWN _____
 PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, MARCH 2019

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Cash Calendar, MARCH 2019

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Cash Calendar, MARCH 2019

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MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 30th	5 PM
• RAFFLE BASKET SALES	Atrium
Sunday, March 31st	All Masses
• RAFFLE BASKET SALES	Atrium
• PRAY THE ROSARY	10:30AM Chapel
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM Atrium
Monday, April 1st	5 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES	FJ, Atr., WA
• FINANCE COMMITTEE	7PM Fr. Joe Room
Tuesday, April 2nd	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
• AWAKENING FAITH	7PM Atrium, Chapel
Wednesday, April 3rd	11:30AM-2:30PM
• SENIORS	Atrium
• BAPTISM PREP	7:30PM Fr. Joe Room
Thursday, April 4th	10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Fr. Joe Room
• SOUP SUPPER	6:30PM Atrium
Friday, April 5th	6-7 PM
• EUCHARISTIC ADORATION	Worship Area
Saturday, April 6th	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
• RAFFLE BASKET SALES	5PM Atrium
Sunday, April 7th	All Masses
• RAFFLE BASKET SALES	Atrium
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK	10:30AM Worship Area
• RAFFLE BASKET DRAWING	12:30PM Atrium

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Outreach Community Vegetable Garden

Well, spring is here which means we need to get our Community Vegetable Garden ready for planting! The cleanup will take place on **April 13th at 8AM**. We are also looking for people who can volunteer one day a week in the summer for weeding.

The vegetable garden provides produce for those households served by our Parish Outreach who don't have access to fresh vegetables.

So, if you need community service hours for school or just want to help out, do something wonderful and join us April 13th! Don't forget to bring your gloves and rake!

If you have any questions, please contact Joellen at 631-360-1373.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Golden Wedding Liturgy



This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, May 5th, at the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. Mass will begin at 2:30PM. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at your parish office. Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by April 15, 2019. If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800 ext. 506.



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