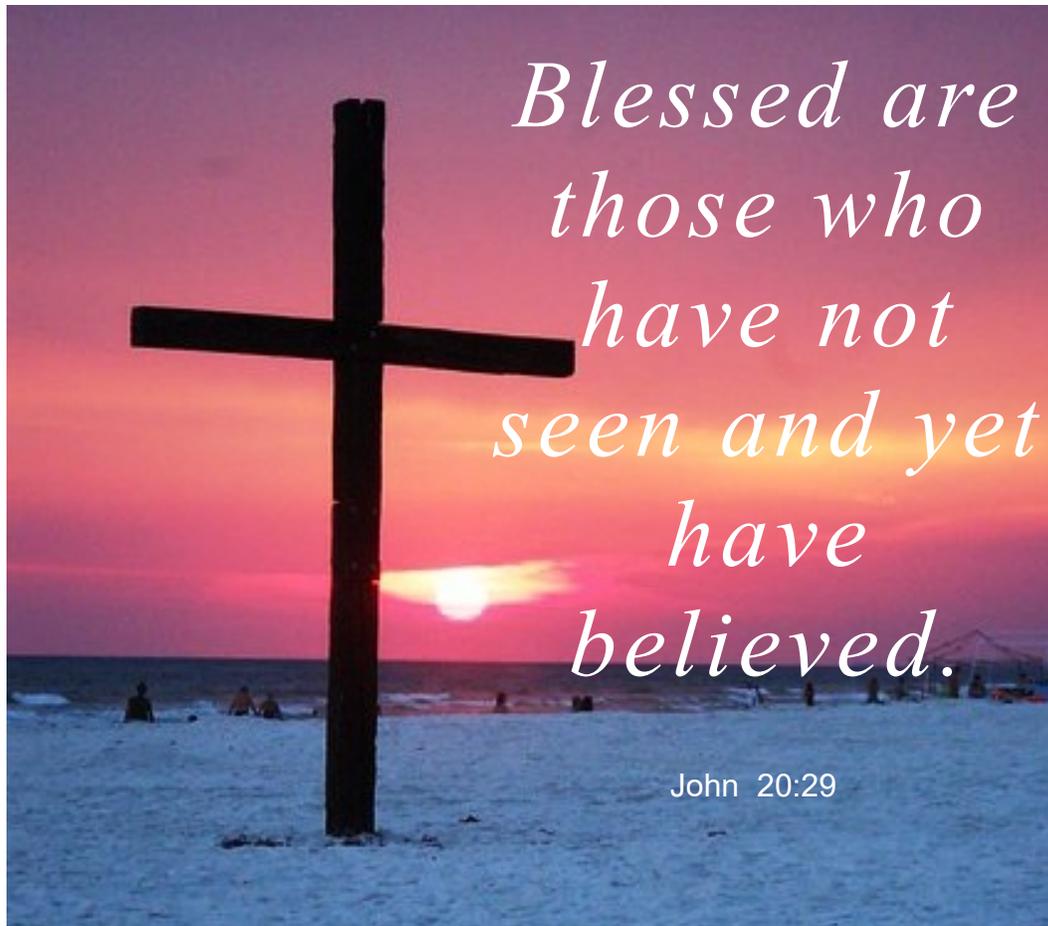


The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +
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LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!

Vision Statement: *Holy Cross is a vibrant Catholic community striving to maintain a spirit of welcome to all, serving as a guiding beacon to nourish and sustain prayer, work and play.*



Come and pray with us!

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 11, 2021

We celebrate Eucharist

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM; Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
(The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass are live streamed on Facebook.)

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + parish@holycrossrc.org
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12:15 - 1 PM)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael F. Holzmann
Pastor, ext.115

Deacon Ralph Rivera
Pastoral Minister, ext.119

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	Claire Becker
Patricia Becker	Barbara Bombace
Ann Callari	Manuela Diaz
Ann Egan	Jim Emerson
Sienna Fricke	Jeanne Gallo
Phil Graziose	Bob Grieco
Debbie Jablinowski	Gerald Losquadro
Charlotte Lynch	Nick Matonti
Olivia Melia	Joseph Santamaria
Barbara Sherry	Marlene Starr
David Velkas	Doreen Velkas
Judy Viskupic	Peter Warns
Elaine Wilkinson	

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 April 11th, 9AM Mass

Mon.	Denise Lamarque
Tue.	Joseph Cappiello
Wed.	Ed Hau
Thu.	Marie Flannery



Saturday, April 17th, 5PM Mass

Sylvester DeFazio, Nora Gorman, Sara Liselli, Vito Orlando, Thomas Blass

Sunday, April 18th, Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM	Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto
9:30 AM	People of the Parish
11:30 AM	Pasquale "Tony" DellaVecchia



Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses

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

LIFE IN ABUNDANCE

by Father Michael

I think I am one of many who truly felt uplifted from our Easter celebration. Circumstances will always unfold in different ways in people's lives. But this year, more than ever before, many people were on the same page. We have been hungering for hope and newness of life, and it seemed to explode on Easter. Many folks left with a renewed enthusiasm and a joyful heart. The power of Christ can take hold of our hearts and empower our spirit. In speaking to my priest friends, they also reported a great turnout and spirited participation in their parishes. But we continue to hold in our prayers those who are still in isolation, those who grieve, and those who are still in the midst of Covid challenges.

I almost teared up when I looked out and saw a full (well, as full as we can do) congregation. It's not as though our Worship Area has been desolate for the past few months, but suddenly having every available seat taken was a breath of life. I am so grateful to our music ministry, liturgical ministers, those who decorated, and those who planned and organized the services that are part of the Triduum. It is an enormous undertaking to accomplish all that is necessary. I offer my heartfelt thanks to those who helped our efforts.

The different liturgies of Holy Week each have their unique characteristics. It takes some concentration and effort to make sure I keep on track. Sometimes the attention to detail can be a distraction to my own prayer. This year the Spirit led me through these holy days and allowed them to be profoundly prayerful for me. It is a beautiful experience to lead the prayer of people of faith. Together we shared in the mysteries of our Lord. We are given a profound and rich gift.

My one regret is that we were not able to accommodate everyone who came for the 11:30 Mass. Although we scrambled to set up as many chairs as we safely could, we still had to close our doors to about 30 people. We have some speakers in the courtyard which provided some audio (although our sound system still has a few bugs in it) for the folks to listen to the Mass. We brought them the Eucharist at Communion time. We will still be limited to 50% capacity for the foreseeable future. However, I anticipate that in the coming weeks we should be able to accommodate all those who want to attend Mass. Easter does bring out unusually higher numbers.

Let me conclude with a helpful tip from the kitchen. If ever you make "horsey sauce" (for roast beef) or fresh whipped cream (to serve with fresh berries) never store them in identical serving dishes. I can testify that roast beef topped with whipped cream is not the newest taste sensation. In spite of that, Happy Easter everyone!

PARISH NEWS

Scripture Readings for April 18, 2021



- + Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
- + 1 John 2:1-5
- + Luke 24:35-48

The **Bread and Wine** for the week April 11 - 17 have been donated by the **Hoos-Salemi** family in honor and memory of their living and deceased loved ones.



Adult Confirmation

Are you a baptized Catholic who has not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation?

If so, it's not too late! Classes will start soon in preparation for Adult Confirmation on the **Feast of Pentecost**. Call Jude at extension 116 for more information.

Here are pictures from our Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 3, 2021.



Katie Bacigalupo & family with Fr. Michael



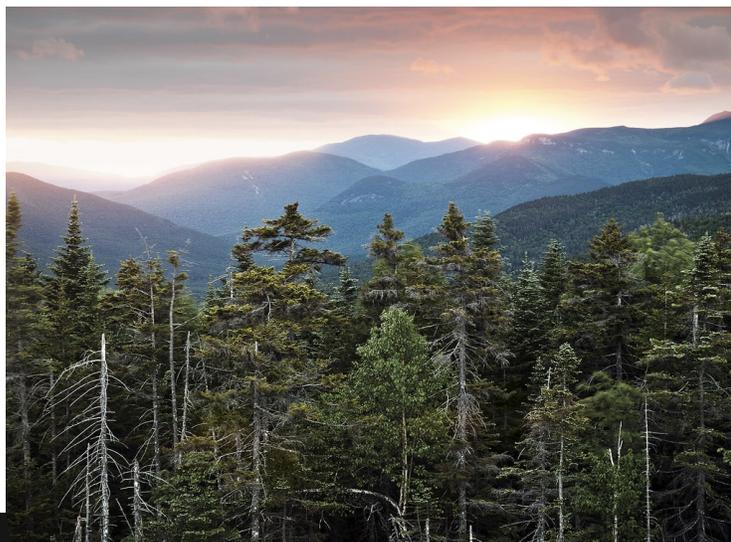
Bailey Fiedorowicz & fiancée with Fr. Michael

We rejoice with Katie Bacigalupo, welcomed into the Church at our Easter Vigil, and with Bailey Fiedorowicz, who completed his Sacraments of Initiation.

May God continue to bless them and their families.

HOLY CROSS TRAVEL CLUB

Save the Dates!



July 18-21
White Mountains, New Hampshire



September 16-17
Brimfield, Massachusetts – Antique Fair

More info coming soon!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games, and 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**. 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 our upcoming events:

Sunday, April 11: We will be meeting from 6 to 8PM!

Sunday, April 25: Join us for another fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM!

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 youthgroup@holycrossrc.org or call the parish office.





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Easter 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Lord is truly risen, Alleluia! Around the world and across Long Island, we proclaim this marvelous truth. Good news is ours. Sin and death have been vanquished. Christ has conquered. God is victorious!

In light of the suffering and death of the past year, how blessed we are to behold again the Mystery of the Resurrection. These months have been dark and bleak. They have been long and challenging. Yet, as we encounter Easter 2021, we are reminded that God has the final word. Indeed, *Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it* (John 1:5). This Light, Jesus Christ, illumines our path. He gives hope. As the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council said:

Through Christ and in Christ, the riddles of sorrow and death grow meaningful. Apart from His Gospel, they overwhelm us. Christ has risen, destroying death by His death; He has lavished life upon us so that...we can cry out in the Spirit: *Abba, Father.*¹

With significant challenges facing us still on Long Island and across the globe, with darkness still afoot, perhaps the joy of Easter is difficult to embrace. Our hearts maybe like those of the disciples who went on Easter dawn to anoint the Lord's body. At the strange sight of an empty tomb and an apparently absent Jesus, instead of experiencing immediate joy, they were confused and distressed. Only in seeing the Lord face to face did they come to embrace His rising from the dead.

Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, we need to see Christ alive among us. We need to see the Resurrection in our midst. So, this Easter, let us ask, "Where is Christ alive?"

Christ is alive in the countless frontline workers, civil servants, and medical professionals who have served so faithfully and so heroically this past year. Their sacrificial love and Good Samaritan-willingness to help neighbors in need radiate the Lord Jesus!

Christ is alive in the catechumens who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Their reception of the Sacraments reminds us of the power of our own Baptism – where each of us has died with Christ and risen with Him to new life.

Above all, Christ is alive in His risen and glorified presence in the Eucharist and in the transforming power of His Body and Blood that we receive in the celebration of the Mass. Christ

¹ Second Vatican Council, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World *Gaudium et Spes* (December 7, 1965), 22, in *The Documents of Vatican Council II* (St. Paul's Publications, 2009).

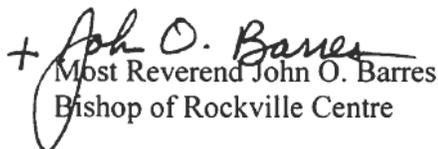
is alive, and therefore the Church is alive. The Eucharist is the source of this life – and its power has become perhaps more evident than ever, after months of separation from the weekly and daily celebration of the Mass. Together, we recall the disciples’ recognition of Jesus following the Resurrection at Emmaus in the opening of the Scriptures and the breaking of the Bread. We are grateful for the many ways in which our parishes and schools have continued to foster creatively this Emmaus experience on Long Island, both in-person and virtually. May we continue to recognize the Sunday Eucharist as the source from which the life of the Resurrected Christ bursts forth into the world.

At his Sunday Angelus on January 3, 2021, Pope Francis beautifully reminded us of Christ’s continued presence in our midst:

“I like to think that when the Lord prays to the Father for us, he does not merely speak: he shows him the wounds of the flesh, he shows him the wounds he suffered for us. This is Jesus: with his flesh he is the intercessor, he wanted to bear even the signs of suffering. Jesus, with his flesh, is before the Father. Indeed, the Gospel says that *He came to dwell among us* . He did not come to visit us, and then leave; He came to dwell with us, to stay with us.”²

May we continue to encounter the presence of Jesus Christ who dwells in and through His Church. May we continue to experience signs of His Resurrection even amidst the challenges and crosses we embrace, and may this encounter continue to fill our hearts, so that our voices can confidently cry out: *The Lord is truly risen! Alleluia!*

Faithfully in the Lord,


+ John O. Barres
Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

² Francis, Angelus, 3 January, 2021. http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2021/documents/papa-francesco_angelus_20210103.html

COMMUNITY NEWS



829 Old Nichols Road, Islandia, NY 11749

If you're grieving the loss of a loved one, our horses can help you process your grief and find a path to healing.

Horses are extremely sensitive to behaviors and emotions. Exploring your grief with a horse(s) in nature can help you process your grief and restore hope. Utilizing the healing power of horses combined with the stress reduction benefits of being outdoors will help those grieving the loss of a loved one due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our facilitators are licensed Mental Health Professionals and certified Equine Specialists.

- Sessions are FREE of charge March 1 – April 30, 2021
- Individuals and groups are welcome
- Covid safety guidelines will be followed

For more information about our Grief Support Program, please call JoAnn Woodruff at 631-348-1389 or email her at frontoffice@pal-o-mine.org. You can also visit us online at www.pal-o-mine.org.



Frontline Heroes Wellness Program



Pal-O-Mine Equestrian is offering a **complimentary** wellness experience for our medical professionals and first responders. You may join us virtually or in person on our 13-acre working farm. We will customize a wellness session for you or your group. Sessions are run by licensed social workers, and certified equine specialists. The well-known benefits of being in nature include reduced stress while providing a sense of calm, connection, and solace. It has been proven that animals and nature together help to reduce heart rate, blood pressure and muscle tension.

For more information or to schedule a wellness session, email Carol Ann at cguerriero@pal-o-mine.org or call her at 631-348-1389.



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

Sunday, April 11th		1 PM
• BAPTISMS		Worship Area
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium
Monday, April 12th		4 - 6 PM
• SPECIAL NEEDS		Atrium/Chapel
Tuesday, April 13th		10 AM
• IN STITCHES		Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 8 / YOUTH MINISTRY	7PM	Worship Area
Wednesday, April 14th		7 PM
• LEVEL 8 / YOUTH MINISTRY		Worship Area
Thursday, April 15th		10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY		Atrium
Friday, April 16th		6 - 10 PM
• PRE-CANA		All Rooms
Saturday, April 17th		8:45AM-6:30PM
• PRE-CANA		All Rooms

REMINDERS

Gluten Free Hosts

For parishioners who have Celiac Disease or a gluten sensitivity, Holy Cross has gluten free hosts. If you would like to receive a gluten free host during Communion, please inform the Sacristan prior to Mass.

Hearing Devices

For parishioners who have difficulty hearing, Holy Cross has individual devices which can amplify sound. They are simple to use and work for those who wear hearing aids and those who do not. If you are interested in using one of these devices, please see the Sacristan or an Usher prior to Mass.

Remember "Kevin Bacon"

Don't forget to feed "Kevin Bacon" your quarters when you come to Mass on Sundays! Your donation benefits **Heifer International**.



Special Collection

This weekend we will also be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund. Thank you for your support of this important collection!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Molloy College

1000 Hempstead Avenue, PO Box 5002
 Rockville Centre, NY 11571
www.molloy.edu 516.323.4000

Each year Molloy College hosts a **Spring Open House** for prospective students and their guests. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be hosting our Open House virtually. Join us!

Spring Open House
Sunday, April 18, 2021
1:00 PM

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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