

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 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



*"I am the living bread
that came down from
heaven; whoever eats
this bread will live
forever..."*

John 6:51

Come and pray with us!

Corpus Christi Sunday - June 14, 2020

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

The 9AM Daily Mass, Monday-Thursday, &
the Sunday 11:30AM Mass are live streamed on Facebook.

We are here for you!

631.265.2200 + Fax 631.265.2229 + pothc@optonline.net

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. MaryAnne McCulloch, 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
(hcreled@optonline.net)

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

Mr. Roberto Maza
Mr. Vincent Matula
Custodians

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra
Weekend Sacristan

Remembering Our Sick

*Almighty and Eternal God,
You are the everlasting health of those who
believe in You...*

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

Patricia Becker	George V. Daly
Manuela Diaz	Francesco DiMartino
Ann Egan	Phil Graziose
Bob Grieco	Chuck Madden
Joseph Santamaria	Marlene Starr
	Judy Viskupic

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 or email to pothc@optonline.net.

Mass Intentions Schedule

Week of June 14th, 9AM Mass

Mon. Helen Dalamango
Tue. Jeanne Herman
Wed. Steven Smith
Thu. Laura Izzo



Mass intentions for June 20th/21st:
All Father's Day Mass Remembrances

Scripture Readings for June 21, 2020



+ *Jeremiah 20:10-13*
+ *Romans 5:12-15*
+ *Matthew 10:26-33*

Banns of Marriage - First Time



Angie St. Cloux & Kenneth Orilus
Justine Scheller & James Lang

Coronavirus Chronicles: FINAL EDITION!

by Father Michael

Alleluia! This has been a long time in coming. We are open again for public Mass. Albeit, it is limited in some ways and not the way it was before all this hit us. But, we can once again gather around the altar as a community and be fed by the Lord. Naturally, I might be the most excited, as what happens within this building is my primary focus. For others, the joy of returning might still be a few weeks down the road. It looks like for this weekend, those attending can be counted in the dozens, not in the hundreds. Some are cautious and are more comfortable remaining at home for the time being. There is no one perfect response for all. People need to come back at their own pace. There must be patience and respect for all, as we each emerge from these challenging weeks.

Please keep in mind that different parishes may be doing different things. We have chosen to be as cautious as possible following the directives given us by the Diocese. The new procedures and practices we are embracing are not meant to make life complicated. We certainly want to avoid any unsafe practices. We also want to eliminate stress or confusion as everyone returns. For all of us, these are uncharted waters. We will continue to evaluate the many details and make adjustments as we move forward.

A few items on a practical level:

- I remain available for confessions by appointment. In addition, beginning this week I will be available after the 9:00 AM Mass on Wednesdays, as well as Saturdays from 3:00 – 4:00 PM. There will be a few simple guidelines posted when you arrive, but nothing complicated. Remember to bring a mask.
- Daily Mass schedule will return to Monday – Thursday.
- We will continue to live-stream daily Mass as well as the 11:30 Mass on Sunday.
- You may be getting a robocall from me regarding updates.

I rejoice that the severity of the lockdown is behind us, and I am looking forward to more and more things returning. But I also don't want to lose sight of the blessings that came about during these months. I had more contact with old friends and extended family than I ever did before. Early mornings became even more of a prayerful and reflective time for me. I hope that you had moments of grace during this time that reminded you of the wondrous ways in which the Spirit can be at work.

We continue to pray for one another and our Nation as we move forward.

OUR BIG DAY

As I write this on June 10, I am still processing the news that, as of today, churches on Long Island may re-open with 25% capacity. Here at Holy Cross, this means 100 parishioners can attend Mass in person, and enter fully into the celebration by receiving Holy Communion. Of course there still are health and safety concerns, and new procedures in place, but what a moment of joyful expectation this is.



My anticipation reminds me of the RCIA. When the un-baptized seek to join the Catholic Church, they embark on a months-long journey, knowing that their celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation is many weeks down the road. One part of this process involves attendance at the Liturgy of the Word at Sunday Mass. Because they are not yet baptized and cannot receive communion, the catechumens participate in the Rite-of-Dismissal: after the readings, they are led out of church to share with one another what the Scriptures meant to them. While they cannot be nourished yet by receiving Eucharist, they have been fed, like everyone else in church, by the Word of God, so they take some time to pray with that and understand it more deeply.

The Rite of Dismissal is a hard concept for many; it seems inhospitable. And yet, it highlights an important truth: while Jesus is present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, He also is present in the Word. He feeds us not just with His Body and Blood, but also with His Word. Because of the dismissal, catechumens experience Scripture in a profound way; they come to see how it feeds them. While their longing for the Sacraments is real and their big day is not yet here, they learn that God is not waiting until then to feed them.

Perhaps in these days of missing the Bread of Life, we, too, have come to a better appreciation of being fed by Scripture. Acts of kindness have fed us, too, as have personal prayer and virtual prayers, especially our live-stream Masses. Yes, our God has continued to feed us, but still we long for the feast.

So now, fittingly on the Feast of Corpus Christi, our big day is here. It pains me that *all* are not able to join us; I pray their big day arrives soon.

As we gather again in our beautiful space, may we hear God's Word with fresh insight, recognizing the treasure that has been with us all along. And as we approach the altar, may our hearts sing with gratitude and joy, as we feast once again at the Table of the Lord.

It has been a long, long fast. It may be June, but it feels like Easter. Alleluia!

Jude Pickel

LITURGY BYTES

Corpus Christi



We are the Body of Christ—One Bread, One Body to name just a few familiar hymns we probably have sung at Mass in the past—is what we are celebrating this weekend.

These past 12+ weeks without sharing in the Eucharist have been the ultimate sacrifice for each of us. Whoever thought, when notice of this virus first came into our minds, that receiving the Eucharist would be taken away from us? Even though Jesus is with us in many ways, the grace from this sharing in the life of Christ cannot be measured until it is not there.

This feast was first instituted back in 1264 by Pope Urban IV to be celebrated following Trinity Sunday. The Pope wanted this feast to help highlight what the Eucharist is and what it means for our lives. Perhaps many of us remember processions on this feast with the young people of the parish who had just received their First Communions. During this pandemic, parishes have had special blessings for people driving through the church parking lots. In fact, that is what we have scheduled for our parish this Sunday between 10 AM and 11 AM.

The Eucharist is our community ritual that brings together in remembrance and celebration our Christian identity. In word and sacrament, we gather together to express our unity as God's family around the altar where Jesus Himself becomes present to us through God's Word and then as our consecrated bread and wine, His body and blood. We actually share in His divine life. We are joined to God and to one another. Then strengthened by God's empowering presence, we go forth to share God's presence with all those we will meet throughout the week.

St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that:

“Just as Christ appeared before the holy apostles in true flesh, so now he has us see him in the sacred bread. As we see bread and wine with our bodily eyes, let us see and believe firmly that it is his most holy Body and Blood, true and living.”

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

PARISH NEWS

Prayer Pages on Our Parish Website

Your intentions will be added to *Our Prayer Pages*, which can be viewed by clicking the link on the homepage of our website, and can be prayed for by others. Please leave a message at the parish office at 631-265-2200 ext.122 or email your prayers to pothc@optonline.net.

(Please note: If praying for those who are ill, last names may not always appear unless permission has been granted.)

Collection Envelopes

You still have time to return your **Father's Day Mass Remembrance** envelopes. Names of loved ones will appear in the bulletin on Father's Day. This weekend is the collection for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund.

Envelopes may be mailed to Holy Cross, placed in the drop box in our courtyard or basket in the atrium. Thank you for your continued support!



Weekday Mass will be held for the public in the Worship Area: Monday-Thursday at 9AM.

The Parish Offices are closed: You can leave a message for us, and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Fr. Michael Before His Haircut



Fr. Michael After His Haircut



PARISH OUTREACH



You're a part of the solution...
now answer the phone!



You've stayed home!



You're wearing masks!



Now, answer the phone!

As we battle coronavirus together, tracing exposures to COVID is important to stop the spread.

The NYS Contact Tracing Program works with confirmed positive COVID-19 people to determine who they have been in contact with. Trained specialists reach out to those contacts about possible exposure. If you have been identified as a contact you will get a call from **"NYS Contact Tracing"** (518-387-9993).

Because the disease can be transmitted without symptoms, notifying people about a possible exposure is critical to stop the spread.

So, if you get a call from **"NYS Contact Tracing"** (518-387-9993) please answer. It is confidential and private.

Please Answer the Phone
so we can keep NY moving forward
and stop the spread of COVID-19.

health.ny.gov/coronavirus