

# *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!**

*Father, Son & Holy Spirit*



**Come and pray with us!**

**The Most Holy Trinity - June 7, 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-Friday, &  
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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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](mailto:pothc@optonline.net).



*The Church is open for  
private prayer:*

Monday-Friday, 10AM-2PM  
Sunday, 7:30AM-11AM

## Mass Intentions Schedule

### Week of June 7th, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Nick Breene  
**Tue.** Kathleen Grebinger  
**Wed.** Annemarie & Paul Kenney (living)  
**Thu.** W. Joseph Dawson Jr. (living)

All Mass intentions for June 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> will be read  
at the 11:30AM Mass which is live streamed on  
**Facebook:** Denise Lamarque, Pedro Banaguas, Luis  
E. Forero, Nora Sheehy, Mr. & Mrs. O. DeSanto,  
Elizabeth Fitzpatrick



### *Scripture Readings for June 14, 2020*



+ Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16  
+ 1 Corinthians 10:16-17  
+ John 6:51-58



### Banns of Marriage First Time

Clodagh Harte & Roy Huber

# Coronavirus Chronicles #12

*by Father Michael*

This past week was not the easiest of days to deal with. The power outage and electrical repair at the parish consumed abundant time and energy. There are many people who are simply losing patience and are frustrated with life. In addition to whatever personal struggles we may be dealing with, everyone is grappling to make sense of the social and civil unrest that has rocked our nation. This weekend the Church celebrates Trinity Sunday which, at first glance, does not seem to address any of these issues.

I have always struggled in understanding how the reality of the Trinity touches home. What difference does it make in how we live and how we experience God? The most helpful explanation I have found is understanding it in terms of relationship. It is a continued outpouring of love for the good of another. It was out of the depth of the Father's love that he gave us his only Son. It was the desire for life and love to be carried forward, and so the first believers were given the first gift of the Holy Spirit. It is that dynamic of relationship that allows us to be a community of believers.

Although the Trinity may seem like a detached element of doctrine, it can remind us of the pattern of life we are called to mirror. Love can only be authentic when in some way it is extended and shared with another. This is experienced within the covenant of marriage as well as in dealing with those we encounter on the street. The same dynamic of love is at work with those who are closest to us as well as the one who is the stranger. Love is not reserved for those we like, those who agree with us, and those who are similar to us. Jesus never put qualifications on his commandment of love.

When the human spirit turns inward it can lead to selfishness, fear, arrogance, prejudice, revenge and judgment. When the human spirit looks beyond self, it naturally moves toward relationship. When there is a desire to be in union with others, it lends itself to love, joy, compassion, and justice. Thursday was my anniversary. It was a cranky day. A litany of things went wrong and I was in a bad mood. I could have become angry and had myself a pity party. But the gift of a visit of a couple of friends (practicing social distancing) became a wave of life that allowed the day to end joyfully.

Don't underestimate the power of what the openness to relationship can do. It can change hardened hearts and allow ourselves to see with new vision. It allows us to know the power of God's commandment of love. Perhaps the celebration of the Trinity urges us to embrace that attitude. Think of how the world could change if it became a way of life.

# PARISH NEWS



## Pray for Our Military

PFC Anna Brady  
Cpl. Richard J. DeKanchuk, USMC  
SA Anthony J. DeNicola  
FC2 Lane Dyar  
Brandon Ferrara  
SSG Daniel Frost  
MIDN Jonathan A. Goohs Jr., USNA  
WO Christopher Kaminsky  
Sgt. Michael J. Knipper, USMC  
SSGT Ryan Mauldin  
PFC Ryan McCoy, USMC  
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 2020. Please let us know at any time during 2020 if their service is finished, their title has changed, or you would like continued prayers through 2021. May God bless all who serve our nation. Pray for Peace!*

## Collection Envelopes

This weekend, in your envelope packet, you will find an envelope for **Father's Day Mass Remembrances**. Names of loved ones will appear in the bulletin on Father's Day. Next weekend is the collection for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund.

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



## Prayer Pages on Our Parish Website



*Grace to you and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ*

Philimon 1:3

At this time, we are offering the opportunity for people to express their prayer intentions. You can leave a message at the office at 631-265-2200 ext.122 or email your prayers to [pothc@optonline.net](mailto:pothc@optonline.net). 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 note: If praying for those who are ill, last names may not always appear unless permission has been granted.)



We pray for the following people who died in May:

*Jason Jerome &  
Joshua Webb*

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

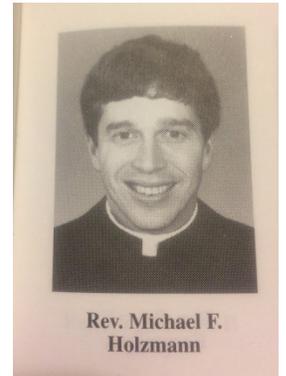
## For Your Information...

**Confession by Appointment:** Please leave a message for Fr. Michael at 631-265-2200 x115.

**The Parish Offices are closed.** You can leave a message for us at the above extensions. We will return your call as soon as possible.

# In Appreciation

On June 4, 1988, Michael F. Holzmann was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Rockville Centre. As you can see by his picture, he had great hair! In addition to that, he possesses many talents which he has generously shared with the people of St. Elizabeth's in Melville, St. Sylvester's in Medford, St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School, and St. John Nepomucene's in Bohemia, before coming to us at Holy Cross in 2013. To mark the occasion of his 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, members of the Pastoral Team and Staff, who have the privilege of sharing in ministry with Fr. Michael, were asked to name which of his qualities they most admire.



- What I admire most about Father Michael is his compassion towards others. I have had the privilege to experience his actions “behind the scenes” and he is truly a holy man. Happy Anniversary, Fr. Michael! *Tricia*
- One of the things I admire about Fr. Michael is his dedication to creativity. He is always looking for ways to make our liturgies more special and meaningful. *Brian*
- One of Fr. Michael's special qualities is his generosity of spirit. His enthusiasm and his willingness to engage is contagious and brings out the best in all of us. May he know on this anniversary what a spectacular job he has done in leading Holy Cross through this turbulent year and may God continue to bless him in all the years to come. *Mary Anne*
- **The one quality which I believe Michael has that I admire is his ability to write. When he writes his articles for the bulletin and in other places he has the ability to articulate himself clearly, concisely and effectively, using wit and humor to arrive at the point he's trying to make and that to me is a gift.** *Ralph*
- Fr. Michael has many gifts but the quality that stands out for me is that he shows such real compassion for people. When I joined the staff last summer, he had said that he hoped I was happy and at peace, and he hoped that the people of Holy Cross could help heal any past hurts. I was speechless hearing those words because of how deeply they touched my heart. He is truly one of the good ones who live the Paschal mystery with their people. *Michele*
- **I most admire Father for his determination in keeping things going during this trying time – especially the Mass. His words of hope and encouragement kept me going when I sometimes felt depressed. He has been a true shepherd and a very caring pastor to his parish community during this pandemic.** *Mary P.*
- Father Michael possesses so many great qualities that it's difficult to pick my favorite. But the one I love most is his ability to laugh at himself. It is one of the examples of how down-to-earth he is! Oh, and he's also a great homilist! *Jane*

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# In Appreciation continued

- Fr. Michael is there when I need it. I am blessed to work for him. *Roberto*
- Fr. Michael is always encouraging. I admire and appreciate his constant support and positivity, not only for me, but the whole youth group as well. *Allie*
- There are a number of attributes that we love about Fr. Michael but our most favorite are his inclusiveness, no matter the situation, and his appreciation of people's efforts. *Barbara & Steve*
- **I admire Fr. Michael's sensitivity to, and concern for, the needs of each person he meets. Everyone is important to him. He also has a great sense of humor. His corny one-liners and jokes can bring a smile to my face any day of the week.** *Mary I*
- One of the many personality traits that I admire about Fr. Michael is his inclusiveness. He seems to take note of people's individual gifts and puts them to use. He spreads this out in such a way that folks feel a sense of value and belonging. To me, it's very Christ-like and draws us closer together as a church family. *Barbara D.*
- What I most admire about Fr. Michael is his ability to focus on the positives of any situation rather than the negatives. His positive attitude makes everyone in our parish feel blessed that he is our leader. *Vinnie*
- **Fr. Michael is authentic. In every situation he is truly himself, a man grounded in prayer, living his priesthood joyfully while always striving to spread that joy wherever he goes.** *Jude*

The Parish of the Holy Cross has been blessed throughout our history with wonderful pastors: Fr. Bill Breslawski, Fr. Joe Schlafer, and Fr. Jim McNamara. God continued to bless us when Fr. Michael became our pastor. Under his leadership, inspired by his preaching and all the above qualities and more, Holy Cross has continued to thrive and grow. In these last three months especially, Fr. Michael has risen above every challenge, creatively ministering to his flock, holding us together, easing our anxiety, and offering us hope.

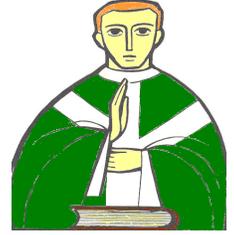
Now, more than ever, we give thanks to God for the gift of our pastor, Fr. Michael Holzmänn. Happy Anniversary, Fr. Michael! We love you. And, you still have great hair!

*Jude Pickel*



# LITURGY BYTES

## Words of the Mass - *The Dismissal*



Each week as Mass concludes, either the Priest or the Deacon proclaims the dismissal to go forth. There are a few different formulas, but they all begin with this key word “GO.” How many of us realize that there is more happening than simply leaving the Church? We are dismissed with a commission to live what we have just celebrated.

When we hear the words “Go forth, the Mass is ended,” we are not being told to leave and forget about the celebration that we just participated in. The ritual of the Mass has ended, but the Eucharistic mystery does not end. It simply continues beyond the walls of the Church for each one of us. After all, we are the Body of Christ, and so that title goes beyond the sacred space of the Church and, hopefully, is part of our daily lives.

Pope Benedict XVI was adamant that we (the People of God) come to a deeper understanding that the Eucharist is a mystery to be lived. What we have celebrated we take into our homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, and to family and strangers. We are to make it visible by the way we live the Gospel values that Jesus taught us. The Pope is responsible for adding two of the four formulas that can be used in the Dismissal rite in the Roman missal. He was concerned that the Mass not end abruptly as the people go back to their busy lives. In the third edition of the Roman missal, particularly with the dismissal, Pope Benedict wrote what he was trying to convey to the People of God so we could fully understand the significance of this commission to go forth.

Isn't it interesting how a concluding ritual has so much meaning for us? I am sure I am not alone in recalling how happy I was, as a parent with three small children, when I heard those words: “The mass is ended.” My goal was to get the children outside as quickly as possible to discuss behavior mishaps that didn't stop when we gave them our famous stare. I guess back then, I somehow missed the real meaning of the dismissal. Fortunately, we all learned that this is part of life that all parents experience. Parish communities are extensions of our families where we are loved and happy to be with, especially, the younger members. So, as we are praying together (hopefully in person soon), let us embrace what Pope Benedict was trying to teach us through this commission of going forth.

Keep in mind, we don't have to stand on street corners announcing the Gospel of the Lord to all those passing by. We can announce the Gospel by living consistently the values Jesus has given us. As we all realize, in our world today, this is not an easy task. We are being called to live counter-culturally. There are many ways we can give glory to God in the simple everyday adventures of our lives with our families, friends and neighbors. This has become very real to many because of the pandemic we are living with at the present time: the numerous sacrifices, the generous donations, and the time spent making sure others are not alone. This coupled with the prayers we offer each day is a beautiful example of living the values Jesus gave us. These are all “Jesus” moments as we live out the great commission of GOING FORTH echoed at the conclusion of each Mass. We are grateful for many things when we echo back: “THANKS BE TO GOD.” We are thankful for the privilege of being baptized members of the Body of Christ who are sent forth to live what we have been given.

This concludes just a glimpse of reflections on the words of the Mass these past weeks. In reading and reflecting myself, I no longer will just utter those responses or not connect to the words of the Priest at particular times during the liturgy. I truly hope these ideas and thoughts have been helpful to your own prayer too. Have a safe, healthy and blessed week!

~~~*Michele Hahn*

# PARISH OUTREACH

Our Community Vegetable Garden provides wholesome vegetables for those seeking assistance from Parish Outreach. Our volunteers are hard at work preparing the garden for a new season. Here are some pictures of our dedicated (and exhausted) volunteers!



# A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BARRES

DATE: June 5, 2020

RE: Racism and George Floyd

FROM: Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop, Diocese of Rockville Centre

Before the Civil War there was a block of stone on what later became the Belmont Abbey College property in North Carolina. It was called the “Slave Stone” because slaves being sold at auction were made to stand on that stone so that potential buyers could see them.

Years later, the Stone was turned and refashioned into a baptismal font that is now in the entryway of the Mary Help of Christians Basilica on the Belmont Abbey College campus. A plaque was placed on this font that is there to this day that connects the Waters of Baptism with the freedom to be children of God.

A slave rock transformed into a baptismal font is a powerful image that can help us to rediscover the relationship in our Catholic faith between repentance and conversion, and social change.

Each one of us today opens our hearts and lives to the Holy Spirit, the indwelling presence of the Holy Trinity within us and the power of the Body and Blood of Christ to transform us, heal us, inspire us so that we can be instruments of Spirit-driven social change that rejects hatred, violence, racism and blindness and embraces the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

Imprinted in this stone was the emotional memory of the coarse cruelty of the slave traders and the anguish and trauma of slave families being separated and further stripped of their human dignity. The Slave Stone carried some of the emotional imprint of the stones of Calvary itself as do historical images from our nation’s history of lynchings, Jim Crow laws, film footage of fire hoses turned on African Americans engaged in peaceful civil rights protests and now, the recent horrific video we all saw depicting the tragic and senseless killing of George Floyd, a man who was in police custody on a Minneapolis street.

On behalf of the faithful of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I express my heartfelt prayers and condolences to the Floyd family. We pray for peace on the streets of our cities. We pray that peace, charity and justice may animate non-violent protests. We pray for our public servants, our police, our first responders and their families. We pray for the witness of our Church and the ecumenical and interfaith witness we have with our brothers and sisters of different faiths.

On Friday, September 25, 2015, Pope Francis celebrated Mass in New York City at Madison Square Garden. In his homily, he reminded us of Christ’s presence in every city around the world.

He said: “Knowing that Jesus still walks our streets, that he is part of the lives of his people, that he is involved with us in one vast history of salvation, fills us with hope...A hope which makes us see, even in the midst of smog, the presence of God as he continues to walk the streets of our city. Because God is in the city.”

We pray for peace on the streets of our cities and for justice. We pray for a powerful awareness, as our Holy Father says, of the presence of God as Jesus walks and carries His Cross through the wounded streets of our cities. Two years ago, on April 4, 2018, we commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and I shared a Pastoral Letter “*The Dream and Our Deepest, Truest Selves*” which has been reposted on our [DRVC.org](http://DRVC.org) website. Little did we know as we prayed and prepared for that 50 year commemoration of Dr. King’s death how relevant it would be two years later.

*Continued on Next Page*

Continued from page 9

Allow me to share a brief section of it: "With the help of God, whose love he preached so fervently, Dr. King's sacrifice tipped the scales of human history and brought us closer to the fulfillment of a dream, one that recognizes the dignity of men and women of all races, one that recognizes that the sanctity of human life is the foundation of every human right, and one that recognizes the rich contributions and legacy of African Americans in our country."

May each one of us stir the flame of Christ's love and peace at every moment and in every situation in these painful and traumatic days.

## Statement to US by Pope Francis

**The pope's message to the U.S. was part of his address during Wednesday's general audience at the Vatican. Here's the full text of that portion of his remarks:**

*"I greet the English-speaking faithful joining us through the media.*

*"Dear brothers and sisters in the United States, I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd.*

*"My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognize that "the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost,"*

*"Today I join the Church in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and in the entire United States, in praying for the repose of the soul of George Floyd and of all those others who have lost their lives as a result of the sin of racism. Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn. May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of America, intercede for all those who work for peace and justice in your land and throughout the world.*

*"May God bless all of you and your families. "*