

# The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 +

[www.pothc.org](http://www.pothc.org) + [www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset](http://www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset)

**LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!**



Faith is the realization of what is  
hoped for and evidence  
of things not seen.



Hebrews 11:1

**Come and pray with us!**

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time— August 11, 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 BAPTISM**

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

**WE CELEBRATE RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M.

or call Father Michael for an appointment.

**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

Mrs. Judith Pickel  
 Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Tricia Clarke  
 Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch  
 Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Deacon Ralph Rivera  
 Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Michele Hahn  
 Pastoral Associate

Mr. Brian Reich  
 Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein  
 Youth Minister

## PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth  
 Parish Secretary

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

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano  
 P/T Bookkeeper

Dr. Vincent Mazurek  
 Music Minister

Mr. Roberto Maza  
 Mr. Vincent Matula  
 Custodians

Mrs. Mary Pannone  
 Religious Education Secretary  
 (hcreled@optonline.net)

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra  
 Weekend Sacristan

### Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses



#### August 17th/18th

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

### 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:

**Phil Graziouse      Doreen Hau**  
**Marlene Starr**

### *Scripture Readings for August 18, 2019*



+ *Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10*  
 + *Hebrews 12:1-4*  
 + *Luke 12:49-53*

## Mass Intentions Schedule



### Week of August 11th, 9AM Mass

**Mon.** Joseph Cappiello  
**Tue.** Gemma & Carmine Cusano  
**Wed.** Alex Koshevnikov (living)

### Wed., Aug. 14th, Assumption BVM Vigil Mass

**7:00 PM** Kathy Boncimino

### Thu., Aug. 15th, Assumption of the BVM Mass

**9:00 AM** Louise Aversano

### Saturday, August 17th, 5 PM Mass

Jeanette Mancuso, Anthony Misiti, Jean Brown, Bill Reynolds, Michael McDermott

### Sunday, August 18th, 20th Sun. in Ordinary Time

**8:00 AM** Gerri-Lynn Nehl  
**9:30 AM** Stephen Reilly, Claire Higgins, Albert Geerders, Donna Armine, John Furlan  
**11:30 AM** People of the Parish

# While I am Away

by Father Michael

*(Due to the vacation schedule for the Office Staff, as well as my own vacation, this column is being written on July 22.)*

I took off this weekend for a bit of playtime with some of my friends. As you read this column, I will be sailing away on a happy, little (well, not so little) cruise ship. We left from New York and will be back next Saturday. This trip is not so much about the destination; none of the ports we are visiting are particularly exciting. This trip is more about a small group of friends spending time together and enjoying the comforts and services of a cruise ship. I am confident it will be a relaxing and joyful week. As always, I am grateful to my brother priests who are willing to help me so that I can take some time away. And, I am grateful to the Office Staff and Pastoral Team who also help in my being able to take some time off.

This week is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We have a Mass on Wednesday evening at 7:00PM and Thursday morning at 9:00AM. A couple of years back I added a 7:00AM Mass on Holy Days. The reason why I did this is because the 7:00AM service on Ash Wednesday is always well attended (about 100 people). So, I thought it would also be a helpful opportunity for folks to celebrate a Holy Day. Unfortunately, Holy Days do not draw the same number of people that Ash Wednesday does. We would get about two dozen people, but most of those who attended the early Mass were “regulars” at the 9:00 Mass. So, moving forward, I will not be offering the early-bird special, except on Ash Wednesday. It is interesting to note that in most of the country Holy Days have been moved to the closest Sunday. Celebrating Holy Days on the traditional calendar days is something that is pretty much limited to the Northeast.

I am planning to have a Parish Clean-Up Day on Saturday, August 24. We need to hire a dumpster to haul away things that once seemed valuable and useful but now are classified as junk. There are a number of items that need to be discarded from the parish office, the community garden, and the basement of the parish house. So, we will need people to help with the carting of debris from various corners of our property to the dumpster. In addition, there needs to be a major assault on weeds and other growth that are taking over the community garden. The area where the vegetables grow is well maintained. It is the perimeter that is being taken over. I don't know what kind of tools or machines are needed to get things under control, but it needs to get done before large areas of our property return to the control of Mother Nature. If you are interested in helping, please call the parish office. Let us know if you have any special tools or expertise to help with any of the work that needs to get done. More info to come on this.

# PARISH NEWS

The Parish Office is closed on Thursday, August 15th, for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day.

Please note the Mass times:  
Wednesday, August 14th, at 7 PM &  
Thursday, August 15th, at 9 AM



We pray for the following parishioner whose funeral was celebrated at Holy Cross in July:

*Peter Marsala*

May he rest in peace, and may his loved ones be consoled.

# PARISH OUTREACH



## School Supplies Program



**It's Not Too Late...**



**...to shop for school supplies!**



New items can be dropped off in the Atrium on Monday, August 12th, until 12:00 noon.



Thank you for your generous support!



# ATTENTION CATECHISTS!

The Office of FAITH FORMATION  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

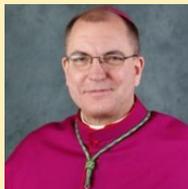
CATECHETICAL CONGRESS<sup>2019</sup> DRVC CC<sup>2019</sup>  
**Stay With Us**

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**  
St. John the Baptist High School, West Islip

Featuring Keynote Speakers



Dr. Mary Healy



Bishop John

The Parish of the Holy Cross would like to invite our Catechists to attend the 2019 Catechetical Congress on Saturday, September 14th. We will cover the cost for the first 10 Catechists who register with our office.

This year's Catechetical Congress promises to be exciting, enjoyable, and rewarding! The worship, keynote address, and many workshops will touch on every aspect of catechetical parish ministry. It will also be an opportunity for renewal, formation, and fellowship.

The Congress will include: Morning Prayer, Workshop 1, Workshop 2, Lunch, Keynote Address, Special Blessing of Catechists & Commissioning, Opportunities for Roundtable Discussions, Visit to Exhibits and Vendors. There are 50 workshops to choose from!

If you are a Holy Cross Catechist, and interested in attending, please contact Tricia, our Religious Education Coordinator, at 631-265-2200 x112.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## Liturgical Ministers for Confirmation

The Religious Education Office is looking for volunteers to serve at Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation is being administered to our Level 9 students on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10am, 1pm and 4pm. If anyone is interested in being a Eucharistic Minister or Altar Server, please call the office at 631-265-2200, ext. 111 or 112.

Thank You!

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## A Friendly Reminder from Religious Education

Registration for our 2019-2020 Religious Education program is past due. If you would like to register your child in our Religious Education program, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!



## SAVE THE DATE

September 21st, 2019  
Fall Festival



*Place:* Parish of the Holy Cross

*Time:* 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

*Come join us for a day of Family Fun!*

## Calling All Vendors!

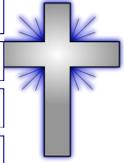
If anyone is interested in taking a table to sell their crafts and/or merchandise (new items only, please) at our Fall Festival on September 21<sup>st</sup>, please stop by the Religious Education Office to fill out a registration form. Price per table is \$50.00. **FIRST COME – FIRST SERVE!!**

We will also be having a Holy Cross table, and we would ask that each vendor be willing to donate one of their items to our table.

Anyone else willing to donate, please call the office (631-265-2200 ext. 111 or 112), and let us know what you would like to contribute.



# ATTENTION PARISHIONERS



*Coming in October: Two opportunities for adult parishioners!*

## **Awakening Faith and Journey with Jesus**

These six-week programs of Catholic renewal are built around a simple format: hospitality, input, and small group discussion. The process of conversation and sharing around key topics of faith, in a friendly, non-threatening, and confidential environment, provides a unique path toward spiritual enrichment and growth.

Each program consists of six 90 minute sessions which include prayer, Scripture, information on a topic, small group sharing, and Q & A.

Coffee, tea, and cake are provided.

**Awakening Faith** will be held twice a month on **Wednesday afternoons, Oct. 9, 23, Nov. 13, 27, Dec. 11, and 18, 1:15 – 2:45 PM.**

**Journey with Jesus** will be held on six consecutive **Wednesday evenings, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and Nov. 6, 7:00- 8:30 PM.**

Space is limited to 30 people for each program, and materials need to be ordered, so please get your registration in soon. No prior experience is needed – just a desire to grow closer to God and to one another.

If you have any questions, please call Jude at ext. 116.

*Please check one, tear off, and return to the Parish Office:*

I want to participate in \_\_\_ **Awakening Faith** or \_\_\_ **Journey with Jesus**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 11, 2019  
19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Our Church continues to suffer as a result of past sins of sexual abuse of minors. Victim survivors of abuse and their families also continue to carry the terrible effects of that abuse. We pray that the fire of the Holy Spirit may descend upon the Church to purify and sanctify her. It is also important that we are all aware of recent developments that will cause uncertainty and present serious challenges for us in the months and perhaps years ahead.

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the Child Victims Act (CVA) into law last February. The CVA suspends for one year any statute of limitations associated with alleged sexual abuse of a minor. This law will allow currently time-barred lawsuits to be brought against individuals as well as public and private institutions, regardless of how many years or even decades ago the abuse may have taken place.

When the one-year window to file lawsuits opens on August 14, 2019, hundreds, if not thousands of lawsuits are expected to be filed across New York State against dioceses, parishes, municipalities, public schools, hospitals and a broad range of not-for-profit charitable organizations, both religious and non-religious. The financial impact of this law may be far reaching.

However, if we are people of the Paschal Mystery, we enter the unknown with what we do know – that the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ will sustain and strengthen us in the days ahead. The power of the Resurrection overcomes despair.

No doubt, we will hear about many past failures. We will again hear the heart wrenching stories of victim survivors. I have personally met with survivors of abuse, their families, friends and loved ones. I have listened at a deep level to their stories of tragedy, betrayal, trauma and their heroic efforts to engage in the process of healing. Their lifelong wounds of trauma run so deep, that only the warmth of the Holy Spirit can begin to touch, relieve and heal them. Together, we pray that the fire of the Holy Spirit brings the light of true repentance and reform, moving the Church to continue listening and responding with the humility and compassion of Jesus Christ.

It is also important that we be aware of what is already happening and has been happening for many years in our Diocese as to the extraordinary work that goes into child protection. First, the Diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Young People was established in 2003. Many years of hard work have made this office one which puts the safety and well-being of children first, and seeks to reach out to and support victim survivors of abuse. It works to ensure the screening and training of every person who works in or volunteers for the Church. If you are an employee or a volunteer in your parish, you know about background checks, VIRTUS training and the call for every member of the Church to be vigilant in protecting children.

For years, we have worked closely with law enforcement whenever an allegation of abuse is made against a member of the clergy, an employee or volunteer in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Our confidential hotline (516-594-9063) is closely monitored, and calls made to it are returned within 24 hours by a licensed mental health professional. Allegations of abuse are promptly reported to the appropriate district attorney's office and are thoroughly investigated. In addition, pastoral care and mental health support is offered to any abuse survivor who needs assistance.

These are just a few of the reforms, efforts and safeguards that have been in place since 2002 in our Diocese, and have made the Church on Long Island a truly safe environment. And we do not rest there. We continually work to discern the best ways to adjust and enhance our child protection practices, to raise consciousness in the Church and society about vigilance and to support survivors of abuse.

In 2017, we initiated our Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP) to provide a confidential mechanism for survivors to receive compensation and some measure of healing and justice. We intend to continue this program for the foreseeable future, even after the CVA takes effect, so survivors can, if they wish, be heard in a fair, respectful, confidential and timely way. To date, 370 people have filed claims with our IRCP. The vast majority of claimants – 277 to be exact – have accepted compensation totaling just over \$50 million, with 75-80 claims still being processed.

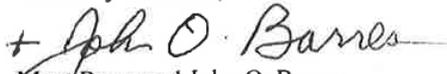
We have worked diligently with our financial and legal advisors to assess our financial position and maximize the availability of insurance coverage to meet the demands that will likely be imposed by anticipated CVA litigation. Please also know that parish collections and financial donations made through the Catholic Ministries Appeal will continue to be used, consistent with our commitment to our parishioners, to support the Diocese, and its ministries and pursue the goals of the Catholic Ministry Appeal. The parish offertory and Catholic Ministry Appeal funds have not and will not be used to resolve claims for clergy sexual abuse.

The work of the Church – of administering the Sacraments, of teaching, healing, advocating, serving, and ministering to the poor and vulnerable – can and must continue, despite the sins of the past. I speak in greater detail about all of this, and about the Diocese's robust safe environment practices and commitment to them, in a Catholic Faith Network (CFN) special video which you can view on CFN television, the Diocesan website ([www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org)) and on Diocese of Rockville Centre social media platforms.

The coming months will require perseverance and prayer if we are to emerge even more dedicated to Christ's saving mission. As the opening of the CVA window takes place near the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, we are reminded to turn to Mary our Mother and draw courage from the one who did not look away from her suffering Son. She waited patiently, suffered with Him, and shared in His victory over sin and death.

This is the same Mary who, as Mother of the Church, gathered with the Apostles in the locked room, waiting for the power of the Holy Spirit to descend at Pentecost. As we enter a time of Paschal Mystery suffering, may Mary guide us, so that together we may continue to carry out the mission of her Son: the building up of the Kingdom of God throughout Long Island and the world.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

# CASH CALENDAR



## PARISH OF THE HOLY CROSS CASH CALENDAR AUGUST 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>\$10 Per Chance</b>	<b>31 Chances to Win</b>	<b>\$50 Per Day</b>	<b>\$500 ~ August 15</b>	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 \$500	16 \$50	17 \$50
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

*Cash Calendar, AUGUST, 2019*

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*Cash Calendar, AUGUST, 2019*

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*Cash Calendar, AUGUST, 2019*

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