

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!

Live in a manner

Worthy of the Gospel.

Philippians 1:27



Come and pray with us!

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 20, 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

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM,

Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

(The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 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

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

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Patricia Becker | Susan Ceely-Sack |
| Francesco DiMartino | Ann Egan |
| Jim Emerson | Sienna Fricke |
| Phil Graziouse | Bob Grieco |
| Chuck Madden | Olivia Melia |
| 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 September 20, 9AM Mass

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Mon. | Francisco & Angelina Saavedra |
| Tue. | Luz M. Rivera |
| Wed. | Joseph Turrisi |
| Thu. | Patrick Kearney |

*New Life
in Christ*

Saturday, September 26th, 5 PM Mass

Victor Lamarque, Patrick Divers, Janina Gren, Steve Moll, Sofia Garbe

Sunday, Sept. 27th, 26th Sun. in Ordinary Time

| | |
|----------|---|
| 9:30 AM | Anthony Brady, Dr. Nicola Muia, Tom Dunn, Luz M. Rivera, Rose Schreiber |
| 11:30 AM | Frank Surdyka |

Scripture Readings for September 27, 2020



- + Ezekiel 18:25-28
- + Philippians 2:1-11
- + Matthew 21:28-32



Banns of Marriage Third Time

Danielle Baribault & Michael Lanciotti

PLAYING CATCH UP

by Father Michael

It feels like the last few weeks I am a half-step behind the eight ball. Last week my post-Labor Day article included reflections on Labor Day. Today my article includes reflections on the feast day for our parish, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, which was celebrated this past Monday. Hopefully, I will get caught up with life before I see any more events in my rear-view mirror.

It is important for a parish to remember its feast day. It reminds us of our history; it reminds us of our identity. For many, this parish holds a special place in their hearts. This is the place where we embrace God in the sacraments. This is the place where we journey with one another in faith. Even more so, these past few months have deepened our gratitude for this community. The challenges and crosses that we now cope with have brought all of us to a deeper appreciation for the strength our faith can bring. We are blessed to share this time together and pray the Spirit will continue to lead and guide our parish as we move forward.

It seems the first few days of school have been a positive experience for most of our families. It is a stressful time for kids, parents, teachers and everyone in between. Hopefully, new routines will quickly be established to help bring a bit of balance and peacefulness into everyone's life.

This past week we had our first parent meetings for our Religious Education program. There was an option to either attend in person or to view a video that Tricia Clarke, our Religious Education Coordinator, created for parents. There has been a rush in registrations during the last couple of weeks. We have a little more than half the number of families that registered last year.

There are a few areas within ministry where we need to increase our involvement. First, it would be helpful to have more ushers and greeters who are available to help with welcoming and seating folks as they arrive for our weekend Masses. There will certainly need to be an organized effort on our part as we look towards our Christmas Masses. We don't want to be turning people away on Christmas, but we are limited in how many people we can accommodate. In addition to that, we are in the midst of forming a new ministry which I am calling HCTV (Holy Cross TV). There is an ever-increasing volume of work associated with using the new TV screens. Also, there are ongoing needs to record and live stream different parish events. If you are able to help with any of these tasks, please give the Parish Office a call. Many thanks.

Onward we go...

LITURGY BYTES

Our Church



This past Monday, September 14th, we celebrated the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the parish's feast day. As you look around the worship area, especially upward, you see that the roof stands on four columns in the form of a cross. The columns are shaped in tree-like patterns to echo the beautiful trees outside which are visible through the glass windows in the worship area. The tree-like columns are also meant to remind us of the "tree of the cross" on which Jesus gave His life for us.

The unique crucifix over the main altar symbolizes the heart of our Christian faith. It is a reminder of both Good Friday and Easter. The cross itself is clear acrylic to allow the light to pass through as a reminder that the wood of the cross has been transformed by the light of the Resurrection. You will notice that the figure of Christ is rising, and Jesus is gesturing with one hand upward toward the Father. The other hand has Jesus gesturing toward the Eucharist and the people who celebrate the Eucharist by living the Paschal mystery every day.

The white marble altar along with the marble ambo (pulpit) and marble lectern are the signs of worship. At these places, we proclaim the Word of the Lord. At the altar, we remember and celebrate Jesus' life-giving death and Resurrection in the ancient symbols of bread and wine which become for each of us the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Under the altar, encased in a diamond like pyramid is a stone from an area of Calvary in the Holy Land showing our connection to the Lord's cross and Resurrection. Each week, we go out from here empowered to bring joy and peace to our world.

Have a blessed, safe, and healthy week.

~~~~~*Michele Hahn*

# PARISH NEWS

## RCIA

***Are you seeking Baptism? Are you a baptized Catholic who never celebrated First Communion and Confirmation? Have you been baptized in another Christian faith and now desire to become Catholic?***



**RCIA**

If your answer is “YES” to any of these questions, we want to hear from you. The Church gives us a beautiful process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who seek to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church. This year’s RCIA will be starting soon. If you’re interested and would like additional information, please contact Jude Pickel at **631-265-2200 x116**.

## Blessing of the Animals

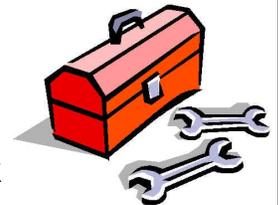
To commemorate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have individual blessings of your animals in the courtyard on Sunday, October 4th, between 10:45 and 11:15 AM!



## Special Collections

This weekend, we will also be collecting for the **St. Pius X Enriched Living Facility**.

Next weekend we will also be collecting for our **Repairs and Major Renovations** fund. Thank you for your support of these important collections!



## Community Vegetable Garden - Help Needed!

Our vegetable garden provides wholesome vegetables for those seeking assistance from Parish Outreach. As we close out the season, we will have a **Vegetable Garden Clean-up Day** to prepare the garden for the winter/next year.

If you enjoy gardening or are looking for community service hours for school, join us for our clean-up day on **Saturday, September 26th, beginning at 8AM**. Our raindate will be Sunday, September 27th, starting at 12 noon. Please bring rakes, shovels, work gloves, etc. We need your help!



# CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

==== 2020 ====

## Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace: A Prayer for Civility

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where uncivil words prevail, show me how to model love.

Help me remember the God-given dignity of all and invite others to do the same.

Show me how to build bridges and not walls

and see first what unites us rather than how we diverge.

Let me seek to understand before asking to be understood.

Give me a listening heart filled with empathy and compassion.

May I be clear in sharing my own position  
and respectful and civil in describing those of others.

Let me never tolerate hateful ideas.

May I invite all to charity and love.

Lord, help me to imitate your compassion and mercy.

Make me an instrument of your peace.

Amen.

*Inspired by Nine Rules for Civility from the Catholic Tradition, Bishop Zubik*



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Find this pledge and other resources and prayers at [civilizeit.org](http://civilizeit.org).



# DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

## THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF LONG ISLAND OPEN HOUSES

You are invited to explore the benefits of a  
Catholic High School Education

*Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below.*

| DATE                  | TIME                | SCHOOL                          |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b> |                     |                                 |
| SATURDAY, SEPT. 26    | 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.    | SACRED HEART ACADEMY            |
| SUNDAY, SEPT. 27      | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.    | ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL       |
|                       | 2 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.  | ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL          |
| <b>OCTOBER 2020</b>   |                     |                                 |
| SATURDAY, OCT. 3      | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.    | KELLENBERG MEMORIAL H.S.        |
|                       | 2 P.M. - 4 P.M.     | CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL           |
| SUNDAY, OCT. 4        | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.    | OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY       |
|                       | 1 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.  | ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL         |
| SATURDAY, OCT. 17     | 11 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. | HOLY TRINITY DIOC. H.S.         |
| SUNDAY, OCT. 18       | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.    | ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DIOC. H.S. |

### TEST FOR ADMISSION TO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS ONLINE FOR 2020-2021



NOVEMBER 7, 2020  
REGISTER TODAY  
[WWW.TACHSINFO.COM](http://WWW.TACHSINFO.COM)  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE  
OCT. 23, 2020