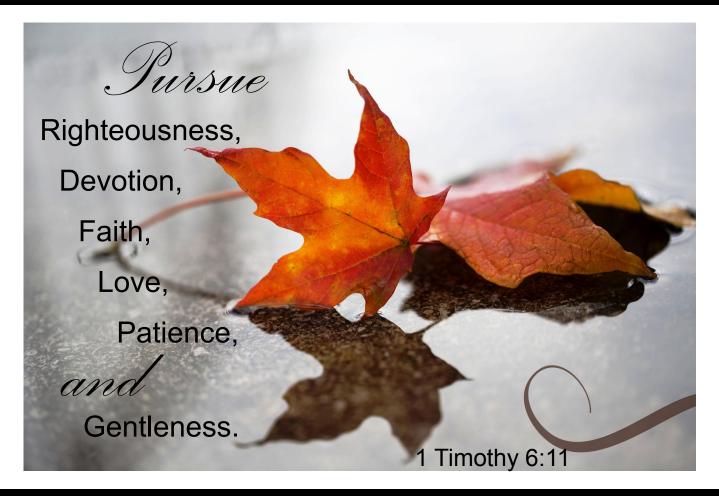
The Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Road + Nesconset, NY 11767 + 631.265.2200 + www.pothc.org + www.facebook.com/pothcnesconset

LET ALL BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST!



Come and pray with us!

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 29, 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 RECONCILIATION Saturday: 3:45 P.M.—4:30 P.M. or call Father Michael for an appointment.

WE CELEBRATE BAPTISM

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

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

Mrs. Mary Pannone

(hcreled@optonline.net)

Mrs. Mary Inghilterra

Weekend Sacristan

Religious Education Secretary

ín Chríst

Mrs. Jane Wirth Parish Secretary

Dr. Vincent Mazurek Music Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

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

Mrs. Barbara DeStefano P/T Bookkeeper Mr. Roberto Maza Mr. Vincent Matula Custodians

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Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses

October 5th/6th

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5:00 PM Fr. Michael 8:00 AM Fr. Michael 9:30 AM Fr. Kenan Peters 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:

Patricia Becker Veronica Follo Doreen Hau Marlene Starr George V. Daly Phil Graziose Joseph Santamaria Lisa Tauger

If you would like to have the name of your loved one listed in our prayers for the sick for 4 weeks, please contact the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 or email to pothc@optonline.net .

Mass Intentions Schedule

- Week of September 29, 9AM MassMon.John SchultzTue.Dudek family (living)
- Wed. Bob DeFilippis
- **Thu.** Maria Conte

Saturday, October 5th, 5 PM Mass

Joseph LaRosa, Patricia Maloney, Fr. Michael Driscoll, Michael E. Forde, Anthony Telemko

Sunday, October 6th, 27th Sun. in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 AM Joan O'Hanlon
- 9:30 AM Annmarie Polizzi, Elizabeth Pantusco, Dorothy & Harold Kohler, Mickae Ciampi
- 11:30 AM People of the Parish

Scripture Readings for October 6, 2019



- + Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
- + 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
- + Luke 17:5-10

'Tis the Season for Corn Mazes, Pumpkins & Cider

by Father Michael

October begins this week. Cooler weather, colorful leaves, autumn festivals and all sorts of other activities distinguish this transitional month to make it very unique. For Fr. Frank, who lives out on the North Fork, these days are a bit of a challenge, particularly on weekends. That area of Long Island becomes a hub of autumn activities. Unfortunately, the roads are limited and gridlock becomes part of the experience as well. Remember everyone, patience is a virtue.

I can't begin to express my gratitude for all the people who made last weekend's Fall Festival come to life. There is a separate page which identifies the many parishioners who offered helping hands as well as local businesses who supported our effort. Be sure to also look at the pages of pictures which captured some of the happy events of the day. Thank you to our new Coordinator of Religious Education, Tricia Clarke, who came up with this idea, formed a great committee of parishioners and brought it to completion.

The weather could not have been any better. In fact, it almost felt more like "welcome back summer" rather than a fall festival. There is a tradition in the parish which dates back to its earliest days; rather than charge a specific price for events or activities, we simply invite a free will offering. We are not able to do this with every aspect of parish life, but when we can it is a great dynamic. Some parents were surprised and delighted that there was no cost associated with a pony ride, or pumpkin painting, or even food. There was a great spirit of community as folks gathered for a hamburger, some music and a festive environment to simply be with one another. Although we have not yet formally evaluated everything that took place, I think we have a winner which will make it onto our calendar every year. Moments like this help to define and carry on the spirit of Holy Cross.

I will be away this weekend making my annual retreat. Normally this time in prayer is a full week, but this year it is only a long weekend. For me, this kind of experience is even richer if there is a journey involved. I love to travel. This year my travels bring me back to a place where I have already made several beautiful retreats, the Land of Enchantment, New Mexico. Please remember me in your prayers as I will hold Holy Cross and the many good people who are part of this community in my prayers.

Next Saturday we will be remembering the Feast of St. Francis (which actually falls on Friday) with the annual blessing of the animals. If you have a little critter that is a pet and brings you joy, I would be happy to bless it next Saturday afternoon at 3:00 PM in the courtyard.

LITURGY BYTES

Thought for the Week: Come, enter the Sacred, receive the message...

Do you remember the parish Church you attended growing up----what it looked like, its size etc. This week I would like us to focus on another important part of the Liturgy and that is the environment in our churches.

Even though the Eucharist is central to our focus and of prime importance for our participation, our surroundings also influence us when we are present at Mass. Everything in a church is there to enhance our participation in the religious rites we celebrate. Every building which serves as a church says something about who God is and about those who come to worship.

Most of us have probably never heard what the building and its furnishings are telling us or that these elements affect our participation. Most people take for granted the shape, decorations and furnishings of the building.

Locally for many folks in this area of Long Island, over 30 years ago in 1988, the "Mother Church of Ronkonkoma" – St. Joseph's, was divided and 3 new parishes were formed. Perhaps some of you, like myself, experienced those early days of worship. Some were fortunate enough to find temporary homes in the lower chapel of the Cenacle Retreat House, or at the Cleary School for the Deaf and even in a bank building. Temporary makeshift altars with modest furnishings were used to create sacred space to gather the families week after week to celebrate our most precious gift – the Mass – and to develop faith-filled communities.

Presently, do you pay attention to the banners or decorations when you come to Church? Perhaps these items are more noticeable to you on special feasts and holidays. What about the size of the Church's worship space ---- a small chapel vs. a large cathedral? Does the size of the room put you in a different mood? What about the temporary places used for Mass, like school auditoriums? I am sure we all would respond differently to the above questions.

If you have the opportunity to visit different churches, what do you first think about when you enter that sacred space? Is it the size, the furnishings or the community it serves? How about those large buildings where the altar seems miles away or those Gothic churches with the high vaulted ceilings? On a different note, what about those tiny, wooden, country churches with the very short aisles and simple décor? How are these various spaces engaging us into the wonder and awe of God?

We all have our preferences for the kind of building we think best helps us actively join in the worship of God. I know firsthand that great care was taken in constructing the 3 "new" parishes carved out of St. Joseph's in our area. Over and above the design of the building, beautiful art, well-designed furniture and well-crafted liturgical items also foster participation. They are there for a purpose.

I invite you to choose something the next time in Church to reflect on: maybe the altar or the crucifix. Suggested reflection questions: Does the altar call us to come to His table to be fed alongside our sisters and brothers in Christ, or does the crucifix suggest the terrible price of sin that helps us realize that through the Mass, Jesus liberates us from our sins because of His great love for us? I hope your choice will enhance the message you hear as you enter the Sacred.

Have a blessed week ~~~~~ Michele Hahn



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?

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.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

Are you in fourth grade (or above) and interested in becoming an Altar Server?

Girls and boys interested in serving are invited to come to trainings and find out all that is involved in being an Altar Server. At the end of the 3 training sessions, you will be able to assist at Mass as an Altar Server. Training will be held from 4:30 to 5:30PM on 3 consecutive Wednesday afternoons on the following dates: October 9, 16 & 23. Please call the Parish Office at 631-265-2200 x 122 to register. Thank you!



RCIA

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are in desperate need of Catechists for Level 3. If you are interested in teaching our children, please contact the Religious Education Office. Thank you!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A Friendly Reminder from Religious Education

We are now in the process of setting up classes for our 2019-2020 Religious Education Program. It is important that we have a registration form for each child so that they are guaranteed placement in their previous class. If you haven't registered yet, please do so ASAP. Thank you!

YOUTH MINISTRY

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Hello everyone! Are you in high school? Do you want to make new friends as you play fun games? Do you want to build more of an understanding about yourself and your faith?



If you answered "Yes!" to any one of those questions above, 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 youth events! Take a look:

Sunday, September 29: The Youth Group will be having a fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this September are invited to attend. Hope to see you there!

Sunday, October 6: We will meet for a fun Youth Night from 6 to 8PM. Come join us!

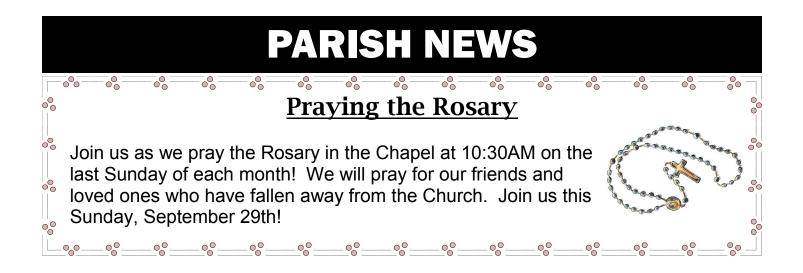
So, if you are thinking about coming to the church to see what we are all about, do it! You will not regret it. Come with a friend or family member, and join us as we continue to grow in the endless love of Christ.

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 hcyouthgroup15@gmail.com or call the parish office. Thank you!

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Blessing of the Animals

To commemorate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have the **Blessing of the Animals** Saturday, October 5th, at 3PM!



Special Collection

Next weekend, at the offertory, we will also be collecting for **Respect Life**. Thank you for your support of this important collection!



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Congratulations to the following children who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation this week!

Gabriella Adams Daniel Anderson Joseph Antonacci **Owen Arbocus** Leana Arcese Michael Avione Alexandria Azzarelli **Caitlyn Barbera** Vanessa Barry **Charles Bassani** Alexa Beauchamp-Garcia **Madison Berroyer** Kaitlyn Biase Larissa Bieler Michael Boccafola **Jacqueline Boeri** Natalie Boeri **Rvan Brid** Kaylyn Burchard Kristina Caceci Marissa Calderaro Abigail Campanelli Olivia Canzona Andrew Caputo Maria Caputo **Grace Caroppoli** Nicholas Cassata Laura Castronova **Michael Chiarello Brian** Chmela Jake Citrin Ryan Clark Zachary Clifford **Ryan** Cuccurullo Jillian Cunningham Charlotte DeBono Liam DeBono Gianna DeFranza Alyssa DeGregory Ryan DeLauzon

Casadee DeLeon Haley DeMaio Luke DeMarco Megan DiBiasi Samantha DiGianni Andrea DiLeo **Thomas DiMondo** Nicholas Doolan Danae Doscher Joseph Dounias **Thomas Doyle** Melissa Dunleavy **Travis Edwards** Brianna Everhart Michael Fallon Isabella Fantauzzi Katherine Ferrara **Daniel Feulner Cierra Ferraro** William Fitzsimmons Aidan Foley Amanda Froehlich **Glenn Gandarillas** Joseph Gandarillas Olivia Garofalo Anthony Gergoric Sophia Giglio Giordano Giuliani Sarah Gonzalez Isabella Gramarossa Victoria Guardino Jaime Guiffre Michael Hagens Priscilla Hansen Caileigh Harrigan **Trent Hauter Christopher Hintze** Alexa Hiranandani Alexandra Hoering Stephen Hunt

Rachel Iasenza Krystian Karwowski Daniel Keenan Aubrev Kennedy **Caroline Kezys** Sydney Kondracki Jonathan LaViola Hannah Lentz **Benjamin Licata** Krista Lisanti **Tiffany Lopez** Jack Loubier Alexandria Mackay Brendan Madden Michael Malandruccolo **Brendon Marz** Gabriella Mavridis **Delaney McCarthy** Ryan McKee Erin McSweeney Jack Meadows Madelyn Melendez Maxwell Melendez Angelina Melomo Sean Mensch Anthony Mequia Ella Minerva Joseph Mingione Kellyanne Moran Amanda Mormon **Abigail Morreale** Antonina Mussumeci Michael Nasta Jessica Natoli Patrick Nulty David O'Brien. Jr. Catherine O'Connor Kathleen Olsen Gina Palminteri Peter Petito

Kira Pirrera Daniel Porti Jack Quigley Logan Renkowski Jaclvn Roach Meghan Roche **Christopher Romano** Matthew Ruggiero Nicole Ruggiero Daniel Russo Evan SanFilippo Heather Sanger Joseph Santoro Anthony Scarabino Chloe Schindlar Haley Schindlar Maggie Sckalor **Cristiano Scolaro** Timothy Sigismonti Julia Spadaccini **Gerald Suppa** Alexander Terlato Paige Thatcher **Ryan Torre Christopher Trebing** Leah Treglia Tyler Trojcak Anthony Valenzano **Daniel Van Brunt Rvan Verderame** Grace Vibal Carter Vigneaux Teresa Vilagos Antonia Vinasco Chloe Visnius **Christopher Volino** Samantha Wallace **Brooke Warren** Jacob Wood **Robert Woolney**

TANKOU ROMRIGIOUS I

The Religious Education Department would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all those who helped make the Family Fall Festival a huge success! Whether through donations, volunteering or simply attending, we are truly grateful.

There are so many thank-yous to be said:

To our Donors: Bagel Café, Gabowabo Party Rental, Nesconset Cards & Gífts, Olsen's Nursery, Party Hardy, People's United Bank.

To our Guests: Laughing Pony Parties, Inc., The Nesconset Fire Dept., Sweet Briar Nature Center. And, a special appearance by the Sokol Dragons – Spikey and Stripey.

To our Cook: Glenn Beccarellí and hís helper, Nícolas

- To our Hospitality Committee: Diane and Nick Lombardo
- To our Entertainers: Brian Reich and Steve Matonti
- To our Maintenance Staff: Roberto Maza, Vincent Matula, Marcelino Carralero

To our Level 7 Volunteers: Jase Heffernan, Gíanna Intíntolí, Peyton McGrade, Bríanna Naumann, Theresa O'Bríen, Líly Pellegríno, Isabella Rossellí, Níco Skartsíarís, Kayla Sokol, Aídan Story (L8), Sophía Trívígno.

And last, but not least, our Committee. We could not have done this without your support, dedication and hard work:

Barbara and Bill Burger, Kevin Clarke, Kathy Hershberger, Mary Inghilterra, Carol Johnsen, Arlene Lechner, Josephine Matula, Patrice Saccone, Barbara and Steve Shipman and Annmarie Zimmermann.



Thank You Everyone!!! Trícía § Mary

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

Our first Family Fall Festival was a huge success! Here are some pictures of the fun day!



FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL















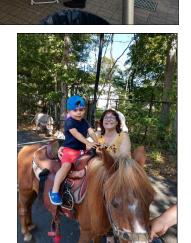












LITURGICAL MINISTER



Attention: Altar Servers, Lectors, Ushers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Let us know if you would like to continue in your ministry for the 2019-2020 Liturgical Year and, also, if you would like to serve on Holy Days. Your dedication to the ministry is most appreciated by the Parish. Please complete the form below and place in the Sunday collection basket or return to the Parish Office on or before October 20th. Also, please let us know if you are a "snow bird" and need to be taken off the schedule for a period of time. **If at any other time during the year you need to stop your service, please contact the Parish Office**.

RECOMMITMENT

I wish to continue in my ministry for the 2019-2020 year.
YES NO I understand I may return to my ministry at any time once I have informed the Parish Office.
I am an: Altar Server, Lector, Usher, Extraordinary Minister
Preferred Masses
Name
Address
Telephone
Email
Please \checkmark if you are an EM and you would like to bring the Eucharist to the homebound.
&
Are you available to minister on Holy Days?
(Solemnity of Mary, Ascension Thursday, Assumption, Immaculate Conception)
YES NO

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

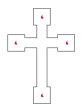
On September 26th our country celebrated National Family Day. Pope Francis reminds us that, "*the strength of the family lies in its capacity to love and to teach how to love."* The family is where faith, hope and love are nurtured and fostered.

Your gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal provide support for programs that are designed to assist parents as they help their children grow in their faith. Please join us in supporting families in our community!



Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal				
Parish Parish of the Holy Cr	oss—176	Pledge:	\$	
Name		Down paym	nent:	\$
Address				
City, State, Zip:				
Phone:	Signature:			Date:
	THANK Y	OU!		

CASH CALENDAR



Parísh of the Holy Cross September 2019

September 14th is the Exaltation of the Holy Cross!

		Mon		Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2		3		4	5	6	7
\$50		\$50		\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
3	9		10		11	12	13	14
\$50		\$50		\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$500
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22	23		24		25	26	27	28
\$50		\$50		\$50	» \$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
29	30	0					TO WIN ~ \$10 PER	
\$50		\$50		\$500	ON SEPTEMBER	R 14 ~ EXALTAT	ION OF THE HOLY	CROSS

Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019	Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019
NAME	NAME
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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019	Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019
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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019	Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019
NAME	NAME
ADDRESS	ADDRESS
TOWN	TOWN
PHONE	PHONE

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 29th		10:30 AM
• PRAY THE ROSARY		Chapel
YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium
	0-01 101	Atilum
Monday, September 30th		7 PM
• FALL FESTIVAL FOLLOW-UP		Fr. Joe Room
Tuesday, October 1st		10 AM
• IN STITCHES		Fr. Joe Room
• FINANCE COMMITTEE	7PM	Fr. Joe Room
Wednesday, October 2nd	1	11:30AM-2:30PM
• SENIORS		Atrium
• JOURNEY WITH JESUS	7PM	Atrium, Chapel
Thursday, October 3rd		10 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY		Fr. Joe Room
• CATECHIST KICK-OFF	7PM	Atrium/FJ Rm.
Saturday, October 5th		3 PM
• BLESSING OF ANIMALS		Courtyard
• HOLY HOUR 3:45	5-4:45PM	Worship Area
• COMMISSIONING OF CATECH	ISTS 5PN	M Worship Area
Sunday, October 6th		All Masses
• COMMISSIONING OF CATECH	ISTS	Worship Area
• ANOINTING OF THE SICK		Worship Area
• BAPTISMS		Worship Area
• YOUTH NIGHT	6-8PM	Atrium

Parish Outreach Food Pantry

Next Saturday and Sunday, October 5th/6th, will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

- Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxed Potatoes
- Mayonnaise
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Juice Boxes
- Coffee
- Bar Soap / Body Wash Liquid Soap

Please check expiration dates! It will greatly assist the volunteers who stack the pantry with your donated goods. Thank you.

REMINDERS

Anointing of the Sick

In the past, people received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick only when they were gravely ill. However, the Church believes that the Anointing of the Sick should be experienced while we are still able to be aware of God's peaceful presence within us.

You are strongly encouraged to receive this Sacrament if you are having upcoming surgery, are dealing with a chronic or debilitating illness, are suffering from addiction, mental health issues or frailty.

On the first Sunday of each month, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered after the

9:30 AM Mass. Sunday, October 6th, is the next date the Anointing will be offered.



Holy Hour for Peace

We offer our Holy Hour on the first Saturday of the month from 3:45 to 4:45PM in the Worship Area. The next one will take place on **Saturday, October 5th**.

Please come and spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for God's gift of peace to touch our wounded world.





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