

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!

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 8, 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

Deacon Ralph Rivera
 Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Judith Pickel
 Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Michele Hahn
 Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Tricia Clarke
 Coordinator of Religious Education

Mr. Brian Reich
 Director of Music Ministry

Mrs. Mary Anne Mc Culloch
 Coordinator of Parish Outreach

Ms. Alexandra Roecklein
 Youth Minister

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Jane Wirth
 Parish Secretary

Dr. Vincent Mazurek
 Music Minister

Mrs. Mary Pannone
 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

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses



September 14th/15th

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

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of September 8, 9AM Mass

Mon. Doreen Hau (living)
Tue. Sal Lane & Chris Grimaldi
Wed. Mary Shipman
Thu. Matthew Akuntius & Thomas Kearnes

Saturday, September 14th, 5 PM Mass

Donato Rivera, Maryann Follo, Bobby Kieley,
 Vincent Mattera, Matthew Moon, Denise Lamarque

Sunday, Sept. 15th, 24th Sun. in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Gerald Dayharsh
11:30 AM Lillian Vissichelli, Gaetana DiMondo,
 Robert Dransite, Dave O'Riordan, Peter
 Marsala, Anthony & Lucille Tortorelli

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
Veronica Follo	Phil Graziose
Doreen Hau	Joseph Santamaria
Marlene Starr	

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.

Scripture Readings for September 15, 2019



+ Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
 + 1 Timothy 1:12-17
 + Luke 15:1-32

Picking up Steam

by Father Michael

I'm sure families are adjusting to the new rhythm of school days and coming up with routines that work for all. With the passing of Labor Day, not only does life return to normal within the education system but, also, within the Church. During the months of July and August, the array of usual business unfolds at a much slower pace. Our summer office hours have now ended, and we find the pace picking up in all areas of parish life. This was even a busy week for funerals (we had 3). Undoubtedly, there will still be days of warmth and sunshine that remind us of summer, but there will be less playtime to enjoy them.

Last Friday was my day off, and I wanted to do something different. In the afternoon I took a train into the city, and I worked my way over to the High Line. (This is the old elevated rail lines on the West Side that have been transformed into a walkway/park which hovers above the streets.) It has been on my to-do list for a while. I had a very pleasant stroll from 14th Street to 34th Street. It was a beautiful summer evening. As I wandered along, I found myself amidst both locals and tourists. Being elevated above the street allows you to see the city from a unique perspective; it was a fun way to spend a few hours. But, egads, Penn Station is such a mess. I didn't realize there is major renovation taking place. It is an obstacle course of wooden barricades, low ceilings and congested walkways. Good luck to those of you who need to negotiate this on a daily basis.

Two weeks ago, we had a powerful storm pass through one evening. My driveway suffered a fair bit of damage because of the torrential rains. This week the repairs were made. It required over 25 yards of both crushed stone (as a foundation) and gravel to bring it back to good condition. The driveway required grading as well as an added drain to help channel the water away. Much of this damage was done by the storm, but some of it was simply maintenance that was overdue. This is the first time in six years that a repair of this nature was required.

I hope you have taken notice of the Fall Festival that will take place on September 21. This is a new undertaking for the parish. While there may be a few components that will generate a little income for the parish, it is primarily designed to be a FUN DAY! Please spread the word; there will be many activities for the kids and an opportunity for the parish to gather in a social way. I am most grateful to Tricia Clarke and those on the Committee who are putting so much time and energy into this effort. Mark your calendars.

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!



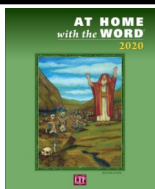
RCIA

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.



AT HOME WITH THE WORD



If you would like to purchase a 2020 *At Home with the Word* book, please sign up in the hallway by the Parish Office.

WHAT'S NEW?

LITURGY BYTES



Thought for the week: Liturgy is an act of prayer that is best experienced by *participating*.

Reminds me of the lottery slogan – “You’ve got to be in it, to win it!” When I think of the phrase “act of prayer,” the first thing that pops into my head is MASS! I have learned that not everyone thinks or feels the way I do. In trying to help change minds, I’ve encountered some obstacles. Here are my favorites: Perhaps you have heard this one - some people feel that they get bored or lost at Mass with following along, responding at certain times, standing, sitting, kneeling. I’ve even heard from others that attending Mass is like working out at the gym! Why the discontent with the most precious gift we could ever receive I often think?

Did you notice that in the thought of the week above I used the word **LITURGY** and then moved into some comments about **MASS**. Are they the same? Yes – the words Mass, Liturgy, and even Eucharist are all ways to describe the source and summit of importance for Catholics.

When we speak of liturgy we mean the public worship prescribed by the Church—the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours. When the Church celebrates the liturgy, Christ is present in a special way. In fact, whenever the Church celebrates the liturgy, Christ is not only present, Christ presides—it is his prayer. At every liturgy, it is Christ, our high priest, who presides, and the Church—the priestly people of God (us)—join him in the offering. Because of Christ’s presence and action in the liturgy, the Church teaches that every liturgical celebration is a sacred action surpassing all others.

Each week in this space, I hope to offer some thoughts about liturgy with the hope of *drafting more liturgy disciples* to enhance our worship experience as we live our motto: ALL ARE WELCOME! Have a blessed week! ~~*Michele Hahn*

(So, who’s Michele Hahn? I am the new kid on the block or should I say on the Pastoral Team. If you love liturgy, as I do, please consider joining us as we develop and add to the Liturgy and Environment crew. Contact me at: mhahnholycross11@gmail.com.)

FALL FESTIVAL FUN!



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!

(Since this is a family event, children must be accompanied by an adult.)

If you are planning to attend the Fall Festival, please fill out the tear-off below and drop in the collection basket or return to the Religious Ed. Office. We need an idea of how much food to provide.

A free will offering would be appreciated. Thank You!

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 21st, 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.

If you plan to attend the **Fall Festival** on September 21st, please fill out and drop in the collection basket or return to the Religious Ed. Office. Thank you!

Family Name _____

No. of Adults _____ No. of Children _____



Parish of the Holy Cross

95 Nichols Rd., Nesconset, NY

Family Fall Festival

COME JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FAMILY FUN

Saturday, Sept. 21st, from 10am to 3pm

NESCONSET FIRE DEPARTMENT DEMOS

PUMPKIN PAINTING SAND ART

\$\$ 50-50 FOR ADULTS CHINESE AUCTION

PRIZES FOR THE KIDS

SWEET BRIAR WILDLIFE DEMO

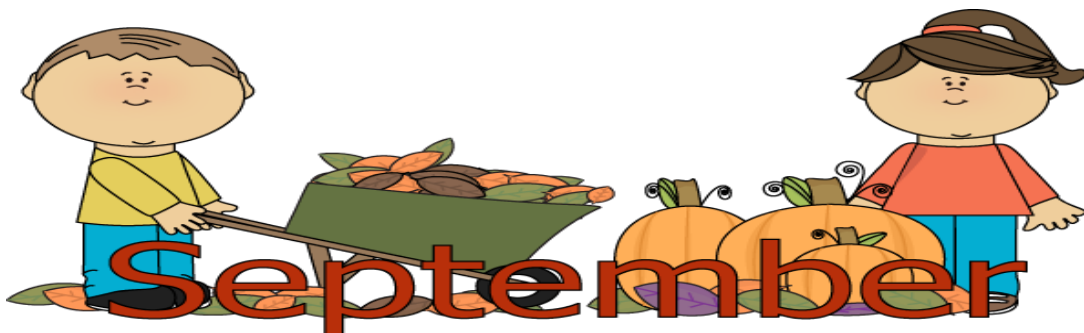
**GUIDE DOG FOUNDATION PUPPIES IN
TRAINING EXHIBIT**

****** VENDORS WANTED! ******

Please contact the RE office for Vendor application 631-265-2200

All proceeds to benefit Religious Education Level 7's

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island



FALL FESTIVAL FUN!



Chinese Auction

We will be having a Chinese Auction for the children at our Family Fall Festival. Anyone willing to donate a new item (toys, books, games, gift cards, etc.), can drop it off at the Religious Ed Office. Items should cost no more than \$15.00. Thank you, as always, for your generosity!!

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!

ATTENTION CATECHISTS!



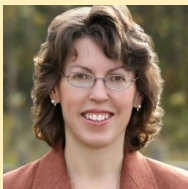
CATECHETICAL CONGRESS²⁰¹⁹ DRVC CC²⁰¹⁹

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.

PARISH NEWS

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!



Golden Wedding Liturgy

This fall, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at a liturgy on Sunday, November 3, at Maria Regina RC Church in Seaford. Mass will begin at 2PM. Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski will preside.

Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at your Parish Office. Space is limited; registration will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any questions, please call **516-678-5800 ext. 223**.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word which is held every Sunday from September to May, except for holiday weekends, will resume at the 11:30 Mass on Sunday, September 8th, in the Fr. Joe Room. Children's Liturgy, for children in grades K-3, allows children to hear God's word in language they can understand and have their questions answered.

We are looking for additional helpers starting in September. Time commitment is dependent on the number of helpers we have. If you are in grades 4 through 12 and would be interested in becoming a helper, please consider joining this ministry. Community service hours and training are available. Please contact **Karyn at 631-648-3594** for more information.



Special Collections

This weekend, at the offertory, we will also be collecting for **Catholic University of America**. Next weekend we will also be collecting for our **Renovations and Major Repairs** fund.
Thank you for your support of these important collections!

YOUTH MINISTRY

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:

September 14 - 15: Youth Group Plant Sale after all the Masses! See below for additional information.

Sunday, September 22: The Youth Group will be hosting a YG Kickoff Event from 6 to 8PM! All new 9th graders who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this September are invited to attend our Kickoff! Hope to see you there!

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!

Youth Group Fall Plant Sale!



What? The Youth Group will be selling Mums, Mum baskets, Mum planters, Montauk daisies, and our famous Fall Gardens!

When? Next weekend, September 14-15, after all the Masses!

Where? The Atrium

Why? Come buy a beautiful plant to kick off the colorful fall season. Come and support the Holy Cross Youth Group in all upcoming events and our Fall Retreat!

Together leading our Youth closer to Christ!

ATTENTION MINISTRY FOLKS



Diocesan Congress Day -
Sat., 9/14 at St. John the Baptist H.S., West Islip

(Workshops being offered for various parish ministries beyond Religious Ed.)

A day of fellowship, prayer and learning, including lunch, from 8:30AM to 3PM. Check out the workshops at:

www.drvc.-faith.org

Look for the Congress day information, then contact us to register. If you are one of the first ten interested in attending, the parish will pay the registration fee for you. Workshops will cover Scripture, pastoral music, liturgy, annulments, bereavement, parenting, and youth ministry. Please call the Parish Office today.

REMINDERS

Gluten Free Hosts

For parishioners who have Celiac Disease or a gluten sensitivity, Holy Cross has gluten free hosts. If you would like to receive a gluten free host during Communion, please inform the Sacristan prior to Mass.

Hearing Devices

For parishioners who have difficulty hearing, Holy Cross has individual devices which can amplify sound. They are simple to use and work for those who wear hearing aids and those who do not. If you are interested in using one of these devices, please see the Sacristan or an Usher prior to Mass.

Remember “Kevin Bacon”

Don't forget to feed “Kevin Bacon” your quarters when you come to Mass on Sundays! Your donation benefits **Heifer International**.



ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

Help Write Our Prayer

We are familiar with the part of the Mass when petitions are offered. Today it is referred to as the Universal Prayer, although through the years it has also been called the General Intercessions or The Prayer of the Faithful. The prayers that we currently use come about through a variety of ways. Sometimes we write our own. We also have several on-line resources and books that we use in creating the prayers for each week. Additionally, there is a parishioner who assists in writing them.



We are offering the opportunity for parishioners to suggest needs or intentions that could be prayed for at our weekend Masses. Identify issues within our world, nation, community or Church. This would not be the place to mention individual people or private prayers such as “for my cousin, Daisy.” (Our Petition Book in the atrium is available for these special intentions.) Please suggest any prayers you would like to see included in our worship. Keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Be succinct; the prayer needs to be limited to one or two short sentences.
- Normally prayers begin with “For.” *For our nation, . . .*
- This is not the place for prayers of gratitude. *In Thanksgiving for . . .*
- Prayers should not include any particular agenda or personal opinion.

Depending on how many requests we receive, we will try to include at least one intention per week. It may be necessary to edit the prayer so that its format is consistent with the other prayers.

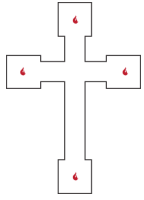
Please feel free to use the tear-off below to submit your prayer. These can be mailed back to us or placed in the offertory basket. You may also e-mail us your request to pothc@optonline.net .

My Suggestion for a Sunday Prayer Intention

Prayer Intention: “For _____
_____.”

(If you wish you may include your name): _____

CASH CALENDAR



Parish of the Holy Cross September 2019

September 14th is the
Exaltation of the
Holy Cross!

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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 \$500
15 \$50	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	\$10 PER CHANCE ~ 30 CHANCES TO WIN ~ \$10 PER DAY \$500 ON SEPTEMBER 14 ~ EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS				

Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____

Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

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Cash Calendar, SEPTEMBER, 2019

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
PHONE _____

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday, September 7th	3:45 - 4:45 PM
• HOLY HOUR	Worship Area
Sunday, September 8th	1 PM
• BAPTISMS	Worship Area
Monday, September 9th	7 PM
• FALL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MTG.	Fr. Joe Room
Tuesday, September 10th	10 AM
• IN STITCHES	Fr. Joe Room
Wednesday, September 11th	1:15 PM
• MOMS' GROUP	Sacristy
Saturday, September 14th	3 PM
• LEVEL 8 RECONCILIATION	Worship Area
• YOUTH GROUP PLANT SALE	5PM Atrium
Sunday, September 15th	All Masses
• YOUTH GROUP PLANT SALE	Atrium

DIOCESAN NEWS

GIRL SCOUT PRAY AND PLAY DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2019
10:00 AM TO 2:30 PM

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE ISLAND
EASTPORT, NEW YORK

Gather with Girl Scouts,
(Daisies to Ambassadors)
for a day of prayer,
handicrafts and fun!

Contact 516 678-5800, ext. 245 or
scouting@drvc.org

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



What can Parents & Grandparents do to Protect a Child's Religious Freedom?

www.cffor.org

(1) Attend a monthly School Board meeting to "Educate the Educators"

* Provide copies of the U.S. Department of Education's Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Schools. **Every student may:** pray before & after school during free times such as recess & lunch; read the Bible & other religious books during free reading time; write, speak and draw expressions of their faith in classwork & homework where appropriate to the assignment; wear clothing & jewelry with religious messages; speak about God and their faith at school events and graduation; form religious based clubs that use school resources the same as other clubs.

* **Remind School Board members that as a condition to receive education funds, Section 9524 requires that the School District certify in writing to the State educational agency, that it has no policy that prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer or expression in their schools.**

(2) Tell your child about the Dept. of Education Guidelines that guarantee his/her First Amendment Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Speech. CFFR has prepared a pamphlet, *It's OK for Students to Pray*, explaining these student rights. See www.cffor.org for information and free pamphlets and DVD. Also see www.ed.gov for other information.

(3) Confirm that Constitution Week - Sept. 17-23, 2019 - is being celebrated at your child's school. This celebration was signed into law in 1956. It requires that schools and universities that receive Federal funds are educating students and faculty about the Constitution, signed 1787, that provides the framework for the United States of America.

"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people ... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

Thomas Jefferson



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