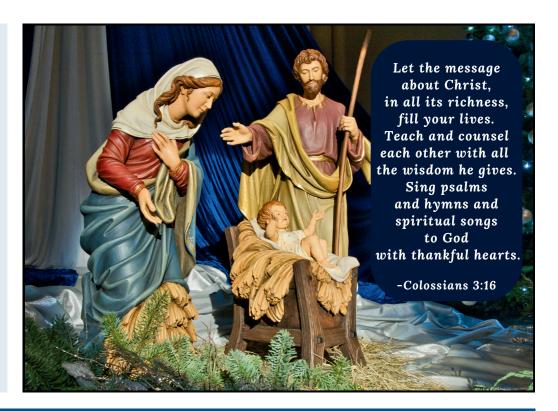


Holy Cross

Let All Who Enter Be Welcomed as Christ!

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.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 29, 2024



Come and Pray with Us!

We celebrate Eucharist

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM;
Saturday 5:00 PM;
Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
The 9:00 Weekday Mass & Sunday 11:30 Mass
are livestreamed on Facebook.

We celebrate Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM; Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

PASTORAL TEAM

PHONE: (631) 265-2200 FAX: (631) 265-2229 EMAIL: parish@holycrossrc.org

> PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12:15-1 PM)

> > Parish Office FRIDAY HOURS 9 AM - 12 NOON

NEW OUTREACH HOURS:

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Evening Hours by Appointment Only

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

PASTORAL STAFF

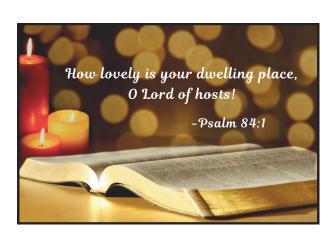
Dr. Vincent Mazurek

Music Minister/Webmaster

Mr. Roberto Maza **Custodian**

Mr. Joseph Santoro
Office Support Staff

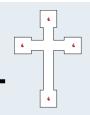
Mrs. Susan Ribeiro **Bulletin Editor**



Visit our website at **www.holycrossrc.org** for more information on how we can serve you.



PILGRIMS OF HOPE



Weekly Reflection by Fr. Michael



The Holy Father has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year.

He has given the name, "Pilgrims of Hope," to this special time. The concept of a Jubilee Year has its roots in scripture, mostly in the book of Leviticus. It is a time that offers liberation for those who are oppressed, and forgiveness of debt. It is sometimes described as an opportunity for a cultural or communal "reset." It is a time of new beginning.

One of the symbols that goes along with a Jubilee Year is the formal opening of sacred doors. The Holy Father began the Jubilee Year on Christmas Eve when he opened the grand doors of St. Peter's Basilica. Although there have been no formal announcements yet, I anticipate that there will be some sacred Jubilee doors identified in our Diocese which gives us an opportunity to share in this tradition on a local basis. The symbol is a good one. What happens when we pass through a door? We move from one place to another. We step over a threshold that marks this place of transition. It is a continuation of the same path we were walking, but now it continues with a sense of newness and renewal.

Think about what comes to mind when we speak of a pilgrim. Think of those first brave men and women who made a treacherous crossing of the Atlantic to come to America. Think of a group of believers who go to a shrine or other sacred place. A pilgrim is one who is on a journey. When it comes to spirituality, we are all called to be pilgrims. This idea might run contrary to the mindset of some. There are those who don't like a journey which always implies being in-between two places. There are those who want to be firmly entrenched in a particular place. There are those who desire to have a sense of certainty that they have arrived at the final destination and there is no need to move forward. This mindset is potentially dangerous as it can foster a sense of self-righteousness and even entitlement. It can be stifling when people are convinced they are in the right place, and they are just waiting for everyone else to recognize it and join them.

There are many ways we are pilgrims, people on an on-going journey. We are a nation that will have new leadership. We are a Diocese coming out of bankruptcy. We are a parish who will likely be getting a new pastor (as the time of my assignment comes to an end this June). And, add to this list all the issues that may be happening within your family or your own life. What is the attitude we take on the journey? Are we pessimistic, fearful, critical, arrogant? Or, are we a people who face the unknown with courage and with trust? Do we allow the cross of Jesus to teach, guide, and empower us to be pilgrims of hope?

Happy and Blessed New Year!

1AN 2025

ON THE CALENDAR

O1		•	JAN			2023	
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

CELEBRANTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES



JANUARY 4

5:00 PM FR. FRANK

JANUARY 5

8:00 AM FR. FRANK

9:30 AM FR. MICHAEL

11:30 AM FR. MICHAEL



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 5

- + Isaiah 60:1-6
- + Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
 - + Matthew 2:1-12

HOLY DAY Thursday, January 2nd SCRIPTURE STUDY 10:00AM, Atrium Thursday, January 2nd WOMEN'S PRAYER 7:00PM, Worship Area, Chapel Saturday, January 4th HOLY HOUR 3:45PM - 4:45PM, Worship Area

Wednesday, January 1st.....PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Sunday, January 5th ANOINTING OF THE SICK After 9:30AM Mass, Worship Area

Sunday, January 5th CHILDREN'S LITURGY 11:30AM Mass, Fr. Joe Room



Masses for the Solemnity of Mary a Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31st, at 5PM Vigil Wednesday, January 1st, at 10AM

Practice of Hope

(Excerpt from "At Home with the Word 2025")



Our Church usually celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday after the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. Besides venerating Jesus' earthly family, the feast lifts up and offers spiritual encouragement to all families.

Reach out to someone you know who is struggling in their parenting. Offer a listening ear, a homemade dinner, a helpful resource, or other form of tangible support.



While moving from one calendar year to the next, we are invited to reflect with gratitude on the gifts given to us as well as look forward to the new year with hope, faith, and trust in the abiding presence of God-with-us. In addition to making traditional new year's resolutions, consider resolving to grow spiritually as well.

January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a holy day of obligation as well as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Take this opportunity to read and reflect upon the pope's annual message for this observance.

Visit our website at www.holycrossrc.org to find out more about the different ministries we have to offer, how you can be involved, and when they meet.

WE PRAY...CELEBRATE...REMEMBER



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

Bob Alderdice Kimberly Crawford Arbocus Theresa Arzillo Alejandro Astegiano Jo Barry Kathy Barry Barbara Bombace Cole Brennan Dan Bryan Judy Carlson Hank Champagne Mary Champagne William Ciccarelli Grayson Danielski Jason DeLuca Manuela Diaz Ann Egan

Vincent Esposito Ralph Farino Yolanda Fattarusso Sienna Fricke Linda Giordano Linda Heinrichs Debbie Jablinowski Kristen Kennedy Caroline Lazar Carol Leahy Jo-Ann Loh Mary Lopez Gerald Losquadro Charlotte Lynch Viola Malek Jeanne Marie Malley Steve Matonti Olivia Melia Loretto Narducci

Darin Pitkanen Patricia Pitkanen Carina Ranieri Rob Remhild Liam Richards Lynn Rodger Sean Romeo Elaine Ruane Louise Scagnelli Casey Schultz Kathy Schwinn John Serri Celeste Sichenze Bill Tanner Grace Van Epps Peter Warns Emma Zeidman

If you would like to have the name of your loved one listed in our prayers for the sick, please call 631-265-2200 x122.

Upcoming Mass Intentions

Week of Sunday, December 29 9AM Masses:

Mon. Rose Marinelli & Robert Tavis

Tues. Joan Stevenson **Thu.** Jim Emerson

Mass Intentions for the Solemnity of Mary

Tues. 5PM Jane & John J. Daly

Wed. 10AM Vito Ligabo

Saturday, January 4, 5 PM Mass

Libby Natoli, Gaetano Nicosia, Marguerite Zangrillo, Marcia Minutello, Helen Mirando

Sunday, January 5, Masses

8:00 AM People of the Parish **9:30 AM** Maria Eannacone, Robert Giordano, Kathleen McDonough, Roberta Lamb

11:30 AM Jason DeLuca



Sunday, January 5th, will be the next date that the Anointing of the Sick will be offered after the 9:30 AM Mass



We thank the men and women who serve in our military for their service.



Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way.

The Lord be with you all.

2 Thessalonians 3:16



LITTLE CHRISTMAS



LITURGY BYTES by Michele Hall



Traditionally, the feast of the Epiphany (also known as Little Christmas) is January 6th. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. The Epiphany marks the arrival of the visitors to where Jesus was born. They are mentioned in Scripture as the magi or kings. Although we do not know very much about them, we do know they brought three gifts to the baby Jesus: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The gold is a symbol of wealth and power, which identifies the person receiving it as royalty. Frankincense is a crystalized resinous sap of a tree that is used as incense and is a symbol of prayer. Lastly, the myrrh is also a resinous tree sap that was used in healing and also as an embalming ointment. I guess you might think myrrh is an unusual gift given to a child at the beginning of his life on earth. However, we are told that this gift foreshadowed Jesus' death.

A fun thing to do with your family each year on this day is to bless your front door. The Epiphany blessing is a simple blessing. You can also write on a poster or directly on your door (if you wish) the following:

It contains the first two digits of the year, cross, and the initials of the 3 Kings: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. Here is the simple prayer to bless your door:

Loving God, bless this household and all who enter. May we, and they, be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and seek to do your will. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Have a blessed, healthy, and happy 2025!



Missalettes

If you didn't get a chance to order a 2025 Missalette, you can still purchase one for \$12 in the Parish Office.

PARISH OUTREACH





Thank you

to the

Blessed Sacrament Council of the Knights of the Columbus

for their generous donation of 24 brand new coats for our Outreach families.

Coats ranged from small to XL in assorted colors for both men and women.

It was a wonderful addition to our Outreach Christmas distribution day.

We, and the families we serve, are grateful to The Blessed Sacrament Council for all their support and their kind donation.



Thank you to the friends of Diane Caputo who generously bought, wrapped and supplied two Outreach families with Christmas presents for their holiday. Thank you, friends, for your generosity and kindness at this special time of year. Both families were overwhelmed and very grateful. Thank you!

WE GROW IN FAITH





Draw what you see at Mass the weekend of January 4th & 5th.

Before Mass starts, please pick up a crayon and a piece of paper, from the assigned baskets in the atrium.

During Mass, draw what you see in church and then after Mass, please place your picture in the basket labeled "Completed."

You may put your first name on the picture.

All pictures will be hung up in the church for everyone to see the following weekend, January 11th & 12th.



"Let there be Light"



After 30 years, the lighting fixtures in our Worship Area are failing and need to be updated. In addition, the obsolete dimming and control panel must be replaced.

For this reason, we are doing a special fundraiser to cover the \$98,200 cost of the project. We need to be able to make this improvement without utilizing our limited savings. This is an expensive undertaking, and we need your help.

We are grateful for your support as a faithful community, together assisting in maintaining the facility, so we can offer Masses, Baptisms, Communions, Confirmations, Weddings and Funerals here at Holy Cross.

You can find envelopes for the "Let there be Light" fundraiser in the atrium, or you can do a direct donation using the Venmo or PayPal QR code.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Parish Office.

God bless you and Thank You for being part of "Let there be Light."







PayPa



Youth Community Cares

"Serving our youth as our youth serves others"

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thank you to all our Youth Volunteers and Adult Volunteers who have made the past few months since YCC began a huge success!
We are so proud of our youth community!

We will be hosting hospitality weekends in January, and add'l dates through April.

We are also looking for youth volunteers to help with our Prayer Blanket Ministry, making no-sew blankets.

<u>Please register for these events to participate.</u>

To register, send an email to Angela & Susan at youthcc@holycrossrc.org and/or join our Remind group to receive a SignUpGenius link.

Sign up for Remind at: rmd.at/ycchc

You will find additional information for these events through the Remind App.



Tickets - \$100.00 each;

1,000 Tickets will be sold

NYS Gaming License #GC 28-203-099-10425

Drawing will be held at the Beauty of the Spirit Luncheon

Thursday, June 12, 2025 | Winner need not be present
(Ticket sales end June 11th at 1PM))

Winner has choice of color, pending availability

**Must be 18 or older and N.Y. Resident <u>SEE ALL OFFICIAL RULES:</u> <u>sistersofstdominic.org/car-raffle</u> For more information contact:
631-842-6000 ext. 246
or scan the QR code



PARISH REMINDERS





Women's Prayer Group

All women in the parish are welcome.

Come, and bring a friend!

We meet the 1st Thursday of each month.

Our next meeting is

Thursday, January 2nd

from 7:00 - 8:00 PM in the Chapel

Outreach is currently in need of the following items for the food pantry.

The collection will be the weekend of January 4th & 5th.



Toilet paper Hot cereal Chicken in a can Mayo Rice Pancake mix Syrup

Thank you for checking expiration dates before donating.

Thank you for the donations of bags for our pantry.

We are not accepting any more at this time. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support!



The next hospitality weekend is January 25th & 26th

Complimentary refreshments are served after Mass by our Youth Volunteers.

If you are a middle or high school student, you can sign up to volunteer by joining Remind. You will receive additional information through the link.

Sign up for Remind at: rmd.at/ycchc

HOLY HOUR ~ January 5th EVERY 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Please come and spend some time
with the Lord in personal prayer
as you pray before
the Blessed Sacrament
during the Parish Holy Hour.

Children's Liturgy of the Word



Join Us for Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, at the 11:30 AM Mass, every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

During the Mass, children from Kindergarten through 4th Grade will be invited to move to a separate space and hear God's Word in age-appropriate language. Older children are welcome to assist as helpers. Don't miss this special opportunity for the entire family to experience Mass in a more meaningful way.



HOLIDAY SCAMS

Every day, people across the United States fall victim to scammers who are looking to take advantage of the vulnerable. Suffolk County is not immune. During this holiday season, please be aware of the most common scams that are reported to the Police Department.

Please visit, online:

https://suffolkpd.org/Information-and-Policies/SCAM-Alerts to educate yourself and your family.

More importantly you will find those prevention tips to help keep you from becoming a victim.

For anyone who believes they have a Sexual Abuse Claim against an Additional Debtor (parish) arising prior to December 3, 2024 the claim form to submit and related information can be found at https://dm.epiq11.com/case/drvc/info

under the "Proof of Claim Form" heading.
The deadline for filing claims is January 13, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.
prevailing Eastern time.

Christmas Flowers in Honor / Memory of...

We remember and pray for all our loved ones those living and those who have gone before us.



Theresa & George Prudenti Ruth & Howard Alderdice

Jimmy Alderdice Bobby Alderdice Joseph McLean Thomas McLean

Joseph & Genevieve Jamrock

William Roberts Carolina & Enrico Francesca & Giovanni

Roberto L. Sylvester E.

M/M Harold Yager M/M Gaspar Lombardo

Liam Armstrong Valerie Kratochvil Nettie & Sam Pasqua Josie & Ray Schuhriemen Matthew Rizzo Jr.

Syl Evangelista Ánthony DeVito Jr. Dominick Testa Anthony DeVito Sr.

Anna Testa Lucille DeVito Prybella Family McCusker Family Metzner Family Walker Family Johnson Family Lillian Hein Paul Hein Marie Blasi Dominick Blasi

Claudia Murphy Carolyn Beccarelli Camillo Beccarelli Jerry Padrone

Robert & Ida Archer

Johanna & Joseph Raygacka Dominick & Genevieve DiPalma

Alec Catalano Rivera Family Yuvienco Family Anne & Edmund Merlo

Levandi Family

Patricia Schussler Michael H. Knipper Rose Knipper John J. Daly Jane Daly James A. Perry Jr.

Mary Knipper Henry Knipper Margaret Maher Paul Kruk Pauline Kruk Ted Kruk

Marie Morris Walter & Helen O'Hara Nancy & Alfred Jones

Philip Closi Arnoni Family Marconeri Family Amendolia Family Lacata Family Jack Aurrichio Alex Aurrichio Richard Hauser Catherine Hauser Rose & Louis Cabasino

Maria Volpe Josephine Volpe Rachel Volpe Alan Hahn Allison Hall Anne Rudnicki Diane Rudnicki Edward Rudnicki Genevieve Minutoli Santo Minutoli Josephine Militello Peter Militello

Captain J. V. Amature USMC

William Schnurr Theresa Schnurr Stephen Bursky Anna Bursky

Raymond W. Conway Raymond M. Conway Dorothy A. Conway Grace M. Johnson Grace Levandi Diane Forte Enrico Forte Forte Family

Thomas Harris Theresa Harris Linda DiOrio Erik DiOrio

Francis J. McGrade Michael & Marie Chester Epifania Rosen

William Lemorocco Peter DeVito John Catherall Sr. John Catherall Janina Michal Gren Mary Esposito John Esposito Sr. Barbara Martin S.J. Kulesza Kazimierz Kulesza Czeslawa Wolczak Halina Grosfeld

Maria Wysocka

Jayne Kiley

Josephine, Florence, & Albert Sassano

Richard P. Canalini Ada & Nicholas Canalini Theresa & Anthony Caracciolo

Frank Giambanco Frances Giambanco Cathy Pizner Raymond Hayes

Ann & Alfred Zimmermann

M/M O. DeSanto M/M G. Gargiulo Joseph Clarke Eileen Clarke Theodore Banish Frances Banish Dominick Sangimino M/M James Zanfini Mr. John Gibbons

Adrian, Brian Rapczynski

Antonia Minerva Vito Minerva Theresa Carofano Rocco Carofano Joseph Forneiro Anthony Forneiro Rose Naclerio Ernest Naclerio

Due to bulletin printing deadlines, names of loved ones from the Christmas flower envelopes will begin to appear in the Christmas bulletin. If you do not see the name of your loved one in the Christmas bulletin, names will be in bulletins in the following weeks after Christmas. Thank you for your understanding.

Winter Windfall

For many years the Cash Calendar was a part of the Holy Cross routine, and this fundraiser provided some additional financial support to the parish. At this time, it is unlikely that we have enough parishioners attending Mass on a weekly basis to support a monthly drawing, so we will continue as we have done for the past few years with our quarterly drawing.



- \$10 per ticket
- Tickets are available for purchase through December, January and February.
- Drawing will be held February 28.

This is the pay scale which will be offered:

- * 1 Prize @ \$250
- * 2 Prizes @ \$100
- * 10 Prizes @ \$50
- * 15 Prizes @ \$25



- This formula was based upon selling 250 tickets @ \$10 each. If more than 250 tickets are sold, the number of prizes will be increased.
- Please use the tear-off tickets below. You may return your entries by placing them in an envelope and depositing it in the basket on weekends, or returning them to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!

Winter Windfall Name Address Town Phone	Winter Windfall Name Address Town Phone		
 Winter Windfall	+		
Name	Name		
Address	Address		
Town	Town		
Phone	Phone		

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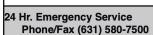
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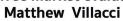




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