

Fr. Jim and Fr. John are Teaming Up for Lent



Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. This year we would like to offer a special three night mission for everyone in our

parish. Father John and I will be giving the mission together. It will be held on Sunday evening, February 26th, Monday, February 27th, and Tuesday, February 28th. For now I ask that you mark your calendars and plan to join in this wonderful way to begin the season of Lent.

Father John and I are meeting this week to plan out the themes for these three nights. What I can tell you now is that there will be a sub-theme along these lines: What is it like to share the house after living alone for nine years? Does Father John leave dishes in the sink? Has Father John taken over the entire refrigerator? Is Father John cold out in the shed? Where were Father Jim's keys one cold January morning? These and other everyday occurrences will be revealed publicly for the first time!

Lent is meant to be a journey of preparation for the celebration of the loving action of Jesus on the Cross on Good Friday and the life-giving resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. This year we have decided to begin Lent together as a parish community. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all came together for these three nights and journeyed together as Lent begins? We can support one another and each find some insights and inspiration to "turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel."

In addition to planning to attend the mission yourself, I ask that you invite your neighbors and friends and I ask that the Catechists in Religious Education share this with the parents of their students. Let's fill the Church each night and together give glory and praise to God. May the Lord give you peace.

Fr. Jim

Remembering our Sick

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You...

Please pray for the sick of the parish, their families and caregivers:

**Vincenza Castronovo
Anna Kralik**

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 or e-mail to pothc@optonline.net.

*"If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts."*

**Responsorial Psalm
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Psalm 95**

Celebrants for Next Weekend's Masses February 4th/5th

5:00 PM	Fr. John
8:00 AM	Fr. Jim
9:30 AM	Fr. Bob
11:30 AM	Fr. Bob
5:00 PM	Fr. John



Scripture Readings for February 4th/5th

- + Job 7:1-4, 6-7
- + 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23
- + Mark 1:29-39



Church in Need Collection

On **February 4th/5th** a collection will be taken for "The Church in Need." The monies collected will be shared by the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, Church in Latin America and the Church in Africa to be used for scholarships to students studying to serve their local church and to aid areas suffering from poverty, sickness and political strife.

LENT 2012 – *The Burning of the Palms*

LENT

We have been and are actively preparing for the season of Lent at the Parish of the Holy Cross and we need your help!

Ash Wednesday begins the Lenten season and the signing of ashes is a powerful reminder to us of this time of reflection, reconciliation and renewal. The ashes come from burned palm – preferably the palm distributed last Palm Sunday.

Please bring back any palm you have at home in the next few weeks and place it in the baskets in the Atrium. This palm will be burned as part of the Mardi Gras Celebration on February 22nd.

The purpose of this action is twofold. First, it actively involves each of us in the celebration of Ash Wednesday and Lent. Second, it demonstrates the continuous work of our liturgical cycle/year. By connecting last Palm Sunday with this year's Ash Wednesday, we are reminded of the dying and rising of Christ– the Paschal Mystery – that which we celebrate each time we gather for Eucharist.



CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!



We are in need of lectors to proclaim God's word to the assembly at the Parish of the Holy Cross.

Youth lectors, starting in sixth grade to high school (and any age in between) are trained here by members of our parish community to read at the 11:30 A.M. Sunday Mass and other Masses and liturgical celebrations throughout the year.

If you are interested in being a part of our next training, please contact the Recuperos at 631. 676-5806 and e-mail recupe@optonline.net or Fr. John at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org.

Our next training will be on Saturday February 4th at 9:00 A.M. in the Church.

In considering the Church as "the home of the word," attention must first be given to the sacred liturgy, for the liturgy is the privileged setting in which God speaks to us in the midst of our lives; he speaks today to his people, who hear and respond. Every liturgical action is by its very nature steeped in sacred Scripture.

-Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, 52

BLESSING OF CANDLES

This Thursday, February 2nd, the Church celebrates the Presentation of the Lord. Celebrated 40 days after Christmas, we remember the journey of Mary and Joseph to the Temple and Simeon's great proclamation of praise.

A tradition related to this feast is the Blessing of Candles. Traditionally called Candlemas, all are invited to bring their candles to the 9 A.M. Mass on February 2nd for a special blessing.





FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

On Friday, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. The story of St. Blaise's martyrdom and life is uncertain. Tradition tells us that while being brought to the authorities, he encountered a young boy choking on a fish bone. At Blaise's command the bone was dislodged and the boy healed. Eventually, Blaise was killed for refusing to worship pagan gods.

On February 3, the Church traditionally blesses throats using the words below:

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We will have the Blessing of the Throats at the 9:00 A.M. Mass on Friday, February 3rd.

Introducing the Holy Cross... Saint Bernard League

(St. Bernards are known for bringing people to safety in hazardous weather conditions!)

We have had a number of parishioners ask for our help...

Now we **REALLY** need Saint Bernards!



Can you and/or your family shovel, snow blow or clear out another family or two in need within our parish community? We'd love to have all families matched up before the next snow of the season. **THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO HELP ANOTHER IN NEED WITHOUT MAKING AN OVERWHELMING COMMITMENT** (and do some tremendous community service)! If you can help with this call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org. What are you waiting for!

If you need a St. Bernard:

If you are in need of help when it snows, members of our parish community will come to your home and shovel you out! If you think you can use this help, call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org today so we can begin to match people up now.

PLEASE NOTE: We will do our best to match you up, but cannot guarantee a match at this time.



ASH WEDNESDAY – Help Needed!

The Church celebrates Ash Wednesday on February 22, 2012. We are in need of members of our parish community to assist with the distribution of ashes at our Masses and prayer services. (This is not only reserved for clergy or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – so all are welcome to help!)

If you're able to help, call the Parish Office at 631.265.2200, x. 14, e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org or fill out the form below. Members of our Liturgy Committee will follow up with you once we have created a schedule. (Please do not presume you are serving because you filled out this form.)

Name _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____@_____

YES! I would like to assist at Ash Wednesday services at the Parish of the Holy Cross. I am available to serve at the

7 A.M. 9 A.M. 12 Noon 3 P.M. 4:30 P.M. 7 P.M.

Please reply NO LATER than Sunday, February 12, 2012.

Events for Persons with Special Needs and Their Families

Faith and Light Meeting: Friday, February 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at Parish of the Holy Cross in Nesconset. Call Marcia Gaudet at 631-439-9724 for more information.

For Adults with Special Needs:

Mardi Gras Prayer Service and Luncheon – Saturday, Feb. 11. This is a paid reservation event. Contact Mary Ann Russo at 516-678-5800 X 54 for more information .

St. Patrick's Day Dance – Monday, March 19, 2012, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Bernard's School auditorium, 3100 Hempstead Turnpike, Levittown. Wheelchair accessible. No Charge. No reservation needed.

Look for more events listed at <http://www.drvc-faith.org/specialNeedsEvents.html>

For information on Masses for persons with special needs or if you have questions or concerns, please contact Diane Marley at 631-366-3717.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you seeking Baptism? Do you want to be confirmed or receive Eucharist? 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. We are in the process of putting together plans for this process at the Parish of the Holy Cross and would love for you to be involved. If you're interested and would like additional information, please contact Jude Pickel at 631.265.2200, x. 16 or Fr. John at 631.265.2200, x. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org

We are also looking for volunteers to join our RCIA group to assist with hospitality and to share in our weekly faith sharing. If you are a member of the parish and would like to be a part of this process, we would love for you to take the journey with us! Contact Jude or Fr. John for further information.

In the sacraments of Christian initiation we are freed from the power of darkness and joined to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. We receive the Spirit of filial adoption and are part of the entire people of God in the celebration of the memorial of the Lord's death and resurrection.

Christian Initiation, *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, 1

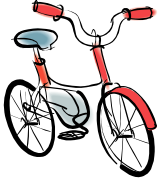


Mardi Gras @ Holy Cross Sunday, February 19, 2012



We're planning a small Mardi Gras celebration after the 11:30 AM Mass in preparation for Lent...and we need your help! **If you would be interested in being part of a small committee of people to prepare for the celebration, contact Fr. John at 631.265.2200, ext. 14 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org. Thanks to those who have already replied!**

Bicycle Recycle



SAVE THOSE GENTLY USED BICYCLES! This spring, the Holy Cross Religious Education Program has plans to host a used bicycle collection on **Friday, April 20th** between 4 pm and 7 pm. The bicycles collected will be shipped to those in need in third world countries. For many, it is their only means of transportation. A family that is fortunate enough to have a bicycle is better able to attend school and work.

We can only accept bicycles that meet the following criteria:

Relatively rust free (frame cannot be corroded)

Tires attached (flat is okay)

No Tricycles

Each bicycle donated requires a \$10.00 handling and shipping fee (tax deductible).

No bike to donate???? Then please consider making a monetary donation to this cause. Please keep watching the bulletin for further details.

Life Teen News

Attention Parents: Please note we are asking all teen's parents to see Denise after Life Teen Mass on **1/29/12** to complete a re-registration form. Even if your contact info, etc. has not changed, please come by as we need new forms completed. Denise will also be holding a brief parents' meeting to distribute permission slips for the Sandwich Drive and to go over all details for the following week.

- 1/29/12 - 5pm Life Teen Mass followed by a "**mystery**" Life Night. **Bring** appropriate **PJs/slippers**, but don't forget to dress for Mass!
- 2/5/12 - **Community Service Day: Sandwich Drive**...Teens, this counts for Community Service points and you are doing something really awesome..helping feed the hungry. Join us at 8am to make sandwiches. We will be leaving the church immediately after to take the train to Manhattan. We will be back for 5pm Mass. **Note: If you are planning on coming, a parent or guardian must come to the 1/29/12 meeting and complete a permission slip.**



Remember our Spring Retreat is scheduled for: **March 23-25** at Camp Alvernia

Boy Scouts of America - Scout Sunday



and faiths.

The Boy Scouts of America organization annually celebrates its founding. The Scout Sunday tradition was started to bring awareness of Scouting to parishioners in houses of worship and to allow Scouts to live out their "Duty to God" pledged each week. The Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent," and Scouts of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God." These values strengthen youth character in their families, communities

We celebrate Scouting's Anniversary here at Holy Cross on **Sunday, February 12th at the 9:30 AM Mass**. Scouts are asked to arrive 15 minutes early and to wear their "A" level uniforms. All faiths are invited.

Parish of the Holy Cross ~ Cash Calendar
January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 \$500	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 \$50	16 \$50	17 \$50	18 \$50	19 \$50	20 \$50	21 \$ 500
22 \$50	23 \$50	24 \$50	25 \$50	26 \$50	27 \$50	28 \$50
29 \$50	30 \$50	31 \$50				

\$10 Per Chance ~31 Chances to WIN ~ TWO \$500 Days this Month !

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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PHONE _____

January 2012 Cash Calendar
 NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PHONE _____

**Parish of the Holy Cross
Nesconset, New York
Year to Date Financial Report - Fiscal Year 2011 / 2012
December 1, 2011 thru December 31, 2011**

Dear Parishioners,

In an attitude of responsible stewardship and fiscal accountability, we publish a simple reporting of our financial position for your information on a monthly basis. Our new Fiscal Year began with the month of **September 2011**

We are reporting on what you have provided through your **Stewardship of Treasure** and how we are using your gift. The format follows the categories of Diocesan accounts on which our extensive year-end Financial Reports are based. This report is for the **fourth month**.

We thank you for your constant support. If you have questions and/or suggestions, we would welcome them. God continue to bless us all. *The Finance Committee*

December 1—31, 2011

			Checking A/C(s):	\$ 125,259.
			Unitas Fund:	\$ 153,363.
Liabilities	\$ 425,090.	Mortgage	Money Market:	\$ 27,360.
	\$ 127,000.	Loan for Roof.	CD:	\$ 15,427.
			R.O.M.R.:	\$ 15,954.

Revenue:

Sunday Collections:	12/1/11-12/31/11	\$	44,094.	Average Weekly Collection:	\$ 11,024.
Christmas			38,914.		
Christmas Flowers:			4,976.		
Donations & Fees Parish Programs:			11,061.	Includes: Religious Ed.(5,425), Parish Out(2,147) Seniors (3,489)	
Fund Raising:			7,883.	Includes: Cash Calendar(3,110) Wreaths (4,773)	
Auxiliary Revenue:			3,353.	Includes: Donations, Baptisms, Funerals, Masses, Books, Votive Candles, Interest	
The Long Island Catholic:			3,599.		
Special Monthly ROMR Collection:			6,910.		

Total Revenue **\$ 120,790.**

Expenditures:

Clergy & Lay Salaries:	(3 payrolls)		\$ 33,916.	Includes: Priests, Rel.Ed, Parish Out, Clerical, Maintenance Pastoral Assoc., Bus Mgr., Music, Youth, Security	
Clergy Fringe Benefits:			2,583.	Includes: Medical, Retirement & Pension	
Lay Fringe Benefits:			570.	Includes: Medical	
FICA Employer Taxes:			2,563.		
Parish Programs:			9,894.	Includes: Parish Out.(558), Seniors (4,346), Rel.Ed (4,694)Other (296)	
Fund Raising:			3,955.	Includes: Cash Calendar (2,000), Christmas Wreaths (1,955),	
Printing & Office:			5,693.	Includes: Office Sup, Post., Printing, Phone, Cable, DPMuphy	
The Long Island Catholic:			3,635.		
Liturgical Expenses:			3,396.	Includes: Altar Hosts /Wine,Votives, Stipends, Liturgical Decoration	
Interest on Loans:			2,393.	Includes: Mortgage (2,051) Loan (342)	
Rectory Household:			526.	Includes: Supermarket Purchases, Residence Expenses	
Buildings' Utilities			3,063.	Includes: LIPA (2,031), National Grid (892) Water (140)	
Buildings' Maintenance & Supplies:			1,400.	Includes: Contracted Maintenance, Supplies, Taxes	
Renovations & Repairs:			14,331.	Includes: Last payment for Roof (14,200)	

Regular Expenditures: **\$ 87,918.**

Surplus: Dec. 1—31, 2011 **\$ 32,872.**

Year to Date—Sept. 1—Dec. 31, 2011:

Revenue:	\$ 421,697.
Regular Expend:	\$ 306,839
Extraordinary Expenditures:	\$ 117,073.
Deficit:	\$ (2,215.)

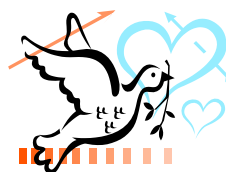
MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 29th	1:00 PM
• BAPTISMS	Worship Area
• LIFE TEEN MASS	5:00 PM Worship Area
Monday, January 30th	4:30 PM
• ONE-TO-ONE	FJ Rm./Atr./Ch.
• CONFESSION	6:30-7:30PM Deacons' Office
• ADORATION BLESSED SACRAMENT	Chapel
• KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	7:00-8:30PM Fr. Joe Room
Tuesday, January 31st	10:30 AM
• MAKING MUSIC PRAYING TWICE	Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 2 RECONCILIATION	7:00 PM Worship Area
Wednesday, February 1st	Noon - 3:30 PM
• SENIORS	Atrium
Thursday, February 2nd	10:00-11:45 AM
• SCRIPTURE STUDY	Fr. Joe Room
• LEVEL 2 RECONCILIATION	7:00 PM Worship Area
Friday, February 3rd	7:00 PM
• FAITH & LIGHT MEETING	Fr. Joe Rm./Ch.
Saturday, February 4th	9:00 AM
• JR. LECTOR	Wor. Ar./Sac.
• MEN'S FELLOWSHIP	9:00 AM Fr. Joe Room
• WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT	10:00AM Sacristy
• LEVEL 7 CLASS MTG.	12 Noon Fr. Joe Room
Sunday, February 5th	5:00 PM
• LIFE TEEN MASS	Worship Area

Retrouvaille - A lifeline for married couples

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking make it worse?

Retrouvaille Program helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille Program please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected to a couple from the Long Island/ Metro Retrouvaille who can help. There is an



upcoming Retrouvaille weekend beginning February 3rd at the Montfort Retreat House in Bay Shore. Call now!

Mass Intentions Schedule



Week of Jan. 29th, 9 AM Mass

Mon. Jim Harley
Tues. Maron Brady
Wed. Lenny Fodera Jr.
Thurs. William McNamara
Fri. Rose Arzillo

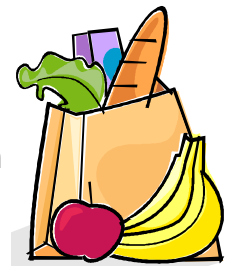
Saturday, February 4th, 5 PM Mass

Patrick Keena, William Severs, Anthony Rispoli, Joseph Parziale, Peter Olynik

Sunday, February 5th, 5th Sun. Ord. Time

8:00 AM Giuseppe Pellitteri
9:30 AM Michael Corcoran
11:30 AM Hans Pessa, Jorge Cuevas, Dennis Ryan, People of the Parish
5:00 PM Nick Hein

PARISH OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY



Next Saturday and Sunday, **February 4th/5th** will be our monthly Food Drive for our Parish Outreach Pantry. The following items would be most helpful:

- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Boxed Rice, Boxed Potatoes
- Juice
- Coffee (1 lb. can or smaller)
- Soup
- Tuna
- Cookies, Crackers, Snacks
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Tissues
- Bar Soap
- Pancake Mix & Syrup

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

Parish Outreach