

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH NEWS

307 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 + (631) 588-9509
www.holycross-lutheran.org hclc@optonline.net www.crosswordsandgifts.com
Helping people to know and share the love of Christ



November 10, 2019

“So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves because you have become very dear to us.”
— 1 Thessalonians 2:8

The family of Holy Cross greets you this day. We come together to worship this Sunday and celebrate the many blessings God has given us. We are glad that you are here. Enjoy your time with God and with us. Lift your voice in praise, prayer and thanksgiving. If we can be of assistance to you or your loved ones, please be in touch.

THIS WEEK WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS Ethel Farrell, Rosemarie Marcellino, Gisela Wengert, Lisa Bloche, Linda Chacona, Joey Callis, Ken Bell, Ginny Ruescher, Jen Howell, Toni Ramando, Joseph Kagenaar, Scott Grossman, Eric Leicht, Donna Blydenburgh, Fred Lauer, Bill Poio, Ruth McGee, Emma Norman-Smith, Anne Araco, Corey, Michael St. John, Lauren Spierer, Vincent Gentile, Sue Ceriola, Anna Bieseilin, Diana Rose, Diane Wiedner, Sherry Mayernik, Saly Darone, Doreen Schildt, Anthony Ricigliano, John O'Brien, Alec Sherman and family, Cathy Fred Schrimpe, Paulette Martin, Annalisa Poio, Angelo Zuccino, Vincent Casamassa, Liz Hansen, Melissa Miller, Grace Pizzingrillo, Carol Jagodzinski, Patrick Kinane, Lynn McMurray, Shannon Huth, Kelly Frick, Max Fitton, Alberta-Jo Parker, George Smith, Jean Austin, Mike Dumaine, Patrick Kinane, Ann Miller, Debbie Quiles, Caroline Homer, Matthew Homer, Casey Pitfick, Caitlin Gibney, Amy Petternato, our President and our military deployed throughout the world, and those known to God.

Wedding: Nicole Reyes and Mark Dale

Flowers: In thanksgiving for Susan Walters 65th Birthday by her children & grandchildren

Altar Candles In memory of Micky MacCulloch by the MacCulloch & Gali families

& Sanctuary Light: In memory of Bently Geliebter by the Geliebter Family

Coffee Hour: In thanksgiving for all of God's blessings by the Church Council

A GOD SEEKING HEART: Priority Living #1

The concept of “seeking God” is an enormous biblical concept that touches our motivation, our priorities, how we spend our time, the goals we set in life, and our spiritual growth...or the lack thereof. Many people's top priorities seem to be jobs, houses, cars or other material things. Matthew 6:33 says.... "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well". The key to living the abundant life God has for us is learning to make Him our first priority. Take a moment and ask yourself, "What am I seeking? What do I spend most of my time thinking or talking about? How do I invest the majority of my energy?" These are important questions you need to answer from your heart. Do you have a God seeking heart?



SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:38-42 NLT Mary and Martha and busyness

Jesus comes to the home of Mary and Martha - Hospitality is exceedingly important in the biblical world in general. When Jesus comes to Bethany, Martha demonstrates hospitality by welcoming Jesus into the home she shares with her sister Mary. She then busies herself with the tasks of serving their guest (diakonian). Meanwhile her sister Mary sits at Jesus' feet, listening to his words. Rather than assuming the role expected of women in her culture, she takes her place at the feet of Jesus. She assumes the posture of a student learning at the feet of a rabbi, a role traditionally reserved for men.

Mary, Martha, Lazarus (not in this story) and Jesus - the friendship between Jesus and the family at Bethany - Martha, Mary and Lazarus - is beautifully described in the eleventh chapter of the Gospel of John. It is a household where Jesus is warmly, even intimately, welcomed.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus - Mary sits at Jesus' feet to receive his teaching, the posture of a disciple, a man's place. The attitude taken by Mary, sitting attentively at the feet of Jesus listening to what he was saying. As a true disciple, Mary recognizes that Jesus has far more to offer her in terms of spiritual nourishment than she or Martha can offer him.

Martha complains about Mary - Martha does what people expect of her. She does her duty. She prepares dinner. She offers hospitality. Mary, does none of those things. From Martha's perspective, Mary is neglecting her rightful responsibilities, and Martha is paying the price.

Mary has chosen the better part - The better part that Mary has chosen is sitting at Jesus' feet and listening—being a disciple. There will be time enough for action. First, the disciple must learn from the master—otherwise, the disciple's busyness may create more problems than it solves.

AS WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION . . . is a time of spiritual renewal - a time to give thanks for the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ.... a time to meditate, pray and reflect...and to raise our voices in praise, singing "heart" songs.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION . . . all who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior are welcomed to the table for Holy Communion. You do not have to be a member at Holy Cross, but you do need to be a Christian; a believer in God the Father, His Son, and the Holy Spirit.

F.Y.I. ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION . . . What is intinction? It is taking the bread (Body of Christ) at Communion and dipping it into the chalice which contains the wine (Blood of Christ). We receive this way because it is closer to the original intention of the Lord's Supper. In biblical times, bread was used to swab the plate clean and dry out the remaining wine in the chalice. Remember, hold on to the bread and body of Christ and IN TINCT. It is not how we receive that gives the bread and wine its sacredness; that comes from the one giving it, Jesus.



KNEELING AT HOLY COMMUNION TIME . . . we are encouraging you to take this step of faith. After receiving Holy Communion you have time to come before God by kneeling in prayer. Stay as long as you like. Kneel and listen to the words being sung all around you. Kneel and have your quiet, humble time before your God.



SINGING DURING HOLY COMMUNION . . . this time in our worship is an opportunity for us to raise our voices in praise of our Savior. We use songs that are easy to learn and that seem to "stick with us" as we leave on Sunday mornings. You may find yourself or your children singing them throughout the day. That's great! We call these songs "heart songs" because they go from the mind, deep down into the heart - committed to memory without really realizing it. Then, in unexpected moments, the words and the melody ascend from the heart into the mind and are placed on our lips. Let's praise God together.

CHASUBLE CHANGE . . . this is the colorful garment that Pastor wears over her robe. It is used to signal the celebration of Holy Communion. Pastor puts it on just before the celebration of Holy Communion as a visual reminder that just as we dress up for weddings, parties and special occasions, Pastor "dresses-up" for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

WE GATHER PRAYER REQUESTS . . . before our worship begins. This helps us to care for one another and pray for one another. It helps us to reach out and share another's burdens.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS . . . we now have them for those of you who are on a gluten free diet. Let Pastor know if this would be helpful to you. Come to the altar when the ushers come for Holy Communion (when Pastor communes herself and others etc.)

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . the reason we face the cross during the Processional Hymn when the cross is first brought into the church, and the Gospel Procession, when the cross and the Bible are brought to the center of the Sanctuary amidst the people, is to give honor and glory to God for the sacrifice He has made for us in His Son Jesus Christ, and in thanksgiving that we will once again be refreshed and renewed with His Word.

Our Busy Ministry



WHAT'S GOING ON? CHECK IT OUT IN THE PARISH NEWS . . .
Item of the month: **NAPKINS, PAPER PLATES** (small & regular), **CUPS**
WELCA meets 3rd Tuesday of the month...bake sale coming soon
Pampered Chef Fund Raiser...this week is the last week
Harvest Home....pick up a paper bag & bring it to work
Don't forget FaceBook Market Place; support HCLC, see note below
Family Game Night...was great fun; thank you to everyone who helped
Annual Congregation Meeting TODAY; don't forget to attend

A FUN-FILLED FAMILY GAME NIGHT . . . thank you to all who made this Family Game Night the best ever. The baskets were outstanding, the participation was terrific. The food was delicious. The winners were many. Special thanks go to Val and Buck Barba who M.C. this event each year and pull it all together. Thanks to our confirmation youth who helped throughout the evening. For all who made baskets, purchased gift cards for game prizes, brought family and friends to the event a great big THANKS to you. Events are successful because you make it happen.

PAMPERED CHEF FUND RAISER EVENT . . . 30% of your order will be given to Holy Cross through the generosity of Kenny Zagare. This means if you spend \$100 you are actually donating \$30 to the ministry of Holy Cross. You get a great product and help our ministry reach its goals. The catalogues are available to you; so pick one up at the Pampered Chef table. You can fill out a form or you can go on line and order @ www.pamperedchef.com/party/kennethzagare1102. Check out the information on the Holy Cross Website or speak to Kenny directly on Sunday.

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING TODAY . . . Once a year we meet together to share our success for the past year and hear the plans for a new year. We also review our 2020 Budget proposal and make a vote to accept it or modify it. Thus our budget becomes a guide for our spending. The meeting generally takes 1 hour and we gather in the lobby of the church. We also create the next year's council as we vote to add persons to the council. Come join your church family in exploring what it takes to be a ministry in the 21st Century.

WELCA BAKE SALE COMING SOON . . . the annual spread of delicious cakes, cookies and desserts of all kinds will be presented November 24th just in time for Thanksgiving. There are no fixed prices, just what your heart thinks it is worth. All proceeds are donated to local charities and Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Help support the many outreach projects they are involved with and pray for. You can freeze most goodie; BUT WHY WAIT?



FOOD FUND RAISER . . . @ Panera's, Portion Road, 4:00 to 8:00pm on November 20. Come join your church family and the community as we all enjoy sandwiches and conversation. Help support the ministry of Holy Cross; Take a break from cooking. Don't forget your flyer. Download it at the HCLC website or pick one up at church.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD . . . the children's gift boxes full of toys and games and necessities are due back at Holy Cross November 17th- 24th. On Sunday November 24th we will bless them before they are sent throughout the nation and the world. The need is great, especially in the hard hit south east American coast and the Florida pan-handle. Help the children in your family circle learn to be generous. Teach them that not everyone will have a great Christmas like they have. This is a Samaritan' Purse Project, one of the best Christian organizations. See note below.

ABOUT SAMARITAN'S PURSE . . . Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Headquartered in Boone, North Carolina, Samaritan's Purse has affiliate offices in Canada, the U.K., and Australia; field offices in 17 countries; and ministry partners in more than 100 countries, including Germany. President & CEO: William "Franklin" Graham III, son of Billy Graham.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP
Wednesday night, November 27, 2019
Come & praise God for the blessings of your life.
Everything is from his loving hand. Though it is a secular holiday, it is a holy day for Christians

GINGER BREAD HOUSE MAKING . . . learn how to make them, Saturday 12/14/19. Can you donate flour and interesting candies such as string licorice, red or green M & M's, mints etc. More information to come. A basket will be put out and labeled for items you donate.

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY . . . Nov 17th. We will celebrate our bountiful blessings by returning a small measure of our plentiful food to share with our neighbors. The Sunday School children participate as well. So if you have a child in our program remember to bring in food items. Please give generously to the grocery drive to replenish our Food Pantry for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets which will be assembled and delivered. Please be generous. Use your coupons. The products you purchase with them may not be something YOU use but someone else will.



HOLIDAY HOPE TODAY . . . a program for coping with grief and loss as the holidays approach, will be hosted by Moloney's Family Funeral Homes. It is an excellent two hour session. Pastor Raggie will be there to offer care, prayer and counseling and Tom Petriano, Professor from St Joseph's College will offer guidance. It is being held at Moloney's Lake Funeral Home, Mother Teresa Memorial Center from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm....November 24th. For people grieving this is a very helpful time. Learn how to get through the holidays with your loss. Remember Christ will comfort us in our sorrows.

5th Annual ADVENT EVENT.....DECEMBER 1ST . . . 4:00 pm on
. . . come when you can; you don't have to be here for the whole event.
Free . . . Free . . . Free
DINNER . . . CHRISTMAS CRAFT. . . CHRISTMAS LIGHTING OUT-DOORS
CHRISTMAS CAROLING ON OUR FRONT LAWN . . .
HOT CHOCOLATE, COOKIES AND MORE
All ages are welcome . . . bring family, friends & loved ones

CONFIRMATION BEGAN . . . with a BBQ and kick-ball game. Every one had a lot of fun. A SPECIAL activity was planned to highlight one the best Confirmation activities...The 30 Hour Famine which will be held in February. If you have a student that you think is ready for Confirmation class – which begins with 7th grade – call the church office or bring your child on a Monday evening, 6:30.

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION . . . Though we do not consider it a sacrament as the Roman Catholic Church does, we Lutherans do believe it is a VERY important part of the spiritual development of our young people. In class the students learn to use the bible in a significant way. They learn about the fundamentals of the Christian faith and go deeper into the spiritual concepts and Kingdom values that our Lord and Savior taught. The students also learn what the church is about and how to serve God by serving others through the church (Holy Cross). Level I begins with kids in the 7th grade...Level II begins with kids in the 8th grade...Level III begins with kids in the 9th grade. Confirmation is granted to those who have successfully completed the three levels and profess their faith in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Call the church office if you have questions about the program.

CONFIRMATION STAFF FOR 2019-2020 . . . Deacon Doris Ahrens, Deacon Suzanne Beckles, Barbara Drewes, Bob Duran, Mary Beth Heinicke, Deacon Virginia Ward, Heather Clark and Pastor Raggie. Please keep them all in prayer as they seek to share the love of Jesus and help our kids learn to love the church and its mission to bring others to know Jesus Christ.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY . . . has begun. Please join Laura Peters as she leads us in the Messenger of Grace Bible Study on Paul’s letter to the Philippians “Our Joy”; a testimony to the fact that we can rejoice no matter our circumstances. Bible Study meets at 1:00 pm on Fridays: Nov. 15th and Dec. 13th.

OUR CHILDREN SING FOR CHRISTMAS . . . Children's Choir is back and the children will be singing at the 5:30pm service on Christmas Eve. The choir will be led by Ms. Joan (She has that beautiful voice who sang the Lord’s Prayer this summer. She is also a school music teacher) and will meet immediately following the 9:00am service on 12/1, 12/8, 12/15 and 12/22. Rehearsal will only be about 15 minutes long and will be held upstairs in the choir room. If you have any questions, please contact our minister of music, Kenny Zagare, at zagare42@gmail.com.

WE ARE COLLECTING FOR OUR MILITARY

CANDY...heat resistant...fruit Breezes (throat drops)...Twizzlers
CORRESPONDENCE...writing paper...envelopes...pens...pencils
DENTAL...toothbrush...toothpaste...floss...mouthwash
DRINKS...instant coffee...coffee creamer...Gatorade...powered drink mixes...sweet tea mixes
FOOD...instant oatmeal...Ramen noodles...Granola Bars...pop-tarts...canned fruit (pop-top)...cereal in small boxes...gum...sugar packets...tuna kits...ravioli (pop-top) Beef jerky...Balance Bars.
GAMES...Playing cards...board games...travel size checkers and chess...crossword puzzles...hand-held electronic games, sudoku books
ENTERTAINMENT...CD fanny packs...CDs...tapes...DVDs new and used...frisbees...hacky sacks
TOILETRIES/HYGIENE...baby wipes...feminine hygiene products...nose spray...wash...eye drops ...deodorant...foot powder...hairbrushes...hand lotion...hand sanitizers (waterless)...nail clippers...q-tips...disposable razors...shampoo...sunscreen...tissues such as Puffs...chapstick...
OTHER...plastic spoons...zip lock baggies...batteries...bug spray...duct tape...pre-paid phone cards...mini/mag flashlights...disposable cameras...white calf high cushioned socks...fly swatters



SUNDAY DECEMBER 15TH
PANCAKES WITH SANTA
Fun and Fund Raiser
Pancakes, sausages, juice, coffee
Adults. . . \$8.00
Children (under 12) . . . \$5.00
Pictures with Santa

DO YOU HAVE AN OUT-OF-CONTROL SCHEDULE . . . One of Satan’s greatest weapons against our generation seems to be his ability to make good people busier than ever before. We so often sacrifice the best things in life by spending time doing things that are just “pretty good.” If you desire to walk closely with God, you will absolutely, necessarily have to begin by taking a close look at your calendar. It is likely that you are currently doing too much. And it is also likely that your overly hectic schedule is affecting your relationship with God. So take out your pruning shears and begin to cut out any activities you can that will allow you to focus more time on your relationship with your Creator.

If you are too busy for God then you are too busy.

SOLID VISION PLAN IV . . . RSVP phase 4 is upon us. At the congregation meeting on November 11th we discussed several smaller items that need to be fixed and quickly. (1) We need to fix several spots in our leaky roof before the damage gets worse. (2) We need to replace 3 steel doors that are rusting away and are a hazard to our safety and security...DONE (3) We need to solve the Fellowship Hall flooding by adding canvas overhangs to the outside doors of the south side of our building...DONE (4) We want to begin a fund for the stair lift to the lower level (Fellowship Hall) of our church to make it accessible to those with limited mobility. HOW MUCH HELP IS NEEDED? Close to \$40,000 to do what needs to be done. We have already laid out several thousand dollars to get the roof repaired before the worst of the winter weather set in. So anything you can do to help maintain your church through your finances will honor God and help us accomplish our goals. Please continue.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 2019

- The Annual Congregation Meeting will be November 10 at 12:30 pm
- There are open seats on the Church Council for the term beginning November 12, 2019
- The 2020 Operating Budget was presented to the Council and approved.
- Operating budget will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting, 11/10/19
- Budget Round Table discussion opportunities will be 10/20, 10/27 & 11/3
- Family Game Night Tickets and baskets will be available 10/20
- The Pampered Chef Fundraiser begins on 10/27
- A date will be set for the 2020 Mystery Dinner
- RSVP VI completed three Parish Maintenance Projects this year
- Preliminary work will begin on the Chair Lift to the Fellowship Hall
- There are two new volunteers in CrossWords & Gifts
- Thank you to Valerie and Buck Barba, Neal Henshall, Laura Peters and Deacon Virginia Ward for their service on the Church Council

USSED INK CARTRIDGES . . . due to a change in the Staples Office Supply store policy we are no longer collecting them! THANK YOU for all your support over the years.

SAVE THE DATES . . . more to be added

Annual Congregation Meeting 12:15pm	11/10/19
Harvest Home; we bring in lots of food to give away	11/17/19
Food Fundraiser @ Panera's, Portion Road, 4:00 to 8:00pm	11/20/19
WELCA Bakesale	11/24/19
Operation Christmas Child; shoe box collection	11/17/19 thru 11/24/19
Avon For Christmas fund raiser (thru Dec. 8)	11/24/19
Holiday Hope, Moloney's Funeral Home; 1:00pm	11/24/19
Thanksgiving Worship, 7:00pm	11/27/19
Advent Event; craft, food, fellowship, lighting of the Christmas tree; 4pm to 7pm	12/01/19
Midweek Advent Worship, 7:00pm	12/04/19
Final Day for Avon fund raiser	12/08/19
Midweek Advent Worship, 7:00pm	12/11/19
Ginger Bread House making, 10:00am	12/14/19
Cantata Sunday both services come celebrate	12/15/19
Annual Pancake Breakfast and Santa stops in	12/15/19
Christmas Caroling and Ice cream Sundaes; Congregation and Confirmation members.	12/16/19
Midweek Advent Worship, 7:00pm	12/18/19
Children lead us in the story of Christmas	12/22/19
Christmas Eve Worship, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm	12/24/19
Christmas Day Worship, 10:00am.	12/25/19
Christmas Day Worship @ Lakeshore Assisted Living Facility, 11:15am.	12/15/19
World Vision, 30 Famine.	2/15/20 thru 2/16/20

SHARING YOUR FAITH WITH YOUR CHILD . . . It's the greatest gift you can give your child. As parents we offer our children love, food and shelter to help them grow from the moment they are born. But in this busy world we sometimes forget to help our children to grow in their faith. It's never too soon to share your faith. How you love your child is a reflection of God's love. Be nurturing, unconditional in your love, be patient, fair, positive, forgiving. Pray with your child at meal time, at bedtime and at other special times. Explore God's beautiful world together; God made everything and God is everywhere so enjoy the wonders of nature. And by all means make your day of worship special. Help to develop in them the joy of praising God in a community of believers and help them to develop a love for the Church. Don't forget CrossWords & Gifts for trinkets or great story books and children's bibles.



Have your child REGULARLY attend the Sunday School program.

FACEBOOK MARKET PLACE . . .WE NEED MORE ITEMS TO SELL so please remember use your cell phone and take a picture or two or three. of the item you want to donate to sell and send it to Buck Barba, 631-365-6429, who will do the rest. The proceeds from the sale will go to support our ministry. So please clean your basement & garage. . We have had GREAT success. Keep it going. Get cleaning. Let your friends and neighbors know.

SMILE ON AMAZON . . . when you make a purchase on Amazon first sign in to SMILE, Holy Cross Lake Ronkonkoma, we receive a ½% donation to our ministry. **LET YOUR FRIENDS KNOW TOO.**

OUR MINISTRY BASICS



HELPING PEOPLE KNOW AND SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST . . .is our mission statement and it is what helps us to express our ministry here in the community.

Very simply stated it says that we are about helping anyone who desires to be on a faith journey to come to know the amazing love, the grace of God who is in the gift of Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for all people and then share that gift, that understanding, that joy, that message, with others.

THE LOCAL CHURCH IS THE HOPE OF THE WORLD . . . this is the fundamental philosophical building block of our ministry. Since this is what we believe and this is what our mission statement is predicated on, are we willing to risk what God has called us to be about by not supporting HCLC? Are you being changed? Is your family being changed? Have you made decisions a little bit differently because of Jesus Christ and is your spiritual journey growing?

EXECUTIVE BOARD . . . The Church Council is led by the Executive Board comprised of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Pastor. According to our church constitution and in compliance with our national church body, this is how the "business" aspects of the church is organized and the "corporation" is led. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL 2019 . . . Elected by the Council are the following to the Executive Board: Val Barba is our Church President, Bob Lewis is Vice President and our Treasurer is Neal Henshall. Recording Secretary is Barbara Drewes. Pastor Raggie also attends. The Recording Secretary has voice but no vote as a non elected Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2019 . . .Buck Barba, Val Barba, Suzanne Beckles, Dominic DeLorenzo, Neal Henshall, Bob Lewis, Laura Peters, Bill Starke, John Stuerzel, Virginia Ward, John Miller, and Pastor Raggie. Barbara Drewes (non-elected) is recording secretary who has voice but no vote.

CHURCH COUNCIL . . . This is a group of maximum, 12 people, elected by the congregation. It is the “business” leadership body of the church. The Council meets at least once per month: The 2nd Tuesday. At this meeting, committees, special teams, Pastor, deacon all present reports of the activities that they have been involved in. It is a time to review the past activities, and make plans for the future. The council sorts through the issues that face a busy, growing ministry, celebrate the successes and make sure that everything that is done is put through the paradigm of the mission statement and the philosophy of the Lutheran Church.



WE RECEIVE NO OUTSIDE HELP . . . or support. Unlike the Roman Catholic Church, there is no money coming from a diocese or other church organization or church body to help support our ministry. Every dollar you give makes it possible for us to pay our bills.



FLOWERS PLACED ON THE ALTAR . . . we have a flower chart in the hallway by the office and you can choose to place flowers on the altar for a particular reason for a particular Sunday. The cost is \$25 and you can take them with you after 11:00 am worship. or our Visitation Team will create lovely bouquets to take to people who are ill or homebound. Your name and occasion will be in the bulletin. What a nice way to honor someone, remember someone or say thank you.

IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER REQUESTS . . . Are a great way to gather God’s people in prayer. Each Sunday morning we solicit your prayer requests. It is one of the most important things we do. Prayer opportunities include:

- † Verbally requesting prayers
- † Using the prayer mailbox in the church lobby
- † Calling the Church office to have prayers included on our prayer chain
- † Calling the Church office to have persons included on our written list
- † Have the request listed in the Parish News
- † Stop in at CrossWords & Gifts; there is a prayer box there



PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER . . . there is a “prayer mailbox” on the table in the entranceway to the Church (right side as you leave through the red doors). It is there for you to request prayers for Sunday worship, to be prayed for on Wednesday evening by the Prayer Circle and to be included in our Parish News should you so desire. We encourage you to use this very special gift.



DO YOU KNOW . . . that most weeks you come to worship you will receive a scripture card to help you remember the spiritual lessons learned that day? If you want extras to take with you to work or give to a neighbor or friend or send to your college student or families near and far, we have them. May they be a blessing to you and anyone who receives them.



DEVOTIONS . . . we carry two small monthly devotional booklets, **THE WORD IN SEASON** and **OUR DAILY BREAD**. In each booklet there are short devotional stories and scriptures that magnify the story. They change quarterly. Please make sure you pick one up and use it as a way to focus your day (the table to your right on the way out). If you don’t have a bible and cannot afford one we have extras.

OUR EXTENDED MINISTRY AT LAKESHORE ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY . . . is going and growing under the leadership of Deacon Doris Ahrens. Each week the ministry of Holy Cross is extended to the good people here through worship and holy communion. Pastor Raggie joins them on the non Sunday worship services. Many people help make this a loving extended ministry of HCLC. Want to help? Be in touch with Deacon Doris Ahrens.

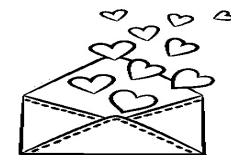
OUR EXTENDED MINISTRY AT ARBORS IN BOHEMIA . . . we received a telephone call to see if we would extend our worship to the Arbors, an assisted living facility in Bohemia. Deacon Chris checked it out and spoke with people there and we made a commitment to extend our ministry there too! It is a joy and a privilege to do so. Are you interested in helping? It is on Saturday mornings, weekly at 10:15 am. Let Deacon Doris Ahrens know, or call the church office.

MATURE SINGLES DISCUSSION GROUP . . . is a huge success and keeps growing. 15+ people are in attendance. A lively discussion ensues with great refreshments. Please join our group leader Joan Fallon, November 17th 1:00 to 2:30 for the "Mature Singles" meeting.



WANT TO HOST A COFFEE HOUR? . . . sign up sheet is at the Information Center. It is a great way to honor a loved one or memorialize someone. As a church family we get to celebrate with all of you. Someone will be glad to assist you and show you the ropes. Birthday, anniversary, graduation, promotion, some success...or just because!!

WE SEND LETTERS . . . when you give a gift in memory of someone, in thanksgiving for someone or something, or in honor of someone or something, the ministry of Holy Cross sends the gift giver a letter of thanks and whenever possible sends a letter to the person honored or memorialized. If you give a gift to the ministry through the Sponsor A Bill program, or through the special funds and highlight who or what it is for, letters are sent and people are recognized. Be sure to include the address of the person so we can send the letter.



WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS . . . do you need to make arrangements for Holy Cross to participate in these special occasions? Call the church office to see if the date and time is available. Pastor will be in touch with you after you have discussed dates and times with the office staff. Baptisms are usually done in the 11:00am service and are done for one family at a time (unless otherwise requested). Weddings are based upon Pastor’s schedule and the worship schedule of the ministry of Holy Cross.

CROSSWORDS & GIFTS . . . is a wonderful ministry arm of Holy Cross. The store is on the main floor (just down the hall to your right as you leave the church lobby). You will always be able to find something for all ages. Cards, books, music, CD's, crosses, T-shirts, seasonal offerings. It is run on volunteers which keeps the prices down. The store also hosts book signing events and music events (on a small scale). Special orders are their strong point. Stop in and shop. Perhaps you want to volunteer a few hours a week or month? Speak to someone in the store. ENJOY.

MULTIMEDIA AT HOLY CROSS . . . we are always looking to add to the Media Team. Mary Beth Heinicke, Media Tech, will work with you to learn the program and design worship. Perhaps you have an interest in the Sound System and sound board you can learn this too. If you have an interest in creating great worship at HCLC stop by the Media Desk and talk with Mary Beth.

WE ALWAYS NEED HELP . . . in the office....Phones need to be answered, letters need to be typed, guests need to be greeted, bulletins and the Parish News needs to be run off, folded and collated, and so much more. In the store....we need volunteers to keep the costs down and thereby use the financial resources to fund the ministry of HCLC. Quick training and a few hours a month will make a difference. Call the store, 981-0525 OR speak to Lana Knusch, Arlene Tramazzo. Around the campus always needs to be cleaned up; papers, branches, leaves. This is your worship home.



DO YOU WANT TO BE MORE INFORMED ABOUT HCLC? . . . You can be added to the e-mail list. You'll be informed (when we have information) of special things happening in our ministry.

SPONSOR A BILL . . . this is a great way to honor someone, remember someone or thank someone. You make a donation to the ministry of Holy Cross by helping to pay a bill. When you include the name of a person and their address and a salutation our ministry recognizes this gift in the Parish News and sends a letter. Why not let someone know you are giving a lasting gift in their name! Can you help by giving an extra love gift?

PASTOR RAGGIE'S SERMONS . . . have you missed one? Do you want to hear one or better yet do you want to see the sermon? She is on YouTube or you can hear her through the Holy Cross Lutheran Church website: www.holycross-lutheran.org

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP . . . is held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the MONTH,...7:00 pm - 8:00 pm here at Holy Cross. Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association of Long Island it is designed to provide emotional, educational and social support for care-givers. You will learn from one another, and from an experienced Social Worker, Mary Beth Heinicke. For Info: call 516-622-7770 or visit the Alzheimer's Association site at alz.org.

FACEBOOK . . . Don't forget to check it out. It is updated frequently by Debbie Quiles. Would you go to HCLC website and like us and do so on Facebook as well. You will be helping to spread our ministry. Tell your friends about HCLC; tell them about our outreach and the worship we experience.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? . . . go to the Information Center. There is a card you can fill out. There are booklets there to read and someone to ask questions of. Membership sessions are held throughout the year so watch the Parish News (this booklet). You don't have to make the commitment right away. We are glad you are worshipping with us. Here at HCLC that is what is important. Membership comes as you feel more deeply about what goes on here and want to be a part of something that reaches others with the love of Jesus.

WORSHIP LEADING . . . do you want to help lead others to worship and praise God? Maybe you don't want to read but want to help at the altar or carry the cross, the candles, the bible. Why not stretch yourself and your journey of faith. Speak with one of the deacons or Pastor about serving.

HOLY CROSS FINANCIAL NEWS

HELP KEEP OUR MINISTRY COSTS DOWN . . . This month we are asking you to bring in paper plates (dessert size), cups, napkins, paper towels.

DID YOU KNOW . . . it costs \$1,000/day to maintain our ministry and do our mission??? We spend more on coffee than we offer back to God. We spend more at Carvel, Dunkin Donuts, McDonald's that we offer back to God through the ministry of Holy Cross.

YOUR GIVING TO THE MINISTRY MAKES A DIFFERENCE . . . because of you, people are coming to know a relationship with Jesus. Because of you, we have a flourishing Sunday School and Confirmation program, a store going and growing, an active volunteer core, homebound are visited, the Gospel is preached, a Christian rock band that has produced & marketed its first CD, prayers are prayed and Christian fellowship is nurtured, Extended music ministry etc. Please continue to be generous and remembering from whom all you have comes.

MANY, MANY, MANY THANKS . . . to all who REGULARLY AND GENEROUSLY give to our ministry. You help to keep our doors open. You help to share the Gospel with those who may not know Jesus. You help to pay for the utilities, influence children's lives by maintaining an excellent Sunday School program and Confirmation ministry. You make it possible for Pastor to reach into the community and offer a place for people to come and worship and learn as she speaks at gatherings, does funerals and preaches the Gospel.



IMPORTANT PART OF MINISTRY FINANCES . . . if you have a special talent we want you! That talent can help keep our ministry costs down. One member helps us with electrical work. Another has done repair work especially for the store. Another is a plumber and is gifted in being a builder and overall handyman. All of these men have saved us thousands of dollars. How about you? Technology? Typing? Carpentry? Painting? Tree trimming? Gardening?

FACEBOOK MARKET PLACE . . . we continue to ask for donations of your sellable items to offer to the market place. **WHAT TO DO:** you take a picture of and send it to Buck Barba, 631-365-6429 and he will put it on the Market Place. The proceeds will go to the ministry of Holy Cross. We always need to clean out our closets, garages, storage areas...why not donate the item. Call Buck.

WE RECEIVE NO OUTSIDE HELP . . . or support. Unlike the Roman Catholic Church, there is no money coming from a diocese or other church organization or church body to help support our ministry. Every dollar you give makes it possible for us to pay our bills.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENEROUS GIVING . . . there are many ways to give to the ministry of HCLC thereby reflecting your giving to our God. We provide windows of opportunity for generous giving through your financial resources, items brought in and your gifts and talents.

- † Pastor’s Discretionary Fund; used to help people in need.
- † Sponsor-a-Bill; \$\$ go toward paying the bill
- † Operating Budget; goes to help pay the bills of this vibrant ministry
- † Special Ministry Appeals; RSVP, Habitat for Humanity, Seats for Souls, major repair bills (water main break, repair of front-way etc.)
- † Memorials; give \$\$ to memorialize someone
- † Thank Offering; give \$\$ to recognize someone
- † Bring in items when requested; monthly ministry appeal, food, clothing, seasonal items, Meal Madness needs etc.
- † Item of the Month to keep expenses down
- † Participating and supporting in ministry fund raisers



R EALITY CHECK	
½ gallon of Ice Cream.....	\$3.95 to \$4.99
Movies	\$9.00
Bottle of Water	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Pack of Cigarettes.....	\$10.00+
Netflix	\$10.99 to \$15.99/month
Coffee at Starbucks	\$2.95 to \$4.75
HBO Now	\$14.99/month
Down loading music.....	\$1.99 per song
Movie rental.	\$1.99 o \$2.99
Sirius XM	\$10.99 to \$19.99/month
CHURCH	NO CHARGE; but we can only exist by your donations

A HINT ON BEING GENEROUS TO OUR MINISTRY. . . Susie Orman, the personal finance guru (you may have seen her on talk shows and she’s written a book or two), recommends that you write a check to your favorite charity before you pay any other bills each month. If you put off your giving until the end of the month or the end of the year, she observes you are likely to feel guilty or broke. Being generous up front, she says, has a way of reassuring you that you really can survive on your income and help those who are less fortunate.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT . . . God owns everything and we are His managers. “Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth. Deuteronomy 8:18 “His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness”. Matthew 25:21.

INVESTING IN PEOPLE . . . one thing is most important in any business or ministry and that is to invest in people, not buildings and programs. People should always be considered first. By not investing in people (employees, staff, volunteers) you wind up becoming maintenance minded in your ministry or business. Short staffed, short in volunteers makes it difficult to flourish and grow.

GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY - THANK YOU	
Operating Fund	In thanksgiving for all of God’s blessings By Michael and Elaine Muilenburg In memory of Bently Geliebter By the Geliebter Family
Pastor’s Discretionary	In memory of Micky MacCulloch By the MacCulloch and Gali families In loving remembrance of Joseph Franz Baader, Jr. By Joseph, Carolyn and Lisa In memory of Matt Cierzniewski By Darlene Cierzniewski

GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY - THANK YOU

Sponsor a-Bill	In thanksgiving for all of God's blessings By Douglas MacCulloch By John and Ann Miller
R.S.V.P. IV	In memory of Joseph "Joey" Baader, Jr. By Lisa Dennis In thanksgiving for all of God's blessings By Tracy and Anthony Barbieri By Douglas MacCulloch By Robert and Michele Duran By Mary Beth Heinicke
General Memorials	In memory of Robert Kammerdener and Caroline Kammerdener - 40 years in God's heavenly embrace on November 6th By Kim and Kevin Kefer and family In memory of Joseph F. Baader, Jr. By his mother Carolyn Baader
Food Pantry	In memory of Micky MacCulloch By the MacCulloch and Gali families In thanksgiving for all of God's Blessings By Deborah Vitellaro By Carol and Ed McCaffrey

Thank You

CHURCH CALENDAR - NOVEMBER

Sunday 10	SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00 am SUNDAY SCHOOL. 9:00 am SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00 am SUNDAY WORSHIP AT LAKE SHORE..... 11:00 am ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING..... 12:15pm
Monday 11	CROSSWORDS & GIFTS. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm MEAL MADNESS..... School Closed - No Meal Madness CONFIRMATION..... School Closed - No Class AA. 8:00 pm
Tuesday 12	CROSSWORDS & GIFTS. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm CHURCH COUNCIL. 7:00 pm NA..... 8:00 pm
Wednesday 13	CROSSWORDS & GIFTS 10:00 am - 6:00 pm NA..... 7:30 pm
Thursday 14	CROSSWORDS & GIFT.....10:00 am - 6:00 pm AA. 8:00 pm
Friday 15	CROSSWORDS & GIFTS..... 10:00 am - 6:00 pm ADULT BIBLE STUDY. 1:00 pm
Saturday 16	THE ARBORS WORSHIP 10:15 am CROSSWORDS & GIFTS 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday 17	SUNDAY WORSHIP Harvest Home. 9:00 am SUNDAY SCHOOL. 9:00 am SUNDAY WORSHIP Harvest Home 11:00 am SUNDAY WORSHIP AT LAKE SHORE 11:00 am CHRISTMAS CANTATA REHEARSAL. 12:30 pm MATURE SINGLES..... 1:00 pm

