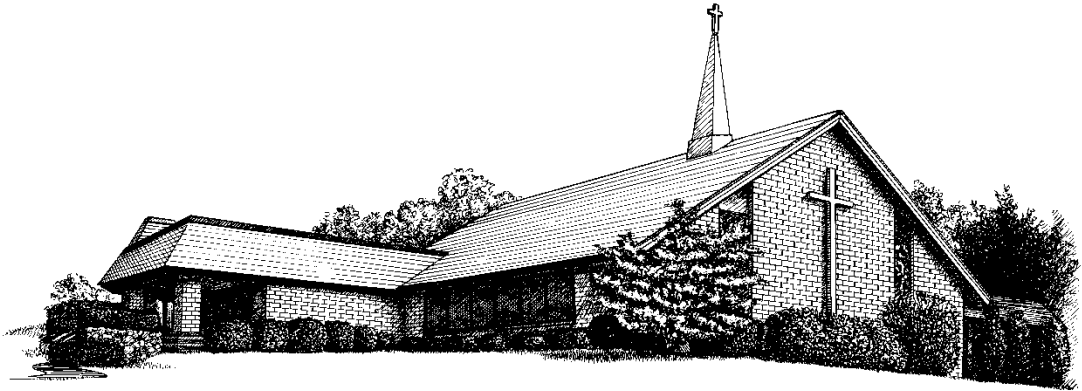


Holy Cross Parish ~ Župnija Svetega Križa



Welcome to Holy Cross Parish

750 Tahmore Drive, Fairfield, CT 06825-2519

We extend a warm welcome to all newcomers. May you find our parish a place where your faith will be nourished.

Parish Staff:

Rev. Alfred F. Pečarič, S.T.L., *Pastor*
Mrs. Clare Coyne - *Parish Secretary*
Mr. John Ertlmaier, CPA – *Bookkeeper*
Rectory: 203. 372. 4595
Parish Office: 203. 372. 4595; Fax 203. 372. 4668
Parish E-mail: holy_cross_church@sbcglobal.net

Mr. William Sekelsky - *Finance Board Chairman*
Patrick J. Walsh, Esq. - *President of Parish Advisory Board*
Mrs. Dorothy Fejes – *Catechist: 203. 259. 4905*

Organists:

Mr. Anthony Sagnella – *Sundays*
Mr. John Masi + Mrs. Lori Cellini-*Saturdays*

Sacraments:

Baptism: Preparation Class is by appointment only.
Arrangement for baptism will be made during the class.
Confession: Saturday, 3:45-4:15 pm and by appointment.

Mass Schedule:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am
Vigil Mass: Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday Masses: 9:30 and 11:00 am
Holy Day Masses as announced

Prayer Request Line:

Ann Marie Schiessl: 203. 255. 0866

Council and Societies:

Parish Advisory Board: *Quarterly – 7:00 pm*
Finance Board: *Quarterly – 7:00 pm*



MASS INTENTIONS

MAŠNI NAMENI

Sat. Jan. 14 4:30 pm + Frank DiGiacomo – A Friend
Sun. Jan. 15 9:30 am + Daniel Sileo – Ed & Michele Colon
11:00 am + Zdravko (Valentin) Hribar - Marija Grašič
Mon. Jan. 16 9:00 am + Dr. James Alexander – Joe & JoAnn Piczko
Tue. Jan. 17 9:00 am Intention of Prevention of War – Justina Pšeničnik
Wed. Jan. 18 9:00 am + Andrew Kokorda – Joseph & Marie Csom
Thur. Jan. 19 9:00 am + Joan Meszaros – Walter & Patty Sullivan

Sat. Jan. 21 4:30 pm + Donald P. Butzko (20th Anniversary) – His Wife, Patricia Butzko
Sun. Jan. 22 9:30 am + Rocco Pugliese – The Hutter Family
11:00 am + Cecil Ficko & Ingrid Nagy – Maria Grašič

Sat. Jan. 14 4:30 pm P. Stone/ M. Coyne
Sun. Jan. 15 9:30 am T. Mitchell/ T. Mitchell
11:00 am P. Sullivan/ W. Sullivan

Sat. Jan. 21 4:30 pm D. Fejes/ M. Colon
Sun. Jan. 22 9:30 am B. Sekelsky/ J. Csom
11:00 am W. Sullivan/ S Cassone

ALTAR SOCIETY: Sat. Jan 28 Clare & Michael Coyne

Sat/ Feb. 04 Pat Stone & Audrey Prokaly

FROM THE PASTOR:

THANK YOU: to everyone who helped to decorate the interior of the Church, the parish hall, and the exterior of the Church Portico for the Christmas Holy Day and subsequent Liturgical Holy Day feast days. The Church looked beautiful and worthy of the Season's Liturgical celebrations. Your volunteering is greatly appreciated-GOD bless you.

THANK YOU: to our music Ministers: John Masi & Lori Cellini, and, Anthony Sagnella and the parish choir for supplying beautiful and inspiring music and song to enhance the celebration of Our Lord's birth and subsequent holy days.

THE COFFEE HOUR: the members of the Parish Advisory Board invite everyone to the parish hall after Mass this am for coffee and...the Parish Nurses will be conducting the blood pressure screening.

THE SECOND COLLECTION: this weekend is the Capitol Improvement Fund.

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CCD/REL ED: there is no class this Monday, January 16th –due to the national holiday. Classes will resume next Monday, January 23rd at the usual time of 5:30 pm. Please stay tuned to the local channels for cancelations due to inclement weather.

ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION: the next class will be conducted on Sunday, January 22nd between the hours of 9:45 – 10:40. Anyone and everyone wishing to enhance their understanding of our Holy Faith are welcome, and are invited to join us at the 11:00 am Mass following class.

DAY OF PRAYER: next Monday, January 23 is *National Pray Day* for both intentions: for the Protection of Unborn Children, and, to end legalized killing of the holy Innocent Unborn. Please pray to end this horrible offense against Almighty GOD, Who is the Author, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier of Life-born and unborn. As the society becomes increasingly secularized, Faith becomes lukewarm, resulting in the obfuscation or blurring of morals, values, and understanding. May the Holy Spirit inspire us with enlightenment and for the strength to defend the truths of Christ, Our GOD, Who said: "let the little children come to me, and do not harm them."

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM: at 1 State Street in New Haven, is featuring crèches from Germany as well as many from the Museum's own collection, including a hand-carved cedar nativity scene from Mexico and its popular 120-square-foot Baroque Neapolitan (Italian) diorama. The Museum is open daily; free admission & parking. For more information, please call at 203-865-0400 or access: www.kofcmuseum.org. The last day of the exhibit is next Saturday, January 18th.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

THANK YOU: to everyone who has been contributing to the Capitol Improvement Fund Collection. The next major repair project we are facing, and for which we are saving up, is the repaving of the Church parking lot which is in dire need; re-patching the cracks is no longer an option. Hopefully, we will be able to complete this project at the beginning of the summer. The work will include ripping up the existing asphalt, milling the ground and eliminating major uneven surfaces, and repaving and restriping the new surface.

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF ST. ROSE OF LIMA AT HAWTHORNE: invite young women who are contemplating a vocation to Consecrated Life and who are faithful to the Church and are seeking a sound spiritual life with 2 Holy Hours daily, Community Mass, and communal praying of the Liturgy of the Hours. The main apostolate is caring for patients with incurable cancer who have no financial means of acquiring needed care. Anyone interested, please contact Mother Mary Francis, OP, Superior General of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, in, Hawthorne, NY 10532; Tel: 914. 769.0114.

MERCY LEARNING CENTER: in Bridgeport is looking for tutors to teach the English Language, Reading and Math to learners- largely women/mothers-who are in need of language skills to enter the work force. No teaching experience is required. The next training session will take place on Friday, January 27th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm with lunch provided. For further information or to register for a training session, please contact Lynn Gabriel or Sandra Santy-tutor coordinators at 203. 334. 6699, or at: lynn.gabriel@mercylearningcenter.org, or, sandra.santy@mercylearningcenter.org.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY: For the Evangelization of Christian Unity: that all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving and with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

THE INFIRM: We pray for the healing & restoration of good health to all our infirm family members, friends, & parishioners in particular:



Alan Bedwell, Patricia Butzko, Dorothy Cassidy, Lori Cellini, Anthony Cilo, John Coletti, Terry D'Amico, Don DeMattia, Larry DiGiacomo, Madeline Doherty, Eileen Donohue, Don Donaldson, Melissa Doran, Dorothy Fejes, Mary Galich, Lee Gentile, Joan Gerdson, Anna Grotti, Linda Grzegowski, Frank Hering, Rhoda Harap, Colleen Horan, Peter John, Kathleen Johnson, Maureen Kelly, Ron & Alma Knight, David Koprivec, Mary Ann Koprivec, Margaret Kuharec, Pat Lenahan, Madalene Lennon, Gabriel Loeser, Anton Lukman, Lillian Makar, Patty Merola, Jackie Mitchell, Jim Motley, Gregory Parsley, Iona Paul, Bernard Peloquin, Elizabeth Petrushonis, Lucille Piccirillo, Verlone Pickstone, Rev. Louis Pintye, OFM, Justina Pšeničnik, Edward & Diane Raschke, Stephen Ray, Darlene Raytar, Louis Rednak, Mary Ann Santolupo, Annette & Bernie Senderak, Micheal Sheets, Louise Tatangelo, Jaye Turner, Katherine Vallone, KJ Waller, Frank Us, Ethel Wuennemann & Fay Ann Zak.

We commend to our prayers the souls of all the recently deceased. May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Please pray for World Peace, for an end to all unrest throughout the world-especially the Middle East, and for the protection of all our soldiers, troops, and Servicemen, may GOD BLESS & PROTECT THEM, from all evil, harm, & injury, and, return them safely home. Amen.

Feast Days in January:

Sunday, January 15, 2017:

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Tuesday, January 16

St. Anthony, Abbot

Friday, January 20

St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr;

St. Sebastian, Martyr

Saturday, January 21

St. Agnes, Martyr

In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 07/08, 2017

Regular Collection: \$ 707.00

Monthly: \$ 336.00

Miscellaneous: \$ 768.00

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord



“Epiphany-” Η *Επιφάνια τῶν Χριστοῦ* is Greek for ‘manifestation’ or ‘revelation of Christ,’ and refers to Our Lord’s divine nature revealed through his form as man.

Last Sunday, we celebrated the *Epiphany* by the Adoration of the Magi. This weekend we celebrate the Epiphany as the Baptism of Our Lord, also known as *“Theophany”* (-Greek for the manifestation of God) which shows forth divinity of Our Lord, Jesus, as the Son of God, the Messiah-the Anointed of the Lord. This Epiphany also reveals the Holy Trinity as one God in 3 Divine Persons.

Accordingly, John the Baptist-who was baptizing in the Jordan River-was approached by Our Lord, asking John for Baptism. John objected stating that he needed to be baptized by Him, but Our Lord asked him to complete *“the Mission.”* Hence, after Our Lord was baptized and emerged out of the water, the skies opened (evidently it was a cloudy day) and the Voice of the Father was heard to say: *“Behold, My Beloved Son, listen to what He tells you,”* as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a Dove-the *Holy Paraklete*.

At this event the Holy Trinity was revealed for the first time as 3 Divine Persons in One God consubstantial-of one substance, united and yet distinct. Each of these Divine Persons is known to us by Their Activity: the Father is known as the Creator; the Son is known as the Redeemer; and, the Holy Spirit is known as the Sanctifier.

This revelation of the Holy Trinity occurred at the beginning of Our Lord’s public ministry, and, is also reiterated as the last directive before His Ascension into Heaven, when He said to the Apostles: *“Go, therefore and baptize all nations, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...”*

It is for this reason that we who are Catholic and Orthodox Christians are baptized in the Name of the Three Person of the Holy Trinity-*“the Trinitarian Formula.”* Hence, Baptism is not only an event in one’s life it is the beginning of a new birth-a new life- and our participation in the Triune God. That is why we are to follow a pattern of holiness, which is separate from pagan lifestyles, refuting all that is contrary to union with GOD. This new life opens for us the way to Eternal Union with God at the end of our lives. That is why we pray: *“Lord, have mercy. I believe, help my unbelief.”*