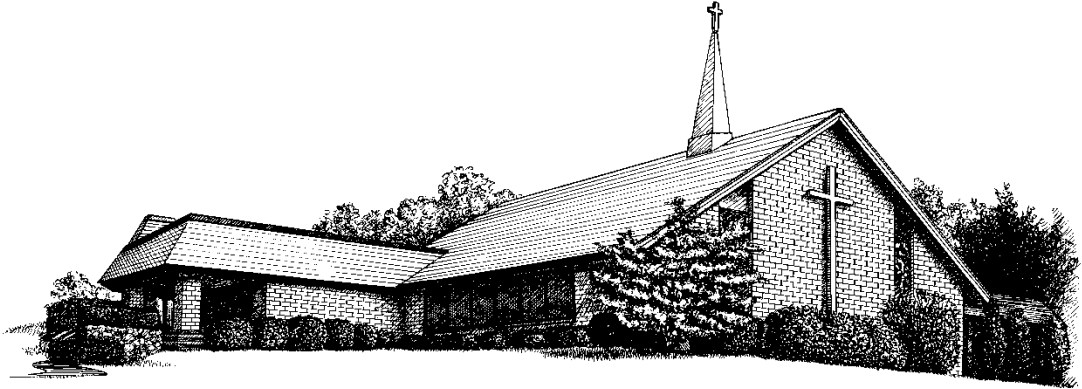


# *Holy Cross Parish ~ Župnija Svetega Križa*



## *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*

### *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*

*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.*

### *Council and Societies:*

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



### *MASS INTENTIONS*

### *MAŠNI NAMENI*

*Sat. Feb. 25 4:30 pm + Andrew Kokorda – CCD Catechists*  
*Sun. Feb. 26 9:30 am + Rocco Pugliese – Lea Belovich*  
*11:00 am + Deceased members of the Us Family – Max Us*  
*Mon. Feb. 27 9:00 am + William McClellan – Robert & Nancy McGee*  
*Tue. Feb. 28 9:00 am + In Gratitude and Thanksgiving to Almighty GOD - Anonymous*  
*Wed. Mar. 01 9:00 am + Luisa Miklavžina – Justina Pšeničnik*  
*5:30 pm + Cecilia Coleman – David M. Holmes*  
*Thur. Mar. 02 9:00 am + Lester DeCaro – Mr. & Mrs. John DeCaro*  
  
*Sat. Mar. 04 4:30 pm + Louis Koprivec – His Wife, Mary Ann and Family*  
*Sun. Mar. 05 9:30 am + Elisabeth Roth – Mr. & Mrs. Bernhardt Schindler*  
*11:00 am + Ann Tedesco – The Tedesco Family*

*Sat. Feb. 25 4:30 pm J. Adams/ J. Adams*  
*Sun. Feb. 26 9:30 am B. Sekelsky/ M. Colon*  
*11:00 am M. E. Vollemans/ D. Paronich*

*Sat. Mar. 04 4:30 pm J. Adams/ J. Adams*  
*Sun. Mar. 05 9:30 am J. Piczko/ J. Csom*  
*11:00 am B. Sekelsky/ S. Cassone*

**FROM THE PASTOR:**

**CCD/REL ED:** as we follow the Fairfield Public School System, please stay tuned to the local channels for cancelations due to inclement weather.

**ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION:** classes will be conducted on March 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 9:45 – 10:40 am. 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; the theme of the classes will conclude the study of the Decalogue-the 10 Commandments.

**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT**

Lent begins this Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>. Traditionally, ashes are blessed during Mass following the proclamation Holy Gospel; they are received on the forehead as a Sacramental (a sacred sign) of our desire to follow the instruction of the Holy Gospel: to repent of our sins; and, to rededicate ourselves and our life to GOD, for we are reminded of GOD's words to Adam:

*"...you return to the ground, from which you were taken; for you are dirt, and to dirt you shall return."* – GENESIS III: 19.

Blessed Ashes will be conferred to the Faithful after the homily during the 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Masses as a symbol of our desire and intention to reform our lives. Remember to receive blessed ashes NOT as a superstition, but as a sign of your intention to repent of sins, and, as an aspiration for spiritual renewal.

During this 40 day solemn Season of Lent, we are encouraged to reflect on Our Lord's 40 day fast in the Desert at the end of which Satan tempted Him. We reflect on Christ's temptations for our own personal purification and renewal of our Faith. In keeping with Sacred Tradition, we hear the voice of the Prophets who exhort us to recognize our sins and to repent of them through acts of almsgiving, charity, fasting and penance.

The theme for Lent this year will be: *Lift up your hearts to the Lord.*

Loaves and Fishes envelopes to help feed the poor will be available in a basket throughout these 40 days of fast and abstinence.

\*\*\*\*\*Ash Wednesday, Fridays during Lent and Good Friday are solemn days of Fast & Abstinence\*\*\*\*\*

**ABSTINENCE:** ALL Catholics are bound & required to abstain from ALL meat & poultry products on Fridays during Lent, and of course on Good Friday.

**FASTING:** All Catholic 14 – 59 years of age are bound to fast barring the ill. Fasting refers to the consuming of only one normal full meal & 2 small meals which are MEATLESS. Together, these 2 meals should not equal one full meal. Water, liquid medicines, and pill form medicines are ALWAYS permitted; expectant & nursing mothers may be exempted.

**FRIDAYS:** during the season of Lent are days of abstinence from all meat products and luxuriant indulgence. Remember that Our Lord Jesus Christ died on a Friday. Early Christians resonated the proclamation of St. John the Baptist who decreed that Jesus Christ is "*The Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,*" and therefore no further blood should be shed nor any meat consumed as a sign of our mourning, penance, and spiritual discipline. Recall also that every Wednesday during Lent recalls "*Spy Wednesday*" when Our Saviour was betrayed by one of His own Apostles– Judas Iscariot. Accordingly, on this day we commemorate & lament the arrangement of the betrayal of Our Lord.

\*\*\*\*\*LENTEN DEVOTIONS\*\*\*\*\*

**LENTEN CONFESSIONS:** will be heard every Tuesday evening during Lent from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

**STATION OF THE CROSS:** will be conducted every Friday evening at 7:00 pm, followed by Benediction.

**BULLETIN SPONSORS:** please know that the parish bulletin is printed without cost to the parish, as it is financed by the advertising of our sponsors. If you are considering a home project or are in need of professional services, please consult the back page of the parish bulletin and support the vendors who pay for our bulletin, and let them know you saw their ad in the parish bulletin and that you appreciate their support of the parish.

**DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:** as Christians, our goal is to live and serve others as the Holy Gospel asks. We pray that the new Administration acts quickly to restore the federal government's proper relationship with the First Amendment and other Laws protecting conscience and Religious freedom, so that the Catholic Church can continue serving the most vulnerable of Americans.

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.

*Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Osma Nedelja med Letom*

*February 26, 2017*

**FEBRUARY INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS: Universal Intention:** Comfort for the Afflicted. That all those people who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and the marginalized, may find Communities who will welcome and comfort them.

**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, Rhoda Harap, Frank Hering, 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, James Horris, Gregory Parsley, Ilona Paul, Bernard Peloquin, Elizabeth Petrushonis, Lucille Piccirillo, 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 FEBRUARY AND MARCH:**

Sunday, February 26, 2017

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 27

Orthodox Great Lent begins

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday: Catholic Lent begins

Friday, March 3: Solemn Abstinence and Fast

St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin

Saturday, March 4

St. Casimir, Prince of Poland

In Honor of Our Lady

Sunday, March 5

First Sunday in Lent

**St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin  
March 3**



Born in Philadelphia, PA, on November 26, 1858, Katharine was the 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter of Francis Anthony Drexel-a wealthy banker-and his wife Hannah, who died a month after Katharine's birth. Two years later, he married Emma Bouvier, who became a devoted mother to the 2 girls, and to the daughter she later bore to Francis. Both parents instilled into the girls by word and example that their wealth was simply loaned to them and was to be shared with others.

Katharine was educated privately at home; she travelled widely throughout the States and in Europe. Early in life she became aware of the plight of Indians tribes and of Black people. When she inherited a vast fortune from her father, she resolved to devote her wealth to helping these disadvantaged people. In 1885 she established a school for children of Indian tribes in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Later, during an audience with Pope Leo XIII, Katharine asked the Holy Father to recommend a Religious Congregation to staff the Institutions which she was financing. The Holy Father suggested that she herself become a Missionary. So, in 1889, Katharine with a few companions founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indian and Colored Peoples, of which she became the Mother Superior. The title of the Community summed up the two great driving forces in her life-the devotion to the Blessed Sacrament; and, love for the most deprived people throughout the USA.

Requests for help reached Mother Katharine from various parts of the States. During her lifetime, approximately 60 schools were opened by her Congregation. The most famous Foundation was made in 1915-Xavier University, in the City of New Orleans, in LA-the first Institution for Black People in the United States.

In 1935, Mother Katharine suffered a heart attack, and in 1937 she relinquished the Office of Superior General. Though gradually becoming more infirm, she was able to devote her last years to Eucharistic Adoration, and so fulfill her life's desire. She died on March 3, 1955, at the ripe old of age 96 at Cornwell Heights, PA. Her cause for Beatification was introduced in 1966. She was declared

*February 18/19, 2017*

*Regular Collection: \$1,953.00*

*Capitol Improvement: \$ 892.00*

*Miscellaneous: \$ 463.00*

***Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Osma Nedelja med Letom***  
**Venerable by Pople John Paul II on January 26, 1987, by**  
**whom she was also Beatified on November 20, 1988. He**  
**later Canonized her on October 1, 2000.**

***February 26, 2017***