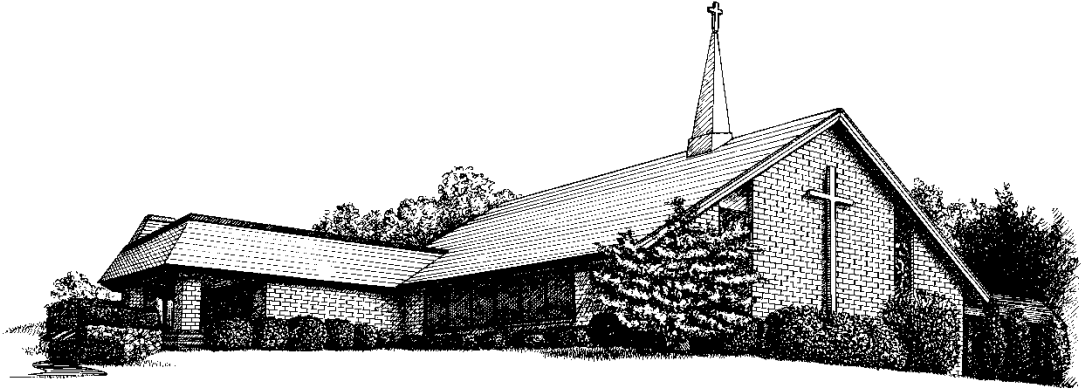


Third Sunday in Lent/ Tretja Postna Nedelja

March 19, 2017

# 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. Mar. 18 4:30 pm + Eugenia Pečarič (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) – Her Children  
Sun. Mar. 19 9:30 am + Rocco Pugliese – The Pugliese Family  
11:00 am + Philip C. DeProfio – Linda DeProfio  
Mon. Mar. 20 9:00 am + Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Campolucci – Mr. & Mrs. John DeCaro  
Tue. Mar. 21 9:00 am Prevention of Terrorism – Justina Pšeničnik  
Wed. Mar. 22 9:00 am + Mr. & Mrs. Peter Gannon – Mr. & Mrs. John DeCaro  
Thur. Mar. 23 9:00 am Intention of Helga Pečarič – Her Brother

Sat. Mar. 25 4:30 pm + Anne Colon – Mike & Rosa Donofrio  
Sun. Mar. 26 9:30 am + Eugenia Pečarič – Her Children  
11:00 am + Anton & Leopoldine Belovich – The Grašič Family

Sat. Mar. 18 4:30 pm J. Piczko/ P. Walsh  
Sun. Mar. 19 9:30 am B. Sekelsky/ W. Sullivan  
11:00 am M.E. Vollemans/ D. Paronich

Sat. Mar. 25 4:30 pm P. Stone/ B. Sekelsky  
Sun. Mar. 26 9:30 am T. Mitchell/ J. Csom  
11:00 am M.E. Vollemans/ D Paronich

ALTAR SOCIETY: Sat. Apr. 01 M. Csom

Sat. April 8 Christine Santos

**FROM THE PASTOR:**

**ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION:** the next classes will be conducted next Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT:** During this 40 day solemn Season of Lent, we are reminded in the Book of Exodus that human nature, lacking Faith, grumbles against what it does not understand, and so the Israelites complained against Moses and against GOD, in their thirst for lack of water. Bible teaches that GOD can do the impossible, as in this account HE heard their grumbling and caused water to pour forth from a rock at Mount Horeb. Moses called this place: “*Massah*” and “*Meribah*”-both Hebrew for: “quarrel” and “strife” respectively, for it appears that they lacked hope. In his Epistle to the Romans, Paul of Tarsus remind them that hope does not disappoint because we have been justified by faith through the holocaust of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is this Christ, the Messiah-Anointed of the Lord-Who restored hope to the Samaritan woman who was astonished that He should ask her for a drink of water. When He opened the eyes of her understanding as to Who He is, she left the purpose for her trek there and ran off to announce that she had found the Messiah. It is only through our profession of Jesus Christ as the Son of GOD, Our Saviour, that we have Eternal Salvation.

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.

\*\*\*\*\* FRIDAYS DURING LENT AND ESP., 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.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION:** the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus invites everyone to participate in the Devotion of the Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, on Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at St. Margaret Shrine, 2523 Park Avenue in Bridgeport. The Main Celebrant will be Bishop Caggiano assisted by Msgr. J. Peter Cullen, State Chaplain.

**BISHOP CAGGIANO:** if you are between the ages of 12 -29, Bishop Frank would like to know your thoughts on Faith, your prayer life, and more. You are invited to visit: [www.tellbishopfrank.org](http://www.tellbishopfrank.org) between now and April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**WHITE MASS:** for Healthcare Professionals and ALL who serve the sick to Holy Mass, celebrated by Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, at St. Peter Church, 104 Main Street, in Danbury, followed by BRUNCH at Ridgewood Country Club, 119 Franklin Street, Ext. Reverend Myles Sheehan, SJ, MD., will address: *Pope Francis’ vision of the Church as a Field Hospital: What does it mean to health care providers?* Sponsors: \$100-includes 2 tickets; Individuals: \$25.00; for more information, please contact Janet Davis: 203. 416. 1636.

**DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:** every Monday during Lent, every Catholic Church in the Diocese will be open for confessions between 7-8:00 p.m. Prepare yourself for the coming of Christ by giving yourself the gift of forgiveness and continue to pray for religious freedom that it will remain our most cherished and inalienable right. Visit: *Lightforyoutoday.*

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.

**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, Paul Lytwyn, Lillian Makar, Mia McCaff, 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, esp., Msgr. John Brown and Štefka Arlič. 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 MARCH:**

- Sunday, March 19,  
Third Sunday in Lent;  
Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM
- Monday, March 20  
Feast of St. Joseph-celebrated
- Thursday, March 23  
St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
- Saturday, March 25  
Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord  
In Honor of Our Lady
- Sunday, March 26  
Fourth Sunday in Lent: *Lætare* Sunday

**St. Joseph, Husband of Mary**  
March 19



*“Joseph”* יְהוֹשֻׁעַ - Hebrew renders: “GOD will add.”

St. Joseph is mentioned in the Holy Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke as the foster father of the Son of GOD-Our Lord Jesus Christ. Although very little is known about his background, early Christians living in Jerusalem and its environs maintained the Holy Tradition that St. Joseph was a widower who had sired 7 children in his first marriage. After his first wife had died, he remained celibate and worked as a tradesman-a carpenter-who lived in Nazareth.

Accordingly, when the time came for the presentation of the child Mary at the Temple of GOD in Jerusalem, a miraculous event occurred through which the High Priests understood that she was to be not only dedicated to GOD, but, she was to be reared in the Temple Cult. When the time came for her arranged marriage, no young man was found suitable, so the High Priest declared that every unmarried man, single or widowed should present himself at the Temple. In compliance, St. Joseph already an older widower came with his walking staff. When he was presented before the High Priest, his staff was transmuted into a lily stalk-which is why he is always portrayed holding a lily with one arm and the Holy Child on the other. The High Priest interpreted this as a sign from GOD that: Joseph was chosen from on HIGH to be the suitable husband for the young maiden Mary-who was later found with child before the affianced couple lived together.

St. Joseph is described as a holy and just man who was befuddled. He reached the decision to divorce the expectant maiden quietly when in a dream, he was instructed by the Angel Gabriel to continue the engagement into marriage, as GOD had ordained.

He is not mentioned in the public life of Our Lord, which gives rise to the belief that he may have died before. Additionally, by Jewish Law, Our Lord would not have entrusted the care of His Blessed Mother to St. John, had St. Joseph been alive. Hence the belief he had died earlier.

*March 11/12, 2017*

<i>Regular Collection:</i>	\$ 1,629.00
<i>Monthly Collection:</i>	\$ 1,324.00
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	\$ 245.00