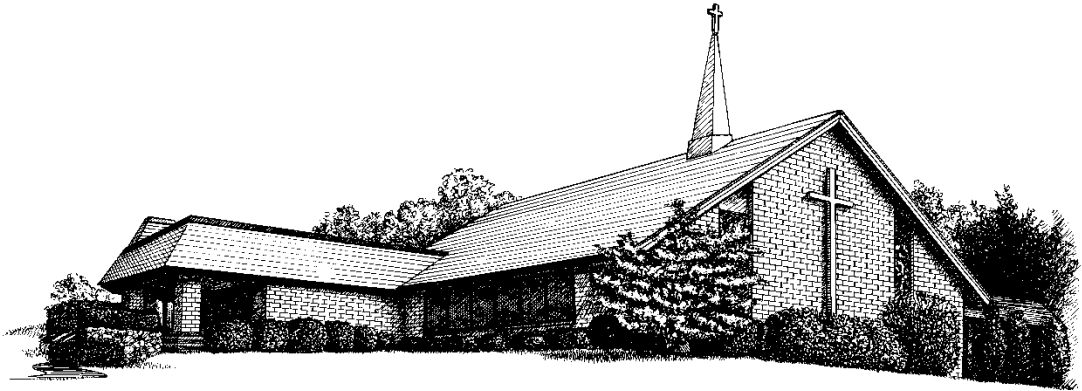


Palm Sunday/ Cvetna Nedelja

April 9, 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. Apr. 08 4:30 pm + Andrew Kokorda – Pete & Carol Jacob
Sun. Apr. 09 9:30 am + Ludwig Schmidt – Mr. & Mrs. Bernhardt Schindler
11:00 am + Milan Sattler – His Daughters, Hermina & Ingrid Sattler
Mon. Apr. 10 9:00 am + Štefka Arlič – The Grašič Family
Tue. Apr. 11 9:00 am + James Lawther – His Wife, Sheila Lawther
Wed. Apr. 12 9:00 am + Sr. Katherine Vallone – Pat Koprivec
Thur. Apr. 13 7:00 pm + For the Presbyterate of Christ and Increase of vocations to the Priesthood
Fri. Apr. 14 3:00 pm Passion of Our Lord: Forgiveness of Sins

Sat. Apr. 15 8:00 pm + Narčisa Pecchiari – Her Nephew and Niece
Sun. Apr. 16 9:30 am + Deceased Members of the Pugliese Family – Trudy Eppich
11:00 am + Eugenia Pečarič – Her Children

Sat. Apr. 08 4:30 pm J. & M. Adams/ J. Adams & B. Sekelsky
Sun. Apr. 09 9:30 am J. Piczko & P. Stone/ J. Csom & P. Walsh
11:00 am P. & W. Sullivan/ D. Paronich & L. Selimović

Holy Thur. Apr. 13 7:00 pm J. & M. Adams/ J. Adams

Good Fri. Apr. 14 3:00 pm T. Mitchell & J. Piczko/ T. Mitchell & P. Walsh

Holy Sat. Apr. 15 8:00 pm D. Fejes & T. Mitchell/ T. Mitchell & P. Walsh

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Easter Sun. Apr. 16 9:30 am T. Mitchell & B. Sekelsky / J. Csom
11:00 am P. & W. Sullivan/ W. Sullivan

ALTAR SOCIETY: Sat. April 22 Catherine & Nida Conklin Sat. April 29 C. & M. Coyne

FROM THE PASTOR:

PALM SUNDAY: today we commemorate and celebrate Our Lord's entry into the Holy City of Jerusalem. Palm and other branches are blessed as a means of joining the spirit crowd who welcomed Our Lord. We also welcome Him into our lives as we inaugurate Holy Week.

ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION: the next and last class of the season will be conducted on Sunday, April 23rd 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.

CCD/RELIGIOUS ED: invites everyone to the hall next Sunday morning following the close of both Masses for the monthly coffee hour and the children's Easter Egg Hunt following the 9:30 am Mass. Our parish nurses will conduct blood pressure screening. Please join us in the parish hall for coffee and...

THE SECOND COLLECTION: this weekend is the usual Monthly Collection.

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REMINDER THAT:

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14th IS A DAY OF SOLEMN FAST & ABSTINENCE

ABSTINENCE: all Catholics are bound & required to abstain from ALL meat & poultry products.

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.

ON GOOD FRIDAY: we abstain from all meat products and luxuriant indulgence to lament, and make atonement for the passion and death of our Holy Lord, Jesus Christ who died on the Cross. Early Christians decreed that since He is "The Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world," no further blood should be shed nor any meat consumed as a sign of our mourning, penance, and spiritual discipline. Recall also that on "Spy Wednesday" we commemorate & lament the arrangement of the betrayal of Our Lord and Saviour, Who was betrayed by one of His own Apostles– Judas Iscariot.

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK, April 9 - 16:

Monday, April 10th Tuesday, April 11th and, Spy Wednesday, April 12th: 9:00 am Mass.
Tuesday, April 11th: Lenten Confessions from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Holy Thursday: April 13th there is NO 9:00 am Mass;

Mass of the Mystical/ Last Supper begins at 7:00 pm.

Good Friday: April 14th, the Service the Passion of Our Lord begins at 3:00 pm.

Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm-there is NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Benediction.

Holy Saturday: April 15th the Blessing of the Easter Food begins at 2:00 pm;

Vigil Mass of the Resurrection of Our Lord begins at 8:00 pm.

Easter Sunday: April 16th Mass of the Resurrection will be at the usual Sunday times of 9:30 and 11:00 am.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: the first Sunday after Easter has been designated as *Divine Mercy Sunday*, as per the directive that Our Lord indicated to Sr. Marija Faustina Kowalska, in Poland. Accordingly Our Lord appeared to her several times and conveyed to her the image of His Merciful and Sacred Heart from which 2 rays emanated: a red ray representing His Sacred Blood, shed for our redemption, and a white ray, representing water. We are reminded that when the *Centurian-Longinus* pierced the heart of the "dead" Christ on the Cross: "from His heart flowed blood and water." Our Lord warned Sr. Faustina of the deception of all who deny the existence of Hell. It is customary to pray a Novena for forgiveness and mercy to Our Lord of Divine Mercy beginning on Good Friday, and through to Divine Mercy Sunday.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: in the Church's opposition to the Federal Health Care Mandate the issue is our compliance with provisions that are contrary to our Religious beliefs. Historically, the Church has delivered quality health care to all people who need it through our Catholic hospitals and social service programs. What we oppose is authorizing or paying for the procedures that violate Catholic teaching. Pray that the new administration, when amending the mandate, protects religious freedom..

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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.

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, , Mary Ann Koprivec, Margaret Kuharec, Pat Lenahan, Madalene Lennon, Gabriel Loeser, Anton Lukman, Paul Lytwyn, Lillian Makar, Patty Merola, Jackie Mitchell, Jim Motley, James Norris, Marc Pagnozzi, 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 Rev. Clifford Grise and Fernand Coutoure. 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 APRIL:

- Sunday, April 9
Palm Sunday-beginning of Holy Week
- Thursday, April 13
Holy Thursday-Mass of Last Supper
- Friday, April 14
Good Friday-Passion of Our Lord
- Saturday, April 15
Holy Saturday-Vigil of the Resurrection
- Sunday, April 16
Easter Sunday-the Resurrection

<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	\$	463.00
<i>Miscellaneous (Mar 25/26)</i>	\$	325.00

Holy Week

SPY WEDNESDAY: is this Wednesday in Holy Week. According to the Holy Gospels of St. MT XXVI: 14 – 16; MK XIV: 10 – 12; and, LK XXII: 3 – 6, it was on this day that Judas-son of Simon Iscariot- one of Our Lord's 12 Apostles- betrayed Our Lord by conspiring with members of the Sanhedrin for 30 silver coins, to have Our Lord arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane the night after He celebrated the Last Supper with His Apostles. (As Sin began to come into the world in the Garden of Eden, so Salvation began to come into the world in the Garden of Gethsemane.) Traditionally, ALL Christians are asked and expected to fast and abstain from all meats, meat products, and all luxuriant foods on Good Friday and on Holy Saturday until after the Vigil Mass, as penance for Our Lord's betrayal, and, to atone for all sins.

HOLY THURSDAY: on the day before Our Lord offered Himself to the Father for us & for our salvation, He arranged to celebrate the Jewish Passover according to the prescriptions of the *Book of Exodus* with his 12 Apostles, whereupon He instituted three fundamental attributes of His Church. In keeping with His words, we commemorate three events in the life of Our Lord and of the Church: 1) the Institution of the Holy Priesthood; 2) the Institution of the Holy Eucharist; and 3) the command of self-abnegation in favor of love of others-*the command of Charity*: "Love one another as I have loved you."

GOOD FRIDAY: was known as *Great Friday*, as it continues to be in the Eastern Church. With the passing of time, it came to be referred to as "Good Friday" in the Western Church to commemorate that on this day, by His Passion and Death, Our Lord made sinful humanity good to the Heavenly Father: "Blessed are You, O Lord, the Christ, Risen from the Dead, for by Your death conquered Death, and by Your Resurrection granted Life to those in the graves."

HOLY SATURDAY: ends with the Easter Vigil-the official start of the Easter Season. The Rubrics state that the Easter Vigil must take place after dark; it must begin after the evening twilight and end before dawn. The service begins with the blessing of the new fire, and the blessing and lighting of the new Paschal Candle. This Candle-symbol of the light of Christ dispelling darkness-is processed into the totally darkened Church-representing the tomb of Christ. Tapers are lighted from the Pascal Candle and shared with the Faithful in the dark Church which begins to dispel & illuminate the darkness with the ever growing Light of Christ.

Then, the great *Hymn of Victory-the Exultet* and the *Preface of Salvation History* are chanted to the honor of God.

April 1/2, 2017

Regular Collection: \$ 1,919 .00

Easter Flowers; \$ 634.00

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After the Readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, the Church lights are turned on and the great *Gloria*- the pray of praise-is sung to commemorate Christ rising from the Dead.

ACT OF CONTRITION: Oh My God! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee. I detest all my sins, because of Thy just punishment, but most of all, because I offend Thee my God, Who art all Good, and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy Grace, to sin no more, and to avoid the near occasions of sins. Amen.