

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.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm

Sunday Masses: 10:00 am

Holy Day Masses: As announced

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Alfred F. Pečarič, S.T.L., *Pastor*

Mr. John Ertlmaier, CPA / *Bookkeeper*

Mr. William Sekelsky, *Finance Board Chairman*

Robert Kokorda., *President of Parish Advisory Board*

Mrs. Jackie Azarian, *Coordinatrix* – 203. 218.5525;

Mrs. Lory Moomjian, *Coordinatrix* – 203. 257. 1262

Organists: Anthony Sagnella, Esq. – *Sundays*

Mrs. Lori Golias – *Saturdays*

Prayer Request Line: Ann Marie Schiessl / 203.255.0866

Rectory: 203.372.4595

Parish Office: 203.372.4595 **Fax:** 203.372.4668

E-mail: holy_cross_church@sbcglobal.net

Parish Website: www.holycrosschurchfairfield.com

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 & SOCIETIES

Parish Advisory Board: Quarterly – 7:00 pm

Finance Board: Quarterly – 7:00 pm

MASS INTENTIONS

MAŠNI NAMENI

Sat.	Dec. 09	4:30 pm + Anton and Marija Schadl – Kingsley and Margaret Gross
Sun.	Dec. 10	10:00 am + Philip Cerrone, Jr. – His Loving Wife Virginia and Children
Mon.	Dec. 11	9:00 am + Raymond Maisa – Bob and Maureen Kokorda
Tues.	Dec. 12	9:00 am + Carolyn Riddle – Joe Csom
Wed.	Dec. 13	9:00 am + Valade – Bob and Maureen Kokorda
Thur.	Dec. 14	9:00 am Special Intention of Desmond Hudson – Leila Hudson
Sat.	Dec. 16	4:30 pm + Marianne Bell - Edward
Sun.	Dec. 17	10:00 am + Elizabeth Owen – Carolyn, Ed and Bill

MASS READERS

Sat.	Dec. 09	4:30 pm	John Adams
Sun.	Dec. 10	10:00 am	Bill Sekelsky

Sat.	Dec. 16	4:30 pm	Bob Kokorda
Sun.	Dec. 17	10:00 am	Liz Selimović

FROM THE PASTOR:

OFFICE HOURS: The Parish office is open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm.
The Parish office is closed on Mondays and Fridays

FEASTDAY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: this Tuesday, December 12th marks the final of four apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Juan Diego at Tepeyac, outside of Mexico City. As a result of these apparitions, Aztec human sacrifices were ended as many indigenous peoples accepted Christianity and were Baptized into the holy Christian Faith.

CHRISTMAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST/ RAFFLE: members of the Finance Board and Parish Raffle Committee invite you to the annual **Christmas Pancake Breakfast** on the fourth Sunday in December, the 17th following the close of the 10:00 am Mass. The breakfast features sausages, eggs, sweets, coffee, tea, and juices. The Raffle Committee is again sponsoring a Christmas Raffle of handsome prizes useful for the holidays. Prizes are on display in the Church hall. Tickets are available at the cost of \$1.00 each; 6 for \$5.00, and 12 for \$10.00. The drawing will take place after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 17th.

Our Parish Nurses will be conducting Blood Pressure screening-
FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN FOR THE SCREENING.

The next Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Finance Board, on Sunday January 20, 2024.

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE/RAFFLE: we will be hosting a Christmas Parish Home Bake Sale the weekend of December 17th/18th in the vestibule of the Church, in conjunction with the Christmas Pancake Breakfast. Please help us make this bake sale a success, come to Mass, enjoy breakfast, and walk out with delicious Christmas treats.

CALLING ALL BAKERS: please bring in your favorite home baked cakes, cookies, nut/poppy seed rolls, pies and pastries and Struedels...during this week of December 11 – 16th.

TIMES OF CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Sunday, Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm Vigil Mass
Monday, Christmas Midnight: 00:00 Midnight
Monday, Christmas Morning: 10:00 am

TIMES OF NEW YEAR'S MASS:

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY THEOTOKOS (MOTHER OF G_D): is usually commemorated on January 1st – New Year's Day. However, in recent years, the NCCB decreed that when a Holy Day or Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on a Monday or a Saturday, the obligation to attend Mass is abrogated.

Hence, as this Solemnity falls on New Year's Day, January 1st this coming year of 2024, there will be only the 9:00 am Mass.

Although not a day of obligation, it continues to be a Holy Day. What better way to honor the Holy Virgin, and, to sanctify the New Year of 2024 than by attending Mass and seeking her intercession and holy protection.

Additionally, at the beginning of every year, we invoke and beseech Almighty G_D for a year of Peace and Tranquility throughout the world. In light of the conflicts world-wide. Come and pray for Peace.

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



Robert Balling, Anna Maria Barchetti, Alan Bedwell, Julianne Burany, Mary Lou Cahill, Martha Catel, Don DeMattia, Eileen Donohue, Melissa Doran, Dorothy Fejes, Lorraine Ferrone, Ian Gallagher, Joan Gerdsen, Patricia Goyette, Linda Grzegowski, Debbie Hiergersol, Nancy Hocurscak, Vinnie Huroschak, Peter John, Mary Ann Koprivec, Louise Kranyik, Johnny Kuczo, Patricia Land, Pat Lenahan, Madalene Lennon, Eleanor Liskar, Gabriel Loeser, Michael Long, Lillian Makar, Raul Matamoras, Bonaventura Mauro, Patty Merola, Jackie & Tony Mitchell, Marc Pagnozzi, Paul Paris, Gregory Parsley, Amy Peloquin, Mary Ellen Peterson, Pete Peterson, Elizabeth Petrushonis, Lucille Piccirillo, Joseph Piliero, Frank Prokaly, George & Richard Prackup, Edward & Diane Raschke, Joel Rivera, Annette & Bernie Senderak, Michael Sheets, Katherine Vallone, KJ Waller, George Wilson, Melissa Yearington,

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 G_D 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 Almighty G_D bless & protect them, from all evil, harm, & injury, and, return them safely home. Amen.

FEAST DAYS IN DECEMBER:

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent

Monday, December 11

St. Damasus I, Pope

Tuesday, December 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Wednesday, December 13

St. Lucy, Virgin Martyr

Thursday, December 14

St. John of the Cross, Mystic Priest

Saturday, December 16

In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday in Advent

**HOLY ADVENT SEASON
ADVENT II**



Every year, the holy season of Advent reminds us to prepare spiritually for the coming of Our LORD by a Sacramental Confession, as St. John the Baptist bids us: *"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight HIS paths."*

In the First Reading the holy Prophet Isaiah, proclaims that the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon the Messiah, who will be a Just Judge and repay each according to their conduct and merit. Isaiah depicts the Kingdom of G_D as a mythical kingdom in which the ferocity of wild animals will be quelled with docility and the fear of gentle ones will be replaced with peace and courage. The disparity of sin will be dissolved by knowledge of the LORD Who will bring peace to any and all on Earth who enter it.

In the Holy Gospel, St. Mark proffers that St. John the Baptist emerged from the purity of the desert to preach repentance and preparation to the citizens of Jerusalem-a city which had become polluted with the sin of pagan ways. He invites everyone to prepare the way of the LORD in their hearts by *"making straight HIS paths."*

Effectively, St. John is preaching the need for an examination of conscience and assessment of one's life. Those who heard his words came from the Holy City to confess their sins in the River Jordan; they were *"baptized"* a symbol of repentance and purification.

A Sacramental Confession of sins is an integral part of Advent-the season of preparing for the Light from Heaven-the Messiah of G_D, Whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. In truth, we cannot celebrate the birth of Christ if we do not spiritually prepare to receive Him with a clear conscience, a clean heart & our soul free from sin.

The inhabitants of Jerusalem publicly confessed their sins to one another and to St. John. We confess our sins in a more personal setting to a duly ordained Priest, who configures Christ Himself. It is Christ the spiritual Healer who absolves our sins through the ministry of the Priest.

One of the hallmarks of a Sacramental Confession is an *Act of Contrition*, for we know that G_D never turns anyone away if he is truly contrite, and seeks HIM. That is why we pray: *"O my G_D, 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 G_D, 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 occasion of sin. Amen."*

December 02/ 03, 2023

Regular Collection: \$ 1,268 .00

Miscellaneous: \$ 463.00