

Fifth Sunday in Lent/ Peta Postna Nedelja *March 17, 2024*

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. Mar. 16 4:30 pm + Estofan Burany – Jim and Pat Golias

Sun. Mar. 17 10:00 am + Ann Tedesco – Her Family

Mon. Mar. 18 9:00 am + Eugenia Pečarič – Her Children

Tues. Mar. 19 9:00 am Intentions of Joe Csom – Evelyn Chomortany

Wed. Mar. 20 9:00 am + Marianne Bell - Edward

Thur. Mar. 21 9:00 am Special Intention for Allan Chomortany – Evelyn Chomortany

Sat. Mar. 23 4:30 pm Special Intention of Helga Pečarič

Sun. Mar. 24 10:00 am + Anton Belovich – Anthony & Patty Belovich

MASS READERS

Sat. Mar. 16 4:30 pm Bob Kokorda

Sun. Mar. 17 10:00 am Liz Selimović

Sat. Mar. 23 4:30 pm John Adams & Bob Kokorda

Sun. Mar. 24 10:00 am Bill Sekelsky & Evelyn Chomortany

From the Pastor:

THE SECOND COLLECTION: this weekend is Maintenance Collection.

THE SECOND COLLECTION: next weekend will be the Collection to aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

MONTHLY COFFEE HOUR: members of the Parish Advisory Board invite you to the March monthly Coffee Hour Mass this morning in the Parish Hall. Come join us for coffee and...there will be NO blood Pressure screening this month.

EASTER DUTY: *Code of Canon Law* by the Fourth Lateran Council (1215) asserts: ***“Every Faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins in secret to his own Priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfill the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist.”*** Regular confession is the recipe for sainthood, and all of the Saints of our Church knew it.

Confessions are available every Saturday from 3: 45 – 4: 14 pm. Confessions will also be heard on Tuesday of Holy Week from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT: on this Sunday, a particular character is maintained in all Churches, *i.e.*, all statues are covered in violet cloths to commemorate an event recounted in the Holy Gospel: *“(The LORD) said to the (Jews) ‘before Abraham was, I AM.’ They took up stones therefore, to cast at Him, but (He) hid Himself, and went out of the Temple precincts.”* – Gospel of St. John VIII: 58 - 59. Covering the statues is symbolic of G_D’s own people rejecting the Messiah, and of their wanting to stone Him, and, of His going into hiding. Our LORD prayed PS XLII: 1- 2: *“Judge me, Oh! G_D, and discern my cause from people who are not holy, deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man, for YOU, my G_D are my Strength.”*

HOLY WEEK

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY: is next Sunday, March 24th. As a prelude to Holy Mass, we commemorate the Triumphal Entrance of Our LORD into the Holy City-Jerusalem. After Mass, we take blessed Palms from the Church to our homes as a spiritual welcome of Christ’ entry into our homes and lives.

On Palm Sunday, the events of the Passion of Our LORD, Jesus Christ are recounted during the reading of the Holy Gospel.

These two events mark the beginning of Holy Week. During Holy Week, we are all encouraged to take out time and meditate on Eternal Salvation to which we are all called, through the merits of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Holy LORD, Jesus Christ, the Son of G_D.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will be conducted this Friday at 7:00 pm followed by Benediction.

Next Friday- **GOOD FRIDAY- STATION OF THE CROSS** will be conducted at 7:00 without Benediction.

GOOD FRIDAY: is a solemn day of **ABSTINENCE**. ALL Catholics are bound & required to abstain from ALL meat, poultry products and luxuriant food items, as penance and mourning for the Passion and Death of Our Blessed LORD, Jesus Christ.

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK, March 23 – March 30

Saturday, March 23: 4:30 Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday.

Sunday, March 24: 10:00 am Palm Sunday.

Monday, March 25; Tuesday, March 26; and, Spy Wednesday, March 27 - 9:00 am Mass.

Tuesday, March 26: Lenten Confessions - 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Holy Thursday: March 28, **NO 9:00 am Mass**. Mass of the Mystical/ Last Supper - 7:00 pm.

Good Friday: March 29, **Service the Passion of Our Lord - 3:00 pm.**

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

Holy Saturday: March 30, Blessing of the Easter Food - 2:00 pm;

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

Easter Sunday: March 31, Mass of the Resurrection - 10:00 am.

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 Gerdson, Patricia Goyette, Linda Grzegowski, Debbie Hiergersol, Nancy Hocurscak, Vinnie Hurosachak, Peter John, Mary Ann Koprivec, Louise Kranyik, Johnny Kuczo, Patricia Land, Pat Lenahan, Madalene Lennon, Eleanor Liskar, Gabriel Loeser, Michael Long, Lillian Makar, Raul Matamoros, Patty Merola, Jackie & Tony Mitchell, Marc Pagnozzi, Paul Paris, Gregory Parsley, Amy Peloquin, 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 MARCH:

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 18

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor

Tuesday, March 19

St. Joseph, Husband of the BVM

Wednesday, March 20

Lenten Wednesday

Thursday, March 21

Lenten Thursday

Friday, March 23

ABSTINENCE & FASTING

Saturday, March 23

In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

HOLY WEEK

SPY WEDNESDAY: commemorates the betrayal of Our LORD by one of His own. 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 Him by conspiring with members of the Sanhedrin for 30 silver coins, to have Our LORD arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane at 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 did penances on this Sky Wednesday, asking G_D'S forgiveness for all sins. All Christians are asked and expected to fast and abstain from all meats, meat products, and all luxuriant foods today, Good Friday & on Holy Saturday until after the Vigil Mass, as penance for Our LORD's betrayal, as atonement for sins.

ACT OF CONTRITION:

"Oh! 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 occasions of sins. Amen."

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 His 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 YOU 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 & to 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 G_D.

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

March 09/ 10, 2024

Regular Collection: \$ 775.00

Monthly Collection: \$ 376.00

Miscellaneous: \$ 386.00