

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*
Mrs. Clare Coyne, *Parish Secretary*
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, *Coordinatix – 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@sbeglobal.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. Nov. 28	4:30 pm + William E. Fay, III – Michael & Clare Coyne			
Sun. Nov. 29	10:00 am + Susan Duh – The Duh Family, AND, Alex Zlatar – Anna Gurrieri & Family			
Mon. Nov. 30	9:00 am + Stephen & Frances Virag – Frank and Fan Federico			
Tues. Dec. 01	9:00 am + Philip H. Cerrone, Jr., - The Federico Family			
Wed. Dec. 02	9:00 am + Elsa Havanich – Her Estate			
Thurs. Dec. 03	9:00 am + Philip H. Cerrone, Jr., - His Wife & Children			
Sat. Dec. 05	4:30 pm + Lind Rich – James & Diane Caserta			
Sun. Dec. 06	10:00 am + Alan Chomortany – His Wife Evelyn, AND, The Deceased Members of the Schindler Family - Mr. & Mrs. Bernhardt Schindler			
Sat. Nov. 28	4:30 pm	None Assigned	Sat. Dec. 05 4:30 pm	None Assigned
Sun. Nov. 29	10:00 am	None Assigned	Sun. Dec. 06 10:00 am	None Assigned

ALTAR SOCIETY: Sat. Dec. 05 None Assigned Sat. Dec.125 None Assigned

FROM THE PASTOR:

THE ADVENT SEASON: begins this weekend with the start of the 4:30 Vigil Mass. The color of the Mass vestments throughout the Season of Advent is purple, excepting the third Sunday-*Lætare* Sunday, when the color is changed to Rose. The faithful are reminded to observe Advent as the preparation for the Nativity of the Son of G_D which we celebrate at Christmas. Remember, despite all the secular trappings, Christmas is about the birth of the Holy Child, Jesus the Messiah-the Son of G_D. Let us truly rejoice at the coming of the Light from Heaven, Who illuminates our life and our path to Heaven.

THE SECOND COLLECTION: this weekend is the “*Health and Welfare Collection for the Retired Priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport.*” In his letter to the Faithful of the Diocese, Bishop Caggiano writes:

“This Collection is taken up in all parishes of the Diocese. The funds contributed will be exclusively to meet the needs of the retired Priests of our Diocese. While it is true, that the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) does help support retired Clergy, it does not cover all the costs, especially this year with the effect of the pandemic on the Appeal. This Collection will help to cover the insurance needs of the Priests, ensure that they are able to take part in an annual retreat and attend the triennial Convocation of Priests. It will also enable us to reduce the amount needed for the ACA by subsidizing the cost of caring for the Priests who reside at the Catherine Dennis Keefe Queen of the Clergy Residence in Stamford. Please know that every dollar contributed will go directly to assist our retired Priests since, given the nature of this Collection, there will be no administrative costs.”

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL: Holy Cross parishioners raised 40 gifts worth \$10,305.00 from 29 donors bringing the parish to 63.61% of its \$16,200 goal.

THANK YOU to all of you who have donated to the appeal. I ask all of you to please consider making a gift to the appeal to help us meet our parish goal, or the difference would be taken from the weekly collections, which have already suffered greatly due to the COVID pandemic resulting in low Mass attendance and Parish support.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH LXIII: 16 – 17, 19, LXIV: 2 - 7

“You, LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer you are named forever. Why do You let us wander, O LORD, from Your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear You not? Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes of Your heritage. Oh, that You would rend the Heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before You. While You wrought awesome deeds, we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any G_D but You doing such deeds for those who wait for Him. Would that You might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of You in our ways! Behold, You are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean men, all our good deeds are like polluted rages; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who call upon Your Name, who rouses himself to cling to You; For You have hidden Your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay and You are the Potter: we are all the work of Your hands.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM LXXX: 2 - 3, 15 – 16, 18 - 19

R: “LORD, make us turn to You, let us see Your face and we shall be saved.”

“O Shepherd of Israel, hearken, from Your throne upon the Cherubim, shine forth.

Rouse Your power, and come to save us. R.

Once, again, O LORD of Hosts, look down from Heaven, and see;

Take care of this wine and protect what Your right hand has planted [the Son of Man Whom You Yourself made strong.]

May Your help be with the man of Your right hand, with the Son of Man Whom you Yourself made strong.

Then we will no more withdraw from You; give us new life, and we will call upon Your Name.”

A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS I: 1 - 3

“Grace and Peace from G_D the Father and the LORD Jesus Christ. I continually thank my G_D for you because of the favor He has bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, in Whom you have been richly endowed with every gift of speech and knowledge. Likewise, the witness I bore to Christ has been so confirmed among you that you lack no spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our LORD Jesus Christ. He will strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our LORD Jesus Christ. G_D is faithful, and it was He who called you to fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ, Our LORD.”

FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK XIII: 33 – 37

“The LORD said to His Disciples: “Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he orders the man at the gate to watch with a sharp eye. Look around you! You do not know when the Master of the house is coming, whether at dusk, or at early dawn. Do not let him come suddenly and catch you asleep. What I say to you, I say to all: Be on guard!”

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



Robert Balling, Anna Maria Barchetti, Alan Bedwell, Julienne Burany, Patricia Butzko, Mary Lou Cahill, Jennifer Cronk, Don DeMattia, Larry DiGiacomo, Madeline Doherty, Eileen Donohue, Melissa Doran, Jon Duguid, Lorraine Ferrone, Linda Grzegowski, Rhoda Harap, Nancy Hocurscak, Peter John, Pam Kegeles, Ron Knight, Mary Ann Koprivec, Louise Kranyik, Johnny Kuczo, Margaret Kuharec, Patricia Land, Pat Lenahan, Madalene Lennon, Eleanor Liskar, Gabriel Loeser, Michael Long, Will Lowney, Lillian Makar, Patty Merola, Jackie Mitchell, James Norris, Marc Pagnozzi, Paul Paris, Gregory Parsley, Ilona Paul, Eric Pelletier, Elizabeth Petrushonis, Lucille Piccirillo, Joseph Piliero, Msgr. Tom Powers, George & Richard Prackup, Justina Pšeničnik, Edward & Diane Raschke, Joel Rivera, Patricia Semosky, Annette & Bernie Senderak, Michael Sheets, Louise Tatangelo, Katherine Vallone, Diane Vince, KJ Waller & George Wilson.

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 G_D BLESS & PROTECT THEM, from all evil, harm, & injury, and, return them safely home. Amen.

FEAST DAYS IN NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER:

- Sunday, November 29
First Sunday in Advent
- Monday, November 30
St. Andrew, Apostle
- Thursday, December 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest
- Friday, December 4
St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor
- Saturday, December 05
In Honor of Our Lady
- Sunday, December 06
Second Sunday in Advent;
St. Nicholas, Bishop

**HOLY ADVENT SEASON
ADVENT I**



The Holy Season of Advent has its origins in the 4th century, when it became custom to celebrate a festival beginning on the eve of St. Martin of Tours-November 11. This day falls 40 days before the celebration of the birth of the Messiah at Christmas. People all over Europe, esp. in France, celebrated this great feast with grapes and wine tasting (drinking) the new wine of the season.

Winemakers tasted each other's wine-eventually it became known as the day of the "*baptism of the wine*" an event which evolved into a major festival of eating, drinking and dancing, ending at midnight of the feast day. In the Slavic country (Slovenija) it came to be known as *Martinovanje*-or *St. Martin's Fast*-in honor of St. Martin. St. Martin Day then began a 40 day - 6 weeks-season of fast & abstinence similar to that of Lent.

The Church eventually named this period of fast & abstinence "*Adventus*" -Latin for "*the Coming*," anticipating the coming of the Messiah. During this time, all drinking, dancing, and eating of meats was forbidden, so as to prepare spiritually for the coming of the Messiah without temporal distraction, but with spiritual anticipation.

Although currently Advent has only 4 weeks as is depicted by the Advent Wreath, initially, it was 6 weeks in length. The 4th Sunday in both Advent & Lent were seen as half way points in each season, when the harshness of the fast was mitigated or softened. These Sundays became known as *Gaudete* and *Laetare* Sundays respectively. Prior to these Sundays, the theme of the Readings is the call to await the coming of Christ. After these Sundays, the theme and the Readings focus on the Mysteries surrounding the birth, and, the Passion & Death of the Son of G_D respectively.

Hence, Advent is a time to reflect on our relationship with G_D, and a time to prepare to for the birth of His Son on the day we call Christmas.

Unfortunately, in our day, Christmas has become a secular holiday, where vendors stress the commercial aspect of gift buying and giving to increase their profits, without any regard for the true reason of the season-the birth of the Son of G_D-the Messiah. Advent is a reminder and a call to focus, reflect and celebrate the beginning of Salvation with the birth of the Son of G_D-Jesus the Christ at Christmas. REMEMBER: Keep Christmas in Christ!

November 21 /22 2020

<i>Regular Collection:</i>	\$	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Christmas Collection:</i>	\$	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	\$	<i>TBA</i>