

# 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, *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](http://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. Jan. 09 4:30 pm + Anna Culina – Anton & Elizabeth Lunder

Sun. Jan. 10 10:00 am + Philip H. Cerrone, Jr. – Elaine Buccellato & Roger Parks

Mon. Jan. 11 9:00 am + Thomas Howley, Jr. – A Friend

Tues. Jan. 12 9:00 am Special Intention of Mr. & Mrs. Leila Hudson – Leila Hudson

Wed. Jan. 13 9:00 am + Frank DiGiacomo – A Friend

Thurs. Jan. 14 9:00 am + Thomas Howley, Jr. – Joe and Dotty Fejes

Sat. Jan. 16 4:30 pm + Lieselotte Ziegler – A Friend

Sun. Jan. 17 10:00 am + Veronica E. Davison – Michael & Clare Coyne

Sat. Jan. 09 4:30 pm None Assigned

Sun. Jan. 10 10:00 am None Assigned

Sat. Jan. 16 4:30 pm None Assigned

Sun. Jan. 17 10:00 am None Assigned

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** Sat. Jan. 16, 2019 None Assigned

Sat. Jan. 23, 2019 None Assigned



**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD:** with the conclusion of the celebration of the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, the Liturgical Season of Christmas season officially draws to an end. The Liturgical season of “*Ordinary Time*” begins on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> and continues through Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> (*Mardi Gras*)-the day before Ash Wednesday-Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>-which inaugurates the six week long holy Season of Lent.

For those who pray the Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. III will be used until the day before Ash Wednesday. In the weekday Lectionary, the First Reading is taken from Cycle II, and the color of the Mass Vestments reverts to the green, unless otherwise indicated in the *Order of the Mass*.

In celebrating this Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, we recognize that there are 3 manifestations of the Divine Nature of the Person of Jesus-the Messiah in 3 respective events of Our Lord’s life. The first we celebrated last Sunday-the Adoration of the Magi. This weekend, we celebrate the second-the Baptism of Our Lord. Next weekend, we will celebrate the third-the miraculous changing of the water into wine at the wedding feast at Canaan.

This Feast of the commemoration of the Baptism of Our Lord is an opportune time to reflect on our own Baptism, and what it means to be a Christian-a disciple or following of the *Anointed of the Lord*. We often forget that as His followers-the *Messiahans* or *Christians*, and are supposed to have changed our lives rejecting all that is offensive to Almighty G\_D according to what is written in the Holy Scriptures and the Commandments of G\_D, and live according to the holiness of Christ, Our G\_D.

According to the Holy Gospels, St. John the Baptist lived as a Monastic in the Desert. He was a cousin of Our Lord Jesus Christ and also a Priest (Son of the Priest Zachariah) although he had never been ordained to the Aaronic Priesthood.

John had left the desert and appeared in Jerusalem denouncing sin among “the People of G\_D.” Fearless of reprisals of the authorities-both civil and Religious-John reprimanded King Herod for his flagrant adultery. St. John called everyone to reconsider their lives before G\_D, and to repent of their past, wherein they had offended G\_D by abuse, commission, neglect or omission of the Covenant whether by idolatry or by violating the Ten Commandments. As the populace recognized that St. John was filled with the Holy Spirit, they followed him to the Jordan River where they willingly and publically confessed their sins to gain purification both spiritual and social. They bathed in the waters as an act of washing away their sins and offenses, and as a pledge to change the conduct and practice of their lives.

Reflecting on our own Baptism, we ought to ask ourselves: “would we have followed St. John in preparation to receive the Messiah?” As we have all been baptized, the answer should be “yes.” Most of us were baptized as infants on the strength of our own parents’ faith, and, their taking a vow to raise us in the practice of the Holy Christian Faith. At the Font of Baptism, our parents who were asked what their intention was in bringing us to the House of G\_D. They replied: “*Baptism*.” In doing so, they vowed to teach us the ways of our Faith, and to raise us in its practice, so as to give glory to G\_D, to renounce Satan, sin and temptation from their lives, and, to live by the dictates of the Articles of our Creed.

As believers in Christ, and the Eternal Salvation to which He calls us, we heed the voice of St. John the Baptist who calls us also to reconsider our lives and reject godless materialism which prevents us from growing in the Light of Christ.

**THANK YOU:** to everyone who helped to decorate the interior of the Church, the parish hall, and the exterior of the Church Portico for the Christmas Holy Day and subsequent Liturgical Holy Day feast days. The Church always looks beautiful and worthy of the Season’s Liturgical celebrations thanks to their time and effort. **THANK YOU** again to all of you for your volunteering is greatly appreciated-G\_D bless you.

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU:** to our music Kapel Meister, Mr. Anthony Sagnella for supplying beautiful and inspiring music and song to enhance the celebration of Our Lord’s birth and subsequent Holy Days, Solemnities and Feasts. **G\_D BLESS YOU Anthony!**

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

**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, Julienne Burany, Patricia Butzko, Mary Lou Cahill, Jennifer Cronk, Don DeMattia, Larry DiGiacomo, Madeline Doherty, Eileen Donohue, Melissa Doran, Jon Duguid, Dorothy Fejes, Lorraine Ferrone, Linda Grzegowski, Rhoda Harap, Nancy Hocurscak, Vinnie Huroschak, Peter John, Pam Kegeles, Ron Knight, Mary Ann Koprivec, Louise Kranyik, Johnny Kuczko, 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, esp., Alexandra Ruta and John Joyce. 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 JANUARY:**

- Sunday, January 10  
Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord
- Tuesday, January 12  
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
- Wednesday, January 13  
St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor
- Saturday, January 16  
In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday, January 17  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



“*Epiphany*” is Greek for ‘manifestation’ or ‘revelation,’ referring to Our Lord’s divine nature though He was in the form of man. There are 3 Liturgical feasts which celebrate this manifestation: the *Adoration of the Magi*-January 6th; the *Baptism of Our Lord*-the following Sunday; and, the *Wedding Feast at Cana*-2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, all of which through the power of God, show forth the Light of Our Lord, Jesus, as the Messiah.

The first feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6<sup>th</sup> commemorating the visitation of 3 Kings, Magi, or Astrologers who came from the East, to Jerusalem in search of the New Born King of the Jews. In their quest, they besought an audience with King Herod, inquiring of him the whereabouts of the New Born King. Enraged that the Magi had not come to see him, Herod craftily directed them to seek out the Child, then return to inform him so that he might go to worship the Newborn as well. The Magi followed a star, and found the Child with His mother. They did Him homage, and offered Him gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

This feast of Epiphany is known in the Orthodox Church as the Feast of the *Theophany*, as it celebrates the revelation of Our Lord Jesus Christ at His Baptism as the Son of God. After Our Lord was baptized and emerged out of the water, the skies opened and the Voice of the Father was heard to say: “Behold, My Beloved Son, listen to what He tells you.” as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. At this event the Holy Trinity was revealed for the first time, hence the title *Theophany*-the manifestation or revelation of GOD-the Holy Trinity.

The last of the 3 manifestations of Our Lord’s divine nature occurred at the Wedding Feast of Cana, where after having been informed by His mother that the host had run out of wine, Our Lord instructed the waiters to fill jars with water, and take it to the head waiter. Having tasted the wine, the head waiter complemented the groom for having saved the best for last. This was the first of many miracles Our Lord performed to show the Kingdom of God upon us.

Hence, we see the Epiphany of Our Lord, not as a single event, but as a continuation of His Divine Nature manifested or revealed through sacred events. We as the Church celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord every time we attend Mass when we pray the GLORIA as did the Angels.

<i>December 24/ 25</i>		
<i>Holy Nativity/ Christmas</i>	\$	<i>3,885.47</i>
<i>December 26/ 27</i>		
<i>Regular Collection:</i>	\$	<i>1,127.00</i>
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	\$	<i>315.00</i>
<i>Retired Religious:</i>	\$	<i>109.00</i>
<i>January 02/ 03</i>		
<i>Regular Collection:</i>	\$	<i>2,139.00</i>
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	\$	<i>688.00</i>