

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Dvajset-petnajsta Nedelja Letom September 19, 2021

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

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. Sept 18 4:30 pm + Dolores Russo – The Buccellato Family
Sun. Sept 19 10:00 am + George Paprocki – James and Diane Caserta, AND, + Bernhardt Schindler – Rosalie Pugliese

Mond. Sept 21 9:00 am Pro Populo
Tues. Sept 22 9:00 am + Louise Tatangelo – Dr. & Mrs. Frank Federico
Wed. Sept 23 9:00 am + Release of Holy Souls from Purgatory
Thur. Sept 24 9:00 am + Michele Moran – John Moran

Sat. Sept. 26 4:30 pm + Donald Patrignelli – Patricia Patrignelli
Sun. Sept. 27 10:00 am + Maria Nilo – John and Helen DeCaro, AND, + Florence DeProfio – Linda DeProfio

Sat. Sept 18 4:30 pm Bill Sekelsky
Sun. Sept 19 10:00 am Liz Selimović

Sat. Sept 25 4:30 pm John Adams
Sun. Sept 26 10:00 am Tony Mitchell

ALTAR SOCIETY: Sat. September 26 None Assigned

Sat. October 02 None Assigned

1ST BANS OF MARRIAGE ARE ANNOUNCED Raymond Andrew Kingsbury and Olivia Sydney O'Neil

FROM THE PASTOR:

VIRUS PRECAUTIONS: mask wearing is now mandated by First Selectman, Brenda Kupchick at all indoor and public gatherings whether one is vaccinated or not. The Diocese has mandated that Parishes follow their respective City's Town's requirement regarding mask wearing, hence during all Masses and Services in Churches. PLEASE WEAR A MASK.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX: will take place this Wednesday, September 22nd at 9:30 am. It is the Astrological event whereby for one day/night there are equal hours of daylight and of nightfall. This event inaugurates the season of Autumn/ Fall. Its counterpart is the *Invernal Equinox* occurring on the 22nd of April which inaugurates the Season of Spring.

COMMEMORATION OF THE MARTYRDOM OF ST. MATTEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST: this Tuesday, September 21st, marks the commemoration of the martyrdom of the holy Apostle, St. Matthew, the son of Alphaeus who was a native of Galilee; he was also known as *Levi-the Tax Collector*. As a tax collector, he would have been literate in both Aramaic and Greek. His fellow Jews would have despised him for what was seen as collaborating with the Roman occupation force.

On one occasion, upon seeing him, Our LORD told Levi to follow Him, at which time Levi left his customs post. After his call, Levi's name was changed to Matthew-Greek for "*disciple*." He invited Our LORD to his home for a feast. On seeing this, the Scribes and the Pharisees criticized the LORD for eating with tax collectors and sinners. This prompted Our LORD to answer, "*I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*"

According to the New Testament, Matthew was one of the twelve Apostles of Christ, and one of the four Evangelists, who witnessed of His Ascension into Heaven. Sacred Tradition maintains that St. Matthew preached the Gospel to the Jewish community in Judea before going to foreign countries-India and North Africa. He is said to have been martyred at the Altar while offering the Holy Oblation of the Divine Liturgy on orders from the King of Ethiopia, whom Matthew had reprimanded for having lusted after his own niece. The King had been rebuked by St. Matthew, for the girl was a nun- a *Bride of Christ*.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL: the Diocesan Development Office reports: Holy Cross, Fairfield raised 38 gifts worth \$15,505 from 33 donors bringing the parish to 105.48% of its \$14,700 goal. THANK YOU to all of you who helped us reach our Parish quota, and exceed it. May G_D bless you for your generosity.

CCD/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: begin Monday, September 27th of this year with an in-person education forum. Class times will be between 5:30 -6:30 pm barring inclement weather. We follow the Fairfield Public School calendar. Please stay tuned for cancellations and weather reports in the event of precarious or inclement weather.

CCD/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FORMS: may be obtained on line by accessing the Parish website at: www.holycrosschurchfairfield.com, selecting the *Religious Education* tab, and downloading the *Registration Form*. Forms may be mailed in to the Parish office; brought in person during usual office hours; or, brought to weekend Masses.

We ask all Parents to please complete the forms early so that the correct number of books and materials may be obtained for class.

CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: will be held on Saturday, September 25th outdoors at the New Britain Baseball Stadium. The format for the day includes: Eucharistic Procession, Inspiring Speakers, Confession, Adoration, Lunch, Games, Exhibitors and High Mass. The theme this year will be: "The Most Holy Rosary." Speakers include Fr. Donald Calloway, Dr. Ralph Martin, Gary Zimak, and Dr. Blythe Kaufman. Tickets are \$45.00 for adults; \$20.00 for teens, and may be purchased on line at: www.ctcatholicmen.org. In the event of inclement weather on Saturday, the events of the Conference will be moved indoors to St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford.

PRAYERS FOR GLOBAL DISASTER VICTIMS: let us pray for those who lost their lives as a result of the natural disaster, especially in Haiti -may they rest in Peace, and, for the living, may they be able to rebuild their lives through the generosity of the Citizens of the world. We pray to G_D for the stabilization of weather and weather patterns throughout the globe, and deliverance from further storms, hurricanes and tornados.

Additionally, we pray for the People in Afghanistan who are not under Taliban Rule, and for all Refugees.

In Biblical Times, similar calamities to these were attributed to Covenant infidelity, evils practiced in Societies, and indifference to observance of the Commandments of the LORD. As crimes of violence, wars, and injustices plagues many of our Societies, we pray to Almighty G_D to send out the Holy Spirit for the internal/spiritual renewal and a true conversion of the perpetrators of all crimes, for the forgiveness of sins, and, for the salvation of Souls. As Our LORD, Jesus Christ said:

"I have come to save sinners."

A & E CLOTHING CORPORATION: will be placing a bin at Church parking lot soon. A & E collect clothes-in good condition to help raise money for the Retired Peace Officers Charity Organization that support the research to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Cancer, and Crohn's Disease. They also help to satisfy the needs of children in schools, scout groups, sport clubs. Our Parish will receive \$100.00 monthly for the placing of a bin. PLEASE review your closets, drawers, and storage bins and donate your used clothes for this worthy cause once the bins arrives-you will "*kill two birds with one stone.*"

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, Angelina Caldwell, Jennifer Cronk, Don DeMattia, Larry DiGiacomo, Madeline Doherty, Eileen Donohue, Melissa Doran, Dorothy Fejes, Lorraine Ferrone, Patricia Goyette, Linda Grzegowski, Rhoda Harap, Nancy Hocurscak, Vinnie Huroschak, Peter John, Pam Kegeles, 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 Mitchell, James Norris, Marc Pagnozzi, Paul Paris, Gregory Parsley, Ilona Paul, Mary Ellen Peterson, Elizabeth Petrushonis, Lucille Piccirillo, Joanne and Joseph Piczko, Joseph Piliero, George & Richard Prackup, Edward & Diane Raschke, Joel Rivera, Annette & Bernie Senderak, Michael Sheets, Katherine Vallone, Diane Vince, KJ Waller & George Wilson.

We commend to our prayers the souls of all the recently Deceased, esp., Marilyn Conklin and Louise Tatangelo. 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 un rest 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 SEPTEMBER:

- Sunday, September 19
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday, September 20
Ss. Andrew KimTae-gõn, Priest and Paul Chõng Ha Sang & Companion Martyrs
- Tuesday, September 21
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
- Thursday, September 23
St. (Padre) Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest and Mystic
- Saturday, September 25
In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday, September 26
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

<i>September 11/ 12</i>	
<i>Regular Collection:</i>	<i>\$ 1,095.00</i>
<i>Monthly Collection:</i>	<i>\$ 634.00</i>
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	<i>\$ 790.00</i>

St. Pio
September 23



(Santo Pio) Francesco Forgione was born on May 25, 1887, the 2nd of 5 surviving children to Grazio & Maria Forgione-peasant farmers-in *Pietrelcina*, a farming town in Campania, in southern Italy. At his Baptism at the *Cappella Santa Anna*, where he later served as an Altar Boy, he was given the name Francesco. Although, his parents were illiterate, they were very pious, attended daily Mass, and prayed the Rosary every evening as a family. By age 5, Francesco decided to dedicate his entire life to G_D. He began to inflict harsh penances upon himself. At that tender age, he reported that he saw and spoke with Our LORD, the Virgin Mary, and, his Guardian Angel, assuming everyone did the same thing.

Since the time of his infancy, Francesco was afflicted with a host of maladies: Gastroenteritis, fainting spells, vomiting, and Typhoid Fever, all which kept him bedridden for long periods of time. In 1904, after having completed 3 years of public school, he was taken to the Capuchin Friary at *Morcone*. His father worked tirelessly to raise funds for private tutoring to enable his son to enter the Capuchin Monastery. Upon admission to the Order, he was given the name "*Pio*." On January 27, 1907, *Frate Pio* made his Solemn Profession at age 17. He was ordained to the Priesthood in 1919, offering his First Mass at the parish Church of Our Lady of the Angels. On September 4, 1916, he was moved to Our Lady of Grace Capuchin Friary in *San Giovanni Rotondo* where he stayed until his death on September 23, 1968.

On September 20, 1918, while hearing Confessions, Padre Pio had the first manifestation of the *Stigmata*: the bodily marks, pain, and bleeding on his hands, side, and feet, corresponding to those of Our LORD on the Cross. He wrote to his Confessor: "*Last night something happened which I can neither explain nor understand. In the middle of the palms of both of my hands a red mark appeared, about the size of a coin, accompanied by acute pain in the middle of the red marks. The pain was more pronounced in the middle of the left hand, so much so that I can still feel it. Also, under my feet I can feel some pain.*"

On July 27, 1918, with WW I raging, Padre Pio offered himself as a victim to end the war. On August 5th & 7th, he had a vision of Christ with a pierced side, resulting in a physical wound on his own side, which greatly weakened him.

Physically exhausted from a Solemn High Mass, he fell descending the Altar steps. The next day, Sept 23, 1968- 50 years after receiving the *Stigmata*- around 2:30 pm, after his last Confession and renewing his Franciscan Vows, Padre Pio died in his cell in *San Giovanni Rotondo*, saying: "*I can see two mothers,*" and with his last breath whispered "*Maria.*"