

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church**

**3690 Armstrong Road, P.O. Box 318**

**Syracuse, NY 13209-0318**

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**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**11:00 am**

**March 13, 2011**

Intention: +Russell Haberer  
+Stanley Kotula

Requested by Pat and Steve Zalewski  
Requested by Sue and Mike Bednarek

Healing Intentions: Michelle Mallory      Lu Luch  
Martha Shuman      Diane Spina  
Lois Bogacki      Bill Moran  
Father John Fetcho      Jean Horan  
Erika Zalewski      Mike Corn  
Jeannie Klix      Jon Hall  
Bobbi Lasinski      Josephine Wicks  
Jeannie Klix  
and all those in need of healing in our parish community

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Reading I**

Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7

**A reading from the book of Genesis**

Creation of our first parents, and Sin.

The Lord God formed man out of clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.

Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and he placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the Lord God had made. The serpent asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it you will be like gods who know what is good and what is bad." The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 51: 3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.**

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."**

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your holy spirit take not from me.**

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

## **Reading II**

Romans 5: 12-19

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Romans**

The results of the gift, Jesus Christ, outweigh one man's sin.

Through one man sin entered the world and with sin death, death thus coming to all men inasmuch as all sinned – before the law there was sin in the world, even though sin is not imputed when there is no law – I say, from Adam to Moses death reigned, even over those who had not sinned by breaking a precept as did Adam, that type of Man to come.

But the gift is not like the offense. For if by the offense of the one man all died, much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound for all. The gift is entirely different from the sin committed by the one man. In the first case, sentence followed upon one offense and brought condemnation, but in the second, the gift came after many offenses and brought acquittal. If death began its reign through one man because of his offense, much more shall those who receive the overflowing grace and gift of justice live and reign through the one man, Jesus Christ. To sum up, then: just as a single offense brought condemnation to all men, a single righteous act brought all men acquittal and life. Just as through one man's disobedience all became sinners, so through one man's obedience all shall become just.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## **Gospel**

Matthew 4: 1-11

**A reading of the holy gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to turn into bread." Jesus replied, "*Scripture has it:*

*'Not on bread alone is man to live but on every utterance that comes from the mouth of God.'*"

Next, the devil took him to the holy city, set him on the parapet of the temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. Scripture has it:

*'He will bid his angels take care of you; with their hands*

they will support you that you may never stumble on a stone."  
Jesus answered him, "*Scripture also has it:*  
*"You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."*"

The devil then took him to a lofty mountain peak and displayed before him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, promising, "All these I will bestow on you if you prostrate yourself in homage before me." At this, Jesus said to him, "*Away with you, Satan! Scripture says:*

*"You shall do homage to the Lord your God; him alone shall you adore."*

At that the devil left him, and angels came and waited on him.

**This is the gospel of the Lord.**

### **Thoughts from the Pulpit**

#### **"And lead us not into temptation ..."**

The Holy Scripture records the two most famous temptations in history. The first in the Book of Genesis is the story of the temptation of Adam and Eve. And the second one is recorded in the Gospel of St. Matthew which we read today on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert.

The first temptation, a successful one for the tempter, occurred in the Garden of Eden; the second one took place in the desert and recounts his failure. Paradise and Desert! What a contrast! Adam and Eve had everything in paradise except the fruit of one tree. Jesus, who spent forty days fasting in the desert, was hungry and all alone.

What is most striking is making good sense and logic of the temptations. God's command does seem absurd to Adam and Eve, and the devil's line of argument is quite intelligent. They sound right and appealing. The same is true for the temptations of Jesus. They seem to be so full of good sense that they are hardly debatable. Another feature in these temptations is that they tend to ensure autonomy and personal power to man. They all seek to "deliver" the man from his dependence on God. All these temptations are similar in their method. They all propose to bring quick and easy improvement and autonomy without any limitations.

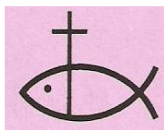
"The eyes of both of them (Adam and Eve) were opened" – after falling into temptation. Now they realize that they are naked and feel a need to clothe themselves. Is it here a note of their shame? Perhaps it is. They have to cover themselves. They are imprisoned in created things, in matter and time. Instead of living free in God's presence and enjoying the fruits of the garden, they are now preoccupied with making clothes: "They sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves." – the very embarrassing results from temptations! That in fact is how until now we humans have spent the greater part of our time and energy: - "to cover ourselves" with clothes and all material dreams. What eventually will turn "into ashes," as the Bible says.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ the Son of God comes to our human history and human embarrassment to return us to the freedom of God's Children. He showed us how to resist temptations. He empowers us to resist temptations. He asks us to use these three: PRAYER, ALMSGIVING, and FASTING, so we are in a better position than Adam and Eve. We have our Savior with us. We have His Spirit to help us in every single temptation.

But we always have to ask Him: "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen."

## Announcements for March 13, 2011

**The Holy Season of Lent began on Wednesday. It is a forty-day period of self-renewal and sacrifice. During this time, we should refrain from eating meat products on Wednesdays and Fridays as part of fasting**



Please join us this morning for coffee hour. Thank you, Mary Ann, for the treats! The parish committee will meet following Adult Bible Study.

Thank you to all who helped at last evening's corned beef and cabbage dinner! Takeout orders are available during coffee hour. Leftovers may also be purchased as they are available. See Pat or John.



**Today** begins our adult Bible study. Each Sunday from 12:30 to 1:00 pm, the adult class will view a short video piece (about 15 minutes) followed by Father Senior's commentary and a group discussion of the selection. We begin today with the book of Genesis. Please plan to join us for this opportunity to deepen our understanding of our faith

**Next Saturday, March 19** will be the community pancake breakfast from 8:30 – noon. Please invite your family and friends to enjoy a delicious breakfast with us. Thank you!

The nominating committee will begin to take parish committee nominations **during the next two weeks**. Please see Father Senior if you wish to serve on the committee **or** as an auditor for the April 2011-April 2012 year.

We are saddened to inform you that Josephine Wicks' sister, Anna Pawelek, passed away early this week. May she rest in peace.

### Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, March 16 4:00 pm Choir practice   
Thursday, March 17 5:00 Polish language class @ Solvay Youth Center,  
Woods Road, Solvay  
Friday, March 18   
Saturday, March 19 8:30 – noon **Community Pancake Breakfast**  
Sunday, March 20 **Lent 2**  
Intention: +Leona Navatka Requested by Maureen and Rick Navatka

10:30	Bible Study for children
11:00	Holy Mass
12:00	SPOJNIA Breakfast
12:30	Adult Bible Class