

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

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

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Low Sunday**

**11:00 am**

**May 1, 2011**

Intention: +Florence Kolonko

Requested by Angela and Joe Kolonko

Healing Intentions: Michelle Mallory                      Lu Luch  
Martha Shuman                                      Diane Spina  
Lois Bogacki    Bill Moran  
Father John Fetcho                                Jean Horan  
Erika Zalewski                                      Josephine Wicks  
Jon Hall

and all those in need of healing in our parish community

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Reading I**

Acts 2: 42-47

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The brethren devoted themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. A reverent fear overtook them all, for many wonders and signs were performed by the apostles. Those who believed shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, dividing everything on the basis of each one's need. They went to the temple area together every day, while in their homes they broke bread. With exultant and sincere hearts, they took their meals in common, praising God and winning the approval of all the people. Day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the Lord helped me. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

## **Reading II**

I Peter 1: 3-9

### **A reading from the first letter of Peter**

He has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he who in his great mercy gave us new birth; a birth unto hope which draws its life from the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; a birth of an imperishable inheritance incapable of fading or defilement, which is kept in heaven for you who are guarded with God's power through faith; a birth to a salvation which stands ready to be revealed in the last days.

There is cause for rejoicing here. You may for a time have to suffer the distress of many trials; but this is so that your faith, which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may by its genuineness lead to praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ appears. Although you have never seen him, you love him, and without seeing you believe in him, and rejoice with inexpressible joy touch with glory because you are achieving faith's goal, your salvation.

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

**Gospel Alleluia      You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
Happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!**

### **Gospel**

John 20: 19-31

### **A reading of the holy gospel according to John**

After eight days Jesus came and stood among them.

On the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples had locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood before them. *"Peace be with you,"* he said. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At the sight of the Lord the disciples rejoiced. *"Peace be with you,"* he said again.

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*

Then he breathed on them and said:

*"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound."*

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas (the name means "Twin"), was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him: "We have seen the Lord!" His answer was, "I'll never believe it without probing the nail-prints in his hands, without putting my finger in the nail-marks and my hand into his side."

A week later, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them. *"Peace be with you,"* he said; then to Thomas: *"Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not persist in your unbelief, but believe!"* Thomas said in response, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus then said to him:

*"You became a believer because you saw me.  
Blest are they who have not seen and have believed."*

Jesus performed many other signs as well – signs not recorded here – in the presence of his disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, so that through this faith you may have life in his name.

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

## **Thoughts from the Pulpit**

### **Doubting Thomas**

On the Easter II Sunday, we meet Doubting Thomas. Each of us has something in common with Doubting Thomas, because at times we too are troubled by doubts.

It seems that after Good Friday, Thomas had cut himself off from the other apostles and walked away alone. This was a big mistake. But we must remember that he was in deep grief. People who are grieving have a tendency to isolate themselves. In cutting himself off from the other apostles, Thomas made things more difficult for himself.

But thank God he hadn't cut himself off completely from the rest of the Apostles. When he had met them, he would have noticed that they were not in grief; their grief was replaced by joy and peace, because they were witnesses to the Resurrection of the Lord!

Thank God, Thomas rejoined the community of witnesses to the Resurrection of the Lord! Here, in the midst of the Community of Witnesses, Thomas encountered the presence of the Risen Lord! And joy came to his soul! He said to the Lord: "My Lord, and My God!" He became a believer and served the Risen Lord to the last drop of his earthly life! Thomas, the Apostle was known as the most vivid and energetic disciple of Jesus! He carried the Gospel of Jesus on foot as far as India! He is named the Apostle of India!

To be a believer or just a spiritual person transparent by the Lord's Resurrection, in today's world, cannot be a lonely business. We need to be in the community of believers. We need support. It is only in the community of believers that we sustain our faith.

The early Christian community had two vibrant characteristics: they worshipped God vividly and they served one another lovingly. It was a beautiful community!

Our church community could be the same! Let us worship God vividly every Sunday and let us serve one another lovingly. Amen!

### **Announcements**

Please join us after Holy Mass this morning for our annual Easter (Swieconka) dinner. Our monthly parish committee meeting is postponed until Sunday, May 22.

**All requests for the reading of names for Mother's Day are due this morning!** Please drop your request into the collection plate or give it to Pat after Holy Mass. Thank you!

**Next Sunday**, the YMS of R will host a **breakfast for Mother's Day**. All mothers will be treated to a complimentary breakfast. Please invite all of our mothers to join us.

This week we wish a happy birthday to Rick Navatka (May 4). STO LAT!!

**Saturday, May 14** is our **next Community Scrambled Egg breakfast**. Please invite your family and friends to join us for a delicious start to their day.

**On Sunday, May 15**, Jennifer Klix will be receiving her first Holy Communion. We look forward to this special day in Jennifer's life and in the life of our parish.

## Weekly Calendar

Monday, May 2

**FEAST – PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES**

Tuesday, May 3

**SOLEMNITY – FINDING OF THE HOLY CROSS**

Wednesday, May 4

Happy birthday to Rick Navatka! STO LAT!!!

4:00 pm Choir practice

5:00 Polish language

Sunday, May 8

**Easter 3**

**Mother's Day**

Intention: all mothers, living and deceased

10:30

Youth Bible Study

11:00

Holy Mass

12:00

Mother's Day Breakfast

**Community Scrambled Egg Breakfast**

**Saturday, May 14**

**Community Meatloaf Dinner**

**Saturday, May 21**