

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday, February 28, 2010  
11:00 am**

**Holy Cross Church  
3690 Armstrong Road, PO Box 318  
Syracuse, NY 13209-0318**

WEBSITE: <http://www.holycrossncc.org>

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Intention: +Anna Shelly

Requested by George and Laura Sabotka

+Rose Kolonko

Requested by the Kolonko family

Healing Intentions: Michelle Mallory  
Martha Shuman  
Lois Bogacki  
Judy Pazdzierski

Lu Luch  
Diane Spina  
Ruth Matson

and all those in need of healing in our parish community

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Reading I**

Genesis 15: 5-12; 17-18

**A reading from the book of Genesis**

Abraham put his faith in the Lord.

God took Abram outside and said: "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

He then said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord God," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him.

When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking brazier and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on this occasion that the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great river [the Euphrates]."

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

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 27: 1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?**

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me. Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.**

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Your presence, O Lord, I seek. Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant. You are my helper: cast me not off.**

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.**

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

### **Reading II**

Philippians 3: 17 – 4: 4

#### **A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Philippians**

Christ will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

Be imitators of me, my brothers. Take as your guide those who follow the example that we set. Unfortunately, many go about in a way which shows them to be enemies of the cross of Christ. I have often said this to you before; this time I say it with tears. Such as these will end in disaster! Their god is their belly and their glory is in their shame. I am talking about those who are set upon the things of this world. As you well know, we have our citizenship in heaven; it is from there that we eagerly await the coming of our savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will give a new form to this lowly body of ours and remake it according to the pattern of his glorified body, by his power to subject everything to himself.

For these reasons, my brothers, you whom I so love and long for, you who are my joy and my crown, continue, my dear ones, to stand firm in the Lord.

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

### **Gospel**

Luke 9: 28-36

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

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightening.

Jesus took Peter, John and James, and went up onto a mountain to pray. While he was praying, his face changed in appearance and his clothes became dazzlingly white. Suddenly two men were talking with him – Moses and Elijah. They appeared in glory and spoke of his passage which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. Peter and those with him had fallen into a deep sleep; but awakening, they saw his glory and likewise saw the two men who were standing with him. When these were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, how good it is for us to be here. Let us set up three booths, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (He did not really know what he was saying.) While he was speaking, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and the disciples grew fearful as the others entered it. Then from the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." When the voice fell silent, Jesus was there alone. The disciples kept quiet, telling nothing of what they had seen at that time to anyone.

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

## **Thoughts from the Pulpit**

[Luke 9: 28-36]

On this Sunday of Lent, we hear the Word of God about how ordinary human beings communicate with the Lord.

The story of Abraham in his "bargain" prayer on behalf of the neighboring people of Sodom and Gomorrah, and many other Biblical figures' stories show that communication is actually possible with heaven – speaking with and hearing from Almighty God.

The story from today's Gospel about Jesus' Transfiguration crowns the divine encounters and helps us believe that communication with heaven really is possible.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration invites us to ask a very important question: Does my prayer at Holy Mass, "with Jesus, through Jesus, and in Jesus", include being influenced by Jesus? Does it include the promise that I can hear from heaven and be changed by what I hear? God gives us so many signals telling us that God really hears us and tries to converse for our sake.

"Jesus, I trust that you hear my prayers, and so I will keep coming to you.

Lord, I trust you to give me the wisdom and grace to live a life pleasing to you."

Amen!

## **The Communion**

Welcome to participation in the Holy Eucharist. By receiving Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we fully participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should be baptized, should not be conscious of grave sin, and normally should fast for one to two hours. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive Communion without prior Sacramental Confession.

We always welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Communion. We pray that our common Baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions separating us.

### ***Announcements for February 28, 2010***

The annual meeting will be held today following Holy Mass and coffee hour. Every adult member in good standing is eligible to participate in this important part of our parish life. To be in good standing, the adult member must be both spiritually active and have met their financial stewardship of \$325 by December 31, 2009 (\$275 general stewardship + \$50 in cemetery dues).

Due to the annual meeting in New York Mills next Sunday, March 7, Holy Cross will have Holy Mass this **Saturday evening, March 6 at 5:00 pm.**

Sign up with Bobbi for the annual Palm Sunday bake sale, to be held after Holy Mass on Palm Sunday (March 28). We want to provide *some* smaller portion items again this year, for those of our parish family who live alone. Thank you!

## Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, March 3      6:00 pm      Choir practice

Thursday, March 4      5:30 pm      Weight Watchers meeting

**Saturday, March 6      5:00 pm      Holy Mass with Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament Lent 3**

Intention: +Catherine Salensky  
Requested by Ed and Ida Salensky

10:30      Bible Study for children  
11:00      Holy Mass  
12:15      Coffee Hour

**Saturday, March 6    Holy Mass @ 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, March 14    12:00    YMS of R Breakfast  
12:45    Parish Committee Meeting**

**Saturday, March 20    Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner  
4:30 – 7:00 pm**

**Sunday, March 21    Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner  
12:00 pm**

## Monthly Financial Summary

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
February 7	\$535	\$642	-\$107
February 14	\$522	\$642	-\$120
February 21	\$457	\$642	-\$185
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1514</b>	<b>\$1926</b>	<b>-\$412</b>