

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, August 30, 2009
11:00 am**

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

Intention: †Russell Haberer

Requested by Pat and Steve Zalewski

Intention: for healing of

Mary Ann Cartner

Lu Luch

Rose Kolonko

Michelle Mallory

Judy Pazdzierski

Diane Spina

And all others in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses told the people: "Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. In your observance of the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I enjoy upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations, who will hear of all these statutes and say, 'This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.' For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the Lord, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him? Or what great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 15: 2-3, 3-4, 4-5

R: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue.

R: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor; by whom the reprobate is despised, while he honors those who fear the Lord.

R: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be disturbed.

R: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Reading II

James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of James

Be doers of the word.

Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above, descending from the Father of the heavenly luminaries, who cannot change and who is never shadowed over. He wills to bring us to birth with a word spoken in truth so that we may be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Humbly welcome the word that has taken root in you, with its power to save you. Act on this word. If all you do is listen to it, you are deceiving yourselves.

Looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself unspotted by the world make for pure worship without stain before our God and Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading of the holy gospel according to St. Mark

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to the traditions of men.

The Pharisees and some of the experts in the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. They had observed a few of his disciples eating meals without having purified – that is to say, washed – their hands. The Pharisees, and in fact all Jews, cling to the custom of their ancestors and never eat without scrupulously washing their hands. Moreover, they never eat anything from the market without first sprinkling it. There are many other traditions they observe – for example, the washing of cups and jugs and kettles. So the Pharisees and the scribes questioned him: "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of our ancestors, but instead take food without purifying their hands?" He said to them: *"How accurately Isaiah prophesied about you hypocrites when he wrote,*

'This people pay me lip service but their heart is far from me. Empty is the reverence they do me because they teach as dogmas mere human precepts.'

You disregard God's commandment and cling to what is human tradition."

He summoned the crowd again and said to them: *"Hear me, all of you, and try to understand. Nothing that enters a man from outside can make him impure; that which comes out of him, and only that, constitutes impurity. Let everyone heed what he hears!"*

"Wicked designs come from the deep recesses of the heart: acts of fornication, theft, murder, adulterous conduct, greed, maliciousness, deceit, sensuality, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, an obtuse spirit. All these evils come from within and render a man impure."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit:

[Mark 7: 1-8; 14-15, 21-23]

The Evil Within

Only a fool would wash the exterior of the cup and ignore the inside. Before drinking from the cup, we make sure to wash at least the inside. The next step is to make sure we pour healthy food and drink into the clean cup.

In today's education, more importance is given to the head than to the heart. The heart hardly gets a bite in. The education team nowadays makes more effort to create a clever child rather than a good child, because the world of business and politics rewards cleverness rather than goodness.

But truly and honestly, God acknowledges the primacy of the heart. The Gospel today makes a very clear statement about this primacy of the heart.

Evil penetrates a heart and makes it dirty. Only the Water of Baptism can wash it. Only Jesus Christ, who is 'the spring of the living water,' can cleanse the sinful heart. All we need to do is come to Him.

Jesus Christ also proclaims today the importance of God's Law, to observe it, and not to replace it with cheap substitutes. By observing God's Law we become free; we become true worshipers of God and give God true honor, thus transforming our lives.

A parent who gives a child a piano also gives that child the opportunity to take lessons, buys the child practice books, and insists that the child practice every day – even with tears. The lessons, the exercise, the daily drudgery may seem a burden for a very long time. But they are truly part of the gift. The child who perseveres in the discipline until the habits of fine piano playing are second nature will gradually become free to play the piano. Free not to practice but to play. Free not just to make sounds but to speak what is in the heart.

God who gives us life also gives us the Law to make us the Free Children of His! Let's worship Him! 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 August 30, 2009

The parish committee is reminded that they will meet this morning following Holy Mass in the parish hall.

Upcoming events:

Pierogi-Making: next Sunday, September 6, following Holy Mass

Fall Picnic – Sunday, September 13, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Each Sunday, our prayer list will specifically name those individuals in our lives who are in need of our prayers and support as they heal. If you have a name to add to our prayer list, please let Pat know by Thursday of each calendar week. Thank you.

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, August 25	6:00 pm	Choir practice
Wednesday, September 2		HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ANGELA KOLONKO!!! STO LAT!!!
Saturday, September 5		ANNUAL TRACK AND FIELD MEET, MINOOKA
Sunday, September 6		23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Intention: +Frances and Alexander Gutowski Requested by the Beebe family
	11:00am	Holy Mass
	12:15 pm	Lunch for pierogi-making crew
	12:45 pm	Making pierogi with Carol

Monthly Financial Summary

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
August 2	\$560	\$642	-\$82
August 9	\$365	\$642	-\$277
August 16	\$477	\$642	-\$165
August 23	\$369	\$642	-\$273
TOTAL	\$1771	\$2568	-\$797