

Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
with Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, September 6, 2009
11:00 am

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

Intention: †Frances and Alexander Gutowski, Requested by the Beebe family

Intention: for healing of
Mary Ann Cartner
Rose Kolonko
Judy Pazdzierski
Martha Shuman
Lu Luch
Michelle Mallory
Diane Spina
And all others in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Isaiah 35: 4-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing.

Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 146: 7, 8-9, 9-10

R: Praise the Lord, my soul!

The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free.

R: Praise the Lord, my soul!

The Lord gives sight to the blind; the Lord raises up those that were bowed down. The Lord loves the just; the Lord protects strangers..

R: Praise the Lord, my soul!

The fatherless and the widow the Lord sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

R: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Reading II

James 2: 1-5

A reading from the letter of James

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, your faith in our Lord Jesus Christ glorified must not allow of favoritism. Suppose there should come into your assembly a man fashionably dressed, with gold rings on his fingers, and at the same time a poor man dressed in shabby clothes. Suppose further you were to take notice of the well-dressed man and say, "Sit right here, please;" whereas you were to say to the poor man, "You can stand!" or "Sit over there by my footrest." Have you not in a case like this discriminated in your hearts? Have you not set yourselves up as judges who hand down corrupt decisions?

Listen, dear brothers. Did not God choose those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom he promised to those who love him?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

Mark 7: 31-37

A reading of the holy gospel according to St. Mark

He has made the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Jesus left Tyrian territory and returned by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Ten Cities. Some people brought him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. Jesus took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and emitted a groan. He said to him, "*Ephphatha!*" (*that is, "Be opened."*) At once the man's ears were opened; he was freed from his impediment, and began to speak plainly. Then he enjoined them strictly not to tell anyone; but the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. Their amazement went beyond all bounds: "He has done everything well! He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!"

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit:

[Mark 7: 31-37]

The Gift of Hearing and Speech

In the Gospel today Jesus cures a Gentile man who is deaf and has a speech impediment. This miracle speaks of gifts of God such as the gift of hearing and speech.

These gifts very are often taken for granted or even quite often are abused and misused. Many people are very poor listeners. Not that they don't have good hearing, but their hearing is disconnected with their heart. Many people misuse their gift of speech or don't use it where it supposed to be used in defense of righteousness and God' Glory.

The Gospel today tells us the story of the wounded man, who comes to Jesus for the healing. But this Gospel also is telling the story of many wounded people. We too are among those who need Jesus' healing touch. Many of us carry deep wounds caused by sickness, by the inability to forgive, by rejection, by lack of relationship, by selfishness, by emptiness of heart, by greed, and by all kinds of hidden sins.

It is above all the heart that has to be healed. In this regard we all need to come to Jesus for healing.

The paradox shows us that people who are limited physically and intellectually due to handicaps are often more gifted than others when it comes to the things of the heart. A handicapped person observed, "Living as a cripple in a wheelchair allows you to see more clearly the crippled hearts of some people whose bodies are whole and sound.'

The gift of hearing is a precious gift. But it is only with the heart that we can hear rightly.

Lord Jesus, you made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. Touch our hearts to receive your word for our salvation and for your Glory! 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 September 6, 2009

As the school year begins, we wish Faith, JJ, Nick, Jennifer, and Todd a wonderful start to another year of growth and learning.

Today after Holy Mass, the pierogi crew will gather in the parish hall for a pizza and brownie lunch, after which we will all get busy making pierogi. Thanks to all who are helping out today!!!

Dave Greenfield is asking that the set-up crew for next week's picnic arrive at the church by 8:45 a.m., so tents, tables and chairs can be set up well in advance of Holy Mass. Thank you.

Next Sunday following Holy Mass is our fall picnic. We have done extensive advertising in the community and publicized the event during the Field Days, so we are hopeful that many in the community may attend. Please reach to all of your family, neighbors, and friends. Let's make this picnic our best ever!

If you have names of individuals in need of our prayers and support as they heal, please let Pat know by Thursday of each calendar week. Thank you.

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, September 8	SOLEMNITY – NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 6:00 pm Choir practice
Friday, September 11	8 th Anniversary of 9/11/01
Sunday, September 13	24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time Intention: +Joseph and Stephany Jackowski Requested by Pat Hiltbrand
11:00 am	Holy Mass
1:00 – 4 pm	Fall Community Picnic

Financial Summary on next page:

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
August 30	\$441.66	\$642	-\$200.34
TOTAL	\$2212.66	\$3210	-\$997.34