

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
Easter 3**

**Sunday, April 18, 2010
11:00 a.m.**

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

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Intention: +Catherine Sztecmiller
and
for all those in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.

The high priest began the interrogation of the apostles in this way: "We gave you strict orders not to teach about that name, yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us responsible for that man's blood." To this, Peter and the apostles replied: "Better for us to obey God than men! The God of our fathers has raised up Jesus whom you put to death, 'hanging him on a tree.' He whom God has exalted at his right hand as ruler and savior is to bring repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. We testify to this. So too does the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those that obey him." The Sanhedrin ordered the apostles not to speak again about the name of Jesus, and afterward dismissed them. The apostles for their part left the Sanhedrin full of joy that they had been judged worthy of ill-treatment for the sake of the Name.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 30: 2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13

R: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

I will extol you, O Lord, for you drew me clear and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you brought me up from the nether world; you preserved me from among those going down into the pit.

R: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Sing praise to the Lord, you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger lasts but a moment; a lifetime, his good will. At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with the dawn, rejoicing.

R: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Hear, O Lord, and have pity on me; O Lord, be my helper. You changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

R: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Reading II

Revelation 5: 11-14

A reading from the book of Revelation

The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

I, John, had a vision, and I heard the voices of many angels who surrounded the throne and the living creatures and the elders. They were countless in number, thousands and tens of thousands, and they all cried out: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise!"

Then I heard the voices of every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea; everything in the universe cried aloud: "To the One seated on the throne, and to the Lamb, be praise and honor, glory and might, forever and ever!"

The four living creatures answered, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshipped.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

John 21: 1-19

A reading of the holy gospel according to John

Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

At the Sea of Tiberias, Jesus showed himself to the disciples [once again]. This is how the appearance took place. Assembled were Simon Peter, Thomas ("the Twin"), Nathanael (from Cana in Galilee) Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going out to fish." "We'll join you," they replied, and went off to get into their boat. All through the night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak Jesus was standing on the shore, though none of the disciples knew it was Jesus. He said to them, "*Children, have you caught anything to eat?*" "Not a thing," they answered. "*Cast your net off to the starboard side,*" he suggested, "*and you will find something.*" So they made a cast, and took in so many fish they could not haul the net in. Then the disciple Jesus loved cried out to Peter, "It is the Lord!" On hearing it was the Lord, Simon Peter threw on some clothes – he was stripped – and jumped into the water.

Meanwhile, the other disciples came in the boat, towing the net full of fish. Actually they were not far from land – no more than a hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw a charcoal fire there with a fish laid on it and some bread. "*Bring some of the fish you just caught,*" Jesus told them. Simon Peter went aboard and hauled ashore the net loaded with sizable fish – one hundred fifty-three of them! In spite of the great number, the net was not torn.

"*Come and eat your meal,*" Jesus told them. Not one of the disciples presumed to inquire "Who are you?" for they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came over, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This marked the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after being raised from the dead.

When they had eaten their meal, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "*Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?*" "Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know that I love you." Jesus replied "*Feed my lambs.*"

A second time he put the question, "*Simon, son of John, do you love me?*" "Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know that I love you." Jesus replied, "*Tend my sheep.*"

A third time Jesus asked him, "*Simon, son of John, do you love me?*" Peter was hurt because he had asked a third time, "*Do you love me?*" So he said to him, "Lord you know everything.

You know well that I love you." Jesus told him, "*Feed my sheep. I tell you solemnly: as a young man you fastened your belt and went about as you pleased; but when you are older you will stretch out your hands, and another will tie you fast and carry you off against your will.*" (What he said indicated the sort of death by which Peter was to glorify God.) When Jesus finished speaking he said to him, "*Follow me.*"

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit

Fullness of Life in Jesus Christ, Our Resurrected Lord!

The Gospel today tells us the most consoling Word: God gives us a chance to cancel out our failures by love.

Also the Gospel today shows that the Resurrected Lord of Life Jesus Christ, when appearing to the disciples, was not always recognized at once: it took some word or familiar gesture for Him to be known. Here Jesus Christ makes an effective way of passing the truth of the reality of life, and of death. The resurrection is not a return to earthly life – Jesus has risen to a NEW LIFE beyond death. He is the same Jesus Christ, the Lord, yet transformed. He is not as He was; but He is still who He was.

The Gospel today also speaks the Word of God in the language of symbols and metaphors:

- the miraculous catch of fish, which symbolizes the mission of the apostles to be 'fishers of men'. The large catch shows how successful the disciples can be with Jesus' help.

- the meal, which symbolizes the Holy Eucharist, the sacred meal in which Jesus is present among His people and feeds them to be strong and effective in the mission work.

Peter's story in today's Gospel is one of calling, falling and recalling. Peter who three times denied his Master is now given three chances to profess his love, and then is given a mandate to care for the Lord's flock. In doing so, Jesus wanted to show that He was establishing His Church on earth not on human strength, but on love and faithfulness.

God our Father, our source of life,

You know our weakness.

May we reach out with joy to grasp the hand you extend to us in Jesus Christ Your Son, so that we may enjoy life in fullness. 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 April 18, 2010

Join us after mass today for our annual Easter dinner. Ham and all the fixings are on the menu. Our friends in the community certainly enjoyed themselves last night – we know you will too!

We thank Father Marian Pociecha for being with us today in Father Walter's absence. If you are not aware, today Father Walter is accepting an award in Buffalo for his artwork at the cathedral there. He is truly deserving of the title, "Citizen of the Year." Congratulations, Father Walter!

2010 Central Diocese Acolyte Retreat

Tuesday, June 29th – Friday, July 2nd at the Bishop Hodur Retreat & Recreation Center, Waymart, Pa. All children and youth serving at the altar are invited for the retreat - recreation, fun, fellowship, spiritual refreshment, prayer, and summer games. Information is in the foyer - please contact Father Walter to apply.

Convo 2010: July 26 – 30, 2010 at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ

Every two years our PNCC has the Convocation for the Youth of our Church. Convocation brings youth and children together for spiritual and educational benefits. It is run by a qualified staff of priests, educators, chaperones, and invited guest speakers. Parents are also invited. The cost is \$285.00 per person. Deadline for signing up is June 1, 2010.

Weekly Calendar

No choir practice this week!

Thursday, April 15 5:30 pm Weight Watchers meeting

Sunday, April 18 Easter 4

Intention: +Anna Shelly Requested by Anna Forun

10:30 Bible Study for children

11:00 Holy Mass

12:15 Coffee Hour

Saturday, May 15 Meatloaf Dinner

4:30 – 7:00 pm