

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
Easter 4
Good Shepherd Sunday**

**Sunday, April 25, 2010
11:00 a.m.**

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

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

EMAIL: holycrossncc@espeedusa.com

Intention: +Anna Shelly
and
for all those in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Acts 13: 14, 43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Many became believers.

Paul and Barnabas travelled on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. On the Sabbath day they entered the synagogue and sat down. Many Jews and devout Jewish converts became their followers and they spoke to them and urged them to hold fast to the grace of God.

The following Sabbath, almost the entire city gathered to hear the word of God. When the Jews saw the crowds, they became very jealous and countered with violent abuse whatever Paul said. Paul and Barnabas spoke out fearlessly, nonetheless: "The Word of God has to be declared to you first of all; but since you reject it and thus convict yourselves as unworthy of everlasting life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For thus were we instructed by the Lord: 'I have made you a light to the nations, a means of salvation to the ends of the earth.'" The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and responded to the word of the Lord with praise. All who were destined for life everlasting believed in it. Thus the word of the Lord was carried throughout that area.

But some of the Jews stirred up their influential women sympathizers and the leading men of the town, and in that way got a persecution started against Paul and Barnabas. The Jews finally expelled them from their territory. So the two shook the dust from their feet in protest and went on to Iconium. Their disciples knew only how to be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 100: 1-2, 3, 5

R: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Sing joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful song.

R: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Know that the Lord is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends.

R: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

The Lord is good: his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

R: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Reading II

Revelation 7: 9, 14b-17

A reading from the book of Revelation

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd
and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw before me a huge crowd which no one could count from every nation and race, people and tongue. They stood before the throne and the Lamb, dressed in long white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders said to me: "These are the ones who have survived the great period of trial; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb."

"It was this that brought them before God's throne: day and night they minister to him in his temple; he who sits on the throne will give them shelter. Never again shall they know hunger or thirst, nor shall the sun or its heat beat down on them, for the Lamb on the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to springs of live-giving water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

John 10: 27-30

A reading of the holy gospel according to John

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

"My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father is greater than all, in what he has given me, and there is no snatching out of his hand. The Father and I are one."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit

Christ the Good Shepherd

This Sunday is called The Good Shepherd Sunday. Christ is our Good Shepherd. He compares His love for His disciples to the love of a shepherd for his sheep. As a good shepherd wants to lead his flock to a rich pasture and enjoy it to the fullness, so the Messiah - the Good Shepherd - invites all Children of God to the fullness of life.

"I came so that you may have life, and have it to the full" – today's Gospel.

Is Jesus Christ talking here only about eternal life or also about this life? There is no doubt, that these words are to be applied to our life on earth as much as to our hope of eternal life.

Our Christian religion is not a religion of restrictions and prohibitions. It is a religion of love! It is a religion of enjoying life to the fullness!

Love God and your neighbor, and do whatever you want! Be free! Enjoy the pasture of life! Of course, when you love God and your neighbor, then you will seek to glorify God and to serve Him more fully and also you will seek ways to help and serve your neighbor. Then you will

discover how beautiful life is. How unique every moment of life is! And also, what a fragile gift Life is!

In this view there is no time to focus on restrictions and prohibitions. The time in life should only be focused on how more and more I could love God and my neighbor!

This is the "green pasture" that Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd wants to lead us to.

"I came so that you may have life, and have it to the full." – the voice of our Good Shepherd.

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 25, 2010

The form for requesting Mother's Day names is attached below. If you would like to send a list of names, please email them to us at holycrossncc@espeedusa.com or send them to the church at 3690 Armstrong Road, PO Box 318, Syracuse, NY 13209-0318. All requests must be received by **next Sunday, May 2** for reading on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9. Thank you!

The May fundraiser for the mortgage fund is a meatloaf dinner on Saturday, May 15 from 4:30 to 6:30. This will be the only dinner for the month. If you cannot attend the Saturday evening dinner and would like to order a dinner for takeout on Sunday, May 16, fill out one of the forms that will be available next Sunday and give it to Pat Zalewski, the dinner coordinator, along with your payment. Dinners are \$9.00 for adults, \$8.00 for senior citizens, and \$5.00 for children ages 6-12. Thank you.

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

Monday, April 26

FEAST – MARK, EVANGELIST

Wednesday, April 28

4:00 pm Choir practice

Thursday, April 29

5:30 pm Weight Watchers meeting

Friday, April 30

SOLEMNITY – JOSEPH THE WORKMAN

Saturday, May 1

**FEAST – PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

On this day let us pray for our Country. America is seriously in need of God! We, God's children, must not be negligent in our duty to pray for our Land, that keeping God's Commandments, respecting moral values and human lives would be in the hearts of all people in this Country.

Sunday, May 2

Easter 5

Intention: +Rose Marie Kolonko

Requested by Marlene and Ken Buzzard

10:30 Bible Study for children

11:00 Holy Mass with Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament

12:15 YMS of R Breakfast

Requests for names for Mother's Day due today!

Financial Corner

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
March 7	\$1794	\$647	\$1147
March 14	\$571	\$647	-\$76
March 21	\$301	\$647	-\$346
March 28	\$1285	\$647	\$638
TOTAL	\$3951	\$2588	\$1363

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
April 4	\$673	\$647	\$26
April 11	\$371	\$647	-\$276
April 18	\$745	\$647	\$98
April 25	\$866	\$647	\$219
TOTAL	\$2655	\$2588	\$67

