

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church**  
**3690 Armstrong Road, P.O. Box 318**  
**Syracuse, NY 13209-0318**  
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**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**11:00 am February 13, 2011**

Intention: +Isadora Sullivan Requested by Maureen and Rick Navatka

Healing Intentions: Michelle Mallory Lu Luch  
Martha Shuman Diane Spina  
Lois Bogacki Bill Moran  
Father John Fetcho Jean Horan  
Erika Zalewski Mike Corn  
Rosemarie Piazza Jon Hall  
Bobby Lenweaver

and all those in need of healing in our parish community

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

#### **Reading I**

Sirach 15: 15-20

#### **A reading from the book of Sirach**

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you choose you can keep the commandments; it is loyalty to do his will. There are set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, whichever he chooses shall be given him. Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power, and all-seeing. The eyes of God see all he has made; he understands man's every deed. No man does he command to sin, to none does he give strength for lies.

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

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 119: 1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. Happy are they who observe his decrees, who seek him with all their heart.**

R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**You have commanded that your precepts be diligently kept. Oh, that I might be firm in the ways of keeping your statutes!**

R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**Be good to your servant, that I may live and keep your words. Open my eyes, that I may consider the wonders of your law.**

R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**Instruct me, O Lord, in the way of your statutes, that I may exactly observe them. Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all my heart.**

R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

## **Reading II**

I Corinthians 2: 6-10

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

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

There is, to be sure, a certain wisdom which we express among the spiritually mature. It is not a wisdom of this age, however, nor of the rulers of this age who are men headed for destruction. No, what we utter is God's wisdom: a mysterious, a hidden wisdom. God planned it before all ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age knew the mystery; if they had known it, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory. Of this wisdom it is written:

"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it  
so much as dawned on man what God has prepared  
for those who love him."

Yet God revealed this wisdom to us through the Spirit. The Spirit scrutinizes all matters, even the deep things of God.

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

**Gospel Alleluia**    **Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life,  
you have the words of everlasting life. [5]**

## **Gospel**

Matthew 5: 17-37

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

Such as said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets. I have come, not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. Of this much I assure you: until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter of the law, not the smallest part of a letter, shall be done away with until it all comes true. That is why whoever breaks the least significant of these commands and teaches others to do so shall be called least in the kingdom of God. Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands shall be great in the kingdom of God. I tell you, unless your holiness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees you shall not enter the kingdom of God.*

*"You have heard the commandment imposed on your forefathers, 'You shall not commit murder; every murderer will be liable to judgment.' What I say to you is: everyone who grows angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; any man who uses abusive language toward his brother shall be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and if he holds him in contempt he risks the fires of Gehenna. If you bring your gift to the altar and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift at the altar, go first to be reconciled with the brother, and then come and offer your gift. Lose no time; settle with your opponent while on your way to court with him. Otherwise your opponent may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to the guard, who will throw you into prison. I warn you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.*

*"You have heard the commandment, 'You shall not commit adultery.' What I say to you is: anyone who looks lustfully at a woman has already committed adultery with her in his thoughts. If your right eye is your trouble, gouge it out and throw it away! Better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna. Again, if your right hand is your trouble, cut it off and throw it away! Better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna.*

*"It was also said, 'Whenever a man divorces his wife, he must give her a decree of divorce.' What I say to you is: everyone who divorces his wife – lewd conduct is a separate case – forces her to commit adultery. The man who marries a divorced woman likewise commits adultery.*

*"You have heard the commandment imposed on your forefathers, 'Do not take a false oath; rather make good to the Lord all your pledges.' What I tell you is: do not swear at all. Do not swear by heaven (it is God's throne), nor by the earth (it is his footstool), nor by Jerusalem (It is the city of the great King); do not swear by your head (you cannot make a single hair white or black). Say, 'Yes' when you mean 'Yes' and 'No' when you mean 'No.' Anything beyond that is from the evil one."*

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

**Thoughts from the Pulpit:  
God Commandments, Freedom of Choice**

"Before man are life and death, good and evil; whichever he chooses shall be given him." – from First Reading today "We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age."- from 2<sup>nd</sup> reading today "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." – the Gospel

God gave us the Commandments for the fulfillment of human happiness. It was not invented or given by human culture or mandated by human power. God also gave us the gift of freedom to freely follow the Commandments. By the same token, God gives all of us the strength to think correctly and to behave faithfully and to follow the Commandments of God. Fulfilling God's Commandments is the life or death matter – but only by free choice.

No matter how we use or abuse our freedom, God doesn't take it away. From those who violate God's Law and who chose sin and death, wisdom is taken away. But those who choose God's call are called "Blessed". "Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord." The Standards set in God's Commandments are high, but so too is the grace of God! It really is possible to live a life of righteousness and love in fulfillment of God's Loving Order.

Let us embrace God's calling. This world desperately needs witnesses to God's Love. Let us try our best to surrender to the Spirit of God. Jesus will take care of the rest. Amen.

**Announcements for February 13, 2011**

**Financial Corner**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Weekly Income</b>	<b>Weekly Income Needed</b>	<b>Balance</b>
February 6	\$1345	\$673	\$672
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1345</b>	<b>\$673</b>	<b>\$672</b>

Please join us after Holy Mass **this morning** for the SPOJNIA French Toast breakfast.

Please see Pat or Joe to sign up for the work crew for our community **spaghetti dinner**, scheduled for **Saturday, February 26**. Thank you!

If you are unable to attend the spaghetti dinner on **February 26**, you can order dinners for takeout, to be picked up on Sunday morning, the 27<sup>th</sup>, after Holy Mass. Please complete one of the takeout order forms available on the table in the parish hall no later than **next Sunday, February 20** and turn it in to Pat. Dinners can be prepaid or paid for at time of pickup. Thank you!

We are in need of an adult to take over the Bible Study class on Sundays at 10:30 am, **starting next Sunday, February 20 through June**. All materials for each class are provided. Please

see Father Senior if you are able to help us in preparing our young people for First Communion and an increased understanding of our faith.

Starting on **March 13, the first Sunday of Lent**, Father Senior Madej will begin an adult Bible Study on the books of the Old Testament, based on a video lecture series. Each Sunday from 12:30 to 1:00 pm, the adult class will view a short video piece (about 15 minutes) followed by Father Senior's commentary and a group discussion of the selection. Please plan to join us as we work to enrich our Biblical understanding under Father's guidance.

### **Weekly Calendar**

Wednesday, February 16     **58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of death, Prime Bishop Francis Hodur**  
4:00 pm    Choir practice

Thursday, February 17     5:00 Polish language class @ Solvay Youth Center,  
Woods Road, Solvay

Sunday, February 20     **Ordinary 7**  
**Septuagesima Sunday**

Intention: +     Requested by

10:30     Bible Study for children

11:00     Holy Mass

12:15     Coffee Hour

**Takeout orders for the spaghetti dinner due TODAY!**

**Saturday, February 26 Spaghetti Dinner**  
**4:00 – 6:30 pm**