

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
2nd Sunday of Advent
with Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament**

**Sunday, December 5, 2010
11:00 am**

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

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EMAIL: holycrossncc@espeedusa.com

Intention: +Richard Yarian and Phyllis Thompson

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

and all those in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.

Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play in the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea.

On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

R: Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever.

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; he shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R: Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R: Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever.

For he shall rescue the poor man when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

R: Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever.

May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun his name shall remain. In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

R: Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever.

Reading II

Romans 15: 4-9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all men.

Everything written before our time was written for our instruction, that we might derive hope from the lesson of patience and the words of encouragement in the Scriptures. May God, the source of all patience and encouragement, enable you to live in perfect harmony with one another according to the spirit of Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and voice you may glorify God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God. Yes, I affirm that Christ became the servant of the Jews because of God's faithfulness in fulfilling the promises to the patriarchs whereas the Gentiles glorify God because of his mercy. As Scripture has it, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles and I will sing to your name."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Alleluia My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me. [7]**

Gospel

Matthew 3: 1-12

A reading of the holy gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

When John the Baptizer made his appearance as a preacher in the desert of Judea, this was his theme: "Reform your lives! The reign of God is at hand." It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: "A herald's voice in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" John was clothed in a garment of camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist. Grasshoppers and wild honey were his food. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were g ling out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins.

When he saw that many of the Pharisees and Sadducees were stepping forward for this bath, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who told you to flee from the wrath to come? Give some evidence that you mean to reform. Do not pride yourselves of the claim, 'Abraham is our

father.' I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these very stones. Even now the ax is laid to the root of the tree. Every tree that is not fruitful will be cut down and thrown in to the fire. I baptize you in water for the sake of reform, but the one who will follow me is more powerful than I. I am not even fit to carry his sandals. He it is who will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand. He will clear the threshing floor, and gather his grain into the barn, but the chaff he will burn in unquenchable fire."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit
Preparing a Way for the Lord

[Matthew 3: 1-12]

A lonely voice of John the Baptist exhorts us to prepare a way for the Lord: mountains leveled out, valleys filled in, winding roads made straight, the desert to bloom, poor people to see justice done, the weak to be no longer exploited, war to be banished from the face of the earth....

"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand" – he cries! – "Prepare a way for the Lord"! "The Way" for the Lord is not yet prepared in this world. Look at the state of the world right now! Look at our streets, especially at night, how evil roars through! You are even scared to take a stroll out there, for fear of being shot. The world has become an awful void, an appalling wilderness.

The Savior came to this world to offer salvation. The Savior, Jesus Christ, sent out His messengers (Christians!) to start preparing a way for the Lord, but they themselves are part of the problem, Many people, baptized into Christ, instead of being the messengers of the Kingdom of God are agents of the 'kingdom of evil', promoting the evil way of life.

But God's judgment hangs over the world. The ax is laid to the root of the tree - St. John says.

How we are preparing the way of the Lord, in our own circle of parish community? Are we present for Sundays' liturgy to listen to the Lord? Is our home a place of peace? Am I a messenger of the Lord in the place of work?

Heavenly Father, clear a pathway in our hearts so that your Son Jesus Christ can come to us, and the Good New may transform us into the messengers of THY KINGDOM!

Amen!

Announcements for December 5, 2010

Financial Corner

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
November 7	\$793	\$642	\$151
November 14	\$652	\$642	\$10
November 21	\$466	\$642	-\$176
November 28	\$611	\$642	-\$31
TOTALS	\$2522	\$2568	-\$46

Included with our bulletin today is the Church Doctrine Commission's publication, "*Eschatology in the PNCC: A Clarification.*" This publication completes the information provided to the laity

that was adopted at the General Synod in October. Please take some time to review this important document. Thank you.

This morning after Holy Mass, please join us in the parish hall for the YMS of R breakfast.

Oplatek wafers are available on the back table in the parish hall, starting this morning. Wafers are \$2.00 each. Please leave your donation in the basket provided. Thank you.

Next Saturday, December 11, our next community breakfast will be held from 8:30 – 11:30 am. French toast and ham are on the menu. A French toast breakfast will also be held on **Sunday, December 12**, to support SPOJNA.

The next parish committee meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 12**, following the French toast breakfast. Please mark your calendars.

On **Sunday, December 19**, our annual **Soup and Dessert Sunday** is scheduled, along with our traditional **cookie raffle**. Please invite your family and friends to join us for this wonderful day of soup, bread, and dessert. Please sign up on the sheet in the parish hall with the type of soup you plan to share. Also, if you can bake two dozen or more homemade cookies for the raffle, please let Bobbi know. Thank you!

Polish language classes have moved to Wednesday nights, following choir practice, starting this week. If this night is better for you and you wish to join the class, see Richard.

This week, **financial records for 2010** were updated through the end of November. If you would like to see your current contribution record, please see Pat in the office after mass today, where you may view the revised record on the computer. Printed copies will not be provided again until the end of the calendar year. Thank you.

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, December 8 **SOLEMNITY – CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY/FEAST OF DIVINE LOVE**

4:00 pm Choir practice

5:00 pm Polish Language class

Saturday, December 11 8:30 – noon
COMMUNITY FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 12 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Intention: +Rose Marie Kolonko, William LaVoie, and John L. Prince, Sr.

Requested by the Kolonko and Prince families

11:00 Holy Mass

12:15 Spojnia Breakfast

1:00 Parish Committee Meeting