

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
Easter 2**

**Sunday, April 11, 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: +Evangeline Anderson and Frank Piazza

and

for all those in need of healing in our parish community

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Acts 5: 12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

Through the hands of the apostles, many signs and wonders occurred among the people. By mutual agreement they used to meet in Solomon's Portico. No one else dared to join them, despite the fact that the people held them in great esteem. Nevertheless more and more believers, men and women in great numbers, were continually added to the Lord. The people carried the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mattresses, so that when Peter passed by at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. Crowds from the towns around Jerusalem would gather, too, bringing their sick and those who were troubled by unclean spirits, all of whom were cured.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the Lord helped me. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Reading II

Revelation 1: 9-11, 12-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of Revelation

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

I, John, your brother, who share with you the distress and the kingly reign and the endurance we have in Jesus, found myself on the island called Patmos because I proclaimed God's word and bore witness to Jesus. On the Lord's Day I was caught up in ecstasy, and I heard behind me a piercing voice like the sound of a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you now see." I turned around to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I did so, I saw seven lampstands of gold and among the lampstands One like the Son of Man wearing an ankle-length robe, with a sash of gold about his breast.

When I caught sight of him I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said: "There is nothing to fear. I am the First and the Last and the One who lives. Once I was dead but now I live – forever and ever. I hold the keys of death and the nether world. Write down, therefore, whatever you see in visions – what you see now and will see in time to come."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

A reading of the holy gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came and stood among them.

On the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples had locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood before them. "*Peace be with you,*" he said. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At the sight of the Lord the disciples rejoiced. "*Peace be with you,*" he said again.

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Then he breathed on them and said:

"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound."

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas (the name means "Twin"), was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him: "We have seen the Lord!" His answer was, "I'll never believe it without probing the nail-prints in his hands, without putting my finger in the nail-marks and my hand into his side."

A week later, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them. "*Peace be with you,*" he said; then, to Thomas: "*Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not persist in your unbelief, but believe!*" Thomas said in response, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus then said to him:

*"You became a believer because you saw me.
Blest are they who have not seen and have believed."*

Jesus performed many other signs as well – signs not recorded here – in the presence of his disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, so that through this faith you may have life in his name.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit
The Wounded Healer – Resurrected Lord

The Messiah, the Lord of Life lives!

But He carries with him the wounds of his Passion and Crucifixion.
The Resurrected Jesus will carry these wounds on his glorified body forever as the proof of His Love.

The risen Lord meets his followers as he is, very alive, glorified, resurrected, but also wounded.
He shows his wounds to Thomas.
He shows his wounds to the rest of his disciples.
He shows his wounds to us.
He does it for two thousand years, and even to the end of times...

Why does Jesus Christ do that? Why does he keep the marks of his wounds on his risen body?
First, those wounds helped the apostles to recognize him. He took on himself our infirmities, and he carries them as long as humankind will walk on this earth! Wounded, but not crushed, very alive, and glorified!

Second, those wounds were the proof of his love!

Jesus Christ did not hide his wounds. He showed them to Thomas and invited him to touch them. By touching Jesus' wounds Thomas' faith has been strengthened. By touching Jesus' wounds, faith is re-born - "My Lord, and My God." 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 11, 2010

Join us after mass today for coffee hour. The parish committee will hold its monthly meeting after coffee.

Invite your family and friends to join us for the ham dinner this coming Saturday, April 17 from 4:30 – 7:00 pm **or** Sunday, April 18 at 12:30 pm. Many thanks in advance to all who will be helping with Saturday's event.

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

Wednesday, April 14	4:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday, April 15	5:30 pm	Weight Watchers meeting
Saturday, April 17	4:30 – 7:00	Ham Dinner
Sunday, April 18		Easter 3
Intention: +Catherine Sztchmiller		Requested by Mr/ Mrs. Doug Anderson
	10:30	Bible Study for children
	11:00	Holy Mass
	12:30	Easter Dinner

Saturday, May 15 Meatloaf Dinner
4:30 – 7:00 pm