

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church
Solemnity of the Holy Family with
Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament**

**Sunday, January 3, 2010
11:00 am**

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

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Intention: +Robert and Teresa Greenfield Requested by Mary Ann and Dave Greenfield

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading I

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

A reading from the book of Sirach

He who fears the Lord honors his parents.

The Lord sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. He who honors his father atones for sins; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. He who honors his father is gladdened by children, and when he prays he is heard. He who reveres his father will live a long life; he obeys the Lord who brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate with him; revile him not in the fullness of your strength. For kindness to a father will not be forgotten, it will serve as a sin offering – it will take lasting root.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Happy are you who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of his handiwork; happy shall you be, and favored.

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Reading II

Colossians 3: 12-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

Concerning the Christian life in the world

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever

grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body you have been called to that peace. Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness. Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you. In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another. Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns, and inspired songs. Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Give thanks to God the Father through him.

You who are wives, be submissive to your husbands. This is your duty in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives. Avoid any bitterness toward them. You children, obey your parents in everything as the acceptable ay in the Lord. And fathers, do not nag your children lest they lose heart.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Alleluia May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;
and the fullness of his message live within you.**

Gospel

Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

A reading of the holy gospel according to Matthew

Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

After the astrologers had left, the angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him." Joseph got up and took the child and his mother and left that night for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

"Out of Egypt I have called my son."

But after Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt with the command: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and set out for the land of Israel. Those who had designs on the life of the child are dead." He got up, took the child and his mother, and returned to the land of Israel. He heard, however, that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea, and he was afraid to go back there. Instead, because of a warning received in a dream, Joseph went to the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way what was said through the prophets was fulfilled:

"He shall be called a Nazarean."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit

New Year (2010) – Message from Your Pastor

Holy Family, With God of Limitless Power into the New Year

At the beginning of a New Year on the very first Sunday, our Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Holy Family. Especially in starting this New 2010 Year, the Solemnity of the Holy Family has more than ever such an important profoundness for us because of the attacks against marriage and family life that in the last few years have escalated so vigorously. Abortion, the "marriages" of persons of the same sex, the erosion of religious liberty, the junk on the internet, the wild music, the terror of video games and plays, the horrible "fashion" tattoos and piercings, the bad language, the many divorces, remarriages and cohabitations – all these invade the Christian families of our times and the Christian Values. No wonder that we see the much- escalated breakdown of common respect for one another and an almost nonstop focus on the self.

The Holy Family is for us the perfect example of the Christian Family. In Christian marriage and family, selfishness has no room for existence or nourishment!

In marriage the couple vows to love one another; that is, to serve one another by putting the other person ahead of the self. This can only happen if we are putting God first in our own life. Everything will fit into our own good if we know and confess that God is first! In God's Limitless Power, Mercy, Love, and Forgiveness rests our happy future!

So as we begin this new year, let's put aside any doubts we may have about the Lord. Let's believe that He does want to do great work in our lives and in our families and that He really does want to open our eyes to spiritual growth. God wants our spiritual growth for our own good and Salvation! But He wants us to do our part! If you want to lose twenty pounds this year, you would have to make sure you are eating healthy food and exercising more. Likewise, if you want to be opened to the work of the Lord in your life and your family life, you have to do your part - to believe that God has a plan for your life, that at the heart of this plan is His desire to lead you and teach you through his Holy Spirit. Also, to admit that there is a devil who wants nothing more than to see you turn away from the Lord and keep you in darkness.

St. Paul warns: "Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11). St. Paul cautioned another Christian community about how shrewd the devil is: "Even Satan masquerades as an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 2:11). The Evil spirit has done enough damage in our day to family life that it became erosive and devaluated. The Christians need to look for help in the Holy Family!

We need to make a public stand against the forces trying to undermine our faith. We need to be visible witnesses to God's Presence in this world! By being visible and present in churches on Sundays, by listening to God's Word and putting it into practice! Families need to make a private and public stand against the forces trying to undermine this holy union established by God for the happiness of mankind!

A Happy and Spiritually & Bodily Healthy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Fr. Walter Madej, Pastor

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 January 3, 2010

If you have forgotten your envelope or are visiting and would like to place a donation in an envelope, packs of extra envelopes are in each pew. Just add your name and the amount of your contribution to the front of the envelope. Thank you!!

If you have not yet done so, your envelopes for 2010 are available for pickup on the tables in the church foyer. Please do not use any envelopes from 2009, as the numbers have changed. If you do not find envelopes in your name and would like them issued to you, please see Pat.

Stewardship obligations for 2009 were due by December 31. Please remember that basic stewardship is \$275 per individual adult and \$50 per individual adult for cemetery improvement. Please contact Pat if you have questions about your personal stewardship for 2009.

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, January 5	6:00 pm	Choir practice
Wednesday, January 6	SOLEMNITY – EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD [Father Senior will begin to bless homes by appointment; please contact him if you would like him to bless your home for 2010.]	
Thursday, January 7	5:30 pm	Weight Watchers Meeting
Saturday, January 9	4:30 – 7:00 pm	PORK DINNER FOR THE COMMUNITY
Sunday, January 10	SOLEMNITY – BAPTISM OF THE LORD/EPIPHANY Intention: +Anna Shelly Requested by George and Laura Sabotka	
	10:30	Bible Study for children
	11:00	Holy Mass
	12:15	Oplatek Dinner

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 9	Fresh Pork Dinner 4:30 – 7:00 pm
Sunday, January 10	Oplatek Dinner following Holy Mass
Sunday, January 19	Parish Committee Meeting

Monthly Financial Summary

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
December 6	\$497	\$642	-\$145
December 13	\$407	\$642	-\$235
December 20	\$829	\$642	\$187
December 24	\$346	-	\$346
December 25	\$178	-	\$331
December 27	\$379	\$642	-\$263
TOTAL	\$2636	\$2568	\$68