

**Welcome to Holy Mass at Holy Cross Church  
Palm Sunday**

**Sunday, March 28, 2010  
11:00 a.m.**

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

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Intention: +Anna Shelly

Requested by Tillie Billo

Healing Intentions:	Michelle Mallory	Lu Luch
	Martha Shuman	Diane Spina
	Lois Bogacki	Ruth Matson
	Josephine Wicks	Father Marian Pociecha

and all those in need of healing in our parish community

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Gospel 1**

Mark 11: 1-10

**A reading of the holy gospel according to Mark**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

As the crowd drew near Bethpage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, close to Jerusalem, Jesus sent off two of his disciples with the instruction: *"Go to the village straight ahead of you, and as soon as you enter it you will find tethered there a colt on which no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it back. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing that?' say, 'The Master needs it but he will send it back here at once.'"* So they went off, and finding a colt tethered out on the street near a gate, they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What do you mean by untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the men let them take it. They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks across its back, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread reeds which they had cut in the fields. Those preceding him as well as those who followed cried out:

"Hosannah! Blessed be he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed be the reign of our father David to come! God save him from on high!"

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

**Reading I**

Isaiah 50: 4-7

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.  
(Third song of the Servant of Yahweh)

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ears that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord God

is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

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

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 22: 8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the Lord; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."**

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; they have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.**

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O Lord, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.**

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the Lord, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him."**

R: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**Reading II**

Philippians 2: 6-11

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians**

He humbled himself to become like us, and God raised him on high.

Your attitude must be Christ's: though he was in the form of God he did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. Rather, he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men. He was known to be of human estate, and it was thus that he humbled himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross! Because of this, God highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name above every other name, so that at Jesus' name every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth, and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God the Father: JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

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

**Gospel**

Luke 22: 14 – 23: 56

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke**

**The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ**

When the hour arrived, Jesus took his place at table, and the apostles with him. He said to them: **I have greatly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I tell you, I will not eat again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.**

Then taking a cup he offered a blessing in thanks and said: **"Take this and divide it among you; I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the coming of the reign of God."**

Then taking bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying: **"This is my body to be given for you. Do this as a remembrance of me."** He did the same with the cup after eating, saying as he did so: **"this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you."**

"And yet the hand of my betrayer is with me at this table. The Son of Man is following out his appointed course, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed." Then they began to dispute among themselves as to which of them would do such a deed.

A dispute arose among them about who would be regarded as the greatest. He said: "Earthly kings lord it over their people. Those who exercise authority over them are called their benefactors. Yet it cannot be that way with you. Let the greater among you be as the junior, the leader as the servant. Who, in fact, is the greater – he who reclines at table or he who serves the meal? Is it not the one who reclines at table? Yet I am in your midst as the one who serves you. You are the ones who have stood loyally by me in my temptations. I for my part assign to you the dominion my Father has assigned to me. In my kingdom, you will eat and drink at my table, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Simon, Simon! Remember that Satan has asked for you to sift you all like wheat. But I have prayed for you that your faith may never fail. You in turn must strengthen your brothers." "Lord," he said to him, "at our side I am prepared to face imprisonment and death itself." Jesus replied, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have three times denied that you know me."

He asked them, "When I sent you on mission without purse or traveling bag or sandals, were you in need of anything?" "Not a thing," they replied. He said to them: "Now, however, the man who has a purse must carry it; the same with the traveling bag. And the man without a sword must sell his coat and buy one. It is written in Scripture,

'He was counted among the wicked.'

And this, I tell you, must come to be fulfilled in me. All that has to do with me approaches its climax." They said, "Lord, here are two swords!" He answered, "Enough."

Then he went out and made his way, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; his disciples accompanied him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "'Pray that you may not be put to the test.'" He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, then went down on his knees and prayed in these words: "Father, if it is your will, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done." An angel then appeared to him from heaven to strengthen him. In his anguish he prayed with all the greater intensity, and his sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground. Then he rose from prayer and came to his disciples, only to find them asleep, exhausted with grief. He said to them: "Why are you sleeping? Wake up, and pray that you may not be subjected to the trial."

While he was still speaking a crowd came, led by the man named Judas, one of the Twelve. He approached Jesus to embrace him. Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" When the companions of Jesus saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, shall we use the sword?" One of them went so far as to strike the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. Jesus said in answer to their question, "Enough!" Then he touched the ear and healed the man. But to those who had come out against him – the chief priests, the chiefs of the temple guard, and the ancients – Jesus said "Am I a criminal that you come out after me armed with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple you never raised a hand against me. But this is your hour – the triumph of darkness!"

They led him away under arrest and brought him to the house of the high priest, while Peter followed at a distance. Later they lighted a fire in the middle of the courtyard and were sitting beside it, and Peter sat among them. A servant girl saw him sitting in the light of the fire. She gazed at him intently, then said, "This man was with him." He denied the fact, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little while later someone else saw him and said, "You are one of them too." But Peter said, "No, sir, not I!" About an hour after that another spoke more insistently: "This man was certainly with him, for he is a Galilean." Peter responded, "My

friend, I do not know what you are talking about." At the very moment he was saying this, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned around and looked at Peter, and Peter remembered the word that the Lord has spoken to him, "Before the rooster crows today you will deny me three times." He went out and wept bitterly.

Meanwhile the men guarding Jesus amused themselves at his expense. They blindfolded him first, slapped him, and then taunted him: "Play the prophet; which one struck you?" And they directed many other insulting words at him.

At daybreak the council, which was made up of the elders of the people, the chief priests, and the scribes, assembled again. Once they had brought him before their council, they said, "Tell us, are you the Messiah?" He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I question you, you will not answer. This much only will I say: 'From now on, the Son of Man will have his seat at the right hand of the Power of God.'" "So you are the Son of God?" they asked in chorus. He answered, "It is you who say I am." They said, "What need have we of witnesses? We have heard it from his own mouth."

*[Short Form Begins Here]*

Then the entire assembly rose up and led him before Pilate. They started his prosecution by saying, "We found this man subverting our nation, opposing the payment of taxes to Caesar, and calling himself the Messiah, a king." Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews? He answered, "That is your term." Pilate reported to the chief priests and the crowds, "I do not find a case against this man." But they insisted, "He stirs up the people by his teaching throughout the whole of Judea, from Galilee, where he began, to this very place." On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean; and when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who also happened to be in Jerusalem at the time.

Herod was extremely pleased to see Jesus. From the reports about him he had wanted for a long time to see him, and he was hoping to see him work some miracle. He questioned Jesus at considerable length, but Jesus made no answer. The chief priests and scribes were at hand to accuse him vehemently. Herod and his guards then treated him with contempt and insult, after which they put a magnificent robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate, who had previously been set against each other, became friends from that day.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the ruling class, and the people, and said to them: "You have brought this man before me as one who subverts the people. I have examined him in your presence and have no charge against him arising from your allegations. Neither has Herod, who therefore has sent him back to us; obviously this man has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore I mean to release him, once I have taught him a lesson." The whole crowd cried out, "Away with this man; release Barabbas for us!" This Barabbas had been thrown in prison for causing an uprising in the city, and for murder. Pilate addressed them again, for he wanted Jesus to be the one he released.

But they shouted back, "Crucify him, crucify him!" He said to them for the third time, "What wrong is this man guilty of? I have not discovered anything about him deserving the death penalty. I will therefore chastise him and release him." But they demanded with loud cries that he be crucified, and their shouts increased in violence. Pilate then decreed that what they demanded should be done. He released the one they asked for, who had been thrown in prison for insurrection and murder, and delivered Jesus up to their wishes.

As they led him away, they laid hold of one Simon the Cyrenean who was coming in from the fields. They put a crossbeam on Simon's shoulder for him to carry along behind Jesus. A great crowd of people followed him, including women who beat their breasts and lamented over him.

Jesus turned to them and said: "Daughters, of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep for yourselves and for your children. The days are coming when they will say, 'Happy are the sterile, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin saying to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' If they do these things in the green wood, what would happen in the dry?"

Two others who were criminals were led along with him to be crucified. When they came to Skull Place, as it was called, they crucified him there and the criminals as well, one on his right and the other on his left. [Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing."] They divided his garments, rolling dice for them.

The people stood there watching, and the leaders kept jeering at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, the chosen one." The soldiers also made fun of him, coming forward to offer him their sour wine and saying, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." There was an inscription over his head:

"THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

One of the criminals hanging in crucifixion blasphemed him, "Aren't you the Messiah? Then save yourself and us." But the other one rebuked him: "Have you no fear of God, seeing you are under the same sentence? We deserve it, after all. We are only paying the price for what we've done, but this man has done nothing wrong." He then said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter upon your reign." And Jesus replied, "I assure you: this day you will be with me in paradise."

It was now around midday, and darkness came over the whole land until midafternoon with an eclipse of the sun. The curtain in the sanctuary was torn in two. Jesus uttered a loud cry and said,

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

After he said this, he expired. The centurion, upon seeing what had happened, gave glory to God by saying, "Surely this was an innocent man." After the crowd assembled for this spectacle witnessed what had happened, they returned beating their breasts. All his friends and the women who had accompanied him from Galilee were standing at a distance watching everything.

There was a man named Joseph, an upright and holy member of the Sanhedrin, who had not been associated with their plan or their action. He was from Arimathea, a Jewish town, and he looked expectantly for the reign of God. This man approached Pilate with a request for Jesus' body. He took it down, wrapped it in fine linen, and laid it in a tomb hewn out of the rock, in which no one had yet been buried.

That was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed along behind. They saw the tomb and how his body was buried. Then they went back home to prepare spices and perfumes. They observed the Sabbath as a day of rest, in accordance with the law.

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

### **Thoughts from the Pulpit**

#### **Jesus Christ Enters with the Gift of Peace and Salvation**

Each year on Palm Sunday the Church reads an account of the Passion of Jesus Christ and enters into Holy Week, which commemorates the week in which Christ died.

The death of any human being is bad news. It brings the end of all hopes and sadness around. But in the history of Salvation, the death of the Messiah is the Good News for mankind.

The Day of Jesus Christ's death is not called 'Bad Friday' but 'Good Friday'. What makes it good is the Sacrifice for the Salvation of the world delivered in God's Love. 'Greater love no man has than to lay down his life for his friends'.

In the Passion Story, Jesus absorbed all the violence, all the powers of destruction, and transformed it, and returned it as love and forgiveness. There was nothing but love in him. This was the victory of love. It was not Jesus' suffering that saved the world but love in him: God's Love and human love in the person of the Son of God Jesus Christ Our Lord!

Anyone who pretends to love suffering is crazy.  
Suffering entered this world through sin.  
It is good and very normal to avoid suffering.  
Yet we are glad to suffer for someone we love.  
Our love gives meaning to our suffering.  
Jesus was the Good Shepherd dying because he loved his sheep.

Palms that we bring to Jesus on this Sunday tell the story about the victorious Jesus Christ who entered into Jerusalem to pass over the suffering, the passion, the death, and yet come out victorious and very alive. Only God in human flesh could make it possible. It was the real 'Passover'.

All people are invited by God to the 'Passover' with His Son Jesus Christ, but only those who in faith want to share life with Jesus' Suffering and Victory will eventually pass over. 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 March 28, 2010***

Join us after mass today for coffee hour and our annual Palm Sunday bake sale. There are also silk flower arrangements for sale. See Bobbi for prices on the flowers.

Good Friday services will be held at 5:00 pm this Friday afternoon. If desired, Easter food may be blessed after the services.

A very blessed birthday to all who celebrate in April: Nick Farfaglia (April 2), Paul Zalewski (April 4), George Sabotka (April 12), Father Senior Madej (April 14), Toni Mundstock (April 22), Debbie Kolonko (April 24), and Bill Ostroski (April 24). STO LAT!!!

### **Weekly Calendar**

<b>Wednesday, March 31</b>	4:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday, April 1	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
	5:30 pm	Weight Watchers meeting
<b>Friday, April 2</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	
	5:00 pm	Stations of the Cross and Solemn Liturgy of our Lord's Passion [Easter baskets may be blessed at the conclusion of the service.]
Saturday, April 3	<b>Holy Saturday</b>	
<b>Sunday, April 4</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Resurrection</b>	
	Intention: +for all deceased parishioners in our parish	
	10:30	Bible Study for children
	11:00	Holy Mass
<b>Sunday, April 11</b>	<b>Parish Committee Meeting following coffee hour.</b>	
<b>Saturday, April 17</b>	<b>Ham Dinner 4:30 – 7:00 pm</b>	
<b>Sunday, April 18</b>	<b>Swieconka Dinner following Holy Mass</b>	
<b>Saturday, May 15</b>	<b>Meatloaf Dinner 4:30 – 7:00 pm</b>	