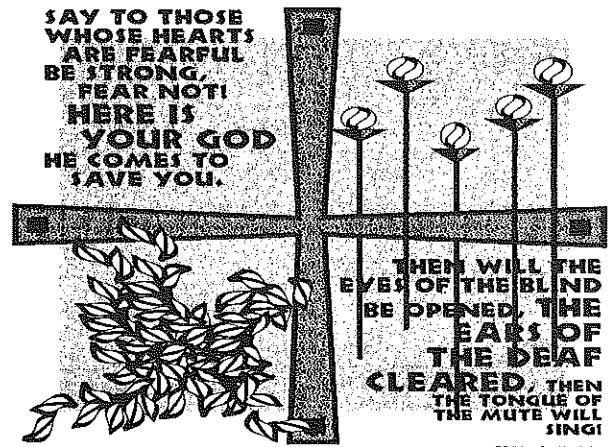


MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Mon	9/7	Office Closed - Holiday No Mass
Tue	9/8	10:00 AM Mass at Fairview Manor 7:00 PM Parent Confirmation Meeting - P 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - WS
Wed	9/9	9:00 AM Staff Meeting - P 6:30 PM Faith Formation - P
Fri	9/11	6:00 PM Anniversary Mass - C & P
Sat	9/12	11:00 AM Lector Rehearsal - WS
Sun	9/13	Parish Picnic - After 10:00 AM Mass 1:00 PM Baptismal Preparation at St. John's in Girard



The 2008 Catholic Education Collection will take place next weekend. When you see any child from our parish, you are looking at a beneficiary of this collection. Please give generously to support efforts to pass on our faith to them. This collection is your opportunity to help financially support many educational ministries, and half of the collection stays here at Holy Cross Parish to help support our programs.

Bring your Cross to Holy Cross. On our patronal feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 12th/13th), all are invited to bring any crucifix or cross from your home to liturgy. At the end of liturgy, the crucifixes and crosses will be blessed.



On September 13th, the annual parish picnic will follow the Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Cross Mass at 10:00 AM. Bring your favorite dish and a place setting. Drinks, hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided by the Holy Name Society. Helpers are welcome. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Gathering Space.



**QUESTION OF THE WEEK -
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Strengthened by Faith

Adult: As I listen to today's Gospel, what thought patterns or prejudices cry out within me to be opened by the touch of Jesus?

Child: What does it mean when we say that "actions speak louder than words"?



Congratulations to Paul and Janice (Kramer) DiFuccia on their marriage here at Holy Cross on August 29. May God bless them in their life together.

A Family Perspective Labor Day is a good time to examine one's work life. Are your work, career and projects so consuming that you are "deaf" to those around you? Jesus says to you today: "Be opened." Hear the sounds of your family.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

	5:30 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
PRESIDER:	Fr. Scott Detisch	Fr. Scott Detisch	Fr. Scott Detisch
LECTOR:	Barb Walk and Mary Conti	Annalynn Shuttleworth and Mary Breckenridge	Adam Walker and Tim Healy
CO-ORD:	Jan Agnello and Peg Mallin	Chuck Smith and Chris DeSantis	Rose Maas
EUCH. MINISTERS	John and Pat Timon, Judy Gido, Mary and Jennie Agnello, Ellen Schauerman, Shirley Loeslein	Linda and Rick Graziani, Raymond Smith, Michelann and Pat McGowan, Sylvia Smith, Dan and Opie Wuenschel	Don and Fran Buseck, Paul DiFuccia, John Folga, Ken and LuAnn MacIsaac, Ann Moore, Joe Maas, Betty Healy, Suzanne Sitzler, Martha Wetick
SERVERS:	Amanda Woodman, Lewis Kemer, Jeremy Schroeck	Thomas and James Shuttleworth, Dominic Kiser	Anthony, Lauren and Megan Cooper
MUSIC:	Cantor	Cantor	Crossroads
MINISTERS OF CARE:		Fred and Susan Schimp	
NURSERY:	Nursery is available at the 10:00 a.m. mass only		



Mass Intentions

Monday September 7, 2009
Mo Mass - Holiday

Tuesday September 8, 2009
 8:00 AM Theresa Ignocheck
 Req. by Chuck and Sylvia Smith
 10:00 AM Ellen Condon at Fairview Manor
 Req. by Family

Wednesday September 9, 2009
 8:00 AM Anna Marie Ziegler Maresh
 Req. by Peg Mallin

Thursday September 10, 2009
 8:00 AM Communion Service

Friday September 11, 2009
 8:00 AM Bertha Dressler
 Req. by Family

Saturday September 12, 2009
 5:30 PM Lorraine and James Weyers
 Req. by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walk

Sunday September 13, 2009
 8:00 AM Holy Cross Parish Family
 10:00 AM John J. Brice, Jr.
 Req. by Lisa and Greg Reynolds

Readings for the Week of September 6

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37
 Monday: Col 1:24-2:3/Lk 6:6-11
 Tuesday: Mic 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16,18-23 or 1:18-23
 Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14/Lk 6:39-42
 Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49
 Next Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

Our sanctuary lamp will burn this week in memory of
FRANK AND ANTONIA KOSIENSKI,
 requested by Joann Kupniewski and Family.
(If you wish to request that the candle burn in memory of a loved one or for some other shared intention, please call the office. Donation \$10.)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

218/592 Adult Env. Received.....	Average \$28.38
25/257 Children Env. Received	Average \$9.99
Budgeted Average Weekly Expense.....	\$7,300.00
Actual Offertory Collection (\$305.00 Loose)	\$6,189.00
Difference	-\$1,111.00
Year-To-Date Budget (9 weeks)	\$65,700.00
Actual Year-To-Date Collection	\$57,713.31
Year-To-Date Difference.....	-\$7,986.69

Catholic Services Appeal

# Responses.....	260
Total Amount Pledged	\$90,416.00
Payments or Pledges.....	\$62,054.50
Balance Due on 2009 Pledges by 1/31/10.....	\$28,361.50

S.M.A.R.T. FAITH

[Strengthening a Mature Appreciation of our Religious Tradition]

Topic: Christianity and Community

We have seen in our culture in recent decades a decrease in the percentage of the American population participating in organized religion. This includes a large segment of folks who claim an affiliation with some form of Christianity but who do not participate in it. Current estimates claim that about 25% of the Catholic population participates in the church. While many Americans are claiming a spiritual life, they are not participating in organized religion. [The numbers are even worse in Western Europe.] This trend is troubling for many reasons, but perhaps the most troubling is a fundamental misconception about the nature of Christianity in general and Roman Catholicism in particular.

In the time of Jesus, it was clear that he did not intend discipleship to be a solitary endeavor. Jesus' first public act of ministry was to gather a group of disciples. And when he sent the disciples out on mission, he did not send them alone; he sent them in groups. After his resurrection, he always appeared to the disciples when they were gathered together, often for a meal. And when the glorified Christ sent the Holy Spirit, it occurred when the group of disciples was huddled together in prayer.

Thus we can see that, from the beginning, Christianity has been essentially a communal experience. It is fully expressed in the gathering together of disciples of Christ who cast their lot with each other and find in their communal worship of God the inspiration and strength to carry on the work of Christ in the world. To be a true follower of Christ is never a solitary and private journey. It cannot be reduced to exclusively "me and God" or "doing my own thing" when it comes to spiritual growth. These ways of thinking represent the rugged individualism of our culture but not the legacy of Jesus Christ. To absent oneself over and over from a community of faith is to distance oneself further and further from the true nature of the Christian life. This is even truer with Roman Catholicism since we consider the celebration of the Eucharist to be the center of our Christian way of life; and the Eucharist is always a communal celebration, not a private practice.

We are such a wonderful community of faith here at Holy Cross. Encourage Catholic friends and neighbors who have not been coming to join us for worship. Perhaps we will be able to draw them into the joys and graces we experience from being together.