

**MATER DOLOROSA CHURCH
71 MAPLE STREET
HOLYOKE, MA 01040**

**Served by the
Conventual Franciscan Friars
Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Assisi
Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph**

**Mater Dolorosa School
25 Maple Street
Holyoke, MA 01040**

**Mater Dolorosa Cemetery
Pittroff Avenue
South Hadley, MA**

Mass Schedule

Daily - 8:00 am
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (Polish),
10:30 am, and 5:00 pm
Holydays: Vigil, 7:00 pm (Polish); 8:00 am
and 7:00 pm

Confession: Weekday mornings 7:20 to 7:40 am;
Saturday: 3:15 to 3:45 pm

Sacrament of Baptism: First Sunday of each month
(except during Lent) at 12 Noon. Contact Parish Office
to schedule Baptism and instruction.

Sacrament of Anointing: At the request of patient or
family. Communal Anointing on the First Saturday of
each month after Vigil Mass.

Visits to the Sick: At the request of the patient or the
family.

Sacrament of Marriage: Contact Parish Office one
year in advance for requirements for Sacramental Mar-
riage. Pre-Cana attendance is required.

Religious Education Program: Elementary grades on
Saturday mornings; High School on Monday evenings.

RCIA: Parish-based program for adults who wish to
prepare for Baptism and/or Confirmation. Call Parish
Office for information.



Parish Pastoral Staff

Fr. Alex B. Cymerman, OFM Conv., Pastor
Fr. Stanley Sobiech, OFM Conv., Parochial Vicar
Br. Steve Murphy, OFM Conv., Pastoral Assistant
Sr. Corinne Gurka, FSSJ, Principal

Office Staff

Mrs. Theresa Szumski, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Martha Jendrysik, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Diane Zakrzewski, School Secretary

Lay Leadership

Mr. Mitchell Koziol, Finance Council Chair
Mrs. Dorothy Skibel, Pastoral Council Chair
Ms. Joann Wauczinski, Director of
Religious Education
Mrs. Bethany Healy, RCIA
Mr. Mitchell Koziol, School Board Chair
Mrs. Angie Mercado, CYO Director
Mrs. Shirley Anop, Child Advocate

Telephone Numbers

Parish Office: 413-532-7889
Parish Fax: 413-538-6754
School Office: 413-532-2831
School Cafeteria: 413-534-0191
Parish Cemetery: 413-532-7889
Religious Education: 413-532-7889
Friary: 413-532-8272
Jeff Chirgwin, Choir Director: 413-374-8434



This Week's Feasts and Celebrations

Monday, March 28. Lenten Weekday. As Elisha cured Naaman the Syrian (1) in the waters (Ps) of the Jordan, so Jesus promises healing salvation for all (2).

Tuesday, March 29. Lenten Weekday. If we wish to follow the Lord's ways (Ps) unreservedly (1), we must forgive one another from the heart (2).

Wednesday, March 30. Lenten Weekday. Israel is exhorted to keep God's covenant (1) which has been proclaimed (Ps). Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law and the prophets (2).

Thursday, March 31. Lenten Weekday. Return to the Lord and be one with him (2). Listen (Ps) to his voice and obey his commands (1).

Friday, April 1. Lenten Weekday. Lenten Weekday. FIRST FRIDAY. By observing the two great commandments (2), you will walk in the paths of the Lord (1, Ps).

Saturday, April 2. Lenten Weekday. It is love that the Lord desires, not sacrifice (1, Ps); he longs for sincerity and humility of heart (2).



Welcome Fr. MIROSLAW BUCZKO and Polish Parish Retreat

Once again the Polish Provinces have sent a Friar to lead our Polish community in Retreat and prayer. Fr. Mirosław will preside and preach at **today's 9 o'clock Mass and conduct a devotion at 3 pm. The Noon Masses this Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be celebrated in Polish, and there is an additional evening devotion at 6 p.m.** Times for Confessions will be announced. We invite and urge all Polish-speaking parishioners to take advantage of this Lenten grace.

Third Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2011

While we were still sinners
Christ died for us.

Romans 5-8



Scripture Readings for this Sunday

1st Reading: When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the Lord heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (Exodus 17: 3-7).

Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

2nd Reading: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8).

Gospel: Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4: 5-42).

THIRST

Each time today's Gospel story is read, I can't help but think of the many television commercials depicting perspiring athletes lifting a beverage to their lips while the scorching sun beats down on them. Our culture has definite ideas about how to quench thirst. Today, those ideas are turned upside down. The Samaritan woman operates, initially, on the TV commercial level. She asks Jesus for the flowing water so that she will not have to keep coming to the well. Jesus then talks about what real thirst is, and how he, and he alone, can quench that thirst. Lent calls us to find those places deep within ourselves where we thirst. In our thirst, as did the Israelites, we cry out to God asking for springs of living water. Deep down we know that only the Lord can satisfy these thirsts.

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As dry flour cannot be united into a lump of dough, or a loaf, but needs water, so we who are many cannot be made one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes from Heaven. (St. Irenaeus)



Mass Intentions



Saturday, March 26

4:00 +Laura Manijak—parents

Sunday, March 27

7:30 +Edward Starzyk—family

9:00 Intentions of All Parishioners

10:30 +Max Skypeck—family

5:00 +Sharon T. Kestler—Romeo & Charlotte Martin

Monday, March 28

8:00 +Constance & Lewis Morse—Irene Bernier

12:00 +Carol Gregoire&John &Dot Skowronek—Peg &John
(SF) +Frederick Sigda—wife, Stasia

Tuesday, March 29

8:00 +Genevieve Szatkowski—sister, Stasia

12:00 +Leo Wrona—Maria Sulikowski

Wednesday, March 30

8:00 +Ewa & Hipolit Sulikowski—son

12:00 +John Szalkucki

Thursday, March 31

8:00 +Frank Szot—family

12:00 +Peter S. Kaplan—wife

Friday, April 1

8:00 +Donald B. Worthington—Joan Mikolajczyk

12:00 +Kazimierz Orszulak—Lidia & Jozef Pater

Saturday, April 2

8:00 +Edmund Sawicki (anniv) - wife & family

4:00 +Phyllis Kuznarski—dtr Janice & family

Sunday, April 3

7:30 +Bill Parks—Mary Cymerman

9:00 +Stefan & Helena Midura—son & family

10:30 Intentions of All Parishioners

5:00 +Blazej Sikora—M/M Wladyslaw Sroka

PARISH MISSION

Fr. David Reid of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary will present the Lenten Mission for 2011 at Holy Cross Church in Holyoke. All Mater Dolorosa parishioners are cordially invited to participate. Fr. Reid will offer his spiritual reflections on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, March 28, 29 & 30 at 6:30 pm in Holy Cross Church. The theme of the mission is *“We live and worship under the sign of the Cross and join our prayer, work and play to this symbol of Christ’s ultimate sacrifice.”*

Plan to be a part of this Lenten, prayerful, event.



From the Pastor’s Desk, 3rd Sunday of Lent

WATER! How important it is! We float in nourishing water in our mother’s womb. Our bodies are what—75% water? If we are faith-fortunate, our parents bring us to a baptismal font shortly after birth where the cleansing waters of baptism claim us for Jesus Christ, in the love of His Father, and the Holy Spirit.

Whatever diet you are on, they tell you that water is the most important part of it. Crystal glasses used to hold water for speakers and diners. Now, everyone walks around with his/her own plastic water bottle.

We pray and hope for rain to fill our rivers and reservoirs. This year we’ve had more water that we bargained for, due to all the snow; and look what happened in Japan with that Tsunami. Too much water coming in too fast is not good for body or soul.

In today’s Gospel a thirsty woman comes to the well for herself and the family. She meets Jesus who tells her that He can quench her deepest thirst. In revealing her shady past, Jesus hints of a thirst that had her seeking refreshment in all the wrong places. Jesus identifies her deeper thirsts, other than what can be quenched with a bucket of well-water, and she admits that He is right, and, yes, she wants the water than only Jesus can give.

“Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst,” says the Lord. Jewish people remember water gushing forth from a rock which refreshed; Christians know the powers of baptismal waters which cleanse. But the woman at the well identified Jesus as the One to satisfy the thirst of her living soul. Being close to God, listening to His call to conversion and challenge, knowing that He is a God who forgives and who gives us each day our daily bread—and water—that is the well from which we can drink to our heart’s desire.

I often wonder when Jesus said “I thirst” on the cross, if that was not connected to His last temptations when He also said, “My God, my God why have you abandoned me.” Between His crucifixion and resurrection there were moments of great trouble and great triumph.

Are YOU thirsty? Come to the waters ...! **God bless....**