

Holy Cross Parish Annual Candlelight Service—December 18, 2011



derful sermon on how we need to be preparing to celebrate Christmas and how to be prepared for Christ's return - that is simply living the Gospel command of our Lord to teach and making disciples—to grow the kingdom of God—living and spreading the good news of Salvation.

At the end of the service Fr. Rob thanked everyone for coming and Bishop Paul presented Fr. Rob with a beautiful blue Advent Stole.

Sunday, December 18, 2011 was a special day for Holy Cross Parish in Central Falls, RI. We were honored to have our new diocesan bishop—Bishop Paul Sobiechowski join us for our annual candlelight service with 75 participating.

A Birthday Party for Jesus was held in the parish hall where our SOCL youth led the people in reflection and song commemorating the birth of our Lord Jesus

Christ and many gifts of canned goods and non perishable food items were collected.

The beautiful Birthday cake was enjoyed by

all and the evening ended with a visit from St. Nick who even had a special warm New England Patriots blanket for our new bishop!



The service began with singing "Let My Light" and had scripture readings, responsorial readings and hymns preparing us for the celebration of Christ's birth; focusing on Jesus as the light of the world and our preparation for His return in glory. Our SOCL youth did a great job singing "Mary, Mary" focusing on the birth of the Messiah.

We were happy to welcome Fr. Jan Wilczek, Fr. Hendryk Wos and Fr. Michal Gitner who with our pastor, Fr. Rob Nemkovich led the faithful in this moving worship service. Bishop Paul gave a won-

