



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! — St. Francis

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Pastor Rev. Andrew Koterba Lillian Zaradich, Chairperson

August 31, 2008 • Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus. **R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.**

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ. **R/. Now and forever. Amen.**

9:00 am - CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

ENTRANCE HYMN: *“Morning Has Broken”*

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Jer. 20:7-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord My God.

O God, you are my God who I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts.

Like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R/: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord My God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory,

For your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

R/: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord My God.

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R/: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord My God.

You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

R/: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord My God.

READING II - Romans 12:1-2

Priest or Cantor: Alleluia **R./ Alleluia.** Verse. **R./ Alleluia.**

GOSPEL - Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew

From then on Jesus [the Messiah] started to indicate to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem to suffer greatly there at the hands of the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and to be put to death, and raised up on the third day. At this, Peter took him aside and began to remonstrate with him. “May you be spared, Master! God forbid that any such thing ever happen to you!” Jesus turned on Peter and said, “Get out of my sight, you Satan! You are trying to make me trip and fall. You are not judging by God’s standards but by man’s.”

Jesus then said to his disciples: “If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and begin to follow in my footsteps. Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would a man show if he were to gain the whole world and ruin himself in the process? What can a man offer in exchange for his very self? The Son of Man will come with his Father’s glory accompanied by his angels. When he does, he will repay each man according to his conduct.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R:/ Praise be to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

GENERAL CONCESSIONS: **God, Hear Us!**

OFFERTORY HYMN - *“Here I Am Lord”*

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION - *“Christ Be Our Light”*

RECESSIONAL HYMN - *How Great Thou Art”*



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT, (540-604), September 3

St. Gregory was born in Rome in 540. His family was one of the few patrician families left in Rome after the ravages of the preceding century, and his father, Gordian, was a wealthy man who owned property in Rome and Sicily. He was educated in Rome and became a public official. In 570, at the age of thirty, Gregory became the prefect of Rome. Though he was an honest and successful public servant and one of the richest men in Rome, he gave up his position of prominence to devote his life to God.



In 575, he converted his home into a monastery under the patronage of St. Andrew and the guidance of the monk, Valentius. He became a monk himself and established six more monasteries in Sicily. He was ordained by Pope Pelagius II and appointed papal ambassador to Constantinople in 579. In 586, he returned to Rome and became abbot of St. Andrew's monastery. After Pope Pelagius died of the plague in 590, **Gregory was elected** to the papacy, the first monk to be so honored.

Rome and the rest of Italy were being devastated by drought, famine, plague, and the fierce Lombard invaders. "What happiness is there left in the world?" Gregory asked in a sermon. "Everywhere we hear groans; our cities are destroyed, our land is a desert. See how Rome, the mistress of the world, has fallen." In 593, he negotiated a treaty with the Lombard king, Agiluf. Through negotiations and alliances with the Lombards, Franks, and Visigoths, he strengthened the Church position in Italy, France and Spain. At the same time, he continued to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth, sending missionaries to England and other parts of Europe.

Gregory conceived of his English mission, according to a story, one day when he saw some young English slaves in the marketplace. "Who are you?" he asked. "We are called Angels," they replied. "Angels of God," the pope answered. In 596, Gregory sent forty monks headed by St. Augustine to bring Christianity to England.

Through the fourteen tumultuous years of his papacy, Gregory suffered from chronic illness that left him bedridden for long periods of time. Yet, he continued his tireless service to the Church, and in his preaching and writing urged the people of his day to a courageous patience in their trials. He called himself "the servant of the servants of God," a title every pope since has adopted. He died in Rome on March 12, 604. He is one of the four great Latin Doctors of the Church, along with Sts. Augustine, Ambrose and Jerome.

Lord, give us courage and patience to serve you generously all our days. Amen.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen A CHOICE CALLING FOR DISCIPLINE

When we look critically at the many thoughts and feelings that fill our minds and hearts, we may come to the horrifying discovery that we often choose death instead of life, curse instead of blessing. Jealousy, envy, anger, resentment, greed, lust, vindictiveness, revenge, hatred - they all float in that large reservoir of our inner life. Often we take them for granted and allow them to be there and do their destructive work.

But God asks us to choose life and to choose blessing. This choice requires an immense inner discipline. It requires a great attentiveness to the death-forces within us and a great commitment to let the forces of life come to dominate our thoughts and feelings. We cannot always do this alone; often we need a caring guide or a loving community to support us. But it is important that we both make the inner effort and seek the support we need from others to help us choose life.

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS ... Helen Steiner Rice THE TEST OF FAITH

It's easy to say, "In God we trust," when life is radiant and fair, but the test of faith is only found when there are burdens to bear.

"When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?" Psalm 56:3-4

Today learn to profit from your losses. It's no big deal to capitalize on gains ... it is noteworthy to advance after setbacks.

ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

LABOR DAY! Monday, September 1, this holiday celebrates America's labor force ... Our summer season comes to a close ... **SCHOOLS OPEN** again... Drive carefully!

COME CELEBRATE! Our St. Francis Celebrations will be held on October 4 and 5th! We need your helping hands to make this a very special event ... Please ask how you can help, invite your family and friends to join us in celebration. Our journey in faith continues on many paths.

HALL RESTROOMS ... Fr. Andrew will remove the partition walls in both restrooms, paint and possible tile the floors. This should add to a better appearance for these rooms. Thank you!

CHURCH AND RECTORY STEPS ... We have 4 estimates for this project, which has been on our list of things to do for sometime. Next week we hope to make a finalized decision.

TWO GREETINGS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Good morning, good people! Peace and all good!