

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, New York 11554  
Pastor Andrew Koterba • Lillian Zaradich, Council Chair  
(516) 794-5189 • www.stfrancispncc.org

Sunday, January 18, 2009

## 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** "*Hymn of Faith*"

**CONTEMPORARY RITE** - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Jonah 3, 1-5; 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 25, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

**R/ Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths,  
Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

**R/ Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Remember that your compassion, O Lord, and your kindness are from of old.  
In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

**R/ Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Good and upright is the Lord; thus he shows sinners the way.  
He guides the humble to justice, he teaches the humble his way.

**R/ Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

READING II - 1 Corinthians 7, 29-31

Priest/Lector: ALLELUIA. **R/: ALLELUIA.** The kingdom of God is near; believe the Good News!.

**R/: ALLELUIA.**

GOSPEL - Mark 1, 14-20 A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

After John's arrest, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming God's good news: "This is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Reform your lives and believe in the good news!"

As he made his way along the Sea of Galilee, he observed Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me; I will make you fishers of men." They immediately abandoned their nets and became his followers. Proceeding a little farther along, he caught sight of James, Zebedee's son, and his brother John. They too were in their boat putting their nets in order. He summoned them on the spot. They abandoned their father Zebedee, who was in the boat with the hired men, and went off in his company.

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

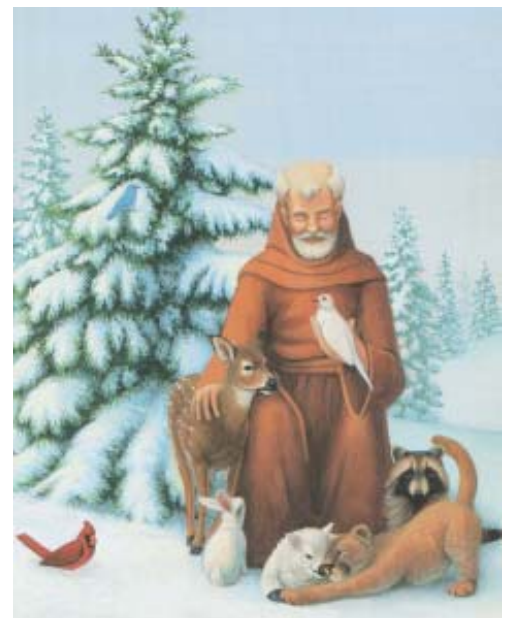
GENERAL CONCESSIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN - "*Fairest Lord Jesus*"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION HYMNS - "*Here I Am Lord*" & "*In Thy Protection*"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "*We Gather Together*"



## St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

### **THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, January 25**

The Church celebrates the conversion of St. Paul because of its extraordinary nature. Paul, who was known as Saul before his conversion, was born at Tarsus in Cilicia, to Jewish parents. A Roman citizen, he was educated in Jerusalem under the tutelage of Gamaliel, a Pharisee. He became a Pharisee and fully embraced the law of Moses. Paul

became an avowed enemy of the infant Church and engaged in the persecution of Christians. It is noted that he was present at the stoning death of St. Stephen.

Between the years 34 and 36, Paul was on his way to Damascus to arrest Christians and bring them back to Jerusalem. His encounter with Christ would change his life and have a dramatic effect on Christianity. Paul described to the people of Jerusalem what happened as he set out for Damascus; "I set out with the intention of bringing the prisoners I would arrest back to Jerusalem for punishment. As I was traveling along, approaching Damascus around noon, a great light from the sky suddenly flashed all about me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' I answered, 'Who are you Sir? He said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene whom you are persecuting.' My companions saw the light but did not hear the voice speaking to me. 'What is it I must do, Sir?' I asked, and the Lord replied, 'Get up and go into Damascus. There you will be told about everything you are destined to do.' But since

I could not see because of the brilliance of the light, I had to be taken by the hand and led into Damascus by my companions.

"A certain Ananias, a devout observer of the law and well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came and stood by me. 'Saul, my brother,' he said, 'recover your sight.' In that instant I regained my sight and looked at him. The next thing he said was, 'The God of our fathers long ago designated you to know his will, to look upon the Just One, and to hear the sound of his voice; before all men you are to be his witness to what you have seen and heard. Why delay, then? Be baptized at once and wash away your sins as you call upon his name.'"

Profoundly influenced by this grace of God, the converted apostle preached Christ to the nations. Today the feast of Paul's conversion ends the Church Unity Octave - an annual eight-day period of prayer for Christian unity. Inspired by Father Paul Wattson, founder of the Society of the Atonement, this observance has spread from the United States to various other lands and is celebrated in many Protestant and Orthodox as well as Catholic Churches.

Lord, in your mercy and by the power of your Spirit, take away the unhappy divisions that separate Christians, so that we may all be one in faith and love. Amen.

### **BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen RECEIVING FORGIVENESS**

There are two sides to forgiveness: giving and receiving. Although at first sight giving seems to be harder, it often appears that we are not able to offer forgiveness to others because we have not been able fully to receive it. Only as people who have accepted forgiveness can we find the inner freedom to give it. Why is receiving forgiveness so difficult? It is hard to say, "Without your forgiveness I am still bound to what happened between us. Only you can set me free." That requires not only a confession that we have hurt somebody but also the humility to acknowledge our dependency on others. Only when we can receive forgiveness can we give it.

### **ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS ... Helen Steiner Rice LOVE TO THE FULLEST**

Each day as it comes, brings a chance to each one to live to the fullest, leaving nothing undone that would brighten the life or lighten the load of some weary traveler lost on life's road.

"Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens." —Psalm 68:19

Today try through your actions to reflect God's magnificence and brilliance into someone else's life!

### **ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...**

**REMEMBRANCES...** We are thankful for these kind and beautiful gifts, recently donated and blessed in memory of +Melissa Citrola-Fudge+ by Dalal Fatoush.

1) Pyx, used to carry Holy Communion, to be taken to the sick. 2) Three Corporals, these are linen cloths, which are spread out by the priest in the middle of the altar. After the consecration the chalice, containing the Precious Blood, rests on the corporal. Our thank you and prayers.

**WORK CONTINUES...** Fr. Andrew is finishing the back room in the Hall. This finished rooms adds additional space for the Parish and rectory's use. Floor tiles were purchased and will be laid in the bathrooms and in the outside hall space. Great job! Thank you Fr. Andrew and Monika for all you've done!

**SPRING IS COMING...** Thank you to those helping hands, putting away our Christmas decorations, during this past week. Spring ahead...thoughts are needed for a possible St. Patrick/St. Joseph Spring Dinner for Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>?