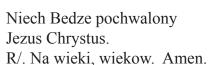
St. Francis Polish National Catholic Church

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October 19, 2014 - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith" Mass Book page 63.

READING I - Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel, my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM -Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10

R/ Give the Lord glory and honor.

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

R/ Give the Lord glory and honor.

For great is the LORD and highly to be praised; awesome is he, beyond all gods. For all the gods of the nations are things of nought, but the LORD made the heavens.

R/ Give the Lord glory and honor.

Give to the LORD, you families of nations, give to the LORD glory and praise; give to the LORD the glory due his name! Bring gifts, and enter his courts.

R/ Give the Lord glory and honor.

Worship the LORD, in holy attire; tremble before him, all the earth; say among the nations: The LORD is king, he governs the peoples with equity. *R/ Give the Lord glory and honor.*

READING 2 - Thessolonians 1:1-5b

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

GOSPEL - Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This is the gospel of the Lord. R/Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ. OFFERTORY HYMN - "Sweet Hour of Prayer" COMMUNION HYMN - "The Servant Song" RECESSIONAL - "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompasitions"

ST. HEDWIG (1174-1243) October 16

St. Hedwig was born at Andechs, Bavaria, in 1174. She was the daughter of Count Berthold IV of Andechs and married Duke Henry of Silesia in 1186 at the age of twelve. They would have seven children. A woman of faith and love she provided care for the weak and elderly, lepers and those in prison, travelers and the sick. Her generosity built hospitals and monasteries throughout her land, including the Cistercian monastery for nuns at Trebnitz. She intervened to make peace between her warring sons, Henry and Conrad, who were quarreling over land-and power. With a mother's care she embraced the needs of all her people. After the death of her husband in 1238, she entered the monastery of Trebnitz and died there on October 15, 1243. Many miracles were attributed to her intercession. Her prayer: O God, giver of all gifts, make us generous to those in need. Amen.



BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY- Henri Nouwen A reflection of faith and wisdom... CALLED OUT OF SLAVERY

The Church is the people of God. The Latin word for "church," is ecclesia, comes from the Greek ek, which means "out," and kaleo, which means "to call." The Church is the people of God called out of slavery to freedom, sin to salvation, despair to hope, darkness to light, an existence centered on death to an existence focused on life. When we think of the Church we have to think of a body of people, traveling together. We have to envision women, men and children of all ages, races, and societies supporting one another on their long and often tiresome journeys to their final home.

2014 ST. FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 7th - 3:00 p.m. CHRISTMAS/ST. NICHOLAS FUND-RAISER DINNER

Always a great day! Lots of delicious food and, of course, a visit from St. Nick with gifts for all the children. Please ask how you can help.

"RENEWAL" - AN AUTUMN MEDITATION

One by one, they swirl out of the sky to dot lawns and porches, and sometimes sit in delicate balance on the family car's windshield. The leaves of the maples, oak, sycamores and so many other trees which shade our summer days, slowly detach from their branches, falling and perching with grace, wherever they may. They are the first leaves of Autumn, though usually of faded green, singed with crispy brown around the edges. Yet their message is unmistakable: prepare for fall and winter days ahead. Soon after these first messengers of the season descend, others follow in showers of color. In their wake: Starkly bare branches lifting to the sky in prayerful stance.

This wordless picture of form and enduring strength speaks a yet deeper message -for those who have their own grace of season and years. Swiftly following the short, bleak days of hibernation and endurance ahead, Spring - a season of beauty and new life - will return.

This hope of life renewed touches the very mysteries of life, the gift of God to us in all forms. It carries the expectation of new discoveries, wonderful aspects of creation to appreciate, to add to the joys of living. The continuing Renewal of the Church, the work of the Holy Spirit who will be with us all days until the end of time, is also reflected in the splendor and starkness of the changing seasons. We are asked and pray for renewal that would bring us back to our roots, to the essential purity of our faith. Like those sturdy and enduring trunks and branches of the neighboring trees we take for granted in our lives. Pray that we might know and experience the spirit of Jesus and the Apostles, eager to bring the Gospel to a world in so much pain and hunger for truth.

This Fall, take a look around your parish church, your books or magazines that speak to the faith. See how many examples you can find of this Renewed Faith. And do not forget your own interior, your heart and soul which gives structure to your daily life. Pick up the pieces, so to speak, of that inner heart renewed. And rejoice, asking the Holy Spirit to find a willing and gracious reception within you. Try as the days of this brief season wane away to think with the Church. Make an effort each day to participate in some way in the ongoing renewal of the Church at large. Begin by asking the Holy Spirit to help you see God's plan of renewal in your own life, and to put that holy renewal into action!