

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554 • (516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org

Pastor Andrew Koterba

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 6, 2013



Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus
Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:30 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4

How long, O LORD? I cry for help but you do not listen! I cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not intervene. Why do you let me see ruin; why must I look at misery? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and clamorous discord. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

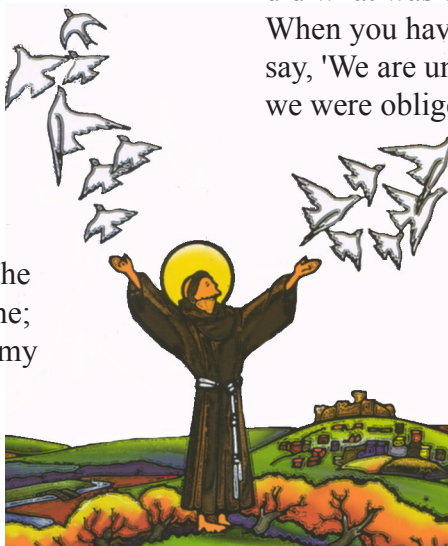
Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God, and we are the
people he shepherds, the flock he
guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his
voice: "Harden not your hearts as at
Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the
desert, Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my
works."

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.



READING II - 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Beloved: I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: Verse. R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'" This is the gospel of the

Lord.

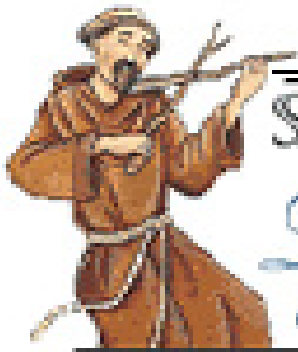
R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN -
"Taste and See"

COMMUNION HYMN -
"One Bread, One Body"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -
"Prayer of St. Francis"

St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"



OUR PATRON SAINT!

St. Francis
Lover of
all Creation

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1182-1226)

St. Francis was born in Assisi, Italy in 1182. His feast day is October 4th and he is the founder of all Franciscan orders and the patron saint of animals, merchants and ecology. His father, Pietro, a wealthy clothing merchant, was away in France when Francis was born and upon returning, was furious to learn he had been baptized Giovanni after John the Baptist so Pietro had him renamed Francis in honor of his infatuation with France. Francis grew up enjoying a very easy lifestyle because of his father's wealth and was easygoing, charming and loved by all. However, he hung with a wild crowd accustomed to vice and evil and even said "I lived in sin" during that time. But Francis wanted more - more than wealth - he wanted to be a noble, a knight and win glory in battle and got his chance when Assisi declared war on Perugia. He was taken prisoner and jailed in a dark dungeon for a year and still never lost his happy manner. He tried again in the Fourth Crusade in a full suit of golden armor riding on his horse and got only one day's ride when God told him in a dream to return. He did so in humiliation and was called a coward by the village and raged at by his father for the wasted money on his armor. Francis, conversion didn't happen overnight and he began to pray more over time and weep for his sins. God knew Francis' love of beauty and tested him with a smelly leper of whose hand Francis kissed and then the leper miraculously disappeared. Francis then went to the ancient church of San Damiano and heard Christ say "Francis repair my church". He took it literally and sold his dad's fabric to do so incensing his father. His dad dragged him in front of the bishop who told Francis to give the money back and God would provide. Francis gave up the clothes off his back, disowned his father and realized God meant him to repair the church spiritually. His companions came from all walks of life and Francis's simple rule was for them to live the Gospel - sell what they had - give to the poor - take nothing on their journey and especially take up the cross daily. Francis loved animals and vice-versa because they were God's creation. One story had him talk to a wolf who was eating humans and not only did the wolf stop - he became the townspeople's pet. Francis found true freedom in possessing nothing but God's love and wanting to share that love with the world. In 10 years his brotherhood grew to 5,000 men. Years of poverty and wandering made Francis ill and his final years were filled with intense suffering (including blindness) and humiliation. In praying to share in Christ's passion he received the stigmata. He died welcoming his Sister Death, while the Passion of Jesus was read aloud from the Gospel on October 3rd, 1226. How thankful we should all be for this remarkable saint and for God's goodness!

A big thank you to everyone who helped make yesterday's "Blessing of the Animals" a huge success. The pet medals were a hit with all!

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

O God who through the merits of blessed Francis, magnifies your Church, enriching it anew with spiritual offering: make us, like him, to disdain the goods of earth, nor at any time to lack the comforting gifts of heaven.

St. Francis of Assisi, help us. By your example may we learn that life does not consist in the pursuit of wealth nor in the abundance of our possessions.

St. Francis of Assisi, come to our aid. Because we live at a time when people glorify ease and seek after luxuries, and when many wish only the gratification of fleshly desires, we stand in special need of your single minded dedication to Christ in the narrow way that leads to life.

St. Francis of Assisi, assist us now. May we appreciate as you did the beauties of God's wonderful creation, and the glory of the world he made for us. Help us to enjoy and appreciate God's bounty without spoiling or defacing his gifts by our heedlessness and greed.

Teach us, seraphic Father Francis, to value all things as Christ did and to be imitators of him as you were. May we thus enjoy the good things of life, but always prefer the blessings of the endless life to come. Amen.

St. Francis, the little poor man of Assisi, we invoke you as the admirable mirror you were of our divine Master.

You imitated Christ the Lord in your humility and obedience. You faithfully followed him in poverty and weakness. With Joy you accepted suffering, contempt, and trials for the sake of his name.

In your goodness help us, then, to imitate your example. By your power with God obtain for us the special favor we now seek through your intercession. Please pray for us, gentle and happy saint of the poor, that we may always be loyal followers of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and filled always with divine riches. Amen.

MARK THE DATES!

Fri, Sat, Sun, November 22, 23, 24, 2013

MCAP presents "The Table," an original comedy by John Blenn, back by popular demand, as a fund-raiser for our Parish. Fri & Sat, 7:30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. See Joni for tickets (\$12 in advance)

Sunday, December 8, 3 p.m.

St. Nicholas Fund-raiser Dinner. All are welcome. Ask how you can help. Cook, donate a raffle prize, set-up, wash dishes, sell raffles at the dinner, etc.