



# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Pastor Andrew Koterba

## First Sunday in Advent - December 1, 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 - 2 Sm 5:1-3

In those days, all the tribes of Israel came to David in Hebron and said: "Here we are, your bone and your flesh. In days past, when Saul was our king, it was you who led the Israelites out and brought them back. And the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander of Israel.'" When all the elders of Israel came to David in Hebron, King David made an agreement with them there before the LORD, and they anointed him king of Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the LORD." And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD.

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David.

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

READING II - Col 1:12-20

Brothers and sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light. He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things

in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he himself might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross through him, whether those on earth or those in heaven.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

GOSPEL - Luke 23:35-43

The rulers sneered at Jesus and said, "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Christ of God." Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine they called out, "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." This is the gospel of the Lord.

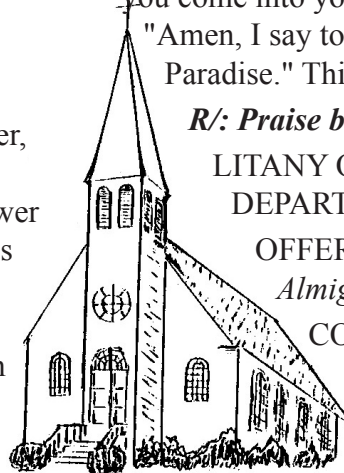
**R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

LITANY OF THE FAITHFULLY  
DEPARTED

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Thou  
Almighty King"

COMMUNION HYMN -  
"One Bread, One Body"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -  
"Be Not Afraid"



# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## THE PRESENT

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation.

Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man could not hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days, weeks and months passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone.

Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window besides the bed.

It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, 'Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you.'

**Epilogue:** There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations.

Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy. 'Today is a gift, that is why it is called The Present !'

(shared by Tommy Capuano, Brownsville TN)



ST. FRANCIS POLISH CATHOLIC CHURCH  
presents its CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER DINNER

**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> - 3:00 p.m.**

*With loads of great raffles, prizes & carolling*



\$15 Adults • \$6 Children

St. Francis Church Hall

1752 Harton Avenue, East Meadow NY



R.S.V.P by November 28<sup>th</sup>  
Carol Thomas (516) 546-2535

Seating is limited to 80.  
When you call for reservations,  
please leave your name,  
phone number and the number  
of adults and/or children  
(ages & sex so St. Nick can bring  
an appropriate gift) in your party.

*We are starting a fund for our  
new goal: new chairs  
for our church hall!*



## MARK THE DATES!

**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.

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Sunday, December 23 - 9 a.m.**

**Mass 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve - 9 p.m.**

**Shepherd's Mass**  
(instead of Midnight Mass)

**Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day**  
**9 a.m. Mass**

