# Christmas Celebration

O Come All Ye Faithful (A Brenda Lee Christmas CD # 4)

O come all ye faithful, joyful & triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem, Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels

Refrain: O come let us adore Him,

> O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.

Christ the Lord!

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, All glory in the highest Repeat Refrain

Yea Lord we greet Thee, Born this happy morning Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing Repeat Refrain

So Tell It On the Mountain (A Brenda Lee Christmas CD # 8)

Chorus:

Go tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in the lowly manger The humble Christ is born And God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Repeat Chorus

While shepherds kept their watch over silent flocks by night Behold to watch the heaven that showed the holy light Repeat Chorus



# **ON EARTH**

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me! Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be! With God as our Father, we are family. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now! With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally! Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. (Musical Interlude)

### Repeat from beginning

Joy to the World
(A Brenda Lee Christmas CD #7)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come, Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing. And heav'n and nature sing. And heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace. And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love.





### St. Francis Polish National Catholic Church

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! —St. Francis 1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY • (516) 794-5189

Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor • www.StFrancisPNCC.org

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN - "O Come All Ye Faithful"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book pg. 63

GLORIA - "Angels We Have Heard On High"

READING I - Is 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains

are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!"

Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

### R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds; his right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

#### R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice. He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

### R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song;

### R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and melodious song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

#### R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

READING II - Hebrews 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: You are my son; this day I have begotten you? Or again: I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me? And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God

worship him.

GOSPEL - John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. A man named John was sent from God.

He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me." From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God who is at the Father's side, has revealed him. This is the gospel of the Lord. R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS -

RESPONSE - Lord Hear Our Prayer!

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION HYMNS - "Let There Be Peace o RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Joy to the World



CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, December 25, 2014

9:00 AM - Celebration of the Eucharist

Health Needs: Jesus, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.
 Health Needs of: Thomas Kompa, Bill Piro, Iris Cafran, Frank Kompa, John Luis Vasquez, Thomas A. Marinello,
 Sophia Kyriakakis, Robert Haemer, Gregory Klein, Michael Arleo, Margaret Beacom, Vanessa Masih, Jim Richards, Glenn Symmons,
 Reid Berglind, Joseph Petrusky, Nancy Foley, Thomas Maloney, Bill Mullan, Isabelle Paczkoski, Toni Panico & Eddie Bielski,
 Tyler & Nicholas Accardi, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Susan Leach, Stella Silva, Joy Realmuto, John Galvin, Jiselle MacDonald,
 Billy Murphy, Alphonse Rudolph, Jimmy Capuano, Lorraine Kompa, Fran Pedone, Blanca Vasquez, Marion Kester,
 Michael Ippolito, Richard Majewski, Hugh Whitenack, Jr., John F. Blenn, Elena Guigui, Bridget Early,
 Grandfather Vincent Ciurleo, Mark D'Agostino, Emma Zaradich, Lazaro Fonteboq, Constance Citrola, Elizabeth Zitzmann,
 Linda Frysztacki & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.

Requiem Intentions: Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS • THANKS • REQUESTS

Lectors: Joni Blenn, Thomas Kompa & Cheryl Haase • Lector & Altar Server: Henry Zaradich, Jr. 10:00 AM - "Breakfast/Social Hour" - Please join us in the Hall downstairs after Mass! All Invited!

New Parishioners - Welcome New Parishioners. All new and prospective parishioners are invited to St. Francis Hall for coffee and doughnuts after the 9:00 am Mass. Come and learn more about the St. Francis community. Current parishioners are encouraged to attend and make our new members feel welcome.

**Baptism - Sunday** at 9:00 am Holy Mass - Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Confession - It is important to maintain this sacrament in preparing ourselves to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Confession will be held the first Sunday of each month immediately before 9:00 am mass. Use page 39 of the red hymn book, Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral CHORAL MASS HYMNS FOR THE CHURCH YEAR. If you can get to church a bit early and review pages 1-7 of tan & yellow The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Private Confessions will be held as requested. Contact Fr. Andrew at 516-794-5189.

**Hall Rentals -** Our Hall rentals add great financial support to our Parish. Please support, promote and encourage our hall rentals. If you know of someone in need of a hall, keep St. Francis Parish Hall in mind. A great space for parties or meetings; dates are available and reasonable in price! Call (516) 794-5189.

#### PARISH HALL CALENDAR

Mondays (5:45-7 pm) Agape Karate
Mondays (7:30-8:30 pm) Zumba
Tuesdays (5:45-7 pm) Agape Karate
Tuesdays (7:00-10 pm) MCAP Theatre
Wednesdays (5:45-7 pm) Agape Karate
Wednesdays (7:00-10 pm) MCAP Theatre
Thursdays (5:45-7 pm) Agape Karate
Thursdays (7:30-8:30 pm) Zumba
Saturdays (10:15 am -12:30 pm) Zumba

**Marriage - Arrangements** must be made at least six months prior to wedding.

**Sick Visit and Anointing of The Sick-** Please note that Fr. Andrew is available for these calls. Remember this opportunity is not only for parishioners of St. Francis, but for anyone seeking a priest! Call Fr. Andrew at 516-794-5189 or frandrew@StFrancisPNCC.org.

Welcome to Our Visitors - We welcome all our visitors who are present with us for worship this Sunday! Please introduce yourself to the Pastor, Rev. Andrew Koterba after Mass. Please remember that you are always welcome to join us in worship at St. Francis Parish.

**Health need requests or requiem intentions** - to be placed in bulletin, contact Joni at 516-578-9123 or joancapuano@aol.com or Fr. Andrew at frandrew@St.FrancisPNCC.org or 516-794-5189.

<u>Parish Dues</u> - We are accepting dues for 2014 and updating the membership lists. Parish dues are \$55 for an individual & \$110 per family. Committee members are required by PNCC bylaws to pay dues. New parishioners are always welcome.

If you have any words of wisdom, a favorite poem, a cute or religious story to share in our Weekly Bulletin, please e-mail Joni at joancapuano@aol.com.

And, don't forget about offering Mass for birthday wishes, health intentions or requiem intentions.

Happy Birthday
Monika Koterba (January 28th)
Jiselle MacDonald (January 30th)

# St. Francis Weekly "Kompasitions"\_\_\_\_

### REJOICE! REJOICE! THE LORD IS BORN TODAY! CHRISTMAS...2014

#### **LUKE 2:8-14**

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were so afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying; "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY...Henri Nouwen HOLDING ON TO THE CHRIST

Life is unpredictable. We can be happy one day and sad the next, healthy one day and sick the next, rich one day and poor the next, alive one day and dead the next. So who is there to hold on to? Who is there to feel secure with? Who is there to trust at all times?

Only Jesus, the Christ. He is our Lord, our shepherd, our rock, our stronghold, our refuge, our brother, our guide, and our friend. He came from God to be with us. He died for us, he was raised from the dead to open for us the way to God, and he is seated at God's right hand to welcome us home. with Paul, we must be certain that "neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nothing already in existence and nothing still to come, nor any power, nor the heights nor the depths, nor any created thing whatever, will be able to come between us and the love of God, known to us in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38 39).

#### WHAT DOES THE "CRECHE" SYMBOLIZE?

Francis called it a "creche," the French word for cradle. Francis created the first creche using real people, a real manger, a real ox and ass and real shepherds.

The Incarnation - Christmas - was a key component in the spirituality of Francis. He wanted to celebrate the Incarnation in a special way. He wanted to do something that would help people remember the Christ Child and how He was born in Bethlehem. Francis wanted people to see and experience how He lay in a manger with an ox and ass standing by – how He lay upon the hay where He had been placed.

It was Christmas Eve in the year 1223, at the appointed time, Franciscan Brothers came to the new Bethlehem. Men, women, and children from the area also came to celebrate. The torches they carried lit the night to come to adore Him. All were filled with great joy over the mystery of the Incarnation. And a great tradition was begun.

As you look upon your Nativity set, may you remember and celebrate again God's love for His creation. To show His abundant love, mercy, and forgiveness, He became a person like us. This is what the creche symbolizes!

-From the Life of St. Francis by Thomas of Celano

# THE BEAUTY OF CHRISTMAS, "KEEP THE MESSAGE"!

In a world where nature and our environment are threatened, let us make our Christmas tree and manger scene reminders of the beauty and sacredness of nature. How closely at his coming did Jesus bind himself to the animals of the field, as well as to the earth and the open sky!

Remembering the poor shepherds and the circumstances of Christ's birth, so marked by poverty, let us make them reminders of the forgotten poor of our world.

Let the Child and Joseph and Mary teach us the dignity and importance of children and families in a society so neglectful of them.

The Christmas season's rich traditions come from people throughout the world, from Spain, South America, Eastern Europe, and so many others. Let them remind us of the unity of all people as children of God.

Let us... "Keep the Message!"

#### ST. FRANCIS NOTES ..

"May your Christmas be a joyous celebration of praise for our glorious Savior and King."

A Merry and Blessed Christmas to All!

#### BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS CRIB FOR THE INFANT JESUS

Bless, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, this crib † which we have prepared in honor of the new Birth in the flesh of Thine Only-Begotten Son, that all who devoutly contemplate, in this image, the Mystery of His Incarnation, may be filled with the light of His glory. Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, One God, forever, unto ages of ages. Amen



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