

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



Sunday, February 28, 2010
Second Sunday in Lent

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**

Entrance Hymn -
"Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass
Book page 63

READING I - Gn 15:5-12, 17-18
The Lord God took Abram

outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14.

R./ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

R./ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me. Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.

R./ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Your presence, O LORD, I seek. Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant.

You are my helper: cast me not off.

R./ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R./ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

READING II - reading II

Phil 3:20—4:1

Brothers and sisters:

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

GOSPEL - Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "O, My Jesus"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE -

"Down in the River to Pray"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Cross of Compassion"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

+ L E N T - 2 0 1 0 +

LIVING THE DAYS OF LENT

As we journey through the days of this season of Lent ... It remains a spiritual time for healing and renewal, refreshing our spirit. Traditionally we can prepare by fasting, prayer and works of charity. Take time to think about your journey? Read the Bible, reflect on the sufferings of Jesus, listen to a hymn, meditate, pray and reflect upon one Station of the Cross each day, pray from your heart, do a random or regular act of kindness, give thought to your reflections and take good actions ... there remains many paths to our Lord! Live the days of this Lenten season ...

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY...Henri Nouwen LETTING GO OF OUR FEAR OF GOD

We are afraid of emptiness. Spinoza speaks about our "horror vacui," our horrendous fear of vacancy. We like to occupy - fill up every empty time and space. We want to be occupied. And if we are not occupied we easily become preoccupied; that is, we fill the empty spaces before we have reached them. We fill them with our worries, saying, "But what if...,"

It is very hard to allow emptiness to exist in our lives. Emptiness requires a willingness not to be in control, a willingness to let something new and unexpected happen. It requires trust, surrender, and openness to guidance. God wants to dwell in our emptiness. But as long as we are afraid of God and God's actions in our lives, it is unlikely that we will offer our emptiness to God and embrace God as the source of all love.

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS...Helen Steiner Rice WAIT ON GOD

If when you ask for something God seems to hesitate, never be discouraged - He is asking you to wait.

'May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you.' —Psalm 25:21

Today wait if He asks you!

A GIFT OF SELF THE GREATEST GIFT

All the books about parenting - being a successful, effective parent - agree on one common point: Nothing replaces the gift of self to your child. A gift of self expressed in attention, listening with the heart as well as with one's ears, sharing time/sports/jokes/discoveries, going to church together, praying with and hearing a child's prayers.

But giving of self is no easy task in today's world. Most often, both parents have jobs outside the home, and there are simply so many things to do when people are at home. Just the work - cleaning, repairing, maintaining involved in making a house a home can consume large chunks of time. There are so many others: shopping, social life (visiting with friends and their children), finding time to relax, catching up on television, or just finding a chance to read the newspaper.

So where does the family come in? There is only one door. The one you open by deliberately making time for children or for elderly parents... not to mention the time needed for spouses to be with one another.

On this little home-based time chart, one important relationship is often missing; Making time for God. Yet we can find ourselves, know ourselves better, free ourselves to be present to others by coming closer to God.

And the how-to's of that God relationship are not so different from the parent -child, husband - wife. We need to make time to spend with God. Saints have often referred to this process as wasting time on God - thinking about God, perhaps, but more importantly, knowing that we live in His presence. Making that mysterious, personal presence welcome in our hearts and allowing that ever-growing relationship with the Lord to free us up and shape our lives. Lent is the perfect season to reflect on this pivotal relationship with God. And more than that; to do something about it. The ways of growing in our relationship with God are as varied as there are individuals. Nearly everyone needs to check a daily schedule. Mark off 15 minutes for "God and me" time together. Mental prayer, spiritual reading, or just rejoicing in God's holy presence by resting in the Lord. For our freedom to be with and enjoy others will come from the freedom of coming closer to God. In that freedom, we will find ways to please those we love - children, parents, friends.

ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN Our sincere congratulations to Father Andrew Koterba! On recently passing his citizenship test. He will become an official American citizen, on March 15th, 2010! Know you have our prayers of 'good wishes' and an added 'Hooray!' for the red, white and blue!

*ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL MEETING ... will be held today after Mass. All are invited to attend.

ST. FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS

*ST. PATRICK'S / ST. JOSEPH'S DINNER

Sunday, March 21, 3 p.m.
Corned beef dinner plus Polish specialties
with Italian desserts! Sounds delicious!



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Sunday, March 28, 9 a.m.
Holy Mass Liturgy and Distribution of Palms



*HOLY THURSDAY

April 1, Mass - 7 p.m.

*GOOD FRIDAY

April 2, Passion Service - 7 p.m.

*EASTER BASKET BLESSINGS

Saturday, April 3, 1 p.m.
Traditional blessing
of Easter food baskets



*EASTER SUNDAY (RESURRECTION MASS)

Sunday, April 4, 8:30 a.m.



*MAXIMILLIAN FARQUHARSON'S BAPTISM

Sunday, April 11, 11:00 a.m. Mass