

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Sunday, February 28, 2016 • Second Sunday of 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 - "Hymn of Faith"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

There an angel of the LORD appeared

to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses said to God, "But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' if they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?" God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you."

God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

"This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills, He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

The LORD secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed. He has made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

READING 2 - 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert.

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL: Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

GOSPEL - Luke 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'" This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Amazing Grace"

COMMUNION HYMN - "I Come to the Garden Alone"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "How Great Thou Art"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

ST. CASIMIR (1458-1484)

March 4

St. Casimir was born on October 3, 1456, at the royal palace in Cracow, Poland. He was the third of thirteen children of King Casimir IV of Poland and Elizabeth of Austria. Casimir was tutored by John Dlugosz and as a youth developed a deep friendship with God and devotion to Mary. In honor of Our Lady, Casimir frequently recited the Latin hymn, *Omni die dic Mariae*, which is also known as the Hymn of Casimir.

His desire to be poor in spirit like Jesus Christ prompted him to avoid the luxury of court life and its privileges. Instead, he preferred simple food and clothing and devoted his riches and influence to care for the poor people of Poland.

In 1471, his father sent him to lead an army into Hungary to overthrow King Matthias Corvinus. Casimir became convinced before battle that the war was futile and unjust, so he ordered his soldiers home. Angered at his son, King Casimir IV had him imprisoned at the castle of Dobzki for three months. Casimir served as viceroy of Poland from 1479 to 1463. We had taken a vow of celibacy as a child, and despite pressure from his father, Casimir refused to marry the daughter of Emperor Fredrick III.

His integrity, fairness and love for those in need deeply impressed the ruling class of Poland; his people called him "the Peacemaker" and patron of the poor. He died from lung disease at the age of twenty-five on March 4, 1464, and is buried at Vilna, Lithuania. Casimir is the patron of Poland and Lithuania. His prayer, All powerful



God, by the prayers of St. Casimir help us serve you in the cause of peace and justice. Amen.

'GREAT IS THE LORD'

The Season of Lent and the Feast of Easter; is a special time of healing and renewal! It is a unique time and opportunity to invite family and friend, to join us in the Celebration of the Eucharist, each Sunday, at 9 a.m.. Add an invitation to all to join us in the Parish hall, after Mass, for coffee and a roll. It remains our time for 'Fellowship' - to share, listen and care. Remember, Great is the Lord!



ST. DAVID, c. 520 - 589

"Prayer in non-prayerful moments." His Feast Day is March 1st. David was born to Non, an Irish nun who was raped by a local Celtic ruler named Sant. As a youth David travelled to the Isle of Wight to study with St. Paulinus. He was ordained and returned to Wales, founding many monastic communities. His monastic rules were severe, with hard manual labor, they could speak only when necessary. He was nicknamed the "waterman" because he forbade alcohol. Their diet consisted of bread, vegetables, salt, water, and a little milk. His advice to his followers was to never stop praying, even when engaged in nonprayerful activities. David's belief was that one could always be praying mentally, simply by renewing the intention to do so. The patron saint of Wales had lived the life in which the smallest of activities were occasions for prayer, angelic companionship, and divine consolation. As he died, he looked upward, his eyes brightened, and he said, "Take me with you." His prayer, David, show me the ways to make even small tasks and humdrum activities occasions for prayer. Kindle in me the love of God so that even when I am doing non-spiritual work I will be able to keep the spirit of prayer and have a strong awareness of the divine presence. Amen.

2016 Upcoming Events

Sundays After Mass During Lent

February 14 - March 13

Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 20 - 9:00 am

Palm Sunday Mass & Procession

Friday, March 25 - 7:00 pm

Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, March 26 - 1:00 pm

Blessing of Easter Baskets

Sunday, March 27 - 9:00 am

Easter Sunday Mass