

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554

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Pastor Andrew Koterba



*Sunday, February 3, 2013 • Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow. Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

8:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

Mass Book page 63

## READING I - Jer 1:4-5, 17-19

The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

But do you gird your loins; stand up and tell them all that I command you. Be not crushed on their account, as though I would leave you crushed before them; for it is I this day who have made you a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of brass, against the whole land: against Judah's kings and princes, against its priests and people. They will fight against you but not prevail over you, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM - 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, and deliver me; incline your ear to me, and save me.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

Be my rock of refuge, a stronghold to give me safety, for you are my rock and my fortress.

O my God, rescue me from the hand of the wicked.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

For you are my hope, O Lord; my trust, O God, from my youth. On you I depend from birth; from my mother's womb you are my strength.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

My mouth shall declare your justice, day by day your salvation. O God, you have taught me from my youth, and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.

R. I will sing of your salvation.

## READING 2 - 1 Cor 13:4-13

Brothers and sisters: Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things,

believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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

## GOSPEL - Luke 4:21-30

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" And he said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Unto Jesus"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Lead Me, Lord"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## PRESENTATION OF JESUS

February 2

Forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph to fulfill Jewish law. 'There he was recognized by Simeon and Anna, who were waiting for the coming Messiah. St. Lulce reports the event; When the day came to purify them according to the law of Moses, the couple brought Jesus up to Jerusalem so that he could be presented to the Lord, for it is written in the law of the Lord, "every firstborn male shall be consecrated to the Lord." They came to offer in sacrifice "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons," in accord with the dictate in the law of the Lord. 'There lived in Jerusalem at the time a certain man named Simeon. He was just and pious, and awaited the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not experience death until he had seen the Anointed of the Lord. He came to the temple now, inspired by the Spirit; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform for him the customary ritual of the law, he took him in his arms and blessed God in these words: "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel." This feast celebrated by the Christian Churches of East and West at an early date, has also been called "Candlemas Day" because candles are blessed and lighted this day on which Simeon called Jesus "a light to the Gentiles."

## CANDLES OF THIS DAY

Candles blessed in church, this day, are taken home as a symbol of the Blessed Mother. They are called thunder-candles. The candle is lit during thunderstorms, to protect the home from lightning. It is also lit during times of troubles or when someone is approaching death. The legend surrounding these candles is that the evening the Blessed Mother wards off wolves by using these candles as a torch. Historically, there are many art works which portray the Blessed Mother in this theme. May God bless and keep us, always!

## ST. BLAISE (d.316)

February 3

There is no accurate historical evidence about St. Blaise's life. He was born into a wealthy family and received a Christian education. He was appointed Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and was martyred during the persecution of Licinius by Agricolaus, Governor of Cappadocia and Lower Armenia, in 316. According to tradition, Blaise retreated to a cave and became a hermit during the persecution of Licinius. While there, he befriended wild animals and cared for them when they were wounded or sick. One day, hunters found Blaise in the woods surrounded by wild animals. They captured him with the intention of putting him in prison. On the way to Sabaste, Blaise encountered a woman whose little boy was choking to death on a fishbone. Blaise healed him and the blessing of throats on this day derives from this story. Blaise was then delivered to Governor Agricolaus and beheaded. His prayer, Through the intercession of St. Blaise may God deliver us from all evils of the throat and from every other evil. Amen.

*Although today's readings reflect the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Father Andrew Will Bless Our Throats, since it's St. Blaise Day and Candles, for Candlemas Day.*

## NOTES FROM A SUCCESSFUL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING...

First, thank you all who attended and contributed opinions! Financially, we are in the black. Hooray! So again, thank you all. Following is a quick recap for those who may have had to leave early:

We cancelled our Fall Fundraiser Dinner and discussed at great lengths an outdoor "St. Francis Festival" on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> involving animals, BBQ, soup, ice cream, vendors and other exciting ways to attract attention to the church, followed by our Blessing of the Animals inside the church.

New projects will include: fence on Bernard St. side of property, renovating the rectory bathroom, carts for the chairs, renovating the Church Hall closet and adding a few mirrors and moving one.

From now on there will be a "donation box" at all breakfast events after Mass. If anyone is available to fill in for a week or wants to volunteer for a month, please let Louise know.

Parishioners are encouraged to pay annual dues (\$100 family or \$50 individual). This money goes directly to the diocese and keeps us connected to the "mother" church and is necessary for our church insurance.

### **2013 Dates to Save**

**Wed., February 13 - 7:00 pm**

Mass & Distribution of Ashes

**Sundays After Mass During Lent**

**February 17 - March 24**

Stations of the Cross

**Sunday, March 10 - 3:00 pm**

St. Patrick/Joseph Fundraiser Dinner

**Sunday, March 24 - 9:00 am**

Palm Sunday Mass & Procession

**Friday, March 29 - 7:00 pm**

Good Friday Liturgy

**Saturday, March 30 - 1:00 pm**

Blessing of Easter Baskets

**Sunday, March 31 - 9:00 am**

Easter Sunday Mass