

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



Third Sunday in Lent *March 11, 2012*



Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN - "Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book pg. 63

READING I - Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

In those days, God delivered all these commandments: "I, the LORD am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes his name in vain.

"Remember to keep holy the sabbath day. Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass, nor anything else that belongs to him."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

They are more precious than gold, than a heap of purest gold; sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

READING II - 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Brothers and sisters: Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL - John 2:13-25

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS -

RESPONSE - as per Lector

OFFERTORY HYMN - "We Gather Together"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION HYMNS -

"Lord Forgive" & " Lord I Am Not Worthy"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -

"Cross of Compassion"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen

A reflection of faith and wisdom ...

CREATING SPACE FOR GOD

Discipline is the other side of discipleship. Discipline without discipline is like waiting to run in the marathon without ever practicing. Discipline without discipleship is like always practicing for the marathon out never participating. It is important, however, to realize that discipline in the spiritual life is not the same as discipline in sports. Discipline in sports is the concentrated effort to master the body so that it can obey the mind better. Discipline in the spiritual life is the concentrated effort to create the space and time where God can become our master and where we can respond freely to God's guidance.

Thus, discipline is the creation of boundaries that Keep time and space open for God. Solitude requires discipline, worship requires discipline, caring for others requires discipline. They all ask us to set apart a time and a place where God's gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to



FRIENDLY REMINDER:

After Sunday Mass during the Lenten season, St. Francis provides Stations of the Cross for anyone who wishes to participate or just sit with us and meditate on the reason for the season. Following Stations of the Cross will be our breakfast/social hour as usual.

EASTER SYMBOLS – THE LAMB

Long before the first Passover, Hebrew families gave lambs as offerings to God. And since the first Passover, Hebrews serve lamb as an important part of the Passover feast each year. When Jesus died during Passover, he gave himself as an offering to God for the sins of all the world. This is way the Bible calls Jesus the "Lamb of God." Early Christians saw the lamb as a symbol of Jesus and began using it in their Easter celebrations.

OUR TRADITIONS: BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS

On Holy Saturday, April 7th at 1 p.m. a simple blessing of food called (Swiecone) in Polish will be held in church. Traditionally the baskets are filled with foods covered in a white linen cloth. The foods are symbolic to the season, such as a lamb, formed in cake or butter, representing Christ slain for our sins, horseradish, symbolizes the bitterness of the Passion, and eggs, symbolize new life and resurrection. Today the baskets may be traditional or contain items special to the owner. The baskets are placed before the main altar and in a quiet ceremony the priest blesses and sprinkles the food with holy water. The blessing has a "special significance," in that it represents the belief that the Lord is part of our daily life and is always among us! The baskets are then brought home and set aside until Easter morning. At that time the egg is first broken - the symbol of new life, shared by all the family in an exchange of good wishes - Health, Happiness, and a Joyous Easter to All! Please attend...and welcome your family and friends, to an old tradition made new again!

UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS for 2012

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| Mar. 18 | For good health for Linda and Nick Baric offered by St. Francis Parish |
| Mar. 25 | In memory of Louis Bonaventura offered by St. Francis Parish |
| April 1 | In memory of John and Winnie Kompa offered by Lorraine & Thomas Kompa |
| April 5 | In memory of parents, Vicki & Ralph Capuano & Betty Blenn offered by Joni & John Blenn |
| April 8 | In memory of Clara and Concetto Ribis offered by Lorraine & Thomas Kompa |
| April 15 | In memory of Mary C. Lozowski offered by Lorraine & Thomas Kompa |
| April 22 | For health and God's blessing for Bill & Rea Piro offered by St. Francis Parish |
| April 29 | In memory of James F. Kompa offered by Lorraine & Thomas Kompa |

Thank You!!

St. Francis Parish sincerely thanks those individuals listed above who donated needed items for our humble church.

SAVE THE DATES!

Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m. - TODAY

St. Patrick / St. Joseph Fund-raiser Dinner

Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m. Holy Thursday service.

Friday, April 6, 7 p.m. Good Friday service.

Saturday, April 7, 1 p.m. Blessing of the Easter Baskets

Sunday, April 8, 9 a.m. Easter Mass, breakfast following.

Sunday, May 6, 11 a.m.

Natalie MacDonald's First Holy Communion

Saturday & Sunday, August 25 & 26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Garage / Yard Sale

Sunday, October 6, 1 p.m.

Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets

Sunday, October 14, 3 p.m.

St. Francis Fall Fund-raiser Dinner

All are welcome. Ask how you can help.

Sunday, October 21, 9 a.m.

Thomas & Lorraine Kompa's 25th Anniversary
Renewal of Marriage Vows

Sunday, December 2, 3 p.m.

St. Nicholas Fund-raiser Dinner

All are welcome. Ask how you can help.