

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! — St. Francis

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Sunday, March 13, 2011 - First 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 - "Hymn of Faith"
CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST
CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book
page 63

READING I - Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being. Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD God had made. The serpent asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil." The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

READING II - Romans 5:12, 17-19

Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned.

For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous.

Priest/Lector: ALLELUIA. **R/: ALLELUIA.** Verse.

R/: ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL - Mathew 4:1-11

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "We Gather Together"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMN - "Lord Forgive"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Cross of Compassion"

St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

TRY A DIFFERENT LOOK AT...FASTING

Try focusing on mealtimes themselves; incorporate prayer, sacred music or even silence, depending on your family's inclination. Be mindful of the food itself, and of the people who worked to produce and bring it to your table.

ALMSGIVING: Time is a wonderful gift to those in need. Consider getting involved in a volunteer effort that will continue after Lent. Without neglecting existing commitments or duties, you may find a way of giving something precious to God.

PRAYER: Try something different this Lent. Make a vigil; to get up in the night or early morning to pray, attentive to the Lord's presence. If you haven't prayed the Rosary or made the Stations of the Cross in a while, why not try again? Yes, there are many paths to Our Lord!

TRY SOME EVERYDAY PRAYERS ...

PRAYER BEFORE MEALS: Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER MEALS: We give Thee thanks, Almighty God, for all Thy benefits, Who lives and reigns, world without end. Amen. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

JUST A THOUGHT...LOVE

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are endless." —Mother Teresa

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Ncuwen DYING WELL

We will all die one day. That is one of the few things we can be sure of. But will we die well? That is less certain. Dying well means dying for others, making our lives fruitful for those we leave behind. The big question, therefore, is not "What can I still do in the years I have left to live?" but "How can I prepare myself for my death so that my life can continue to bear fruit in the generations that will follow me?"

Jesus died well because through dying he sent his Spirit of Love to his friends, who with that Holy Spirit could live better lives. Can we also send the Spirit of Love to our friends when we leave them? Or are we too worried about what we can still do? Dying can become our greatest gift if we prepare ourselves to die well.

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS - Helen Steiner Rice DAILY BLESSINGS

No day is unmeetable if, on rising, our first thought is to thank God for the blessings that His loving care has brought. "Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." —Psalm 106:1

Today reflect on God's goodness. Appreciate His magnanimity!

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES Stations of the Cross

This devotion and reflection will follow each Sunday Mass, during Lent

Sunday, March 27, 2011 - 3 p.m.



**St. Patrick-St. Joseph
Fundraiser Dinner**

\$15 adults, \$6 children. Ask how you can help? cook, prepare, bring a friend or four...

Saturday, April 2, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.



**Fundraiser Comedy Show
at United Methodist Church**

\$10 / ticket. This is a squeaky clean comedy fund-raiser for both the UMC, the Open Hand of God Church & St. Francis PNCC. Starring Stevie GB "Groucho", Les Degan & the improv of Al Isaacs & Scott Baker "Some Assembly Required"

Sunday, April 3, 2011 - 10:30 a.m.

Parish Council Meeting
Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011 - 9 a.m.

Blessing and Procession Mass

Holy Saturday, April 23, 2011 - 1 p.m.

Blessing of Easter food baskets, please invite family and friends for this special event!

Resurrection Mass, April 24, 2011

Easter Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Come Rejoice in this Easter Celebration!

