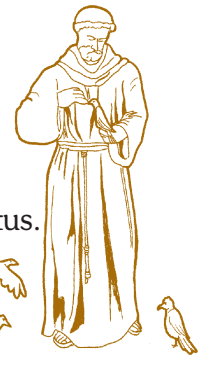


ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! — St. Francis*  
1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY • (516) 794-5189  
Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor



Sunday, March 14, 2010  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

9:00 AM - CELEBRATION  
OF THE EUCHARIST  
Entrance Hymn - "Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE -  
Mass Book page 63

READING I - Jos 5:9a, 10-12  
The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I  
have removed the reproach of Egypt

from you." While the Israelites were  
encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho,  
they celebrated the Passover on the evening of  
the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover,  
they ate of the produce of the land in the form of  
unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the  
Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna  
ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year  
ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.  
I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall  
be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD;  
the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.  
Glorify the LORD with me, let us together extol his name.  
I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.  
Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may  
not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the LORD  
heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

READING II - 2 Cor 5:17-21

Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation:  
the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.  
And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through  
Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was  
reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their  
trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of  
reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were  
appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be  
reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not  
know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in  
him.

GOSPEL - Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus,  
but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man  
welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed  
this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his  
father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

**R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.**

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

**R/. Now and forever. Amen.**

me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few  
days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a  
distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of  
dissipation.

When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that  
country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself  
out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend  
the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the  
swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he  
thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more  
than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall  
get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have  
sinned against heaven and against you.

I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would  
treat one of your hired workers.'" So he got up and went back to  
his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught  
sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son,  
embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I  
have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve  
to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants,  
'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his  
finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and  
slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of  
mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has  
been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had  
been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the  
house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of  
the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to  
him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered  
the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He  
became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father  
came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply,  
'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey  
your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on  
with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up  
your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened  
calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always;  
everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and  
rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life  
again; he was lost and has been found.'"

This is the gospel of the Lord.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "O, My Jesus"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE - "Down in the River"

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Cross of Compassion"

# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## + L E N T - 2010 + OUR LENTEN JOURNEY.

Lent is our season for 'healing and spiritual renewal,' we are asked to prepare by fasting, praying, and doing works of charity, still there remains many paths to our Lord ... take time to reflect ... pray one Station of the Cross each day ... read the Passion in the Bible, listen to a hymn, pray for another, do a random or regular act of kindness, just give a smile...Continue on your journey, refresh your soul!

## HONOR AND CELEBRATION ST. PATRICK (c. 389-461) March 17

The patron of Ireland, this bishop was born a Roman citizen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After escaping to his native Britain, Patrick heard a voice telling him to return to Ireland to serve the people he had met there. It is said that St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach about the Trinity. Its 3-in-1 leaves symbolize, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in one Supreme Being. The Irish people knew intuitively that God is present in all of creation, and St. Patrick showed them that, in the mystery of the Holy Trinity, God was beyond all of creation as well. ST. JOSEPH, (first century), March 19

Joseph, the Jewish carpenter called by God to complete the Holy Family, became the patron of the universal church. In the Gospels, he is named in the genealogies (Mt 1:16; Lk 3:23); as "a righteous man" who planned to divorce Mary quietly until an angel intervened (Mt 1:18-25); as the family protector on the flight to Egypt (Mt 2:13-15, 19-23); as Mary's betrothed, "of the house of David" (Lk 1:27); in the infancy narrative (Lk 2:1-19); as a parent fearing for a lost child (Lk 2:41-52); and in descriptions of Jesus as his son (Jn 1:45; 6:42).

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen BRINGING THE SPIRIT THROUGH LEAVING

It is often in our absence that the Spirit of God manifests itself. When Jesus left his disciples he said, "It is for your own good that I am going, because unless I go, the Paraclete (the Spirit) will not come to you .... However, when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth" (John 16:7, 13). It was only in Jesus' absence that his friends discovered the full meaning of his presence. It was only in his absence that they completely understood his words and experienced full communion with him; and it was only in his absence that they could gather in a community of faith, hope, and love.

When we claim ourselves that we come to our friends in the Name of Jesus - that through us Jesus becomes present to them we can trust that our leaving will also bring them the Spirit of Jesus. Thus, not only our presence but also our absence becomes a gift to others.

## ST. FRANCIS NOTES

**\*PIEROGIES! FOR SALE!** A great addition for Lent. We have Potato & cheese, Saurkraut & mushroom, and spinach. Only \$5 a dozen! Please see Monika for your order.

**\*BUTTER LAMBS (BARNANEK):** On Palm Sunday, in the Parish Hall, butter lambs will be available for a small donation. The lamb form represents Christ, slain for our sins. This food item is ideal for your food basket, blessed on Holy Saturday and for your Easter table.

**\*EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS:** Our sincere thank you to all for special donations for the flowers to adorn the altar for Easter Sunday.

**\*DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS TODAY!**

**\*GOOD STEWARDSHIP CONTINUES...** The giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you to all, for all you do known and unknown to us in both big and small ways that keeps our St. Francis Parish on the go!

**\*PASSION WEEK AND EASTER** is quickly approaching. Please note the schedule of Masses for these dates, invite family and friends to attend Mass with you, open the many paths to Our Lord ...

## 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