

## ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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*Second Sunday in Lent*

*March 1, 2015*



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

NO GLORIA during LENT

READING I - Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing- all this because you obeyed my command."

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

***R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.***

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

***R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.***

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

***R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.***

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his

people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

***R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.***

READING II - Romans 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died-or, rather, was raised- who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL- Matthew 17:5

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

GOSPEL - Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Just As I Am"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Holy, Holy, Holy"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Nearer My God to Thee"



# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, St. Francis Parish will host Stations of the Cross on Sundays immediately following Mass. All are welcome to attend. Following the Stations of the Cross, of course, is our traditional breakfast with coffee, tea, rolls, etc. in the Church Hall that has been totally renovated. However, if you choose not to stay for Stations of the Cross, feel free to go downstairs to the Hall and partake of breakfast, and we'll see you later.

## LENT AND RECONCILIATION

In Lent we renew the life of Baptism. The life Baptism gives us is one of prayer and discipleship in Jesus. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is sometimes called a "Second Baptism" because it restores and strengthens the life of Baptism. Lent is an excellent time to receive this sacrament. It purifies our prayer and lifts from us any weight of regret or fear. It frees us from old notions of thinking and behaving. Reconciliation gives one a new heart and allows one to begin a new life in Jesus. Its fruit is peace because God has taken away sin of the world. Reconciliation is God's deed. It is God's gift to us!

## PRAYER FOR LENT

Redeemer Lord, as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of your dying and rising, send your Holy Spirit to guide us this Lent. May we be led to a spirit of true repentance for our sins with grateful appreciation for the gift of salvation. May we forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved and serve as we have been served. May we trust in you at all times, confident that in your mercy you have willed the redemption of the whole world. Amen.

## HIS WORDS - FORGIVENESS

"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given



to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." — Luke 6:35-38

## OUR CONGRATULATIONS!

We extend our "good wishes" and "much success" to our elected Parish Council for 2015! (even though it's the same as last year's!) LOL.

## ST. JOHN OF GOD (1495-1550) March 8

St. John born in Monte Mor il Nuovo, Portugal, in 1495. He enlisted as a soldier in 1522 and served in the wars between France and Spain and in Hungary against the Turks. He gradually gave up the practice of his religion to lead a dissolute life. After the wars

were over, he left the army and became a shepherd for a woman near Seville.

When he was about forty years old, he turned to God and decided to give his life to serve the sick and unfortunate. He began to sell religious pictures and books in Gibraltar and opened a religious-goods store in Granada in 1538. After hearing a speech by John of Avila, John suffered a serious breakdown and was confined to a mental hospital. With help from John of Avila, he suddenly recovered and was released in 1539.

With earnings that he made from selling wood, a hospital for the sick and poor was opened in Granada. This was the beginning of the Order of St. John of God. Later on, his devoted assistants would officially organize this religious order. John was a brilliant administrator and a tender nurse of his patients. He soon won the attention of the bishops and nobility of Spain, and they supported him financially.

John fell ill and, worn out from his labors, died on March 8, 1550. He was mourned by the entire city of Granada. St. John of God is the patron of hospitals and nurses.

'Father, grant us love and compassion for others, such as St. John of God had.' Amen.

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen TOWARD A NON-JUDGMENTAL LIFE

One of the hardest spiritual tasks is to live without prejudices. Sometimes we aren't even aware how deeply rooted our prejudices are. We may think that we relate to people who are different from us in color, religion, sexual orientation, or lifestyle as equals, but in concrete circumstances our spontaneous thoughts, uncensored words, and knee-jerk reactions often reveal that our prejudices are still there.

Strangers, people different from us, stir up fear, discomfort, suspicion, and hostility. They make us lose our sense of security just by being "other." Only when we fully claim that God loves us in an unconditional way and look at "those other persons" as equally loved can we begin to discover that the great variety in humanity is an expression of the immense richness of God's heart. Then the need to prejudge people can gradually disappear.



Natalie MacDonald (March 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
Adam Koterba (March 8<sup>th</sup>)  
Anne Klein (March 13<sup>th</sup>)

## UPCOMING EVENT DATES

*Sundays During Lent following Holy Mass*

Stations of the Cross

*Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - 9 am*

Passion Sunday Mass

*Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - 9 am*

Palm Sunday Mass & Distribution of Palms

*Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7 pm*

Holy Thursday Mass

*Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7 pm*

Good Friday Liturgy

*Holy Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> - 1 pm*

Blessing of the Easter Baskets & Foods

*Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> - 9 am*

Easter Sunday Mass