

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, New York 11554 • (516) 794-5189

Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor • 516-794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org

*Sunday, March 20, 2011 - Second 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  
EUCCHARIST

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Gn 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram: "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you.

"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you.

All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you."

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield. May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

READING II - 2 Tm 1:8b-10

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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

GOSPEL - Mathew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." 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"

## 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!

## LENT, HAS MANY PATHS ...

We are asked to prepare during this season, by fasting, prayer and works of charity. Take time for healing and spiritual renewal...reflect on Jesus' suffering, pray a Station of the Cross, read your Bible, read a psalm, meditate for a moment, pray for another, pray from your heart, pray in thought and through action...there are so many paths!

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen THE INFINITE VALUE OF LIFE

Some people live long lives, some die very young. Is a long life better than a short life? What truly counts is not the length of our lives but their quality. Jesus was in his early thirties when he was killed. Therese de Lisieux was in her twenties when she died. Anne Frank was a teenager when she lost her life. But their short lives continue to bear fruit long after their deaths.

A long life is a blessing when it is well lived and leads to gratitude, wisdom, and sanctity. But some people can live truly full lives even when their years are few. As we see so many young people die of cancer and AIDS, let us do everything possible to show our friends that, though--their lives may be short, they have infinite value.

## ST. JOSEPH - Patron Of Workers & The Universal Church, First Century, Husband of Mary, March 19

As it was Mary of Nazareth who gave birth to Jesus, it was Joseph, the foster father, descendant of Jewish Kings, and builder - carpenter of Nazareth who gave name and identity to the Son of God on earth. We hear the astounded men of Nazareth, hearing Jesus preach and teach for the first time, exclaim: "Is not this Joseph's son?" -Luke 4:22

Joseph strength of character, his respect in the community, his keen intellect called into play so often in moments of peril facing the Holy Family, his extraordinary kindness and profound intuitions - all of these characteristics pour out of the few passages in the New Testament which tell of the holy and awesome man, who was at once so very ordinary.

St. Joseph was long honored in the Eastern Church; and by the ninth century, he was honored as far away as Ireland. Then by the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Joseph became a popular saint in the western Church, with his feasts introduced in the Western liturgical calendar in 1479. St. Bernard, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Francis de Sales were among his admirers.

As to St. Joseph's patronage of work, particularly the work of the Church on earth, one need but look to the hundreds of religious communities claiming Joseph as patron and inspiration, especially to the many Josephite communities of religious women founded in his honor.

In Lent and throughout the 50 days of Easter, we are asked to look to our own role, in the work of God's Church on earth. Like Joseph, who often carried the young Jesus as he went to the village gates or to visit family members, we too need to carry Jesus with us in our work in this world. And we can surely pray for people in our nation and throughout the world who seek honest work each day. What better companion for Lent, then, and guide for our work in the world than this Holy Man of the First Century, St. Joseph!

His prayer: Joseph, give me the perseverance to work diligently at my trade or career, and to provide for myself and loved ones. Even when hard times occur and it is easy to become discouraged, help me to be happy with a modest living and not to hunger for wealth that could easily prevent me from enjoying the simple things of life. Amen.

## THE ANNUNCIATION, March 25

The angel Gabriel was sent to tell Mary that her cousin Elizabeth, previously barren, would bear a child and that she, herself, had been chosen by God to give birth to His son. Mary asked how this could be and the angel replied: "With God, nothing will be impossible."

As stewards, we need to understand this simple truth. If we commit ourselves to a life of stewardship, if we share our talents and our resources, we will never lack the wherewithal to keep sharing. We will discover what the angel knew: God will always be with us.

