

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor



## *Sunday, March 6, 2011 - Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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 - Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32

Moses told the people, "Take these words of mine into your heart and soul. Bind them at your wrist as a sign, and let them be a pendant on your forehead.

"I set before you here, this day, a blessing and a curse: a blessing for obeying the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin on you today; a curse if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD, your God, but turn aside from the way I ordain for you today, to follow other gods, whom you have not known."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 31:2-3, 3-4, 17, 25

**R. Lord, be my rock of safety.**

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, incline your ear to me, make haste to deliver me!

**R. Lord, be my rock of safety.**

Be my rock of refuge, a stronghold to give me safety. You are my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake you will lead and guide me.

**R. Lord, be my rock of safety.**

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your kindness. Take courage and be stouthearted, all you who hope in the LORD.

**R. Lord, be my rock of safety.**

READING II - Rom 3:21-25, 28

Brothers and sisters, Now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, though testified to by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction; all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God.

They are justified freely by his grace through the redemption in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as an expiation, through faith, by his blood. For we consider that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

R/: ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL - Mathew 7:21-27

Jesus said to his disciples: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name? Did we not drive out demons in your name? Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?' Then I will declare to them solemnly, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.'

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock. And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN -

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

OUR FATHER -

Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMNS -

"One Bread, One Body"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -

"Down in the River to Pray"



# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## SEASON OF LENT

Our Lord Jesus Christ, directly after His baptism, prepared Himself for His public life and mission by a fast of forty days in the desert, which extends from Jericho to the mountains of Judea. Let us prepare ourselves by fast, prayers and works of charity, for the solemn Feast of Easter.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

This opens the liturgical season of Lent. In Old Law ashes were generally a symbolic expression of grief, mourning, or repentance. In the Early Church the use of ashes had a like significance and with sackcloth formed part of the public penance. The blessing of ashes is one of the great liturgical rites of the year. It was originally instituted for public penitents, but is now intended for all Christians, as Lent should be a time of penance for all. The ashes used this day are obtained by burning the palms of the previous year. Four ancient prayers are used in blessing them; having sprinkled them with holy water and incensed them, the priest puts them on the foreheads of the faithful with the words: "Remember, man, that thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return."

## LENTEN SERVICES

**Ash Wednesday** - Mass and Blessing and Distribution of ashes will be held on Wednesday, March 9th at 7 p.m..

**Stations of the Cross** - will be held each Sunday following Mass, during the season of Lent. Come join us, as we follow in prayer and devotion, the suffering, death, and burial of Our Lord, Jesus Christ! Renew and enlarge your sense of all our Lord has done for us...

## WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR LENT?

The most important thing anyone can do for Lent is to "return to the Lord with your whole heart" (Joel 2:12). That's the root meaning of repent: to turn around. Catholics have traditionally expressed sorrow for sin and the desire to live as genuine Disciples of Christ through practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, described in the sixth chapter of Matthew's Gospel. There Jesus emphasizes the real reason for these practices: to deepen our relationship with God, whom Jesus calls "Father."

**Fasting and abstinence** practiced as the Church instructs is a good beginning. A bodily way to remind ourselves that we need God above all things, fasting is also a sacrifice, a gift back to God of our heart's intent to depend more completely on God. The interior free desire to deepen our relationship to God is the essence of a Lenten fast.

**Prayer** is a recognition that we need help to turn back to God. From daily Mass to the Rosary to Cantering Prayer to the Stations of the Cross to Eucharistic Adoration, the Church encourages a wealth of prayerful practices. A very simple way to pray is to sit quietly for a moment before taking up one of the Gospels and slowly reading a passage that you like. Simply sit with the passage for a bit, savoring the Word and allowing it to touch you, read it again slowly, and then respond to God.

**Almsgiving** readjusts our priorities while it expresses both our love of neighbor and our trust in God. A free gift to those in need confirms our basic trust in Providence while concretely helping those in need. Just as we fast without starving ourselves, so we give alms without jeopardizing our security or that of our family. The point is to give from the heart.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

### Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m.

Mass and Blessing & Distribution of Ashes  
The Season of Lent begins, 46 days before Easter Sunday. The Lenten season is time of fasting, prayer and repentance. Give thought, reflection and take good action this season.

### 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. Give Joni names & addresses of friends who might like to attend.

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 fundraiser 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"

### 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!