ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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April 17, 2016 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.
R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.
Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.
R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Christ Is Risen"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Acts 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats. Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God.

On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said. Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first, but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."

The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 *R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock.* Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful song.

R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends. *R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock.* The LORD is good: his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations. *R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

READING II - Rev 7:9, 14b-17

I, John, had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they stand before God's throne and worship him day and night in his temple. The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. They will not hunger or thirst anymore, nor will the sun or any heat strike them. For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of lifegiving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.Priest/Lector: I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - 10:27-30

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." This is the gospel of the Lord.

> R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ. OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Ye Faithful" OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95 COMMUNION HYMN -"Christ Be Our Light" RECESSIONAL HYMN -"Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"



<u>St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"</u> KEEP CELEBRATING EASTER - 2016!

ST. ANSELM, (1033-1109) Bishop and Doctor

His feast day is April 21. St. Anselm was born at Aosta, Italy, in 1033. He entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, France, in 1060 at the age of twenty-seven and was befriended by the great abbot, Lafranc. He excelled in the study of philosophy and theology and was named prior of the monastery after only a few years. In 1078, he was elected abbot of Bec. In 1093, Lafranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, England, died and Anselm was elected to succeed him. Upon accepting his post, Anselm began to meet opposition from King William Rufus who tried unsuccessfully to control him. He went to Rome in 1097 to plead his case before Pope Urban I and remained there in exile. King William Rufus died in 1100 and Aselm returned to his diocese. King Henry I, the new ruler, opposed Anselm concerning the right of investiture and political and economic power of the Church of England. In 1103, Anselm again went to Rome and met with Pope Paschal II. As before, Anselm found himself supported fully by Rome, but exiled from 1103 to 1107. Upon his return to England, there was a reconciliation with King Henry and they both came to regard each other with reverence and respect. Besides learning and administrative ability, Anselm had a warmth and charm that permeated his writings and his relations with others. He strongly opposed slavery and upheld the rights of the Church against the secular power. Anselm died at Canterbury in 1109. His prayer, Lord, while here on earth let me know you better, so that in heaven I may know you completely. Let my love for you grow deeper here, so that I may love you there completely. Here on earth I shall rejoice in hope, in heaven my rejoicing shall be complete when my hope is fulfilled. St. Anselm

ST. GEORGE (fourth century) April 23

Historically, very little is known of St. George's life. According to tradition, he was a Christian soldier who suffered martyrdom about the year 303 in Palestine, sometime before the reign of the Emperor Constantine. A legend beginning in the thirteenth century by a book called The Golden Legend tells of George as a Christian soldier born in Cappadocia. In Sylene, Libya, he rescued the King's daughter from a dragon and in turn killed it. As a result, thousands of people were baptized and led to God. Devotion to George spread to the West during the Crusades when he was invoked for protection by King Richard I of England and his army. St. George is the patron saint of England as well as-Portugal, Germany, Aragon, Genoa and Venice.

His prayer: Lord, we praise your power that enabled your saints to be strong in life and in face of death. Give us help too in our weakness. Amen.

