

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor Andrew Kotera • Thomas Kompa, Council Chair

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2010



ENTRANCE HYMN -
"Come Ye Faithful"

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 2 - 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 life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

R./ Alleluia. VERSE. R./ Alleluia.

GOSPEL - Jn 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.

GENERAL CONCESSIONS: **God, Hear Us!**

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Rejoice, Our Lord Is Risen"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE - "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today & 'O'er Death Victorious"

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

"Christ Is Risen"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

ST. MARK (first century) April 25

St. Mark, author of the second Gospel, was a member of the early Christian community at Jerusalem. St. Paul and St. Barnabas, his cousin, took him on their first missionary journey. When they reached Cyprus, however, Mark left them to return to Jerusalem, perhaps because he missed home. This caused Paul to question for awhile Mark's reliability as a missionary, and the incident brought about a disagreement between himself and Barnabas. Later, Mark became Paul's trusted companion at Rome, during one of Paul's imprisonments. He was also an associate of Peter.

One tradition relates that Mark became Bishop of Alexandria in Egypt. Around the ninth century, his relics were brought to Venice where they rest in the great Cathedral of San Marco.

Mark is depicted in art as a winged lion, probably suggested by the description in his Gospel of John the Baptist as "a voice crying in the desert." It is believed that he wrote his Gospel between 60 and 70 A.D.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY...

Henri Nouwen

THE ANSWERS TO OUR QUESTIONS

We spend a lot of time and energy raising questions. Is it worth it? It is always good to ask ourselves why we raise a question. Do we want to get useful information? Do we want to show that someone else is wrong? Do we want to conquer knowledge? Do we want to grow in wisdom? Do we want to find a way to sanctity?

When we ponder these questions before asking our questions, we may discover that we need less time and energy for our questions. Perhaps we don't need to show that someone is wrong. For many questions we may learn that we already have the answers, if we just listen carefully to our own hearts.



ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

* **OUR CELEBRATION:** A special 'thank you' to all Parishioners and Friends of St. Francis, who attended last Sunday's event held at the Wildfish in Freeport. This gathering was held in celebration of Fr. Andrews' American Citizenship (March 15). *Thank you to all* but especially to Thomas and Lorraine Kompa for coordinating and setting it all up, making and

mailing the invitations and candle favors and for being the gracious host and hostess.

* **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

FOR VOCATIONS: Sunday, April 25 Pray for faithful vocations around the world.

* **PROTECT THE CREATION!** Renew, Reuse, and Recycle! Remember the life and action of our saint, St. Francis of Assisi. His love of nature and for all of God's creatures was easy for him because he understood everything was created by God, and thus everything is good. Pray and take action to do good and protect the creation around us!

* "Keep your face to the SUNSHINE and you cannot see the shadows." –Helen Keller

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS...

Helen Steiner Rice - **WORRY NO MORE**

Have you heard rumors you would like to refute or some telltale gossip you would like to dispute? Well, don't be upset for God knows the score and with God as your judge, you need worry no more.

'A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.' –Proverbs 20:19

Today be Christlike in your spoken words...and those left unspoken!

