

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554 • (516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org

Pastor Andrew Kotera

April 29, 2012 - 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 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

"Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29

***R. The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.***

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

***R. The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.***

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

***R. The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.***

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD;

we bless you from the house of the LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

***R. The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.***

READING II - 1 Jn 3:1-2

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia (3x). Verse. Alleluia (3x).

GOSPEL - John 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "O'er Death Victorious"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Come Ye Faithful"

POST COMMUNION HYMN - "Here I Am Lord"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -

"Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"



HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

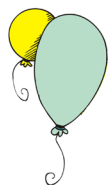
EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS...

Special and sincere thanks to **Carl Calderon**, Jiselle MacDonald's friend, who graciously donated his time and talent to the church gardens. Your hard work and time was greatly appreciated. God Bless YOU! (And thanks also to the humble Jiselle!)

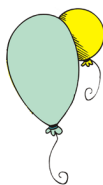
More thanks are in order for our own **Joe Glovack** who gave St. Francis a donation to purchase a cart for our tables. This rolling cart will be placed in the kitchen area, so rentals will not have to lose valuable floor space with the unused tables. Father Andrew is going to create a "hide-away" table for our use in the kitchen as well as a cart for the chairs, which will then be able to be stored in the closet. Hooray!

And let's not forget, **Thomas & Lorraine Kompa**, the king and queen of our perogie sales!

How cool are we at St. Francis?! Great ideas lead to great stewardship! God bless us all.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Carol Thomas (April 22)
Emily Zaradich (May 12)
John Blenn (May 25)



ST. PHILIP and ST. JAMES (first century) May 3

St. Philip was born at Bethsaida in Galilee. He was one of the apostles and a disciple of John the Baptist. Philip heard the call of Jesus, "Follow me," and accompanied Jesus on his public ministry. He is mentioned in St. John's Gospel, and invited the apostle, Bartholomew, to come and see Christ. At the Last Supper he said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough."

According to tradition, Philip was present with the apostles who spent ten days waiting in the upper room in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. After the death of Christ, Philip preached the Gospel in Phrygia, Asia Minor. He was martyred at Hierapolis by soldiers loyal to Emperor Domitian.

St. James, also known as James the Less, was one of the twelve apostles and is called "the son of Alpheus" and "the brother of the Lord" in the Gospels. It is assumed, however, that he was most likely a cousin of Jesus. He is believed to be the author of the Epistle of St. James in the New Testament.

James was appointed the Bishop of Jerusalem and was present at the Council of Jerusalem. He was also present with the apostles in the upper room awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. James remained in Jerusalem after Pentecost and was stoned to death there in 62.

Their prayer: O God, give us faith through the words of your apostles. Amen.

PATIENCE AND SPIRIT OF GOD (ST. FRANCIS)

Preserved as a precious collection of advice from the Franciscans' Holy Father Francis, his "Words of Admonition" give us a true sense of the gentle friar's down to earth wisdom, even after seven centuries.

Two of those "Admonitions" are particularly valuable for people dealing with two major obstacles to living a truly Christian life. One - the temptation to get mired down in a kind of spiritual frustration. Because we do not experience a quick sense of "spiritual accomplishment." For example: I say the Rosary every day, and try to meditate on the mysteries, but I find my mind wandering just as it always has; On things of the world, the laundry, how to manage all the chauffeuring jobs for children and family, being good at my job in the office, getting along better with family and friends, etc. I make the time to go to daily Mass as often as I can. Why don't I "feel" more holy?

The other obstacle may be the mirror image of the first; Being quick to take credit for what we seem to have accomplished.

I'm a regular at daily Mass now, retired, I can take in the Gospels, prepare for the readings, arrive on time. How I can't stand those people who come in late ...or bring infants with them who make noise and interfere with my sense of contemplation. I subscribe to my diocesan paper and one good "Catholic" magazine. No one truly understands the Church the way I do.

This attitude seems to say that we can grow closer to God, while bypassing the presence of God living in others. We forget that we need to be open to and invite God's grace to help us see and act on God's will.

Here are two pearls of wisdom from the Little Poor Man of Assisi. In each, St. Francis addresses common problems in the spiritual life with incisive commentary, and common sense. 1) We should not give way to pride when God accomplishes some good through us. We need to recognize that any good is due to God, to His grace, and not to us or our efforts. 2) If we want to measure how patient or humble we are, don't select a tranquil time to take the measurement. We can't pick a time.

"When those who should cooperate with you do the exact opposite, then we can tell (the measurement of your progress). A man has as much patience and humility as he has then, and no more," says the Saint.

Using those two criteria, how do we stack up on that score board?

