



# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

## April 3, 2016 - Second 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 5:12-16

Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles. They

were all together in Solomon's portico. None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them. Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them. Thus they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and mats so that when Peter came by, at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. A large number of people from the towns in the vicinity of Jerusalem also gathered, bringing the sick and those disturbed by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever."

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

READING II - Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

I, John, your brother, who share with you the distress, the kingdom, and the endurance we have in Jesus, found myself on the island called Patmos because I proclaimed God's word and gave testimony to Jesus. I was caught up in spirit on the Lord's day and heard behind me a voice as loud as a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you see." Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and when I turned, I saw seven gold lamp stands and in the midst of the lamp stands one like a son of man, wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest.

When I caught sight of him, I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld. Write down, therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards."

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "O'er Death Victorious"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMN - "Come Ye Faithful"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -  
"Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"

## KEEP CELEBRATING EASTER - 2016!



### TODAY'S MASS INTENTION is for the health needs of...

Rosalie Drenckhahn  
offered by her niece, Connie Stanga.

### 2016 Upcoming Event

**Sunday, April 10 - 10:30 am**  
Annual Parish Council Meeting  
All Are Invited to Be Heard  
AND Share Ideas

### THE EASTER CYCLE - EASTERTIDE

Eastertide begins at Easter and ends on the Saturday after Pentecost. It is a time of uninterrupted joy and feasts, during which we celebrate the mysteries of the Resurrection, the Ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and also on His Church. The date of Easter, from which the date of all movable feasts is determined, is fixed according to the Jewish method and may vary between March 22 and April 25. The triumph and joy of Eastertide is reflected in the decoration of the sanctuary and the priest's use of white vestments, symbolizing joy and purity. Until Ascension Day, the paschal candle shines in the sanctuary, as a symbol of the visible presence of Our Lord upon earth. Let us proclaim our faith in the risen Lord, and in His divine presence in the Holy Eucharist!



"BUT CHRIST  
HAS INDEED  
BEEN RAISED  
FROM THE DEAD,  
THE FIRSTFRUITS  
OF THOSE WHO  
HAVE FALLEN  
ASLEEP."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:20

### WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR OTHERS

More than anything else, people dealing with cancer will tell you that they value the presence and time of others in their struggle. Often these companions are family members. The people who were there when the cancer patient first heard the diagnosis...needed someone to talk to or just someone to listen, or insisted on the need to get out a bit, to go to a movie or out to lunch. These are the friends who knew to leave space when the patient just needs to be alone. These are the people who encourage reliance on faith; for Catholics, of course, the faith that is ignited and nurtured in baptism, the sacraments, and especially in worship at Mass. And often these same supporters are the people who applaud when progress is first discovered in the patient's case. It is these same folks who walk with the patient when life here begins to ebb away toward eternity. The word "cure" is rarely used; but "healing" - whatever the outcome - is discovered to be a gift that all will share. And even more so than the patient dealing with the threat of disease, these friends begin to understand that the greatest gift we can give one another is the closest at hand, "ourselves," There

are times when distance and physical disability prevent us from being that "someone to lean on. These are just the moments when faith and prayer travel the distance faster than the speed of light. Prayer can help us visit anyone of course; but prayer is especially important for those we know are sick and suffering. May we hold before the Lord a friend or family member and let us remember those who have no strong presence in their own lives. Be a gift of spiritual strength to others, in imitating the way Jesus gave himself to you!

*Beautiful Angel Statue  
donated to St. Francis by  
Rosalie Drenckhahn.*