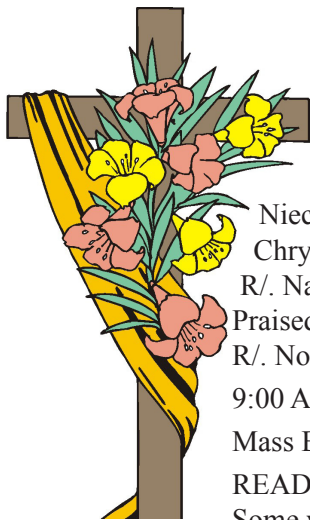


ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

May 1, 2016 - Sixth 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 15:1-2, 22-29

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question.

The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them:

"The apostles and the elders, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number who went out without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell.'"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

READING II - Rev 21:10-14, 22-23

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It gleamed with the splendor of God. Its radiance was like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal. It had a massive, high wall, with twelve gates where twelve angels were stationed and on which names were inscribed, the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites. There were three gates facing east, three north, three south, and three west. The wall of the city had twelve courses of stones as its foundation, on which were inscribed the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb. The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Unto Jesus"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMN - "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "One Spirit, One Church"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

THE JOYS OF MARY

The month of May is reserved to honor our Blessed Mother Mary. May Devotions and Litany, will be held after Sunday Mass. Come, Hail Mary! Christ...through Mary ...Pray for Us!

MARY, QUEEN OF THE ROSARY

You who love the rosary, can make it a more powerful and effective prayer to God. Just as our Lady did, you also can ponder the rosary mysteries in your heart. You will thus make them part of your outlook, being, and life. The rosary is a wonderful as well as a traditional prayer form. The rosary engages your whole person. Your fingers tell the beads, your lips repeat the prayers, your mind reflects on each mystery, and your heart responds to its message. The rosary employs repetition, an essential element in the language of love. As a result, you identify with our Lord and His blessed mother by applying their saving deeds to your own life with its joys, sorrows, and glories. Know that it is better to pray one rosary mystery well than to say many decades absent-mindedly. God's Peace!

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

Listen...meditate...or pray. Come a little early to Sunday Mass, music will be provided for a time of reflection. The Lord is our light!

SPRING BLOOMS

Do you have a flower from your garden or a floral bouquet you would like to offer to adorn our main altar or side altars? We warmly welcome your garden gifts. Please bring your gift before Mass. Vases are provided. God's Blessings!

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Take time and remember your loved ones in prayer. Dates are available for your special prayer intentions for Joyous Occasions, Health Needs, or Requiem Masses. This remains a special opportunity to invite family and friends to join us in prayers. Call or contact Fr. Andrew with your needs, call 516-794-5189. Peace and Blessings!

HIS WORDS - HOPE

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3

IN MY OWN WORDS - MARY MOTHER TERESA (1910 - 1997)

I recommended praying these words to Mary: Mary, Mother of Jesus and of those who participate in his priestly ministry, we come to you with the same attitude of children who come to their mother. We are no longer children, but adults who desire with all our hearts to be God's children. Our human condition is weak, that is why we come to ask for your motherly aid so we are able to overcome our weakness. Pray for us that we can, in turn, become people of prayer. We invoke your protection so that we remain free from all sin. We invoke your love so that it may reign and we will be compassionate and forgiving. We ask for your blessing so we can be like the image of your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS, My soul magnifies the Lord."

When the angel Gabriel told Mary that she was to conceive and give birth to the Son of God, he also informed her that her cousin, Elizabeth had also conceived six months previously, even though she was past childbearing age. Mary immediately went to visit Elizabeth in the hills of Judaea where she lived with her husband, Zacharias. On entering their home, Mary greeted Elizabeth, and the older woman felt the baby, later to be John the Baptist, stir in her womb. Then Elizabeth greeted Mary, "Blessed are you among woman, and blessed is your child." Then she told Mary that when she heard her voice, the child in her womb leaped for joy. "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. He

has assigned to notice me, his humble servant, and from now on, all generations will call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things to me, God holy is his name." Then Mary continued to recount how God shows mercy to those who are in awe of him, that he puts down the mighty and uplifts the humble, that he satisfies the hungry and sends the rich away empty. Mary stayed with Elizabeth for the rest of her pregnancy and then returned home. In time she gave birth to Jesus, and soon after saved his life in Egypt where she and Joseph fled to escape Herod's soldiers who were sent to kill him. When Jesus began his own ministry, Mary, encouraged the act of compassion that was his first miracle, the changing of water into wine for the marriage at Cana. She accompanied John, the beloved apostle, to Calvary, and among Jesus, dying words was his desire that the two should look after each other as mother and son. Scripture tells us that Mary was part of the Christian community in Jerusalem after Jesus's Ascension, but her own death is not recorded. A strong popular tradition from the earliest times was that she was taken physically into heaven, and she resides as Queen of Heaven and Mother of All Living Things. She has many feast days in the liturgical calendar and traditionally the month of May is reserved for her honor. Hail Mary!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI'S PRAYER PRAISING MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS

Hail, holy lady, most holy queen, Mary, Mother of God, ever virgin. You were chosen by the Most High Father in heaven, consecrated by him, with his most holy beloved Son and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. On you descended and still remains all the fullness of grace and every good. Hail his palace. Hail his tabernacle. Hail his robe. Hail his handmaid. Hail his Mother. And hail all holy virtues, who by grace and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are poured into the hearts of the faithful so that from their faithless state, they may be made faithful servants of God through you. Amen.