

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor Andrew Koterba

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 4, 2013



Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus
Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities!
All things are vanity!

Here is one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave property. This also is vanity and a great misfortune. For what profit comes to man from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which he has labored under the sun? All his days sorrow and grief are his occupation; even at night his mind is not at rest. This also is vanity.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

You turn man back to dust, saying, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, now that it is past, or as a watch of the night.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

You make an end of them in their sleep; the next morning they are like the changing grass, Which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days. And may the gracious care of the LORD our God be ours; prosper the work of our hands for us! Prosper the work of our hands!

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts

READING II - Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Brothers and sisters: If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is

on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory. Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all and in all.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: Verse. R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?" Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

Then he told them a parable. "There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, "Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!"' But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Come Unto Jesus"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Shepherd Me, O God"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Prayer of St. Francis"

St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

FEEDBACK...

SOMETHING ONLY YOU CAN DO FOR PRIESTS

According to the Gospel of Luke, we owe one of the disciples, unnamed, big time! Because that unnamed disciple went directly to the Lord. He had learned much, appreciated it, but wanted still more. And Jesus responded, teaching the Disciples and all of us The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4). The assertive presence of that disciple teaches us something else as well: Even the best teachers and preachers appreciate feedback. It's good for the teacher - the only way to know how the "lessons" are coming across. And good for the student - often leading to even better "lessons." As we pray this most perfect of all prayers, the "Our Father" - the "Lord's Prayer," its good to remember that speaking up in matters of prayer and faith will be good for us and for others also. Most priests will tell you that they rarely know how they are doing in their teaching ministry. The sermon. Parishioners are great in so many ways. They are the Church, God's people. They give of their time in parish ministries. They contribute regularly to keep the "plant" running. They take part in parish council work, serve, prepare, support and are just plain fun! But most stop short of giving good feedback, for example on homilies or the quality of the liturgical celebrations. And that is too bad. Because so much of what we can say will be a positive or constructive help to the priests, the lectors, the greeters at the door. "Wow, Father. You gave me so much to take out the door with me today. Thank you for such a great sermon." Or, "Bill, great reading today. I know I want to go home and pray and reflect over that text today." Or, "Father, I'm so glad you were celebrant for the funeral today. Such a difficult time for the family, and your sermon made such a difference." Or, "I had forgotten what Baptism is all about. Thank you for explaining, for helping us remember what is happening in this sacrament." And of course, like that disciple of Jesus, let the pastor know if you need more. "Where can I find out more about ... ?" He'll give you some good information, no doubt, while being grateful to you for speaking up. Summer usually offers us a bit more time to do these things. So try it. Be generous in letting the priest or other church server, know how well they did. Then once you get in the habit of praising people in your church family, you may be able to do the same thing at home. A surprising if unsuspected benefit! Give it a try this summer.

A SUMMER GIFT

We always welcome any gift from your garden, a single flower or a floral bouquet, to adorn our altar. Nature's beauty holds the power to uplift your spirit and soul. Please bring your gift before Mass, vases are provided. God's Peace and Blessings!

ONE DAY AT A TIME!

We have just one chance, one opportunity to live today. Each time the clock strikes midnight, one day becomes history and a new one begins, we can't go back and we can't jump ahead. Let us see every today as a chance to be all we can be for Jesus and experience His abundant life, let us try to live one day at a time, enjoy the present because yesterday is gone and tomorrow is not promised to no one, so let us enjoy today in fullness!

VIRTUE OF UNDERSTANDING

When it comes to a true understanding of God, we can forget about regular "definitions." Who, what, how. For the task is one "surpassing all understanding." The saints knew it: as creatures of God, we are never going to "understand" all about God. Even though God understands all about us. Understanding is built upon acceptance. From something theoretical, like theories, to ordinary activities: why Moms make sure their children brush their teeth. They act that way and you expect them to do so. In the same way, accepting God as God - something we will never fully understand no matter how long we ponder the issue - is an important step. An essential step to growing in the very special relationship God has with us from our creation through life in eternity!

GOD'S PROMISES...A to Z

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain
Continue in thanksgiving
Do not begin to blame.
Even when the times are hard
Fierce winds are bound to blow
God is forever able
Hold on to whom you know.
Imagine life without His love
Joy would cease to be
Keep thanking Him for all the things
Love imparts to thee.
Move out of 'Camp Complaining'
No weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone.
Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand,
Start every day with worship
To 'thank' a command.
Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky
We'll run the race with gratitude
eXalting God most high.
Yes, there'll be good times, and, yes,
some will be bad But
Zion waits in glory...
where none are ever sad!