



# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor Andrew Koterba

*Sunday, September 13, 2015*

*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



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 - Is 50:5-9a

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

I love the LORD because

he has heard my voice in supplication,

Because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called.

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, And I called upon the name of the LORD,

"O LORD, save my life!"

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful.

The LORD keeps the little ones;

I was brought low, and he saved me.

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

READING 2 - James 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**R:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world..

**R:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL - Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "*Center of My Life*"

COMMUNION HYMN- "*Bread of Life*"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "*Hail Mary, Gentle Woman*"



## St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

*One song can spark a moment  
One flower can wake the dream  
One tree can start a forest  
One bird can herald spring  
One smile begins a friendship  
One handclasp lifts a soul  
One star can guide a ship at sea  
One word can frame the goal  
One vote can change a nation  
One sunbeam lights a room  
One candle wipes our darkness  
One laugh will conquer gloom  
One step must start each journey  
One word must start a prayer  
One hope will raise our spirits  
One touch can show you care  
One voice can speak with wisdom  
One heart can know what is true  
One Life can make a difference*

—*Author Unknown*  
(shared by Terri Banks)

### FAITH..

How sad, hearing someone talk of having "lost my faith." As if faith, the great theological virtue and gift of God, could be misplaced like a favorite ring, or a good book one pulls off the shelf every now and then.

At the same time, most of us know that the gift of faith is taken for granted. To keep our faith strong and growing, we need to put faith in practice. And how do we do that?

By expressing our faith, through prayer. Making time for prayer shows commitment to God is a priority in our lives.

Another practice of faith is quite simple; Trying to see the presence of God in those we live and work with each day; in our children, our parents, our elderly, our fellow workers, the people in line at the supermarket - that is faith in action!

### MARK THE DATES!

*Saturday, October 3, 2015 - 1 p.m.*

Blessing of the Animals. Ask how you can help.

*Sunday, December 5, 2015 - 3 p.m.*

Christmas Fund-raiser Dinner. Ask how you can help.

### THE TRIUMPH OF THE HOLY CROSS, September 14

ST. PAUL the Apostle spoke of the power of Christ's Cross. According to tradition, the Empress Helena discovered the Lord's Cross in Jerusalem on September 14, 320. Five years later, a great church was built on Mount Calvary by Emperor Constantine to shelter the holy relic. Parts of the wood of the Cross were sent to the major cities of Christendom, where they were shown to the faithful on this special feast.

We worship you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

By this holy tree you gave your people victory, and put aside the tree of our defeat.

### OUR LADY OF SORROWS, September 15

THE FEAST, popular in the Middle Ages, follows the feast of Mary's birth on September 8. It recalls the special bond between Jesus and Mary and reminds us of the torment and suffering of Christ. Mary suffered greatly as the Mother of God, and the pain she felt was real. The feast of Our Lady of Sorrows recalls the succession of sorrows Mary experienced during her life: the prophecy she heard from Simeon in the temple, the flight into Egypt, the three day loss of Jesus on the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, meeting Jesus on the way to Calvary, the hours she stood beneath the Cross, the removal of Jesus from the Cross, and the burial of Jesus in a tomb.

Holy Mother, pierce me through; In my heart each wound renew of my Savior crucified.

### BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen REMAINING FAITHFUL

Many people live with the unconscious or conscious expectation that eventually things will get better; wars, hunger, poverty, oppression, and exploitation will vanish; and all people will live in harmony. Their lives and work are motivated by that expectation. When this does not happen in their lifetimes, they are often disillusioned and experience themselves as failures. But Jesus doesn't support such an optimistic outlook. He foresees not only the destruction of his beloved city Jerusalem but also a world full of cruelty, violence, and conflict. For Jesus there is no happy ending in this world. The challenge of Jesus is not to solve all the world's problems before the end of time but to remain faithful at any cost.

### ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS - Helen Steiner Rice GOOD THINGS

Let us see in others not their little imperfections, but let us find the good things that arouse our best affections.

"Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out." —Proverbs 17:14

Today develop the ability to look for and find Jesus in others!