



# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554

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Pastor Andrew Koterba

*Sunday, September 20, 2015*

*Twenty-Fifth 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.

8:00 AM - "*Hymn of Faith*"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Wis 2:12, 17-20

The wicked say: Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us; he sets himself against our doings, reproaches us for transgressions of the law and charges us with violations of our training. Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him. For if the just one be the son of God, God will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes. With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience. Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6 and 8

**R. *The Lord upholds my life.***

O God, by your name save me, and by your might defend my cause. O God, hear my prayer; hearken to the words of my mouth.

**R. *The Lord upholds my life.***

For the haughty men have risen up against me, the ruthless seek my life; they set not God before their eyes.

**R. *The Lord upholds my life.***

Behold, God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life. Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O LORD, for its goodness.

**R. *The Lord upholds my life.***

READING 2 - Jas 3:16-4:3

Beloved: Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from? Is it not from your passions that make war within your members? You covet but do not possess. You kill and envy but you cannot obtain; you fight and wage war. You do not possess because you do not ask. You ask but do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

Priest/Lector: God has called us through the Gospel to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Verse.

**R:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL - Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him.

They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "*Center of My Life*"

COMMUNION HYMN -

*"I Myself Am the Bread of Life"*

RECESSIONAL HYMN -

*"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"*

**ST. MATTHEW, September 21**

**(First Century) apostle and evangelist**

The call of St. Matthew, the tax collector, to be one of the twelve apostles of Jesus is described in the Gospel which bears his name. "Jesus saw a man named Matthew at his post where taxes were collected. He said to him, "Follow me!" And Matthew got up and followed him." It is hard to imagine a more unlikely person for Jesus to call as a companion than Matthew. Tax collectors, as agents of a hated Roman government and members of a profession known for unfairness and greed, were despised by the Jewish people. They were excluded from the synagogue and the temple. When Jesus invited Matthew to follow him and then ate at his house where Matthew's friends, outsiders like himself, were gathered, he heard the outraged comments of Capernaum's local leaders. "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered simply, "Those who are well have no need of a doctor; sick people do." By calling Matthew, Jesus invited an outcast to enjoy the healing friendship of God. In a lesson of love, he showed that God wants all, no matter who they are, to share his life. According to tradition, Matthew wrote down the stories and words of Jesus in Aramaic, the ancient language of Palestine. The first Gospel had its origins in him. Among the evangelists he is symbolized by the figure of a man, because Matthew's Gospel begins with the human origins of Jesus. There are reports that Matthew left Judea and preached in the East, where he was martyred in Ethiopia. His prayer, O God, may we follow your call. Amen.

**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!

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*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)*

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**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.