



# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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*Sunday, October 4, 2015*

*Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Feast of St. Francis of Assisi*



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 - Genesis 2:18-24

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." So the LORD God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The LORD God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

**R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.**

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

**R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

**R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.**

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

**R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.**

May you see your children's children.

Peace be upon Israel!

**R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.**

READING 2 - Hebrews 2:9-11

He "for a little while" was made "lower than the angels," that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

For it was fitting that he, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the leader to their salvation perfect through suffering. He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated all have one origin. Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them 'brothers.'

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

Priest/Lector: If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us.

**R:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL - Mark 10:2-16

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Just As I Am"

COMMUNION HYMN- "Here I Am, Lord"

RECESSIONAL - "Prayer of St. Francis"



# *St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"*

## **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1181-1226)**

**October 4**

**Patron of Animals, Ecology, Italy & Tapestry Makers;  
invoked against fire.**

Francis of Assisi's great popularity, even among unbelievers, has never waned - he remains a subject for garden statuary and Hollywood movies. Born at Assisi in northern Italy in 1181, the son of a wealthy cloth merchant, Francis was christened John. Because his mother was French, he was given the then rare nickname of Francis ("Francesco," meaning "little Frenchman"). In his youth he was extravagant and carefree, a troubadour and knight-at-arms. But on a pilgrimage to Rome, he impulsively exchanged his rich attire for a beggar's grimly garb. And on his return to Assisi, he took to dismounting from his horse and passionately kissing lepers. When he was twenty-six, while praying in a ruined chapel, he heard an image of the Crucified say to him, "Repair My falling house." Taking Him literally, Francis immediately began restoring the building. In need of funds, he sold bolts of cloth taken from his father's warehouse. His angry parent haled him before the bishop, and disinherited his apparently mad son. Francis happily removed the clothes he was wearing at the time and gave them back. The bishop clad the naked Saint in the rough brown tunic of his gardener; this was the origin of the distinctive Franciscan habit. Francis departed, singing and was immediately beaten and thrown into a ditch by a band of ruffians. The knight-troubadour had found his True Love: "My Lady Poverty," he called her. With a few like-minded companions ("friars"), he wandered the countryside, begging and preaching. Within fifteen years, he was the leader of 5,000 Friars Minor and growing sister order of nuns, the Poor Clares. Francis wrote a strict Rule for them to live by, emphasizing absolute poverty, humility, and discipline. During his life, and in the following centuries, that Rule has been liberalized, conserved, reformed, and modified many times. But Francis himself is not so much a religious organizer as a charismatic example - a hero. He preached a sermon to the birds, he made a peace treaty with a wolf; he instituted the tradition of the Christmas crib. And in 1224, while praying, he was granted the Stigmata - the marks of Christ's five wounds on his body. In 1226, nearly blind and very ill, he composed and sang his Canticle of Brother Sun; and joyful to meet "His Sister Death." He had wished to be buried in a paupers' field, but was enshrined in the lavish basilica in Assisi which bears his name.



### **PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

O God who, through the merits of blessed Francis, magnifies your Church, enriching it anew with spiritual offering: make us, like him, to disdain the goods of earth, nor at any time to lack the comforting gifts of heaven.

St. Francis of Assisi, help us. By your example may we learn that life does not consist in the pursuit of wealth nor in the abundance of our possessions.

St. Francis of Assisi, come to our aid. Because we live at a time when people glorify ease and seek luxuries, and when many wish only the gratification of fleshly desires, we stand in special need of your single-minded dedication to Christ in the narrow way that leads to life.

St. Francis of Assisi, assist us now. May we appreciate as you did the beauties of God's wonderful creation, and the glory of the world he made for us. Help us to enjoy and appreciate God's bounty without spoiling or defacing his gifts by our heedlessness and greed.

Teach us, seraphic Father Francis; to value all things as Christ did and to be imitators of him as you were. May we thus enjoy the good things of life, but always prefer the blessings of the endless life to come. Amen

St. Francis, the little poor man of Assisi, we invoke you as the admirable mirror you were of our divine Master. You imitated Christ the Lord in your humility and obedience. You faithfully followed him in poverty and weakness. With joy you accepted suffering, contempt, and trials for the sake of his name.

In your goodness help us, then, to imitate your example. By your power with God obtain for us the special favor we now seek through your intercession. Please pray for us, gentle and happy saint of the poor, that we may be loyal followers of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and filled always with divine riches. Amen.

### **MARK THE DATE!**

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

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