

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! — St. Francis*

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Pastor Rev. Andrew Koterba Lorraine Pacheco, Chairperson

August 9, 2009 • Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus. **R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.**

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ. **R/. Now and forever. Amen.**

9:00 am - CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

ENTRANCE HYMN: *"Hymn of Faith"*

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Revelation 11, 19, 12, 1-6, 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

The queen takes her place at your right hand in gold of Ophir.

**R/: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

Hear, O daughter, and see; turn your ear, forget your people and your father's house.

**R/: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

So shall the king desire your beauty; for he is your lord.

**R/: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

They are borne in with gladness and joy; they enter the palace of the king.

**R/: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

READING II - 1 Corinthians 15, 20-25

Priest or Cantor: Alleluia **R./ Alleluia.** Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

**R./ Alleluia.**

GOSPEL - Luke 1, 39-56

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew

Mary set out, proceeding in haste into the hill country to a town of Judah, where she entered Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby stirred in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and cried out in a loud voice: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. But who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me? The moment you greeting sounded in my ears, the baby stirred in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled."

Then Mary said: "My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God, my savior, For he has looked upon his servant in her lowliness; all ages to come shall call me blessed. God who is mighty has done great things for me, holy is his name; His mercy is from age to age on those who fear him. "He has shown might with his arm; he has confused the proud in their thrones and raised the lowly to high places. The hungry he has given every good thing, while the rich he has sent empty away. He has upheld Israel his servant, ever mindful of his mercy; Even as he promised our fathers, promised Abraham and his descendants forever."

Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R:/ Praise be to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

GENERAL CONCESSIONS: **God, Hear Us!**

OFFERTORY HYMN - *"Immaculate Mary"*

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION - *"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"*

RECESSIONAL HYMN - *"How Great Thou Art"*



## St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

### ST. CLARE (1193-1253) August 11

St. Clare was born at Assisi, Italy, in 1193. When she was eighteen, St. Francis was preaching in Assisi and his words greatly inspired her. In 1212, on Palm Sunday, she ran away from home and went to Portiuncula, where Francis lived. He met her at the chapel of Our Lady of the Angels, cut off her hair, and gave her a sackcloth held together by a cord. She went to live in the Benedictine convent of St. Paul near Bastia.

Her family greatly objected, but their objections fell on deaf ears. Clare moved to a convent in Sant' Angelo di Panzo and was joined by her sister who was fifteen. In 1215, Clare, along with her sister, mother, and other companions, went to live in a convent associated with the Church of San Damiano, outside Assisi. Clare was appointed superior of the congregation by St. Francis, and this is considered to be the origin of the Poor Clares. In a short time, convents were opened in Italy, France, Germany, and Prague.

The Poor Clares adopted a severe life of poverty, silence and austerity. They did not own any property or possessions and existed on contributions. In 1228, Pope Gregory IX granted them the privilegium paupertatis, which excused them from having any material possessions.

Clare was superior of the order for over forty years. She died at the convent of San Damiano in 1253.

'Set your mind before the mirror of eternity! your soul before the brightness of glory! your heart before the divine presence, and be transformed totally into the image of God through contemplation.

Then you too may feel what his friends feel as they taste the hidden sweetness God has kept from the beginning for those who love him.' —St. Clare

### PRAYER TO ST. CLARE

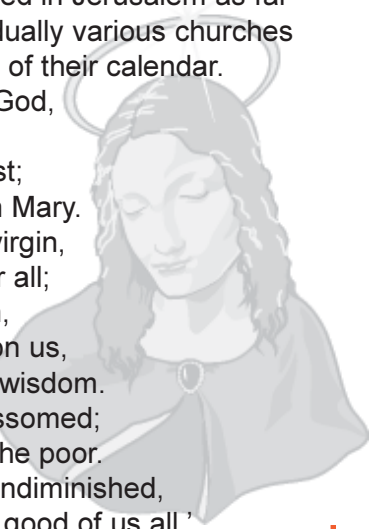
O Saint Clare, who turned from the temptations of this world to embrace a life of holy poverty dedicated to God, we celebrate your single-minded devotion and purity. Mercifully pray with us and for us to our Lord, asking for strength of purpose and focus of vision on our needy brothers and sisters and also the animals of the field and sky. Obtain for us the grace to renounce worldly goods and to acquire the strength to fight against the twin temptations of gluttony and selfishness. Saint Clare, your life on earth served as a mirror of purity and love for our Lord. May we find inspiration in your example so that we never cease striving for the riches in heaven rather than those on Earth. Amen.

### THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MOTHER, August 15

The taking up of the body and soul of the Mother of God into heaven was celebrated in Jerusalem as far back as the fifth century. Gradually various churches of East and West made it part of their calendar.

'Rejoice with the Mother of God, with angels and saints, and celebrate this great feast; the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. On earth she was a fruitful virgin, in heaven she intercedes for all; through this blessed woman, the Spirit's gifts still flow upon us, and her words teach gentle wisdom. IAt her assent the earth blossomed; she sought good things for the poor. Now in heaven her care is undiminished, near her Son she seeks the good of us all.'

—Adapted from a homily by Theothekno, Bishop of Palestine, +650



### BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY...

Henri Nouwen

### BEING LIVING SIGNS OF LOVE

Jesus' whole life was a witness to his Father's love, and Jesus calls his followers to carry on that witness in his Name. We, as followers of Jesus, are sent into this world to be visible signs of God's unconditional love. Taus, we are judged not first of all by what we say butt by what we live. When people say of us, "See how they love one another," they catch a glimpse of the Kingdom of God that Jesus announced and are drawn to it as by a magnet.

In a world so torn apart by rivalry, anger, and hatred, we have the privileged vocation to be living signs of a love that can bridge all divisions and heal all wounds.



### ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS...Helen Steiner Rice GROW IN GRATITUDE

Oh, God, who made the summer and warmed the earth with beauty, warm our hearts with gratitude and devotion to our duty.

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."

—Psalm 100:4

Today grow in gratitude!