

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, New York 11554 • (516) 794-5189 • [www.StFrancisPNCC.org](http://www.StFrancisPNCC.org)  
Pastor Rev. Andrew Koterba Lillian Zaradich, Chairperson

**November 16, 2008 • Thirty Third 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 - CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

ENTRANCE HYMN: "Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R/: Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Happy are those who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways.

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; happy shall you be and favored.

R/: Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home;

Your children like olive plants around your table.

R/: Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

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/: Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

READING II - I Thessalonians 5:1-6

Priest or Cantor: Alleluia R./ Alleluia. Verse. R./ Alleluia.

GOSPEL -Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "A man was going on a journey. He called in his servants and handed his funds over to them according to each man's abilities. To one he disbursed five thousand silver pieces, to a second two thousand, and to a third a thousand. Then he went away. Immediately the man who received the five thousand went to invest it and made another five. In the same way, the man who received the two thousand doubled his figure. The man who received the thousand went off instead and dug a hole in the ground, where he buried his master's money. After a long absence, the master of those servants came home and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five thousand came forward bringing the additional five. 'My lord,' he said, 'you let me have five thousand. See, I have made five thousand more.\* His master said to him, 'Well done! You are an industrious and reliable servant. Since you were dependable in a small matter I will put you in charge of larger affairs. Come, share your master's joy!' The man who had received the two thousand then stepped forward. 'My lord,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two thousand and I have made two thousand more! His master said to him, 'Cleverly done! You too are an industrious and reliable servant. Since you were dependable in a small matter I will put you in charge of larger affairs. Come, share your master's joy!'

"Finally the man who had received the thousand sand stepped forward. My lord,' he said, "I knew you were a hard man. You reap where you did not sow and gather where you did not scatter, so out of fear I went off and buried your thousand silver pieces in the ground. Here is your money back.' His master exclaimed: "You worthless, lazy lout! You know I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter. All the more reason to deposit my money with the bankers, so that on my return I could have had it back with interest. You, there! Take the thousand away from him and give it to the man with the ten thousand. Those who have, will get more until they grow rich, while those who have not, will lose even the little they have. Throw this worthless servant into the darkness outside, where he can wail and grind his teeth.'"

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

GENERAL CONCESSIONS: God, Hear Us!

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Be Not Afraid"



OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION - "On Eagle's Wings"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Prayer of St. Francis"

# St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

## ST. GERTRUDE (1256-1301) November 16

St. Gertrude was born at Eisleben, Germany, in 1256. Nothing is known of her parents, and at the age of five she was put under the auspices of the Benedictine nuns at Helfta. Intelligent and studious, she quickly mastered languages, literature, and philosophy in her early years. She would also enter the Benedictine Order at Helfta and become a nun.

At the age of twenty-six, she experienced the first of a series of revelations of Christ. In the chapel, "where I was accustomed to make my lukewarm prayers, I heard these words: 'I will save you and deliver you. Do not be afraid.'" From then on, she had numerous revelations and experiences of God's grace, which she wrote about in the Book of Extraordinary Grace, an account of her spiritual journey. As she approached death, she wrote, "I am certain whether my death be sudden or foreseen, that I shall never be without the mercy of God." Gertrude died at Helfta on November 17, 1301.

May my soul bless you, O Lord God my Creator, may my soul bless you. From my very being may all your merciful gifts sing your praise. Your care has been rich in mercy. Yes, it is without measure, and as far as I am able I give you thanks. + St. Gertrude +



## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen UNITY IN THE HEART OF GOD

Love unites all, whether created or uncreated. The heart of God, the heart of all creation, and our own hearts become one in love. That's what all the great mystics have been trying to tell us through the ages. Benedict, Francis, Hildegard of Bingen, Hadewijch of Brabant, Meister Eckhart, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Dag Hammarskjold, Thomas Merton, and many others, all in their own ways and their own languages, have witnessed to the unifying power of the divine love. All of them, however, spoke with a knowledge that came to them not through intellectual arguments but through contemplative prayer. The Spirit of Jesus allowed them to see the heart of God, the heart of the universe, and their own hearts as one. It is in the heart of God that we can come to the full realization of the unity of all that is, created and uncreated.

## HIS WORDS...DEATH

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." —Psalm 23:4

## ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS ... Helen Steiner Rice GOD'S CREATIVE HAND

In the beauty of a snowflake falling softly on the land is the mystery and miracle of God's great, creative hand!

"Praise the Lord from the earth...lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding."

—Psalm 148:7-8

Today observe the loveliness of a wintry scene. Each snowflake, like each human being, is special and has its own individual characteristics!

## ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

**EAST MEADOW INTER-FAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE** will be held on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8 p.m., at the Community Reform Temple, 712 The Plain Rd., Westbury. This annual E.M. Service invites the entire community to attend. Please contact Fr. Andrew for additional details about this event. We hope to see YOU!

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING:** Our ST. NICHOLAS/ CHRISTMAS DINNER will be held on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m.. Advertising for this event was sent out this week. Please invite family and friends to attend. Ask how you can help make this dinner a great success! Thank you!

**TOUGH TIMES** - These are tough economic times for many! Thoughts have been given on how our Parish can reach out and help others in some way ...

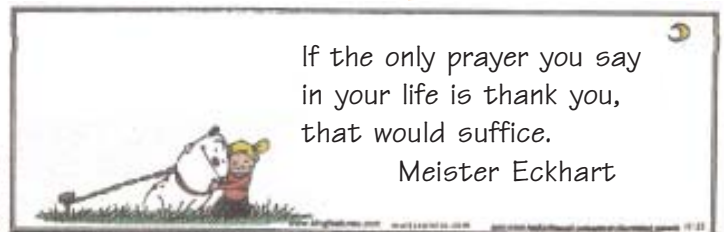
**ADOPT-A-FAMILY,** This project is hopeful and could be funded in part through our Christmas Dinner? Thoughts and ideas are needed to get this under way.

**FUTURE GROWTH FOR OUR PARISH:** an idea was proposed that we could hold a CHILDREN'S MASS, maybe once a month with the addition of a craft-time in the Parish Hall. This could be advertised for those interested? We welcome all ideas for growth for our parish...???

## +REQUIEM REMEMBRANCE+

The Church sets aside the month of November to remind you to pray for our faithfully departed. You are welcomed to submit any names of loved ones for a special Requiem Remembrances during Mass for this month. Please contact Fr. Andrew. God's Blessings!

MUTTS



If the only prayer you say  
in your life is thank you,  
that would suffice.

Meister Eckhart