

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554

(516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org • Pastor Andrew Koterba

Sunday, March 3, 2013 • Third Sunday of Lent



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

ST. CASIMIR (1458-1484)

March 4

St. Casimir was born on October 3, 1456, at the royal palace in Cracow, Poland. He was the third of thirteen children of King Casimir IV of Poland and Elizabeth of Austria. Casimir was tutored by John Dlugosz and as a youth developed a deep friendship with God and devotion to Mary. In honor of Our Lady, Casimir frequently recited the Latin hymn, *Omni die dic Mariae*, which is also known as the Hymn of Casimir.

His desire to be poor in spirit like Jesus Christ prompted him to avoid the luxury of court life and its privileges. Instead, he preferred simple food and clothing and devoted his riches and influence to care for the poor people of Poland.

In 1471, his father sent him to lead an army into Hungary to overthrow King Matthias Corvinus. Casimir became convinced before battle that the war was futile and unjust, so he ordered his soldiers home. Angered at his son, King Casimir IV had him imprisoned at the castle of Dobzki for three months. Casimir served as viceroy of Poland from 1479 to 1463. We had taken a vow of celibacy as a child, and despite pressure from his father, Casimir refused to marry the daughter of Emperor Frederick III.

His integrity, fairness and love for those in need deeply impressed the ruling class of Poland; his people called him "the Peacemaker" and patron of the poor. He died from lung disease at the age of twenty-five on March 4, 1464, and is buried at Vilna, Lithuania. Casimir is the patron of Poland and Lithuania. His prayer, All powerful God,



by the prayers of St. Casimir help us serve you in the cause of peace and justice. Amen.

'GREAT IS THE LORD'

The Season of Lent and the Feast of Easter; is a special time of healing and renewal! It is a unique time and opportunity to invite family and friend, to join us in the Celebration of the Eucharist, each Sunday, at 9 a.m.. Add an invitation to all to join us in the Parish hall, after Mass, for coffee and a roll. It remains our time for 'Fellowship' - to share, listen and care. Remember, Great is the Lord!



BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen

A reflection of faith and wisdom ... CREATING SPACE FOR GOD

Discipline is the other side of discipleship. Discipline without discipline is like waiting to run in the marathon without ever practicing. Discipline without discipleship is like always practicing for the marathon out never participating. It is important, however, to realize that discipline in the spiritual life is not the same as discipline in sports. Discipline in sports is the concentrated effort to master the body so that it can obey the mind better. Discipline in the spiritual life is the concentrated effort to create the space and time where God can become our master and where we can respond freely to God's guidance. Thus, discipline is the creation of boundaries that Keep time and space open for God. Solitude requires discipline, worship requires discipline, caring for others requires discipline. They all ask us to set apart a time and a place where God's gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to.

2013 Upcoming Events

**Sundays After Mass During Lent
February 17 - March 24**
Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 10 - 3:00 pm
St. Patrick/Joseph Fundraiser Dinner

Sunday, March 24 - 9:00 am
Palm Sunday Mass & Procession

Friday, March 29 - 7:00 pm
Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, March 30 - 1:00 pm
Blessing of Easter Baskets

Sunday, March 31 - 9:00 am
Easter Sunday Mass