

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, New York 11554

Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor • Lorraine Pacheco, Council Chair • (516) 794-5189 • www.stfrancispncc.org

Sunday, April 19, 2006 • Second Sunday of Easter

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

Let Jesus Christ be praised. **R/. Now and forever. Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN - "*Christ Is Risen*"

9:00 AM - CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Apostles 4: 32-35

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the Lord helped me. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad & rejoice in it.

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

READING II - 1 John 5:1-6

R/ Alleluia. You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! **R./ Alleluia.**

GOSPEL - John 20: 19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples *had* locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood before them "Peace be with you," he said. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At the sight of the Lord the disciples rejoiced. "Peace be with you," he said again.

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Then he breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, 'they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound.'"

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas (the name means "Twin"), was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him: "We have seen the Lord!" His answer was, "I'd never believe it without probing the nail-prints in his hands, without putting my finger in the nail-marks and my hand into his side."

A week later, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them "Peace be with you," he said; then, to Thomas: "Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not persist in your unbelief, but believe!" Thomas said in response, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus then said to him:

"You became a believer because you saw me. Blest are they who have not seen and have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs as well—signs not recorded here—in the presence of his disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, so that through this faith you may have life in his name.

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

GENERAL CONCESSIONS: R/ God, Hear Us! or Lord, Hear Our Prayer!

OFFERTORY HYMN - "*Come Rejoice Our Lord Is Risen*"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE - *Alleluia*" & "*O'er Death Victorious*"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "*Come Ye Faithful*"



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

THE EASTER CYCLE ... EASTERTIDE

Eastertide begins at Easter and ends on the Saturday after Pentecost. It is a time of uninterrupted joy and feasts, during which we celebrate the mysteries of the Resurrection, the Ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and also on His Church.

In the liturgy of Eastertide, we commemorate the various appearances of Our Lord, during which He instructed His apostles and prepared them for the descent of the Holy Spirit and His own Ascension.

The triumph and joy of Eastertide is reflected in the decoration of the sanctuary. Until Ascension Day, the paschal candle shines in the sanctuary, as a symbol of the visible presence of Our Lord upon earth, the joyful repetition of "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, resounds and remains a sign of joy and peace.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen FREEDOM ATTRACTS

When you are interiorly free you call others to freedom, whether you know it or not. Freedom attracts wherever it appears. A free man or a free woman creates a space where others feel safe and want to dwell. Our world is so full of conditions, demands, requirements, and obligations that we often wonder what is expected of us. But when we meet a truly free person, there are no expectations, only an invitation to reach into ourselves and discover there our own freedom.

Where true inner freedom is, there is God. And where God is, there we want to be.

ST. MARK (first century), April 25

St. Mark, author of the second Gospel, was a member of the early Christian community at Jerusalem. St. Paul and St. Barnabas, his cousin, took him on their first missionary journey. When they reached Cyprus, however, Mark left them to return to Jerusalem, perhaps because he missed home. This caused Paul to question for awhile Mark's reliability as a missionary, and the incident brought about a disagreement between himself and Barnabas. Later, Mark became Paul's trusted companion at Rome, during one of Paul's imprisonments. He was also an associate of Peter.

One tradition relates that Mark became Bishop of Alexandria in Egypt. Around the ninth century, his relics were brought to Venice where they rest in the great Cathedral of San Marco.

Mark is depicted in art as a winged lion, probably suggested by the description in his Gospel of John the Baptist as "a voice crying in the desert." It is believed that he wrote his Gospel between 60 and 70 A.D.

God, our Father, may we know your Son, Jesus Christ,

truly one of us and truly God. Amen.

ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

- **SWIECONKA DINNER** will be held today, April 19, at 1 p.m., Resurrection Parish, 678 Leonard St., Greenpoint. \$15 per person. All are invited!
- **WORKING TOGETHER**, our Easter Food Blessing, held on Holy Saturday, was a great success! Thank you to all who helped make this one of the best events to date. A lot of prayer and again working together made the difference.
- **JUST A NOTE**, That the story of Irene Sendler, a Polish Catholic that saved thousands of children from the Warsaw Ghetto. Will be shown in a Hallmark Presentation, Sunday, April 19 at 9 p.m., Ch. 2
- **INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW PASTOR / SPRING FUNDRAISER DINNER** will be held at St. Francis Parish, Sunday, May 31 at 5 p.m.. Please ask how you can help...making this another successful event for our parish. Thank you!

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS...Helen Steiner Rice RENEWAL

After the winter comes the spring to show us again that in everything there's always renewal divinely planned, flawlessly perfect, the work of God's hand.

"For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him." Psalm 95:3, 4

Today renew yourself. Improve yourself. Awaken the desire within you to blossom into the best you can be. Let it be accomplished in and for God's honor!

