

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

Pastor Rev. Andrew Koterba Lorraine Pacheco, Chairperson

August 30, 2009 • Twenty-Second 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 - Deuteronomy 4, 1-2, 6-8

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue.

R/: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;
By whom the reprobate is despised, while he honors those who fear the Lord.

R/: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things shall never be disturbed.

R/: He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

READING II - James 1, 17-18, 21-22, 27

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

GOSPEL - Mark 7, 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Mark
The Pharisees and some of the experts in the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. They had observed a few of his disciples eating meals without having purified—that is to say, washed their hands. The Pharisees, and in fact all Jews, cling to the custom of their ancestors and never eat without scrupulously washing their hands. Moreover, they never eat anything from the market without first sprinkling it. There are many other traditions they observe—for example, the washing of cups and jugs and kettles. So the Pharisees and the scribes questioned him: "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of our ancestors, but instead take food without purifying their hands?" He said to them: "How accurately Isaiah prophesied about you hypocrites when he wrote,

'This people pays me lip service
but their heart is far from me.

Empty is the reverence they do me
because they teach as dogmas mere human precepts.'

You disregard God's commandment and cling to what is human tradition."

He summoned the crowd again and said to them: "Hear me, all of you, and try to understand. Nothing that enters a man from outside can make him impure; that which comes out of 'him, and only that, constitutes impurity. Let everyone heed what he hears!"

"Wicked designs come from the deep recesses of the heart: acts of fornication, theft, murder, adulterous conduct, greed, maliciousness, deceit, sensuality, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, an obtuse spirit. All these evils come from within and render a man impure."

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

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - *"Christ Be Our Light"*

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION - *"One Bread, One Body"*

RECESSIONAL HYMN - *"On Eagle's Wings"*

St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (first century), August 29

St. John was born at Ain-Karim, near Jerusalem. His father was Zachary, a priest in Jerusalem, and his mother was Elizabeth, a kinswoman of the Virgin Mary. He lived as a hermit in the desert of Judea until 27. He began to preach along the banks of the Jordan River and stated, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Many people came to hear him, including several who would become Christ's apostles. It was John who baptized Jesus and pointed him out as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." After the baptism, John continued to preach along the banks of the Jordan.

The Gospel of Mark records the circumstances of John the Baptist's death. Herod had John imprisoned because the Baptist had condemned the ruler's marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife. Infuriated with John, Herodias plotted to kill him. At a birthday banquet, Herod, delighted by the dancing of Herodias' daughter, told her he would give her anything she requested. At her mother's prompting, she told him, "I want you to give me the head of John the Baptist, here and now, on a dish."

John's death is celebrated by a feast, because it resembles in so many ways the death of Jesus. Like his master, John went to death silently and helplessly, a victim of petty revenge, human cowardice and cruelty. His death in such absurd circumstances was his confession of faith in God, who alone sustains the human heart when it seems crushed by evil and injustice.

God, make us faithful to truth and justice, as you did your servant, John the Baptist, herald of your Son's birth and death. Amen.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen CHOOSING LIFE

God says, "I am offering you life or death, blessing or curse. Choose life, then, so that you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

"choose life." That's God's call for us, and there is not a moment in which we do not have to -Ake that choice- Life and death are always before us . In our imaginations our thoughts our words- our gestures, our actions...even in our non-actions. This choice for life starts in a deep interior place. Underneath very life-affirming behavior I can still harbor death-thoughts

and death feelings The most important question is not "Do I kill?" but "Do I carry a blessing in my heart or a curse?" The bullet that kills is only the final instrument of the hatred that began in the heart long before the gun was picked up

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS ... Helen Steiner Rice AN ETERNAL LIGHT

Love has all the qualities of an eternal light that keeps the garments of the soul clean and pure and bright.

"The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple --- Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name. —Psalm 132

Today pattern your life after a candle - radiate light to those around you!

ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

- GIANT YARD SALE continues today, from 10 am - 4 pm. Thank you to all who helped Friday in setting up and for your help yesterday! Please ask how you could help today? Let's make this another successful project for our parish! Our sincere appreciation to All!
- PIEROGIES FOR SALE! Today, we have a large selection of pierogies for sale in our Hall, (potato sauerkraut, mushroom, spinach)! Thank you for your kind donation, (Joni & John Blenn, Mrs. Capuano) - funding the start of this new project. Please contact Monica for your purchases...Try 'one'...you'll like it!
- A NEW PATIO, was completed by Fr. Andrew, located in the front of the rectory. Another job well done! Thank you!
- UP-COMING EVENTS...

- Our annual St. Francis Celebration, Blessing of Animals, Saturday, October 3, 1 p.m.
- St. Francis Celebration Dinner, Sunday, October 4, 3 p.m.

