

### St. Francis Polish National Catholic Church

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# Sunday, September 16 , 2012 Twenty-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.

8:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

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### READING I - Is 50:5-9a

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 *R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.* I love the LORD because

he has heard my voice in supplication,

Because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called. *R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.* The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, And I called upon the name of the LORD,

"O LORD, save my life!"

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.* Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful. The LORD keeps the little ones;

I was brought low, and he saved me.

*R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.* For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.



### READING 2 - Jas 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

### GOSPEL - Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." This is the gospel of the Lord.

### R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "O Sacrament Most Holy" COMMUNION HYMN- "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman" RECESSIONAL HYMN - "On Eagles' Wings"

## St. Francis Weekly "Kompasitions"\_

### ST. MATTHEW, September 21 (First Century) apostle and evangelist

The call of St. Matthew, the tax collector, to be one of the twelve apostles of Jesus is described in the Gospel which bears his name. "Jesus saw a man named Matthew at his post where taxes were collected. He said to him, "Follow me!" And Matthew got up and followed him." It is hard to imagine a more unlikely person for Jesus to call as a companion than Matthew. Tax collectors, as agents of a hated Roman government and members of a profession known for unfairness and greed, were despised by the Jewish people. They were excluded from the synagogue and the temple. When Jesus invited Matthew to follow him and then ate at his house where Matthew's friends, outsiders like himself, were gathered, he heard the outraged comments of Capernaum's local leaders. "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered simply, "Those who are well have no need of a doctor; sick people do." By calling Matthew, Jesus invited an outcast to enjoy the healing friendship of God. In a lesson of love, he showed that God wants all, no matter who they are, to share his life. According to tradition, Matthew wrote down the stories and words of Jesus in Aramaic, the ancient language of Palestine. The first Gospel had its origins in him. Among the evangelists he is symbolized by the figure of a man, because Matthew's Gospel begins with the human origins of Jesus. There are reports that Matthew left Judea and preached in the East, where he was martyred in Ethiopia. His prayer, 0 God, may we follow your call. Amen.



### MARK THE DATES!

Saturday, October 6, 1 p.m. Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets. Sunday, October 14, 3 p.m. St. Francis Fall Fund-raiser Dinner All are welcome. Ask how you can help. Sunday, October 28, 9 a.m. Thomas & Lorraine Kompa's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Renewal of Marriage Vows Sunday, December 2, 3 p.m. St. Nicholas Fund-raiser Dinner

All are welcome. Ask how you can help.

### **BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen**

A reflection of wisdom and faith... STANDING UNDER THE CROSS

Standing erect, holding our heads high, is the attitude of spiritually mature people in face of the calamities of our world. The facts of everyday life are a rich source for doomsday thinking and feeling. But it is possible for us to resist this temptation and to stand with self-confidence in this world, never losing our spiritual ground, always aware that "sky and earth will pass away" but the words of Jesus will never pass away (see Luke 21:33). Let us be like Mary, the mother of Jesus, who stood under the cross, trusting in God's faithfulness notwithstanding the death of his beloved Child.

### **HIS WORDS - GOD'S FAITHFULNESS**

"Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands." Deuteronomy 7:9

### THE VIRTUE OF "FAITH"

How sad, hearing someone talk of having "lost my faith." As if faith, the great theological virtue and gift of God, could be misplaced like a favorite ring, or a good book one pulls off the shelf every now and then. At the same time, most of us know that the gift of faith is taken for granted. To keep our faith strong and growing, we need to put faith into practice. And how do we do that? By expressing our faith, through prayer. Making time for prayer shows commitment to God is a priority in our lives. Another practice of faith is quite simple; Trying to see the presence of God in those we live and work with each day; in our children, our parents, our elderly, our fellow workers, the people in line at the supermarket - that is faith in action!

