



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 Lillian Zaradich, Chairperson

September 7, 2008 • 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.**

9:00 am - CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

ENTRANCE HYMN: *"Morning Has Broken"*

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Ezekiel 33:7-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.
Let us greet him with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R/: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us,
For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R/: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works."

R/: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts

READING II - Romans 13:8-10

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

GOSPEL - Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother should commit some wrong against you, go and point out his fault, but keep it between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. If he does not listen, however, summon another, so that every case may stand on the word of two or three witnesses. If he ignores them, refer it to the church. If he ignores even the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. I assure you, whatever you declare bound on earth shall be held bound in heaven, and whatever you declare loosed on earth shall be held loosed in heaven.

"Again I tell you, if two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven. Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst."

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

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - *"Here I Am Lord"*

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION - *"Christ Be Our Light"*

RECESSIONAL HYMN - *How Great Thou Art"*



Create in me
a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and
right spirit within me.

—Psalm 51:10



St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

THE BIRTH OF MARY, September 8

Along with the birth of Jesus and St. John the Baptist, Mary's birth has been celebrated by the Church from early times. In fourth-century Jerusalem a feast of her birth was celebrated at the Church of St. Ann, probably inspiring the Church of Rome also to celebrate too, this event. Mary's birth is seen always as part of God's plan for the salvation of the world through Jesus Christ.

O Mary, you are blessed,
for the mysteries of the prophets are fulfilled in you.
You were in the burning bush
and in the cloud that Moses saw;
You were on the ladder rising up
to heaven that Ezechiel saw;
You were in the ark of the covenant, that David saw.
At your birth these mysteries are fulfilled.
Glory to the Father, who sent his only Son through you.
Adapted from an early Syrian text

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY... Henri Nouwen BLESSING ONE ANOTHER

To bless means to say good things. We have to bless one another constantly. Parents need to bless their children, children their parents, husbands their wives, wives their husbands, friends their friends. In our society, so full of curses, we must fill each place we enter with our blessings. We forget so quickly that we are God's beloved children and allow the many curses of our world to darken our hearts. Therefore, we have to be reminded of our belovedness and remind others of theirs. Whether the blessing is given in words or with gestures, in a solemn or an informal way, our lives need to be blessed lives.

WORDS WORTH NOTING ...

"Better one word less than one word too many."
—Maltese Proverb

"Today it is fashionable to talk about the poor.
Unfortunately it is not fashionable to talk with them."
—Mother Teresa

"Those who approach Jesus with a heart free of prejudice can quite easily come to have faith because Jesus himself has already seen them and loved them first."
— Pope John Paul II

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS...Helen Steiner Rice SEASONS OF LOVE

Through a happy springtime and a summer filled with love, may we walk into the autumn with our thoughts on God above.

"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." —Proverbs 17:22
Today value the beauty of the changing season. No matter the time of year there is evidence that God is near!

ST. FRANCIS NOTES ...

OUR ST. FRANCIS CELEBRATIONS are quickly approaching... Animal Blessing (Oct. 4th) and Church renovation Blessing and Celebration Dinner, (Oct. 5th). Our preparations are many... we still need your help. Please ask how... invite family and friends, in attendance, participation, encouragement, thoughts and ideas, donations and continued stewardship... Together, we continue on this our faith's journey! Thank you!

OUR CHURCH AND RECTORY STEPS are now a project in progress! A contractor has been selected and hopefully work will begin this week and in addition our steps to the downstairs Hall, will also be replaced and widen to 7' across. We have awaited this project for a long time - our prayers be answered! our prayers continue... with commitment to God and remains a priority in our lives!

A BIG ST. FRANCIS THANK YOU to Lorraine Kompa who single-handedly researched & addressed envelopes stuffed with our Animal Blessing flyer to over 80 veterinarians, grooming salons, dog/cat food stores, etc. Fr. Wes is bringing his new horse and, of course, the NCPD Mounted Unit will also be there. Be sure to bring sugar, mints and carrots for the horsies!

ANOTHER BIG ST. FRANCIS THANK YOU to Mrs. Lesak, Fr. Andrew, Monika, Louise, Tony and Joni for making a zillion dozen perigies on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Okay, so they made about 40 dozen... that should hold us over until at least the 76th Anniversary/New Church Blessing.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING 2008 DATES

Sunday, September 21, 2008

Church of Resurrection
Greenpoint Bklyn
86th Anniversary Mass 11:00 am
Social Hour 12:00 noon
Dinner 1:00 p.m.
Reservations Steve 718 225 1298

Saturday, October 4, 2008

1:00 p.m.
Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5, 2008

76th Anniversary Celebration
& Blessing of Renovated Church

Thurs-Sat, October 23-25, 2008

Diocese Synod, Wilkes Barre, PA
Fr. Andrew is looking for attendees

Saturday, November 1, 2008

Holiday Market
Vendor Fair, Sell Tables

Sunday, December 7, 2008

St. Nicholas/Christmas Dinner
Fundraiser