



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 www.StFrancisPNCC.org
Pastor Rev. Andrew Koterba Lillian Zaradich, Chairperson

October 5, 2008 • Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
76th Anniversary & Blessing of Newly Renovated Church
Celebrated by Most Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Prime Bishop of PNCC
and Rt. Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese

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”*

WELCOME - Father Andrew Koterba

HISTORY OF EAST MEADOW’S ST. FRANCIS PARISH - Thomas Kompa

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me now sing of my friend, my friend’s song concerning his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines; within it he built a watchtower, and hewed out a wine press. Then he looked for the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was wild grapes. Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes? Now, I will let you know what I mean to do with my vineyard: take away its hedge, give it to grazing, break through its wall, let it be trampled! Yes, I will make it a ruin: it shall not be pruned or hoed, but overgrown with thorns and briars; I will command the clouds not to send rain upon it.

The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished plant; he looked for judgment, but see, bloodshed! for justice, but hark, the outcry!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 80, 9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

A vine from Egypt you transplanted; you drove away the nations and planted it.
It put forth its foliage to the Sea, its hoots as far as the River.

R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Why have you broken down its walls, so that every passerby plucks its fruit,
The boar from the forest lays it waste, and the beasts of the field feed upon it?

R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Once again, O Lord of hosts, look down from heaven, and see;
Take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted
[the son of man whom you yourself made strong].

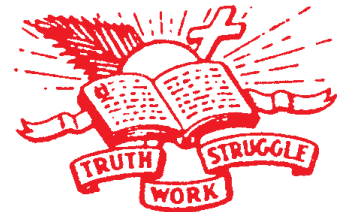
R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Then we will not more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.
O Lord of hosts, restore us; if your face shine upon us, then we shall be safe.

R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

READING II - Philippians 4:6-9

Brothers and sisters: Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.



Cantor: Alleluia **R/ Alleluia.** I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will remain. **R/ Alleluia.**

GOSPEL - Matthew 21:33-43

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.

When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures:

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?
Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

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

HOMILY - Most Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich - Prime Bishop of PNCC

BLESSING OF RENOVATED CHURCH

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "*Here I Am Lord*"

OUR FATHER - page 95

COMMUNION HYMN - "*One Bread, One Body*"

POST COMMUNION HYMN - "*Christ Be Our Light*"

RECESSIONAL HYMNS - "*Prayer of St. Francis*", "*How Great Thou Art*" & "*Joyful, Joyful*"

New Parishioners - Welcome New Parishioners. All new and prospective parishioners are invited to St. Francis Hall for coffee and doughnuts after the 9:00 am Mass. Come and learn more about the St. Francis community. Current parishioners are encouraged to attend and make our new members feel welcome.

Baptism - Sunday at 9:00 am Holy Mass - Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Confession - It is important to maintain this sacrament in preparing ourselves to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Confession will be held the first Sunday of each month immediately before 9:00 am mass. Use page 39 of the red hymn book, **Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral CHORAL MASS HYMNS FOR THE CHURCH YEAR.** If you can get to church a bit early and review pages 1-7 of tan & yellow **The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.** Private Confessions will be held as requested. Contact Fr. Andrew.

Marriage - Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to wedding.

Sick Visit and Anointing of The Sick- Please note that Fr. Andrew is available for these calls. Remember this opportunity is not only for parishioners of St. Francis, but for anyone seeking a priest! Call Fr. Andrew at the rectory 516-794-5189.

Welcome to Our Visitors - We welcome all our visitors who are present with us for worship this Sunday! Please introduce yourself to the Pastor, Rev. Andrew Koterba after Mass. Please remember that you are always welcome to join us in worship at St. Francis Parish.

Health need requests or requiem intentions - call Joni at 516-783-8863 (leave message) or e-mail her at joancapitano@aol.com or call Fr. Andrew.

Parish Dues - We are accepting dues for 2008 and updating the membership booklets. Parish dues are \$50 for an individual & \$100 per family. New parishioners are welcome.

PARISH HALL CALENDAR

Mondays (2:45-9:30 pm) Williams Dance Studio (Sept. - May)

Tuesdays (6-9 pm) Mike Pekor's Tai Chi

Thursdays (6-9 pm) Williams Dance Studio (Sept.-May)

Hall Rentals - Our Hall rentals add a great financial support to our parish. Please support, promote and encourage our hall rentals. If you know of someone in need of a hall, keep St. Francis Hall in mind. A great space for parties or meetings; dates are available and reasonable in price! Call (516) 794-5189.

St. Francis Weekly "Kompositions"

A JOURNEY OF FAITH...

Francis of Assisi is certainly one of the most universally known and loved of all saints. Christians and non-Christians alike are inspired and edified by his life. It is not hard to understand why this is so. Francis bears witness to the belief that the straightest path to God is the path of our deepest humanity.

St. Francis was passionately devoted to God, and his every action was motivated by his love for God. He adopted a radically simple life-style because he placed his trust in God, and not in his possessions. He was compassionate to those who were poor or sick because he believed every man and woman was his brother or sister. His love of nature and for all of God's creatures was easy for him because he understood everything was created by God, and thus everything is good. Francis was a humble man because he believed every action of his was performed not to bring glory to himself, but to God.

In short, it is his humanity that makes Francis of Assisi a holy person - a saint. He never ran away from and never denied his humanity. Rather, he embraced it, loved it, lived it fully - and in doing so, found the road to sanctity and union with God. We should remember that Francis is a saint precisely because he is so human!

HIS WORD ...

"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5:8-10

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1181-1226) October 4

Born into a wealthy Italian family in 1181. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, he enjoyed the benefits of his father's success; good food, fine clothing, and entertainment, a busy social life and a place in his father's business. Love of adventure prompted him to become involved in the wars then waged through the cities and regions of Italy.

On his way to battle at Spoleto one day, when he was in his early twenties, he became ill and heard a voice telling him to "serve the master rather than men." Returning to Assisi, he experienced a great change within himself. Meeting a leper on the road, he embraced him and gave him alms. He began to visit the sick and support the poor. Praying one day before the crucifix in the deserted country church of St. Damian, he heard a voice saying to him, "Francis, go and rebuild my house; it is falling down." In 1206, the young man left and sold his goods to repair the poor churches in his neighborhood and to care for the needy.

His father, thinking his son had gone mad, summoned him before the bishops. Francis stripped off his clothes and giving them to his father said, "I have called you my father on earth, but now I say, 'Our Father, who art in heaven.'" He left his father's home to follow Christ as a poor man, vowing to keep the words of the Gospel literally. Francis wished to preach the kingdom of heaven, to give freely what he received, to possess neither gold or silver.

Joyful, simple, a-lover of people and nature, Francis soon attracted companions who shared his love of Christ and the Gospel. In 1210, he went to Rome to seek approval of his way of life from Pope Innocent III.

Blessing his endeavor and officially recognizing the Franciscans, the pope afterwards told of a dream in which he saw Francis holding up the pillars of the Church. He was joined by St. Clare in 1212 and convened over five thousand Franciscans at Assisi in 1219 for the General Chapter of Mats.

With his call to return to the spirit of the Gospel, Francis gave new life to the Christian people of Italy and Europe. Missionaries were sent to Tunis and Morocco for the first time in 1219. He also traveled to the Holy Land where he preached to the Moslems and visited the places where Jesus lived and died. During this journey, he unsuccessfully tried to convert Sultan Malek al-Kamil of Egypt. His deep affection for the events of Jesus' life inspired him to create the Holy Child's birth at Christmas by erecting a creche at Greccia in 1223. He loved the Passion of Jesus so much that he received the wounds of Christ known as the stigmata on his own body on the feast of the Holy Cross in 1224. "Nothing comforts me so much as to think of the life and Passion of our Lord," he said "Were I to live till the end of the world I would need no other **book.**"

In poor health and half blind, Francis died welcoming his Sister Death, while the Passion of Jesus was read aloud from the Gospel on October 3, 1226.

WAYS TO HONOR AND INVOKE THE BLESSINGS OF SAINT FRANCIS

+ Install in your backyard or garden, or even in a screened-in porch, a statue of St. Francis. If your statue is outside, put up a bird feeder and maintain it in the name of St. Francis, who loved all creatures, perhaps especially birds.

+ Hang the print of a beautiful painting of St. Francis, such as the work by the Italian artist Giotto titled St. Francis Preaching to the Birds, in an indoor or outdoor garden room of your home.

+ Do charitable works for the poor, especially those poor who are sick or otherwise suffering.

+ Take your pet animals to be blessed by the priest.

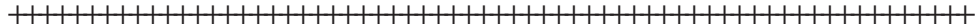
+ Read biographies of St. Francis life, including Julien Green's God's Fool: The Life and Times of St. Francis of Assisi (Harper and Row, 1985).

+ Make a beautiful crucifix in pique assiette (broken china) mosaics to hang in your garden to remind you of when St. Francis was praying before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano. Have your priest bless it.



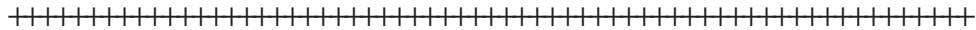
'PEACE BE WITH YOU'

We must remember that St. Francis was a Christ-centered man. He would want any celebration honoring him to take place in a Eucharistic Celebration, honoring our Savior, our Lord, Jesus Christ! In his humble and simple life he so embraced the spirit of Holy Poverty. He realized that all the world around him was a gift, a gift given by great wisdom and knowledge, he noted - "whatever each one is in the eye of God, that he is and no more - a human being; only God is all holy, only God is God," so to most fittingly honor the Servant, Francis, we must consciously honor the Master, the Lord! Peace be with You!



PRAYER

Health Needs of: Annette Erhardt, Christina Zic, Irene Janusewski, Rachel Kompa, Miriam Perez, Iris Cafran, Madison Crowder, Danny Rush, Meredith Family, James Galvis, Eleanor Baumler, Vickie Torel, Grace Ambrosia, Brian Fox, Elena Accomando, Melissa Polanco, Jimmy Capuano, Jeanne Racioppi, Jennifer Lanzaro, Michael R. Anzelone, Gina Maietta-Krafinski, Thomas A. Marinello, Shannon Gleason, Gregory Klein, June Zatovich & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.



ANNOUNCEMENTS • THANKS • REQUESTS

Lectors: JONI BLENN, TOM KOMPA and CHERYL HAASE
5:15 PM - "Celebratory Dinner"... please join us in the Hall downstairs! All Invited!

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING
2008 DATES**

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



Charles Temkey (October 4)
Mary Zaradich (October 10)
Lorraine Kompa (October 16)
Louise Kuzniewski (October 17)
John Temkey (October 31)
May Our Lord Bless You

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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HYMN OF FAITH

To Thee we come, O Lord our God,
Before Thine altar Father,
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts,
This supplication answer.

Lift up from want thy people, Lord.
Bless us O God, O Father bless our toil.

Under Thy Cross we stand prepared,
To serve Thee with devotion,
Be it with sweat of blood or tears,
Or humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us O God, O Father bless our toil.



HERE I AM, LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night.
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night,
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the
earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man,—no more.

Refrain

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord— of all.

Refrain



CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you,
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain:

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness. Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone, has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Refrain

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Refrain

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Refrain

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Refrain



Recessional Hymns

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred,
 let me bring your love.
Where there is injury,
 your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt,
 true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life,
 let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light.
And where there's sadness, every joy.

Refrain:

O Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved, as to love,
 with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that
 we're born to eternal life.

Repeat Refrain

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Oh Lord my God!
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all
the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars,
I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout
the universe displayed,

Chorus (twice):

Then sings my soul,
my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art,
How great Thou art!



When through the woods
and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down
from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
and feel the gentle breeze;

Chorus (twice)



JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, Joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of Love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Praising Thee their Sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain
Blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee