



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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StFrancisPNCC.org • Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor



March 17, 2019 • Second Sunday in Lent

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow. Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him.

When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call;
have pity on me, and answer me.

Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Your presence, O LORD, I seek. Hide not your face
from me; do not in anger repel your servant.

You are my helper: cast me not off.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

READING 2 - Phil 3:17—4:1

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL:

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

This is my beloved Son, hear him.

GOSPEL - Luke 49:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Just As I Am"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Prayer of St. Francis"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Nearer My God to Thee"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

LENT - SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Lent is a time when we take time and effort to develop our personal spiritual journey. St. Francis' Prayer can provide a simple format for positive spiritual growth. The prayer is formed around six petitions:
Lord, let me be an Instrument of peace - Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
Focus on just one petition each week of Lent, we have only to gain for ourselves and those around Us. For example, bringing love to situations filled with hate and envy, perhaps at work or in family life. Witnessing to faith as a value in a person's life, perhaps by attending Mass or inviting someone else to come with you. For if we can achieve positive results with even one of these beautiful and very difficult personal disciplines, we have made our Lent worthwhile.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Sunday immediately following Mass during Lent. Come join us during this season of Lent, in a contemporary devotion and prayer, as we follow Jesus' sufferings, death, and burial. Grow in faith.



LENTEN JOURNEY

If you are wondering about a Lenten program for this season, you have only to look to the Gospel reading for Ash Wednesday. In the book of Matthew, Jesus highlights the three great acts of piety for those who would follow His way - prayer, fasting, and alms giving.

ST. PATRICK, (c.389-461)

"Following the advice of one's soul friend."

His feast day is March 17. At the age of sixteen Patrick, the son of a Roman-Celtic family living in Britain, was kidnapped by Irish pirates and brought to Ireland and held as a slave. During that time he had visions on which an angel or helping spirit, whom he called Victor, appeared to comfort him. In fact Victor was part of a strong tradition in Celtic spirituality, going back into pre-Christian times; the practice of having a soul friend. Victor was Patrick's soul friend, a person either alive in body, deceased and appearing in spirit, an angelic being, or even a friendly animal. A soul friend encourages and advises you on the most important matters of your spiritual life. It was the advice of Victor that Patrick made his most important decisions. He would escape from slavery, return home, to become a priest and return to Ireland again. There he taught the people and organized the communities, through his influence, Ireland would become one of the most Christian and eventually Roman Catholic countries in western Europe. His prayer, Patrick, teach me to Know and trust the angelic and heavenly friendship that is all around me. If I do not know my guardian spirits, help me to discover them. If I do, show me how to deepen my relationship with them and listen to their wise advice about leading a spiritual life and living with God. Amen.

ST. JOSEPH, First Century, Husband of Mary

His feast day is March 19. Patron of Fathers, Protector of Homes, Carpenters and a Happy Death. Joseph was the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. He was from the royal house of David and grew up in Bethlehem. At some point, he moved to Galilee where he was a builder. He was attuned to heavenly influence and divine messages, particularly as they came in dreams. He was told by an angel not to reject Mary when he discovered that she was pregnant. Joseph had considerable influence in molding Jesus' character, since in the custom of the times, sons worked alongside their fathers, and Joseph was known to be a just man. His prayer, Joseph, give me the perseverance to work diligently at my trade or career, and to provide for myself and loved ones. Even when hard times occur and it is easy to become discouraged, help me to work hard. Also teach me how to be happy with a modest living and not hunger for great wealth that could easily prevent me from enjoying the simple things of life. Amen.

Take a moment out and pray...

† PRAYER † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Health Needs: Jesus, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.

Health Needs of: Gregory Klein, Jim Richards, Nancy Foley, Thomas Maloney, Linda Frysztacki, Lorri Russo, Rich Majewski, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Susan Leach, Stella Silva, Michele Feudale, Linda Maloney, Lorraine Avitabile, Joan Paczkoski, Blanca Vasquez, Thomas Kompa, Bill Piro, Iris Cafran, Frank Kompa, John Luis Vasquez, Sophia Kyriakakis, Billy Murphy, Con Boyle, John Blenn, Carla Calabrese, MaryAnn McEvoy, Gary P. Ribis, Rosalie Drenckhahn, James Kostolni, Elena Guigui, Theresa Kasmark, Emma Zaradich, Constance Citrola, Elizabeth Zitzmann, Anne Grusell, Teresa Kay, Sidra Lewis, Toni Panico, Ann Klein-Siebuhr, Nina Dobrowolski, George Heyen, Eileen McChesney, Mickey Gagliano, Jenna Ippito, Theresa Daquino, Nick Daquino, Ottavia Daquino & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.

Requiem Intentions: Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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