3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

## ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY • (516) 794-5189 StFrancisPNCC.org • Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor

# March 24, 2019 • Jhird 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 - Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15**

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the

bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses said to God, "But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' if they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?" God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you."

God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

"This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11** *R. The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. *R. The Lord is kind and merciful.* 

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills, He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion.

#### R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

The LORD secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed. He has made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel.

#### R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

#### R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

#### READING 2 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert.

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

#### **VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL:**

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

#### GOSPEL - Luke 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'" This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Amazing Grace" COMMUNION HYMN - "I Come to the Garden Alone" RECESSIONAL HYMN - "How Great Thou Art"

## – St. Francis Weekly "faith Renewed"

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen A reflection of faith and wisdom ... CREATING SPACE FOR GOD

Discipline is the other side of discipleship. Discipline without discipline is like waiting to run in the marathon without ever practicing. Discipline without discipleship is like always practicing for the marathon out never participating. It is important, however, to realize that discipline in the spiritual life is not the same as discipline in sports. Discipline in sports is the concentrated effort to master the body so that it can obey the mind better. Discipline in the spiritual life is the concentrated effort to create the space and time where God can become our master and where we can respond freely to God's guidance.

Thus, discipline is the creation of boundaries that Keep time and space open for God. Solitude requires discipline, worship requires discipline, caring for others requires discipline. They all ask us to set apart a time and a place where God's gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to.

## **'GREAT IS THE LORD'**

The Season of Lent and the Feast of Easter is a special time of healing and renewal! It is a unique time and opportunity to invite family and friends, to join us in the Celebration of the Eucharist, each Sunday, at 9 a.m.. Add an invitation to all to join us in the Parish hall, after Mass, for camaraderie,

coffee and a bite to eat. It remains our time for 'Fellowship" - to share, listen and care. Remember, Great is the Lord!



## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS... REWRITTEN FOR DEEP MEANING

- 1. Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout the journey.
- 2. So why is a car's WINDSHIELD so large and the rearview mirror so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, look ahead and move on.
- 3. Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.
- 4. All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.
- 5. Old friends are GOLD! New friends are DIAMOND! If you get a diamond, don't forget the gold! Because to hold a diamond, you always need a base of gold!
- 6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, it's just a bend, not the end!"
- 7. When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems, HE has faith in your abilities.
- A blind person asked St. Anthony, "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied, "Yes, losing your vision!"
- 9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.
- 10. WORRYING does not take away tomorrow's TROUBLES, it takes away today's PEACE!

Take a moment out and pray...

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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 Ipplito, 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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St. Francis Polish National Catholic Church

3rd Sunday in Lent - March 24, 2019