



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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(516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org • Pastor Andrew Koterba

Sunday, January 5, 2020

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow. Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Isaiah 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R/ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R/ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R/ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

R/ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

R/ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

READING 2 - Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL - Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. This is the Gospel of the Lord. *R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Good Christian Men Rejoice"

COMMUNION HYMN - "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

RECESSIONAL - "Joy to the World"

A New Year's Greeting from Pastor Andrew Koterba

Today we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord or "The Feast of Three Kings—Kasper, Melchior and Baltezar". Three Magi came to Bethlehem to give homage, worship to the new born Child Jesus. They recognize Him as somebody very special. They brought Him gifts of gold, frankincense and mire. Those gifts have special meaning.

Year 2019 is gone. A few weeks ago we celebrated Christmas and a few days ago the start of New Year 2020. We wished each other Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

In 2019 our St. Francis Parish had lot of very important events. We celebrated First Holy Communion. Two of our kids: Robert and Jafet received Jesus for the first time in their life. Three Parishioners: Cheryl, Adam and Shea were confirmed by our Diocesan Bishop Bernard Nowicki. St. Francis Church had a yearly Animal Blessing where many furry friends visited us. Our Christmas fund-raiser dinner was a huge success. I would like to again, from the bottom of my heart, thank all who helped to make this event so successful.

In the past year we did lots of updates in our sanctuary, church hall and rectory. We replaced all the bulbs for LEDs in the whole building to save on the electric bill. We have a new stove in the hall kitchen. Rectory kitchen has a new stove, dishwasher and refrigerator. Church hall and kitchen were painted. We wouldn't have been able to accomplish any of these projects if it wasn't for Debbie and John who donated all the appliances to our Parish. They donated different things but also their time and talents to help our Parish. Because of them we got lots of food and raffle donations for Holy Communion, Confirmation and the Christmas Dinner. Thank you so much for all you have done for us. God bless You.

St. Francis Parish couldn't exist without a Parish Committee. Thank you very much to our President Joni. Every Sunday we have a bulletin in our Church and thank to Joni we can have delicious coffee every week after Mass. Thank you for your donations, time and all what you are doing for our Parish.



All numbers are right in our financial books. Thank you Cheryl and Ann for your time and talent. Your job is very important to our St. Francis Church. Thank you for church supplies, cookies and other donations which we greatly appreciate.

Thank you Louis and Tony, who for many years served in our Parish as secretary and treasurer. Thank you for always being with us and setting the best example for others. Thank You for everything.

Thank you very much to Shea's family, his Mom Joanne and grandmother Carolyn for all your help, gardening expertise, donations and support to our parish.

Thank you very much all altar servers and lectors: Joni, Cheryl, Adam, Shea and Robert for your great job. Because of your effort and service, Liturgy of the Mass is more festive and beautiful.

Thank you Lillyan and Linda for everything you do to support our small parish. Thank you and God bless you and your families. Thank you and good luck in the future to Rosemary who every year buys so many raffle tickets to support our Parish. Thank you also for introducing our church and bringing your sisters to worship with us.

I would like also to say thank you to all businesses from our area who supported our St. Francis Church last year. Thank you very much. May God bless you with success and prosperity in 2020.

Special thanks to those unnamed friends and guests, who donated, cooked, served and cleaned at our Christmas Fund-raiser Dinner.

I would like to thank all and everyone. I apologize if I did not mention your name, but every single help, donation of time and staff means a lot to our Parish. We exist and stay alive because of you and for you.

On behalf of myself and my family I would like to wish all parishioners, their families and friends of the Parish happy, healthy and blessed and prosperous New Year 2020. May God's blessing be with you throughout 2020 and many years to follow.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Andrew