

The
Season
of
Lent



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554
(516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org • Pastor Andrew Koterba
"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." —St. Francis

March 15, 2020 - Third 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 17:3-7

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!" The LORD answered Moses, "Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

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 come into his presence 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.

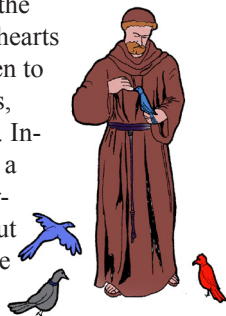
Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works."

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

READING 2 - Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.



VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

GOSPEL - John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, 'you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'" The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - *Just As I Am*

COMMUNION HYMN - *How Great Thou Art*

RECESSIONAL - *I Come to the Garden*

2020 Upcoming Events

Sundays After Mass During Lent

Stations of the Cross

Sunday, April 5 - 9:00 am

Palm Sunday Mass & Procession

Thursday, April 9 - 7:00 pm

Holy Thursday Mass

Friday, April 10 - 7:00 pm

Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, April 11 - 1:00 pm

Blessing of Easter Baskets

Sunday, April 12 - 9:00 am

Easter Sunday Mass



**ST. JOSEPH (FIRST CENTURY)
MARCH 19**

St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus Christ, was a descendant of King David, according to the genealogy presented by the Gospel. Betrothed to Mary, he decided to divorce her quietly when he found she was with child, but an angel of the Lord told him to take her as his wife, since the child to be born was the "Holy One of God."

Joseph assisted at the birth of Jesus and became his support and guide through childhood. In a dream he was told by an angel to flee from Bethlehem with the infant and his mother, lest Herod Kill the child. he accompanied them to the temple where Jesus was presented to God, with Mary, he sought the boy Jesus when he was lost on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. In his work as a carpenter he shared the many hours of his trade with his young son.

Joseph, a man of faith, a just man, was a worthy successor to the great patriarchs - Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. He followed the call of God through the mysterious circumstances that surrounded the coining of Jesus. God entrusted this silent, humble man with the unique privilege of raising his only Son as a growing child.

A saint close to God, he is honored as the patron of the universal Church.

His prayer: Remember us, St. Joseph, and pray for us to your foster child. Guard and protect the Church on earth, till its time is fulfilled. Amen.

TODAY'S CHUCKLE...

A priest and a taxi driver both died and went to heaven. St. Peter was at the Pearly gates waiting for them.

'Come with me', said St. Peter to the taxi driver.

The taxi driver did as he was told and followed St. Peter to a mansion. It had anything you could imagine from a bowling alley to an olympic size pool.

'Wow, thank you', said the taxi driver.

Next, St. Peter led the priest to a rugged old shack with a bunk bed and a little old television set.

'Wait, I think you are a little mixed up', said the priest. 'Shouldn't I be the one who gets the mansion? After all I was a priest, went to church every day, and preached God's word.'

'Yes, that's true. But during your sermons people slept. When the taxi driver drove, everyone prayed.'

—Shared by Debbie Scillia

**"I WAS A STRANGER,
AND YOU WELCOMED ME."**

God tells me that I cannot love him and accept him unless I love and accept the people he loves.

And he loves a lot of people that I may think he shouldn't love. He loves sinners. He loves losers.

I would like to love God without accepting his family. Part of his family I could live with, but the other part I don't want. God tells me that I can't have it that way. Unless I love and care about even the very least, I do not love and care about him.

In the Gospels, people tried to separate Jesus from his friends and followers, and tried to make friends with him without accepting those around him.

Jesus would never let them do it. The apostles were always his men. They embarrassed him. They said foolish things. They were sometimes sloppy and rude, but Jesus never stepped back from them. He never crossed a line saying that those were not really his men.

Jesus was criticized more for the people he hung around with than for himself. He was criticized for all the sinners who surrounded him. Yet he never turned to the Pharisees and apologized for those people, saying that he really didn't have much time to put a good group together and that's why he came up with such second-rate associates.

He simply said that these are my people. And if you can't accept them, you can't accept me.

And that is what he says to me.