

# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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September 20, 2020 - *Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



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 - Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM -

**Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18**

***R/ The Lord is near to all who call upon him.***

Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.

***R/ The Lord is near to all who call upon him.***

The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.

***R/ The Lord is near to all who call upon him.***

The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.

***R/ The Lord is near to all who call upon him.***

## READING 2 - Phillipians 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit.

Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest/Lector: Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## GOSPEL - Matthew 20:1-16a

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." "This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Blessed Assurance"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Christ Be Our Light"

RECESSIONAL - "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"



# St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

## ST. MATTHEW (first century) - September 21

The call of St. Matthew, the tax collector, to be one of the twelve apostles of Jesus is described in the Gospel which bears his name. "Jesus saw a man named Matthew at his post where taxes were collected. He said to him, 'Follow me!' And Matthew got up and followed him."

It is hard to imagine a more unlikely person for Jesus to call as a companion than Matthew. Tax collectors, as agents of a hated Roman government and members of a profession known for unfairness and greed, were despised by the Jewish people. They were excluded from the synagogue and the temple. No good Jew would have anything to do with them.

When Jesus invited Matthew to follow him and then ate at his house where Matthew's friends, outsiders like himself, were gathered, he heard the outraged comments of Capernaum's local leaders "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered simply, "Those who are well have no need of a doctor, sick people do."

By calling Matthew, Jesus invited an outcast to enjoy the healing friendship of God. In a lesson of love, he showed that God wants all, no matter who they are, to share his life.

According to tradition, Matthew wrote down the stories and words of Jesus in Aramaic, the ancient language of Palestine. The first Gospel had its origin in him. Among the evangelists he is symbolized by the figure of a man, because Matthew's Gospel begins with the human origins of Jesus. There are reports that Matthew left Judea and preached in the East, where he was martyred in Ethiopia.

- O God, may we follow your call.

## FROM THE HEART - Helen Steiner Rice UNCHANGING LOVE

Seasons come and seasons go and with them comes the thought of all the various changes that time in its flight has brought. But one thing never changes, it remains the same forever, God truly loves His children and He will forsake them never. "Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior." -Psalm 27:9

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen

A reflection of faith and wisdom...

### GUARDING OUR SOULS

The great danger of the turmoil of the end-time in which we live is losing our souls. Losing our souls means losing touch with our center, our true call in life, our mission, our spiritual task. Losing our souls means becoming so distracted by and preoccupied with all that is happening around us that we end up fragmented, confused, and erratic. Jesus is very aware of that danger. He says, "Take care not to be deceived, because many will come using my name and saying, 'I am the one' and 'The time is near at hand,' Refuse to join them" (Luke 21:8). In the midst of anxious times there are many false prophets, promising all sorts of "salvations." It is important that we be faithful disciples of Jesus, never losing touch with our true spiritual selves.



**MARK THE DATE!**  
Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1 p.m.  
**Blessing of the Animals**  
An Outdoor Event  
Please wear a mask and social distance.



*Take a moment out and pray...*

† † † † † † PRAYERS † † † † † † †

**Health Needs:** Lord God, Jesus, our Savior, Mary and all the Saints, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.

**Health Needs of:** All who have the Coronavirus & Debbie Marciano, Beverly Hester, Gregory Klein, Jim Richards, Richard Majewski, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Sophia Kyriakakis, Billy Murphy, Helen de la Sota, Jeff Curtis, Ottavia Daquino, Linda Frysztacki, Daniella Vasquez, Ann Klein-Siebuhr, Blanca Vasquez, Iris Cafran, John Luis Vasquez, Eileen McChesney, Jay Lasker, Joe Glovack, Carla Calabrese, Janis Siebuhr, Debbie Granaldi & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.

**Requiem Intentions for faithfully departed:**

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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