

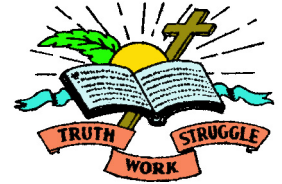
ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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Pastor Andrew Koterba



Sunday, February 14, 2021

Quinquagesima Sunday

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN - "Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book pg. 63

READING I - Lv 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head.

"The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11

*R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away, whose sin is covered. Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt, in whose spirit there is no guile.

*R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, my guilt I covered not. I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD," and you took away the guilt of my sin.

*R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

*R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

READING II - 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Brothers and sisters, Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: A great prophet has arisen in our midst, God has visited his people.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning the him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Blessed Assurance"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Bread of Life"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Blest Are We

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

GOD'S BOXES

I have in my hands two boxes, which God gave me to hold. He said, "Put all your sorrows in the black box and all your joys in the gold."

I heeded His words, and in the two boxes, both my joys and sorrows I stored, but though the gold became heavier each day, the black was as light as before.

With curiosity, I opened the black, I wanted to find out why, and I saw, in the base of the box, a hole, from which all my sorrows had fallen out.

I showed the hole to God, and mused, "I wonder where my sorrows could be!" He smiled a gentle smile and said, "My child, they're all here with me."

I asked God, why He gave me the boxes, Why the gold and the black with the hole? "My child, the gold is for you to count your blessings, the black is for you to let go."

We should consider all of our friends a blessing. Call your friends today, just to let them know you are thinking of them and that they are a joy in your life.

A ball is a circle, no beginning, no end. It keeps us together like our Circle of Friends. But the treasure inside for you to see, Is the treasure of friendship you've granted to me. Today I pass the friendship ball to you. Pass it on to someone who is a friend to you.

(2018, shared by Ottavia Daquino)

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY ... Henri Nouwen THE MEAL THAT MAKES US FAMILY AND FRIENDS

We all need to eat and drink to stay alive. But having a meal is more than eating and drinking. It is celebrating the gifts of life we share. A meal together is one of the most intimate and sacred human events. Around the table we become vulnerable, filling one another's plates and cups and encouraging one another to eat and drink. Much more happens at a meal than satisfying hunger and quenching thirst. Around the table we become family, friends, community, yes, a body.

That is why it is so important to "set" the table. Flowers, candles, colorful napkins all help us to say to one another, "This is a very special time for us, let's enjoy it!"



Although Lent starts this Wednesday February 17th, due to COVID, **Ashes will be distributed on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, at 9 a.m. MASS** which is the First Sunday in Lent.



SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY, FEBRUARY 14th

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. Several martyrdom stories were invented for the various Valentines that belonged to February 14. A popular account of Saint Valentine of Rome states that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, he healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius. An embellishment to this story states that before his execution he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

The day was first associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. In 18th century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards. Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards. *(from the Internet)*

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, Bill & Ann Siebuhr, Blanca Vasquez, Iris Cafran, John Luis Vasquez, Eileen McChesney, Dennis Erb, Rosemary Rosen, Jay Lasker, Joe Glovack, Carla Calabrese, Janis Siebuhr, Debbie Granaldi, Joan Paczkoski, Louise & Anthony Kuzniewski, Jorge Juan Vasquez, Jessica Arrubla & 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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