

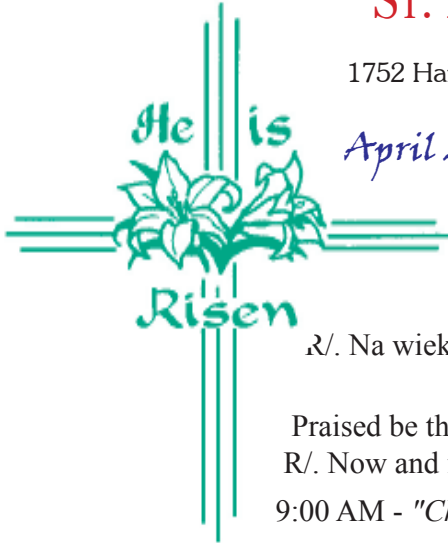
# ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Make me a channel of your peace." —St. Francis

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554 • (516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org

Pastor Andrew Kotera

April 25, 2018 - Fourth Sunday of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday



Niech Bedze  
pochwalony Jezus  
Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow  
Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.  
R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Christ Is Risen"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Acts 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

"Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29

**R. The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.**

READING II - 1 Jn 3:1-2

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia (3x). R. Alleluia (3x).

Priest/Lector: I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia (3x).

GOSPEL - John 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father." This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Shepherd Me, O God"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "We Will Rise Again"



HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!



# SHARE THE GLORY OF EASTER

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen SEEING "THE MIRACLE OF MULTIPLICATION"

The opposite of a scarcity mentality is an abundance mentality. With an abundance mentality we say, "There is enough for everyone, more than enough; food, knowledge, love...everything." With this mind-set we give away whatever we have, to whomever we meet. When we see hungry people we give them food. When we meet ignorant people we share our knowledge; when we encounter people in need of love, we offer them friendship and affection and hospitality and introduce them to our family and friends.

When we live with this mind-set, we see the miracle that what we give away multiplies: food, knowledge, love...everything. There will even be many leftovers.

## PATIENCE AND SPIRIT OF GOD (ST. FRANCIS)

Preserved as a precious collection of advice from the Franciscans' Holy Father Francis, his "Words of Admonition" give us a true sense of the gentle friar's down-to-earth wisdom, even after seven centuries.

Two of those "Admonitions" are particularly valuable for people dealing with two major obstacles to living a truly Christian life. One—the temptation to get mired down in a kind of spiritual frustration. Because we do not experience a quick sense of "spiritual accomplishment." For example: I say the Rosary every day, and try to meditate on the mysteries, but I find my mind wandering just as it always has; On things of the world, the laundry, how to manage all the chauffeuring jobs for children and family, being good at my job in the office, getting along better with family and friends, etc. I make the time to go to daily

Mass as often as I can. Why don't I "feel" more holy?

The other obstacle may be the mirror image of the first; Being quick to take credit for what we seem to have accomplished.

I'm a regular at daily Mass now, retired, I can take in the Gospels, prepare for the readings, arrive on time. How I can't stand those people who come in late...or bring infants with them who make noise and interfere with my sense of contemplation. I subscribe to my diocesan paper and one good "Catholic" magazine. No one truly understands the Church the way I do.

This attitude seems to say that we can grow closer to God, while bypassing the presence of God living in others. We forget that we need to be open to and invite God's grace to help us see and act on God's will.

Here are two pearls of wisdom from the Little Poor Man of Assisi. In each, St. Francis addresses common problems in the spiritual life with incisive commentary, and common sense. 1) We should not give way to pride when God accomplishes some good through us. We need to recognize that any good is due to God, to His grace, and not to us or our efforts. 2) If we want to measure how patient or humble we are, don't select a tranquil time to take the measurement. We can't pick a time.

"When those who should cooperate with you do the exact opposite, then we can tell (the measurement of your progress). A man has as much patience and humility as he has then, and no more," says the Saint.

Using those two criteria, how do we stack up on that score board?



*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, 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, Dominick Ocello, Louise & Anthony Kuzniewski, Jorge Juan Vasquez, Jessica Arrubla, Elaine Bode, Nicholas Navarino, Emily Smith, Carol Renta & 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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