



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY • (516) 794-5189

StFrancisPNCC.org • Father Andrew Koterba, Pastor

March 27, 2022 • Fourth 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 - 1 Jos 5:9a, 10-12

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you."

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the

Passover on the evening of the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover, they ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Glorify the LORD with me, let us together extol his name.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the LORD heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

READING 2 - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL: Luke 15:18

I will get up and go to my Father and shall say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

GOSPEL - Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Amazing Grace"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Taste and See"

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Prayer of St. Francis"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

Important Upcoming Dates

Sunday, March 6 thru Sunday, April 3 after Mass
Stations of the Cross

Sunday, April 10, 9:00 a.m.: **Palm Sunday Mass**

Thursday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.: **Holy Thursday Mass**

Friday, April 15, 7:00 p.m.: **Good Friday Mass**

Saturday, April 16, 1:00 p.m.: **Blessing of Easter Baskets**

Sunday, April 17, Easter, 9:00 a.m.: **Mass**

Sunday, May 1, 3 p.m.: **Spring Dinner Fundraiser**
Think of how you can help

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Lent is a time when we take time and effort to develop our personal spiritual journey. There are so many paths...continue to take one petition from the Peace Prayer of St. Francis and focus on it and work it in your life for one week, make a point of praying one Station of the Cross a day, focus on its meaning, read the Passion in the Bible, pray from your heart in thought and in deed, help another, give a smile. Our journey continues as we grow in the spirit ...there are many paths!

PRAYER - YOUR WAY OF THE CROSS

God, our heavenly Father, we raise our minds and hearts to you in praise and thanksgiving. Though weak and sinful, we wish to follow your only Son, our Lord Jesus, on the way of the cross. May your Holy Spirit help us use our Savior's strength effectively in our place in life. We ask the special aid of our Blessed Lady, ever Virgin and Mother, in following Christ and in making His way of the cross our way of life. Amen.

SMILE OF THE DAY

A Sunday school teacher asked her students to draw a picture of Jesus' family. After collecting the drawings, she noticed that one little boy's drawing depicted an airplane with four heads sticking out of the windows. "I see you drew three heads to show Joseph, Mary and Jesus," she said to the boy. "But who does the fourth head belong to?" The boy replied, "That's Pontius the pilot."

~shared by Debbie Scillia

THE DATE OF EASTER

In ancient Egypt, the Hebrews were kept as slaves, so God sent Moses to free them. When the ruler, Pharaoh, would not let the Hebrews go, God punished Egypt in many ways. He finally sent the Angel of Death to destroy the firstborn in each family, but first told the Hebrews to make a special lamb offering, and the angel would pass over their homes. This first Passover is commemorated each year by members of the Jewish faith, about March 21. For many years, Easter was celebrated at this same time because Jesus was crucified during Passover. In A.D. 325, a group of men meeting in Nicaea, a city in what is now Turkey, decided that Easter should be on a different day. They chose the Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Vernal means "spring," and equinox means, "equal night." Thus, this is the one 24-hour period in the spring when both day and night lasts exactly twelve hours, usually March 21 or 22. Full moons, however, do not always come on the same date, so Easter may fall on any Sunday between March 21 and April 25. Sometimes it comes before Passover, and many Orthodox or Eastern Christians wait until Passover to celebrate Easter.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY - Henri Nouwen

A reflection of faith & wisdom...CREATING SPACE FOR GOD

Discipline is the other side of discipleship. Discipline without discipline is like waiting to run in the marathon without ever practicing. Discipline without discipleship is like always practicing for the marathon out never participating. It is important, however, to realize that discipline in the spiritual life is not the same as discipline in sports. Discipline in sports is the concentrated effort to master the body so that it can obey the mind better. Discipline in the spiritual life is the concentrated effort to create the space and time where God can become our master and where we can respond freely to God's guidance. Thus, discipline is the creation of boundaries that Keep time and space open for God. Solitude requires discipline, worship requires discipline, caring for others requires discipline. They all ask us to set apart a time and a place where God's gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to.

**Today, Sunday, March 27, after Mass
is Our Annual Parish Council Meeting.**

ALL PARISHIONERS and FRIENDS are INVITED.
**Suggestions are welcomed
and greatly appreciated.**

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, Iris Cafran, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Sophia Kyriakakis, Billy Murphy, Helen de la Sota, Ottavia Daquino, Linda Frysztacki, Daniella Vasquez, Bill & Ann Siebuhr, Blanca Vasquez, John Luis Vasquez, Eileen McChesney, Rosemary Rosen, Joe Glovack, Carla Calabrese, Janis Siebuhr, Debbie Granaldi, Louise & Anthony Kuzniewski, Jorge Juan Vasquez, Jim Myers, Fred Frankel, Jessica Arrubla, Debbie Tino, Elena Accomando Capuano, Emily Smith & for all caregivers.

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.