



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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GOSPEL - GOSPEL AT THE PROCESSION - Luke 19:28-40

Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem. As he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples. He said, "Go into the village opposite you, and as you enter it you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. And if anyone should ask you, 'Why are you untying it?' you will answer, 'The Master has need of it.'" So those who had been sent went off and found everything just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying this colt?" They answered, "The Master has need of it." So they brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks over the colt, and helped Jesus to mount. As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; and now as he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. They proclaimed: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest." Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He said in reply, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!"

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

SEE SEPARATE BOOKLET

ENTRANCE HYMN - "Hymn of Faith"

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book pg. 63

READING I - Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced;

I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!"

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

READING II - Phil 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL - Phil 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

GOSPEL - Luke 22:14-23:56

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Lord Forgive"

COMMUNION HYMNS - "The Servant Song"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Cross of Compassion"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

† PALM SUNDAY †

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of "Holy Week." On this day we commemorate the last triumph of Our Lord Jesus Christ on earth. On this day we celebrate the triumphant entry of our Lord into Jerusalem; when the multitudes, going before & following after Him, cut off branches from the trees and strewed them in His way, shouting, "Hosanna, to the Son of David. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord."

'The Palm Sunday triumph of our Lord only led to His death. But we know that this death was not a failure. It was through His passion and death that He conquered the world and entered into His Kingdom. So the faithful join in this triumphant celebration in an act of homage and gratitude to Christ our King!

† PASCHAL TRIDIUM †

For Christians the Paschal Tridium ("Three Days") is the focal point of the entire year. During these days, covering the period from the evening of holy Thursday through the evening of Easter Sunday, we celebrate our faith in the paschal mystery of Christ with the greatest fervor and intensity. In the liturgy we commemorate the passion, death and resurrection of Christ as the means of our salvation. Through our baptism, we share in the death of Christ and so hope to share in his resurrection. The liturgy of the Paschal Tridium then invites us to reflect on where we are in our own Paschal journey in Christ.

† MAUNDY THURSDAY OR HOLY THURSDAY †

The name Maundy comes from the Latin word which means "command." It refers to the new command Jesus gave his disciples on the 'Thursday before he was crucified. On that night, long ago, he served the "Last Supper" of bread and wine, washed his disciples' feet and said, "A new command I give you; Love one another."

—John 13:13

Church bells fall silent on this day and are not heard again until Easter morning. Instead of tinkering bells, wooden clappers are used during divine services. The altar is stripped at the end of the service to symbolize Christ being stripped of his power. 'The holy sacrifice is interrupted and will not be offered again until Holy Saturday.

† GOOD FRIDAY †

Good Friday used to be called God's Friday, because it was the day Jesus was crucified. This is the most solemn day of the year, as we recall the sufferings and death of Jesus. We take this time to journey the "Stations of the Cross," Christ's road to Calvary. The Bible says that when Jesus hung on the cross, the sky became dark from noon until three o'clock in the afternoon. During those hours, traditionally, the faithful may meditate in public or private, on the sufferings of Our Lord on the Cross and remember the words He spoke on the Cross...Take time to remember, read the Passion, meditate, pray! We share now in sorrow, grief and pain...

† HOLY SATURDAY † BLESSINGS OF EASTER FOODS

Holy Saturday is liturgically a day of deepest mourning, a day which the Church spends at our Lord's sepulchre, meditating on His sacred Passion and death. There is no Mass and the altars are bare.

As we end the Lenten penitential period in pious preparation for a festive Paschal season. We have the blessing of our Easter foods on Holy Saturday, March 26 at 1:00 pm, a token of gratitude to God for all his gifts of both nature and grace. Traditionally the baskets are filled with foods covered in a white linen cloth. The foods are symbolic to the season; such as a lamb, formed in butter or cake, representing Christ slain for our sins; horse-radish, symbolizes the bitterness of the Passion; eggs, symbolize 'new life' and resurrection. Today the baskets may be traditional or contain items special to the owner. Baskets are then placed on the altar & in a quiet ceremony the priest blesses & sprinkles the food with holy water.

The blessing has a very "special significance," in that it represents the belief that the Lord is part of our daily life and is always among us!

The baskets are brought home and set aside until Easter morning. At that time the egg is first broken - the symbol of new life, shared by the family in an exchange of good wishes.

The Blessing has been advertised and opens another opportunity for our surrounding community to see and learn about our church. Please attend and be a friend and bring a friend! Thank you!

HOLY WEEK is upon us...pray, meditate, attend Holy Week Services, grow in your spirit...as we prepare for EASTER SUNDAY!

EASTER BREAKFAST

Come, you are invited, family and friends of St. Francis to attend our traditional "Easter Celebration Breakfast" held in the Parish Hall after Easter Sunday Mass. Come, let us REJOICE together!

HUGE THANK YOUs

Specifically to Carolyn McNeill and Joanne McNeill-Peck for making some beautiful raffle baskets, including a hand crocheted afghan by Caroline. And also to Monika Koterba for putting together many raffle baskets with items donated or bought for raffle gifts.

Important Upcoming Dates

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, 9:00 a.m. **Easter Mass**

Sunday, May 1, 3 p.m.

Spring Fundraiser Dinner Think of how you can help

