



# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

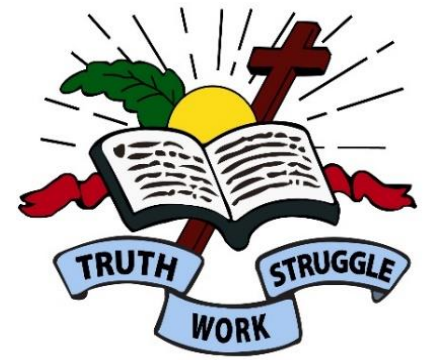
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Rectory: 610-775-4559

Email: [fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org](mailto:fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org)

Website: [www.ststephenpncc.org](http://www.ststephenpncc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc](http://www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc)



September 22, 2019

## Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### A Sabbath Thought

Jesus once said that the contents of our hearts indicate what we hold to be valuable. The same is true of our time and energy. To what or whom are we devoted? Our daily schedules reveal the answers

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### AMOS 8:4-7

God is not fooled. The Lord can easily spot phony devotion.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8

**R. Praise the Lord who lifts  
up the poor.**

#### 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8

The first duty of those who believe is to pray for others. Even our prayer must be unselfish.

#### ALLELUIA Sirach 29:11

Dispose of your treasure as the Most High commands, for that will profit you more than the gold.

#### LUKE 16:1-13

We must seek God's kingdom with all the energy at our disposal.

### ENTRANCE RITE – Psalm 113:1-2

*V. Praise, you servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.*

**R. Blessed be the name of the Lord both now and forever.**

*V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

**R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

### THE GOSPEL – LUKE 16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

**This is the Gospel of the Lord!**

# Worship Services

**TODAY September 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time.**  
**Spojnia Sunday**

**8:00 AM – LOW MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

**9:30 AM – HIGH MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

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**SUNDAY September 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time.**

**8:00 AM – LOW MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

**9:30 AM – HIGH MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

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**SUNDAY October 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time.**

**8:00 AM – LOW MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

**9:30 AM – HIGH MASS**  
**Contemporary Rite**

First Sunday of the month. Second collection is to support the Mission work of the Church. Please give as generously as you can.

**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament following Mass.**

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## **Spojnia Sunday**

Today, September 22<sup>nd</sup> as the PNCC celebrates Spojnia Sunday – let us always remember to support the efforts of our sister organization as the PNU continues to support the members, clergy and parishes of the PNCC. For more information on the Polish National Union please contact your PNU Branch Secretary, visit the web site [www.pnu.org](http://www.pnu.org), or call the PNU Home Office at 800-724-6352.

## **INTENTIONS:**

**My Brothers and Sisters:** Our prayers are needed: For the increase in men called to the priesthood and diaconate of the Polish National Catholic Church; For the health and growth of our Parish; For all of the sick and homebound members of our Parish. For the repose of the soul of Father Senior John Kraus. Our Father...

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## **MISSION COMMISSION MEETING**

The Mission Commission will be holding a meeting tomorrow night, Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00PM here at the church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please join together to help with this ever so important work of the church.

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

I was informed yesterday that Father Senior John Kraus, pastor of our Saint Mary's Parish in West Allis, Wisconsin died yesterday. He has been battling numerous physical maladies for a very long time complicated by respiratory conditions of one sort or another. Please keep his soul, along with his wife, Christine, and their children in your prayers.

**Well done, good and faithful servant. - May he rest in peace.**

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## **CENTRAL DIOCESAN ANS RETREAT**

**At Any Age, At Any Stage; Celebrating the Christian Life**

The Central Diocesan ANS will be holding a one day retreat on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Saint Stanislaus Cathedral in Scranton, PA. The retreat begins at 9:30AM and concludes at 2:30PM. Cost is a modest \$20.00 per person and the event is open to women of all ages. Please take a flyer from the table in the Vestibule for more information. You do not need to be an ANS member or even a member of the PNCC to attend this life enriching event. Registration for this event is said to be exceeding expectations and filling up fast, so please contact Cheryl Weinhold if you are interested in attending.

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## **SPECIAL SYNOD OF THE PNCC**

On October 25<sup>th</sup> a Special Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church will be held in Saint Stanislaus Cathedral in Scranton, PA for the specific purpose of electing candidates for the position of Bishop. There is an immediate need in the Western Diocese following the untimely passing to life eternal of our beloved Bishop Stanley Bilinski, may he rest in peace. And our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, will be required to retire before the next regular Synod as per the Constitution and By-Laws of the PNCC in light of his age. Sadly, of the nine men nominated, only three accepted and of those three, only two presented themselves before the nomination committee and of those two, only one was deemed to be fit for the position of Bishop. The Constitution does allow for nominations from the floor, if all requirements are met, so there is still a chance that there may be more men involved in the process. Please pray for all of the delegates to this Synod, especially those from our parish, that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit and inspired to make good and holy choices in this matter for the benefit of our beloved Polish National Catholic Church and for the greater glory of God.

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## **THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

On Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be only one Mass at 9:00AM. This will be the case because we will be once again have the honor of hosting a visit by the Rt. Rv. Bernard Nowicki, the Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church. Bishop Nowicki will be here to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on two of the youth of our Parish, Kaitlyn Kotula and Brianna Zelek. Please pray for these two young people that they may feel welcomed into full and complete communion with the Church and the Parish community.

Mark your calendars now – SAVE THE DATE.

Please plan to join together as the one body of Christ for this joyous event!