



December 22, 2019

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

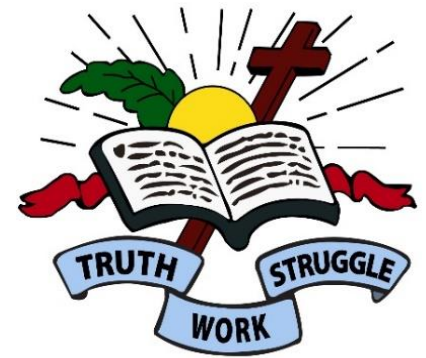
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The Fourth Sunday of Advent

A Sabbath Thought

Like Joseph, our role in the drama of Christmas, the drama of redemption for everyone, demands our openness to unusual options. What about angels, what about visions and dreams?

About Today's Bible Readings

ISAIAH 7:10-14

Ahaz says he does not want to trouble the Lord with his business, but he is lying. He hopes God will let him handle things in his own way. But God intervenes anyway.

Responsorial Psalm: 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

ROMANS 1:1-7

Paul writes to fellow Christians he has not met and urges them to be obedient ("listen") to the call that they have received to "spread the Name".

MATTHEW 1:18-24

Joseph, not often at center stage in the Christmas story, shares his fears with an angel in a dream. He finds his options enlarged and receives an invitation to name the future of salvation.

ENTRANCE RITE – John 11:27; Psalm 90:2

V. Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world.

R. Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity You are God.

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.

ALLELUIA – Revelation 22:16

I, Jesus, sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star.

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY December 22nd

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM – LOW MASS

9:30 AM – HIGH MASS

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TUESDAY December 24th

Christmas Eve

Pasterka

“Shepherd’s Mass”

MIDNIGHT – HOLY MASS

The Saint Stephen’s Choir will present a program of Christmas Carols at 11:45 PM.

Please encourage all you know, family, friends and neighbors to join us as we celebrate the birth of Our Lord.

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WEDNESDAY December 25th

Solemnity

Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM – HOLY MASS

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THURSDAY December 26th

**Feast of Saint Stephen
Proto - Martyr**

7:00 PM – HOLY MASS

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FRIDAY December 27th

**Feast of Saint John
Apostle and Evangelist
Blessing and
Distribution of Wine**

7:00 PM – HOLY MASS



<https://www.ststephenpncc.org/bulletins-and-newsletters/>

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, especially John Czechowski, Thomas Grodkiewicz, John Aldershoff, Beverly Wunderlich, Tom Schalata, Joseph Ross, Stanley Sub, Bea Sub, Peggy Kowalik, Ruth Mechowski, Julie Urban, Bernice Biroscak and Jane Bustard Walling. For the repose of the soul of Jennie Katinowsky. **Our Father...**

If there are any other individuals who should be on this list, please email or tell Father Senior Don so he can add them!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Jan. 5th: ANS Meeting at 11:00AM

Sunday, Jan. 12th: **Oplatek Dinner.** Tickets can be purchased from Mary Cooper, Cheryl Weinhold and Father Senior Don. Tickets must be purchased no later than December 29th.

If there are any other events not listed here, please email or tell Father Senior Don so he can add them!

THE OPLATEK ARE HERE!

After much consternation and confusion, the Oplatek are here. They are in a basket on the table in the vestibule. Please take what you need and donate what you can to offset costs and to help the Ladies of the ANS continue their good work for our Parish. Many sincere apologies for the late arrival and any confusion or distress this may have caused.

2020 HOME LITURGICAL CALENDARS

There are a limited number of 2020 Home Liturgical Calendars available in the vestibule as well. Please donate what you can to offset costs. Thank you and God Bless.

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus!

