

December 29, 2019

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: <u>fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org</u>
Website: <u>www.ststephenpncc.org</u>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc

Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds



A Festival Thought

Today we reflect on the humble shepherds and why God chose them, among the lowliest of people, to spread the good news of great joy.

About Today's Bible Readings:

JEREMIAH 31:10-14

The joy of the coming of the Saviour and the salvation of Israel are extolled.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. A light will shine on us this day; The Lord is born for us.

GALATIANS 4:1-7

St. Paul tells us that the coming of Christ elevates us from childhood to children of God.

LUKE 2:15-20

The shepherds see the Christ Child in the manger and, filled with awe, return to spread the Good News.

ENTRANCE RITE - Wisdom 18:14-15a; Psalm 93:2

- V. For when peaceful stillness compassed everything and the night in its swift course was half spent, Your all-powerful Word from heaven's royal throne bounded, a fierce warrior, into the doomed land.
- R. Your throne stands firm from of old; You are from everlasting, Lord.
- 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 - Psalm 93:1a

The Lord is King, robed with majesty; the Lord is robed, girded with might.

THE GOSPEL - Luke 2:15-20

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

SUNDAY December 29th
Solemnity – Humble
Shepherds
8:00 AM – LOW MASS
9:30 AM – HIGH MASS

SUNDAY January 5th
Solemnity
The Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 AM – LOW MASS
9:30 AM – HIGH MASS

SUNDAY January 12th Solemnity Baptism of the Lord

ONE MASS ONLY TODAY!
Please note the time change!

11:00 AM - HIGH MASS

Our annual Oplatek Dinner will be held after Mass today. I hope to see everyone there!

SUNDAY January 17th 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time 8:00 AM – LOW MASS 9:30 AM – HIGH MASS



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

"Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

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, Jackie Weinhold, Bernice Biroscak and Jane Bustard Walling. For the repose of the soul of Virginia Manel. 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!

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

Sunday, Jan. 12th: 12:00 Noon - *Oplatek Dinner*. Tickets can be purchased from Mary Cooper, Cheryl Weinhold and Father Senior Don. Tickets are \$12.00 for Adults and \$6.00 for Children 12 and under. Tickets must be purchased no later than today, December 29th. Food will be prepared based on tickets sold so PLEASE purchase your tickets today so that we will know how much food to make. Thank you.

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. If more calendars are needed please let Father Senior Don know so he can order more. Thank you and God Bless.

MEMORIAL ALTAR FLOWERS

The new signup sheet for Memorial Altar Flowers for 2020 is now posted in the Church Hall. You can see Carol Urban or call 610-678-3133 if you wish to reserve a Sunday for a Flower Memorial donation or fill out the form attached to the chart.

\$48.00 for the MAIN ALTAR ONLY \$88.00 FOR ALL ALTARS

This is a lovely way to remember a dearly departed loved one or to honor a living loved one as well as helping to beautify the altars.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of the Parish Committee, myself, my wife, Beverly and my daughter Danielle I would like to wish each and every one of you a Happy, Healthy, Blessed and most prosperous New Year!