



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

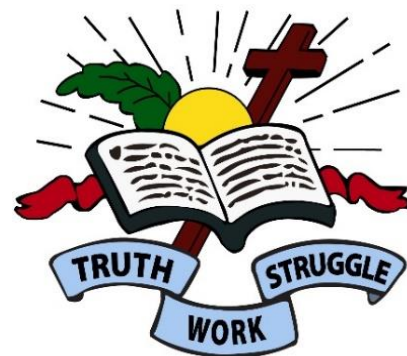
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May 21, 2020

Solemnity – Ascension of Our Lord

A Festival Thought

This Easter season of joyous celebration now draws towards its close as we salute Jesus' return to the Father's glory. But what is the joy that marks this time? It is part and parcel of the journey from death to life.

About Today's Bible Readings

ACTS 1:1-11

Even as Jesus departs, he promises the sending of the Spirit. He will not leave us orphans.

Responsorial Psalm:
47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

EPHESIANS 1:17-23

In Jesus' resurrection and glorification, God has tipped his hand. The power at work in Jesus is also at work in us.

MATTHEW 28:16-20

In returning to the Father, Jesus leaves us neither lonely nor idle. In the power of the Spirit, he commissions his church to complete the task of redemption.

ENTRANCE RITE: Luke 24:25-53

V. As He blessed them He parted from them and was taken up to heaven. Alleluia.

R. They did Him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God. Alleluia.

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 47:6

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord, amid trumpet blasts.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

CANCELLED!

*Celebrated by the Clergy
for you, the people of God.
Please Pray along at home.*

TODAY – MAY 21st
Solemnity
Ascension of the Lord

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – MAY 24th
Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

*Intentions for members of the
Armed Forces of the United
States of America in honor of
Memorial Day.*

SUNDAY – MAY 31st
Solemnity of Pentecost

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

The Month of May

During the Month of May we give special attention to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will pray the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary after the service each Sunday this month as we beseech the Mother of Our Lord to intercede with the Father and her Beloved Son on our behalf. I urge each of you to spend a few moments each day in reflection, asking for her prayers and remembering her sacrifice.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(Recited together in place of the reception of the Holy Eucharist)

Most loving Jesus,

I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior.

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, our families and friends, especially John Czechowski, John Aldershoff, Tom Schalata, Donna Schalata, Joseph Ross, Stanley Sub, Bea Sub, Ruth Mechowski, Julie Urban, Frank and Shellie Fisher, Joe Brinsko, Walter Schilling, Bernice Biroscak, Isabella Mularczyk, Laura Kotula and Lt Colonel Fr, Andrew Bilinski, his colleagues and patients. For the repose of the soul of Laura Kotula. **Our Father...**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Masses, services and other events are cancelled until further notice. Please check the website or Facebook page for updated information. Thank you and God Bless. Take care and stay well.

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

A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love, now and forever more. AMEN.

MEMBER INFORMATION FORM

You should have received a mailing containing a Member Information Update Form. Many of you have completed it and returned it to the church. Thank you for your prompt action. If you have not done so yet, please complete the form or forms and return them as soon as you can. There is a pre-addressed, postage paid envelope in the mailing to make this as easy as possible. We need to update our records in order to continue to serve you in the very best way possible so please help us to help you. If you need more copies of the form, you can find it on the website under “Bulletins”. Thank you and God bless you and yours.