



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

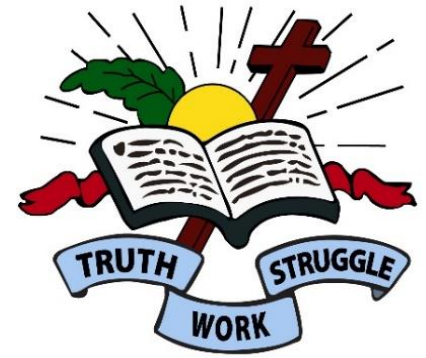
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May 31, 2020

The Solemnity of Pentecost

A Festival Thought

God finds us, not just by tearing down walls but by coming through them.

About Today's Bible Readings

ACTS 2:1-11

Fear and confusion become manageable where there is faith in God's bold Spirit. Peoples of all ages from all areas of the world and from every walk of life have been gathered together in a prayerful and powerful assembly by the Spirit of God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:3-7, 12-13

Where once there was an overwhelming and staggering variety of unanswered needs, now those needs can be met by the multiple gifts of the Spirit working through the unique talents of each member of the congregation. Different gifts and unusual talents are a cause for wonder and thanksgiving, not resentment and distrust.

JOHN 20:19-23

Where once there was alienation and resentment, now there was the possibility of forgiveness and peace because of the ever-present and ever-compelling Spirit of Jesus. Mutual forgiveness, freely given, bestows the gift of peace on the forgiven and the forgiver.

V. For the Spirit of the Lord fills the world, is all-embracing, and knows what man says. Alleluia.

R. Therefore no one who utters wicked things can go unnoticed, nor will chastising condemnation pass him by. 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!

THE SEQUENCE — Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

And from your celestial home

Shed a ray of light divine!

Come, Father of the poor!

Come, source of all our store!

Come, within our bosoms shine.

You, of comforters the best;

You, the soul's most welcome guest;

Sweet refreshment here below;

In our labor, rest most sweet;

Grateful coolness in the heat;

Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine,

Shine within these hearts of yours,

And our inmost being fill!

Where you are not, we have naught,

Nothing good in deed or thought,

Nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;

On our dryness pour your dew;

Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;

Melt the frozen, warm the chill;

Guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore

And confess you, evermore

In your sevenfold gift descend;

Give them virtue's sure reward;

Give them your salvation, Lord;

Give them joys that never end. Amen.

Alleluia.

Worship Services

CANCELLED!

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

**TODAY – MAY 31st
Solemnity of Pentecost**

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

*Intentions for the repose of the
soul of Jean Kopcza.*

**SUNDAY – June 7th
Solemnity - Holy Trinity**

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

**SUNDAY – June 14th
Solemnity – Corpus Christi**

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

RETURNING TO CHURCH

Please watch your mail for an important update concerning the possible return of in person worship at Saint Stephen's. It includes a document from the Bishops of the PNCC outlining what will be required of us as we transition to the next phase of this new way of life imposed on us by the Coronavirus. Please read it carefully and remember that the decision of whether or not to participate at this time is entirely up to you and your own personal circumstances and needs. No one should jeopardize their personal health or safety or that of their family members. Should you choose to join us, please respond to the included questionnaire so that we can prepare and be ready to welcome you back in as safe an environment as we possibly can. Thank you and God bless you all.

ALLELUIA: Psalm 47:6

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. I will pour out my Spirit upon all humankind. Your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

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, Nancy Ziolkowski and Lt Colonel Fr, Andrew Bilinski, his colleagues and patients. For the repose of the soul of Jean Kopcza. **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.