



August 16, 2020

# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

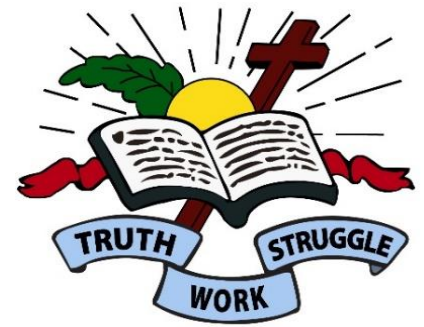
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## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### A Sabbath Thought

We live in a world of distinctions, marked by social, racial and economic differences. But, in God's kingdom, there is only one identifying characteristic. It is faith - faith that looks to the Lord of healing and mercy.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### ISAIAH 56:1, 6-7

Where you come from does not matter, says the Lord. The important things are who you are and what you do.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

**R. O God, let all the nations praise you!**

#### ROMANS 11:13-15, 29-32

God never goes back on his word. No one is rejected in his sight because Christ has been designated the savior of all.

#### MATTHEW 15:21-28

A foreign woman demonstrates faith and wins from Jesus healing for her sick daughter.

### ENTRANCE RITE: Baruch 5:5; psalm 122:1-2

*V. Up Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God.*

**R. I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." And now our feet are standing within your gates, Jerusalem.**

*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: ISAIAH 45:22

*V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*V. Turn to Me and be safe, all you ends of the earth, for I am God; there is no other!*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Worship Services

## INTENTIONS:

**TODAY –August 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Low Mass  
9:30 AM – High Mass

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**SUNDAY –August 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Low Mass  
9:30 AM – High Mass

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## The Holy Eucharist

We will continue the trial of distributing the Holy Eucharist to those of the faithful wishing to receive it.

If you do not wish to receive, please exit the church after the recessional hymn.

If you do wish to receive, please remain seated.

Those receiving will file down the center aisle, single file starting with the front rows first and will maintain a six foot spacing with masks in place until it is your turn to receive.

The Eucharist will be distributed on the tongue in the form of the Body of Christ ONLY.

The Priest will wear a mask and disinfect his fingers with alcohol after each recipient.

After you have received, please put your mask back on and exit the church via the side aisles.

This is completely optional and no one should feel any pressure to receive. Please make your own decision based on your personal health and safety concerns.

## 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 Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata, Father Senior Joseph Soltysiak, Father Senior Augustyn Sicard, Father Thomas Sheha, Father Paul Zomerfeld, John Aldershoff, Jane Aldershoff, Joseph Ross, Ruth Mechowski, Julie Urban, Frank and Shellie Fisher, Joe Brinsko, Bernice Biroscak, Isabella Mularczyk, Joann Danton and Stanley Sub. For the repose of the soul of John Czechowski. **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!**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

August 16, 2020, 11:00AM: Regular Parish Committee Meeting held in the Social Hall

**All events are subject to review and the appropriate health and safety restrictions. Please check the website or Facebook page for updated information. Take care, stay safe and stay well.**

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## SECOND ANNUAL HEART AND SOUL AWARD

The PNU is accepting nominations for the Second Annual Heart and Soul Award which is given in loving memory of former PNU CEO Irene Jugan. The nominating criteria is available on the table in the vestibule or by contacting Fr. Sr Don.

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## LIBRARY RENOVATION

The renovation of the Library Space is nearly complete. The two tone paint job is complete and chair rail has been installed for that high end look. The new flooring has been installed. The air conditioning unit has been cleaned and serviced. The ceiling fixtures have been cleaned and the fluorescent lamps replaced with LEDs for enhanced reliability and energy efficiency. The final touches are to organize the book shelves and to arrange the space for optimum utilization of the room. Thanks go out to Kevin Grossman, Laura Alfano and Joe Urban for all of their hard work on this project to date. Please feel free to take a look after Mass!

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## PNU SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The PNU Education and Youth Commission has decided not to sponsor the traditional raffle to raise monies for the Youth Scholarship fund this year due to the various issues that have challenged us all. They are asking that each of us make a prayerful donation instead to support this most important cause. Please take one of the flyers found between the collection baskets in the vestibule on your way out and please be as generous as you are able to be. Thank you and God bless.