

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

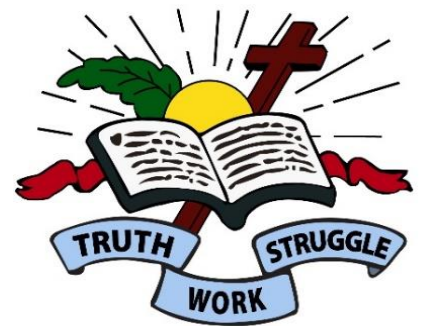
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Parish Office: 610-775-4559

Email: fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org

Website: www.ststephenpncc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc



August 30, 2020

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

Christians are meant to stand for something because their way of life may involve suffering for that something. It is not suffering that we choose, but suffering is the birth pangs of the new creation.

About Today's Bible Readings

JEREMIAH 20:7-9

The prophet Jeremiah discovers that suffering comes with the territory. If you speak the word of God, you must accept the consequences.

Responsorial Psalm: 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

ROMANS 12:1-2

Liturgy is not just the activity that takes place in church. Wherever we are, we can offer God the worship of our lives and the praise of our service.

MATTHEW 16:21-27

Disciples also discover that suffering comes with the territory, not because discipleship is fraught with hardship but because the territory is fraught with danger.

ENTRANCE RITE: Jeremiah 17:10; Psalm 63:9

*V. I, the Lord, alone probe the mind and test the heart,
To reward everyone according to the merit of his deeds.*

R. My soul clings fast to You; Your right hand upholds me.

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: Luke 24:26

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into His glory?

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

TODAY –August 30th
23rd Sunday - Ordinary Time

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

Mass intentions for all of our students returning to classes this fall both real. and virtual.

Alter flowers today are in memory of parents Chester and Pauline Miraszewsk given by daughter Betty M. Randolph.

SUNDAY –September 6th
23rd Sunday - Ordinary Time

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

The Holy Eucharist

We will continue the safety enhanced way 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 until told to advance.

School Students

Since my memory and information acquisition skills have been somewhat stressed over the last several months, I would much appreciate it if everyone would be so kind as to remind me of any school age young people in the parish including all students from pre-school through college. Please either call the Parish Office or email me at fatherdon@ststephenpncc.com Please include names, ages and grade level. Thank you.

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 Edward and Anna Czechowski, 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, and Walter Schilling, Jr.. For the repose of the soul of JoAnn Danton.

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 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.

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.

WORK/STUDY FROM HOME ALTERNATIVE

With many of you facing the prospect of working or studying from home due to restrictions imposed by employers or educational institutions, we would like to offer an alternative opportunity. Since the church buildings now have Wi-Fi throughout, any parishioner or their children are welcome to make use of the public spaces in the church to work or study instead of staying at home. All users will be expected to adhere to any and all health and safety precautions prescribed by the relevant authorities such as wearing of masks in the close proximity of other, the use of hand sanitizer, social distancing, etc. The exact hours that this will be made available will depend upon the needs and requests of those utilizing the spaces. With all of the individual rooms available, as well as the ability to spread out in the main Social Hall, we think that it will be possible to accommodate quite a few people. Users will be responsible for leaving the spaces in the same condition that they found them, meaning cleaning up after yourselves. Please contact Fr. Sr. Don via phone or email (listed in the header of this bulletin) for more information or to request arrangements. Should space become limited, first come, first serve will apply. We sincerely hope that you will find this helpful in these trying and difficult times.