



August 9, 2020

## Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

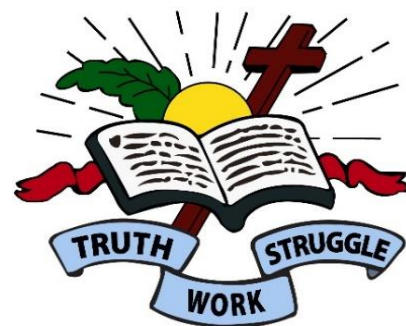
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## Solemnity – Transfiguration of Our Lord

### A Sabbath Thought

We are granted a momentary view of the glory waiting for us when we meet Jesus. Although mountain top experiences are uplifting, perhaps even necessary to give us hope, it is in the valley where we will find our most beneficial growth.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### DANIEL 7:9-14

"Ancient One" gazes down from a heavenly throne. One like a human, later to be seen as Jesus, the Christ, comes before the throne.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 97:1-2, 5-6, 9

**R. The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

#### 2 PETER 1:16-19

Peter was blessed to glimpse the heavenly glory that was to be awarded Jesus. He recounts his experience of the transfiguration.

#### MATTHEW 17:1-9

Peter, James and John are privileged to accompany Jesus to the mountain top and to glimpse the glory of his resurrection.

### ENTRANCE RITE: John 3:22; Corinthians 3:18

*V. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

**R. All of us, gazing with unveiled face on the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord Who is the Spirit.**

*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: Hebrews 1:3a (NSRV)

*V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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

*V. Jesus is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and He sustains all things by His powerful word.*

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

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Worship Services

**TODAY –August 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Solemnity**

**Transfiguration of the Lord**

8:00 AM – Low Mass

9:30 AM – High Mass

*Alter flowers offered by Sandy*

*Pfennig in loving memory of*

*Rudy Pfennig*

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**SUNDAY –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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## **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 exist 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.

## **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, 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 Stanley Sub. **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**

Saturday, 8/15 – United YMS of R Golf Tournament – Waymart, PA  
Please see Fr. Sr. Donald for details if you are interested in participating

**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. This was planned to happen after the pastor's office was completed but was delayed for various reasons. 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.

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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.