



# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

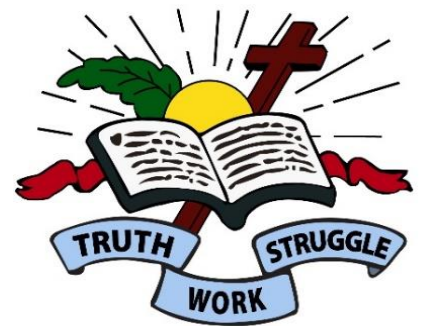
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Parish Office: 610-775-4559

Email: [fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org](mailto:fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org)

Website: [www.ststephenpncc.org](http://www.ststephenpncc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc)



September 6, 2020

## Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**HAPPY LABOR DAY!**

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### A Sabbath Thought

When all our individual egos merge to become *us*, the *church*, not all problems are automatically solved. We must still observe the regulations of justice and the rules of love.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### EZEKIEL 33:7-9

The prophet is not the voice of doom but rather the herald of justice. Where we practice deception, the prophet engages in revelation.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

#### ROMANS 13:8-10

Are *you* looking for a rule of life in this credit-burdened society? Here it is: your *only* debt should be love.

#### MATTHEW 18:15-20

Yes, there *are* rules, says Jesus, for regulating relations in the body of God's people. But prayer is the primary activity that binds us as a body.

### ENTRANCE RITE: Proverbs 9:7-8 NRSV

*V. Whoever corrects a scoffer wins abuse; whoever rebukes the wicked gets hurt.*

**R. A scoffer who is rebuked will only hate you; the wise, when rebuked, will love you.**

*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. You shall not bear hatred for your brother in your heart.*

*Though you may have to reprove your fellow man, do not incur sin because of him.*

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

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Worship Services

**TODAY—September 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time**

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

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**SUNDAY—September 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**Solemnity – Brotherly Love**

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

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:fatherdon@ststephenpncc.com). Please include names, ages and grade level. And if you know of any young people who should be attending Sunday School or Preparation for First Holy Communion or Confirmation, please contact Janet Katinowski at [jkatinowsk@aol.com](mailto:jkatinowsk@aol.com) or call Fr. Sr. Donald.

## 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 Charlotte Ratajack.

### 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

**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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## PNU YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

I am in receipt of a very nice letter from the PNU Education and Youth Commission thanking all of the members of Saint Stephens who made donations to the Youth Scholarship fund. If you have not yet done so, it is not too late. Information is on the table in the vestibule. Thank you for your thoughtful generosity. And God bless.

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## 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.