

March 14, 2021

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

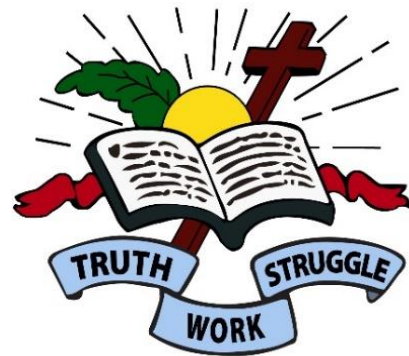
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Solemnity – Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church

A Festival Thought

Christ calls us to serve Him, now and forever. And to help make this possible, He gave us the great gift of the Polish National Catholic Church, the anniversary of the founding of which we commemorate today.

About Today's Bible Readings

Wisdom 5:1-5

The wicked are overwhelmed and amazed at the power and the glory of the righteous one.

Responsorial Psalm:

2:2-3, 5-6, 8-9, 10-11

**R. Serve the Lord with fear,
and rejoice before him; with
trembling pay homage to him.**

1 Timothy 4:1-5

Saint Paul cautions us to beware of those who try to tell us to disobey the Lord, for all things made by Him are good and pleasing to the soul.

John: 12:1-7

The branches are us, the people of God, called together as the body of Christ, His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. If we remain faithful to Him, we will bear good fruit to the Glory of His Holy Name.

ENTRANCE RITE – Psalm 91:1-2; Psalm 17:8

V. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures You let me graze; to safe waters You Lead me, You restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of Your name.

**R. You set a table before me as my enemies watch;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

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.**

TRACT – Psalm 31:2

V. In You, Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

R. In Your justice deliver me.

THE GOSPEL – John 12:1-7

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY March 14th

SOLEMNITY

**The Institution of the Polish
National Catholic Church**

8:00 AM – LOW MASS

9:30 AM – HIGH MASS

**Second Collection for
The National Church Center**

Wednesday March 17th

Stations of the Cross

7:00PM

Friday March 20th

Lenten Penitential Services

7:00PM

SUNDAY March 21st

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Passion Sunday

8:00 AM – LOW MASS

9:30 AM – HIGH MASS

Wednesday March 24th

Stations of the Cross

7:00PM

SUNDAY March 28th

Palm Sunday

Blessing and distribution of

Palms to the Faithful

Procession

ONE MASS ONLY

9:00 AM – HIGH MASS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During the season of Lent we will be praying the Stations of the Cross each and every week leading up to Easter. I hope that everyone will plan on attending to join together as the one body of Christ and that you will urge your families, friends and neighbors to attend as well. This is a beautiful and moving form of worship and it helps to focus our thoughts and prayers on our Lord and Savior as we reflect on His Passion and Death.

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 Czechowski, Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata and Bernice Biroscak. For the repose of the soul of Anna 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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, March 15th: Fund Raising Committee Meeting 7:00 PM in the Church Hall. All are invited to attend. We need ideas on how to start getting back to some semblance of normal fund raising activities. Your input is vital.

Sunday, March 21st: Monthly Parish Committee Meeting, 11:15 AM in the Church Hall. This is the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the committee. I hope all Members will plan to attend.

Tuesday, March 23rd: 2021 PNCC Virtual Lenten Retreat 7:00 PM to 8:30PM (Via Zoom) by the PNCC Future Directions Committee. To participate, please register before Passion Sunday, March 21st by emailing pbmikovsky@pncc.org or robnem21@aol.com. I hope that everyone will participate in this moving experience.

Friday, April 2nd: YMS of R Tuna Hoagie Sale! Order forms on the table in the vestibule. Please place your orders before Sunday, March 28th. Still only \$6.00 each! Pick up on Good Friday, April 2nd after the 3:00 PM Mass or the 7:00 PM Services.

Sunday, April 11th: ANS Meeting 10:45 AM in the Church Hall. All of the women of the Parish are encouraged to attend. Annual election of officers will take place. Please note that a new President and Secretary will need to be elected, so if you are interested in serving the Parish by way of the ANS, please attend and express your desire.

Sunday, April 11th: YMS of R Egg Sandwich Sale after each Mass. \$5.00 each, pick up in the Church Hall. First come, first served!

If there are any other events not listed here, please email or tell Father Senior Donald so he can add them!

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.

Cemetery Spring Clean-Up

We will be performing a Spring Clean-Up of our Cemetery soon. If you have any decorations or adornments on your graves and you want to keep them, please see to it that they are removed on or before March 26th. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

THE KNIGHTS CLOSET

The Reading Area School District has informed us that the Knights Closet Project which provides items of basic necessity to students in need will resume even under the COVID restrictions. The parish has generously participated in this worthwhile cause in past years and I hope that we will find it in our hearts to continue to do so. Please leave your contributions on the table in the Library and we will get them to those in need. A list of needed items can be found on the table in the vestibule near the offering baskets. Please take one as you leave. Thank you and God bless.