

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

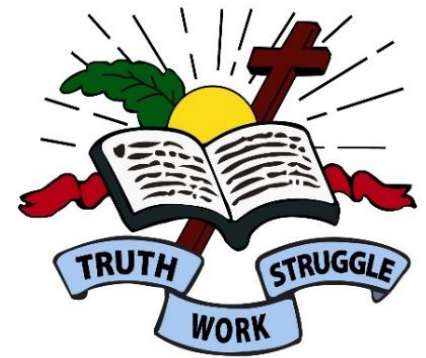
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Parish Office: 610-775-4559

Email: fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org

Website: www.ststephenpncc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc



April 4, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY – ALLELUIA!

*He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!*

About Today's Bible Readings

Jesus lives! The fact of his resurrection has set the world and its values upside down. (1 Corinthians).

Death is no longer the end but the beginning of a life that never ends (John).

Life has become a multi-dimensional experience in which believers share by faith in an ancient Passover; in which believers share daily the many great and small passages from death to life and look ahead to the ultimate passing over from time into the timelessness of eternity (Acts).

Responsorial Psalm:

118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

ENTRANCE RITE (Traditional CFR-RSV Psalm 139:18, 5b-6a; 118:1-2)

V. I have risen: I am with you once more; you placed your hand on me to keep me safe. How great is the depth of your wisdom. Alleluia.

R. O Lord, you have probed me and you know me; you know when I sit and when I stand. Alleluia.

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!

SEQUENCE - Victimæ paschali laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim Offer your thankful praises! A Lamb the sheep redeems; Christ, who only is sinless, Reconciles sinners to the Father. Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous: The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal. Speak, Mary, declaring What you saw, wayfaring. "The tomb of Christ, who is living, The glory of Jesus' resurrection; bright angels attesting, The shroud and napkin resting. Yes, Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you." Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining. Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning! Amen. Alleluia.

ALLELUIA (1 Corinthians 5:7b-8a, c)

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.

Therefore let us feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel (JOHN 20:1-9)

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

**TODAY – April 4th
Easter Sunday**

**Solemnity of The Resurrection
of Our Lord – Procession**

9:00 AM – Holy Mass

**SUNDAY – April 11th
Second Sunday of Easter
(Low Sunday)**

8:00 AM – Low Mass

9:30 AM – High Mass

EASTER GREETINGS!

In these trying times, I urge you to take comfort and draw joy from the eternal Easter message, He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Christ's glorious resurrection is what being a Christian is all about and today is when we sing aloud our happiness and joy. For it is through Jesus' eternal, perfect sacrifice on the cross that we are made whole, our sins forgiven and the promise of eternal life is bestowed upon us. All we need to do to reap this greatest of all gifts is to believe in Him, our Lord and Savior, and to follow His teachings as He leads us on the road to the Heavenly Kingdom.

Please, be strong, take care and stay well until we can once again join together, fully, as the one Body of Christ to sing praise, honor and glory to His most Holy Name.

From Fr. Sr. Don, Danielle and your parish Committee:

Happy Easter!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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. **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

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!

Monday, April 12th; The Mission Commission will meet in the Church Hall at 7:00 PM. All are invited to attend.

Tuesday, April 13th; The YMS of R will meet in the Church Hall at 7:00 PM. All of the men of the Parish are encouraged to attend and join if you do not already belong.

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.

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.

