



July 25, 2021

## Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 Saint Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

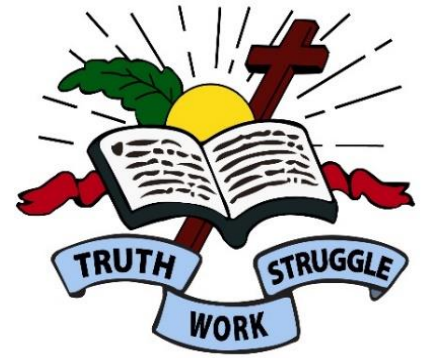
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## Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sabbath Thought

Through the next four Sundays after today, the scriptural readings will consider the symbol of bread and its many meanings for the church community. Today the word of God introduces that theme in the person of Jesus who is the giver of bread that feeds human hunger.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### 2 KINGS 4:42-44

Here is an early sign of what God wishes to do for his people: Where there is need, God fills it.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18

**R: The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**

#### EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Here is a plea for unity: Be one because that reveals the truth about God and redemption.

#### JOHN 6:1-15

Here is the final proof of Jesus' intentions: His over abundant response to human need reveals the purpose of his ministry.

### ENTRANCE RITE: Psalm 132:13-15

*V. For the Lord has chosen Zion; He prefers her for His dwelling.  
"Zion is My resting place forever;"*

**R. "In her will I dwell, for I prefer her. I will bless her with abundant provision, her poor I will fill with bread."**

*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: Romans 14:17

*V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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

*V. For the kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

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

### THE GOSPEL: John 6:1-15

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people recline." Now there was a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world." Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Worship Services

**TODAY – July 25<sup>th</sup>**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

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**SUNDAY – August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

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## NOVEMBER FOOD SALE

We will be holding a pierogi only food sale sometime in November. We will need to begin to make them soon. Please consider volunteering to help. A signup sheet will be posted in the hall and in the vestibule very soon.

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## B2 BISTRO BRUNCH

We will be having a brunch at the B2 Bistro; 701 Reading Ave., West Reading, PA 19611; located in the VF Outlet on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00AM. Everyone will be responsible for their own expenditures. We are just hoping to get together for some good food and fellowship. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheets in the vestibule and the hall.

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## Celebrate Your Faith Night

We are considering getting a group together to attend a Reading Fightin' Phils baseball game. If you are interested in joining us, please sign the sheet in the vestibule or downstairs in the hall. This will be on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 PM against the Akron Rubberducks. Ticket pricing will depend on the estimated number of attendees.

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## Clergy Retreat

The annual Clergy Retreat of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church will be held at the St. Francis Retreat House in Easton, PA from August 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>. I will be attending. If any clerical emergencies occur, please call the church office at 610-775-4559 and leave a message.

## 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 Isabella Mularczyk, Edward Czechowski, Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata, David Wunderlich, Bernice Biroscak, Jean Loose, Geri Piotrowski and Riley Rejniak. **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

**Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**; The Fund Raising Committee will meet at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All parishioners are cordially invited to attend. Your input and ideas are very much in need.

**Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**; The Mission Commission will meet at 7:00PM in the Library. All are welcome to attend.

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

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## MARY'S SHELTER

Our Parish is going to begin to support Mary's Shelter, an organization that provides housing, pregnancy services and counseling to women and teens. We will be sponsoring a "Christmas in July" to benefit them. All of the donations made to the "Little White Church" during June and July will be donated to Mary's Shelter. In addition, there a tree similar to our Christmas Season Angel Tree from which you can take a card or two or three, the requested gifts are small, that will specify a gift needed by those staying at the shelter. If you chose to participate in this, please bring your gifts to Church and leave them in the Library. **Do not wrap the gifts.** Thank you in advance for your generous support.

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## 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 in the literature rack in the vestibule.

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## HOAGIE SALE

We will be holding a Hoagie Sale on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Order forms are available in the vestibule. Orders must be pre-paid for delivery. Deadline to submit your orders to Father Senior Don or Janet Katinowski is August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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