



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 Saint Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

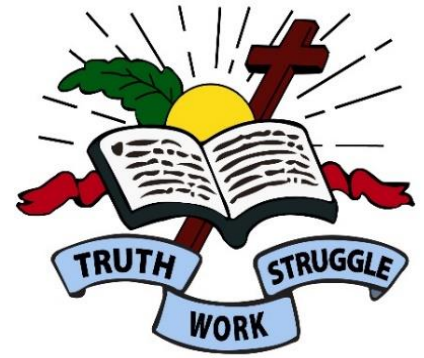
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August 15, 2021

Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

What is the wise thing to do? Many people think we should live for *now* because there is no *later*. Some of us think now does not matter *because* there is a later. Is there a middle ground?

About Today's Bible Readings

PROVERBS 9:1-6

Our ancient scriptures remind us of an age-old invitation as new as the morning's sunrise: Seek wisdom because the alternative leads to destruction.

Responsorial Psalm: 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

EPHESIANS 5:15-20

The writer to the Ephesians repeats the ancient wisdom: Act wisely, avoid foolishness, be grateful.

JOHN 6:51-58

Eating is a daily activity, but is there a food that guarantees sustenance for more than 24 hours? Yes; it is the bread of life that gives life for more than a day.

ENTRANCE RITE: Deuteronomy 8:3

V. He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your fathers.

R. In order to show you that not by bread alone does man live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord.

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: Isaiah 55:2b

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Heed Me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowds:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

TODAY – August 15th

20th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – August 22nd

21st Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – August 29th

22nd Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

THE BREAD OF ETERNAL LIFE

In today's Gospel we are once again reminded of the truth that the Body And Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are true food and true drink. If we do not partake of them, in the form of the Holy Eucharist, on a regular basis, Christ tells us that we will have no life within us, but if we eat of His Body and drink of His Blood, we will be in Him and He will be in us and we will have life everlasting.

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. Signup sheets are in the vestibule. Please volunteer to help make this sale a success. And not only women can make pierogi, men can too!

CELEBRATE YOUR FAITH NIGHT

We are getting a group together to attend a Reading Fightin' Phils baseball game later today. If you are interested in joining us, please see Father Senior Don. This will be today at 5:15 PM against the Akron Rubberducks. Ticket pricing will be \$9.00 each.

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, August 15th; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee at 11:00AM. I hope all committee members are planning to attend.

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

Friday, August 27th; Pierogi Prep. Please sign up to volunteer.

Saturday, August 28th; Pierogi Making. Please sign up to volunteer.

Friday, September 10th; Pierogi Prep. Please sign up to volunteer.

Saturday, September 11th; Pierogi Making. Please sign up to volunteer.

Friday, September 24th; Pierogi Prep. Please sign up to volunteer.

Saturday, September 25th; Pierogi Making. Please sign up to volunteer.

Friday, October 15th; Pierogi Prep. Please sign up to volunteer.

Saturday, October 16th; Pierogi Making. Please sign up to volunteer.

Monday, September 13th; The fund raising committee will meet at 7:00PM. 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!

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 take a token from the table in the vestibule and fill the need on it. Please leave your contributions on the table in the Library and we will get them to those in need.

HOAGIE SALE

We will be holding a Hoagie Sale on August 29th. 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 Sunday, August 22nd. This sale is open to all so tell your friends about it.

