

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 Saint Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

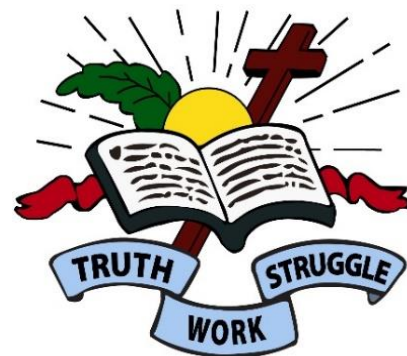
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October 31, 2021

Solemnity – All Saints; Observance of All Souls

A Festival Thought

The saints we honor today are our 'heroes' - some of them in spite of themselves! How may we best imitate their holiness? The obvious answer centers on God, the source of all holiness.

About Today's Bible Readings

REVELATION 7:2-4, 9-14

A vision from the last book of our Christian bible presents an imposing panorama of all the saints before the throne of God.

Responsorial Psalm: 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1 JOHN 3:1-3

Love created and redeemed us. Love is our destiny and the path by which we reach that goal.

MATTHEW 5:1-12A

The beatitudes sound puzzling, contradictory, and impossible. But they stand as a constant challenge to our easy acceptance of things as they are.

ENTRANCE RITE: Isaiah 51:11, Psalm 145:10-11

V. Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

R. All Your works give You thanks, O Lord, and Your faithful bless You. They speak of the glory of Your reign and tell of Your great works.

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: Matthew 11:28

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12A

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

**TODAY – October 31st
SOLEMNITY - ALL SAINTS
Commemoration of All Souls**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass
9:30 AM – Holy Mass

**SUNDAY – November 7th
32nd Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass
9:30 AM – Holy Mass

**Daylight Saving Time Begins!
Remember to set your clocks
back one hour!**

**SUNDAY – November 14th
33rd Sunday - Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass
9:30 AM – Holy Mass

**SUNDAY – November 21st
Solemnity – Christ the King**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass
9:30 AM – Holy Mass

NOVEMBER FOOD SALE

We will be holding a Polish Food sale November 20th. We have begun to make pierogis. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and showed up already. Please consider volunteering to help on the upcoming days. 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! Flyers are available on the table in the vestibule. Please take a few and put them up wherever you can in the community.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Please don't forget get to join us after Mass in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and donuts and get to know your brothers and sisters a bit better.

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, Janet Katinowsky, Julia Urban, Sandy Pfennig and Riley Rejniak. For the repose of the souls of all the dearly departed members of this parish and all of our dearly departed loved ones. Let us Pray: **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, November 1st; The Mission Commission will meet at 7:00PM in the Library. All are welcome to attend.

Friday, November 5th; Pierogi Prep. Please sign up to volunteer.

Saturday, November 6th; Pierogi Making. Please sign up to volunteer.

Monday, November 15th; The Fundraising Committee will meet in the Library at 7:00PM. All are welcome to attend.

Wednesday, November 17th; The Book club will meet at 7:00PM in the Library. Since we are between books, this meeting will take the format of an Adult Forum or Discussion Round Table. Our topic, hosted by Father Senior Donald will be the Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. All are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

Saturday, November 20th; Polish Food Sale. 9:00 AM until sold out. Tell your friends.

Sunday, December 5th; Confirmation and First Holy Communion. One Mass at 10:00AM. Please join us to welcome The Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese of the PNCC, who will celebrate mass and confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Skye Sadowski.

Tuesday, December 7th; The Y.M.S. of R. will meet at 7:00PM in the Church Hall. All of the men of the church are encouraged to attend.

Saturday, December 11th; Advent Penitential Service at 7:00PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022; Saint Stephen's Annual Picnic returns! From 10:00AM until whenever at Saint Benedict's Picnic Grove in Mohnton. We have a band, a beer wagon and of course, great Polish Food. The picnic has been sorely missed the past few years by almost everyone, parishioner and non-parishioner alike so let's get behind the Picnic Committee and volunteer to help when the time comes in order to make the return of the Picnic a rousing success.

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

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

For the months of October, November and December all of the donations to the Little White Church will be used to help the less blessed of our community as the winter and holiday seasons come upon us. These donations will be used for heating assistance and other such necessities. The Angel Tree is in the Fellowship Hall so that gifts can be donated for the elderly and shut in individuals of our community. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you and God bless.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

The Central Diocesan Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church will be held in Rome, NY Friday and Saturday, November 12th and 13th. I will be attending along with your elected delegate, Michael and Sally Traczuk and Kevin Grossman. Please pray for us and for all Synod delegates that we may do the Lord's work in truth and justice.