



January 2, 2022

# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 Saint Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

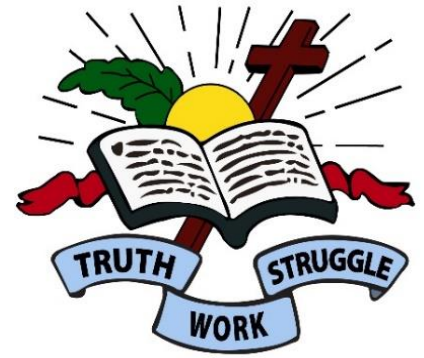
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## Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus

### A Festival Thought

The Holy Name of Jesus is the name that is above every name. At its sound, every knee shall bend.

### About Today's Bible Readings:

#### EXODUS 3:13-15

God speaks to Moses and instructs him to tell the Israelites that His name is I AM.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R. Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**

#### PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

St. Paul tells us that as a reward for His great sacrifice, God gives Jesus the name that is above every name.

#### MATTHEW 1:18-25

Matthew recounts the story of the birth of Jesus and how Joseph was told by the angel of God how to treat Mary and what to name the holy child.

### ENTRANCE RITE: Philippians 2:10-11; Isaiah 12:4

*V. At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim His Name; among the nations make known His deeds, proclaim how exalted is His Name.**

*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: Psalm 145:21

*V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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

*V. My mouth will speak Your praises, Lord; all flesh will bless Your holy name forever.*

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

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son,\* and he named him Jesus. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Worship Services

**TODAY - January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**  
**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**THURSDAY - January 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Solemnity**  
**Epiphany of our Lord**  
**Blessing of Chalk and Incense**

**7:00 PM – HOLY MASS**

**I encourage everyone to attend this important Solemnity.**

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**SUNDAY - January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Solemnity**  
**Baptism of our Lord**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**  
**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**SUNDAY - January 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**  
*Intentions for the repose of the soul of Beverly Rush Wunderlich, offered by Fr. Sr. Donald and Danielle Wunderlich.*

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**  
**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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## 2022 Donation Envelopes

The Donation Envelopes for 2022 are now available. They are on the table in the Library. Please pick up yours.

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## Future Direction Newsletter

For those of you who are not subscribed to the Future Direction Newsletter, I urge you to sign up now. This can be done by sending an email to: [futuredirection@pncc.org](mailto:futuredirection@pncc.org) and include your email address.

For those without email or internet access, a limited number of the directives will be available in print form in the vestibule, entitled Discipleship. This is a very important resource published by the church and should be read by all.

## 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, Geri Piotrowski, Janet Katinowsky, Julia Urban, Sandy Pfennig, Courtney Pierce, Joseph Grossman, Damon Grossman, Ed Edling, Cheryl and Darryl Weinhold and Riley Rejniak. Let us Pray: **Our Father....**

**If there are any individuals who should be on this list or should be removed from it, please email or tell Fr. Sr. Donald so he can make the changes!**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PLEASE JOIN US IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Today, January 2<sup>nd</sup>:** The ANS will meet at 11:00 AM in the Library. All of the women of the parish are encouraged to attend and to join the ANS if you are not already members.

**Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>:** School of Christian Living Open House at 11:00 AM. Please join us and bring your children and grandchildren to learn about our Sunday school options for children of all ages. Light refreshments will be served.

**Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>:** The mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00PM. All are cordially invited to attend. New ideas are always welcome.

**Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>:** The Book Club will meet at 7:00PM in the library. The book that will be discussed is "Where Do We Go From Here" by Dr. David Jeremiah. All are welcome and we hope to make participation online available via TEAMS. Check back for details.

**Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>:** Monthly Parish Committee meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I hope all committee members are planning to attend.

**Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Parish Membership Meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I urge every member of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish to attend this important meeting. Many issues vital to the health and success of our parish will be discussed and decided upon. The key to success in any democratically oriented organization is in the participation of the membership. Our parish is facing many challenges and your thoughts and ideas on how to solve them are of the utmost importance. Please plan to attend, engage and to elect or volunteer to be elected representatives to the various offices and positions in our parish for the upcoming terms. Our ancestors fought for this right when they founded the Polish National Catholic Church one hundred and twenty four years ago. Please respect it and make use of it by attending and participating.

**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!**

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## NEW YEAR

As we approach the new year please be aware of the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of someone to step up and fill the positions of Vice-Chairperson and of Secretary as well as volunteers for the Picnic Committee. If you are interested in serving your parish, please see Fr. Sr. Donald or Tom Schalata. I would also like to remind all of the various parish organizations to be sure to have their year-end reports ready in preparation for the meeting And if you have not already done so, please see to it that your yearly dues are paid up to date. Thank you and God bless.