



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

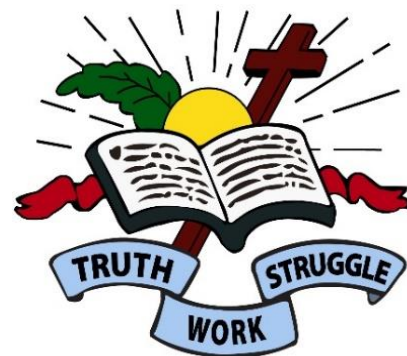
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January 23, 2022

Third Sunday – Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

In today's Gospel, Jesus publicly introduces himself and presents his credentials. He has come to free and to forgive, to heal and to help, to teach and to save.

About Today's Bible Readings

NEHEMIAH 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Here is an ancient liturgy of the word, a mirror image of what we do when we listen reverently to the Word of God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

19:8, 9, 10, 15

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-30

Paul the apostle comes up with a brilliant insight into the nature of our church community: We are the body of Christ.

LUKE 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Luke begins his gospel with a statement of purpose, illustrated by Jesus' proclamation of the good news and its fulfillment.

ENTRANCE RITE – Psalm 147:1-3

V. How good to celebrate our God in song; how sweet to give fitting praise. The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem, gathers the dispersed of Israel,

R. Heals the brokenhearted, binds up their wounds.

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 146:2

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL – Luke 1:1-4; 14:14-21

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received. Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY - January 23rd

3rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Intentions for the repose of the soul of Kevin Austin Grossman, offered by Kevin Grossman.

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

SUNDAY - January 30th

4th Sunday Ordinary Time

Music Scholarship Sunday

ONE MASS ONLY

9:00 AM – HOLY MASS

Annual Parish Congregational meeting following the Mass.

Please plan to attend and engage. Your opinion counts.

WEDNESDAY – February 2nd

Solemnity

Presentation of the Lord

Blessing of Candles

7:00 PM – Holy Mass

THURSDAY – February 3rd

Feast of Saint Blaise

Blessing of Throats

7:00 PM – Holy Mass

Music Scholarship Sunday

Next Sunday, January 30th, is Music Scholarship Sunday. For more information on applying for one of these scholarships, please visit www.nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com.

To donate, please pick up a sheet from the table in the vestibule. Please consider donating to this worthwhile cause as it supports those in our church who give of their musical talents for the benefit of us all. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.

Koleda – Blessing of Homes

To Have Fr. Sr. Donald bless your home this season, please sign the sheet in the vestibule with your name, phone number and best time of day and he will contact you to make arrangements.

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 Sr., Joseph Grossman Jr., Kyle Grossman, Damon Grossman, Ed Edling, and Riley Rejniak. For the repose of the soul of Kevin Austin Grossman.

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Today, January 23rd; 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.

Sunday, January 30th; 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. To participate online via TEAMS, please email Fr. Sr. Donald no later than Wednesday, January 25th.

Sunday, February 6th; The ANS will meet in the library at 11:00 AM. All of the women of the parish are invited and encouraged to attend and to join the ANS if you are not already members.

Monday, February 7th; The mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00PM. All are cordially invited to attend. New ideas are always welcome.

Tuesday, February 8th; The YMS of R will meet at 7:00PM in the fellowship Hall. This will be the annual organizational meeting. All of the men of the Parish are encouraged to attend and to join if you are not already members.

Thursday February, 10th; 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, February 20th; Monthly Parish Committee meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I hope all committee members are planning 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 again this year. 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 copy of the items needed from the rack in the vestibule and fill the needs on it. Please leave your contributions on the table in the Fellowship Hall and we will get them to those in need. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.