

March 20, 2022

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

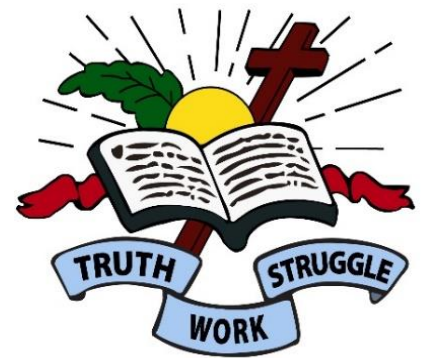
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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

A Sabbath Thought

We can celebrate today as *Second Chance Sunday*. God is always giving us another chance to try again. It is our responsibility - indeed, our privilege - to help transform our world into a holy place.

About Today's Bible Readings

EXODUS 3:1-8, 13-15

After the creation of the world, the history of salvation begins when God makes a special choice of the people of Israel and reveals to them the divine name.

Responsorial Psalm: 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-6, 10-12

Membership in a group does not always bring group benefits. Even Christians suffer as a people because of sinful members.

LUKE 13:1-9

Sin can be both individual and social, sometimes injuring even innocent members of the group. But God offers us a second chance to divert the suffering that sin brings.

ENTRANCE RITE – Habakkuk 3:17a, 18; Isaiah 3:10

V. For though the fig tree blossom not, nor fruit be on the vines, yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God.

R. Happy the just, for it will be well with them, the fruit of their works they will eat.

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.

TRACT - EZEKIEL 18:30b-31

V. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

R. Cast away from you all transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!

THE GOSPEL – LUKE 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them, do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY – March 20th

Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

WEDNESDAY – March 23rd

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00 PM

SUNDAY – March 27th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

WEDNESDAY – March 30th

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00 PM

RELIEF FOR UKRAINE

We will be taking a second collection today as you leave for financial support to the Ukraine. This money will be sent to the National Church in Scranton to be forwarded to our sister Parishes of the Polish Catholic Church that are near the Ukrainian border to assist in their efforts to help refugees fleeing the conflict. Please be as generous as you can.

PICNIC COMMITTEE

As we begin preparation for the return of our annual picnic, much help is needed. If you can and are willing to help, please contact Jay Rowe, our committee chairperson at jrowe@oblon.com or call him at 484-332-9409 or attend the meeting on Monday, March 21st at 7:00PM in the Library. Thank you.

Prime Bishop Mikovsky 25th Anniversary of Ordination

On Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA, You are invited to join Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky as he celebrates Holy Mass of Thanksgiving on his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. More information is available on the flyer posted on the bulletin boards and in the information rack above the bulletins.

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, Donald Deihm, Janice Elaine Casperson, Frank Fisher, Elizabeth McAlanis and Riley Rejniak. **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

Today, March 20th; Monthly Parish Committee meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I hope all committee members are planning to attend

Today, March 20th; The ANS will meet in the Library at 11:00AM. All of the Ladies of the parish are urged to attend and to join if you do not already belong

Monday, March 21st; Fund Raising/Picnic Committee meeting in the library at 7:00 PM. We are combining the Fundraising Committee and the Picnic Committee for the foreseeable future. Anyone interested in helping with the Picnic should attend this meeting as well as all current Fundraising Committee members.

Wednesday, March 23rd; **STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00PM.** The ANS be serving spaghetti with meatless marinara sauce at 6:00PM.

Wednesday, March 30th; **STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00PM.** Manhattan Clam Chowder and Tuna Salad on a roll served at 6:00PM.

Sunday, April 3rd; YMS of R Egg Sandwich sale after each Mass. \$5.00 each, with coffee. Eat in or take out.

Sunday, April 3rd; The School of Christian Living (SOCL) will be holding an Easter Egg hunt for the children of the parish. Please bring your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Sunday, April 3rd; The ANS will meet in the Library at 11:00AM. All of the Ladies of the parish are urged to attend and to join if you do not already belong

Monday, April 4th; The Mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00PM

Tuesday, April 5th; The YMS of R will meet at 7:00PM in the fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, April 6th; **STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00PM.** Mama's Pizza served at 6:00PM.

Sunday, April 10th; Palm Sunday, One Mass Only at 9:00AM. Blessing and distribution of Palms to the faithful, Procession.

Tuesday, April 12th; Proposed trip to Scranton for the Chrism Mass at Saint Stanislaus Cathedral. More info to follow. Please sign the sheet in the vestibule if you are interested in joining us.

Wednesday, April 13th; **STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00PM.** Tuna or egg salad sandwiches served at 6:00PM.

Thursday April, 21st; 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.

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