



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

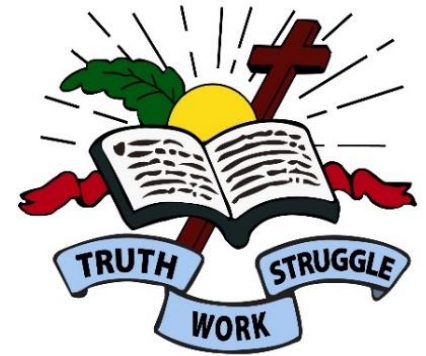
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April 24, 2022

The Second Sunday of Easter

A Sabbath Thought

Absence, we say, makes the heart grow fonder. But the apostle Thomas discovers that the risen Christ's absence can be a source of doubt. The power that eventually healed Thomas' heart is still at work in our world.

About Today's Bible Readings

ACTS 5:12-16

After Christ's resurrection, the disciples' faith allowed them to lead others to Christ.

Responsorial Psalm: 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

REVELATION

1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

This selection from the opening chapter of Revelation introduces us to a prophet's spiritual experience of Christ's risen presence.

JOHN 20:19-31

In time, over 100,000 Sundays separate us from our doubting brother, Thomas. But the risen Lord does not hesitate to bless us who have not seen and yet believe.

ENTRANCE RITE: Psalm 40:2-4

V. I waited, waited for the Lord; Who bent down and heard my cry, drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp, Set my feet upon rock, steadied my steps. Alleluia.

R. And put a new song in my mouth, a hymn to our God. Many shall look on in awe and they shall trust in the Lord. Alleluia.

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 30:2,4

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. I praise You, Lord, for You raised me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. Lord, You brought me up from Sheol; You kept me from going down to the pit.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

TODAY – April 24th
Second Sunday of Easter
(Low Sunday)

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

SUNDAY – May 1st
Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

10:00 AM – HOLY MASS

Please note the time change due to the ANS Dinner

Mother's Day Craft Sale

Flyers for our May 7th Mother's Day Craft sale are on the table in the vestibule. Please take a few and distribute them where ever you can.

ANS Rigatoni and Meatball Dinner

The Ladies of the Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament (ANS) will be holding a Rigatoni and Meatball Dinner next Sunday, May 1st at 12:00 Noon. Masses that day will be at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM to accommodate those wishing to attend. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 for children ten and under. They can be purchased from Cheryl Weinhold, Mary Cooper or Eleanor Kaczmarczyk. Please buy your tickets today so that the ladies can get an approximate head count for next Sunday. I hope to see everyone there.

Sign Up Sheets

Sign Up Sheets for Pierogi Making and Sunday Greeters are on the table in the vestibule. Please take a moment and see if you are available to help. The pierogi sheets are for multiple days and there are four of them, one under the other so please sign up for as many days as you can. These are for the picnic so please help. Thank you and God bless.

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, Skye Sadowski, Barbara Waszk, Jerry Butto, Terry Leatherman and Riley Rejniak. For the repose of the soul of Mackenzie Young.

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, April 24th; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

Sunday, May 1st; ANS Rigatoni and Meatball Dinner at 12:00 Noon. Tickets are \$10.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for Children ten and under. They can be purchased from Cheryl Weinhold, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk or Mary Cooper. Masses this day will be 8:00AM and 10:00AM.

Monday, May 2nd; The Mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM

Thursday May 5th; 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.

Saturday, May 7th; Mother's Day Pottery Sale and Craft Event in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00AM until 3:00PM. Please see the Flyer on the table in the vestibule for more details.

Monday, May 16th; The Picnic/Fundraising Committee will meet in the Library at 7:00PM. All are invited to attend.

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

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. We are also collecting items for the refugees as well. A list of what is needed is in your April Newsletter arriving in the mail soon. Please have any items that you wish to donate here in the Church by Sunday, April 24th as we will be taking them to Philadelphia on Tuesday, April 26th. Thank you.

THE KNIGHTS CLOSET

The Reading School District has informed us that the Knights Closet Project which provides items of basic necessity to students is still in need. 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 leave your contributions on the table near the windows in the Fellowship Hall and we will get them to those in need. A list of needed items can be found in the literature rack in the vestibule above the weekly bulletins. Please take one as you leave. Thank you and God bless.