

Wearing a cross
does not make
you a disciple
carrying one does

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

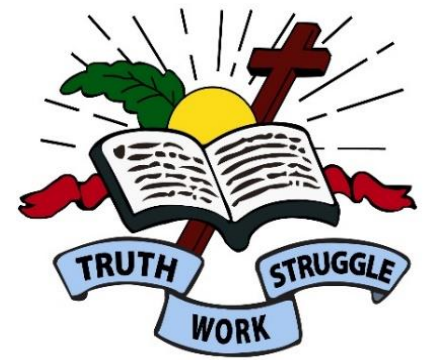
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September 4, 2022

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

A Sabbath Thought

True disciples are those who renounce everything to follow Jesus. How is that possible in today's world? In worship, we come together to beg God to make us as generous as Jesus was.

About Today's Bible Readings

WISDOM 9:13-18

We come to know God's will with the help of wisdom, the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's Spirit of holiness.

Responsorial Psalm: 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

PHILEMON 9-10, 12-17

In the light of our commitment to Christ, the world's divisive standards and roles are transformed into their opposite.

LUKE 14:25-33

As a prerequisite to discipleship, we are asked to renounce everything in order to follow Jesus.

ENTRANCE RITE – Romans 11:34-35; Job 40:2

V. For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been His counselor? Or who has given Him anything that He may be repaid?

**R. Will we have arguing with the Almighty by the critic?
Let him who would correct God give answer!**

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: Luke 14:34

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Salt is good, but if salt itself loses its taste, with what can its flavor be restored?

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL – LUKE 14:25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

TODAY – Sept. 4th

Labor Day Weekend

23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – Sept. 11th

**Solemnity of Brotherly Love
Annual Blue Mass in honor of
our First Responders and in
remembrance of 9/11**

ONE MASS ONLY!

9:00 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – Sept. 18th

25th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for the youth of the Parish will start on Sunday, September 11th. Please sign up your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews for this important training and education. Snacks will be provided.

13TH ANNUAL POLISH OPEN

On Saturday, October 8, 2022 the Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County will hold its annual Golf Tournament. Information and signup sheets are in the vestibule. I hope that our parish will be represented again this year as it was last year.

T-SHIRTS

We are exploring having T-Shirts made with the parish name and PNCC logo for sale to parishioners, family and friends. These can be worn during church functions or anytime you want to promote our parish. Cost is to be determined later. Please add your name, number of shirts you are interested in and sizes to the signup sheet in the vestibule.

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., Kevin Grossman, Kyle Grossman, Damon Grossman, Donald Deihm, Janice Elaine Casperson, Elizabeth McAlanis, Skye Sadowski, Barbara Waszk,,Terry Leatherman, Jackie Weinhold, Andy Kosak, Riley Rejniak, Jane and John Aldershoff and Father Senior Ed Ratajack. For the repose of the soul of Kevin Mulutzie. **Our Father....**

If there are any other individuals who should or shouldn't be on this list, please email or tell Father Senior Donald so he can add them or remove them!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 11th; Sunday School begins. Please see Janet Katinowsky for more information. Please sign up our young people for this important training and education.

Sunday, September 11th; Annual Blue Mass in Honor of our local First Responders. Please see the Newsletter for more info. ONE MASS ONLY at 9:00AM.

Sunday, September 11th; The ANS will meet at 11:00 AM in the Library. All are welcome to attend. If you are not a member of the ANS, please consider joining.

Monday, September 12th; The Picnic/Fundraising Committee will meet in either the Library or the Fellowship Hall for an analysis of the Picnic and to consider plans for next year. All are invited to attend.

Tuesday, September 13th; The Book Club will meet at 7:00 PM in the Library.

Wednesday, September 14th; The Mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM.

Sunday, September 18th; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

Tuesday, September 20th; The YMS of R (Young Men's Society of the Resurrection) will meet in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the Parish are invited to attend and to join the YMS of R if they are not already members.

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

125th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PNCC

On Saturday, October 22, 2022 a special celebration will be held commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the Polish National Catholic Church. Please see the flyer on the table in the vestibule for more information. RSVP is required by October 8th. I am told that following the dinner, a special organ recital will be held in Saint Stanislaus Cathedral.

FALL MUM FUNDRAISER

Through a joint promotion with our next-door neighbors, The Shoppes at Nolde, We are holding a Fall Mum Fundraising Event. We are taking orders for nine inch, potted mums that can be picked up at the shop next door on October 1st and 2nd. Deadline to order is Saturday, September 17th. Please see the flyer in the vestibule or Tom Schalata for more information or to place your order.