



## Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

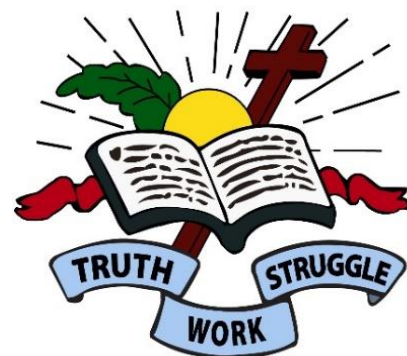
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November 13, 2022

## Thirty Third Sunday Ordinary Time

### A Sabbath Thought

Christians live in an interim period, in a time between the two comings of Jesus. What we do today with the memory and reality of his first appearance will prepare us to recognize him on his return. Within the tension between the two advents of Jesus, the church is daily challenged as it joyfully anticipates its full flower in an abundant eschatological harvest.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### MALACHI 3:19-20

Warning against complacency, the prophet foretold a Day of the Lord that would spell healing for the just and conflagration for the evildoers.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 98:5-6, 7-8, 9

**R. The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

#### 2 THESSALONIANS 3:7-12

Paul's letter reminds all who wait for the Lord's return to channel their enthusiasm into co-operative and loving service.

#### LUKE 21:5-19

Since the future is known only to the Father, worry and anxiety are futile; patient endurance and joyful trust characterize the true believers.

### ENTRANCE RITE – 2 Peter 3:10, 13

*V. The day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.*

**R. But according to His promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.**

*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 – Daniel 3:10

How great are His signs, how mighty His wonders; His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion endures through all generations.

### THE GOSPEL – LUKE 21:5-19

While some people were speaking about how the temple was adorned with costly stones and votive offerings, Jesus said, "All that you see here, the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down." Then they asked him, "Teacher, when will this happen? And what sign will there be when all these things are about to happen?" He answered, "See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' Do not follow them! When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for such things must happen first, but it will not immediately be the end." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky. "Before all this happens, however, they will seize and persecute you, they will hand you over to the synagogues and to prisons, and they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute. You will even be handed over by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

**This is the Gospel of the Lord!**

# Worship Services

**TODAY—Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

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**SUNDAY – Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Solemnity – Christ the King**

**Last Sunday of the Liturgical Year. Cycle “C” ends.**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

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**SUNDAY—Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**

**The First Sunday of Advent  
Cycle “A” begins**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

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## Wigilia Dinner

The Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County will be holding their annual traditional Wigilia dinner on Sunday, December 18th, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Reading. Doors open at 4:15PM.

Adult Members: \$65.

Adult Non-Members: \$75.

For questions or reservations, please call Henry Pruski at 610-372-1279 after 7:00PM. Deadline for reservations is December 9th.

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## ADVENT

When the season of Advent arrives, here are some changes that people often notice in Church. Probably the most obvious of these is that the color of the vestments changes to violet or blue. On the Third Sunday of Advent, which is also called *Gaudete Sunday*, as the Advent season is already half over, the joy of the Nativity begins to break in and on that day rose colored vestments may be used. Also, the hymn *Glory to God in the highest* is omitted at Mass, and one will find that there is a certain moderation in the decoration of the altar. While flowers may still be used, the decoration of the altar should not express the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord.

## 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 Jay Dresh, Isabella Mularczyk, Edward Czechowski, Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata, Bill and 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, Cindy Golowski, Pat Schiaroli, Diane Fisher, Joseph Seliga and Father Senior Ed Ratajack. **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!**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today, November 13<sup>th</sup>**; 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.

**Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

**Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**; Advent Penitential Service at 7:00 PM. I hope to see many of you there.

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**; The YMS of R will be holding one of its famous Egg Sandwich Sales after each Mass.

**Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**; The YMS of R (Young Men's Society of the Resurrection) will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00PM. 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!**

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## ANGEL TREE FOR THE BERKS COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING

Our Parish will once again be participating in the Angel Tree Program for the elderly who might be alone this Christmas. The Tree is up in the Fellowship Hall. When you take a card, please write your name and phone number on the sheet by the tree and check that column when you return the card. The deadline for returning the card is **December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your loving kindness and generosity.

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## THE KNIGHTS CLOSET

The Reading School District has informed us that the Knights Closet Project which provides items of basic necessity to students in need will continue 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 leave your contributions on the table in the Hall near the windows and we will get them to those in need.

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## The ANS and YMS of R

The ANS (Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament) and the YMS of R (Young Men's Society of the Resurrection) are two of the prominent groups in our Parish that perform many beneficial and fund raising functions. The women and men of these societies work hard and donate their time and their talents for the greater glory of God and for the good of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish. There is more to being a good parishioner than just going to Mass. Please consider becoming a member of these groups. It is not all work and no play. You will meet new people, make new friends, learn new skills and be filled with the joy of doing God's work. For more information, you can speak to Cheryl Weinhold (ANS) or Francis Golembeski (YMS of R) or Father Senior Don.

***“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”***