



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

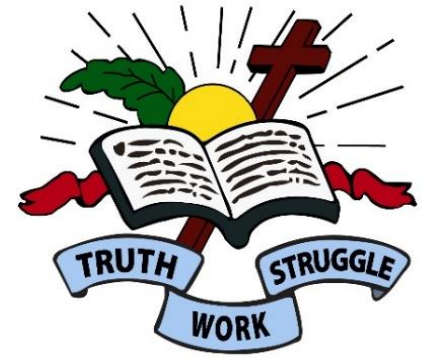
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December 27, 2022

Feast of Saint John – Apostle and Evangelist

A Festival Thought

Saint John revealed the glory of Christ's divinity and His status as true God and true Man. It is only through true faith that we can come to accept this as Gospel truth.

About Today's Bible Readings:

Sirach 14:20-27

Sirach expounds on our quest for ever increasing wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm: PS 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12

R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

1 John 1:1-4

John proclaims the Word made flesh. He instructs the faithful to believe what has been told to them.

John 20:2-8

John arrives at the tomb of Jesus first but waits for Peter. Once he sees the empty tomb, he immediately believes and goes off to spread the good news.

ENTRANCE RITE –

Sirach15:5b [NRSV]; Isaiah11:2a; 61:10c, Psalm 92:1

V. He will open his mouth in the midst of the assembly. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding. He has clothed me with the garments of salvation.

R. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.

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 – Revelation 22:8a

It is I, John, who heard and saw these things, and when I heard and saw them I fell down to worship.

THE GOSPEL – John 20:2-8

On the first day of the week,
Mary Magdalene ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,
and we do not know where they put him.”
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter
and arrived at the tomb first;
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.
When Simon Peter arrived after him,
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,
and the cloth that had covered his head,
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.
Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord!