



January 29, 2023

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

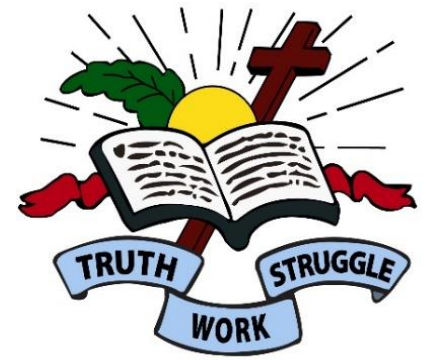
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Fourth Sunday – Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

Christians are followers of Christ who think like him and act like him. The beatitudes listed in today's gospel reading are blueprints for our thoughts and action.

About Today's Bible Readings

ZEPHANIAH 2:3, 3:12-13

God will not desert his people. He will raise up faithful persons whose lives will reveal the power of divine love at work in the world.

PSALM 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

One of the paradoxes of God's power is that it is best revealed in human weakness.

MATTHEW 5:1-12a

Jesus elaborates in direct language the blueprint for Christian living, the attitudes that will bring us blessings.

ENTRANCE RITE: Psalm 32:1-2

V. Happy the sinner whose fault is removed, whose sin is forgiven.

R. Happy those to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no deceit

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 112:1

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in God's commands.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:1-12a

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad,

for your reward will be great in heaven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY - January 29th
4th Sunday Ordinary Time
Music Scholarship Sunday

ONE MASS ONLY!

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

SUNDAY – February 5th

1st Sunday of Pre-Lent
Septuagesima

SCOUT SUNDAY

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

SUNDAY – February 12th

2nd Sunday of Pre-Lent
Sexagesima

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Pre-Lent

The Liturgical Season of Pre-Lent, sometimes referred to as Shrovetide, begins on February 5th as we celebrate Septuagesima Sunday. The PNCC continues to observe this season although other rites have abandoned it. It is marked by the use of Rose colored vestments and a period of merrymaking including Mardi Gras before the solemn observance of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which falls on February 22nd this year.

Koleda – Blessing of Homes

To Have Fr. Sr. Donald bless your home this season, please sign the sheet in the vestibule with your name, phone number and best time of day and he will contact you to make arrangements.

PAPER CUTTER

Does anyone know the whereabouts of the paper cutter that was in the upstairs office in the Annex portion of the building? It appears to have gone missing. If anyone knows where it might be, please let Father Senior Donald know. Thank you very much.

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 Debra Caldwell, Dan Shaner, Ken Mawson, Sharon Fitzwater, Jeannine Dresh, Amanda Dresh, Brianne Dresh, Bonnie Sue Pilot, Lisha Rowe, Lorah Zawoski, Isabella Mularczyk, Edward Czechowski, Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata, Bill and Bernice Biroscak, Geri Piotrowski, Janet Katinowsky, Julia Urban, Sandy Pfennig, Janice Elaine Casperson, Janis Brunson, Elizabeth McAlanis, Skye Sadowski, Barbara Waszk, Terry Leatherman, Jackie Weinhold, Andy Kosak, Riley Rejniak, Jane and John Aldershoff, Cindy Golowski, Pat Schiaroli, Diane Fisher, and Father Senior Ed Ratajack. **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

Sunday, January 29th; Annual Parish Membership Meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, January 29th; The ANS (Ladies Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament) will be selling their famous POT PIE after the Annual Meeting. Quarts to go only for \$10.00 each.

Tuesday, February 7th; The YMS of R will meet at 7:00PM in the fellowship Hall. All of the men of the Parish are encouraged to attend and to join if you are not already members. The Fundraising Committee will meet as well in conjunction with the YMS of R.

Wednesday, February 8th; The mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00PM. All are cordially invited to attend. New ideas are always welcome.

Sunday, February 12th; The ANS will meet after the 9:30 Mass. Breakfast Casserole with coffee and orange juice will be served.

Friday and Saturday, February 17th and 18th; Help is needed to make food for the Wine Tasting Event in March. 10:00AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, February 19th; Monthly Parish Committee meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I hope all committee members are planning to attend.

Saturday, March 4th; Wine and Polish Food Tasting Event in the Fellowship Hall. Details to follow soon.

Thursday, March 16th; There will be a combined Book Club and ANS Meeting at 6:30PM. Pizza will be served.

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, the Polish American Board of Education of Berks County will be awarding \$17,000 in scholarships to Berks County High School seniors of Polish American descent. Deadline for submitting the form for this scholarship is April 1, 2023.

In conjunction with the PABEBC scholarship awards program, the Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County is awarding a \$2,500 project scholarship to a Berks County high school student of Polish American descent. For this scholarship, the student is required to submit a project on Polish history, culture, and/or traditions. Projects are due on Sunday March 19, 2023.

Applicants for the scholarships can obtain application forms and guidelines in the office of the Guidance Counselor in all Berks County high schools. They are also available in the Polish American Cultural Center in the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington St., Reading, and they can be downloaded from the PABEBC website at www.pabeberks.org or by contacting Sandy Lubas-Hummel, Scholarship Chair for both organizations, at 610-207-7065. Any questions? Telephone Sandy Lubas-Hummel.