



January 6, 2023

# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

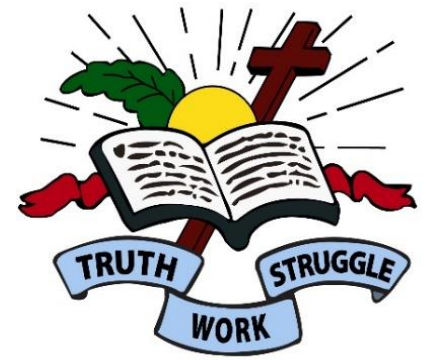
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## Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

### **Blessing of Incense and Chalk**

Today, after the Mass, we will bless incense and chalk. The chalk will be used to mark the top of the door frames of houses blessed after the feast of the Epiphany. The incense will be used for various purposes throughout the year.

### **A Festival Thought**

The Epiphany star has not faded. Its wonder continues in the lives of committed Christians who are light for the nations.

### **About Today's Bible Readings**

#### **ISAIAH 60:1-6**

All nations will come to the Lord drawn by divine radiance that shines forth in the lives of the people of God.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13**

**R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

#### **EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6**

God's secret plan is now revealed. It involves the *salvation of the world* through the mysteries of Jesus' life and death.

#### **MATTHEW 2:1-12**

The magi respond to the star with a journey that brings them to bow in worship before the infant Saviour.

### **ENTRANCE RITE – Malachi 3:1b, Matthew 2:2**

*V. The Messenger of the Covenant in Whom you desire. Yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.*

**R. We saw His star at its rising, and have come to do Him homage.**

*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 – 1 CHRONICLES 29:12a**

Riches and honor are from You, and You have dominion over all. In Your hand are power and might.

### **THE GOSPEL – MATTHEW 2:1-12**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

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

# Worship Services

**TODAY - January 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Solemnity**

**Epiphany of our Lord**

**Blessing of Chalk  
and Incense**

**7:00 PM – HOLY MASS**

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**SUNDAY - January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Solemnity**

**Humble Shepherds**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**SUNDAY - January 15<sup>th</sup>**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

*Intentions for the repose of the soul of  
Beverly Rush Wunderlich, offered by Fr.*

*Sr. Donald and Danielle Wunderlich.*

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**SUNDAY - January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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## Donation Envelopes 2023

The Donation Envelopes for 2023 are available on the table in the Library. Please remember to pick up yours so that you are ready to faithfully support our beloved Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish in the coming year.



## 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, Courtney Pierce, 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, 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 Fr. Sr. Donald so he can add them or remove them!**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**; The ANS will meet in the Library at 11:00 AM. All of the women of the Parish are encouraged to attend and to join the ANS if not already members.

**Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**; The Mission Commission will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to attend.

**Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**; The Fundraising Committee will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM. All are encouraged to attend.

**Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**; The Music Commission of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church will hold a seminar here at Saint Stephens at 1:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. All Choir members should mark this date on your calendars.

**Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**; The regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

**Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**; Annual Parish Membership Meeting at 11:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. I urge every member of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish to attend this important meeting. Many issues vital to the health and success of our parish will be discussed and decided upon. The key to success in any democratically oriented organization is in the participation of the membership. Our parish is facing many challenges and your thoughts and ideas on how to solve them are of the utmost importance. Please plan to attend, engage and to elect or volunteer to be elected representatives to the various offices and positions in our parish for the upcoming terms. Our ancestors fought for this right when they founded the Polish National Catholic Church one hundred and twenty four years ago. Please respect it and make use of it by attending and participating. To participate online via TEAMS, please email Fr. Sr. Donald no later than Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**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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## NEW YEAR

As we enter the new year please be aware of the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>. I would also like to remind all of the various parish organizations to be sure to have their year-end reports ready in preparation for the meeting And if you have not already done so, please see to it that your yearly dues are paid to date.

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## Koleda – Blessing of Homes

Father Senior Donald will be blessing homes this Epiphany Season. He will be happy to bless any home at your request. Please print your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule along with the best time for you to have this done. Or, simply call him at 610-775-4559 to set up a time and date. He will be happy to see you and more than happy to bless your home.