



# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

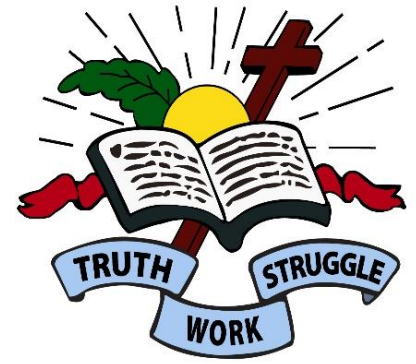
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Rectory: 610-775-4559

Email: [fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org](mailto:fatherdon@ststephenpncc.org)

Website: [www.ststephenpncc.org](http://www.ststephenpncc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc](http://www.facebook.com/ststephenspncc)



February 12, 2023

## Sexagesima Sunday

### A Sabbath Thought

God wants us to love one another, This theme dates back to the ancient times and carries over to today.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

God tells Moses to instruct the Israelites that they are to love their neighbors as themselves.

#### PSALM 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16-23

God's wisdom transcends all. He makes foolish the wise and reminds us to whom we truly belong.

#### MATTHEW 5:38-48

Jesus continues His sermon on the mount, urging us to turn the other cheek when we are disparaged and to love one another no matter what may occur, for that is what It means to be a follower of Christ.

### ENTRANCE RITE: James 2:1,9

*V. My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.*

**R. But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.**

*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.**

### TRACT James 2:8 (Recited in place of the Alleluia)

*V. However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself, "*

**R. you are doing well.**

### THE GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

"You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

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

# Worship Services

**Today February 12<sup>th</sup>  
Second Sunday of Pre-Lent  
Sexagesima**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup>  
Third Sunday of Pre-Lent  
Quinquagesima**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**Wed. February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Holy Mass with distribution of  
ashes to the faithful.*

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**7:00 PM – HOLY MASS**

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**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.

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## LENT

Ash Wednesday is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. That is right around the corner. I hope that everyone is already spending some time each day in thoughtful prayer and meditation as we approach the solemn season of Lent. Lent gives us a chance to ponder the earth shattering implications of Christ's passion, death and resurrection on the world, both then and now, and how it impacts our lives each and every day as we follow Him to eternal glory.

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## 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, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, Jerry Butto and Eileen McCoury. **Our Father...**

**If there are any other individuals who should be on this list, please email or tell Father Senior Donald so he can add them!**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today, February 12<sup>th</sup>;** The ANS will meet after the 9:30 Mass. Breakfast Casserole with coffee and orange juice will be served.

**Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>;** The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Prime Bishop Francis Hodur. May he rest in peace.

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

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

**Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>;** Wine and Polish Food Tasting Event in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30 PM. The cost will be \$50.00 per person for wine from the Ridgewood Winery and Polish food samplings prepared by our own Saint Stephen's cooks. Cutoff date to reserve is February 26<sup>th</sup>. Please see Tom Schalata for tickets.

**Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>;** The YMS of R will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 PM. I encourage all of the men of the parish to attend and to join if you are not already members.

**Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>;** The first meeting of the Picnic Committee will be held in the library at 7:00 PM. I encourage all to attend to prepare for the Annual Polis Picnic.

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

**Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>;** Lenten Penitential Service at 7:00 PM.

**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>;** The YMS of R will be holding one of its famous egg sandwich sales after each Mass. Don't miss out on this tasty treat.

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>;** The Annual Workshop of the National Mission and Evangelism Commission of the PNCC will be held here, at Saint Stephen the Martyr. Registration is free. More info to follow soon. I hope that many of you will attend and welcome our brothers and sisters from around the country.

**Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>;** We will be holding a Mother's Day Craft Event from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM with outside vendors offering their wares. For this to be successful, we need to get the word out to the community. Please spread the word to all you come in contact with. Flyers are on the table in the vestibule. Please contact Cheryl Weinhold for more info or to be a part of this event.

**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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## LENTEN DINNER SPONSORS

We will be serving light, meatless meals before the Stations of the Cross services each Wednesday at 6:00 PM during lent. If you wish to sponsor one of these, please see Tom Schalata. This can be in the form of either financial offerings, food donations or you can prepare the meal yourselves. This was very popular last year and we look forward to your support and attendance this year.