

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

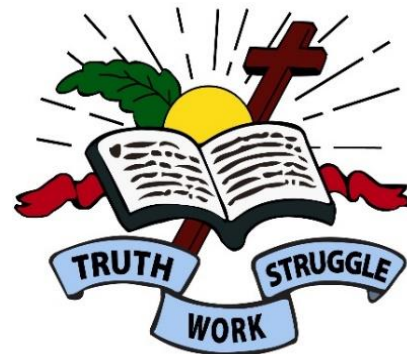
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April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter – Low Sunday

A Sabbath Thought

The apostle Thomas will always be known as 'doubting' even though he doubts no more! His example invites us to affirm our faith in the risen Jesus whom we, too, can touch and adore and love.

About Today's Bible Readings

ACTS 2:42-47

The resurrection of Jesus had effects on the community that believed in him. Easter always leaves a trail we can follow.

Responsorial Psalm: 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1 PETER 1:3-9

What kind of faith should be ours? This early church letter invites us to make our belief both full-hearted and full-throated.

JOHN 20:19-31

Jesus continues to be with those who gather in his Name on the first day of the week. He comes into our midst to give us peace and unity.

ENTRANCE RITE: Psalm 40:2-4

V. I waited, waited for the Lord; Who bent down and heard my cry, drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp, set my feet upon rock, steadied my steps. Alleluia.

R. And put a new song in my mouth, a hymn to our God. Many shall look on in awe and they shall trust in the Lord. Alleluia.

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 30:2,4

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. I praise You, Lord, for You raised me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. Lord, You brought me up from Sheol; You kept me from going down to the pit.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY – April 16th
Second Sunday of Easter
(Low Sunday)

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS
9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – April 23rd
Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS
9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Saturday – April 29th

Celebrated by Bishop Bernard Nowicki as part of the Mission and Evangelism Workshop

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – April 30th
Fourth Sunday of Easter

ONE MASS ONLY!

Celebrated by Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky as part of the Mission and Evangelism Workshop

8:45 AM Morning Prayers

9:00 AM – HOLY MASS

Marion Devotions

During the month of May we will be honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary by praying the Litany to her after each Mass.

Father's Day Raffle Tickets

We will be holding a raffle as part of our Father's Day Festivities. Tickets are on the table in the Library ordered by your envelope number. Please take a moment to pick yours up as soon as you can. Thank you and God bless.

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 Biroszak, Geri Piotrowski, Janet Katinowsky, Julia Urban, Sandy Pfennig, Janice Elaine Casperson, Janis Hogg, Elizabeth McAlanis, Skye Sadowski, Barbara Waszk, Jackie Weinhold, Riley Rejniak, Jane and John Aldershoff, Cindy Golowski, Pat Schiaroli, Diane Fisher, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, Jerry Butto, Eileen McCoury, Alexis, Matthew and Kristy Samsel, Janet Kelly and Laura Alfano. **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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 16th; Parish Committee meets at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, April 16th; ANS meets at 11:00 AM in the Library.

Monday, April 17th; Picnic Committee meets at 7:00 PM in the Library.

Sunday, April 23rd; YMS of R meets at 11:00 AM in the library.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, April 28th, 29th, 30th; 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. Information packets can be found on the table in the vestibule. I hope that many of you will attend and welcome our brothers and sisters from around the country.

Thursday, May 4th; Book club meets at 7:00 PM in the Library.

Saturday, May 6th; 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 information.

Sunday, May 14th; Mother's Day! Flowers, cakes and coffee for Mothers after each Mass courtesy of the Young Men's Society of the Resurrection.

Friday and Saturday, May 19th & 20th; The National SAMBS (Ladies Adoration Society) Convention will be held at Holy Trinity Parish in Plantsville Connecticut. Please pray for our sisters as they meet and plan for the future of the ANS. Contact Cheryl Weinhold for more information.

Sunday, May 28th; Memorial Day. Service at the Cemetery at Noon.

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

