



April 2, 2023

## Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

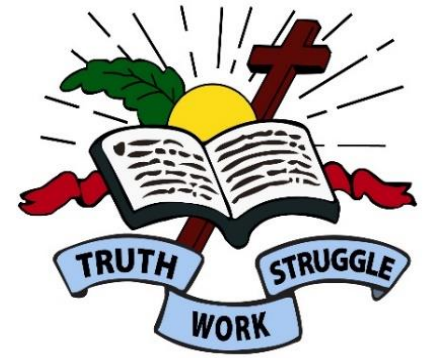
The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

Parish Office: 610-775-4559

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

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

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



## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### ISAIAH 50:4-7

The liturgy puts into Jesus' mouth both the prophet's words of resolution in the face of suffering and confidence in the face of despair. In God's eyes, the disadvantaged and the persecuted possess a far greater dignity than those who abuse them.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

#### PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

"Empty" is a negative word. But, in the case of Jesus, his emptying - that is, his impoverishment in death - is our enrichment! To give completely, to hold nothing back is to live fully the life of the Lord.

#### MATTHEW 26:14 - 27:66

Here in vivid detail are Jesus' last hours. They are presented, not for morbid curiosity but for our reverent contemplation. This narrative should move us to praise. Through Jesus' sorrow and suffering, joy and healing have become blessings for all. When he appeared most defeated, he was truly triumphant. The servant Son who suffered for the sake of us all won victory through his innocence. Without a thought for himself, he gave all he had and all he was for others. By virtue of his innocence and his loving selflessness, all who believe are made holy and whole.

### ENTRANCE RITE (Psalm 24:910; Traditional)

*V. Open wide the door and gates. Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters; Who is the King of glory? He is God, the mighty Lord.*

**R. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are You Who are have come to us so rich in love and mercy. Hosanna in the highest.**

*V. Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered.*

**R. O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.**

### TRACT (Isaiah 62:10-11 NRSV)

*V. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples.*

**R. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."**

### THE GOSPEL - Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

***The Gospel will be read in ensemble.  
Please remain seated due to the  
extreme length.***

# Worship Services

Today April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Palm Sunday**

*Blessing and distribution  
of Palms to the Faithful  
Procession*

**ONE MASS ONLY**

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

\*\*\*\*\*

Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup>

*Stations of the Cross*

7:00PM

*Lenten Meal preceding at*

6:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>

*Holy (Maundy) Thursday*

*Feast of the institution of*

*the Most Holy Eucharist*

*Mandatum – Washing of feet*

*Procession to the*

*Repository*

7:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>

*Good Friday*

*Mass of the Pre-Sanctified*

3:00 PM

*Tenebre*

7:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>

*Holy Saturday*

*Blessing of Easter Food*

12:00 Noon

*Blessing of New Fire,*

*Paschal Candle and Holy*

*Water*

7:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**ONE MASS ONLY**

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

*Procession*

## 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 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 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

Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>; Mission Commission meets at 7:00 PM in the Library.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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 information.

Friday and Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>; 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.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

