



April 30, 2023

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

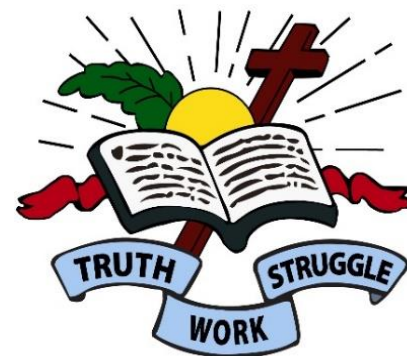
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Fourth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME MISSION AND EVANGELISM WORKSHOP ATTENDEES!

A Sabbath Thought

Is the blazing glory of a risen God too overwhelming for you? This same Lord of life is also the shepherd who gently tends our needs. He is no stranger to our wants; he is no despiser of our plight. He is always with us.

About Today's Bible Readings

ACTS 2:14, 36-41

Peter's Pentecost sermon makes the main point about Jesus: through baptism in his Name, we receive the forgiveness of our sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm:

23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1 PETER 2:20-25

Jesus is the shepherd who guards our lives. He serves as the model for the way we should live through faith. Like him, we must seek God's will as we make our way toward the kingdom.

JOHN 10:1-10

Shepherd and sheepfold may strike us as quaint images, but they teach us about the central role of Jesus in our salvation.

ENTRANCE RITE: Ezekiel 34:31; Psalm 79:13

V. You, My sheep, you are the sheep of My pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God. Alleluia.

R. Then we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; through all generations we will declare Your praise. 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: 1 Peter 5:4; Psalm 95:7

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. And when the Chief Shepherd is revealed, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. For He is our God, and we are the people He shepherds, the flock He guides.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The GOSPEL: JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus said:

"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers." Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.

So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

Today – 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

Breakfast in the Fellowship
Hall after Mass as part of
the Mission and
Evangelism Workshop

All are welcome.

Sunday – May 7th

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

The Month of May

During the Month of May we give special attention to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will pray the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary after each Mass each Sunday this month as we beseech the Mother of Our Lord to intercede with the Father and her Beloved Son on our behalf. I urge each of you to spend a few moments each day in reflection, asking for her prayers and remembering her sacrifice.



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, Janet Kelly, Bishop Bernard Nowicki, Laura Alfano and Scott Gaydos. **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, 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.

Monday, May 8th; The ANS will meet at 7:00 PM in the Library.

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.

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!

Polish American Heritage Association Golf Tournament

The Polish American Heritage Assoc. will be holding their 14th annual Polish Open Golf Tournament fundraiser on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the Manor Golf Club, 153 Bran Rd., Sinking Spring. The scramble format starts at 1:30pm. The cost is \$90. per golfer and includes greens fees, cart, refreshments, lunch and dinner, gift and prizes. Proceeds support the Polish American Cultural Center at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts. For questions call 610-779-5523. Deadline is June 7, 2023. Flyers and sign-up sheets are on the table in the vestibule. I hope that we are represented.

Father's Day Raffle Tickets

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

