



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

These days, win a lottery and you win more than money. With it comes various headaches, taxes, trusts, legal arrangements, unwanted fame and unsolicited requests. Faith is like that, a treasure with strings attached.

About Today's Bible Readings

1 KINGS 3:5, 7-12

God grants King Solomon one wish. What would he choose, money, health, power? The king ignores our usual desires and asks for wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm:
119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130

R. Lord, I love your commands.

ROMANS 8:28-30

The world may seem out of control, but everything is working according to the plan of God who desires the eternal good of those who love him.

MATTHEW 13:44-52

Faith is a treasure that demands a radical decision from us. In order to possess this treasure, we, must be willing to exchange everything people usually call "valuable".

ENTRANCE RITE: Proverbs 2:6-7; Wisdom 7:7

V. For the Lord gives wisdom, from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He has counsel in store for the upright, He is the shield of those who walk honestly.

R. Therefore, I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.

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 49:4

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. My mouth shall speak wisdom, my heart shall offer insight.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. "Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

Today – July 30th

17th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – August 6th

Solemnity

Transfiguration of our Lord

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – August 13th

19th Sunday Ordinary Time

ONE MASS ONLY

9:00 AM – HOLY MASS

PICNIC DAY!

Picnic Donations

We are at this time asking for donations to help fund the Annual Polish Picnic in August. As you may know, this is our signature fund raising event of the year and require much work and sacrifice on the part of many of our parishioners. If you are financially able to donate to help offset the costs it would be greatly appreciated. Please make out any checks payable to the YMS of R as they are handling funds for the picnic. If you are donating cash, please mark the envelope clearly "PICNIC DONATION". Thank you in advance for your support and generosity. May God bless you.

Food Preparation

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who have given of their time and energy to make food in preparation for the upcoming picnic. More work is still to be done so if you have not pitched in so far there is still time to help. Please see Cheryl Weinhold.

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 and Judy Mawson, Sharon Fitzwater, Jeannine Dresh, Amanda Dresh, Brianne Dresh, Bonnie Sue Pilot, 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, Barbara Waszk, Jackie Weinhold, Riley Rejniak, Jane and John Aldershoff, Pat Schiaroli, Diane Fisher, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, Jerry Butto, Eileen McCoury, Alexis, Matthew and Kristy Samsel, Janet Kelly, Bishop Bernard Nowicki, Laura Alfano, Scott Gaydos, Loretta Mikovsky, Kenneth Cerminara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, and Mary Ann Bezek. **Our Father....**

If there are any changes to this list, please let Fr. Sr. Donald know!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Weekends in July and August; Food making in preparation for the Annual Polish Picnic in August. Please see the Monthly Newsletter for dates and signup sheets are in the vestibule. **More help is needed.** Please consider volunteering a day or two of your time to help make the Picnic the huge success that it has been in the past. Flyers are on the table in the vestibule, please take and post them wherever you shop or visit, with permission, of course.

Sunday, August 13th; Annual Polish Picnic! I hope to see everyone there!

If there are any other events not listed here, please let Fr. Sr. Donald know!

PICNIC BAKE SALE

This year the bake sale will be returning to the Annual Polish Picnic. This is a call to all of the bakers in the parish to show us what you can do. If you are able to donate any baked goods for sale at the picnic, please contact Marcia Hinner at 610-621-9758 for information and to secure space for your donation. Thank you for your kind generosity and may God bless you all.

FLOOD VICTIMS

Recently, our area was impacted by several flash floods. These brought devastating damage to many homes and properties. Some of our own members have been affected by these acts of nature. During the month of August we are designating all of the donations made to the Little White Church in the vestibule to go towards helping them to recover from this catastrophe. Please be as generous as you can and thank you in advance for your kindness and love.

PICNIC RAFFLE TICKETS

Please return your PICNIC RAFFLE TICKETS by no later than Sunday, August 6th; sold or unsold so we may determine the number of tickets available to sell at the grove on the day of the picnic. Thank you for your efforts and kind donations in this matter and good luck to all of the ticket holders.

Also, a friendly reminder to check and see if your parish dues are up to date, it makes it easier on all of us at the end of the year.