



August 27, 2023

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

Today's business world has turned the noun 'power' into an adjective, as in the phrases 'power lunch,' 'power clothes,' etc. In the same way, we are a 'power church' - devoted to mercy.

About Today's Bible Readings

ISAIAH 22:15; 19-23

An official of the royal government of ancient Israel stands as a model for all those whose authority comes from God. Power *over* people is to be used *for* people.

Responsorial Psalm: 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

ROMANS 11:33-36

The God who is far beyond us is very near to us. He has reached out to us - we who could never hope to reach out to him on our own.

MATTHEW 16:13-20

In a key incident, Jesus founds his church on fragile human beings whose authority is to be exercised for the sake of mercy and the forgiveness of sins.

ENTRANCE RITE: Deuteronomy 32:3-4

V. For I will sing to the Lord's renown. Oh, proclaim the greatness of our God!

**R. The Rock - how faultless are His deeds, how right all His ways!
A faithful God, without deceit, how just and upright He is!**

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 Samuel 2:2

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. There is no Holy One like the Lord; there is no Rock like our God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

Today – August 27th

21st Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – Sept. 3rd

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – Sept. 10th

**The Solemnity of
Brotherly Love**

Spojnja Sunday

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Sunday – Sept. 17th

24th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – HOLY MASS

9:30 AM – HOLY MASS

Where do we come from?

A little girl asked her mother, "Where did people come from?" Her mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children and that's how all mankind was made." A couple of days later she asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys, which the human race evolved from." The confused little girl returned to her mother and said, "Mommy, how is it possible that you told me that we were created by God, and Daddy said we came from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

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, Donald Barth, Kenneth Cerminara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, Kaleb Gates, Larkspur Dente, Eric Meck, Darryl Weinhold and Scott Kallish. Our Father....

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, August 27th; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

Sunday, September 3rd; The return of coffee and donuts in the Fellowship Hall after each Mass. I encourage all of you to stay awhile after Mass and get to know your brothers and sisters a bit better or to make some new friends.

Sunday, September 17th; Regular Monthly meeting of the Parrish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM. The ANS will meet in the Library following the 9:30 Mass.

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

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.

