



October 15, 2023

St. Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Sabbath Thought

Full feasting satisfies *all* our hungers, both physical and spiritual - we expect no less from our God. But what does the Lord expect from us? When God invites all to his banquet, how may we be worthy of sitting at the feast?

About Today's Bible Readings

ISAIAH 25:6-10

The prophet paints a glorious vision of the banquet in the eternal kingdom where food will never fail and happiness never ceases.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

PHILIPPIANS 4:12-14, 19-20

Full or empty, the apostle Paul is always rich in the strength that comes from God.

MATTHEW 22:1-14

In parable form, Jesus teaches that admission to the heavenly banquet is open to all who come clothed in the garment of godly living.

ENTRANCE RITE – Proverbs 30:7-9

V. Two things I ask of you, deny them not to me before I die: Put falsehood and lying far from me, giving me neither poverty nor riches;

R. Provide me only with the food I need; Lest, being full, I deny you, saying, "Who is the Lord?" Or, being in want, I steal, and profane the name of my God.

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 – Matthew 8:11

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Many will come from the east and the west, and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the banquet in the kingdom of heaven.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast."' Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

INTENTIONS:

TODAY – Oct. 15th

28th Sunday Ordinary Time

Heritage Sunday

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – Oct. 22nd

**The Reverend David
Gaydos - Celebrant**

29th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

*Intentions for the repose of the souls
of Rev. Francis N. Kaczmarczyk and
Beatrice Kaczmarczyk offered by
Francis D. Kaczmarczyk and Eleanor
Kaczmarczyk.*

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – Oct. 29th

30th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

*Baptism of Hazel Jo March. Please
join us in welcoming her to the
Holy Family of God's Church.*

SUNDAY – Nov. 5th

31st Sunday Ordinary Time

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Commemoration of All Souls

Honoring Veteran's Day

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

All Soul's Commemoration

We will commemorate All Soul's Day by praying for the souls of our dearly departed loved ones on Sunday, November 5th. Please add the names of those you wish to be remembered to the sheets on the table in the vestibule and submit them to Tom Schalata or Father Senior Donald. Prayers will also be offered on that day in honor of Veteran's Day.

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, homebound and troubled members of our Parish, our families and friends, especially Debra Caldwell, Dan Shaner, Ken and Judy Mawson, Sharon Fitzwater, 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, 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, Scott Kallish, Damon Grossman, Joseph Grossman, Jr., Skye Sadowski, Jeannine Dresh, Violet Hart, Nancy Ziolkowski and John Bennett. **Our Father....**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, October 15th; Regular Monthly meeting of the Parrish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

Wednesday, October 18th; The Book Club will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM.

Sunday, October 29th; Post Picnic Party/Brunch in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00 AM until ?. Join us as we celebrate another successful Parrish Picnic. Please add your names to the signup sheet on the table in the vestibule if you plan to attend.

Sunday, November 12th; The ANS will meet in the Library after the 9:30 Mass.

Wednesday, November 15th; The Book Club will meet in the Library at 7:00 PM.

Sunday, November 19th; Regular Monthly meeting of the Parrish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

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

PLEA FOR RELIEF

In the wake of the terrible rains very recently in the Scranton, PA area, our Diocesan secretary and administrator of the Diocesan Enlivening program, Janet Kelly, had her house condemned due to irreparable water damage to it. We will be collecting funds for her to replace domestic and personal items lost to the waters that destroyed her house. Donations to Janet in this venture can be made through the Primate's office with checks payable to Janet Kelly and mailed to

**Prime Bishop Mikovsky
1006 Pittston Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505.**

Donors who prefer to remain anonymous can mail checks payable to: Central Diocese PNCC. These checks can be mailed to:

**Central Diocesan Chancery
515 East Locust Street
Scranton, PA 18505**

Your help in this matter will be tremendously appreciated.

In addition to this effort, the Parrish Committee has decided that all of the donations made to the Little White Church on the table in the Vestibule for month of October also will be designated to help Janet in her attempts to recover from this disaster.

Knights Closet

As part of your continuing support of the Knights Closet Project for the Reading School District, we are asking for donations of granola bars, bottled water, Gatorade and Halloween Candy so that Sally and Janet can make up a big basket for the students in need. Please be as generous as you are able to. Thank you and God bless.