



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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October 8, 2023

Solemnity of the Christian Family

A Festival Thought

A family is a community where everybody's rights are recognized and honored, where happiness and lasting relationships rest on mutual respect. An authentic family is much more than a biological unit: It is organized in the spiritual service of Christ.

About Today's Bible Readings

SIRACH 3:11-16

It is wisdom to realize that respect, honor and mutual recognition of rights makes for longevity in relationships, especially within families.

Responsorial Psalm: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

Dress up to stay at home because you will need the best of clothes: shared suffering, kindness, humility, gentle mannerisms and patience. Let love be the crown you wear around the house.

LUKE 2:41-52

Jesus' own family gave him a place to grow - in strength and wisdom and God's favor. Every organized relationship of human persons has to provide that opportunity for each other.

ENTRANCE RITE: 1 Timothy 5:8; Galatians 6:10

V. Whoever does not provide for relatives and especially family members has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

R. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all, but especially to those who belong to the family of the faith.

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: Proverbs 6:20

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Observe, my son, your father's bidding, and reject not your mother's teaching.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

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, 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 Cerninara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, Kaleb Gates, Larkspur Dente, Eric Meck, 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

Sunday, 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; Picnic Party Brunch in the Fellowship Hall, 11:00 AM 'til ?. Please see the signup sheet on the table in the vestibule.

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.

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 the remainder of the month of September and the entire 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.

TODAY – Oct. 8th

Solemnity

The Christian Family

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Blessing of the Animals in the Church Parking Lot at Noon in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi.

SUNDAY – Oct. 15th

28th Sunday Ordinary Time

Heritage Sunday

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – Oct. 22nd

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

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Today Saints Peter and Paul Parrish, in McAdoo, PA will celebrate one hundred years of worshipping and serving the Lord with an Anniversary Mass at 3:00 PM Celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, bishop of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church. Dinner will follow. Fr. Sr. Donald will be attending to join in this joyous occasion and all are welcome to attend. See Fr. Sr. Donald for information. Please pray that the good Lord grants them another one hundred years. Sto lat!