

November 26, 2023

# St. Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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# Solemnity - Christ the King

### A Sabbath Thought

Today's feast of Christ the King ends the liturgical year by summing up our role in Christ's kingdom. Each of us is called to take a part through our loving concern for others.

# About Today's Bible Readings

### EZEKIEL 34:11-12, 15-17

God tends his people like a shepherd, with loving kindness and concern. But he promises stern justice to the slick and strong who overpower the weak.

Psalm: 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 R. The Lord is my shepherd;

## there is nothing I shall want. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-26, 28

If we rely solely on human resources, then death *is* the last, sad word in our lives; but due to the divine involvement of the incarnation, death becomes our passage to life. Christ's rule overcomes sin *and* death. His reign offers us the values that we must follow.

#### **MATTHEW 25:31-46**

When preached, the gospel is always an invitation that demands a response. Listen to a story addressed personally to each one of us this day. Every person in need presents the believer with an occasion for ministering to the Lord himself.

### **ENTRANCE RITE – Revelation 5:12; Revelation 19:16**

- V. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and blessing."
- R. He has a name written on His cloak and on His thigh, "King of kings and Lord of Lords."

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- 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 - Luke 11:28

- V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- V. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, His kingship shall not be destroyed.
- R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

#### THE GOSPEL – MATTHEW 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

# Worship Services

TODAY - Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>
Solemnity - Christ the King
End of Liturgical Year (A)
8:00 AM - Holy Mass
9:30 AM - Holy Mass
The Baptism of Denni
Rae Guss.

SUNDAY - Dec. 3rd

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First Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Year (B) Begins 8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM - Holy Mass

SATURDAY – Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>
Advent Penitential Service
7:00 PM

SUNDAY – Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Advent

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8:00 AM - Holy Mass 9:30 AM - Holy Mass

### ADVENT!

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Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the Advent Season. Advent gives us the opportunity to prepare ourselves, physically, emotionally and spiritually for the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There are booklets on the table in the vestibule. Please take one and resolve to spend a few minutes each day in prayer and reflection so that you may truly appreciate God's great gift to His people, Eternal Life in the form of the Baby Jesus.

### OPŁATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

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The Christmas wafers or Opłatki are here and are on the table in the vestibule. Please take what you need and donate what you can. This is a beautiful tradition to maintain with the family at your Christmas table.

### **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, 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, Diane Fisher, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, Eileen McCoury, Alexus, 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, John Bennett, Alicia Bennett, David and Judy Wunderlich, Tammy Bolich, Berne Bloom, Marilyn Seiders, Larry Bagenstose and Peggy Smith and family. For the repose of the soul of Marty Lazano. Our Father....

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

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Saturday, December 9th; Advent Penitential Service at 7:00PM

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**; Egg Sandwich Sale sponsored by the YMS of R after each Mass. Don't miss out on these famous sandwiches.

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>; Advent** Tea sponsored by the ANS in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00PM. Details to follow soon.

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

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>;** Christmas Eve, Shepard's Mass – Pasterka at 12:00 Midnight.

Monday, December 25th; Christmas Day, Solemnity – Nativity of the Lord

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

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

For the month of December all of the donations to the Little White Church will be used to help the less blessed of our community as the winter and holiday seasons come upon us. These donations will be used for heating assistance and other such necessities. Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you and yours.

### Christian Generosity - The Angel Tree Project

And let's not forget about those individuals in our community who are less blessed than ourselves. If you are able to, please be a part of the Angel Tree Project to benefit the elderly or shut in of our community. The tree is set up in the fellowship hall. Please take a tag from it and fulfil the gift requested. Return the gift to the auxiliary office in the upstairs of the Annex by December 10<sup>th</sup> and we will see that it gets to the appropriate individual.

### 2024 DONATION ENVELOPES

Church Donation Envelopes for the year 2024 are now available and are on the table in the library. Please pick yours up as soon as you can so that you will be ready to continue your most generous support of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish. As you well know, inflation has hit every one of us hard. The church is no exception. If you are able to increase your donations going forward, and we know that not everyone can, it would go a long way towards keeping our beloved parish financially stable.