



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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December 24, 2023

The Nativity of the Lord – Pasterka – Shepherd’s Mass

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A Festival Thought

Joy to the world, Our Lord has Come! Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and Heaven and nature sing.

About Today's Bible Readings:

ISAIAH 9:1-6

The prophet foretells the coming of the Messiah nearly seven hundred years before His Birth.

Responsorial Psalm: 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

TITUS 2:11-14

If we are to be worthy of God’s great gift of His only begotten Son, we must live pure and temperate lives.

LUKE 2:1-14

Luke recants his version of the Infancy Narrative, the story of the birth of the Messiah, the Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ.

ENTRANCE RITE – Psalm 96:1-3

V. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; announce salvation day after day.

R. Tell God’s glory among the nations; among all peoples, His marvelous deeds.

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 2:7

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. I will proclaim the decree of the Lord, Who said to me, "You are My son, today I am your Father."

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THE GOSPEL – Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY - Dec. 24th

Christmas Eve

Pasterka

“Shepherd’s Mass”

MIDNIGHT – HOLY MASS

The Saint Stephen’s Choir will present a program of Christmas Carols at 11:40 PM.

Please encourage all you know, family, friends and neighbors to join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ Our Lord.

MONDAY - Dec. 25th

Solemnity

Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM – HOLY MASS

Please encourage all you know, family, friends and neighbors to join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ Our Lord.

TUESDAY - Dec. 26th

Feast of Saint Stephen

7:00 PM – HOLY MASS

WEDNESDAY - Dec. 27th

Feast of Saint John

Apostle and Evangelist

Blessing and

Distribution of Wine

7:00 PM – HOLY MASS

SUNDAY- Dec. 31st

SOLEMNITY

Feast of the Humble

Shepherds

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SATURDAY- Jan. 6th

SOLEMNITY

Epiphany of Our Lord

7:00 PM – Holy Mass

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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, Nicole Dapp, 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, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, 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, John Bennett, Alicia Bennett, David and Judy Wunderlich, Tammy Bolich, Berne Bloom, Marilyn Seiders, Larry Bagenstose, Toni Wiswesser, Peggy Smith and family and Chi Koch, **Our Father....**

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

Blessing of the Manger

Priest. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response. Who Made Heaven and Earth.

P. O Lord, Hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come to You.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

P. Let us Pray.

Almighty God, Who on that wondrous night sent forth Your salvation, being manifested in the person of Your Son, Jesus Christ, look upon Your faithful people gathered in Your church tonight, commemorating the Nativity of our Lord in the stable in Bethlehem. Grant, we implore You that the Savior of the World might be born again in the hearts and souls of all peoples of the world. Unto You we sing and give praise, honor and glory; and we ask You to instill in us godliness and holy love; strengthen our faith and grant us Your true peace – the peace which we can only find in You. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

R. Amen.

P. Lord have mercy.

R. Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

P. Our Father....

P. Hail Mary....

P. Glory be....

R. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

P. The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

R. Christ is born today, Glory to God in the Highest.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

P. Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, true light that enlightens everyone; O holy Christ Child, Who today will come into the hearts of all who sincerely love You; grant that we may be able to understand the message of Your enlightening word, and by following Your example and teachings in our daily lives, we may attain the Eternal Light of Heaven. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

On behalf of the Parish Committee, myself and my daughter, Danielle, I would like to wish each and every one of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Blessed and most prosperous New Year!