



January 21, 2024

## Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

The Very Reverend Donald E. Wunderlich

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## Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

### A Sabbath Thought

Alacrity of the heart was the quality of eager readiness that caused the people of Nineveh to repent and Jesus' chosen apostles to leave everything to follow him. We, too, seek that joyful assent to whatever God asks of us in our lives.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### JONAH 3:1-5, 10

Jonah teaches the Lord's call to repentance and the people of Nineveh respond immediately.

#### Responsorial Psalm

25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

**R: Teach me your ways,  
O Lord.**

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

When he wrote these words, Paul believed the Lord's coming was imminent. Therefore, he urges detachment from this world as a preparation for the life to come.

#### MARK 1:14-20

Jesus takes over the mission and message of John the Baptist. Therefore He preaches repentance and He chooses disciples.

### ENTRANCE RITE: Matthew 12:21, Acts 3:19-20a

*V. At the judgment, the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and there is something greater than Jonah here.*

**R. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away, and that the Lord may grant you times of refreshment.**

*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: ACTS 17:30

*V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*V. God has overlooked the time of ignorance, but now He demands that all people everywhere repent.*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### THE GOSPEL: MARK 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord!**

# Worship Services

**TODAY – January 21<sup>st</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary time**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

*Intentions for the repose of the soul of Beverly Rush Wunderlich offered by Father Senior Donald and Danielle Wunderlich.*

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**SUNDAY – January 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Septuagesima**

**Pre Lent 1**

**ONE MASS ONLY!**

**ANNUAL MEETING!**

**9:00 AM – Holy Mass**

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**SUNDAY – February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Sexagesima**

**Pre Lent 2**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

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**SUNDAY – February 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Quinquagesima**

**Pre Lent 3**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

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**WEDNESDAY – Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**LENT BEGINS**

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

*Blessing and distribution of ashes to the faithful*

**7:00 PM – HOLY MASS**

*Blessing and distribution of ashes to the faithful*

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**SUNDAY – February 18<sup>th</sup>**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass**

**9:30 AM – Holy Mass**

## 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, Chi Koch, Vicki Shoemaker and William Kutenits. **Our Father....**

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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today, January 21<sup>st</sup>;** Regular monthly meeting of the parish committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM. All committee members should plan on attending to prepare for the Annual Parrish Congregational Meeting.

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>;** Annual Parish Membership Meeting at 10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. I urge every member of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish to attend this important meeting. Many issues vital to the health and success of our parish will be discussed and decided upon. The key to success in any democratically oriented organization is in the participation of the membership. Our parish is facing many challenges and your thoughts and ideas on how to solve them are of the utmost importance. Please plan to attend, engage and to elect or volunteer to be elected representatives to the various offices and positions in our parish for the upcoming terms. Our ancestors fought for this right when they founded the Polish National Catholic Church one hundred and twenty six years ago. Please respect it and make use of it by attending and participating.

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>;** The ANS will meet in the Library at 11:00 AM. All of the ladies of the Parish are invited and encouraged to attend.

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

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## KOLEDA – BLESSING OF HOMES

Father Senior Donald will be blessing homes this Epiphany Season. He will be happy to bless any home at your request. Please print your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule along with the best time for you to have this done. Or, simply call him at 610-775-4559 to set up a time and date. He will be happy to see you and more than happy to bless your home.

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## COFFEE, DONUTS AND FELLOWSHIP

Please join us after each Mass in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Have a cup of coffee, a donut and some Christian Fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Catch up with old friends and maybe make some new ones.

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## DONATION ENVELOPES 2024

The Donation Envelopes for 2024 are available on the table in the Library. Please remember to pick up yours so that you are ready to faithfully support our beloved Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish in the coming year.