



February 11, 2024

St. Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Quinquagesima Sunday

A Sabbath Thought

Like an ardent and faithful lover, God woos us and speaks to our hearts. Jesus proclaims that he is the bridegroom of the new covenant.

About Today's Bible Readings

HOSEA 2:16, 17b, 21, 22

God calls Israel back to the innocence of their Exodus relationship. Like a lover, God calls Israel back to be healed and made righteous.

PSALM 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:1b-6

Paul needs no letter of recommendation other than the faithful community at Corinth. God's own Spirit wrote the message of salvation in their hearts.

MARK 2:18-22

Jesus is the bridegroom; the sign of the marriage covenant between God and his people. In his presence, celebration, not fasting, is the appropriate response.

ENTRANCE RITE: Isaiah 428-10a

V. I am the Lord, this is My Name; My glory I give to no other, nor My praise to idols. See now, the earlier things have come to pass, new ones I now foretell; before they spring into being, I announce them to you.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise from the ends of the earth.

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.

TRACT: ACTS 13:38a, 39 (Recited in place of the Alleluia)

V. From now on I announce new things to you.

R. Hidden events of which you know not.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 2:18-22

The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to Jesus and objected, "Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

TODAY – February 11th

**Quinquagesima
Pre Lent 3**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Intentions for the repose of the soul of Janis Hogg offered by Father Senior Donald Wunderlich

WEDNESDAY – Feb. 14th

**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

SUNDAY – February 18th

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

WEDNESDAY – March 21st

Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM

Meatless Lenten Meal will be served at 6:00 PM



SUNDAY – February 25th

Second 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, Elizabeth McAlanis, Barbara Waszk, Jackie Weinhold, Jane and John Aldershoff, Father Senior Ed Ratajack, Eileen McCoury, Alexis, Matthew and Kristy Samsel, Janet Kelly, Laura Alfano, Scott Gaydos, Donald Barth, Kenneth Cerminara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, 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, Peggy Smith and family, Chi Koch, Vicki Shoemaker, William Kutenits, Todd Shaffer, Cristin Burke, Kelly Wylezik and Shawn Siedel. **Our Father....**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, February 11th; The ANS will meet in the Library at 11:00 AM.

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

Sunday, February 18th; Monthly Parish Committee meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

Wednesday, February 21st; Stations of the Cross services begin at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays during Lent. Meatless Lenten meals will be served at 6:00 PM prior to the services. Please invite your relatives, friends and neighbors to join us in worship.

Sunday, February 25th; The Picnic Committee will meet in the Library at 10:30 AM.

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

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.

OUR PRE-LENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

The Reverend Doctor Scott Lill of our Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese has prepared for all of us an excellent devotional for the season of Pre-Lent. This devotional effort of his is entitled *The Season of Pre-Lent: A Time of Preparation for Polish National Catholics*. This small reader will be available to you during this Season and can be found on the table in the vestibule. Please take one home with you. Use it daily, following its suggestions for activities, readings, meditations and self-reflective periods in Catholic Christian spirituality.

LENTEN WORSHIP BOOKLET

The Lenten Worship Booklets are on the table in the vestibule. Please take one and refer to it daily during Lent for prayers and reflections on our Lord's Passion.

PIEROGI MAKING SIGNUP SHEET

Pierogi Signup sheets are on the table in the vestibule. We are starting early this year in order to avoid the last minute rush in preparing food for the Annual Picnic in August. Help is need on each of the designated days beginning this Friday and Saturday. If you can volunteer to help it would be most appreciated. No experience is necessary. We will teach you how.