



September 29, 2024

Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Twenty Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE RITE: 1 Corinthians 14:1, 3; 2 Peter 1:21

A Sabbath Thought

"Anyone who is not against us is for us," says Jesus. That neat division invites us to consider just who this *us* is. What is it that binds *us* to Jesus and makes *us* part of *us*?

About Today's Bible Readings

NUMBERS 11:25-29

Who are we to argue with the favors of the Lord? God bestows his gifts with free abandon.

Responsorial Psalm: 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

JAMES 5:1-6

In speech that burns with righteous venom, the letter of James rails against the evils we commit by the misuses of money.

MARK 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Keep your eye on the goal says Jesus. That way, you will avoid the pitfalls that lead to destruction. The kingdom we seek should shape our values and guide our steps.

V. Pursue love, but strive eagerly for the spiritual gifts, above all that you may prophesy. On the other hand, one who prophesies does speak to human beings, for their building up, encouragement, and solace.

R. For no prophecy ever came through human will; but rather human beings moved by the Holy Spirit spoke under the influence of God.

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: 1 Peter 3:18a

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. The lion roars—who will not be afraid! The Lord God speaks, who will not prophesy!

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

INTENTIONS:

Today – Sept. 29th

26th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Sunday – Oct. 6th

27th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Sunday – Oct. 13th

Solemnity

The Christian Family

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

Intentions for the repose of the souls of Rev. Francis and Beatrice Kaczmarczyk offered by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kaczmarczyk.

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Sunday – Oct. 20th

29th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Sunday – Oct. 27th

30th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

Friday, Nov. 1st

All Saints Day

7:00 PM – Holy Mass

Sunday – Nov. 3rd

31st Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

First Holy Communion of Edgardo (Edgar) Avilés during the 9:30 Mass.

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, 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 Cerninara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, Eric Meck, Darryl Weinhold, Scott Kallish, Damon Grossman, Joseph Grossman, Jr., Corby Beck, Tom Beck, Skye Sadowski, Jeannine Dresh, Violet Hart, Nancy Ziolkowski, John Bennett, Alicia Bennett, David and Judy Wunderlich, Tammy Bolich, Berne Bloom, Marilyn Seiders, Peggy Smith and family, Chi Koch, Vicki Shoemaker, William Kutenits, Todd Shaffer, Cristin Burke, Kelly Wylezik Shawn Siedel, Father Carmen Bolock, Christine Mulutzie, James Horning, Frederick Smith, David Metzger, Amber Irving, Paul Edling, Natalie Frankfort, Cheryl Weinhold, Carol Urban, Kenneth Borah and Joe Bezek. Our Father....

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 12th; The 14th Synod of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church will be held beginning at 8:00 AM via Zoom. Father Senior Donald, Michael and Sally Traczuk will represent Saint Stephen's.

Sunday, October 13th; The YMS of R will meet at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, October 13th; ANS will sponsor a MAKE YOUR OWN SUNDAE event in the Fellowship Hall at 10:45 AM.

Sunday, October 20th; The regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee will be held at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, October 27th; Post-Picnic Party in the Fellowship Hall at noon. Everyone who helped with the Picnic in any way is invited. Halloween treats for the kids. See the October Newsletter for more details.

Sunday, November 3rd; First Holy Communion of Edgardo (Edgar) Avilés during the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, November 10th; The ANS will meet in the Library after the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, November 17th; Confirmation of Scarlett Sadowski. Please join us in welcoming Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky to Saint Stephen the Martyr for this joyous occasion. There will be one Mass only at 9:00 AM this Sunday, please make a note.

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

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

The Ladies Society for the Admiration of the Most Blessed Sacrament is selling Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Coupons. For a \$5.00 Donation to the ANS you will receive a coupon good for 25% off for your entire purchase at any Boscov's store or online on Tuesday, October 22nd, 8:00 AM until 11:00 PM. (Exclusions Apply) Please see the flyer on the table in the vestibule for more information and contact Sally Traczuk or any ANS member to purchase your Shopping Pass now!

THE KNIGHTS CLOSET

The Reading Area School District has informed us that the Knights Closet Project which provides items of basic necessity to students in need will resume this year. The parish has generously participated in this worthwhile cause in past years and I hope that we will find it in our hearts to continue to do so. Please leave your contributions on the table in the Fellowship Hall and we will get them to those in need. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.