



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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Second Sunday of Advent

A Sabbath Thought

Only the sinful need a Saviour. Therefore, if we would truly enter into the spirit of Advent expectation, we must acknowledge that we cannot get along without God.

About Today's Bible Readings

BARUCH 5:1-9

The Lord comes to restore his people. Therefore, the mourning time is at an end. Now dawn the days of joy.

Responsorial Psalm: 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

PHILIPPIANS 1:4-6, 8-11

The words of Paul's prayer for the Philippians becomes an excellent prayer for ourselves.

LUKE 3:1-6

The time had come, and John the Baptist appeared to announce the imminence of salvation.

ENTRANCE RITE – Malachi 3:1-2a

V. Lo, I am sending My messenger to prepare the way before Me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord Whom you seek,

R. And the messenger of the covenant Whom you desire, yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

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 85:8

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Show us, Lord, Your love; grant us Your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL – Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Worship Services

Today – Dec. 8th
2nd Sunday of Advent

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

Saturday – Dec. 14th
Advent Penitential Service

7:00 PM

Sunday – Dec. 15th
3rd Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday

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

Sunday – Dec. 22nd
4th Sunday of Advent

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

ADVENT!

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.

UKRAINIAN RELIEF

We will be delivering the donated items on Dec. 10th. Please have your contributions on the table in the Fellowship Hall no later than Dec. 8th.

OPLATKI

The Christmas wafers, or Oplatki, are here and on the table in the vestibule. Please take what you need and donate what you can. This is a beautiful tradition to keep at your Christmas Dinner 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 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 Cerminara, John Freeman, Sr., Bob Price, Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, Eric Meck, Damon Grossman, Joseph Grossman, Jr., Kevin Grossman, 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, Kelly Wylezik Shawn Siedel, Father Carmen Bolock, Christine Mulutzie, David Mulutzie, Greg Sharpe, Frederick Smith, David Metzger, Amber Irving, Paul Edling, Natalie Frankfort, Cheryl Weinhold, Dwayne Schwarz, Joe Bezek, Bud Hoffman and Dr. Brandon Ishaque. **Our Father....**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 14th; Advent Penitential Service at 7:00 PM.

Sunday, December 15th; YMS of R Egg Sandwich Sale! After each Mass. Don't miss out on this classic treat.

Sunday, December 15th; *Wigilia* sponsored by the Polish American Heritage Society of Berk's County. Please see the Flyer on the table in the vestibule for more information.

Decorating for Christmas; Help will be needed to help decorate the church for Christmas on December 22nd and 23rd. Please let Sally Traczuk know if you are available to help.

Sunday, December 22nd; Monthly meeting of the Parish committee at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

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

THE KNIGHTS CLOSET

The Reading 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. A special request is being made for bags of assorted Christmas candies, Gatorade, Granola bars and water. Please leave your donations no later than Sunday, December 15th. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY - THE ANGEL TREE PROJECT

All of the tags on the tree have been taken! Thank you all for your kind generosity!

2025 PNCC HOME LITURGICAL CALENDARS

The PNCC Home Liturgical Calendars are here and on the table in the vestibule for \$7.50 each. Only a limited number are available so get yours before they are gone!

COFFEE AND DONUTS

We are pleased to gather for the Fellowship hour in the Church Hall following each Mass. Coffee and donuts will be served with the coffee being free and the suggested donation for each donut being \$1.00. I hope that many of you will join us.

2025 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE IN THE LIBRARY!