



March 23, 2025

# Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### A Sabbath Thought

We can celebrate today as *Second Chance Sunday*. God is always giving us another chance to try again. It is our responsibility - indeed, our privilege - to help transform our world into a holy place.

### About Today's Bible Readings

#### EXODUS 3:1-8, 13-15

After the creation of the world, the history of salvation begins when God makes a special choice of the people of Israel and reveals to them the divine name.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

#### R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-6, 10-12

Membership in a group does not always bring group benefits. Even Christians suffer as a people because of sinful members.

#### LUKE 13:1-9

Sin can be both individual and social, sometimes injuring even innocent members of the group. But God offers us a second chance to divert the suffering that sin brings.

### ENTRANCE RITE – Habakkuk 3:17a, 18; Isaiah 3:10

*V. For though the fig tree blossom not, nor fruit be on the vines, yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God.*

**R. Happy the just, for it will be well with them, the fruit of their works they will eat.**

*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 - EZEKIEL 18:30b-31

*V. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.*

**R. Cast away from you all transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!**

### THE GOSPEL – LUKE 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them, do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'"

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

# Worship Services

**TODAY – March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**WED. – March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Stations of the Cross**

**7:00 PM**

**“Free” Lenten Meal Before**

**@ 6:00 PM**

**Sponsored by the YMS of R**

**PIZZA!**

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**SUNDAY – March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Laetare Sunday**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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**WED. – April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Stations of the Cross**

**7:00 PM**

**“Free” Lenten Meal Before**

**@ 6:00 PM**

**Sponsored by the YMS of R**

**Potato Soup &**

**Manhattan Clam Chowder**

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**Saturday – April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Lenten Penitential Service**

**7:00 PM**

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**SUNDAY – April 6<sup>th</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Passion Sunday**

**8:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**9:30 AM – HOLY MASS**

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## INTENTIONS:

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, 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, Janet Kelly, Laura Alfano, Scott Gaydos, Donald Barth, Kenneth Cerminara, John Freeman, Sr., Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Mary Ann Bezek, Michael Lucas, Eric Meck, Damon Grossman, Gwen Grossman, Lukas Grossman, Tom Beck, Skye Sadowski, Jeannine Dresh, Violet Hart, Nancy Ziolkowski, David and Judy Wunderlich, Tammy Bolich, Berne Bloom, Marilyn Seiders, Peggy Smith and family, William Kutenits, Todd Shaffer, Father Carmen Bolock, Frederick Smith, David Metzger, Greg Potash, Amber Irving, Paul Edling, Cheryl Weinhold, Dwayne Schwarz, Joe Bezek, Bud Hoffman, John Halecky III, Jer and Tim Checket, Leina Jean Meier, Cassidy Durante, Dre Curto, Brenda Hoffa, Teri Hettinger, Joe Gimont, Dan Chujko, Chester and Cherrie Kitchman, John DeHart and Bob Price. For the repose of the soul of Elizabeth McAlanis. **Our Father....**

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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Today, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**; The ANS will meet in the Library after the 9:30 AM Mass.

**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**; Lenten Penitential Service at 7:00 PM.

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**; YMS of R Egg Sandwich sale after each Mass. Don't miss out on these famous sandwiches.

**Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**; The Book Club will resume by meeting in the library at 7:00 PM. New members are always welcome. Please join us!

**Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**; Regular monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 AM.

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

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## NEW PICNIC TABLE DRIVE

The YMS of R is asking for donations to purchase new, lightweight, plastic, folding tables for use during the Annual Picnic. Our old, existing tables are wooden and quite heavy to move from the church to the picnic grounds and back, plus this is damaging them in the process. It is proposed to purchase about twenty new tables at a cost of approximately \$85.00 each. Donations, if made in cash, should be placed in a separate envelope marked "YMS of R Table Drive" and checks should be made Payable to "St, Stephens YMS of R" and noted for Table Drive.

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## PIEROGI MAKING

The Picnic Committee has established tentative dates for pierogi-making. They continue as follows: March 28 & 29 (Potato); April 11 & 12 (Potato); April 25 & 26 (Cheese); May 9 & 10 (Cheese), May 30-31 (Cheese); Sauerkraut- to be determined. A sign-up sheet is available in the vestibule for volunteers. Please help. Thank you!

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## 24<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL MISSION & EVANGELISM WORKSHOP

The 24<sup>th</sup> National Mission and Evangelism Workshop will be held on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, June 1, 2025 at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in Denver, Colorado. Please see the Pamphlets on the table in the vestibule for more information. The registration fee for this event is waived but you will be responsible for your travel and lodging expenses. Registration is limited to one hundred so please act soon if you plan to attend. Registration deadline is May 13<sup>th</sup> for the event and May 1<sup>st</sup> for the hotel. For more info, please contact Father Senior Donald.

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## COFFEE, DONUTS and FELLOWSHIP

We are pleased to gather for Fellowship in the Church Hall following each Mass.

Coffee and donuts will be served with the coffee being free and the suggested donation for donuts being \$1.00 each. I hope that many of you will join us.