



Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish of the PNCC

20 St. Stephens Church Lane, Reading PA 19607

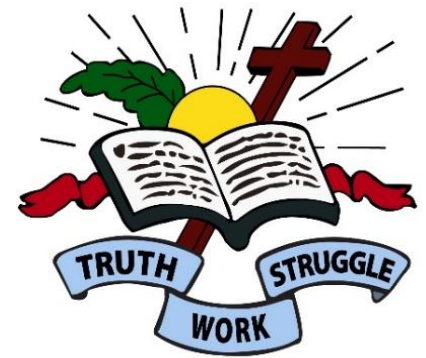
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July 4, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Happy

Independence Day!

Sabbath Thought

We who believe may think we know Jesus - after all, we are family. But we must take care that familiarity does not blunt the impact of his message or the effect of his grace.

About Today's Bible Readings

EZEKIEL 2:2-5

Even when the people rebel, God does not desert them. He sends them a prophet to preach repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: 123:1-2, 2, 3-4

R: Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

In his own person, Paul experiences the paradox of salvation: when he is weak, there is room for God's power to work at full force.

MARK 6:1-6

In his own hometown, Jesus discovers that his neighbors know him too well. Familiarity blinds them to his true identity.

ENTRANCE RITE: Isaiah 1:4; 2 Chronicles 12:2b

V. Ah! sinful nation, people laden with wickedness, evil race, corrupt children! They have forsaken the Lord, spurned the Holy One of Israel, apostatized.

R. The Lord is with you when you are with Him, and if you seek Him, He will be present to you; but if you abandon Him, He will abandon you.

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 Samuel 10:19a

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. But today you have rejected your God, Who delivers you from all your evils and calamities.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-6

Jesus departed from there and came to his native place, accompanied by his disciples. When the Sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Worship Services

TODAY – July 4th

**14th Sunday - Ordinary Time
Independence Day**

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

SUNDAY – July 11th

15th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

The Baptism of

Stella Josephine Kelly

SUNDAY – July 18th

16th Sunday - Ordinary Time

Independence Day

8:00 AM – Holy Mass

9:30 AM – Holy Mass

NOVEMBER FOOD SALE

We will be holding a pierogi only food sale sometime in November. We will need to begin to make them soon. Help will be needed to prepare for this important fund raising event. Please consider volunteering to help. A signup sheet will be posted in the hall and in the vestibule in the very near future.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

As we prepare to celebrate the two hundred forty fifth birthday of the greatest nation on God's Earth, let us pause to give thanks to Our Lord for this incredible gift of freedom and ask Him to bless it with peace and security. And don't forget to say a prayer for all those who give of themselves every day to keep us safe and sound, especially those in the armed forces and our brave first responders.



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 Isabella Mularczyk, Edward Czechowski, Patrice Czechowski, Donna Schalata, Tom Schalata, David Wunderlich and Bernice Biroscak. For the repose of the soul of John Wawrzonek. **Our Father...**

If there are any other individuals who should be on this list, please email or tell Father Senior Donald so he can add them!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 11th; The Ladies Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the ANS, will meet in the upper classroom after the 9:30 Mass. All member of the ANS are urged to join and all of the ladies of the parish who are not members are urged to attend and to join this important organization.

Sunday, July 11th; During the **9:30** Mass, the sacrament of Baptism will be conferred upon Stella Josephine Kelly, daughter of Melissa and Andrew Kelly, great - granddaughter of Stella Mackiewicz. It is my hope that everyone turns out to welcome Stella Josephine into the parish family and into the Church of Christ.

Tuesday, July 13th; The Fund Raising Committee will meet at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All parishioners are cordially invited to attend. Your input and ideas are very much in need

Monday, July 19th; The Mission Commission will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 PM. All Parishioners are encouraged to attend. Your input will be very helpful.

If there are any other events not listed here, please email or tell Father Senior Donald so he can add them!

MARY'S SHELTER

Our Parish is going to begin to support Mary's Shelter, an organization that provides housing, pregnancy services and counseling to women and teens. We will be sponsoring a "Christmas in July" to benefit them. All of the donations made to the "Little White Church" during June and July will be donated to Mary's Shelter. In addition, there a tree similar to our Christmas Season Angel Tree from which you can take a card or two or three, the requested gifts are small, that will specify a gift needed by those staying at the shelter. If you chose to participate in this, please bring your gifts to Church and leave them in the Library. **Do not wrap the gifts.** Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Recessional Hymn

America the Beautiful

**O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!**

America! America!

God shed His grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

**O beautiful for pilgrim feet Whose stern impassioned stress, A
thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!**

America! America!

**God mend thine every flaw, Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!**