

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Different Histories...

One Faith...

Different Ages...

Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco, Pastor
Permanent Deacon Anthony Cioe
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal
Mrs. Suzanne Underwood, CRE

Emergencies: (856) 261-9336
(Accidents, Dying or Death)



Contact Information

Rectory: (856) 662-9338
Rectory Fax: (856) 662-4679
School: (856) 662-5935
School Fax: (856) 662-6128

Email: eccllesia@comcast.net
Web: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

January 12, 2014 – The Baptism of the Lord

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Friday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm (**Reconciliation 3:45pm-4:15pm**)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd Sunday @ 9:00am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm

Miraculous Medal Novena – Every Thursday after 9am Mass.

Eucharistic Exposition – First Friday from 9:30am-7pm.

Baptism – Call the Rectory for arrangements.

Required Preparation is 1 class, 2nd Sunday @ Noon.

Baptism – 3rd Sunday of month @ Noon.

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist –

Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in the Chapel.

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory Monday-Friday. Also call the Rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

Marriage – arrangements must be made with a priest 1 year in advance. Only individually registered parishioners of one year or more are eligible to be married here and includes anyone still living at home with parents who should register individually.

Tribunal Parish Advocate-Dc. Anthony Cioe- (856) 227-2145

Rectory Office Hours-Monday thru Friday 9am-4:30pm
(Closed all Holy Days of Obligation & National Holidays)

Our Mission Statement

Saint Stephen Parish is a Catholic Faith Community called by God through Baptism. Our mission is to live the Gospel by loving and serving all our brothers and sisters.

Parish Membership – Moving INTO the parish all are asked to register as soon as possible.

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory of changes.

Please consider remembering St. Stephen's in your Will or Estate Planning. There are financial benefits to do so while still alive and, in death, the spiritual reward of helping to continue the Church's mission of preaching Jesus Christ.

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Anyone interested in becoming Catholic is invited to become part of the RCIA. This process begins with a journey of faith that culminates in full communion with the Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. This process is open to those who are not baptized, to those who have been baptized in other Christian denominations, or to baptized Catholics who have never received catechetical instruction or received Confirmation and First Communion. Further information is available by calling the Rectory.

Our Parish Family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Family or Friends having a weekend Mass celebrated for a loved one are encouraged to participate by bringing the gifts of bread and wine to the Priest at Mass. Please be in church 10 minutes prior to Saturday/Sunday Mass and identify yourselves to one of the Ushers.

Per Diocesan Policy: One (1) Mass Intention limit per Mass except for 10:30am on Sunday, which now has a maximum of four (4) intentions.

The 2015 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

MONDAY 9:00am	January 13, 2014 Helen Andrychowski r/b Marion Struglia, Alice & Rudy
TUESDAY 9:00am	January 14, 2014 Carol McCarroll r/b Marie & Bob Hanna
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	January 15, 2014 The Buffington Siblings r/b Sister-in-Law
THURSDAY 9:00am+Novena	January 16, 2014 Marie Melchiorre r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 17, 2014 Carrie Fanelle r/b Niece
SATURDAY 4:30pm	January 18, 2014 Claire Barstys r/b Joe & Maria Haas
SUNDAY 9:00am	January 19, 2014 Joseph G. Lutek r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	William Sollmer r/b His Sister, Gloria Rev. Thomas E. Ploude r/b People of the Parish

The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Anthony Moffa.

If you would like to contribute to the burning of a Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one, you may call the Rectory. Cost is \$10.

Jan. 4/5, 2014 Attendance/Collection	353/	\$7,158
Jan. 5/6, 2013 Comparison	508/	\$5,474
Dec. 28/29, 2013 Attendance/Collection	428/	\$4,255
Dec. 29/30, 2012 Comparison	512/	\$7,005
Christmas 2013 Collection		\$18,113
Christmas 2012 Comparison		\$17,609
2013-2014 Budgeted Weekly Collection:		\$5,588
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:		\$5,079

Diocesan Special Collection: 1/26/14: "Mission Membership"

Stewardship Reflection - Baptism of the Lord "Stewards Give In Return"

"And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" MATTHEW 3:17
At the Baptism of Jesus, God made it clear that He was giving us the greatest gift He could give. He was giving us His only Son. When you really think about the magnitude of that gift of Jesus sent to save us, plus all of the many other blessings that God has entrusted into our hands, it is very humbling. God has given us so much. What *Stewardship* do we give in return?



Please call the Rectory to let us know if your family member is in the hospital or homebound so that we may bring them Communion. This week remember to pray for:

Dolly Angelastro, Mary Caruso, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Dot Corbett, Patricia DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joe DiLorenzo, Patricia Domer, Diane Fesko, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Richard Gentile, Sr., Thomas Holmes Sr., Marie Kaminski, Donna Krawchuk, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Marge Leone, Wanda Loperfido, Maureen Lukasiak, Joann Lunsford, John Maggioncald, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Dorothy McPeak, Debbi Morrissey, Esther Nunez, Florence O'Connor, Jennifer Osborn, Betty Picciano, Frank Pigliacelli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Theresa Sauer, Loretta Stayton, Kathleen Stehm, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, John Vindick, Mary Vivillo, Anthony Vocale, Dolores VonAlex.

Ministry Schedule for January 18/19

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

* Designates Alternate Server

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: S. Caban, J. Mack, M. Conway
EM's: A. Knight, T. Angstman, L. Heining, P. Petronis, *J. Heining
Lector: J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: O. Graff, T. Albert, C. Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, E. Nolte, M. Bufanio, T. Mattered, *R. Leone
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, W. McHugh

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: K. Fagan, J. Bui
EM's: J. Bowman, C. Otto, D. Urgo, T. Urgo, *T. Scavuzzo
Lectors: J. Messina, L. Fagan

January 12, 2014

Dear Parishioners,

It is with heartfelt gratitude, especially in these days of financial uncertainty, that I, on behalf of the Parish of St. Stephen, thank you for your kind and generous **Christmas offering**. It is because of your steadfast support that we are able to fulfill the Parish's spiritual, financial and physical responsibilities. In this New Year, we as a parish will be facing new challenges. These challenges can only be met through your sacrificial offerings. Be assured that your faithful giving, year after year, is never taken for granted.

I am personally blessed to have your assistance in striving to live our Gospel values here at St. Stephen's. May you be blessed with good health, enjoy the company of your loved ones, and continue to experience the love of God during this New Year of 2014.

With a promise of prayer for your intentions, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

1/13--Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study, 7pm Finance Council
1/14--Tuesday- 9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7:30pm RCIA
1/15--Wed-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD, 6:30pm Eucharist Workshop,
6:30pm Ensemble, 7pm Adult Choir
1/16--Thur-9am Mass/Novena, 6pm Children's Choir, 7pm Book Club
1/17--Friday-9am Mass
1/18--Saturday-9am Men's Group, 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
1/19--Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass



God values you, and has a plan for your life!

Monday Ladies' Bible Study

1-2:30pm in the Stonegate Conference Room.

To Jesus Through Mary Tuesday Night

Rosary 7:00-7:30pm @ Church

Your devotion to the Blessed Mother was expressed by the response to the Knights' "Prayer Pavers to Our Lady".

Continue your devotion – Come pray with us!

"To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Jesus."

Blessed John Paul II, Apostolic Letter on the Rosary

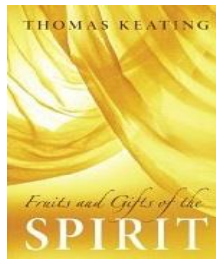
Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue Wednesday, January 15th @ 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues January 16th at 7pm in the Parish Center.

We are discussing "Fruits & Gifts of the Spirit" by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO



First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, Feb. 7th, 9:45am-7:00pm.**



"The worship given to the Trinity of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...must fill our churches also outside the timetable of Masses...Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation of the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease." -Blessed John Paul II

Saturday 9am Men's Prayer Group

Please join us for our Men's Scripture/Prayer Group. We meet every Saturday morning at 9am for one-half hour in the Parish Center Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

The ministry of Art & Environment is seeking volunteers to help restore our church after the Christmas Liturgical season. Kindly consider helping on the date below. Students please bring your paperwork to document service hours.

Jan 12th 11:45 am (after the 10:30 am Mass)

Look for sign-up sheets in the back of the church.

Questions call Maria @ 665-8393.

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee is seeking volunteers to help minister to those who've recently lost loved ones in our community of faith. To join this special ministry, please call Joy Bowman at 662-4803.

Council & Board Meetings

All at 7pm in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted.

Monday, January 13 Finance Council
Monday, January 20 Pastoral Council
Wednesday, January 22 Spiritual Life
Monday, January 27 Liturgy Board

Prayer Pavers to Our Lady

AN ONGOING MEMORIAL!

All pavers are now installed and many spaces still available!

Pavers to form a concrete path from our church to the Blessed Mother are available in 3 sizes: 4"x8" \$100, 8"x8" \$175, and 12"x12" \$500. Samples are available after weekend Masses and in the school office, order forms are on our website and in the rectory office.

Info is available @ www.ststephenspennsauken.com

or by calling Michael Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799.

RCIA Ministry

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

--Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?

--Have you been away from the church...and have now returned, but want to know more?

--Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism; Confirmation; and Eucharist?

--Have you joined us from a different background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church.

Please contact Father Daniel Rocco at (856) 662-9338 or Loretta Steinmetz, RCIA Team Leader at (856) 227-4627 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Scrip Fundraising Program

Scrip is available for purchase at the Scrip Table after all weekend Masses and at the rectory during regular business office hours, Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm (excluding Holy Days & Holidays).

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you. Prayer requests for the month of January, please contact Michael @ 662-2543.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry at Mary Queen of All Saints Parish needs help on Saturday mornings. Assist in distributing food orders to needy members of the community who pick up at the food pantry. Location is St. Cecilia's school on Camden Ave in Pennsauken, NJ. Great opportunity for students to get service hours. Contact Mary McGinley for details 856-662-2332

www.maryqueenofallsaints.org

St. Joseph's In the Hills
Men's Retreat
March 7-9, 2014



- Some men come to relax
- Some visit with friends
- Some are in crisis and need answers
- All are welcome
- 18 men joined us last year from South Jersey
- You are invited March 7-9

More information at www.malvernretreat.com
or call Joe Fagan at (609) 471-0753.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If in this calendar year (01/01/13 through 12/31/13) you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary, 25, 50 or 75 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating on **WORLD MARRIAGE SUNDAY, February 9 at 3:00 pm Mass** in Blackwood, at St. Agnes Church, Our Lady of Hope Parish. A light reception will follow in the parish hall.

Registration forms are available at all parish offices. Deadline is **January 24, 2014**. For more information please contact our office, Mary Lou Hughes at 856-583-6132.

Paul VI Slam Dunk Tours

Paul VI High School is pleased to offer special pre-game tours of the school for the following basketball games during the 2014 basketball season. No reservations are needed. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Please come to the gym entrance at tour time; middle school students and an accompanying adult will receive a complimentary game pass. Eligible games are as follows:

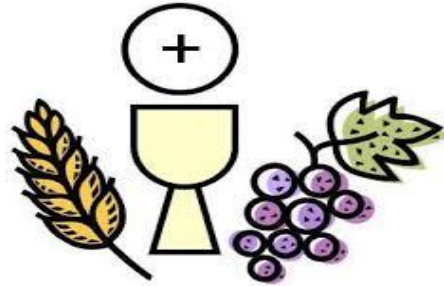
Paul VI Boys v. Eastern, Saturday, January 18, 2014, Tours at Noon, Game at 1 PM

Paul VI Girls v. Bishop Eustace, Thursday, February 13, 2014, Tours at 6 PM, Game at 7 PM

Questions may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, Director of Admissions at kstewart@pvihs.org.

Continues This Wednesday

EUCCHARIST WORKSHOP



Explore the central mystery of our Faith by taking a deeper look at this most Holy Sacrament. This spiritual study program, presented by **Father Robert Barron** on DVD, will give us a deeper understanding of the precious gift of Christ's Divine Life that you can receive at every Mass. Please join us for one or all sessions, as we discover and celebrate what Vatican II called the "source and summit of the Christian life." **This is a five-session workshop offered on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Family Center, and it began on January 8, 2014.**

New Jersey Right to Life News

The NJRTL would like to thank all who helped to make the NJRTL Raffle for 2013 such a success. The winners are: Volvo-Frank Johnston of Morris County; ShopRite Gift Certificates: \$1,000-John Vanderbos of Monmouth County; \$750-Richard Cirlincion of Essex County; and \$500-Charles Dillon of Passaic County. Again, thank you!

NJRTL invites you to join us as we Rally for Life on Wednesday, **January 22nd** marking the 41st Anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade US Supreme Court Decision.

Where: State House Steps, NJ Capitol, State St. in Trenton, NJ from 11am-1pm. Pro-life leaders, elected officials and clergy are expected to address Rally. Please come out and Support Life!!!

OPEN YOUR HEART AND HOME:

Local Host Family needed for a 16 year old South Korean Catholic boy who will arrive in January to study at Camden Catholic High School, tuition paid. He is a motivated learner who loves playing soccer, plays the flute and has traveled to China, Japan and Canada and recently lived and studied in Wisconsin. He holds an F-1 visa, speaks English, is fully insured, & has his own pocket money for personal expenses. Host families provide room and board & receive a generous monthly hosting stipend & a fulfilling experience. Contact Cecelia LaPlaca with Nacel Open Door (www.nacelopendoor.org) at 215-584-7751 or cecelaplaca@gmail.com.

**Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
December 16, 2013**

Council Members Present:

Joseph Haas, Liz McHugh, Terry Modzier, Earl Nolte, Melanie Lopez, Dennis Rooney, Chris Hearn, Joe Scavuzzo, Rich Cesta and Janis Melfi.

Finance Council Members Present:

Rita Vogt, Rose Davis, Rick Taylor and Keith Knight

- ❖ Opened with a prayer by Father Rocco
- ❖ Meeting called to order 7PM

❖ **Old Business:**

HARVEST MASS/SOCIAL

PPC wants to thank all those who attended our annual social and helped make it an enjoyable evening for all. We look forward to next year.

❖ **New Business:**

St Stephen School

Discussion was had regarding the future of the school. The school appears to be at a "crisis point" due to multiple factors, including, but not limited to declining paid enrollment, annual increases and operational upkeep. Possible projected uses of the building were mentioned i.e., extension of the Stonegate family, Charter school placement and a Community Center (which would continue the St Stephen communal theme).

Obviously the objective is to maintain a "use" for the building and to be "debt free".

PPC will meet again in mid Jan '14 after more information is gathered. The council will report on the findings at that time.

- ❖ Meeting Adjourned @ 8:26PM
- ❖ Closing prayer by Father Rocco
- ❖ Next PPC meeting at the **Sr. Bernadette Parish** Center on: **January 20, 2014@7PM**

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Melfi
Secretary of St Stephen's PPC

Knights' Blood Drive Thank You

The American Red Cross and the Knights of Columbus thank all those who participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive at St Stephen's School on December 30th. A total of 26 units of much needed blood were collected, exceeding our goal of 25 units. Please continue to donate throughout the year, and we'll see you at next year's blood drive.

Please note: The American Red Cross gave out T-shirts to all who came to donate. If you did not receive yours, please call Lonnie at 856 662-6049.

Knights of Columbus, Council #3512

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
LifeTouch Portraits

Ready for Pickup

The following family portraits are ready for pickup in the rectory office: **J. Canalichio, M. Daniels, V. Fletcher, S. Hughes, B. Leyman, J. Mack, S. Saul, C. Schlegel.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
The Catholic Diocese of Camden invites you to

An Ecumenical Celebration

Please join Bishop Dennis Sullivan and Christian Leaders representing other denominations, clergy from our area, your friends and neighbors for an evening of prayer and praise.

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 @ 7:30p.m.

Catholic Church of St. Mary

2001 Springdale Road - Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

856-424-1454

Refreshments will follow in the gathering space.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
New Jersey Catholic Young Adult Conference

**St. John Neumann Pastoral Center,
Piscataway, NJ - JANUARY 25, 2014**

"COURAGEOUS:

Do not Conform to the Standards of this Age (Romans 12:2)

The conference is designed to provide young adults with an opportunity to experience the presence of God, grow in their knowledge of the faith, take ownership of the Gospel message, and celebrate their Catholic identity; with the intent to spark the flame that they can take back to their local parish and work with other young adults.

Workshops Topics:

☺Single? No Problem! ☺Be Courageous ☺Be a Good Builder
☺Faith is Sweaty ☺Don't Stress, Be Blessed ☺If Time was God's Currency, How would You Spend It? ☺Building Community with Peers ☺¿AhoraQué? (Spanish workshop)

To Register or for more information visit:

www.diometuchin.org/vaconference.

Transportation is available from Southern New Jersey through Diocese of Camden's Young Adult Ministries. Departing 1/25/14 from St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 176 Stagecoach Road, Sicklerville, NJ at 8 a.m. Returning to the diocese about 7 p.m. To reserve space, please contact gregory.coogan@camdendiocese.org or 856-583-6122