

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

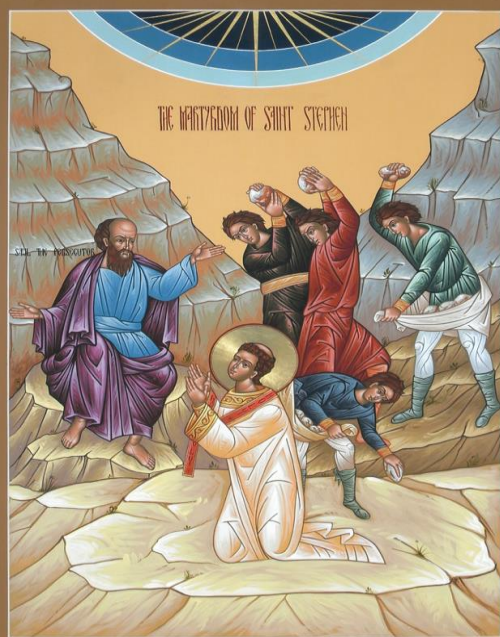
Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Parish Trustees
Rose Marie Davis
Keith Knight

Rectory Office Hours
Monday – Friday
9:00am - 4:30pm



Contact Info

Rectory Phone
(856) 662-9339

Rectory Fax
(856) 662-4679

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

Parish Email:
ecclesia@comcast.net

Parish Website:
www.StStephensPennsauken.com

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.*

January 14, 2018 – The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Mass: Monday thru Friday - 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

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

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

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

Miraculous Medal Novena – Thursday after 9am Mass.

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

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

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory.

Baptism – Call the Rectory for arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist –

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

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory.

Also call the rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

A Priest should be called if death is imminent.

Sponsors – Must be a Confirmed Catholic of at least 16 years of age in good standing and active. If married, must have been married in the Catholic Church.

Funerals – Arrangements must be made directly with a Funeral Home after notifying the Parish. All viewings should take place in the Funeral Home. Funeral planning brochures are available in the Rectory Office.

Marriage – arrangements must be made with a priest one 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.

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.

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 2019 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY	January 14, 2018
9:00am	Carmel Naples r/b Tilda Lamaina
10:30am	Theobald M. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone Leonard Zinicola (20 th Anniversary) r/b Daughters Jennie & Arthur Catino r/b Sons Sigmund, Henry and Carl
MONDAY	January 15, 2018 (Rectory Closed MLK Day)
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	January 16, 2018
9:00am	Charles Dunfee r/b Herbert & Nancy Schreiber
WEDNESDAY	January 17, 2018
9:00am	Rev. Walter Smith r/b People of the Parish
THURSDAY	January 18, 2018
9:00am/Novena	Father Anthony Thang r/b Vinh Nguyen
FRIDAY	January 19, 2018
9:00am	William McWilliams r/b Rose Davis
SATURDAY	January 20, 2018
4:30pm	Dolores Zubrzycki r/b Ed & Barb Weingard
SUNDAY	January 21, 2018
9:00am	Albert Corroda r/b M/M Michael A. Vogt
10:30am	William McWilliams r/b Terry Carr



The Sanctuary Candle this week is *In Memory of* **L.J. & Margaret Heck**

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.

January 6/7, 2018 Offertory Collection:	\$5,397
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,383

Special Collections / Envelopes:

January 14: "Parish Heating Fund" (St. Stephen)
 January 21: "Church in Latin America" (Diocese)
 January 28: "Catholic Schools Fund" (Diocese)
 February 14: "Eastern Europe/Ash Wednesday" (Diocese)

(Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)



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:

Joseph & Dolores Afilani, Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Eleanor Becker, Barbie Brown, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Lina Ciarrocchi, Edmund Ciccarone, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Carol Cranmer, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Biagio Dinoto, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Bernice Evans, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Angela Gallecchio, Antonio Genovese, Richard Gentile, Jr., Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Gregory Hayes, Mary Ann Hoffacker, Thomas Holmes Sr., Debra Knapp, Donna Krawchuk, Janet LaFreda-Hopkins, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Rosemarie Leonardo, Sam Loperfido, Sr., Michael Lopez, Joann Lunsford, Ken Maminski, Mary Ellen Mayer, William Mayer, Stella McCarthy, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Rosemary Murray, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Linda Petrilli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Patricia Ruhl, Dean & Mary Russell, John S., Helen Setzer, Joan Siperavage, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Keri Ann Taxis, Rick Taylor, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Mary Vivillo, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for January 20/21

Saturday, 4:30pm

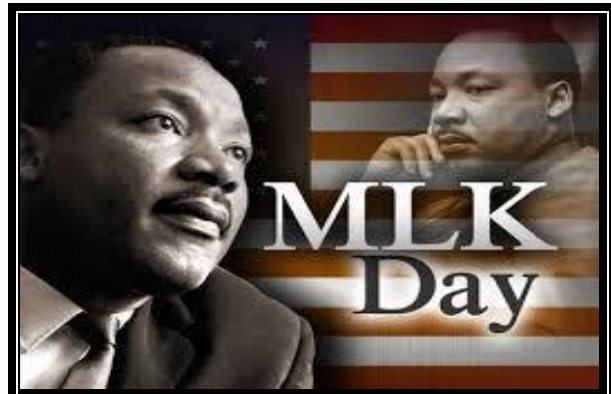
EM's: A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora
Lector: B. Mattia

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, R. Davis, M. Miller, R. Leone
Lectors: Jared Rivera, Joan Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: T. Angstman, J. Messina, T. Urgo, D. Urgo, T. Mattered
Lectors: R. Aleszczyk, J. Messina



On **Monday January 15th** we will observe the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a national holiday. **The Rectory and all Diocesan offices will be closed.**

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/15-Monday-9:00am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 1/16-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/17-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/18-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 1/19-Friday-9am Mass
- 1/20-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/21-Sunday-9am Mass, **Coffee/Pastries**, 10:30am Mass,



We are all on a journey, and God's word is a light to our path. Stop in and join us at the St. Stephen Ladies' Bible Study for reflections in scripture, lively discussions and fun!

When: Mondays from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where: St. Stephen Parish Center (next to the church)

Please contact Eileen Heide with any questions.

Phone or text: 610-805-5363 email: heides@comcast.net

*The woman who walks with God
Always reaches her destination!*

Tuesday Night Rosary

To Jesus Through Mary - 7:00-7:30pm @ Church

Come join us as we ask Our Lady to pray with us and for us. The tradition of the Church and the teachings of the Magisterium urge us to frequent recitation of the Hail Mary and the rosary. By keeping the name of Mary on our lips, we show our devotion to her. Mary's mantle is always present to protect those who are her own. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the pinnacle of God's creation. She is the most perfect, the greatest, the holiest human being ever to live. When we repeat her name, we greatly honor God her Creator. Mary never keeps any glory for herself. Her soul magnifies the Lord. (Lk 1:46)

Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue January 17th @ 6:15pm

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues Jan. 18th @ 7pm in the Parish Center.

We'll be discussing Prof. William R. Cook's

"The Catholic Church: A History"



All Are Welcome to Join Us!

Art & Environment Ministry

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass or would like to make a donation for a tree to honor a deceased loved one is asked to contact our A&E Chairperson Maria Haas at 665-8393.

Automatic E-Giving

St. Stephen Parish continues to provide Electronic Giving, or eGiving, as a simple, secure & convenient method for making contributions. E-Giving is being used by churches throughout the country and works similar to online bill paying. You may logon to www.StStephensPennsauken.com to set up your account.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

During the 10:30 AM Mass, children between the ages of 4 and 7 are invited to participate in the Liturgy of the Word for Children. Before the 1st Reading, children will be called forward. Led by adults they will process to the Parish Center where they will hear the readings and participate in activities that will help them to begin to better understand the meaning of God's Word. At the Offertory Procession, the children will be led back to Mass where they will rejoice their parents. We hope that you will allow your children to participate in this religious education experience.

Parish Library

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for all your Winter reading needs! We have a wide variety of books and CDs for all ages, which are available to be borrowed. Please stop by after Masses.

Hours: Saturday, 5:30-6:00pm

Sunday, 10:00-10:30; 11:30-12:00

Prayer Pavers to Our Lady

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 order forms are on our website and in the rectory office. If there is a particular place, possibly near a loved one already on the walkway that you'd like a paver to be placed, please contact Michael Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799 or Ciarrocca@juno.com.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests in the month of **January**, contact

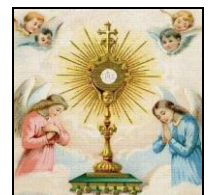
Lois @ 856-665-1221.

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be

Friday, February 2, 2018

from 9:45am-7:00pm.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye,
Come One, Come All
To Coffee and Pastries,
At the Parish Hall!



Sunday, January 21st
After the
9:00am & 10:30am Masses

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**Township of Pennsauken**

December 29, 2017

To the Parishioners of St. Stephen Parish,

For over twenty years the **Pennsauken Angel Tree Program** has assisted Pennsauken and Merchantville families who have struggled financially during the holiday season. This program is funded 100% by toy and cash donations from local businesses, community organizations, residents and Township employees. Volunteers spend many hours delivering the toys to less fortunate families in our community.

Because of your very generous donation, we were able to help **50 families** experience the magic of Christmas and show the true meaning of the Holiday Season. So on behalf of Pennsauken Township, I would like to thank you for caring for these families in Pennsauken/Merchantville and want to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank You,  
**Betsy McBride, Mayor**

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Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.

Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? *Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship.* Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you to learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 16 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Camden Catholic High School News

The Arts at CCHS Presents "Anything Goes"
Tickets \$12-Visit www.cchsperformingarts.com
or call 856-663-2247 ext. 120

Performances:

March 2, 3, 9 & 10 at 7:30 p.m. and March 4 & 11 at 2 p.m.
Grandi Auditorium at CCHS:
300 Cuthbert Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

This musical theater masterpiece featuring songs and lyrics by the legendary Cole Porter and set aboard the S.S. American will be sure to delight audiences with legendary music and dance numbers including "De-Lovely," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "All Through the Night," and "Anything Goes." Join us to be entertained by the talented performing arts and music students of Camden Catholic High School.

Admissions Information Night:

Thursday, February 1 from 7-9 p.m.

Whether you are an 8th grader still making your decision about high school, or a 6th or 7th grader planning for your future, please join us to learn more about the admissions process, curriculum, arts and athletics at Camden Catholic High School. This is a general information session in which you will have the opportunity to meet our students, faculty and administration, tour our campus, and have your questions answered. RSVP at www.camdenatholic.org/admissionsevents, call the Admissions Office at 856-663-2247 ext. 136 or email janet.indelicato@camdenatholic.org.

8th Graders:

Freshman Registration is **Saturday, February 24** from 8-11 a.m. Admissions Applications for the Class of 2022 may be submitted on a rolling basis. Please submit your application for admission as soon as possible in order to be considered for a spot in the CCHS Class of 2022.

Visit www.camdenatholic.org/admissions.

Irish Experience Guest Days

Only a few dates remain this year for 8th grade students to visit for a day at Camden Catholic High School. Experience the tradition, feel the passion, catch the spirit of being a student at CCHS, the only school in South Jersey with a Leadership Academy. Select your day at www.camdenatholic.org/admissionsevents or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule: janet.indelicato@camdenatholic.org or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

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**10<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK Celebration**

**Holy Eucharist Parish**

**344 Kresson Road, Cherry Hill, NJ,**

**Sunday, January 14 ~ 2:00 pm**

Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus, Cherry Hill Township and the Cherry Hill African American Civic Association. The program will offer singing, dancing, and comments from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and guest speakers. The hour program will be followed by a reception with a wide variety of refreshments supplied by Shoprite of Lawnside. Free admission! Email Jim Peeler, Knights of Columbus Council 3783 with any questions at [jimmiep@aol.com](mailto:jimmiep@aol.com).

# Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

**John 1:35–42**

*John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God,  
and Jesus receives his first followers.*

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels. In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?