

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

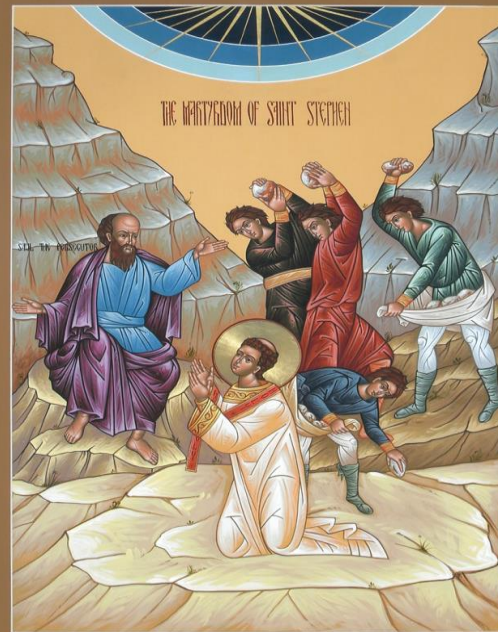
Pastoral Staff

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 28, 2018 – The Fourth 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 28, 2018
9:00am	Elsie Hayden r/b Rita Vogt and Family
10:30am	William Sauer r/b Family
MONDAY	January 29, 2018
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	January 30, 2018
9:00am	Robert Madden r/b People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY	January 31, 2018
9:00am	In Thanksgiving for our Nursing Home Ministry
THURSDAY	February 1, 2018
9:00am/Novena	A Special Intention r/b Philadelphia Eagles Fans
FRIDAY	February 2, 2018 (First Friday Adoration)
9:00am	Louis Buondonno r/b Daughter
SATURDAY	February 3, 2018
4:30pm	Daniel F. Beckett r/b Joe & Maria Haas
SUNDAY	February 4, 2018
9:00am	Gloria Vendetti r/b Husband Anthony Vendetti
10:30am	Pauline Wilson r/b Jack & Maryanne Merritt Marci Loubier r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood



The Sanctuary Candle this week is *In Memory of* **Deacon Ernie Picknally**

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 20/21, 2018 Offertory Collection: \$4,884
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,394

Special Collections / Envelopes:

January 28: "Catholic Schools Fund" (Diocese)
February 14: "Eastern Europe/Ash Wednesday" (Diocese)
February 18: "Black & Indian Missions" (Diocese)
(Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)

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**If you are concerned about contracting the FLU,**  
 it is not necessary to exchange the Sign of Peace  
 by shaking hands or receive the Precious Blood.  
**The choice is yours.**



**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 Viviello, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

### Ministry Schedule for February 3/4

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**EM's:** A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora  
**Lectors:** Joan Rivera, Jared Rivera

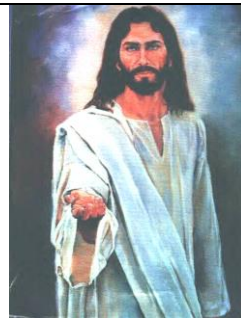
**Sunday, 9:00am**

**EM's:** L. Monaco, M. Monaco, R. Davis, M. Bufanio, R. Leone  
**Lectors:** D. Steinmetz, M. Miller

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**EM's:** T. Angstman, T. Scavuzzo, W. Delfin, T. Urgo, D. Urgo  
**Lector:** J. Messina

## A SPECIAL INVITATION



"O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine."

### First Friday Adoration February 2, 2018

"A Genius conceives a masterpiece... He is delighted with it; he will realize it by every possible means and at the cost of any sacrifice.

He is dominated by his masterpiece; he sees it continually.

Well, ( in like manner) fix your mind on our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament and ponder on his love."

*Saint Peter Julian Eymard*

**RSVP to Rosemarie Leone  
@ 856-662-0035.**

### *This Week @ St. Stephen Parish*

- 1/29-Monday-9:00am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 1/30-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/31-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/1-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 2/2-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 2/3-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 2/4-Sunday-9am Mass, 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 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6:15pm**

### **Thursday Night Discussion Club**

Continues Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> @ 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!



### **Knights of Columbus, Council 3512 Hoagie Sale**

As a charity fundraiser, our Knights of Columbus council will be selling fresh hoagies @ \$5.00 & \$6.00 each after all Masses the weekend of **February 3 & 4**. For info call 856-227-4980.

### **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](http://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 rejoin 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](mailto: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.**

In **February** contact

**Bernadette @ 609-220-6359**

## Paul VI High School News

### Paul VI High School ANNUAL 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE WINTER

DANCE. Eighth grade students are invited to Paul VI High School for the annual 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Dance on Friday, February 2nd from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Admission is \$5 for students who make reservations prior to Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, \$8 at the door. Reservations are available by visiting the ADMISSIONS EVENTS page of the Paul VI website, [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org). Each student must present a completed, signed permission form to be admitted. Permission forms are available on the school website, [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org).

### Paul VI PROSPECTIVE PARENTS' WINE & CHEESE

will be held on Friday, February 2nd from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Paul VI Dining Hall. Parents are invited to meet current PVI parents and staff at this annual, informal event. For reservations, please visit the ADMISSIONS EVENTS page of the Paul VI website, [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org).

### Paul VI High School REGISTRATION FOR ACCEPTED STUDENTS.

Paul VI High School congratulates those students accepted into the Class of 2022! Registration will take place at the school on Saturday, February 24th, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Questions about registration, or inquiries to apply to Paul VI, may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, (856) 858-4900 ext. 336, or [kstewart@pvihs.org](mailto:kstewart@pvihs.org).

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Good Counsel Homes Fundraiser

St. Margaret's Knights of Columbus Council invites you to an evening of dining, craft beers, dancing, and opportunity to win lots of prizes and help our babies!

St. Margaret's Knights of Columbus Council is hosting Good Counsel Homes Annual Beef and Beer Buffet and Basket Fund Raiser, February 24, 2018 at Infant Jesus Parish, (St. Margaret's Gym) in Woodbury Heights. Doors open at 6pm. You will be able to dine at an all you can eat buffet, listen to music by John Childress, participate in 50- 50 raffles and win beautiful gift baskets. All proceeds will benefit the moms and babies of Good Counsel Homes, Riverside. Advance tickets are \$30 pp and at the door- ticket prices will be \$35.00. Bring your family and friends - we promise it to be a rewarding evening in many different ways especially knowing you are helping those less fortunate. For tickets call Rob 856-649-9519; or email DIETRICH RW @AOL.COM. See you there!

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.



Add Your Voice

St. Stephen's Choir, aka Wing-Its, is looking for singers to expand the choir. While all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) are welcomed and encouraged to join, we specifically have a need for altos, tenors, and basses. Choir gathers in the church on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, with rehearsals lasting 60-90 minutes. There is an occasional extra rehearsal as we near Christmas and Easter.

Only three things are required: a love of singing, your presence at rehearsal, and above all, the desire to praise God in song!

If you're interested in joining our group, please see **Nancy Werner-Kaiser, Director**, or one of the members. Or, just come to the church on **Thursday at 7:00pm**. We would love to meet you, and now is a great time to join as we will soon start to prepare for Lent and the Church's Holiest Season, Easter!

**We know you're out there,
we hear you singing!**



Join the Choir...
**You'll Be Glad
You Did!**

Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28

*Jesus heals a man with an unclean spirit
and his fame spreads throughout Galilee.*

Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath.

Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes'. Early in Mark's Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.

After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.