

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.*

December 31, 2017 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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 9:00am	December 31, 2017 (Feast of the Holy Family) Edward J. Reilly (99 th Birthday Remembrance) r/b Frank & Rita Miller
10:30am	Louise Pigliacelli (8 th Anniversary) r/b Her Husband, Frank Joseph Catalani r/b Renee & Gina Gentile
MONDAY 9:00am	January 1, 2018 (Mary, Holy Mother of God) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY 9:00am	January 2, 2018 William McWilliams r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	January 3, 2018 Anna J. Vespe r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	January 4, 2018 William McWilliams r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 5, 2018 (First Friday Adoration) The Deceased Members of the Marano Family r/b Sal Marano
SATURDAY 4:30pm	January 6, 2018 Jean Costello r/b Ed & Barb Weingard
SUNDAY 9:00am	January 7, 2018 (The Epiphany of the Lord) Mark Springer r/b The McHugh Family
10:30am	Olga Mignone r/b Donald Mignone



The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of Louise Pigliacelli

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.

Offertory Figures for December 23/24/25 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on 12/22/17.

2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,347

Special Collections / Envelopes:

January 1: "Solemnity of Mary" (St. Stephen)
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

January 21: "Parish Heating Fund" (St. Stephen)
January 28: "Church in Latin America" (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 Cicarone, 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, Harry, Mary Ellen & William Mayer, Stella McCarthy, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Rosemary Murray, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogen, 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 6/7

Saturday, 4:30pm

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

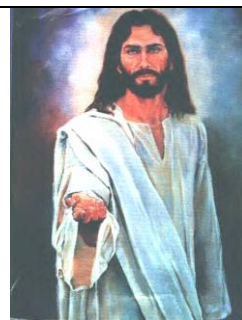
Sunday, 9:00am

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

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: M. Meloni, M. Conway, T. Angstman, T. Urgo, D. Urgo
Lectors: J. Messina, M. Turan

A SPECIAL INVITATION



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

First Friday Adoration January 5, 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

- 1/1-Monday-9:00am Mass, Rectory Closed New Year's Day
- 1/2-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/3-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/4-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 1/5-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 1/6-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/7-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 3rd @ 6:15pm

Thursday Night Discussion Club

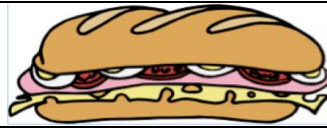
Continues Jan. 4th @ 7pm in the Parish Center.

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 **January 6 & 7**. 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 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.

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**.

Angel Tree Appreciation

Thank you to all those who donated Angel Tree gifts to help the children in the Pennsauken area and a special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for fulfilling the role as Santa's reindeers in delivering the large assortment of gifts to the Municipal Building in Pennsauken.

Discovering Christ Series

Holy Eucharist Parish, Cherry Hill invites you to join us for Discovering Christ, a dynamic new series where anyone is welcome to share a delicious dinner, explore life's meaning, and foster a personal relationship with God. This 7 week program offers free dinner, free childcare, talks and discussion. If you are wondering Where you can find answers, How to achieve peace and tranquility, How you can begin a better life for yourself and your family, and Why Jesus matters, then this program is for you!

Please join us on
**Thursday evenings, 6:45 to 9:15 pm,
January 4 ~ February 15, 2018.**

To register, please call Evelyn at 856-429-1330 or email her at evelyn@holyeucharistcherryhill.org

To register online, go to <https://holyeucharistdiscoveringchrist2018.eventbrite.com>.
Registration is required!

Catholics Fight Racism: A Day of Prayer, Education, & Action

**Saturday, January 13, 2018 (NEW DATE)
10:00 am — 3:00 pm
St. Charles Borromeo Parish
176 Stagecoach Rd, Sicklerville | \$12**

In the face of racism in this country, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. What can we do to promote racial justice in our own communities? This year's annual Diocese of Camden Life & Justice Gathering is designed to help Catholics throughout South Jersey reflect on how they can fight racism in their parishes, schools, homes, and hearts. Through a process of reflection, dialogue, prayer, and education, the day will begin to equip you to work for racial justice. Intended for clergy and lay leaders and volunteers with an interest in building a more just world. Buy tickets and get more information at www.camdendiocese.org/fightracism.

The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

Do you know what these principles are and what they ask of us? What principle of Catholic Social Teaching stirs the most passion in you? Sr. Diane will engage participants as we study together all Seven Justice Principles.

**Sister Diane Guerin, RSM
Social Justice Minister and Consultant
Monday January 8, 22, 29, 2018
9:45AM Parish Hall**

Call the Parish Office to Register (424-3212)

Paul VI Slam Dunk Tours

The Paul VI Eagles are ready to soar! Please join us for a special pre-game tour of our beautiful school, followed by an exciting Paul VI home basketball game:

**Paul VI Boys vs. Lenape, Saturday, January 13, 2018,
Tours at noon, Game at 1 PM**

Reservations are appreciated; please visit www.pvihs.org for more information or to make a reservation. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Please come to the gym entrance at tour time; students and an accompanying adult will receive a complimentary game passes.

Questions? Please email Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, Director of Admissions at kstewart@pvihs.org.



Did You Receive the Perfect Christmas Gift Last Week?

Jesus is the only perfect Christmas present you will ever receive. His birth is the true meaning of Christmas and the gifts He brings will never disappoint...

11 GIFTS THAT JESUS BRINGS

1. The gift of a Savior: “And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” – Matthew 1:21

2. The gift of Love: “I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.” - Jer. 31:3

3. The gift of Grace: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” – Ephesians 2:8

4. The gift of Peace: “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.” – John 14:27

5. The gift of God’s Holy Spirit: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you...” – Acts 1:8

6. The gift of a brand new life: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” – 2 Corinthians 5:17

7. The gift of Freedom from bondage and sin: “So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.” – Romans 8:1-2

8. The gift of supernatural strength: “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” – Philippians 4:13

9. The gift of Purpose: “For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11

10. The gift of prayer/ direct access to God: “And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.”
-1 John 5:14-15

11. The gift of Hope: “I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.” - Romans 15:13

**May God Bless You
with the True Gifts of Christmas!**
(Submitted by our Ladies’ Bible Study Group)

Prayer for Families

Loving God,
 During this holy season of Christmas,
 we ask for your blessing on all
 families.


Let Mary’s openness to your
 wondrous ways be an inspiration
 to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph’s courage provide hope
 during times of anxiety and
 uncertainty.

Let Jesus’ life ignite all families with
 a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the
 Holy Family widen to embrace all
 families.

For this we pray.
 Amen.



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