

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

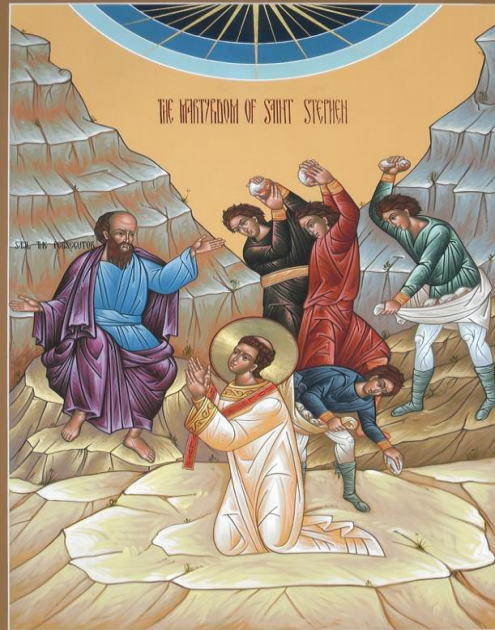
Pastoral Staff

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.*

February 4, 2018 – The Fifth 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 9:00am	February 4, 2018 Gloria Vendetti r/b Husband Anthony Vendetti
10:30am	Pauline Wilson r/b Jack & Maryanne Merritt Marc Loubier r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood
MONDAY 9:00am	February 5, 2018 In Thanksgiving for our Ladies Bible Study Group
TUESDAY 9:00am	February 6, 2018 In Thanksgiving for our 7pm Rosary Group
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	February 7, 2018 In Thanksgiving for our Religious Education Teachers and Students
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	February 8, 2018 In Thanksgiving for our Adult Education Class
FRIDAY 9:00am	February 9, 2018 People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
SATURDAY 4:30pm	February 10, 2018 Anne Ferrante r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
SUNDAY 9:00am	February 11, 2018 Albert Corroda r/b Rita Vogt & Family
10:30am	William McWilliams r/b Frank Pigliacelli



The Sanctuary Candle this week is *In Memory of* *The Unborn Children*

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 27/28, 2018 Offertory Collection: **\$4,848**
 2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: **\$4,600**
 Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: **\$4,408**

Special Collections / Envelopes:

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

~~~~~

**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, Gene Leone, Sam & Nancy Loperfido, 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 February 10/11

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

EM's: A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, A. Rende, A. Knight, V. Thibault  
Lector: J. Melfi

**Sunday, 9:00am**

EM's: E. Nolte, T. Modzier, L. D'Alessandro, M. Conway, R. Leone  
Lectors: D. Heck, P. Nolte

**Sunday, 10:30am**

EM's: T. Mattered, G. Tutwiler, M. Meloni, T. Angstman, M. Miller  
Lectors: M. Turan, R. Aleszczyk  
CLOW: L. Yeager

### *Diaconate Vocations* *Where Love Becomes Service*

- \* Do you see in yourself the gifts needed for helping others?
- \* Are you drawn to pray and listen to the Word of God?
- \* Do you participate actively in Church ministry?
- \* Are you between the ages of 30 & 55?

The Office of the Diaconate is currently accepting applications from men discerning a call to ordained ministry. If you would like to learn more about the ministry of the deacon, visit our website at [www.camdendeacon.org](http://www.camdendeacon.org) or call 856-583-2858.

***Is God calling you to Serve?***

***Let us help you answer that call.***

The Office of the Diaconate is supported by the House of Charity - Bishop's Annual Appeal

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

- 2/5-Monday-9:00am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 2/6-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 2/7-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/8-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 2/9-Friday-9am Mass
- 2/10-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 2/11-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 February 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15pm**

### **Thursday Night Discussion Club**

Continues Feb. 8<sup>th</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!**

### **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 rejoice their parents. We hope that you will allow your children to participate in this religious education experience.

### **First Friday Adoration**

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, March 2, 2018 from 9:45am-7:00pm.**



### **House of Charity Alert**

As we launch the 2018 House of Charity Campaign, please check your mailing received at home and verify that the pledge is directed to St. Stephen Parish at 6306 Browning Road in Pennsauken. Many envelopes were mistakenly earmarked to be mailed back to St. Simon Stock's address in Berlin. This error was reported and corrective action has been made by the HOC. It may be best to place your pledges in the Offertory collection.

### **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 February contact **Bernadette @ 609-220-6359**

### Diocesan Black History Month Mass

Join Msgr. Leonard G. Scott, homilist Rev. Manuel B. Williams, and the Diocesan Gospel Choir on Sun., Feb.18, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 176 Stagecoach Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081. A light reception will follow.

~~~~~

Camden Catholic High School News

The Arts at CCHS Presents "Anything Goes"

Tickets \$12-Visit www.cchsp performingarts.com or call 856-663-2247 ext. 120

Performances:

March 2, 3, 9 & 10 at 7:30 pm, March 4 & 11 at 2 pm

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.

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.camden catholic.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.camden catholic.org/admissionsevents or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule: janet.indelicato@camden catholic.org or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

~~~~~

### Gloucester Catholic High School News

Save the Date" Gloucester Catholic High School's Registration Day-Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 9:00am until 12:00pm. Gloucester Catholic's Main Building Cafeteria. For more info email Mr. Tom Flynn in the Admissions office [tflynn@gchsrams.org](mailto:tflynn@gchsrams.org)

Become a "Ram for the Day". Experience the Difference" of the GC Family! You can schedule a guest day by visiting [www.gchsrams.org](http://www.gchsrams.org) and click on the Ram for a day link. You can also email Mr. Tom Flynn in the Admissions office [tflynn@gchsrams.org](mailto:tflynn@gchsrams.org)

## Paul VI High School News

Paul VI High School presents MARY POPPINS. Please join us for a stellar production of this family favorite in our beautiful theater. Evening performances will be held at Paul VI on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, and March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.; Matinee is at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$12 each for general admission, and may be reserved by emailing [nestrella@pvihs.org](mailto:nestrella@pvihs.org).

MARY POPPINS Dinner Theater at Paul VI. Meet the talented cast and crew of MARY POPPINS at a special dinner theater production held on Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>. Your admission includes a buffet dinner from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. featuring appetizers, dinner, dessert and a reserved seat for the Saturday evening performance at 7:30. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$13 for children 10 & under.

For more information and reservations, please email [kristin.king25@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.king25@gmail.com).

Paul VI Alumni Night at the Play. PVI Alumni are invited to visit their alma mater for the Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 p.m. performance of MARY POPPINS. General admission tickets for \$12 can be reserved by contacting [nestrella@pvihs.org](mailto:nestrella@pvihs.org). To register for the complimentary wine and cheese held before the show from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., please visit the website, [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org).

~~~~~

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!

~~~~~

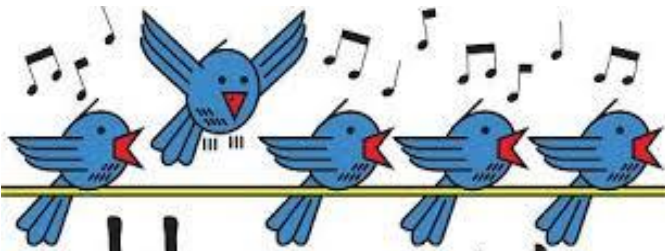
### Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If this year, 2018, you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary of 25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more, Please join us in celebrating Mass with Bishop Dennis Sullivan Sunday, June 10, 2018 (A light reception will follow in the parish hall.)

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
500 Greentree Road in Glassboro, NJ 08028

Registration forms are available through your local parish. Deadline is May 18, 2018.

For more information please contact your parish office.



# 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 1:29-39**

*Jesus cures Simon's mother-in-law  
and many others as well.*

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, learning more about the ministry of Jesus. Jesus cured Simon's mother-in-law, and she immediately began to serve Jesus and his disciples. Jesus also cured many others who were brought to him, healing their illnesses and driving out demons. As we will see throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus did not permit the demons to speak because they knew his identity and would have revealed it to those who were present.

On the morning after this busy day, Jesus retreated in prayer, but was pursued by Simon and others who brought news that many people were looking for him. At this point in Mark's Gospel, we begin to see a distinct role for the inner circle of Jesus' disciples—they act as intermediaries between Jesus and the people. Jesus reports to his disciples that they need to leave Capernaum to preach in other places.

Today's Gospel completes a picture of Jesus' ministry: preaching, curing the sick, driving out demons, and then moving on to continue this work in another place. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus did this throughout Galilee.

Jesus' compassion and healing of the sick is a sign of the Kingdom of God. The Church continues to extend Christ's healing presence to others in its ministry to the sick. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church prays for spiritual and physical healing, forgiveness of sins, and comfort for those who are suffering from illness.

In today's Gospel we also notice the importance of prayer in Jesus' daily life. Jesus rose early in the morning, removed himself from the crowds, and went to a deserted place to pray. When the disciples found him, he told them that it was time to move on. We believe that in his prayers Jesus found guidance and direction from God. We also bring our decision-making to God in prayer, asking for his guidance and direction in our lives.