

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



Pentecost

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.*

The Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday - May 20, 2018

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	May 20, 2018
9:00am	John Papiano r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Catherine M. Schneider r/b The McHugh Family Joseph Murtin r/b Joe & Maria Haas
MONDAY	May 21, 2018
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	May 22, 2018
9:00am	For Anastasia Rose Condon and Her Parents
WEDNESDAY	May 23, 2018
9:00am	In Memory of Jerry Ossowski
THURSDAY	May 24, 2018
9:00am/Novena	Helen Henry r/b Mary Jane & Andy Salmonsens
FRIDAY	May 25, 2018
9:00am	For St. Stephen's Veterans – Living & Deceased
SATURDAY	May 26, 2018
4:30pm	For Father Daniel Rocco on his 28 th Anniversary
SUNDAY	May 27, 2018
9:00am	Lavern Rowand r/b Lisa Rosario
10:30am	James Dillon r/b The Haas Family



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.

May 12/13, 2018 Offertory Collection:	\$3,955
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,370

Upcoming Special Collections / Envelopes:

- June 17: "Support of Seminarians" (Diocese)**
- July 1: "Holy Father/Peter's Pence" (Diocese)**
- July 8: "Pastoral Solidarity in Africa" (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, Esther DeMarco, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Biagio Dinoto, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Bernice Evans, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Angela Gallecchio, Richard Gentile, Jr., Joseph Gerst, Chase Gilchrist, 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, Dean & Mary Russell, John S., Helen Setzer, Joan Siperavage, Nancy Sonnie, Michael Sponburgh, 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 May 26/27

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: L. D'Alessandro, A. Knight, C. Pandola, Sr. Eleanora, R. Davis
Lectors: Joan Rivera, Jared Rivera

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: M. Miller, E. Nolte, T. Modzier, M. Conway, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, P. Nolte

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: T. Urgo, D. Urgo, T. Scavuzzo, K. Fagan, J. Fagan
Lector: J. Messina
CLOW: TBD

Stewardship Reflection

"Stewards Give Back"

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."

- 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances; God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts in *Stewardship* is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do and guess what – we are not all called to do the same thing!

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

5/21-Monday-9am Mass
5/22-Tues.-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7pm Fire Co. Mtg.
5/23-Wednesday-9am Mass
5/24-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
5/25-Friday-9am Mass
5/26-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
5/27-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

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 in the Fall

Thursday Night Discussion Club
Continues May 24th @ 7pm in the Rectory.
We'll be discussing Prof. William R. Cook's
"The Catholic Church: A History"



All Are Welcome to Join Us!

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be
Friday, June 1
9:45am-7:00pm



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.

Choir – New Members Welcome!

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

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 **May** contact **Maryann @ 856-333-6525**

House of Charity Appeal

2018 House of Charity y-t-d \$16,385 (34.1%)
2018 House of Charity Goal \$48,018

Thank you to the **66 families** that have given generously thus far. If you have not pledged as yet, extra pledge cards are available in the rectory and church vestibule.

Knights of Columbus Diaper Drive

The Knights of Columbus Council 3512 will be collecting diapers to be donated to Catholic Charities and Guadeloupe Family Services. Please bring diapers, pull-ups and baby wipes to Church on the weekends of **May 26/27, June 2/3, and June 9/10**. Your donation will help the families that decided to save their Child over Abortion. Thank you for your support.

Camden Catholic High School News

Summer Athletic Camps, Arts and Academic Programs

Keep your student busy this summer! Explore the many options available for summer camp at CCHS. Visit www.camdenatholic.org/summercamps for dates, details and registration information. Academic & arts programs include: theater, fine art, music, digital art, forensic science, writing & presentation skills, algebra II, study skills, HSPT prep. Athletic camps: baseball, girls lacrosse, field hockey, boys and girls basketball and softball. Please register by June 15 for arts and academic programs.

8th Graders:

Limited Space Remains in the CCHS Class of 2022

Admissions Applications for the Class of 2022 may be submitted on a rolling basis but limited spots remain. Please submit your application as soon as possible in order to be considered for a spot in the CCHS Class of 2022. Visit www.camdenatholic.org/admissions.

Together in Prayer

A prayer group for the LGBT community, their families, loved ones and allies, will gather at 6:30 p.m. at the Parish Center of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Turnersville on **May 20th**. Beginning in June the group will meet on the LAST Sunday of each month. All are welcome to join us for prayer. For more information, please call Christine at 207-240-5254.

Memorial Day Mass Schedule Remembering Those Who Have Served and Who Have Gone Before Us

Memorial Day Masses are held in most of our Catholic Cemeteries to honor those who have served our country and paid with the ultimate sacrifice. For a complete listing of locations and times, please visit us at SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org.

“Called to be Fully Alive in Christ”

Explore an ancient tool, the Enneagram, that provides understanding of our humanity. Developed by Christian and Sufi mystics, it has been used for generations to help persons grow into spiritual maturity. The presenter is Sr. Eileen Smith, RSM. This program will be offered at St. Thomas More Parish, Cherry Hill on **Tuesday June 5, 12, and Thursday June 14** at 9:45AM in the Parish Hall. Please call the parish office to register (424-3212).

Catholic Charities CARS Program

IT IS SPRING CLEANING TIME. IT IS TIME TO CHECK YOUR GARAGE, YARD OR OTHER AREAS FOR UNUSED, OLD VEHICLES AND TO DONATE YOUR VEHICLE(S) TO: Catholic Charities (Diocese of Camden) Charitable Auto Resources for Services (CARS) Program.

The Catholic Charities CARS program accepts any type of vehicle, running or non-running: cars, vans, trucks, boats, mobile homes, motorcycles, golf carts, etc. Free towing and IRS tax deduction forms are provided for your donation. To donate your vehicle, call toll free: 1 – 877 – 586 – 9227, and PLEASE MENTION YOU ARE DONATING YOUR VEHICLE TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF CAMDEN. You can also donate your used vehicle online at: www.catholiccharitiescamden.org All proceeds from the Catholic Charities CARS program benefit needy individuals and families in parishes and throughout the 6 counties of South Jersey. Thank you very much for helping the needy in our Diocese.

Our Lady of Peace Carnival June 25-30

Our Lady of Peace/St. Mary’s Church in Williamstown will hold its Annual Carnival from Monday June 25th thru Saturday June 30th from 6:00pm to 10:00pm on the church grounds. Featured will be games, rides, amusements, refreshments of all kinds, and of course, fun for all ages. On Tuesday & Wednesday from 6pm to closing Family Night will be held with unlimited rides for \$25 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

MARRIED COUPLES:

Does gardening give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you lovingly planted the seeds of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you the “gardening tools” you need to help your marriage grow and blossom.

The next weekend dates are **Oct. 19-21 and Dec. 7-9, 2018.**

Call **609-741-8012** for information
or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org.
Visit our website: wwme-southjersey.org.

WHAT IS PENTECOST?



The word itself means “fiftieth”. Pentecost is 50 days after Easter and ten days after the Ascension of our Lord into heaven.

Jesus fulfilled his promise to send the Holy Spirit at Pentecost .

7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Reflection on the Gospel Reading for Pentecost Sunday – May 20, 2018

John 20:19-23

Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The season of Easter concludes with today’s celebration, the feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today’s first reading. The account in today’s Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John’s Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is to we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an Advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

In the context of the feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus’ act of breathing the Holy Spirit upon the apostles mirrors God’s act of breathing life into Adam. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for “spirit” can also be translated as “breath.” This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church’s sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiveness of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.