

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

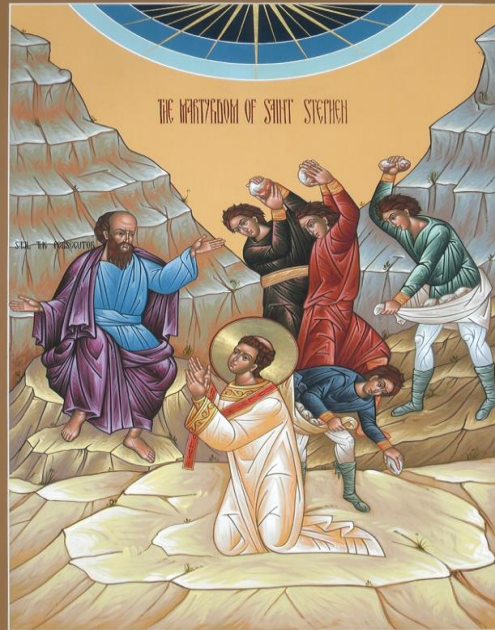
Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Parish Trustees
Rose Marie Davis
Keith Knight

Rectory Summer Hours
Monday–Thursday 9am-4:30pm
Friday 9:30am-2:00pm
(Through August 31)



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 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 17, 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	June 17, 2018 (Father's Day)
9:00am	Louis Buondonno r/b His Daughter
10:30am	William Sauer r/b His Family
MONDAY	June 18, 2018
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	June 19, 2018
9:00am	Elaine Nutter r/b People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY	June 20, 2018
9:00am	Gene Leone r/b People of the Parish
THURSDAY	June 21, 2018
9:00am/Novena	Joseph Bonafiglia r/b The Rocco Family
FRIDAY	June 22, 2018
9:00am	In Thanksgiving for the Sale of our Parish Center and Land
SATURDAY	June 23, 2018
4:30pm	John Gerst r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
SUNDAY	June 24, 2018
9:00am	Norman & Phyllis Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Jacqueline Catino r/b Her Loving Husband, Carl



The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of
Nick DiLaurentis

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.

June 9/10, 2018 Offertory Collection: \$4,415
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,390

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 Ciccicone, 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, 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 Vivioello, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Please contact the Parish Office @ 856-662-9338, x6 if you wish to continue to keep your loved one's name on the above Sick List. Every June 30th all names will be removed if we are not contacted annually. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule for June 23/24

Saturday, 4:30pm

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

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: M. Conway, E. Nolte, T. Modzier, L. D'Alessandro, R. Davis
Lectors: M. Miller, Jared Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: D. Urgo, T. Urgo, G. Tutwiler, T. Scavuzzo
Lectors: J.Messina, M. Turan
CLOW: TBD

Stewardship Reflection "Good Stewardship"

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive good or evil, according to what he has done in the body." - 2 CORINTHIANS 5:10

We are all accountable for the *Stewardship* of the gifts God has given us – our time, our talent and our treasure. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 6/18-Monday-9am Mass
- 6/19-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 6/20-Wednesday-9am Mass
- 6/21-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena
- 6/22-Friday-9am Mass
- 6/23-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 6/24-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

Will Resume in September

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Will Resume in September

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be
Friday, July 6 9:45am-7:00pm



Catholic Charities Prison Ministry

The South Jersey Prisons are in great need of Catholic Laity to bring Jesus' love, hope and support to the people residing in these prisons. Please consider the possibility of using your gifts and talents in response to Jesus' call to us – *"I was in prison and you visited me."*

For information, contact Sister Mary Cronin, Prison Ministry Coordinator of Catholic Charities, at mary.cronin@camdendiocese.org or phone, 856-342-4106. Learn more about the prison ministry at: <http://catholiccharitiescamden.org/prison-ministry/>.

Art & Environment Ministry

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass is asked to contact our A&E Chairperson **Maria Haas at (856) 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 **June** contact
Lois @ 856-665-1221



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.

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### Rectory Office Summer Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 9:00am – 4:30pm  
Friday: 9:30am – 2:00pm

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Man-Up South Jersey: A Men's Spirituality Conference

On November 10, 2018, Catholic men from across South Jersey will come together for a spirituality conference at the Paul VI Conference Center in Haddon Heights, NJ.

Through inspirational talks and discussions, these men will leave equipped to become better sons, fathers, and husbands....better men.

The day-long event, includes powerful speakers, time for Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and will conclude with Mass celebrated by our Bishop, Dennis Sullivan.

If you desire to become the man that God intended you to be, join us on November 10th.

Register now and save!
www.manupsouthjersey.com

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### Rutgers Catholic Campus Ministry

The Catholic Campus Ministry at Rutgers University-Camden asks each parishioner to pray for our students, and to encourage them to continue attending weekend Masses in the parish, and to become leaders and examples in parish youth ministry. We urge all incoming students at Rutgers-Camden to contact us as soon as they arrive on campus, and join us in a journey of faith.

**If you are going to Rutgers-Camden, please let us know!**

Fr. Kristof Wtorek: [Camden.CM@camdendiocese.org](mailto:Camden.CM@camdendiocese.org)

Sr. Dorothy Gilooley, SSJ:

[Sr.DorothyGilooley@camdendiocese.org](mailto:Sr.DorothyGilooley@camdendiocese.org)

Since renovating the rectory office space to accommodate CCD Classes in the Fall, we've  
**Revised Our Telephone Extensions:**



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Knights Blood Drive June 21st

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive at St. Cecilia's school on Thursday June 21 from 1:30 pm 6:30 pm. For more information, please call Lonnie at 856-662-6049.

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### Gloucester Catholic News

#### Gloucester Catholic Alumni Fr. Sullivan Golf Tournament

The Fr. Sullivan Golf Tournament will be held at the Pitman Golf Club on Monday, **June 18th**. Registration will begin at 12 noon. A putting contest will precede the 1:30 shotgun start. As usual, our format will be best ball of foursome. This golf tournament is named for Rev. John Sullivan who spent over twenty years of his life serving the Gloucester Catholic community. "Sully" was a friend to all who came in contact with him. We name the tournament in his honor to carry on the spirit of commitment that he gave to Gloucester Catholic.

Profit from this tournament help fund Alumni Scholarships and the Athletic Department. For more information please contact Pat Moughan 609-970-1822 or via e-mail at patrickmoughan@gmail.com

#### Rams Basketball School

The Rams Basketball School for boys entering grade 3rd through 9th will again be held this summer at Gloucester Catholic High School. The camp will be under the direction of Mr. Pat Murphy former head coach of Gloucester Catholic High School. The camp will be offered **July 23rd to July 26th**. To receive a brochure please e-mail Pmurphy@gchsrams.org

## Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

*Mark 4:26–34*

**The reign of God is like a mustard seed.**

After Lent, the Easter season, and three Sundays of feast days—Pentecost, Most Holy Trinity, and Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ—the Church returns to Ordinary Time. This Sunday's Gospel from Mark carries a significant message regarding faith and the Kingdom of God.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears reluctant to reveal his identity as the Son of God. After performing miracles of healing, he warns those cured to tell no one (see Mark 1:44, 3:12, 5:43, 7:36, and 8:26). Also, when preaching, Jesus chooses to speak to the crowds in parables, leaving them to discern his message. Only to his disciples does he explain the parable's meaning, and he does this in private at a later time.

Today's Gospel Reading consists of two parables about seeds. In the first, Jesus tells those gathered that this is "how it is with the kingdom of God." A man scatters seed which over time sprouts and develops. Then when the grain is ripe, the man harvests his crop. The emphasis in the parable is on the seed, which seemingly has the power to grow on its own. In this it is like the Kingdom of God. While on earth, Jesus planted the seeds of the kingdom by his life, miracles, teaching, and suffering. However, the kingdom is not yet fully established. Although already present in Jesus and his group of twelve, it has yet to come to fruition; just as the seed in the parable needs time to grow, so does God's kingdom.

The second parable focuses on the tiny mustard seed. Though not the smallest of all seeds, it is most likely the smallest that a first-century farmer in Jesus' part of the world would have sown. Small as the mustard seed is, it develops into a tree. Though the mustard tree generally averages only nine to twelve feet in height, it has a wide expanse and provides a nesting place for birds. Just as the tree welcomes the birds, so is God's kingdom welcoming and open to many.

These parables help us discern something about the kingdom of God and our own faith. In God we live and move and have our being, but God is a mystery and his kingdom, though present, has not yet come into its fullness. Today, the Kingdom of God is present in the Church. The mission of proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom given to the Apostles is now given to us. But just as seeds need time to come to fruition, so does the Kingdom of God. That is why in the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "thy kingdom come." We know that it will come in its fullness at the end of time. All we need is faith.

### **FREE PIANO!**

**A friend of the parish is offering a free Jacobs Brothers upright piano to anyone who is able to pick it up! Call 856-488-1375 to make arrangements!**