

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

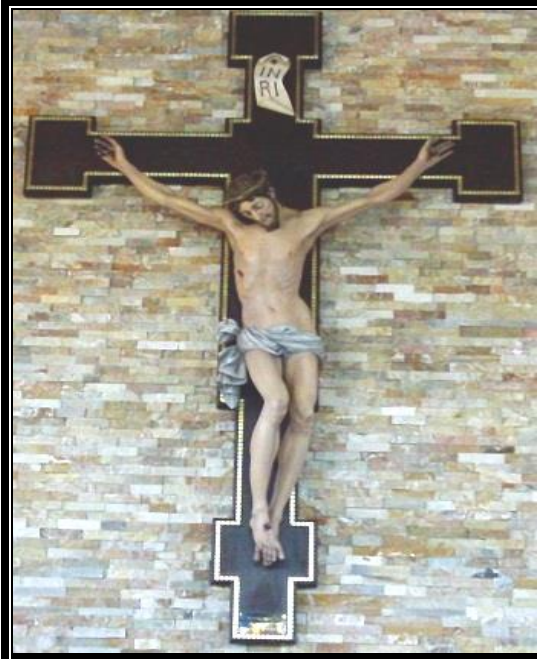
Pastoral Staff

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 Nativity of St. John the Baptist – June 24, 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 24, 2018
9:00am	Norman & Phyllis Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Jacqueline Catino r/b Her Loving Husband, Carl
MONDAY	June 25, 2018
9:00am	Gene Leone r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
TUESDAY	June 26, 2018
9:00am	For the Healing of Pat Avis r/b Suzanne Underwood
WEDNESDAY	June 27, 2018
9:00am	Stella McCarthy r/b Frank & Kathleen Brown
THURSDAY	June 28, 2018
9:00am/Novena	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
FRIDAY	June 29, 2018
9:00am	Gennaro Leone r/b Sal Marano
SATURDAY	June 30, 2018
4:30pm	Zach Taylor r/b Ed & Barb Weingard
SUNDAY	July 1, 2018
9:00am	John & Marie Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Stella McCarthy r/b Marge & Jim Dotzman Gennaro Leone r/b The Zinicola Family (Leni & Louise)



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.

June 16/17, 2018 Offertory Collection:	\$4,649
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,669

Upcoming Special Collections / Envelopes:

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, 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 Viviiello, 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 30 / July 1

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: E. Nolte, Sr. Eleanora, A. Cirullo, A. Knight, C. Pandola
Lectors: P. Nolte, R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: L. D'Alessandro, L. Monaco, M. Monaco, R. Leone, R. Davis
Lectors: D. Heck, Joan Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: T. Angstman, J. Messina, W. Delfin, S. Underwood, M. Conway
Lector: R. Aleszczyk

Stewardship Reflection

"Stewardship Lifestyle"

"...Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet." – ACTS 13:25

Stewardship is a lifestyle, it's not a program or a process. It's how we are called to live our lives twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! It challenges us to live "God-centered" lives, not "self-centered" lives. Reflect on your daily activities, do you do them for the glory of God or for the glory of your own name?

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 6/25-Monday-9am Mass
- 6/26-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 6/27-Wednesday-9am Mass
- 6/28-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena
- 6/29-Friday-9am Mass
- 6/30-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 7/1-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 \$37,785 (78.7%)
2018 House of Charity Goal \$48,018

Thank you to the 70 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.

Rectory Office Summer Hours

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



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

STONEGATE II Hotline

If you are interested in filling out an application for the new Stonegate II apartments, you may call (856) 342-4187 and leave your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER. A Diocesan Housing representative will then return your call with additional instructions & information.

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@camndioocese.org
Sr. Dorothy Gilooley, SSJ:
Sr.DorothyGilooley@camndioocese.org

Keeping Students Connected to the Catholic Church.

Newman Connection's High School Outreach Program keeps high school and college students connected to Catholic campus ministry.

When students sign-up with Newman Connection, their information will be automatically sent to the Campus minister at the colleges of their choice. The Campus Minister can then reach out to the student prior their arrival on campus. This effort has show great success.

We are keeping students connected to the Catholic Church using technology and social media.

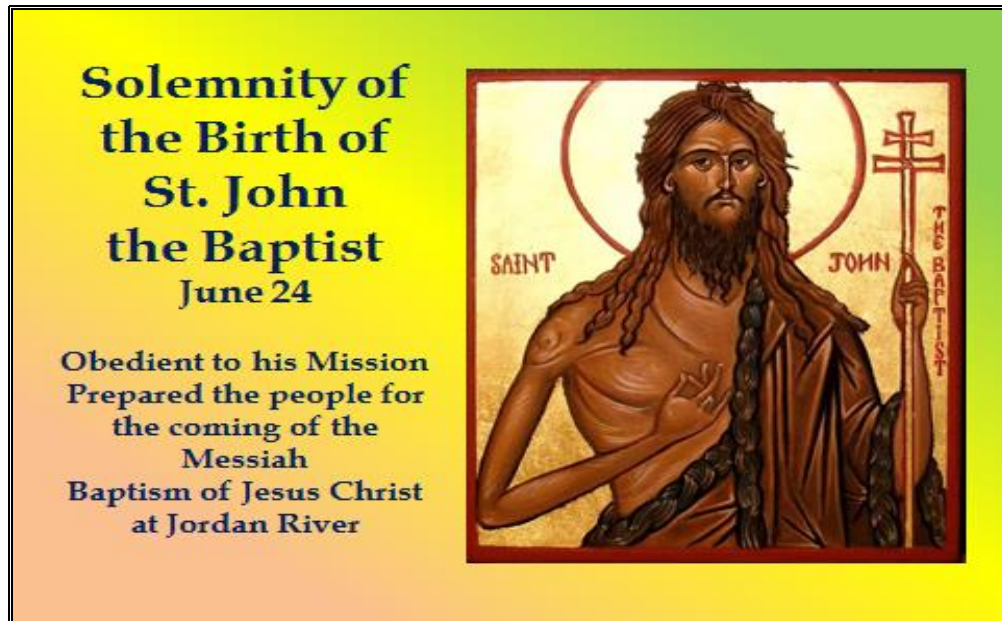
To find out more, please go to newmanconnection.com. Or contact Cassie Campton at (866) 815.2034 ext. 708, ccampton@newmanconnection.com



Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 1:57-66, 80

John the Baptist is born and all wonder what the child will be.



The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel alternate between stories of two births. One is the annunciation and birth of John the Baptist, who was, for Luke, the last great prophet of the Old Testament and who prepared the way for someone greater than any prophet—Jesus the Messiah. The annunciation and birth of Jesus is the other story. The story of John sets the very Jewish environment into which Jesus and John were born. Jesus' annunciation and birth begins to move the Gospel into the environment of the Roman empire.

In the verses before those read today, the birth of John the Baptist has been announced by the angel Gabriel to Zechariah, who was performing his duties as a priest in the Jerusalem Temple. Gabriel then announced the birth of Jesus to Mary in her home in Nazareth. Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, are an old couple who have never had children. Mary is engaged to Joseph, but they have not yet come to live together.

We read today that Elizabeth's neighbors and relatives rejoice with her because God has shown her mercy in the birth of a son. But they are confused when she tells them that his name is to be John, which means "God has been gracious." Zechariah has been unable to speak since Gabriel appeared, because, unlike Mary, he doubted the angel's word. But when he writes on a tablet "John is his name" all are amazed, and a great fear comes upon everyone. Fear, along with joy and praise, is for Luke the appropriate response to God's mercy. People ask, "What, then, will this child be?" But this question has already been answered by the angel. "He will be great in the sight of the Lord. He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God."

Zechariah responds with praise in his famous canticle, the Benedictus. But that is not read today. Instead we jump to the last verses of the chapter, which explain that John will become strong in spirit living in the desert until it is time to show himself to the people of Israel. When John appears again at the beginning of Chapter 3, after the stories of the birth and childhood of Jesus, he will prepare those people for the ministry of Jesus by preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.