

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Rev. Mr. Anthony R. Cioe
Permanent Deacon

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)

Tribunal Parish Advocate
Deacon Anthony R. Cioe
(856) 227-2145

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.*

January 1, 2017 – The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Communion Service: Monday - 9:00am

Daily Mass: Tuesday 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.

Required Preparation is 1 class, 2nd Sunday @ Noon.

Baptism – 3rd Sunday of month @ Noon.

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist –

Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in the Chapel.

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory Monday-Friday. Also call the Rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

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. Further information is available by calling the Rectory.

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.

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 2018 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY	January 1, 2017
9:00am	Pauline Fitzpatrick (Anniversary of Her Death) r/b John & Maria Fitzpatrick
10:30am	Louise Pigliacelli (7 th Anniversary) r/b Her Husband, Frank Joseph Fagan, Sr. r/b People of the Parish
MONDAY	January 2, 2017
9:00am	Communion Service
TUESDAY	January 3, 2017
9:00am	Nicholas Sama, III r/b Charles McKee
WEDNESDAY	January 4, 2017
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
THURSDAY	January 5, 2017
9:00am/Novena	Rev. Robert J. Dunphy r/b People of the Parish
FRIDAY	January 6, 2017 (First Friday Adoration)
9:00am	Ida & Carrie Fanelle r/b Niece
SATURDAY	January 7, 2017
4:30pm	Olga V. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone
SUNDAY	January 8, 2017
9:00am	Leo Aloysius Holland r/b Rita Vogt & Family
10:30am	Vincenza Faiola r/b Sr. Eleanora Peng Ung r/b George, Gail & Valerie Tutwiler Jim Nettleton r/b Dean Russell



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.

Christmas Offertory Figures will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on December 22nd.

December 17/18, 2016 Offertory Collection:	\$5,163
2016-2017 Weekly Offertory Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,614

Special Collections/Envelopes:
January 1st: "Solemnity of Mary" (St. Stephen)
January 15th: "Parish Heating Fund" (St. Stephen)
(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:

- Dolores Afilani, Ray Amatrudo, Jr., Eleanor Becker, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Edmund Ciccarone, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, 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, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Rosemary Murray, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Rosemarie Rosolia, Dean & Mary Russell, Helen Setzer, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Rick Taylor, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Esther Tillinghast, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Mary Vivielo, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for January 7/8

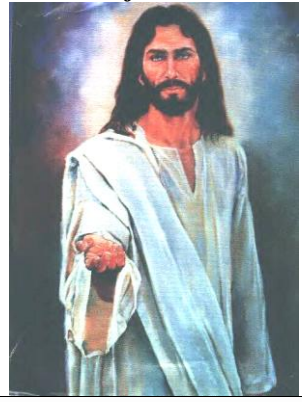
** Designates Alternate Server*

Saturday, 4:30pm
Altar Server: J. Bui
EM's: V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, *A. Knight
Lectors: B. Mattia, J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am
Altar Servers: Q. Nguyen, J. Vales
EM's: L. Monaco, M. Monaco, R. Davis, R. Leone, *M. Bufanio
Lectors: Joan Rivera, Jared Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am
Altar Servers: M. Conway, R. Gardner, C. Nicdao
EM's: M. Meloni, M. Conway, T. Angstman, T. Scavuzzo, *T. Mattered
Lectors: P. Cioe, J. Messina

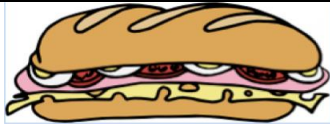
A SPECIAL INVITATION Just for You!



You are cordially invited to come into the silence and spend one hour with Our Lord during our **First Friday Adoration January 6, 2017.**

Jesus said to His Apostles, "Could you not watch one hour with me?" He is asking us the same question today. Won't you say "YES" to His invitation?

RSVP to Rosemarie Leone @ 856-662-0035.



**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 7/8**. For info call 856-227-4980.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/2-Monday-9am Communion Service, **Rectory/Diocesan Offices Closed**
- 1/3-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/4-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/5-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6pm Choirs,7pm Discussion Club
- 1/6-First Friday-9am Mass, **Adoration until 7pm**
- 1/7-Saturday - 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/8-Sunday - 9am Mass, 10:30am Mass



Come and join the St. Stephen Ladies' Bible Study for reflections in God's word, 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

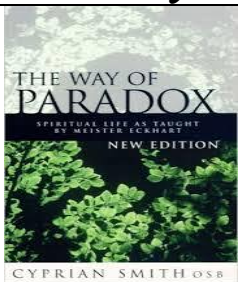
To Jesus Through Mary - 7:00-7:30pm @ Church

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 4th at 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club



Will continue
January 5th @ 7pm in the
Sr. Bernadette Parish Center
with Cyprian Smith's
The Way of Paradox,
spiritual life as taught
by Meister Eckhart.

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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests for the month of January contact **Betty @ 856-662-6928.**

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.

FIRST MOTHER FAMILY OUTREACH

Women from our diocese have formed a compassionate outreach for mothers who have not raised their firstborn children. We, as ordinary women, offer you our comfort and support because we understand that time does not erase the pain of adoption loss.

Contact us at: FirstMotherFamily@gmail.com

"This is my commandment:

Love one another as I have loved you." -John 15:12

<http://catholicstarherald.org/birth-mothers-find-support-in-shared-experience/>

Health and Wellness Team News

Are you interested in learning CPR? Do you need to brush up on your skills? The Health and Wellness Team will be conducting a CPR class in February 2017, date to be determined. The class will be offered in the Parish Center and provided by a certified CPR instructor. Please note this class will not meet the requirements for CPR certification. It is only meant to teach basic skills. If there is a need for a certification class, we will explore that at another time. The class will be offered free of charge. **If you are interested, please send an email message to the rectory, at ecclesia@comcast.net with your name, telephone number and email address and a preferred day: Monday or Tuesday evening, or Saturday.** Someone will be in touch with you once the class is scheduled.

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Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

The Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. *If you are struggling in your marriage, attending a Retrouvaille program could be the best gift you give to your spouse, and family!* Tens of thousands of couples have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it. Retrouvaille is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relationship in your marriage. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 10-February 12, 2017, at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.** For more information or to register for our upcoming weekend, visit our web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. The deadline for registering for this weekend is February 3, 2017. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential. When accessing information online, be sure to use Pennsylvania and Delaware Valley as your destination.

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MARRIED COUPLES:

WANT TO GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING?

Register for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – it’s the best gift you’ll ever give to each other and your marriage! **The next weekends are February 10-12 and April 21-23, 2017.**

Questions? Need more information? Call our application couple at 609-741-8012 or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org. Visit our website wwme-southjersey.org

GOOD COUNSEL IS MORE THAN GRATEFUL...AGAIN



Once again the parishioners of St. Stephen Parish welcomed Good Counsel into their parish and their hearts. The wonderful kind and supportive words from so many people reaffirmed that we are all doing what God wants us to do. **Over 200 bottles were cheerfully taken!** Thank you to the many parishioners who contributed immediately following the Masses and those who expressed an interest to volunteer!

Just look for the picture of our Good Counsel baby! In a time when so many have so little, your giving spirits to help those less fortunate, inspire us as we continue to do God’s work on earth. Thank you for your continual support and I hope to see you soon.

JoAnn DiNoia, Good Counsel Homes, 609-387-2928 joann_dinoia@goodcounselhomes.org – follow us on FB and Twitter☺

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Stewardship Reflection for January 1, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God “Stewards Listen”

“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” LUKE 2:19

Mary is the perfect role model for living a **Stewardship** lifestyle. She listened to God and said “yes” to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in the God’s providence on a daily basis. As we start a new year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine.

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Today's Gospel Reading (*Luke 2:16-21*) is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at the Christmas Mass at midnight. In it the shepherds act upon the message they receive from the angel and go to find Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. In their visit to the manger, the shepherds find things just as the angel had said. The shepherds' visit, therefore, is a moment of fulfillment, manifestation, and the beginning of the salvation we receive through Christ.

In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith.