

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
Keith Knight
Earl Nolte

Rectory Office Hours
Monday–Friday 9am-4:30pm
*Closed All Holy Days of Obligation
and Holidays except Veterans Day*



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 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – January 13, 2019

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 2020 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY January 13, 2019 (The Baptism of the Lord)
9:00am Debbi Morrissey (4th Anniversary)
r/b Her Husband, Tom

10:30am Theobald M. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone
In Thanksgiving r/b Theresa Sauer

MONDAY January 14, 2019
9:00am People of the Parish – Living & Deceased

TUESDAY January 15, 2019
9:00am Richard Pothier r/b Christine Kirkbride

WEDNESDAY January 16, 2019
9:00am Doris J. Georgio r/b People of the Parish

THURSDAY January 17, 2019
9:00am/Novena In Honor of Tony Stedrak's 98th Birthday

FRIDAY January 18, 2019
9:00am Frank Pigliacelli r/b Rose Davis

SATURDAY January 19, 2019
4:30pm Alice Jean Baylor r/b The Knight Family

SUNDAY January 20, 2019
9:00am Sam Loperfido, Sr. r/b Tilda Lamaina
10:30am Dorothy Tutwiler r/b The Piarulli Family
Richard C. Ferber r/b John & Colleen Messina



**The Sanctuary Candle
this week is in Memory of Ushers
Sam Loperfido, Sr.,
Thomas Love, Sr.,
and Frank 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.

December 29/30, 2018 Offertory Collection: \$4,948
January 5/6, 2019 Offertory Collection: \$5,278
2018-2019 Weekly Offertory Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,308

Next Special Collection / Envelope:

**March 6, 2019:
"Ash Wednesday/Church in Eastern Europe"**



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:

Raymond Amatrufo, Jr., Anna Buono, Edmund Ciccarone, Carol Cranmer, Fanny DiBenedetto, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Donna Kane, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum, Nancy Loperfido, Ken Maminski, Larry Miller, Joy and Ed Morrisson, Sue Ott, Rich Passaro, Nancy Sonnie, Callum Steinmetz, Rick Taylor, Frances Vocale, Barbara Weingard, Emily Wilson.

Ministry Schedule for January 19/20

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora
Lectors: J. Melfi, R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: M. Miller, R. Davis, R. Leone, E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: Jared R., Joan R.

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: T. Urgo, D. Urgo, M.Meloni, G. Tutwiler, S. Underwood
Lectors: M. Turan, R. Aleszczyk

Stewardship Reflection "Stewardship Trust"

"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...' " (Luke 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself in **Stewardship** to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/14-Monday-9am Mass
- 1/15-Tuesday-9:00am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/16-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/17-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion
- 1/18-Friday-9am Mass
- 1/19-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/20-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)

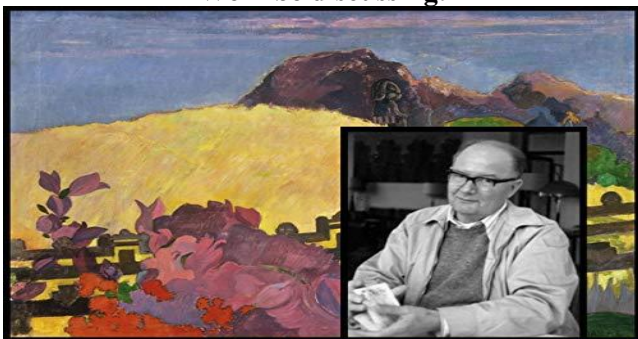
Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue January 16th @ 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues January 17th @ 7:00pm.

We'll be discussing:



Bernard Lonergan
 Christianity's Response to a Secular Age
 Dr. Gordon A. Rixon, S.J., Ph.D.
 University of Toronto

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 & info.

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 Music Ministry cordially invites you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. Choir gathers in the church on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, with rehearsals lasting 60-90 minutes. If you want to share your talents, please contact Mrs. Nancy Werner-Kaiser through the Rectory Office.

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 **January** contact **Diane @ 856-308-8224.**



Joy of the Gospel Convocation

At this moment in time, when our hearts are burdened with so many difficult issues, the Holy Spirit is guiding the Diocese of Camden on a mission. This mission, *The Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in South Jersey*, will give lay leaders from throughout the diocese the opportunity to reflect on the reality that the Catholic Church finds herself in today. In March 2019, participants will gather for workshops, reflection, prayer and discussion. These 650+ lay leaders, chosen from each of the parishes in the diocese, will take what they have learned back to their parishes and communities and address today's challenges as a diverse community of missionary disciples.

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**LIFE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES DIOCESAN GATHERING**

**GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD:  
MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTION  
THROUGH PARISH MINISTRY**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019  
10AM – 3PM**

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO PARISH  
176 STAGECOACH RD  
SICKLERVILLE, NJ 08081**

**All are invited to a daylong workshop that will teach practical skills to parish ministers on how to identify, develop and empower new leaders who are focused on promoting justice and Catholic Social Teaching.**

**For information and registration please contact:  
856-583-2909 or [martha.scutte@camdendiocese.org](mailto:martha.scutte@camdendiocese.org)**

**Free Admission**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO GOOD COUNSEL HOMES

Good Counsel Homes staff, volunteers, mothers and babies thank you for all your kindness and support during our return visit to St Stephen's Parish. There were several baby bottles taken and we collected \$684.00 so far! We are truly humbled by your generosity and commitment to the unborn and the willingness to help those less fortunate. Please return the bottles to the parish, even empty bottles are a donation as it is one less bottle we have to purchase. Your continued support and prayers for our mothers who have chosen to give their baby life offers a future of hope because of your selfless giving.

May God continue to bless you. Tara Ingebritsen,  
[tara\\_ingebritsen@goodcounselhomes.org](mailto:tara_ingebritsen@goodcounselhomes.org) 609.387.2928

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Township of Pennsauken

December 27, 2018

To the Parishioners of St. Stephen Parish,

For over twenty years the **Pennsauken Angel Tree Program** has assisted Pennsauken and Merchantville families who have struggled financially during the holiday season. This program is funded 100% by toy and cash donations from local businesses, community organizations, residents and Township employees. Volunteers spend many hours delivering the toys to less fortunate families in our community.

Because of your very generous donation, we were able to help over **50 families** experience the magic of Christmas and show the true meaning of the Holiday Season. So on behalf of Pennsauken Township, I would like to thank you for sharing and caring for these families in Pennsauken/Merchantville and want to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank You,
Jack Killion, Mayor

As We Usher in a New Year...

We remember 3 Hall of Fame Ushers we bid farewell to in 2018.



**In Loving Memory of
Thomas A. Love, Sr.**

November 6, 1927
September 11, 2018

9:00am Mass Usher



**In Loving Memory of
Frank D. Pigliacelli**

November 17, 1923
December 21, 2018

10:30am Mass Usher



**In Loving Memory of
Samuel M. Loperfido, Sr.**

January 1, 1929
November 19, 2018

4:30pm Mass Usher

In a related story, on October 11, 2018 we ordered 6 new Collection Baskets from one of our biggest vendors. They were sorely needed. The old ones must have had holes in them as indicated by the declining Offertory figures. Generally, merchandise takes a week or two to be delivered to the church. These collection baskets, however, didn't arrive until the afternoon Frank passed away peacefully on December 21, some 2 months and 11 days after the order date — a highly unusual and mysterious delay.

Their first usage, the next day, was the 4:30pm Saturday Mass on December 22.

**The Mass Intention that day happened to be for Sam Loperfido, Sr.
as requested by our 4:30pm Mass Ushers.**

Many have asked Father Rocco if these new baskets should be blessed.

Our Pastor's response: "They are blessed in their usage".



*Leading you to your seats,
watching the congregation,
and caring for the flock.
From the back of the church
to the Altar for Communion,
while sharing the joy of worship
with a community of believers.
One bulletin, one smile, one greeting,
and one handshake at a time.*

Lord, Bless our Ushers: Past, Present and Future.