

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

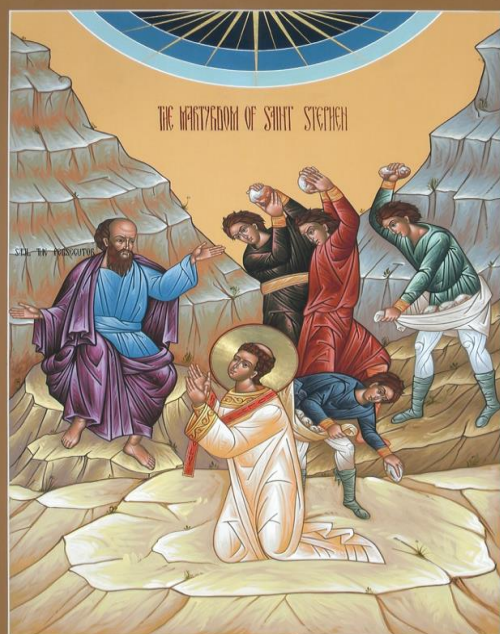
Pastoral Staff

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



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.*

January 21, 2018 – The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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	January 21, 2018
9:00am	Albert Corroda r/b M/M Michael A. Vogt
10:30am	William McWilliams r/b Terry Carr
MONDAY	January 22, 2018
9:00am	Regina Brown r/b Dorothea Dodds
TUESDAY	January 23, 2018
9:00am	Ida Petulla r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
WEDNESDAY	January 24, 2018
9:00am	Rev. Walter Smith r/b People of the Parish
THURSDAY	January 25, 2018
9:00am/Novena	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
FRIDAY	January 26, 2018
9:00am	Joseph T. Szolack, Sr. r/b People of the Parish
SATURDAY	January 27, 2018
4:30pm	Harry Mayer, Jr. r/b The Ciarrocca Family
SUNDAY	January 28, 2018
9:00am	Elsie Hayden r/b Rita Vogt and Family
10:30am	William Sauer r/b 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.

January 13/14, 2018 Offertory Collection:	\$4,190
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,377

Special Collections / Envelopes:

January 21: "Church in Latin America" (Diocese)

January 28: "Catholic Schools Fund" (Diocese)

February 14: "Eastern Europe/Ash Wednesday" (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 Ciccaraone, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Carol Cranmer, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Biagio Dinoto, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Bernice Evans, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Angela Gallecchio, Antonio Genovese, 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, 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, Patricia Ruhl, Dean & Mary Russell, John S., Helen Setzer, Joan Siperavage, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Keri Ann Taxis, Rick Taylor, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Mary Vivello, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for January 27/28

Saturday, 4:30pm

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

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: R. Davis, E. Nolte, T. Modzier, M. Conway, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: P. Nolte, W. McHugh

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: M. Meloni, T. Scavuzzo, K. Fagan, J. Fagan, W. Delfin
Lectors: M. Turan, D. Steinmetz

GOOD COUNSEL HOMES THANKS YOU...

The Mom's, babies, staff and volunteers of Good Counsel Homes, Riverside are thankful for the extreme generosity of the parishioners of St. Stephen's Parish. **The baby bottles returned to date amounted to \$2,512.59 and 118 bottles were returned of the 155 handed out! Congratulations!!** Your response to help our mothers and babies speaks to your commitment to our home and we thank you. We wish to thank all of you for your faithful support through these past years. Say a prayer for our newest baby born December 20, 2017—our early Christmas miracle.

May the new year be abundant with blessings.

JoAnn DiNoia, 609-387-2928;

joann_dinoia@goodcounselhomes.org

(PS—you can still bring in your bottle)

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/22-Monday-9:00am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 1/23-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/24-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/25-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 1/26-Friday-9am Mass
- 1/27-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/28-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass



We are all on a journey, and God's word is a light to our path. Stop in and join us at the St. Stephen Ladies' Bible Study for reflections in scripture, 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 24th @ 6:15pm

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues Jan. 25th @ 7pm in the Parish Center.

We'll be discussing Prof. William R. Cook's

"The Catholic Church: A History"



All Are Welcome to Join Us!

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 rejoice their parents. We hope that you will allow your children to participate in this religious education experience.

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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests in the month of **January**, contact

Lois @ 856-665-1221.

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be

Friday, February 2, 2018

from 9:45am-7:00pm.



Paul VI High School News

Paul VI High School ANNUAL 8th GRADE WINTER DANCE. Eighth grade students are invited to Paul VI High School for the annual 8th Grade Winter Dance on Friday, February 2nd from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for students who make reservations prior to Feb. 2nd, \$8 at the door. Reservations are available by visiting the ADMISSIONS EVENTS page of the Paul VI website, www.pvihs.org. Each student must present a completed, signed permission form to be admitted. Permission forms are available on the school website, www.pvihs.org.

Paul VI PROSPECTIVE PARENTS' WINE & CHEESE will be held on Friday, February 2nd from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Paul VI Dining Hall. Parents are invited to meet current PVI parents and staff at this annual, informal event. For reservations, please visit the ADMISSIONS EVENTS page of the Paul VI website, www.pvihs.org.

Paul VI High School REGISTRATION FOR ACCEPTED STUDENTS. Paul VI High School congratulates those students accepted into the Class of 2022! Registration will take place at the school on Saturday, February 24th, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Questions about registration, or inquiries to apply to Paul VI, may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, (856) 858-4900 ext. 336, or kstewart@pvihs.org.

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New Diaconate Office Website



On camdendeacon.org, you will find various articles, programs and practical "how to's" all aimed to help those discerning a possible call to serve in ordained ministry as a permanent deacon. There is a link that

will enable you to "Meet our Deacons," a blog with informative articles, as well as other resources which open up a greater opportunity to learn more about our faith and service. If you like what you see – *pass on the Good News!* For more information contact the Office of the Diaconate at 856-583-2858.

Strengthened by sacramental grace, in communion with the bishop and his group of priests they serve in the diaconate of the liturgy, of the word, and of charity to the people of God"

Camden Catholic High School News

The Arts at CCHS Presents "Anything Goes"
Tickets \$12-Visit www.cchsperformingarts.com
or call 856-663-2247 ext. 120

Performances:

March 2, 3, 9 & 10 at 7:30 p.m. and March 4 & 11 at 2 p.m.

Grandi Auditorium at CCHS:

300 Cuthbert Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

This musical theater masterpiece featuring songs and lyrics by the legendary Cole Porter and set aboard the S.S. American will be sure to delight audiences with legendary music and dance numbers including "De-Lovely," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "All Through the Night," and "Anything Goes." Join us to be entertained by the talented performing arts and music students of Camden Catholic High School.

Admissions Information Night:

Thursday, February 1 from 7-9 p.m.

Whether you are an 8th grader still making your decision about high school, or a 6th or 7th grader planning for your future, please join us to learn more about the admissions process, curriculum, arts and athletics at Camden Catholic High School. This is a general information session in which you will have the opportunity to meet our students, faculty and administration, tour our campus, and have your questions answered. RSVP at www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents, call the Admissions Office at 856-663-2247 ext. 136 or email janet.indelicato@camdencatholic.org.

8th Graders:

Freshman Registration is Saturday, **February 24** from 8-11 a.m. Admissions Applications for the Class of 2022 may be submitted on a rolling basis. Please submit your application for admission as soon as possible in order to be considered for a spot in the CCHS Class of 2022.

Visit www.camdencatholic.org/admissions.

Irish Experience Guest Days

Only a few dates remain this year for 8th grade students to visit for a day at Camden Catholic High School. Experience the tradition, feel the passion, catch the spirit of being a student at CCHS, the only school in South Jersey with a Leadership Academy. Select your day at www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule: janet.indelicato@camdencatholic.org or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

MEMORANDUM

From: Bishop Dennis Sullivan
To: All Priests and Parishes
Date: January 16, 2018
Re: The Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children will be observed by the Catholic Church in the United States on Monday, January 22nd. Penitential practices, prayer, fasting, acts of charity directed at Pro-Life organizations are suggested as a way of observing the day. Attending Mass on the 22nd is a very worthwhile participation in the spirit of this day. For those unable due to age, health, etc. to join in any of these activities, praying in your home is a fine way of participating in this Day of Prayer. There is a novena of Prayer for Life available. It is called "9 Days for Life". Visit. <http://www.9daysforlife.com> and pray along with others who are on this silent pilgrimage of prayer from January 18th-26th. Priests are directed to consult the ORDO for direction on the optional Masses that may be offered on this Day of Prayer.