

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
9:00am - 4:30pm



Contact Info

Rectory Phone
(856) 662-9338

Emergencies
(856) 261-9336
(Accidents, Dying or Death)

Parish Email
ecclesia@comcast.net

Parish Website
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 Epiphany of the Lord – January 5, 2020

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 2021 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY	January 5, 2020
9:00am	Gennaro & Regina Leone r/b Nancy Loperfido
10:30am	Olga V. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone
MONDAY	January 6, 2020
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	January 7, 2020
9:00am	Msgr. Thomas J. McIntyre r/b People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY	January 8, 2020
9:00am	In Appreciation for All of our Ministries who contributed toward our Christmas Liturgies
THURSDAY	January 9, 2020
9:00am/Novena	Leonardo Faiola r/b Sr. Eleanora Faiola
FRIDAY	January 10, 2020
9:00am	Ida & Carrie Fanelle r/b Niece
SATURDAY	January 11, 2020
4:30pm	For the Healing of Joseph Gerst r/b The People of the Parish
SUNDAY	January 12, 2020
9:00am	Victoria Norris r/b The Marinelli Family
10:30am	Theobald M. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone



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.

Christmas 2019 Offertory Collection:	\$10,209
December 21/22, 2019 Offertory Collection:	\$5,130
2019-2020 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,500
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$3,943

Offertory Figures for December 28/29 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on Dec. 26.

Next Special Envelope/Collection:

February 26: Ash Wednesday/Church in Europe

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**Stonegate II Applications** are still available for weekday pickup from 9am-3pm at the Diocesan Housing Building at 1845 Haddon Avenue in Camden. Interested parties may also call **(856) 342-4187** to request applications by mail.



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:

- Ted Anderson, Ralph Baylor, Grace Becker,
- Mary Bumbalow, Anna Buono, Patrick Carr, John Christy,
- Edmund Ciccarone, Melissa Connelly, Athan Criaris,
- Fanny DiBenedetto, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber,
- Priscilla Handy, Ronald Heck, Wayne Hocking,
- Donna Kane, James Kelly, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ,
- Rosemarie Leonardo, Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum,
- Nancy Loperfido, Ken Maminski, Tom McFadden,
- Larry Miller, John Moffett, Joy and Ed Morrisson,
- Yvonne Mulhern, Rich Passaro, Dean & Mary Russell,
- Louise Siciliano, Nancy Sonnie, Bill Spicher, Rick Taylor,
- Peggy Tepper, Adelaide Travia, Rita Vogt,
- Barbara Weingard, Tom Weingard, Emily Wilson.

## Ministry Schedule – January 11/12

### Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, A. Knight, R. Davis  
Lectors: J. Melfi, W. McHugh

### Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro, M. Conway  
Lectors: Jared Rivera, P. Nolte

### Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: D. Urgo, T. Urgo, T. Angstman, W. Delfin  
Lectors: R. Aleszczyk, M. Miller

## The Epiphany of the Lord "Stewardship Gratitude"

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."  
-Matthew 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image of Stewardship that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you

# This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/6-Monday-9am Mass
- 1/7-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/8-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 1/9-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 1/10-Friday--9am Mass
- 1/11-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/12-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

## Tuesday Night Rosary

**To Jesus through Mary 7:00-7:30pm @ Church**  
 "Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the rosary, for the rosary is a weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother."  
 -St. Padre Pio

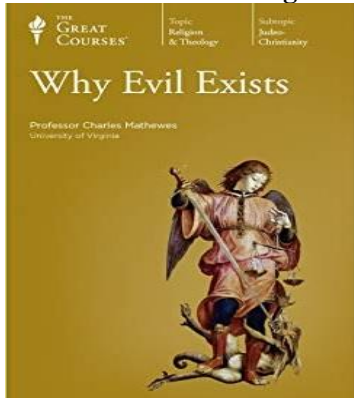
## Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm

## Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Rectory

We'll be discussing:



## First Friday Adoration

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



## 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 **February 8 & 9.**  
 For info call 856-227-4980.

## 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](http://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.

## Choir – New Members Welcome!

St. Stephen's Music Ministry cordially invites you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. Our Choir meets 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](mailto:Ciarrocca@juno.com).

## St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



**We are here to pray for you.**  
 For Prayer Requests in January contact **Maryann @ 856-333-6525.**

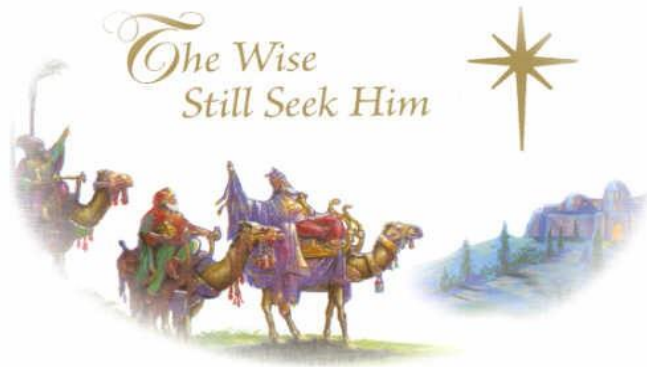


### Rides to Church

### Need a Ride to Church?

The **Missionary Discipleship Committee** is sponsoring a volunteer program to give people who need it a free ride to church as often as needed. If interested, please call **(856) 662-9339, Ext. 6, Monday-Friday 9am-4pm.**

# The Epiphany of the Lord



The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

St. Peter's Development Team invites you to attend the showing of

## "Where There is Darkness"

A film that follows the nationwide manhunt for Fr. Rene Robert amid a series of shocking revelations and the discovery of a 20-year-old letter in which Fr. Rene seemed to foretell his own fate.

**Date: Thursday, January 16, 2020**

**Time: 7 PM**

**Place: Regal Moorestown Mall & RPX Theater**

**Location: 400 NJ-38, Moorestown, NJ 08057**

**Ticket Cost: \$20/Person**

This event will support St. Peter Parish. Tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses up to and including Sunday, January 12, 2020. **For further information or questions, please contact Bobbie @ (856) 662-7577.**

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## Paul VI High School News

**Paul VI Slam Dunk Tours:** The Paul VI Eagles are ready to soar! Please join us for a special pre-game tour of our beautiful school, followed by an exciting Paul VI home basketball game:

**Paul VI Boys v. Woodrow Wilson, Thursday, January 9, 2020, Tours at 6 PM, Game at 7 PM**

**Paul VI Girls v. Bishop Eustace, Tuesday, February 11, 2020, Tours at 6 PM, Game at 7 PM**

Reservations are appreciated; please visit [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org) for more information or to make a reservation. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Please come to the gym entrance at tour time; students and an accompanying adult will receive complimentary game passes. Questions? Please email Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, Director of Admissions [atkstewart@pvihs.org](mailto:atkstewart@pvihs.org)





**Dear Parishioners,**

It is with heartfelt gratitude, that I, on behalf of the Parish of St. Stephen, thank you for your kind and generous 2019 Christmas Offering. It is because of your steadfast support that we were able to fulfill our commitments this past year.

In the first half of the New Year of 2020, we hope to welcome our new neighbors at Stonegate II. The latest information is that residents may be moving in as early as mid-February. This development will be a blessing to the Pennsauken community as well as our parish family.

I am personally blessed to have your assistance in striving to live our Gospel values here at St. Stephen. May you be blessed with good health, enjoy the company of your loved ones, and continue to experience the love of God during this New Year of 2020.

With a promise of prayer for your intentions, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
**Reverend Daniel M. Rocco**

*Thank  
you*