

# 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](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

**Parish Website:**  
[www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://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.*

## *December 11, 2016 – The Third Sunday of Advent*

**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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ Noon.  
Baptism – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2017 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 11, 2016</b>
9:00am	Grace Finnegan r/b Nick Picciano
10:30am	Carmela & Michael Furlano r/b Roseann & Bob DiGiovanni John (Jack) H. Lyons r/b M/M Ed Ciccarone Joseph Fagan, Sr. r/b Lou & Susan Esola Vincent Pecora r/b Dorothea Dodds
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>December 12, 2016</b>
9:00am	Communion Service
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>December 13, 2016</b>
9:00am	Msgr. Felix M. O'Neill r/b People of the Parish
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>December 14, 2016</b>
9:00am	Arthur Alessandrini r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>December 15, 2016</b>
9:00am/Novena	For the Spiritual Welfare of the Ho Family
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>December 16, 2016</b>
9:00am	Bill Buffington r/b His Wife
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>December 17, 2016</b>
4:30pm	Elizabeth McGinley r/b The McHugh Family
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 18, 2016</b>
9:00am	Marie C. Miller r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
10:30am	Maria Calzonetti (Birthday Remembrance) r/b Family William Sauer r/b Family Frank & Susie Furlano r/b The Midili Family Joseph Fagan, Sr. r/b The Piarulli Family



The Sanctuary Candle this week is  
**In Memory of  
John E. Smith**

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 3/4, 2016 Offertory Collection:	\$5,050
2016-2017 Weekly Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,590

Special Collections/Envelopes:

December 11<sup>th</sup>: "Retired Religious" (Diocese)  
 December 11-25: Christmas Flower Memorials (St. Stephen)  
 January 1<sup>st</sup>: "Solemnity of Mary" (St. Stephen)  
 January 15<sup>th</sup>: "Parish Heating Fund" (St. Stephen)



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, Darlene Marcinczyk, 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 Vivliello, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Barbara Weingard.

## Ministry Schedule for Dec. 17/18

\* Designates Alternate Server

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

Altar Server: J. Bui

EM's: Sr. Eleanora, A. Rende, A. Knight, V. Thibault, \*C. Pandola

Lectors: J. Melfi, W. McHugh

**Sunday, 9:00am**

Altar Servers: Q. Nguyen, B. McHugh

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, M. Conway, R. Davis, \*R. Leone

Lectors: D. Steinmetz, Joan Rivera

**Sunday, 10:30am**

Altar Servers: K. Fagan, M. Conway, M. Daniels

EM's: P. Cioe, J. Fagan, K. Fagan, T. Angstman, \*T. Scavuzzo

Lectors: R. Aleszczyk, C. Aleszczyk

Hear Ye, Hear Ye,  
Come One, Come All  
To Coffee and Pastries,  
At the Parish Hall!

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

After the  
9:00am & 10:30am Masses



### *This Week @ St. Stephen Parish*

- 12/12-Monday-9am Communion Service, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 12/13-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 12/14-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 12/15-Thur.-9am Mass/Novena, 6pm Choirs, 7pm Discussion Club
- 12/16-Friday-9am Mass, **Giving Tree Gifts deadline**
- 12/17-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 12/18-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass, Coffee & Pastries



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*

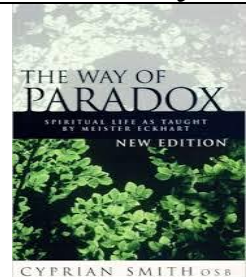
#### **To Jesus Through Mary - 7:00-7:30pm @ Church**

The Holy Name of Mary is powerful. 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 December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm.

### *Thursday Night Discussion Club*



Will continue  
**December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm** in the  
Sr. Bernadette Parish Center  
with Cyprian Smith's  
**The Way of Paradox,**  
spiritual life as taught  
by Meister Eckhart.

### *First Friday Adoration*

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be  
**Friday, January 6, 2017**  
**9:45am-7:00pm.**



## *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](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 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 December contact  
**Diane @ 856-308-8224.**

## *Parish Library*

**Our Cup Runneth Over!**

**Until further notice, we can't accept any more books!**

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for all your Summer 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**

If you would like to volunteer in the library, please contact Gail Tutwiler (gtutg@aol.com), Beth Picknally Camden (bethcorkabi@gmail.com) or Mary Sharon Monaco (monacofamily4@comcast.net; 609-238-1968).

## *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).

## Amazon Smile Foundation

We would like to make everyone aware that when you are shopping on line through Amazon and go through <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3803608> , Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to **People For The Poor**. It does not cost you anything! Amazon has already donated over 3 billion dollars to local charities, and now **People For The Poor** are one of them. So, whenever people shop through Amazon (all year round), they can make a difference to people less fortunate with little effort and at no cost to them. The **Cathedral Kitchen** also benefits from this!

## Mary Undoer of Knots Young Adult Ministry In Affiliation with Christ the King Parish, Haddonfield, NJ

Our ministry has a special devotion to Mary Undoer of Knots. For those of you unfamiliar with Mary Undoer of Knots, she helps undo "the knots" in our lives. For instance, if you're struggling with a difficult decision, you can pray to the Blessed Mother for guidance. Mary Undoer of Knots is also one of Pope Francis' favorites.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### 12-19-2016 (Monday) Monthly Bowling Night

Our monthly bowling night will take place at Pinsetter's, 7111 Maple Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08109 at 7:30 PM. We will meet on the benches across from the bowling alley counter. Shoe rental is \$2.25 and each game is \$2.25. Food and drink specials are available!

#### 1-5-2017 (Thursday) Trivia Fellowship Night

Come join us at the Whistler's Inn, 901 Route 130, in Cinnaminson, NJ for a fun night of Fellowship! We'll meet in the entrance way at 7:30 PM. We'll enjoy appetizers, drinks, and dinner while working in teams to answer trivia questions. (SNOW DATE 1-19-2017)

#### 1-21-2017 (Saturday) Service Day

We will volunteer at St. John of God, 1145 Delsea Dr, Westville, NJ at 9:45 AM to assist with the "Faith Formation" classes. In addition, we will help the students with music or crafts that accompany their religion lesson. If you have never participated in this service day, you will be so happy to give your time to these children. All volunteers will need to complete a special waiver form to participate. If you plan to volunteer, please contact Rosanne by 1-16-2017. All volunteers will meet in the entrance way of the school. (SNOW DATE 1-28-2017)

#### 1-23-2017 (Monday) Monthly Bowling Night

Our monthly bowling night will take place at Pinsetter's, 7111 Maple Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08109 at 7:30 PM. We will meet on the benches across from the bowling alley counter. Shoe rental is \$2.25 and each game is \$2.25. Food and drink specials are available! (SNOW DATE 1-30-2017)

If you know any Catholic young adults 21 to 40 years old looking to learn more about their faith, volunteer some of their time, or looking to meet new friends, please invite them to join us. For information, please e-mail Rosanne - [persistent21@verizon.net](mailto:persistent21@verizon.net).

**Art & Environment** is seeking volunteers to help prepare the church for the Christmas Liturgical Season.

**Dec 17th** (Saturday) 9:30 am students seeking service hours to help transport items from rectory to the church

**Dec 22nd** (Thursday) 7 pm to begin preparation of the church

**Dec 23rd** (Friday) 9:30am to finish preparation of the church (if needed)

Please indicate your availability on the signup sheets in the back of the church. Thank you in advance,

**Maria Haas, Art & Environment Ministry**

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## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**First Reading - Isaiah 35:1-6,10**

In the day of the Lord, all sorrow and mourning will cease.

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 146:6-7,8-9,9-10**

The Lord will save his people.

**Second Reading - James 5:7-10**

Be patient, and be ready; the coming of the Lord is near.

**Gospel Reading - Matthew 11:2-11**

Jesus tells John the Baptist of the signs of the kingdom that are being worked through him and praises John as more than a prophet.



### What do the colours of the Candles represent?

- The four outer candles represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent
- **THE PURPLE CANDLES:** represents sorrow, our sorrow for our failure to love in so many parts of our lives
- **THE PINK CANDLE:** represents our joy and happiness at the coming of Christ. We light this on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of advent.
- **THE WHITE CANDLE:** represents Christ as the light of the world and is lit on Christmas day.



# The 2016-2017 Liturgical Calendar at a Glance

## Oh Come All Ye Faithful!

Please join us  
this year to celebrate  
the Christmas Season  
**ANGEL TREE**



This year our Angel Tree Gifts will benefit the Needy Residents of our Pennsauken community and you will choose the gender and age (Newborn-15yrs.) of your child recipient. Please specify these details on the back of the Angel Tag. Kindly place your **UNWRAPPED** gifts under the tree by **Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>**. All **NEW TOYS** are acceptable and **GIFT CARDS** are suitable for older children.

**\*NOTE: This year Pennsauken Township prefers NO CLOTHES.**

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## Advent / Christmas Schedule



### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Tuesday, December 20, 2016, 7:30pm  
(After the Rosary)

### CONFESSION

Saturdays: December 10, 17, 3:45-4:15pm

### CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

Saturday, December 24, 2016  
4:30 PM Children's Mass & 10:00 PM Vigil

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Sunday, December 25, 2016  
9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

### ST. STEPHEN'S FEAST DAY MASS

Monday, December 26, 2016  
9:00 AM

### NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Saturday, December 31, 2016  
4:30PM

### NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Sunday, January 1, 2017  
9:00 AM & 10:30AM

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

March 1, 2017 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### LENTEN FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 at 7pm

### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

To Be Determined

### 2017 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 9: Palm Sunday Masses-9am & 10:30am
- April 13: Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper-7pm
- April 14: Good Friday Liturgical Service - 3pm
- April 15: Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 8pm
- April 16: Easter Sunday Masses - 9am & 10:30am

### FIRST PENANCE

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, May 7, 2017

### CONFIRMATION

To Be Determined by the Bishop

### FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Thursday, May 25, 2017 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Tuesday, August 15, 2017 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### FALL HARVEST MASS

Saturday, October 28, 2017 - 4:30 PM

### FEAST OF ALL SAINTS DAY

Wednesday, November 1, 2017 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 5, 2017 - 10:30 AM

### THANKSGIVING VIGIL MASS

Wednesday, November 22, 2017 - 7:00 PM