

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

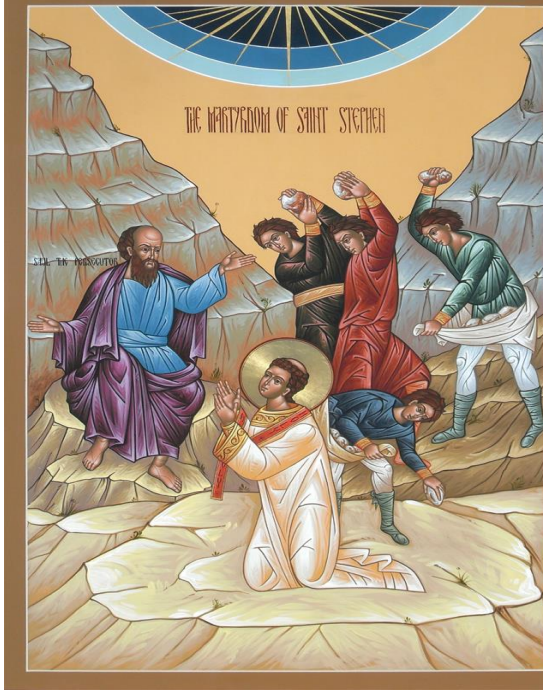
Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

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 thru 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.*

December 13, 2015 – 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, 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 2016 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY	December 13, 2015
9:00am	Frank Szalagiewicz r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
10:30am	Daniel Kirschner r/b Anthony Midili & Family
MONDAY	December 14, 2015
9:00am	Communion Service
TUESDAY	December 15, 2015
9:00am	Donnamarie Vennell r/b Nancy Reese
WEDNESDAY	December 16, 2015
9:00am	Bill Buffington r/b His Wife, Lucille
THURSDAY	December 17, 2015
9:00am+Novena	Theodore H. Davis r/b Rose Davis
FRIDAY	December 18, 2015
9:00am	Benito Ciarrocchi r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
SATURDAY	December 19, 2015
4:30pm	Susie & Frank Furlano r/b The Midili Family
SUNDAY	December 20, 2015
9:00am	Fermina & Nestor Nicdao r/b Efen Nicdao
10:30am	John Kerwick r/b His Wife, Son and Family Mickie Fletcher r/b The Midili Family



The Sanctuary Candle this week is *In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered.*

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 5/6, 2015 Collection:	\$5,346
2015-2016 Weekly Collection Target:	\$5,000
Actual Year-To-Date Weekly Average:	\$4,607

Special Collections:

- December 13, 2015: "Retired Religious Fund" (Diocese)**
 - December 13-20, 2015: "Christmas Flowers" (Church)**
- (Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)*

Remember Our Sick

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, Eleanor Becker, Joy Bowman, Jackie Cardwell, Yolanda Colafrancesco, John Coyle, Dot Corbett, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Patricia Domer, Joseph Fagan, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Richard Gentile, Sr., Joseph Gerst, Nancy Gogel, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Gregory Hayes, Chuck Hillwig, Thomas Holmes Sr., John Howard, Debra Knapp, Donna Krawchuk, Janet LaFreda-Hopkins, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Wanda Loperfido, Joann Lunsford, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Cecilia McGonigle, Denise McHugh, Dorothy McPeak, Esther Nunez, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Frank Pigliacelli, Tanya Robinson & Son Joseph, Rosemarie Rosolia, Dean & Marie Russell, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Joanne Szumowski, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Donna Jean Vinciquerro, Mary Vivielo, Doreen Warble, Barbara Weingard.**

Ministry Schedule for December 19/20

Monthly schedules are also available on our website.

* Designates Alternate Server

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Server: J. Bui

EM's: C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, B. Taylor, *A. Knight

Lector: J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Server: B. McHugh

EM's: N. Schmidt, E. Nolte, M. Bufanio, L. McHugh, *T. Modzier

Lectors: P. Nolte, J. Gerst

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Server: M. Conway

EM's: P. Cioe, T. Angstman, M. Conway, T. Scavuzzo, *T. Link

Lectors: J. Messina, M. Miller

Stewardship Reflection

"Stewards Share in Thanksgiving"

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (PHILIPPIANS 4:6)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give his *Stewards* all that they need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

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**Boy Scout Troop 118** wish to thank the generous people of St. Stephen Parish for their support in the Wreath Sale. A total of 205 wreaths were sold of which 52 were from St. Stephen. For information on Troop 118 or to join Scouting, please call Mike Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799 or go to [www.troop3118.org](http://www.troop3118.org). Thank you for supporting us.

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

12/14-Monday-9am Communion Service, 1pm Bible Study  
12/15-Tue.-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7:30pm Penance Service  
12/16-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes  
12/17-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club  
12/18-Friday-9am Mass  
12/19-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
12/20-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass



***Ladies Bible Study***

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

**When: Mondays from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Where: St. Stephen Parish Center (next to the church)**

Please contact Eileen Heide with any questions.  
Phone: 662-8046 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 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm.

***Thursday Night Discussion Club***

**Will resume on Thursday January 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm  
in the Sr. Bernadette Parish Center.**

In 2016 we will be discussing the following areas of concern to our parishioners:

**Abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning and other topics.**

***First Friday Adoration***

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be  
**Friday, February 5, 2016,  
9:45am-7:00pm.**



***Christmas Helpers Needed!***

The Art & Environment Ministry is requesting your assistance in the beautification of our church for the Christmas Season:

**Dec 19<sup>th</sup>:** Transport Trees and Christmas Items from the rectory storage and assemble in the church **9:30 am. Men and students are needed. Service hours are available to students.**

**Dec 23rd:** Transition the church for the **Christmas Season 9:30am**

**Sign-up sheets will be in the back of the church.**

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.

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



**We are here to pray for you.**

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

***Parish Library***

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for all your Fall 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 donate spiritual and religious books to the collection, please drop them off at the Parish center in the Library. 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).



**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.

***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).



## The Third Week of Advent *The Shepherds' Candle*



The third candle honors those who were first to share the good news.  
**“When the shepherds saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.” -Luke 2:17-18**

*Many thanks to Daniels, Vance, Faulkner and Scott Families for lighting the Advent Candle last weekend.*

### *Advent / Christmas Schedule*



#### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

**Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 7:30pm**  
*(After the Rosary)*

#### CONFESSION

**Saturdays: December 19, 3:45-4:15pm**

#### CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

**Thursday, December 24, 2015**

**4:00 PM Children's Mass, 6:00 PM & 10:00 PM**

#### CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

**Friday, December 25, 2015**  
**10:30 AM**

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

**Thursday, December 31, 2015**  
**9:00AM regular Mass**

**4:30PM Vigil for Mother of God Holy Day**

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

**Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Holy Day**  
**Friday, January 1, 2016, 9:00 AM Mass**

## *Expecting a Miracle: “Advent by the Nativity scene”*

A Christmas tradition started by St. Francis may help us keep our focus more on the coming miracle than the latest sales. By choosing the name of Francis, our Holy Father has called the world to pay more attention to the beloved saint from Assisi, who taught us to live simply and care for the poor. One way St. Francis reminded us of our Lord's kinship with the poor was through the Nativity scene. We may think the Nativity scene is as ancient as the celebration of Christmas itself. Yet, Nativity scenes were unheard of until St. Francis set up the first one in a cave outside of Greccio, Italy, in 1223.

We may be able to keep our balance a little better this Advent by focusing on the rich symbolism of the Nativity scene. Inspiring words from Pope Francis, weekly Scripture readings and simple prayers can also help us find new ways to make this season of Advent a time of prayerful preparation, mercy, joy and expectation.

### *Aging Religious Need Your Help*

In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic Schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little or no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

### *Advent Masses – Cemetery Visitation*

During this time of Advent in preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, we will hold special masses at the diocesan managed cemeteries in our mausoleum chapels. Masses will be held:

**Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM – New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr**

**Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM – All Saints, Newfield; Holy Cross, Mays Landing; Sacred Heart, Vineland**

**Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM – Calvary, Cherry Hill**

We encourage our families to visit our cemeteries and mausoleums and pray for their dearly departed loved ones. We, the staff of your South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries, wish you a joyous Advent Season and a Merry Christmas.

For more information on these masses and locations, please visit [SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org](http://SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org)

## *U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking*

ALERT. Ending slavery is everyone's work. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking (USCSAHT) is a collaborative, faith-based network that offers educational resources, information about access to survivors' services, and engages in advocacy in an effort to eradicate modern-day slavery. Visit the web site: [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org).

# LOCAL CAMDEN COUNTY FOOD BANKS

| Agency                                   | Address                                                         | Distance from Cooper | CONTACT                           | Office Hours                         | Food/Services Available                                                                                                                                                                                      | Hours of Food Distribution                                                                                                       | What to Bring                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cathedral of Im. Concep                  | Cathedral Hall at N. Broadway and Federal St., Camden, NJ 08102 | 0.4 mi               | Susan Mackey 856-964-1580         | 8:30AM - 4PM                         | Daily Sandwich & Snack; NJ State food bag – rice, chicken, and canned goods; <b>HOT FOOD:</b> soup                                                                                                           | 10AM-2PM: Mon-Fri (snack); 3rd Tues. of each month (food bag); 1 time/wk, usually Wed (hot food)                                 | ID required <b>ONLY</b> for State food bag; nothing required for snack and hot food                                                                                              |
| Cathedral Kitchen                        | 1514 Federal Street Camden, NJ 08105                            | 1 mi                 | 856-964-6771                      | Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM                      | <b>HOT MEALS:</b> entrée, side dishes, bread, dessert and beverage; <b>NOTE</b> - Culinary Arts Training Program and Supportive Services (housing, childcare, dental and vision care)                        | Mon-Fri: 4-5PM (Dinner); Sat: 12-1PM (Lunch)                                                                                     | Nothing required                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Philabundance at St. John Baptist Church | 400 N. 30th Street Camden, NJ 08105                             | 2.3 mi               | Food Help Line: 1-800-319-3663    | Mon-Fri. 8:30AM-4:30PM               | <b>Fresh For All</b> distributes fresh produce                                                                                                                                                               | Every Tuesday from 9:30-10:30AM                                                                                                  | No eligibility requirements; basic info requested                                                                                                                                |
| 1st Calvary Baptist Church               | 1198 Penn Street, Camden, NJ 08102                              | 1 mi                 | Emma Gorman 856-614-1991          | Mon, Wed, and Thurs 7:30AM-3PM       | <b>Tues:</b> Fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, meat, baked items, bread, milk, juice; <b>Farmers against Hunger</b> brings fresh, seasonal produce; <b>Fri:</b> fresh produce and non-perishables | <b>Tues 11:30AM-2PM; Fri 12-2PM (check-in at 10:30AM Tues&amp;Fri); 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday</b> of each mth – Outreach breakfast | <b>Tues &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat</b> - No ID required; <b>Fri</b> - ID and proof of income; Application for enrollment; <b>NOTE:</b> Individuals can come only one day each week |
| The Neighborhood Center                  | 278 Kalghn Ave., Camden, NJ                                     | 1 mi                 | Serena 856-365-5295               | Mon-Fri: 7:30AM-6PM                  | <b>Always Hot Food</b> (pizza, spaghetti, vegetable, salad, dessert)                                                                                                                                         | Mon-Fri:12-1PM; Emergency food distributed after 1PM                                                                             | Nothing required for daily meal; ID & proof of public assistance (SNAP) required for emergency food                                                                              |
| St Joseph's Pro Cathedral                | 2907 Federal Street, Camden, NJ 08105                           | 2 mi                 | Laura Caraballo 856-964-2776 X401 | Mon: 9AM-12PM & 1-3PM; Fri: 9AM-12PM | Non-perishables                                                                                                                                                                                              | Mon: all day; Fri: 9AM-12PM                                                                                                      | Only serve single seniors & zip codes: 08105, 08109, 08110; ID, proof address, income, & family                                                                                  |
| New Visions Day Shelter                  | 523 Stevens Street Camden, NJ 08103                             | 0.3 mi               | Gail Evans Kenney (856) 963-0857  | Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM                      | <b>Hot Meals:</b> breakfast & lunch; hot showers & dental care                                                                                                                                               | Mon-Fri: Breakfast 9:30, Lunch 12:30; Emergency Food Bag after 15 <sup>th</sup> of mth 10AM-12PM                                 | Nothing required for day shelter; Emerg. Food Bag - ID, proof residency, & SNAP                                                                                                  |

| Agency                        | Address                                       | Distance from Cooper | CONTACT                                               | Office Hours                                    | Food/Services Available                                                                                                                  | Hours of Food Distribution                                                                             | What to Bring                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| St. Paul's Episcopal Church   | 422 Market Street, Camden, NJ 08104           | 0.6 mi               | Sue Getz 856-429-0007                                 | Mon- Fri 8:30AM-4:30PM (July&Aug. 9AM- 3PM)     | <b>Fri Food Basket:</b> State food bag; <b>Sun Breakfasts:</b> pancakes & eggs; <b>Sun "Song and Supper:"</b> service & community supper | Every Fri: 8AM - food gone; Every Sun: "Pancake House" 9AM-10AM; Every Sun <b>Night:</b> begins at 6PM | ID & proof of address; Nothing required for breakfast                                                                             |
| Rutgers Cooperative Extension | 424 Lawrence Street, Camden, NJ 08102         | 1 mi                 | Robin Waddell 856-225-6169                            | 8:30AM-4PM                                      | Non-perishables; sometimes frozen meat                                                                                                   | Mon: 10:30-11:30am                                                                                     | ID; Proof of residence/income (if available)                                                                                      |
| Koinonia Family Life          | 1658 Mount Ephraim Ave. Camden, NJ 08104      | 1.5 mi               | Ava Evans 856-757-4899                                | 9AM-1PM (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat-last 2 wks of mth) | Meat, canned goods, boxed food, rice, frozen vegetables                                                                                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat each month: 9-11:30AM; Last two weeks of month, Mon-Thurs: 10AM-12PM               | Enrollment req: address, income, photo ID, verify # of children; never turn anyone away, but needs ID                             |
| Hope Community Outreach       | 1299 Morton St., Camden, NJ 08103             | 1.5 mi               | Past. Odessa Edmonds 609-932-4600; Main# 856-379-6687 | ~8AM-5PM                                        | Non-perishables                                                                                                                          | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues of month through Friday ~8AM-5PM                                                  | Proof of address, income, and ID; proof of residency required for state food bags                                                 |
| Safe Passage                  | 1300 Thurman St., Camden, NJ 08104            | 1.4 mi               | Pyche Wilcox 856-963-4279; 856-577-8719               | 10AM-2PM                                        | Non-perishables                                                                                                                          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed 12-2PM, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat 12-2PM each mth (emergency bags avail.)                | ID required                                                                                                                       |
| Grace Bible Church            | 887 Clements Bridge Rd., Barrington, NJ 08007 | 7-10 mi              | 856-546-4885                                          | Mon-Thurs 9AM-4PM                               | Food Pantry non-perishables ( <b>*ONLY:</b> Audubon, Barrington, Belimawr, Haddon Heights, Lawnside, Mt. Ephraim, Runnemede)             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues each month 7-9PM                                              | Proof of residency, proof of income for each member of the household: children (custody agreement), adults (documentation of aid) |
| Temple Lutheran Church        | 5600 North Route 130, Pennsauken, NJ 08109    | 4 mi                 | 856-663-7783                                          | Wed-Fri. 10AM-2PM                               | Coffee, donuts, and bag of non-perishables                                                                                               | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tue each month 6:30PM                                                                  | ID, proof of residence & income, SSI card, SNAP, WIC documentation                                                                |
| Senior Community Services     | 537 Nicholson Road, Audubon, NJ 08106         | 4 mi                 | Barbara Moncrief 856-456-1121 ext. 160                | Tues-Thurs: 10AM-2:30PM                         | Non-perishables                                                                                                                          | Eligible to pick up food pantry supplies once/mth; Emergency food once/yr                              | 60+, proof of income; Camden County only                                                                                          |