

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



*Different Histories...*

*One Faith...*

*Different Ages...*

## *Pastoral Staff*

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco, Pastor  
Permanent Deacon Anthony Cioe  
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal  
Mrs. Suzanne Underwood, CRE

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



## *Contact Information*

Rectory: (856) 662-9338  
Rectory Fax: (856) 662-4679  
School: (856) 662-5935  
School Fax: (856) 662-6128

Email: [eccllesia@comcast.net](mailto:eccllesia@comcast.net)  
Web: [www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com)

## *December 22, 2013 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

### Mass Schedule

**Daily:** Monday thru Friday – 9:00am

**Weekend Obligation:**

Saturday – 4:30pm (**Reconciliation 3:45pm-4:15pm**)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

**Children's Liturgy:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ 9:00am

**Holy Days:** 9:00am & 7:00pm

**Miraculous Medal Novena** – Every Thursday after 9am Mass.

**Eucharistic Exposition** – First Friday from 9:30am-7pm.

**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 1 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.

**Tribunal Parish Advocate**-Dc. Anthony Cioe- (856) 227-2145

**Rectory Office Hours**-Monday thru Friday 9am-4:30pm  
*(Closed all Holy Days of Obligation & National Holidays)*

### 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.*

**Parish Membership** – Moving INTO the parish all are asked to register as soon as possible.

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory of changes.

**Please consider remembering St. Stephen's in your Will or Estate Planning.** There are financial benefits to do so while still alive and, in death, the spiritual reward of helping to continue the Church's mission of preaching Jesus Christ.

**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.

**Our Parish Family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life.**

# 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 2014 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

<b>MONDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>December 23, 2013</b> Mary Heaney & Mary Modzier r/b John & Terry Modzier
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:00am Daily	<b>December 24, 2013 (Christmas Eve)</b> People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>4:00pm Children</b>	<b>People of the Parish – Living &amp; Deceased</b>
<b>6:00pm Vigil</b>	<b>People of the Parish – Living &amp; Deceased</b>
<b>10:00pm Vigil</b>	<b>People of the Parish – Living &amp; Deceased</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10:30am	<b>December 25, 2013 (Christmas Day)</b> People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9:00am+Novena	<b>December 26, 2013 (St. Stephen's Feast Day)</b> Louis, Josephine & Vincent L. Buondonno r/b Daughter & Sister
<b>FRIDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>December 27, 2013</b> Stephen L. Dombrowski r/b Family
<b>SATURDAY</b> 4:30pm	<b>December 28, 2013</b> Donato Gallicchio r/b Margaret Kappel
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>December 29, 2013</b> Robert W. Kozempel r/b His Wife, Gerry
<b>10:30am</b>	William C. Sonnie (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) r/b The Miller Family Deceased Members of the Rocks & Magee Family r/b Family Rev. William F. Collins r/b People of the Parish

## The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Bill Buffington.

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.

Offertory Figures for December 14/15 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on 12/13/13.

2013-2014 Budgeted Weekly Collection: \$5,588  
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average: \$5,008

**Diocesan Special Collection:** 1/26/14: "Mission Membership"  
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### The 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent: "The Angels' Candle"

The fourth candle is a reminder of joy and love—the grace given to all that accept the Christ Child.

"Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.'"  
-Luke 2:13-14

Many thanks to the **Merritt, Schlegel & Bui Families** for lighting the Advent Candle last weekend.



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:

- Dolly Angelastro, Mary Caruso, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Dot Corbett, Patricia DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Joe DiLorenzo, Patricia Domer, Diane Fesko, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Richard Gentile, Sr., Thomas Holmes Sr., Donna Krawchuk, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Marge Leone, Wanda Loperfido, Maureen Lukasiak, Joann Lunsford, John Maggioncalda, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Dorothy McPeak, Marie Melchiorre, Debbi Morrissey, Freda Novak, Esther Nunez, Jennifer Osborn, Betty Picciano, Frank Pigliacelli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Theresa Sauer, Loretta Stayton, Kathleen Stehm, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, John Vindick, Mary Vивиello, Anthony Vocale.**

## Ministry Schedule for December 24/25/28/29

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

\* Designates Alternate Server

### Christmas Eve, Tuesday 4pm Children's Mass:

**Altar Servers:** L. Fagan, K. Fagan, T. Mason  
**EM's:** M. Meloni, J. Messina, T. Scavuzzo, J. Fagan, K. Fagan  
**Lectors:** Ry. Aleszczyk, C. Aleszczyk

### Christmas Eve, Tuesday 6pm Vigil:

**Altar Servers:** M. Ciarrocca, M. Ciarrocca, J. Mack  
**EM's:** A. Cirullo, R. Davis, T. Link, B. Taylor, E. Nolte  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, B. Mattia

### Christmas Eve, Tuesday 10pm Vigil:

**Altar Servers:** O. Graff, S. Caban  
**EM's:** T. Modzier, R. Davis, P. Cioe, A. Knight  
**Lector:** D. Heck

### Christmas Day, Wednesday 10:30am:

**Altar Servers:** J. Bui, V. Bui  
**EM's:** R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro, R. Davis, E. Nolte, L. McHugh  
**Lectors:** M. Turan, P. Nolte

## Weekend of December 28/29:

### Saturday, 4:30pm

**Altar Servers:** S. Caban, J. Mack  
**EM's:** A. Pandola, C. Pandola, P. Petronis, A. Cirullo, \*T. Angstman  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, B. Mattia

### Sunday, 9:00am

**Altar Servers:** O. Graff, J. Bui, V. Bui  
**EM's:** S. Marano, E. Nolte, M. Bufanio, T. Modzier, \*R. Leone  
**Lectors:** M. Corbett, P. Nolte

### Sunday, 10:30am

**Altar Servers:** The Hughes Family  
**EM's:** C. Otto, Geo. Tutwiler, Gail Tutwiler, W. Delfin, \*T. Link  
**Lectors:** M. Turan, C. Aleszczyk

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

12/23-Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study  
 12/24-Tuesday- 9am Mass, Rectory Closed,  
**Christmas Eve: 4pm Children, 6pm & 10pm Vigil**  
 12/25-Wednesday-Christmas Day: **10:30am Mass**, Rectory Closed  
 12/26-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena  
 12/27-Friday-9am Mass  
 12/28-Saturday-9am Men's Group, 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
 12/29-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

*A Message for All the Ladies:*



God values you, and  has a plan for your life!

### ***Monday Ladies' Bible Study***

**1-2:30pm in the Stonegate Conference Room.**

### ***To Jesus Through Mary Tuesday Night***

**Rosary 7:00-7:30pm @ Church**

Your devotion to the Blessed Mother was expressed by the response to the Knights' "Prayer Pavers to Our Lady".

**Continue your devotion – Come pray with us!**

"To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Jesus."

**Blessed John Paul II, Apostolic Letter on the Rosary**

### ***Wednesday Night CCD Classes***

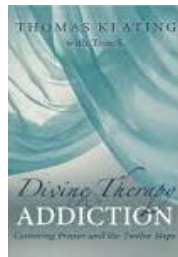
**Continue Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15pm.**

### ***Thursday Night***

### ***Discussion Club***

**Continues January 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 7pm in the Parish Center.**

**We are discussing  
"Divine Therapy & Addiction"  
by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO**



### ***First Friday Adoration***

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be

**Friday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:45am-7:00pm.**



"The worship given to the Trinity of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...must fill our churches also outside the timetable of Masses...Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation of the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease." -Blessed John Paul II

### ***Saturday 9am Men's Prayer Group***

Please join us for our Men's Scripture/Prayer Group. We meet every Saturday morning at **9am** for one-half hour in the **Parish Center Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.**

## ***CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS***

The ministry of **Art & Environment** is seeking volunteers to help prepare our church for the Christmas Liturgical season. Kindly consider helping on the dates below. Students please bring your paperwork to document service hours.

**Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> 11:45 am (after the 10:30 mass)**

**Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 am if needed**

**Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 11:45 am (after the 10:30 am mass)**

Look for sign-up sheets in the back of the church.  
Questions call Maria @ 665-8393.

### ***Bereavement Committee***

The Bereavement Committee is seeking volunteers to help minister to those who've recently lost loved ones in our community of faith. To join this special ministry, please call **Joy Bowman at 662-4803.**

### ***Council & Board Meetings***

*All at 7pm in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted.*

**Monday, January 13 Finance Council**

### ***Prayer Pavers to Our Lady***

**AN ONGOING MEMORIAL!**

**All pavers are now installed and many spaces still available!** 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 in the school office, order forms are on our website and in the rectory office.

Info is available @ [www.ststephenspennsauken.com](http://www.ststephenspennsauken.com)  
or by calling Michael Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799.

### ***Scrip Fundraising Program***

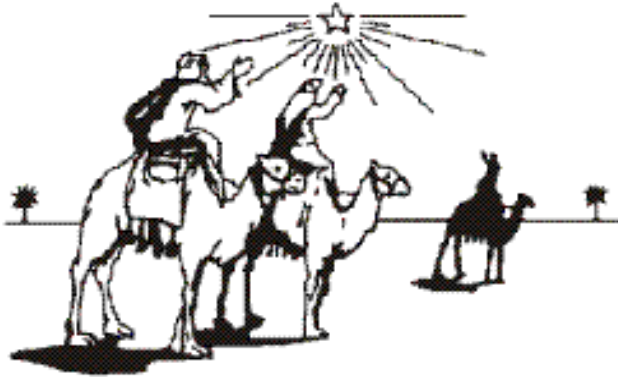
Scrip is available for purchase at the Scrip Table after all weekend Masses **and at the rectory during regular business office hours, Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm** (excluding Holy Days & Holidays).

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



**We are here to pray for you.** Prayer requests for the month of December, please contact **Bernadette @ 854-2928.**

# Christmas Mass Schedule



## CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

Tuesday, December 24, 2013

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

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Wednesday, December 25, 2013

10:30 AM

## NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Tuesday, December 31, 2013

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

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

9:00 AM Mass

## *Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass*

If in this calendar year (01/01/13 through 12/31/13) you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary, 25, 50 or 75 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating on *WORLD MARRIAGE SUNDAY, February 9 at 3:00 pm Mass* in Blackwood, at St. Agnes Church, Our Lady of Hope Parish. A light reception will follow in the parish hall.

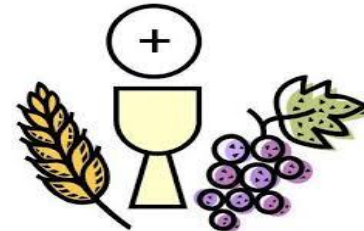
Registration forms are available at all parish offices. Deadline is **January 24, 2014**. For more information please contact our office, Mary Lou Hughes at 856-583-6132.

# Blood Drive December 30th



The **Knights of Columbus, Council #3512** is sponsoring the Annual Red Cross Blood Drive at St Stephen's School on **Monday, December 30, from 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm**. All presenting donors will receive a long sleeve T-shirt. There will be sign-up sheets at the back of church after Mass, or you can call Lonnie Monaco at 856 662-6049 to set up an appointment. Please make every effort to support this most worthwhile drive.

## EUCHARIST WORKSHOP



Explore the central mystery of our Faith by taking a deeper look at this most Holy Sacrament. This spiritual study program, presented by **Father Robert Barron** on DVD, will give us a deeper understanding of the precious gift of Christ's Divine Life that you can receive at every Mass. Please join us for one or all sessions, as we discover and celebrate what Vatican II called the "source and summit of the Christian life." **This will be a five-session workshop offered on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Family Center, beginning on January 8, 2014.**

## iRace4Vocations



Save the Date: On **Sunday, April 27, 2014**, join Bishop Sullivan along with priests, religious, our seminarians and many other people from throughout the diocese at Rowan University (201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro) for our 3rd annual iRace4Vocations. Bishop Sullivan will celebrate a Mass for Vocations at 1:00 pm followed by our 5k run/1 mile family stroll. Come out to pray and race! The day will end with some family fun. Help us enjoy the day as we raise awareness and offer prayers for an increase in priestly vocations for our diocese. We hope that parishioners of all ages will say yes to this intergenerational day. For more information, contact Fr. Romano at michael.romano@camdendiocese.org or 856-583-2858.



# *A Christmas Invitation*

*You are cordially invited to a Christmas Party!*

- Guest of Honor: Jesus Christ
- Date: Traditionally, we celebrate on December 25<sup>th</sup>,  
but it's an ongoing celebration. The door is always open!
- Place: Saint Stephen Church.
- Tickets: Tickets are not needed. Admission is free.  
(He's already paid the price for each one of us.)
- Refreshments: Join us for a heavenly meal around the Table of the Lord!
- Gift Suggestions: Your heart. He's one of those people who already has everything  
else. (He's very generous in return though—just wait until you see  
what He has for you!)
- Door Prizes for All: Joy, Peace, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness,  
Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing,  
Power, Eternity in Paradise...and much more!!!  
(All "G" rated, so bring your family and friends.)
- RSVP: NOT NECESSARY!  
His door is always open and you are always welcome!

*Join Us!*