

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

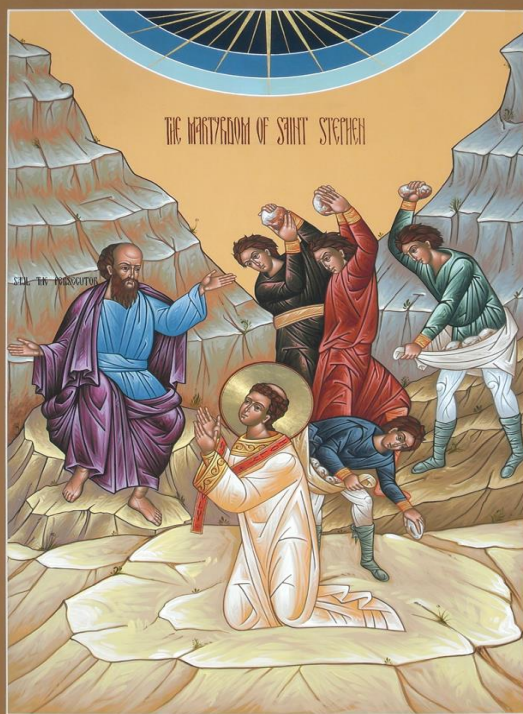
Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

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 28, 2014 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass Schedule

Daily: 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.

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 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.

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 2015 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

MONDAY 9:00am	December 29, 2014 Robert W. Kozempel (25 th Anniversary) r/b Gerry Kozempel
TUESDAY 9:00am	December 30, 2014 A Special Intention r/b Family
WEDNESDAY 9:00am Daily 4:30pm Vigil	December 31, 2014 (New Year's Eve) Edward J. Reilly r/b Frank & Rita Miller People of the Parish – Living & Deceased (Solemnity of Mary Holy Day Vigil)
THURSDAY 9:00am	January 1, 2015 (Solemnity of Mary Holy Day) Barbara Fallon (7 th Anniversary) r/b Family
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 2, 2015 (First Friday Adoration) Louise Pigliacelli (5 th Anniversary) r/b Her Husband, Frank
SATURDAY 4:30pm	January 3, 2015 Frank & Josephine Celia (11 th & 3 rd Anniversary) r/b Family
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	January 4, 2015 Maria Ida Fanelle r/b Edith Alessi & Family Vincenza Faiola r/b Sr. Eleanora & 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.

December 13/14, 2014 Collection:	\$5,126
2014-2015 Weekly Collection Target:	\$5,000
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Collection Average:	\$4,922

Offertory Figures for December 20/21 will be posted in the January 4th bulletin as this issue was submitted on 12/17/14.

Christmas Offertory figures & flowers will appear in the January 11th bulletin as the January 4th issue was required for submission Dec. 22nd.

Upcoming Special Collections:

- January 1: "The Solemnity of Mary" (St. Stephen)**
- January 25: "Mission Membership Sunday" (Diocese)**
(posted as a courtesy for our 20+ E-givers)

Automatic E-Giving

St. Stephen Parish continues to provide **Electronic Giving, or e-Giving**, 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.**



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, Joy Bowman, Mary Caruso, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Dot Corbett, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Patricia Domer, Diane Fesko, Joe Flacco, Nicole Franklin-Sonnie, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Richard Gentile, Sr., Thomas Holmes Sr., Marie Kaminski, Debra Knapp, Donna Krawchuk, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Marge Leone, Wanda Loperfido, Joann Lunsford, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Ann Marie Meyer, Debbi Morrissey, Neal Norris, Esther Nunez, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Frank Pigliacelli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Dean & Marie Russell, Kathleen Stehm, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, John Vindick, Mary Vivielo, Dolores VonAlex, Barbara Weingard.**

Ministry Schedule for December 31/January 1/3/4

* Designates Alternate Server

New Year's Eve, Wednesday 4:30pm Solemnity of Mary Vigil

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: A. Cirullo, R. Davis, E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro, L. Heiningering
Lectors: P. Cioe, D. Heck

New Year's Day, Thursday 9:00am Solemnity of Mary Holy Day

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: L. D'Alessandro, M. Bufanio, L. McHugh, T. Modzier, R. Davis
Lectors: R. Taylor, J. Melfi

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Server: TBD
EM's: L. Heiningering, A. Knight, C. Pandola, Sr. Eleanora, *J. Heiningering
Lector: R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: L. Monaco, R. Davis, R. Leone, T. Scavuzzo, *S. Marano
Lectors: M. Miller, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: K. Fagan, T. Link, T. Mattera, M. Meloni, *J. Fagan
Lector: M. Turan

Stewardship Reflection for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph "Stewards Offer Forgiveness"

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive."
COLOSSIANS 3:13B

Forgiveness – one of the hardest things for people to do. It's amazing how long we can hold a grudge or be angry with someone. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, take this opportunity to give the gift of forgiveness to someone - maybe someone in your family, maybe a friend, maybe a co-worker or neighbor or, maybe yourself.

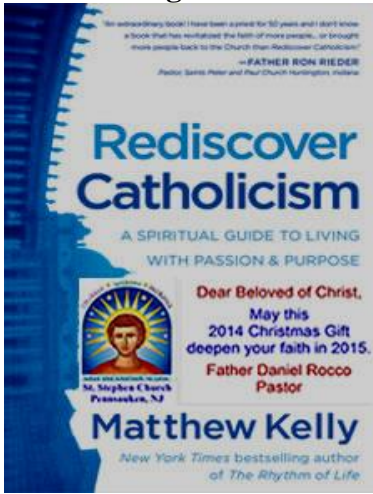
This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

12/29-Monday-9am Mass, 11am Bible Study
12/30-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
12/31-Wednesday-9am Daily Mass, 4:30pm Solemnity of Mary Vigil
1/1-Thursday-9am Mass for Solemnity of Mary Holy Day
1/2-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm, Rectory closed Jan. 1-2
1/3-Saturday-9am Men's Group, 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
1/4-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Will resume **Thursday, January 8, 2015.**

We will begin to discuss:



ALL ARE WELCOME TO CONTINUE OUR PARISH DISCUSSION IN PLANNING THE FUTURE OF ST. STEPHEN PARISH.

Wednesday Night CCD Classes

will resume on January 7, 2015 at 6:15pm.

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, January 2nd 9:45am-7:00pm.**



St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you. Prayer requests for the month of December, please contact **Maryann @ 856-235-1423.** In January: **Bernice @ 856-662-4641.**

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.**

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.**

Volunteers Still Needed!

Jan. 11th (Sunday)

Transition our church to Ordinary Time



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

When: Mondays from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Where: Stonegate Main Conference Room

Please contact Eileen Heide with any questions.
Phone: 662-8046 email: heides@comcast.net

"The woman who walks with God always reaches her destination"

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



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.

Blood Drive December 30th



The Knights of Columbus Council #3512 will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on **Tuesday, December 30 from 1:30pm until 6:30pm at the Sister Bernadette Parish Center.** Sign-up sheets will be available in the back of the church after all Masses. Call Lonnie at 856-662-6049 for more information.

Prayer Pavers to Our Lady

UPDATE: We apologize that due to several unforeseen circumstances (weather, illness, scheduling), the paver installation has been delayed. We have asked Fr. Rocco to announce the installation as soon as we are able. It is our New Year's Resolution to have this done before the New Year. **Thank you once again for your patience and support of this ongoing memorial.**

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.

RCIA Ministry

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

- Have you been worshiping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?
- Have you been away from the church...and have now returned, but want to know more?
- Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism; Confirmation; and Eucharist?
- Have you joined us from a different background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church.

Please contact **Father Daniel Rocco at (856) 662-9339 or Loretta Steinmetz, RCIA Team Leader at (856) 227-4980 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.**



The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Mass times for this Holy Day of Obligation:

**Wednesday, December 31st
4:30pm Vigil**

**Thursday, January 1st
9:00am Mass**

The Rectory and all Diocesan Offices will be closed on Thursday & Friday, January 1 & 2, 2015.

2014 Religious Retirement Fund Thank you!

"We can certainly call you friends because of the way you care for our retired members," writes a religious brother. Your **\$1,225** gift to the December 14th collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious benefits some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity!

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a weekend full of fresh love, rebirth, and new beginnings. Your marriage deserves it, and so does your home life. The next weekends are **Feb 6-8 and April 17-19.** For more information call 609-742-4035 or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org

Visit our website wwme-southjersey.org

DIVORCE AND BEYOND 2/11/2015 to 4/29/2015

Divorce and Beyond is for people who are already divorced or have filed for divorce. It helps participants understand what they are going through and that others have gone through the same things. Finally, it suggests activities for making divorce a growth experience.

Registration will take place in the St. Joseph Room, 7:00 PM, Our Lady of Peace Parish on 2/11/2015.

A fee of \$20.00 for the class and book will be collected.

Support Group Guidelines will be outlined. Group will end by 9:00 PM each evening.

Contact: **Debbie Wolk, 856-881-4133 or debbiewolk@hotmail.com**

Parish Library

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for your Advent and Christmas 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

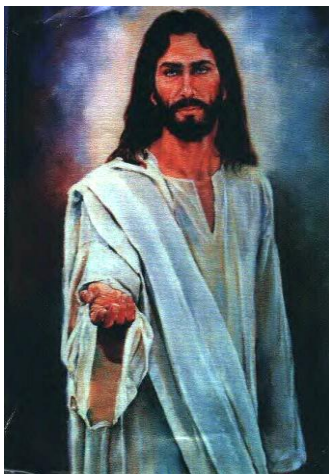
Sunday, 10:00-10:30; 11:30-12:00

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).

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## A SPECIAL INVITATION

### *Just for You!*



You are cordially invited to come into the silence and spend one hour with Our Lord during our **First Friday Adoration January 2, 2015.**

Jesus said to His Apostles, "Could you not watch one hour with me? "

*He is asking us the same question today.*

*Won't you say "YES" to His invitation?*

RSVP to  
Rosemarie Leone  
@ 856-662-0035.



## GET INVOLVED

### 2015 World Meeting of Families

Many local families and individuals have inquired about how they can get involved with the WMF2015 in Philadelphia next September. More information on preparing as a family, volunteering, and/or hosting visitors from abroad may be found at the official website for the event - [www.worldmeeting2015.org](http://www.worldmeeting2015.org). The site also allows you to register to participate in the many conferences offered.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

With the announcement that the Holy Father intends to visit Philadelphia at the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families next September, the Diocesan chancery has received phone calls from parishes and individuals seeking information about tickets, organizing bus trips, and how they might get involved. Representatives from the Holy See are planning to visit Philadelphia in January to determine the Holy Father's itinerary and the details of his planned visit. **Those details will likely come in early spring and additional updates will be provided in a timely manner.**

**Please remember that the World Meeting of Families 2015 and the Papal Visit are two different events. Registering for the World Meeting of Families 2015 DOES NOT include access to any papal events that will be scheduled.** Parishes and schools should make use of the preparatory catechesis (sent to pastors, PCLs and principals) over the next ten months and should encourage participation in the World Meeting. Additional information and suggestions may be found on the website - [www.worldmeeting2015.org](http://www.worldmeeting2015.org).