

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: ecclesia@comcast.net
Web: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

December 29, 2013 – 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

Children's Liturgy: 3rd 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, 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.

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

MONDAY 9:00am	December 30, 2013 Robert Swift r/b Diane Leone
TUESDAY 9:00am Daily 4:30pm Vigil	December 31, 2013 (4:30pm Mother of God Vigil) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	January 1, 2014 (Mother of God Holy Day) Barbara Fallon (6 th Anniversary) r/b Family
THURSDAY 9:00am+Novena	January 2, 2014 Louise Pigliacelli (4 th Anniversary) r/b Her Husband, Frank
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 3, 2014 (First Friday Adoration) Frank & Josephine Celia r/b Family
SATURDAY 4:30pm	January 4, 2014 Donato Gallicchio r/b Sam & Nancy Loperfido
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	January 5, 2014 Deacon Ernest Picknally r/b The Schmidt Family Stephen L. Dombrowski (2 nd Anniversary Jan. 4 th) r/b His Family Great Aunt Josephine DiMatties r/b Lenora Zinicola & Louise Zinicola Carol McCarroll r/b Terry Carr & Judy Kinsler

The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Barbara Fallon.

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 21/22/24/25 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on 12/19/13.

Dec. 14/15, 2013 Attendance/Collection	489/	\$4,755
Dec. 15/16, 2012 Comparison	576/	\$5,107
2013-2014 Budgeted Weekly Collection:		\$5,588
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:		\$4,997

Diocesan Special Collection:
1/26/14: "Mission Membership"

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Many Thanks to the
Conway, Hiller & Mack 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., Marie Kaminski, Donna Krawchuk, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Marge Leone, Wanda Loperfido, Maureen Lukasiak, Joann Lunsford, John Maggioncalda, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Dorothy McPeak, 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 Viviello, Anthony Vocale, Dolores VonAlex.

Ministry Schedule for Dec. 31/Jan. 1/4/5

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

* Designates Alternate Server

Tuesday, 4:30pm Mother of God Vigil

Altar Servers: K. Fagan, N. Hughes, C. Hughes
EM's: K. Fagan, J. Fagan, R. Davis, T. Link, P. Petronis
Lectors: C. Otto, L. Fagan

Wednesday, 9:00am Mother of God Holy Day

Altar Servers: K. Conway, C. Aleszczyk, B. McHugh
EM's: R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro, E. Nolte, R. Davis, M. Bufanio
Lectors: J. Melfi, P. Nolte

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: J. Heiningger, A. Cirullo, A. Knight, T. Angstman, *L. Heiningger
Lector: R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: S. Marano, L. Monaco, L. McHugh, R. Leone, *S. Mufalli
Lectors: Ry. Aleszczyk, Rh. Aleszczyk

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: TBD
EM's: J. Fagan, K. Fagan, P. Cioe, D. Urgo, *T. Urgo
Lectors: M. Turan, J. Bowman



The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Mass times for this
Holy Day of Obligation:

Tuesday, December 31st
4:30pm Vigil

Wednesday, January 1st
9:00am Mass

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

12/30-Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study
 12/31-Tuesday- 9am Mass, 4:30pm Vigil for Mary, Mother of God
 1/1----Wednesday-9am Mary, Mother of God Mass, Rectory Closed
 1/2----Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6pm Wedding Rehearsal
 1/3----First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
 1/4----Saturday-9am Men's Group, 2pm Hilt/Girardi Wedding,
 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 1/5----Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass



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

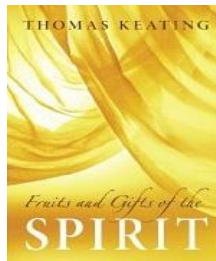
Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue Wednesday, January 8th @ 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues January 9th at 7pm in the Parish Center.

We are discussing "Fruits & Gifts of the Spirit" by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO



First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, Jan. 3rd, 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 restore our church after the Christmas Liturgical season. Kindly consider helping on the date below. Students please bring your paperwork to document service hours.

Jan 12th 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
Monday, January 20	Pastoral Council
Monday, January 27	Liturgy Board

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 or by calling Michael Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799.

RCIA Ministry

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

- Have you been worshipping 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) 662-9338 or Loretta Steinmetz, RCIA Team Leader at (856) 227-4627 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

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 January, please contact **Michael @ 662-2543.**

January CAP Schedule

The Office of Child and Youth Protection is announcing CAP (Child Assault Prevention) sessions. CAP is the safe environment training program for adults who have regular contact with minors. Attendance is required in order to comply with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The policy of the Diocese of Camden is that adults will attend CAP once every five years.

CAP 1 teaches attendees to recognize child abuse and neglect and how to report to the proper authorities. Adults are taught that children have the right to be safe, strong and free. CAP 1 is for new volunteers and employees.

CAP 2 is called *No More Bullies, No More Victims* and is a workshop addressing bullying awareness and bullying prevention. Cyber-bullying is also presented.

CAP 3 is called *Cyber-Empowerment* and is a workshop which promotes adults understanding of cyber activity of youth while teaching them realistic ways to help children keep their own rights and guard the rights of others in the cyber-sphere.

Each presentation is 90 minutes.

Adults who are new employees or volunteers should attend CAP 1 before attending CAP 2 or CAP 3. After five years, adults have the option of attending CAP 1 or 2 again if they prefer.

The following sessions will be offered in **January**:

CAP Phase 1

Thursday, January 16, 2014, 7:00pm, Holy Family, Sewell, Church

Monday, January 27, 2014, 7:00pm, Bishop McHugh Regional School, Cape May Ct. House, Library

CAP Phase 2 – Bullying Prevention

Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 7:00pm, Assumption Regional School, Galloway, School Cafeteria

CAP Phase 3 – Cyber Empowerment

Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 7:00pm, Infant Jesus Parish, Woodbury Heights, Ministry Center

Friday, January 10, 2014, 1:15pm, Saint Mary School, Williamstown

Monday, January 13, 2014, 7:00pm, Saint Peter Parish, Merchantville, Lower Church

Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 7:00pm, Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Sicklerville, Church Basement

To attend one of these classes, please call the CAP registration line in the Office of Child and Youth Protection at (856) 583-6165 or email Diane.Diggon@camdendiocese.org to register. **Please register at least five days before the session you would like to attend.**

The CAP schedule, location, phone numbers and directions may be found on the diocesan website @ www.camdendiocese.org

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.

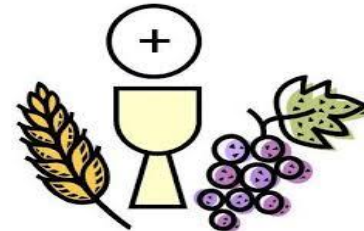
Registration forms are available at all parish offices. Deadline is **January 24, 2014**. For more information please contact our office, Mary Lou Hughes at 856-583-6132.

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

December 29, 2013

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

One of the highlights of my tenure as Grand Knight will always be presenting the \$5,157.64 check to Fr. Rocco from the Prayer Pavers to Our Lady Project!! This was the culmination of nearly two years of hard work between our Council and the St Stephen's Parish Community; we are proud to be a part of this ongoing project.

I wanted to bring you up to date on the details as well as inform you of the potential going forward. 111 Pavers were purchased which grossed \$14,803.47. Our expenses were \$9,545.83 yielding a profit of \$5,257.64 (\$100 needed to be left in the checking account to keep it open). This left an average profit margin of 36% per paver. Since all major construction costs have been paid, our margins will increase to **60%** for a 4 x 8, **77%** for an 8 x 8, and **85%** for a 12 x 12. With over 500 square feet available, the Blessed Mother will supplement our Parish for many years to come. Several parishioners have already purchased pavers, we would like to update the walkway at least two times a year. Your continued support and word of mouth advertising is important and appreciated.

Pavers are available in 3 sizes: 4" x 8" for \$100.00, 8" x 8" for \$175.00 and 12" x 12" for \$500.00. Samples and Order Forms are available in the church vestibule or online at: www.StStephensPennsauken.com and may be dropped off at the Rectory. The point of contact in our Council is Michael M. Ciarrocca at (856) 425-4799 or Ciarrocca@juno.com.

Thank you for helping us support St Stephen Parish Community.

For the Knights of Columbus, Council 3512,

Antonio Diaz
Grand Knight

Being Green for 2014

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older woman, that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this 'green thing' back in my earlier days." The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations." **She was right--our generation didn't have the 'green thing' in its day.**

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled.

But we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.

Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags, that we reused for numerous things, most memorable besides household garbage bags, was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our schoolbooks. This was to ensure that public property, (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbles. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags.

But too bad we didn't do the "green thing" back then.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.

But she was right. We didn't have the "green thing" in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. **But that young lady is right; we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.**

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right; we didn't have the "green thing" back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

But we didn't have the "green thing" back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the "green thing." We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint. **But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the "green thing" back then?**