

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

## ***Pastoral Staff***

**Reverend Daniel M. Rocco**  
Pastor

**Mrs. Suzanne Underwood**  
Coordinator of  
Religious Education

**Parish Trustees**  
Keith Knight  
Earl Nolte

**Rectory Office Hours**  
Monday–Friday 9am-4:30pm  
*Closed All Holy Days of Obligation  
and Holidays except Veterans Day*



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

## ***Contact Info***

**Rectory Phone**  
(856) 662-9339

**Rectory Fax**  
(856) 662-4679

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

**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.***

## ***The Second Sunday of Advent – December 9, 2018***

**Daily Mass:** 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.

**Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist** –

**Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in the Chapel.**

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory.

Also call the rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

A Priest should be called if death is imminent.

**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.

**Funerals** – Arrangements must be made directly with a Funeral Home after notifying the Parish. All viewings should take place in the Funeral Home. Funeral planning brochures are available in the Rectory Office.

**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.


# 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 2019 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 9, 2018</b>
9:00am	Joseph Papiano r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Charles O'Brien (18 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) r/b His Daughter Terry and Family Beth Young r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood Rita Nardi r/b Tom & Liz McHugh and Family
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>December 10, 2018</b>
9:00am	Rev. Anthony Cataudo, OP r/b People of the Parish
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>December 11, 2018</b>
9:00am	Sam Loperfido, Sr. r/b Sal Marano
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>December 12, 2018</b>
9:00am	Bill Buffington r/b His Wife, Lucille
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>December 13, 2018</b>
9:00am/Novena	Aldo Cicalese r/b Betty McWilliams
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>December 14, 2018</b>
9:00am	Sam Loperfido, Sr., r/b Lucille Buffington
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>December 15, 2018</b>
4:30pm	Sam Loperfido, Sr. r/b Rick & Bernice Taylor
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 16, 2018</b>
9:00am	Maria Calzonetti (Birthday Remembrance) r/b Family
10:30am	Charles Kaston r/b The Midili Family Bill McWilliams (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) r/b Family Sam Loperfido, Sr. r/b The Zinicola 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.

<b>December 1/2, 2018 Offertory Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,677</b>
<b>2018-2019 Weekly Offertory Target:</b>	<b>\$4,600</b>
<b>Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:</b>	<b>\$4,145</b>

Special Collections / Envelopes:

- December 9<sup>th</sup>: "Retired Religious" (Diocese)
- Now thru Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>: "Christmas Flower Memorials" (St. Stephen)
- December 25<sup>th</sup>: "Christmas Collection" (St. Stephen)
- January 1<sup>st</sup>: "Solemnity of Mary" (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:**

- Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Alice Jean Baylor,
- Anna Buono, Edmund Ciccarone, Carol Cranmer,
- Fanny DiBenedetto, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber,
- Pricilla Handy, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ,
- Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum, Nancy Loperfido,
- Ken Maminski, Larry Miller, Joy and Ed Morrisson,
- Sue Ott, Rich Passaro, Nancy Sonnie,
- Callum Steinmetz, Rick Taylor,
- Frances Vocale, Barbara Weingard, Emily Wilson.

## Ministry Schedule for December 15/16

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**EM's:** Sr. Eleanora, T. Scavuzzo, A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola  
**Lectors:** Jared R., B. Mattia

**Sunday, 9:00am**

**EM's:** M. Conway, R. Davis, R. Leone, E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro  
**Lectors:** J. Gerst, D. Steinmetz

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**EM's:** J. Fagan, J. Messina, G. Tutwiler, T. Angstman  
**Lectors:** M. Miller, M. Turan

## "Stewardship Values"

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."*

*(PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)*

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our *Stewardship* values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

## 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. We encourage our families to visit our cemeteries and mausoleums and pray for their dearly departed loved ones. All masses are listed on our website. 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).

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16*

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

- 12/10-Monday-9am Mass
- 12/11-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 12/12-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 12/13-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion
- 12/14-Friday-9am Mass
- 12/15-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 12/16-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

### ***Tuesday Night Rosary***

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

Come join us as we ask Our Lady to pray with us and for us. 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)

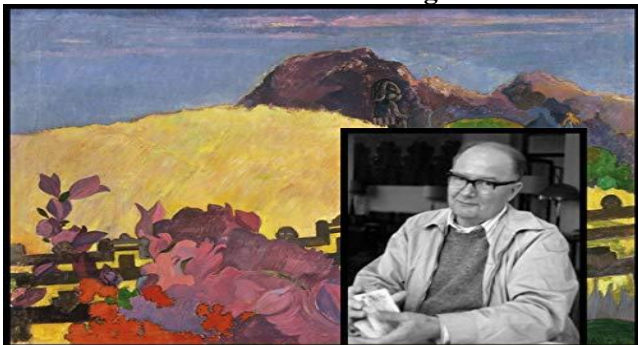
### ***Wednesday Night CCD Classes***

**Continue December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15pm.**

### ***Thursday Night Discussion Club***

**Continues December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm.**

**We'll be discussing:**



**Bernard Lonergan**  
 Christianity's Response to a Secular Age

Dr. Gordon A. Rixon, S.J., Ph.D.  
 University of Toronto



### **STONEGATE II Hotline**

If you are interested in filling out an application for the new Stonegate II apartments, you may call (856) 342-4187 and leave your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER. A Diocesan Housing representative will then return your call with additional instructions & information.

### ***Art & Environment Ministry***

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass is asked to contact our A&E Chairperson **Maria Haas at (856) 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.

### ***Choir – New Members Welcome!***

St. Stephen's Music Ministry cordially invites you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. Choir gathers in the church on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, with rehearsals lasting 60-90 minutes. If you want to share your talents, please contact Mrs. Nancy Werner-Kaiser through the Rectory Office.

### ***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).

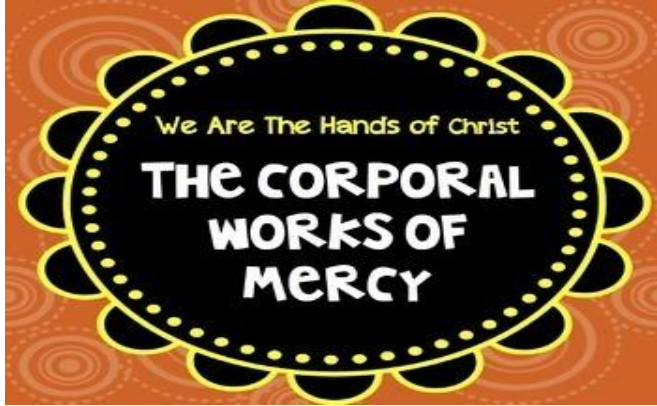
### ***St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You***



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

For Prayer Requests in the month of **December** contact **Bernadette @ 609-220-6359.**

# Works of Mercy – Items Needed



**Our Religious Formation Students**, who meet at St. Stephen on Wednesday nights, are always looking to perform the Works of Mercy, as Jesus calls us to in the Gospel of Matthew 25. We were contacted by a woman, Carole B., living in our area, who requested us to help those people in her native country of TOGO, who live in poverty and lack many basic needs of life. So, for the next few weeks, we are requesting **used clothes and shoes, especially for children, as well as toothpaste, toothbrushes, and soap.** These items may be placed in the rear of Church by the Food Baskets during weekend Masses. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our Students learn the importance of Giving and Sharing.

~~~~~



**The Joy of the Gospel  
in South Jersey**

At this moment in time, when our hearts are burdened with so many difficult issues, the Holy Spirit is guiding the Diocese of Camden on a mission. This mission, *The Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in South Jersey*, will give lay leaders from throughout the diocese the opportunity to reflect on the reality that the Catholic Church finds herself in today. In March 2019, participants will gather for workshops, reflection, prayer and discussion. These 650+ lay leaders, chosen from each of the parishes in the diocese, will take what they have learned back to their parishes and communities and address today’s challenges as a diverse community of missionary disciples.

# WILL YOU TAKE A BABY BOTTLE.....AGAIN???



## And help the homeless, pregnant mothers of Good Counsel Homes?

This weekend we welcome a representative from Good Counsel Homes, speaking on behalf of their mission at all Masses. Good Counsel operates Catholic homes for homeless pregnant women and their babies and a national toll-free help line (800-723-8331). They will be collecting monetary donations to assist their valuable pro-life ministry. For more information or to donate online please go to [www.goodcounselhomes.org](http://www.goodcounselhomes.org) Also, to help spread the word LIKE Good Counsel Homes on Facebook or follow on Twitter, Pintrest or Instagram.

Good Counsel also offers hope and healing for those who are suffering after abortion. Lumina, which means light, offers help for men, women and siblings who are feeling pain because of an abortion in their life or family. Confidential, compassionate help may be found for anyone at 1.877.Lumina.1 (1.877.586.4621) or at [www.LuminaHope.org](http://www.LuminaHope.org) or [www.PostAbortionHelp.org](http://www.PostAbortionHelp.org)

~~~~~

## Gloucester Catholic News

Become a “**Ram for the Day**”. Schedule a shadow day by visiting [www.gchsrams.org](http://www.gchsrams.org) and click on the Ram for a day link. You can also email Mr. Tom Flynn in the Admissions office [tflynn@gchsrams.org](mailto:tflynn@gchsrams.org).

The following student from your parish achieved honor roll status for the first quarter: **Michael Schmid.**

~~~~~

## Paul VI Slam Dunk Tours:

The Paul VI Eagles are ready to soar! Please join us for a special pre-game tour of our beautiful school, followed by an exciting Paul VI home basketball game:

**Paul VI Girls vs. Camden Catholic, Thursday, December 20, 2018. Tours at 6 PM, Game at 7 PM**

**Paul VI Boys vs. Eastern, Thursday, January 17, 2019. Tours at 6 PM, Game at 7 PM**

Reservations are appreciated; please visit [www.pvihs.org](http://www.pvihs.org) for more information or to make a reservation. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Please come to the gym entrance at tour time; students and an accompanying adult will receive complimentary game passes. Questions? Please email Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, Director of Admissions at [kstewart@pvihs.org](mailto:kstewart@pvihs.org)

# The 2018-2019 Liturgical Calendar at a Glance

## Oh Come All Ye Faithful!

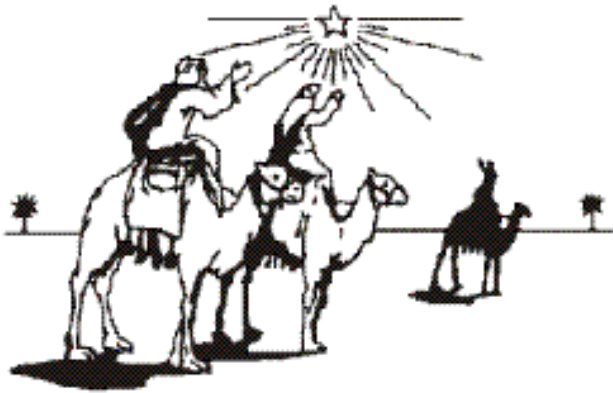
Please join us  
this year to celebrate  
the Christmas Season

### ANGEL TREE



Choose the gender and age via the label on the back of the angel (Newborn-15yrs.) of your child recipient. The color of the angel tag does not indicate gender. Kindly place your UNWRAPPED gifts under the tree by **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**. All NEW TOYS are acceptable and GIFT CARDS are suitable for older children. **Destination of the gifts will once again benefit the Needy Families of Pennsauken Township.**

## Advent / Christmas Schedule



### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Tuesday, December 18, 2018, 7:30pm  
(After the Rosary)

### CONFESSION

Saturdays: December 15, 22, 3:45-4:15pm

### CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

Monday, December 24, 2018  
5:00 PM Children's Mass & 10:00 PM Vigil

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Tuesday, December 25, 2018  
10:30 AM

### ST. STEPHEN'S FEAST DAY MASS

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 - 9:00 AM

### NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Monday, December 31, 2018  
9:00AM

### Mary the Mother of God NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

Tuesday, January 1, 2019  
9:00 AM

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

March 6, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### LENTEN FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12 at 7pm

### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

To Be Determined

### 2019 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 14: Palm Sunday Masses-9am & 10:30am
- April 18: Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper-7pm
- April 19: Good Friday Liturgical Service – 3pm
- April 20: Holy Saturday Easter Vigil – 8pm
- April 21: Easter Sunday Masses – 9am & 10:30am

### FIRST PENANCE

To Be Determined

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

May 5, 2019 at the 9:00am Mass

### CONFIRMATION

To Be Determined by the Bishop

### FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Thursday, May 30, 2019 – 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Thursday, August 15, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### FALL HARVEST MASS

Saturday, October 26, 2019 – 4:30 PM

### FEAST OF ALL SAINTS DAY

Friday, November 1, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 3, 2019 – 10:30 AM

### THANKSGIVING VIGIL MASS

Wednesday, November 27, 2019 - 7:00 PM