

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

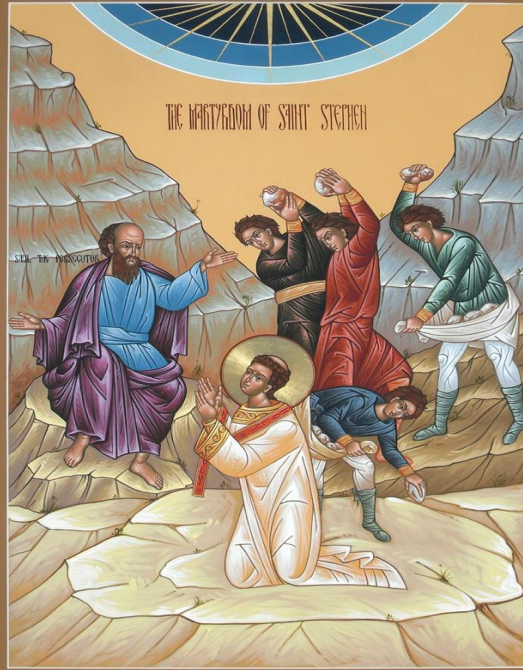
Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

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 – 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.*

February 12, 2017 – The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 2018 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	February 12, 2017 Raymond McCue r/b Mike Ciarrocca, Sr. & Jr. Richard Cliver r/b Andy & Mary Jane Salmonsens William Halloran r/b The Messina Family
MONDAY 9:00am	February 13, 2017 <i>Communion Service</i>
TUESDAY 9:00am	February 14, 2017 Rev. Joseph M. Hayden r/b People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	February 15, 2017 People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	February 16, 2017 Joseph Schmidt r/b The McHugh Family
FRIDAY 9:00am	February 17, 2017 Filomena Plesha r/b People of the Parish
SATURDAY 4:30pm	February 18, 2017 Dorothy Clothier r/b Ed & Barb Weingard
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	February 19, 2017 Victor Gerst, Jr. r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst Carolyn M. Johnson r/b Louise D'Alessandro & Family Kevin Hogan r/b Herb & Nancy Schreiber William Sauer r/b 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.

February 4/5, 2017 Offertory Collection: \$4,448
2016-2017 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,670

Special Collections:

March 1st: "Church in Eastern Europe" (Ash Wednesday)
March 5th: "Black & Indian Missions" (Diocese)

(Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)



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, Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Raymond Amatrudo, Sr., Eleanor Becker, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Edmund Ciccarrone, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Gregory Hayes, Mary Ann Hoffacker, Thomas Holmes Sr., Debra Knapp, Donna Krawchuk, Janet LaFreda-Hopkins, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Rosemarie Leonardo, Sam Loperfido, Sr., Michael Lopez, Joann Lunsford, Ken Maminski, Harry, Mary Ellen & William Mayer, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Rosemary Murray, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Rosemarie Rosolia, Patricia Ruhl, Dean & Mary Russell, Helen Setzer, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Rick Taylor, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Esther Tillinghast, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Mary Vivliello, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for February 18/19

* Designates Alternate Server

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Server: J. Bui

EM's: V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, *A. Knight

Lectors: B. Mattia, J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: J. Vales, M. Conway

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, M. Bufanio, R. Leone, *R. Davis

Lectors: D. Heck, W. McHugh

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: K. Fagan, M. Daniels

EM's: P. Cioe, J. Fagan, K. Fagan, T. Angstman, *J. Messina

Lectors: C. Aleszczyk, R. Aleszczyk

Hear Ye, Hear Ye,
Come One, Come All
To Coffee and Pastries,
At the Parish Hall!

Sunday, February 19th
After the

9:00am & 10:30am Masses



This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 2/13-Monday-9am Communion Service, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 2/14-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 2/15-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/16-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Choir, 7pm Discussion Club
- 2/17-Friday-9am Mass
- 2/18-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 2/19-Sunday - 9am Mass, Pastries, 10:30am Mass, Noon Baptism

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 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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

Please contact Eileen Heide with any questions.
Phone or text: 610-805-5363 email: heides@comcast.net

*The woman who walks with God
Always reaches her destination*

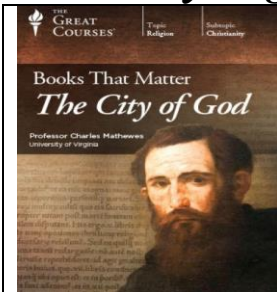
Tuesday Night Rosary

To Jesus Through Mary - 7:00-7:30pm @ Church

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 February 15th at 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club



Will continue
February 16th @ 7pm in the
Sr. Bernadette Parish Center
with
Prof. Charles Mathewes'
**"Books That Matter-
The City of God"**

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be
**Friday, March 3, 2017
9:45am-7:00pm.**



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.**

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 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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests for the month of February contact **Maryann-856-333-6525.**

Parish Library

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for all your Winter 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**

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.

FIRST MOTHER FAMILY OUTREACH

Women from our diocese have formed a compassionate outreach for mothers who have not raised their firstborn children. We, as ordinary women, offer you our comfort and support because we understand that time does not erase the pain of adoption loss.

Contact us at: FirstMotherFamily@gmail.com

"This is my commandment:

Love one another as I have loved you." -John 15:12

<http://catholicstarherald.org/birth-mothers-find-support-in-shared-experience/>

Nursing Home Ministry News

The residents of Cooper River West Nursing Home continue to be blessed by your prayers of support and donations of religious articles. Just a friendly reminder that we are requesting **only rosary beads & holy cards**, etc. and not random items like calculators, dictionaries & perfume.

For further information about the Nursing Home Ministry, contact Lonnie & Mary Sharon Monaco at 856-662-6049 or Monacofamily4@comcast.net.

Engaged Encounter Weekends

The Engaged Encounter is a weekend away with other engaged couples which allows plenty of time alone as a couple to dialogue honestly and intensively about your prospective life together. Ideas presented by a team of married couples and a priest or deacon stimulate personal reflection and private couple dialogue. Topics for discussion include: strengths and weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals, attitudes about money, sexuality, children, family, your role in the church and society. The Sunday Mass celebration is an important part of the program. Engaged Encounter Weekends are held at Pope John Paul II Retreat Center in Vineland, NJ. All weekends begin promptly at 8:00 p.m., Friday evening, and close by 3:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

Upcoming Weekends

March 10-12, 2017 - June 9-11, 2017
August 11-13, 2017 - November 10-12, 2017

Registration for Engaged Encounter

The registration fee of \$395 for Engaged Encounter includes lodging, meals and program resources for the weekend for two people. To register, go to www.camdendiocese.org and search Engaged Encounter. Questions: Please contact the Office of Faith and Family Life Formation by phone at (856) 583-2903 or (856) 583-2904 or email at MarriagePrep@camdendiocese.org

"A Wedding is a Day...A Marriage is a Lifetime"

Marriage is Forever

Learn how to keep it that way and grow in your relationship at the same time by checking out Natural Family Planning (NFP.) NFP education is continually available:

Virtual Online and Self-Paced Online Courses

Register at: www.ccli.org
Couple to Couple League – 800-745-8252

Catholic Divorce Ministry

Divorce and Beyond is a seminar/support group for those who are separated and have made the decision to divorce or have gone through a divorce. Our 12 WEEK program will be held in the parish center on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM beginning on **March 1, 2017**, at Our Lady of Peace Parish (St. Mary's Church), 32 Carroll Avenue, Williamstown, NJ. A \$20.00 registration fee will cover the cost of the seminar and materials. For more info, please call Debbie: 856-881-4133.

Health and Wellness Team News

The Health and Wellness Team will be conducting a CPR class on **Saturday 3/25/17 from 9:00 am to 12 noon** in the Parish Center. First Aid for choking, basic CPR, and Basic AED use will be covered. There is still time to sign up! Contact Joanne at Joanniedb@comcast.net if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, 2/27/17 at 7:00 pm** in the Parish Center.

Paul VI High School presents "THE SECRET GARDEN"

Paul VI High School is grateful to **Kelly Coar and Meghan Conway of St. Stephen Parish**, for helping to bring this year's stellar production to the stage! Evening performances will be held at Paul VI on **February 24th and 25th, March 3rd and 4th, at 7:30 p.m.**; Matinee is at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26th**. Tickets are **\$12 each for general admission**, and can be reserved by emailing nestrella@pvihs.org. More information is available at www.pvihs.org.

Camden Catholic High School News

The Arts at CCHS Presents **Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella**
Tickets Now Available! www.cchsp performingarts.com

Performances: March 3, 4, 10 & 11 at 7:30 p.m. and March 5 & 12 at 2 p.m. The timeless enchantment of a magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers & Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. Join us to be entertained by the talented performing arts and music students of Camden Catholic High School.

8th Graders:

Freshman Registration is **Saturday, February 25** from 8-11 a.m. Admissions Applications for the Class of 2021 may be submitted on a rolling basis only as space permits. Please submit your application for admission as soon as possible in order to be considered for a spot in the CCHS Class of 2021. Visit www.camdenatholic.org/admissions.

Irish Experience Guest Days

Only a few dates remain this year for 8th grade students to shadow a current student at Camden Catholic High School. Experience the tradition, feel the passion, catch the spirit of being a student at CCHS, the only school in South Jersey with a Leadership Academy.

Select your day at www.camdenatholic.org/admissionsevents or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule: janet.indelicato@camdenatholic.org or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

Men of Malvern Retreat March 10-12

Gentlemen,

I hope all of you had a great Christmas season. I would like to wish all of you of very happy New Year. Our annual Men of Malvern retreat will be **March 10-12**. Please put the date in your calendar.

Each man has his own reasons for making a retreat. Some enjoy the solitude, some enjoy seeing old friends and some have some very heavy burdens that they need to bring to the Lord. Malvern allows each man to make a retreat on his own terms. **I am enclosing a letter below written by Joe Conway** (as published in the Catholic Star Herald 4/29/16). Joe has been with our group for several years and has captured the essence of Malvern in this letter.

Please visit www.malvernretreat.com for additional information. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 609-471-0753. I hope each of you make time for this retreat. RSVP A) I will be there B) can't this year but please keep me on list C) not for me, please remove me from list.

Prosit, Joe

“The Unexpected Benefits of Being on Retreat”

I have just returned from retreat at Malvern, Pa., with a group of men from Saint Stephen Parish in Pennsauken. I would never have expected to be a retreatant, but this was my fourth experience.

Upon arrival, as I entered my room, I Googled. Each room has a window pane and a dedication to a saint. So since I like to know who I am rooming with, I looked up the saint.

My first year I had Saint Albert, which was fitting as I was getting back to my roots as a science teacher and he is the patron saint of scientists and philosophers. My saint last year was Saint Theodore, known as the warrior saint. This too felt appropriate as professionally I was gearing up for certain battles in my life.

This year I had Saint Irenaeus, an early theologian and apologist. (I'm not that smart. As I said, I Googled.) I will have to reflect on him and what he has to share with me about my life.

So how did I end up on a retreat? I was asked. Several times. But that was not all. Four years ago I made a Lenten commitment to dedicate one hour of prayer each day. I figured time was my most precious commodity and to give it up to God would be valuable.

And also, it turns out, incredibly difficult. Easter was fast approaching and I was “owing” hour upon hour. Then came the “ask.” Do you want to go on a retreat?

I did the college years. Cramming for a test was in my blood. Cramming for prayer seemed the same. So I was in. But I had reservations and questions. Do I room with somebody? (As I navigate my spiritual life I really don't need to worry about another grown man's sleeping habits.) No. You have a small single room with a bed and sink, just you and your saint.

What if I miss a session? No judgment. What if I miss a session because I want to go for a run or take a nap? Again no judgment. A no judgment nap? I'm in!

It seemed like a home run for me and my prayer obligation which I had set before me. So I went.

I grew as a Catholic. I am a practicing Catholic. Yet with all of this “practice” I truly don't know if I ever get better. But there on retreat I enjoyed my faith surrounded by a community of men and learned a bit more. I did extra Masses, and Stations of the Cross and confession, and I participated in Vespers and Angelus. I even experienced silence in my own Adoration time slot. I have found my retreats meet an inner need for a moment of silence and a relationship with God. A chance to grow and practice my faith.

If not for being asked I may have never gone on retreat. So I ask you, why not try a retreat? You may find something you didn't even know you were looking for. You may even be a repeat customer. Be careful of confession, though. On my second retreat the priest gave me penance: to come back for another retreat. The religious faithful are crafty that way. Since it took several times for me to hear “the ask,” I repeat, “Why not try a retreat?”

Joseph Conway belongs to Saint Stephen Parish, Pennsauken.