

# 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

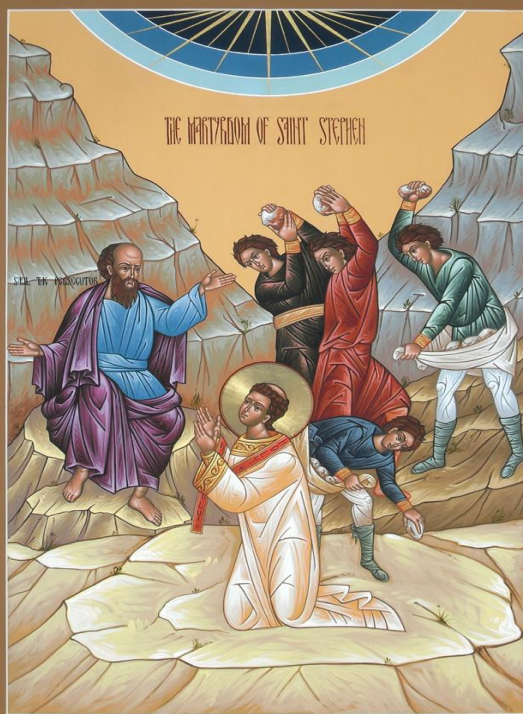
Coordinator of  
Religious Education

### 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](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.*

## *February 22, 2015 – The First Sunday of Lent*

### 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, 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.

### **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 2016 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".**

<b>MONDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 23, 2015</b> A Special Intention r/b Family
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 24, 2015</b> Benjamin L. Dabrowski r/b Fr. Daniel M. Rocco
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 25, 2015</b> Kathleen Stehm r/b Lucille Buffington
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9:00am+Novena	<b>February 26, 2015</b> People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>FRIDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 27, 2015</b> Msgr. Joseph F. O'Connell (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary-2/29/08) r/b People of the Parish
<b>SATURDAY</b> 4:30pm	<b>February 28, 2015</b> Mary Louise Hanlin r/b The McHugh Family
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>March 1, 2015</b> Angela McGraw r/b Nick Picciano
10:30am	Charles Franchine r/b Jim & JoAnn Chadwick

## The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of John Sarich, Jr.

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>February 14/15, 2015 Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,402</b>
<b>2014-2015 Weekly Collection Target:</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Actual Y-T-D Weekly Collection Average:</b>	<b>\$4,968</b>

Upcoming Special Collections:

**March 1, 2015: "Black & Indian Missions" (Diocese)**

**March 15, 2015: "Catholic Relief Services" (Diocese)**

(posted as a courtesy for our 20+ E-givers)

## 2015 House of Charity Appeal

<b>2015 House of Charity y-t-d</b>	<b>\$ 2,505 (5% )</b>
<b>2015 House of Charity Goal</b>	<b>\$53,295</b>

Let a gift to the House of Charity allow the fire of love to grow in you. Your donation helps ensure that vital programs continue, which not only give financial support but also teaches others how to improve their difficult situations and become more independent.

Thank you to the families that have given generously thus far. If you have not pledged as yet, extra pledge cards are available in the lobby of our church outside the Sacristy.



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, 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, Denise McHugh, Dorothy McPeak, Neal Norris, Esther Nunez, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Frank Pigliacelli, Tanya Robinson & Son Joseph, Rosemarie Rosolia, Dean & Marie Russell, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, John Vindick, Mary Vивиello, Dolores VonAlex, Barbara Weingard.**

## Ministry Schedule for February 28/March 1

Monthly schedules are also available on our website.

\* Designates Alternate Server

### Saturday, 4:30pm

**Altar Server:** S. Surgner

**EM's:** Sr. Eleanora, B. Taylor, L. Heining, C. Pandola, \*V. Thibault

**Lectors:** J. Heining, L. Heining

### Sunday, 9:00am

**Altar Servers:** B. McHugh, Q. Nguyen

**EM's:** L. Monaco, E. Nolte, M. Bufanio, R. Davis, \*S. Marano

**Lectors:** J. Gerst, D. Steinmetz

### Sunday, 10:30am

**Altar Servers:** M. Conway, O. Albert

**EM's:** T. Link, T. Mattera, M. Meloni, D. Urgo, \*T. Urgo

**Lectors:** J. Messina, L. Fagan

## Men of Malvern Retreat March 13-15

**Gentlemen,**

If you have ever heard of the men of Malvern, if you have ever been curious about what a Malvern Retreat is all about, if you ever thought about going to Malvern, THIS IS THE YEAR. Fr. Dennis O'Donnell will be directing our retreat this year. Fr. O'Donnell gave a Lenten retreat at St Stephen Parish a few years ago. It is safe to say he was well received. If you liked him here, you will love him at St. Joseph's in The Hills. You are invited to join us Friday evening March 13 through Sunday morning for a 42 hour retreat. Spend time with friends, relax, refocus, be alone with God. For more information please visit [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com) Register with The Holy Family Group. March 13-15. **If you have any questions, contact Joe Fagan 609-471-0753 or [jfagan1982@comcast.net](mailto:jfagan1982@comcast.net).**

## 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](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com) to set up your account.**

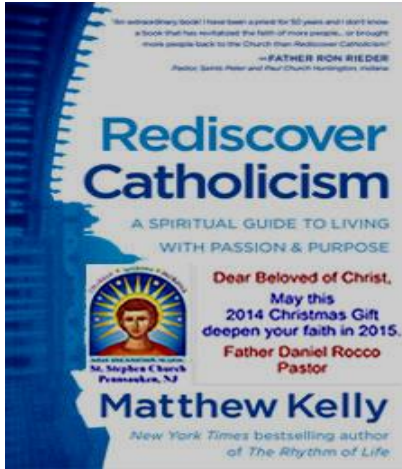


### This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 2/23-Mon-9am Mass, 11am Bible Study
- 2/24-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 2/25-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/26-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6pm Choirs, 7pm Discussion Club
- 2/27-Friday-9am Mass, 7:00pm Stations of the Cross,
- 2/28-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 3/1--Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

### Thursday Night Discussion Club

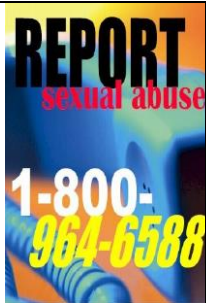
Continues February 26, 2015 @ 7pm.



Please join us as we continue to discuss "Rediscover Catholicism" by Matthew Kelly, the book we were generously gifted with this Christmas. Let's start the new year learning more about God's love and the gift of our Catholic faith. A good resolution for 2015 can be "to become a better version of myself" and help others as they journey to become all God calls us to be. The discussion club needs your voice, see you Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the Sr. Bernadette Parish Center. **Extra copies** of "Rediscover Catholicism" are available in the Rectory. They are free to all Parishioners and \$5 if you'd like to purchase one for a friend.

### First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 9:45am-6:45pm.**



An independent toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement.

**For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, call 1-800-964-6588.**

### Art & Environment

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.**



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"*

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



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

Prayer requests for the month of February, please contact **Bernadette @ 854-2928.**

### 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.

### 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).

# Why Do We...

## Proclaim the Word of God?

The Liturgy of the Word proclaims the Word of God through the prophets, apostles and Jesus Himself. We tell the stories shared by these holy people, as any family would tell their stories at a gathering. These readings remind us of who we are, what we believe, and of our relationship with our Lord.

The Scriptures are proclaimed from a raised podium called an Ambo; other announcements are made from a lower podium. This reading is ordinarily done by a lector, deacon or priest. A lector is a trained lay parishioner appointed by the bishop for this ministry.

The Scriptures reveal the relationship between God and His people as a dialogue. God always begins this process. The point where His call and our response intersect is called prayer. During the Liturgy of the Word, we hear God's message through two readings and in the Gospel. We are invited to respond, thus entering into the dialogue through the Responsorial Psalm and the Gospel Acclamation.

The First reading and the Gospel always share a complete message. The First Reading, which is from the Old Testament, points us to God's promise of Christ the Savior, while Christ in the Gospel, helps us to further understand the Old Testament.

The Responsorial Psalm is taken from the Book of Psalms in the Old Testament, and has been referred to as the Bible's Song Book. They were composed by poets like King David, to nourish both personally and communally, and have been embraced and sung throughout history. When they are sung, the goal is for the text to come through clearly, while the music gives support and helps convey the tone. If the verses are not sung, they must be proclaimed at the ambo.

The Second Reading comes from the New Testament or "The Letters of St. Paul". It is done in a semi-continuous manner which ties to the Second Reading of the previous week, not the First Reading or the Gospel. The continuity is interrupted only at Advent, Lent or Easter, when a seasonal message is used. This message is aimed at helping to give direction and encouragement that can be applied in our daily lives. The message written so long ago remains appropriate today, and continues to offer guidance for our endeavors to become the person God wishes for each of us to be. Listen to the Second Reading closely for the guidance and support it offers for followers of Christ.

## Become Engaged

If the Scriptures are to open a dialogue with God, then it is essential that we respond or there is no dialogue achieved. Our first responsibility is to use the silences to clear our minds and prepare to really hear the message, not just the words. Reflect upon the comfort and direction offered through the Second Reading and really look for the connection and message of the First Reading which will be completed in the Gospel. Give voice to your response to God's call to a dialogue, offering a "Thanks be to God" after the readings. Further your dialogue by thoughtfully participating in the Responsorial Psalm.

# 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**

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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## FaithFULL Food Drive March 1<sup>st</sup>

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us that whenever we feed the least of our brothers and sisters, we feed Jesus himself. At this time of the year, many food pantries find themselves with empty shelves while the requests for food are still great.

In response, the Diocese of Camden is organizing its second annual faithFULL Food Drive. **NEXT Sunday, March 1, every parish and school in the diocese will be asked to bring food donations to area food banks. We are in need of canned tuna, chicken, soup, beans, chili, beef stew, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned fruits, veggies, applesauce, canned fruit juices and vegetable juices.** The Diocesan goal is 100,000 pounds of food, more info at [www.camdendiocese.org/faithfull](http://www.camdendiocese.org/faithfull).

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## SSJ Mission Corps

**Interested in making a difference in the lives of others?**

**Ever thought about volunteering for a summer?**

The SSJ Mission Corps Summer Experience is a two-month volunteer program at Saint Mary by-the-Sea Retreat House in Cape May Point, New Jersey. Volunteers are invited to live in community and to open themselves to God's transforming grace in service to retreatants. This opportunity is for women ages 19-30 who seek an experience of Gospel living. One year of college is required. This program is sponsored by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia, PA. **The priority deadline for application is March 1, 2015.**

**Dates: June 20 – August 12, 2015.**

**Contact Information: Rebecca Little, Director**

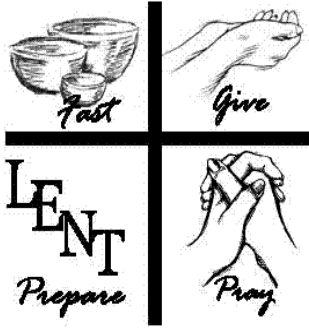
**215-248-7235 or [ssjmissioncorp@gmail.com](mailto:ssjmissioncorp@gmail.com)**

Web: <http://www.ssjmissioncorps.org/summerexperience.html>

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## Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If in this calendar year (01/01/15 through 12/31/15) you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary, 25, 50 or 60 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating on **April 19th at 3:30 pm Mass in Northfield, at St. Bernadette Church, St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish.** A light reception will follow in the parish hall. Registration forms are available at all parish offices. **Registration deadline is March 27, 2015.** For more information please contact our office: Mary Lou Hughes at 856-583-6132.



# LENT 2015

## “Conversion To Christ”



|           |          |                                                                             |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2/22/2015 | Sunday   | First Sunday of Lent                                                        |
| 2/24/2015 | Tuesday  | Rosary 7:00 PM followed by Reflection                                       |
| 2/27/2015 | Friday   | Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM – With Music provided by the Children’s Choir |
| 3/1/2015  | Sunday   | Second Sunday of Lent                                                       |
| 3/3/2015  | Tuesday  | Rosary 7:00 PM followed by Reflection                                       |
| 3/6/2015  | Friday   | Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM                                               |
| 3/8/2015  | Sunday   | Third Sunday of Lent                                                        |
| 3/10/2015 | Tuesday  | Rosary 7:00 PM followed by Reflection                                       |
| 3/13/2015 | Friday   | Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM – “Peace and Justice”                         |
| 3/15/2015 | Sunday   | Fourth Sunday of Lent                                                       |
| 3/17/2015 | Tuesday  | Rosary 7:00 PM followed by Reflection                                       |
| 3/20/2015 | Friday   | Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM – “Mary Stations”                             |
| 3/22/2015 | Sunday   | Fifth Sunday of Lent                                                        |
| 3/24/2015 | Tuesday  | Penance Service at 7:30 PM following the Rosary at 7:00 PM                  |
| 3/27/2015 | Friday   | Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM                                               |
| 3/29/2015 | Sunday   | Passion Sunday - Mass - 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM                                |
| 4/2/2015  | Thursday | Holy Thursday-Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM                             |
| 4/3/2015  | Friday   | Good Friday                                                                 |
|           |          | Reading of Psalms - Noon - 2:45 PM                                          |
|           |          | Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion - 3:00 PM   |
| 4/4/2015  | Saturday | Holy Saturday                                                               |
|           |          | Rehearsal for Easter Vigil-9AM                                              |
|           |          | Blessing of Food - Noon                                                     |
|           |          | Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM                                                      |
| 4/5/2015  | Sunday   | Easter Sunday - Mass - 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM                                 |