

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

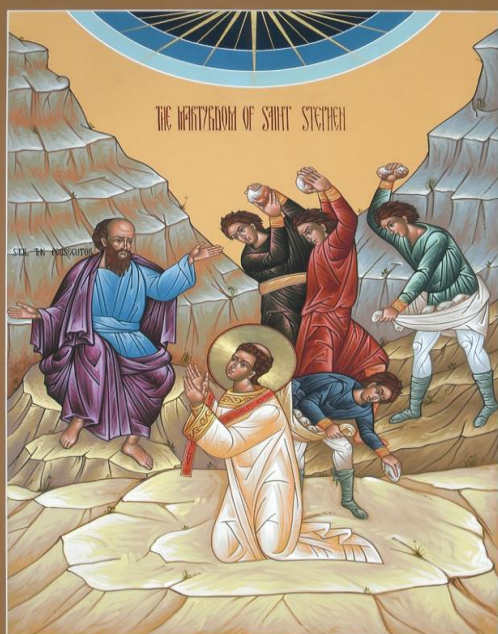
## Pastoral Staff

**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*



## Contact Info

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

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

**Parish Email**  
[ecclesia@comcast.net](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

**Parish Website**  
[StStephensPennsauken.com](http://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 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 3, 2019*

**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 2020 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>February 3, 2019</b>
9:00am	Gloria Vendetti r/b Her Husband
10:30am	Marta Riquelme r/b George & Gail Tutwiler Rosina Midili r/b Anthony & Susan Midili Frank Pigliacelli r/b Donald & Bill Mignone and Michele Czipo & Family
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>February 4, 2019</b>
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>February 5, 2019</b>
9:00am	Rosina Midili r/b Nancy Loperfido
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>February 6, 2019</b>
9:00am	Rev. Eldridge Evans r/b People of the Parish
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>February 7, 2019</b>
9:00am/Novena	Rev. Cornelius F. Lambert r/b People of the Parish
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>February 8, 2019</b>
9:00am	Louis Buondonno r/b His Daughter
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>February 9, 2019</b>
4:30pm	Frank Pigliacelli r/b Jack & Maryanne Merritt
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>February 10, 2019</b>
9:00am	Rosina Midili r/b Richard & Diane Schatz
10:30am	Ralph N. Cavallo r/b Donald Mignone Harry Mayer, Jr. r/b Mary Ellen Mayer & 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.

January 26/27, 2019 Offertory Collection:	\$3,543
2018-2019 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,260

Next Special Collection / Envelope:

**March 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
**"Ash Wednesday/Church in Eastern Europe"**



**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., Ted Anderson, Mary Bumbalow, Anna Buono, Edmund Ciccarone, Carol Cranmer, Fanny DiBenedetto, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Donna Kane, Walter Kittel, 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 February 9/10

### Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola  
Lectors: R. Taylor, B. Mattia

### Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro, T. Modzier  
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, M. Miller

### Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: M. Meloni, J. Messina, T. Angstman, W. Delfin, M. Conway  
Lectors: M. Turan, M. McHugh

## Stewardship Reflection

February 3, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## "Stewards Not Jealous"

*"Love is patient, love is kind.  
It is not jealous, it is not pompous."  
(1 Corinthians 13:4)*

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more **Stewardship**. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered".

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

- 2/4-Monday-9am Mass
- 2/5-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 2/6-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/7-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion
- 2/8-Friday-9am Mass
- 2/9-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 2/10-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

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

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

“Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the rosary, for the rosary is a weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother.” -St. Padre Pio

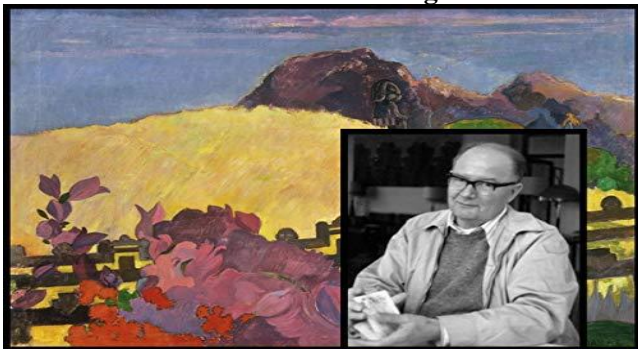
### ***Wednesday Night CCD Classes***

Continue February 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15pm.

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

Continues February 7<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 & info.

### ***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.



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 February contact **Betty @ 856-662-6928.**

## Good Counsel Homes South Jersey Annual Buffet and Baskets

An evening of dining, dancing, opportunity to win lots of prizes, and of course, help our moms and babies!

The Buffet and Baskets is scheduled for **Saturday Feb. 23** at Infant Jesus Parish, (St. Margaret's Gym) in Woodbury Heights. Doors open at 6pm. All you can eat buffet, music by MCaesars Productions, and beautiful gift baskets. All proceeds will benefit Good Counsel Homes, Riverside. Advance tickets by February 18th will be \$30.00. After February 19th and at the door- ticket prices will be \$40.00. Bring your family and friends - we promise it to be a rewarding evening in many different ways especially knowing you are helping those less fortunate. For tickets call Rob 856-649-9519; or email DIETRICHROW@AOL.COM.

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## A Catholic Social Justice Issue: What is Racism?

In this workshop at St. Thomas More Parish we will explore the definition of Racism and the historical development of Institutional Racism in the United States. We will learn how systemic racism affects us all, and how we can move toward an anti-racist transformation. The presenters will also reference the recent Bishops' Pastoral on Racism "Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love". The presenters are Sr. Cora Marie Billings and Sr. Rose Martin, both members of the Sisters of Mercy Anti-Racism Team. The workshop is Tuesday, **February 5, 2019** 9:45 am to 1:30 pm in the parish hall. Call the parish office (856-424-3212) to register.

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Sexual abuse is a crime that must be reported, investigated and responded to so that victims are protected and those who commit abuse are removed from ministry.

A special toll-free number has been established to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency.

For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, contact the Victims Assistance Coordinator at 1-800-964-6588.

## Camden Catholic High School News

The Arts at CCHS Presents the 2019 Spring Musical: **Guys and Dolls March 8, 9, 15 & 16 at 7:30PM and March 10 and 17 at 2PM**

"Luck be a lady" at this fantastic production featuring one of Broadway's most beloved shows presented by over 100 CCHS students. Sing, dance and laugh from the bustle of Times Square to the dance clubs of Havana in this show. Alumni Night is March 15 with a complimentary Wine & Cheese Reception at 6PM for all alumni (RSVP [kate.bieg@camdenatholic.org](mailto:kate.bieg@camdenatholic.org)).

Tickets (\$12/person) and Ad & Patrons available online:

[www.cchsp Performingarts.com](http://www.cchsp Performingarts.com)  
or call 856-663-2247 ext. 120.



**Irish Experience Guest Days** for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are being scheduled at Camden Catholic High School. Limited dates remain in 2019 (February 5 and 14 and March 14 and 19). 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](http://www.camdenatholic.org/admissionsevents)  
or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule:  
[janet.indelicato@camdenatholic.org](mailto:janet.indelicato@camdenatholic.org)  
or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

### CCHS Class of 2023: Admissions Applications

The Camden Catholic Admissions Office will review applications for admission for the 2019-20 school year on a rolling basis. Apply online today: [www.camdenatholic.org/admissions](http://www.camdenatholic.org/admissions).

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## Paul VI High School News

### Paul VI High School REGISTRATION FOR ACCEPTED STUDENTS.

Paul VI High School congratulates those students accepted into the Class of 2023! Registration will take place at the school on Saturday, **February 23rd**, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Questions about registration, or inquiries to apply to Paul VI, may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, (856) 858-4900 ext. 336, or [kstewart@pvihs.org](mailto:kstewart@pvihs.org).

# Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

*Luke 4:21-30*

## **Jesus is rejected in his hometown of Nazareth.**

This Sunday we read from the Gospel of Luke, continuing immediately from last week's Gospel. Recall that in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah and announced that this Scripture was now fulfilled. In today's Gospel, we learn that the people of Nazareth are impressed by Jesus' words, and yet they seem surprised. They still think of Jesus as merely Joseph's son. They do not expect such words from someone they believe that they know.

This Gospel is about who Jesus is and who people believe him to be. The story of Jesus' preaching and rejection at Nazareth is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels. In Luke's Gospel, this incident is told in a way that foretells Jesus' passion and death and helps explain the inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of salvation. In Luke's Gospel this incident appears at the beginning of Jesus' ministry; in Matthew and Mark, this event is placed considerably later, after Jesus has preached and taught elsewhere. Only Luke identifies the content of Jesus' teaching in any detail, telling us that Jesus read from the book of the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue. In Mark and Matthew's Gospels, Jesus teaches in the synagogue in Nazareth, and the townspeople take offense because Jesus is only the son of a carpenter. They reject his authority to teach them. In Matthew and Mark, it is only after Jesus is rejected that he observes times when Israel has rejected prophets.

In Luke's Gospel, the people are surprised but not immediately offended by Jesus' words in the synagogue. It is the words that follow his reading from the prophet Isaiah that seem to offend them. Jesus challenges and provokes the people of Nazareth by referring to examples in which Israel rejected the prophets. He also challenges them to respond to his message, the message of a prophet, in a way that is different from their ancestors. This call for a new response leads to his rejection.

It is helpful to consider the historical context of Luke's Gospel. Luke has witnessed the acceptance of the gospel message among many Gentiles. He endeavors to explain why the Good News of Jesus has not been as well-received by his Jewish contemporaries. Luke's report interprets the cause of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth in the context of this later Christian history. Just as the people at Nazareth did not welcome the Good News that Jesus announced, so too many among the people of Israel will not accept the preaching of the gospel.

After Jesus' words of challenge, Luke reports that there was a movement to kill Jesus by throwing him over a cliff. This differs from the reports found in Mark and Matthew's Gospels, where Jesus is said to be unable to perform miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Luke says that Jesus walks away from the crowd that intended to kill him; it is not yet his time. The animosity of the people of Nazareth prefigures and prepares the reader of Luke's Gospel for the cross. Luke wants all to understand that it is through his death on the cross that Jesus offers God's salvation to all.