

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

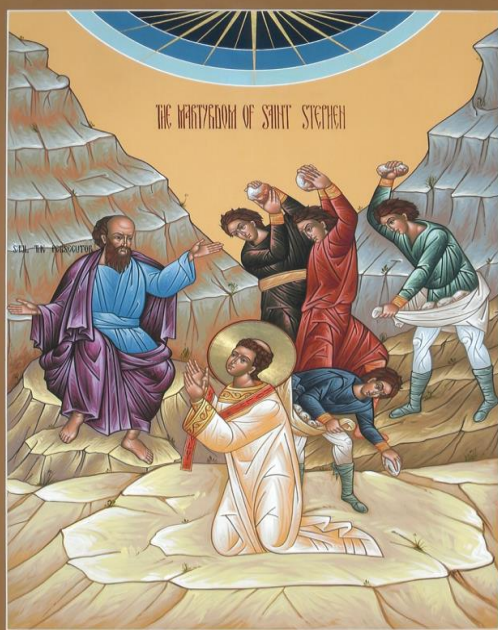
Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Parish Trustees
Keith Knight
Earl Nolte

Rectory Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00am - 4:30pm



Contact Info

Rectory Phone
(856) 662-9338

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

Parish Email
ecclesia@comcast.net

Parish Website
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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 9, 2020

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 2021 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY	February 9, 2020
9:00am	Gloria Vendetti r/b Her Husband, Anthony
10:30am	Thomas Duffy r/b Maria & Joe Haas Rick Taylor r/b Maryann Bufanio
MONDAY	February 10, 2020
9:00am	Stephanie Fisher r/b Jack & Maryanne Merritt
TUESDAY	February 11, 2020
9:00am	Mary Marotta r/b John & Mary Ann Zagone
WEDNESDAY	February 12, 2020
9:00am	Rick Taylor r/b Our Rosary Prayer Group
THURSDAY	February 13, 2020
9:00am/Novena	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
FRIDAY	February 14, 2020
9:00am	Rick Taylor r/b Lucille & Julann
SATURDAY	February 15, 2020
4:30pm	Rick Taylor r/b Marie Hanna
SUNDAY	February 16, 2020
9:00am	Pauline Fama r/b The Rocco Family
10:30am	Angelina & Amadeo Cerasaro r/b Daughters



**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 1/2, 2020 Offertory Collection:	\$4,120
2019-2020 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,500
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$3,949

Next Special Collection / Envelope:

**February 26:
Ash Wednesday/Church in Europe**

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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:

- Ted Anderson, Ralph Baylor, Grace Becker,
Mary Bumbalow, Anna Buono, Patrick Carr, John Christy,
Melissa Connelly, Athan Criaris, Fanny DiBenedetto,
Kim DiTheodore, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Priscilla Handy,
Ronald Heck, Wayne Hocking, Donna Kane, James Kelly,
Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Rosemarie Leonardo,
Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum, Nancy Loperfido,
Ken Maminski, Tom McFadden, Larry Miller, John Moffett,
Ken Morris, Joy and Ed Morrisson, Yvonne Mulhern,
Rich Passaro, Dean & Mary Russell, Louise Siciliano,
Nancy Sonnie, Bill Spicher, Peggy Tepper, Adelaide Travia,
Rita Vogt, Barbara Weingard, Tom Weingard,
Emily Wilson.

Ministry Schedule – February 15/16

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Knight, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, L. McHugh
Lectors: B. Mattia, J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: M. Conway, L. D'Alessandro, R. Davis
Lectors: M. McHugh, W. McHugh

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: M. Meloni, T. Angstman, G. Tutwiler, D. Urgo, T. Urgo
Lectors: M. Turan, J. Messina

“Stewardship Example”

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” -MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good Steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Let your light shine! Be careful to recognize that God is working through you and don't put yourself above the people you have been called to help.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 2/10-Monday-9am Mass
- 2/11-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7pm Liturgy Board
- 2/12-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 2/13-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 2/14-Friday--9am Mass
- 2/15-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 2/16-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

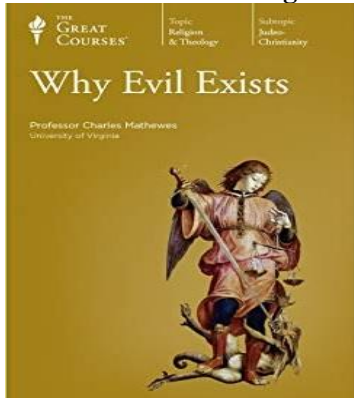
Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue February 12th at 6:15pm

Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues February 13th at 7pm in the Rectory

We'll be discussing:



First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, March 6 - 9:45am-7:00pm.**



Knights of Columbus, Council 3512



Hoagie Sale!

As a charity fundraiser, our Knights of Columbus council will be selling fresh hoagies @ \$5.00 & \$6.00 each after all Masses the weekends of **February 8 & 9** and **Feb. 29/March 1**. For info call 856-227-4980.

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 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 rejoice 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. Our Choir meets 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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests in February contact **Lois @ 856-665-1221**



Rides to Church

Need a Ride to Church?

The **Missionary Discipleship Committee** is sponsoring a volunteer program to give people who need it a free ride to church as often as needed. If interested, please call **(856) 662-9339, Ext. 6, Monday-Friday 9am-4pm.**

Join the Seventh Annual DIOCESE OF CAMDEN FAITHFULL FOOD DRIVE

Sunday
**MARCH
22**

*In Southern New Jersey...
1 in 6 people are food insecure (1 in 5 are children)
20,000 seniors must choose between food and medications
Help us combat hunger!*

WHAT WE'RE COLLECTING



- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Canned Fruits & Vegetables | Canned Tuna Fish |
| Canned Vegetable Juice | Canned Chicken |
| Canned Tomato Products | Canned Beans |
| Canned Spaghetti Sauce | Canned Chili |
| Cooking Oils | Peanut Butter |
| Applesauce | Nuts |
| Canned Fruit Juice | Dried Oats |
| Jelly | Cereals |
| Canned Soup/Stews/Chili | Dry Rice |
| Dried Herbs & Spices | |

**** NON EXPIRED FOOD ONLY ****

Aim for 'no salt added,' 'low-sodium,' and 'whole grain' options!

**FOOD DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT ANY CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN OUR DIOCESE ON MARCH 22! TO LEARN MORE, VISIT:
CAMDENDIOCESE.ORG/FAITHFULL**



SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Your Choice † Your Privilege † Your Right

Garden Permit Program Now Available Spring is Just Around the Corner Gardening – The Healing Power of Nature

Research shows that digging in the earth's soil is soothing, comforting and peaceful. When planting seedlings, cultivating the ground, and nurturing flowers, we experience happiness from our fruitful labor. Each year we plant gardens knowing when the first frost comes the flowers will die. However, we have hope because in the spring we will once again plant flowers. The cycle of life mimics the cycle of nature. Although grief may never go away, gardening may be a therapeutic option that provides hope.

The mission of South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries is to not only bury and pray for the dead, but also to comfort and console those grieving. Consequently, we are happy to announce our Garden Permit Program will be available at all Diocesan run cemeteries beginning March 21. To learn more visit SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org or call 800-594-4980 and a member of our staff with gladly help you.

"He loves justice and right. The earth is full of the mercy of the LORD." Psalms 33:5

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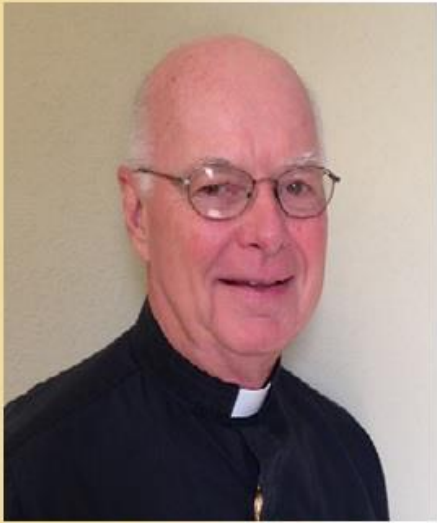
Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

**The next program in our area begins
on the weekend of February 21-23
at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.**

For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our website at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope to the Poorest of the Poor



Fr. James J. Durkin

OUTREACH PRIEST

Reverend James J. Durkin

Father James J. Durkin was born in Gloucester City, N.J. in 1940. He attended Mt. St. Mary's College and Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He was ordained as a priest in May of 1968 in the Camden Diocese. He served as Parochial Vicar in several parishes before he became Secretary to the Bishop and Associate Chancellor in the Camden Diocese.

He has been a pastor for over twenty years and most recently the resident Chaplain at St. Mary's Catholic Home in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

He retired from active ministry in 2014 and joined Cross Catholic Outreach to use his gifts and talents to serve the poorest of the poor.

Father James J. Durkin of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish February 29th & March 1st to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. Cross Catholic Outreach was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!