

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

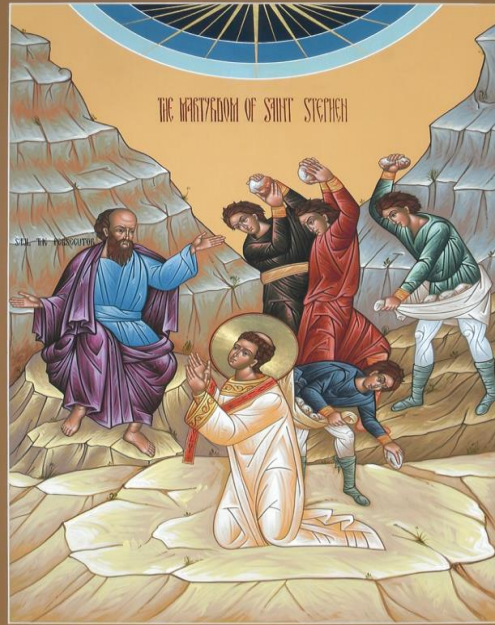
Pastoral Staff

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 Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 22, 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 9:30am 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 9:00am	March 22, 2020 Rick Taylor r/b Immaculate Conception Council 3512
10:30am	Regina (Jean) Parker r/b Terri Dippolito
MONDAY 9:00am	March 23, 2020 Jaime Rivera r/b His Wife, Santiago
TUESDAY 9:00am	March 24, 2020 Msgr. Timothy Ryan r/b People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	March 25, 2020 Alyce Klaus r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	March 26, 2020 John McLaughlin, Sr. r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
FRIDAY 9:00am	March 27, 2020 Msgr. Cornelius O'Leary r/b People of the Parish
SATURDAY 4:30pm	March 28, 2020 Rita Rotolo r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
SUNDAY 9:00am	March 29, 2020 Rosina Midili r/b The Midili Family
10:30am	Rick Taylor r/b Greg & Valerie Mayer Mary Adamo r/b Louise & Leni Zinicola



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.

During this time of uncertainty, you may mail in your weekly contributions to Saint Stephen Church.

March 14/15, 2020 Offertory Collection:	\$2,986
2019-2020 Weekly Offertory Target:	\$4,500
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$3,913

Special Collections / Envelopes:

- March 22: Catholic Relief & Easter Flowers
- April 5: Lenten Collection
- April 10: Good Friday / Holy Land
- April 12: Easter Offertory Collection



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, Robert Foltz, 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, John Moffett, Ken Morris, Joy and Ed Morrisson, Yvonne Mulhern, Rich Passaro, Dean & Mary Russell, Louise Siciliano, Nancy Sonnie, Holly Spatz, Bill Spicher, Peggy Tepper, Adelaide Travia, Rita Vogt, Barbara Weingard, Tom Weingard, Emily Wilson.

Tentative Ministry Schedule – March 28/29

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Knight, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, R. Davis

Lectors: M. McHugh, J. Melfi

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, M. Miller, L.D' Alessandro

Lectors: P. Nolte, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: T. Scavuzzo, T. Angstman

Lectors: J. Messina, R. Aleszczyk

EFFECTIVE MARCH 18, 2020

Bishop Dennis Sullivan has suspended all Mass Attendance, weekdays and weekends, in the Diocese of Camden until further notice. Father Rocco and all priests, however, will celebrate all Masses privately and the Mass Intentions for your Loved Ones will be honored.

All events posted in this online bulletin are obviously subject to cancelation or rescheduling due to the Corona Virus.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 3/23-Monday-
- 3/24-Tuesday-
- 3/25-Wednesday-
- 3/26-Thursday-
- 3/27-Friday-
- 3/28-Saturday-
- 3/29-Sunday-

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.”

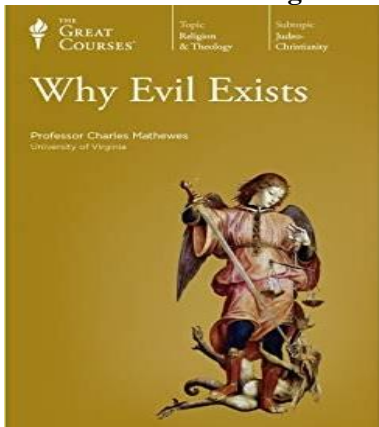
-St. Padre Pio

Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Suspended until Further Notice

Thursday Night Discussion Club

We're Discussing

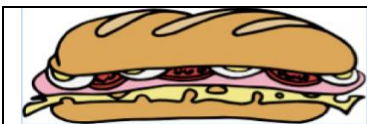


First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **To Be Determined**



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 weekend of **TBD**. 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 March contact **Bernadette @ 609-220-6359.**



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.

Gloucester Catholic News

Become a "Ram for the Day". Schedule a shadow day by visiting 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.

Gloucester Catholic Jr Sr High School 16th Annual Basket Auction. Thursday, **April 30th** at Adelpia Grand Ballroom. 5:30 auction Viewing and cocktails. 7pm Dinner Buffet. The fundraiser solely benefits GCHS students. For tickets please contact Heather Mondel at heathermondel@yahoo.com.

On Saturday **May 30th** Gloucester Catholic High School is hosting its second annual "Ram's Pub & Grub" event. This event will take place from 4pm-10pm at the G.C. Patrick Peyton Athletic Complex (81 Blackwood-Barnesboro Rd Sewell, NJ 08080). For more information please contact Kathy Townsend Suckiel GCHS '89 sksuckiel18@comcast.net or cell (856) 236-2207.

The Fr. Sullivan Golf Tournament will be held at the Pitman Golf Club on Monday, **June 15th**. Registration will begin at 12 noon. A putting contest will precede the 1:30 shotgun start. As usual, our format will be best ball of foursome. This golf tournament is named for Rev. John Sullivan who spent over twenty years of his life serving the Gloucester Catholic community. "Sully" was a friend to all who came in contact with him. We name the tournament in his honor to carry on the spirit of commitment that he gave to Gloucester Catholic. Profit from this tournament help fund Alumni Scholarships and the Athletic Department. For more information please contact Pat Moughan 609-970-1822 or via e-mail at patrickmoughan@gmail.com

5th Annual Johnny Gaudreau Scholarship Golf Tournament is set for Friday, **July 24**. The Johnny Gaudreau Scholarship Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, July 24, 2019 at the Blue Heron Country Club in Egg Harbor, NJ. All proceeds directly fund scholarships and tuition assistance. For more info contact Pat Murphy at pmurphy@gchsrams.org.

MISSALS & HYMNALS

As you have probably noticed, there are no Missals and Hymnals in the pews due to the current situation. This will require that you listen attentively to the Readings and the prayers and the music that will be chosen in the future will be hymns that are mostly familiar to you.

CHRISM MASS 2020

Bishop Sullivan invites the faithful of the diocese to join him and the priests of the diocese for the Chrism Mass at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, **April 7, 2020** at Our Lady of Hope Parish (Saint Agnes Church) in Blackwood. The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the priesthood and the occasion during which the sacred oils used in the sacramental life of the Church are blessed and the Holy Chrism is consecrated. Your presence and prayerful support will be greatly appreciated.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Bells are ringing for married couples! Not church bells, not school bells, not wedding bells, but faith, knowledge and married love WILL grow if you hear the wake-up bell reminding you to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! The next weekend is **May 1-3, 2020**. Questions? Need more information? Call our application couple at 609-741-8012 or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org. Visit our website wwme-southjersey.org

Catholic Charities' Prison Ministry

is Seeking Volunteers. Is God calling you to bring the Good News of Jesus to some of the most forgotten and vulnerable of God's people – the Incarcerated? The three State Prisons, one transitional Prison, and one County Jail located in Cumberland Co. are in need of Catholic Volunteers to bring hope, healing, and new life to the residents of these correctional facilities. For information on becoming a prison ministry volunteer, please contact: Sister Mary Cronin, DM, Prison Ministry Coordinator Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden Tel. 856-342-4106 Mary.cronin@camdendiocese.org

Lenten Schedule



FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS
To Be Determined

TENTATIVE LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
Tuesday, April 7 @ 7:30pm
following the 7pm Rosary



April 5: Palm Sunday Masses-9am & 10:30am

April 9: Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm
Blessed Sacrament Reposed until 10:00pm

April 10: Good Friday
Reading of the Psalms from Noon to 2:45pm
Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross
and Holy Communion 3:00pm

April 11: Holy Saturday Easter Vigil – 8pm
Rehearsal for Easter Vigil 9:00am,

April 12: Easter Sunday Masses
9am & 10:30am

Lenten Guidelines

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

**Jesus heals the man born blind
and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.**

As we did last week, we are reading today from the Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

The healing is controversial because Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The Pharisees, the religious authorities of Jesus' time, understood that the law of Moses forbade work (including healing) on the Sabbath. They also have trouble believing that Jesus performed a miracle. To determine whether the man was really born blind, the Pharisees question him and his parents. The man challenges the leaders of the synagogue about their assessment of the good that Jesus has done. In turn, they expel the man for questioning their judgment.

The final revelation and moment of enlightenment comes when the man born blind encounters Jesus again. Having heard the news of his expulsion, Jesus seeks out the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man. In this moment, the man born blind shows himself to be a man of faith and worships Jesus. Jesus replies by identifying the irony of the experience of many who encounter Jesus: Those who are blind will now see, and those who think they now see will be found to be blind.

As in last week's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, today's reading has many allusions to Baptism. The washing of the man in the pool of Siloam is a prototype for Christian Baptism. Through the man's encounter with Jesus, the man born blind is healed, his sight is restored, and his conversion to discipleship begins. The man born blind gradually comes to a greater understanding about who Jesus is and what it means to be his disciple, while the Pharisees (those who should see) are the ones who remain blind.