

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

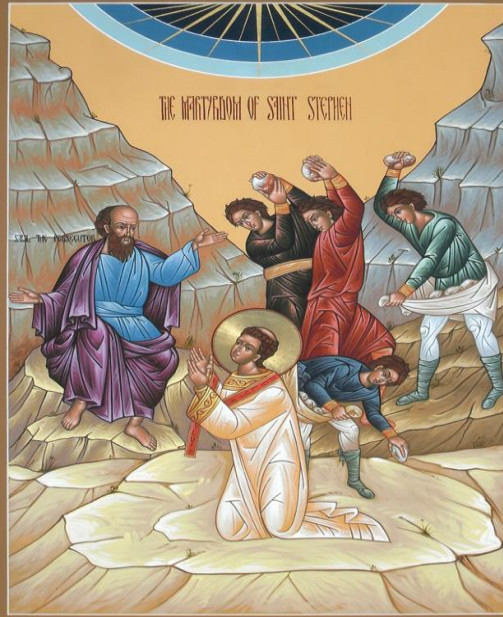
Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Parish Trustees
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)

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.*

March 5, 2017 – The First Sunday of Lent

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.

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	March 5, 2017
9:00am	Vincent L. Buondonno r/b His Sister
10:30am	Elizabeth Sutcliffe r/b Her Husband, Jim
MONDAY	March 6, 2017
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
TUESDAY	March 7, 2017
9:00am	Carolyn M. Johnson r/b The Loperfido Family
WEDNESDAY	March 8, 2017
9:00am	In Thanksgiving for our Nursing Home Ministry
THURSDAY	March 9, 2017
9:00am/Novena	Herb Schute r/b Teresa Schute
FRIDAY	March 10, 2017
9:00am	Jean Gugliotta r/b Rose Davis
SATURDAY	March 11, 2017
4:30pm	Helen Irwin r/b Ed & Barb Weingard
SUNDAY	March 12, 2017
9:00am	Arthur Alessandrini r/b Carol & Roland Dean
10:30am	Michael Arizzi r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood Charles Irwin r/b John & Colleen Messina



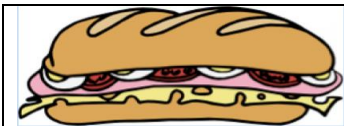
The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of
Nick DiLaurentis
(6th Anniversary March 8th)

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 25/26, 2017 Offertory Collection: \$4,833
2016-2017 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,657

Special Collections:

March 5th: "Black & Indian Missions" (Diocese)
 March 19th: "Operation Rice Bowl" (Diocese)



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 **March 11/12**. For info call 856-227-4980.



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, Bernadette Bierbach, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Edmund Ciccarone, 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 Viviello, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for March 11/12

* Designates Alternate Server

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Server: TBD

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

Lectors: J. Melfi, W. McHugh

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: TBD

EM's: E. Nolte, L. D'Alessandro, R. Davis, R. Leone, *T. Modzier

Lectors: P. Nolte, J. Scavuzzo

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: TBD

EM's: M. Miller, T. Mattered, G. Tutwiler, M. Conway, *M. Meloni

Lector: J. Messina



In Loving Memory of
Vincent L. Buondonno
 August 5, 1931 – March 3, 2010

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

3/6-Monday-9am Mass, 11am Bible Study, 6:30pm Deacons Mtg.
 3/7-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary followed by Reflection
 3/8-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD, 6:30pm First Penance
 3/9-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15pm Choirs, 7pm Discussion
 3/10-Friday-9am Mass, 7pm Stations of the Cross
 3/11-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 3/12-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

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*

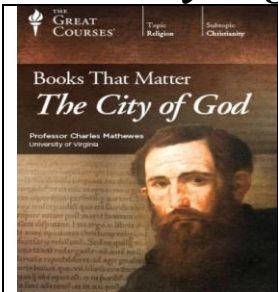
Tuesday Night Rosary

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 March 8th at 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club



Will continue
March 9th @ 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, April 7, 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.

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 Joannedb@comcast.net if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests for the month of March contact Lois @ 856-665-1221.

A Message from Deacon Anthony

My Dear Parish Family,

It's hard to believe that it's been over six years since I began my assignment at Saint Stephen's. Phyl and I can remember, as if it was only yesterday, when Father Rocco introduced us to the parish. From that very first moment, you made us feel welcome, you made us feel comfortable, and you made us feel like part of the Saint Stephen's family.

As a newly ordained deacon I needed lots of help and direction. Father Rocco assumed the role of teacher. He became my friend and mentor, helping me to learn the true meaning of being a servant to all God's people. I will always be grateful for his guidance.

I've had the opportunity to get to know so many of you on a personal level. I've watched your families grow. I've watched little children become young adults who grew so tall that when they stood in front of me I couldn't even see over their heads. I've had the opportunity to share many happy occasions like baptisms, confirmations, and weddings. And during your difficult and emotional times you've trusted me to provide comfort and a listening ear.

I thank my wife Phyl in a very special way. Over our 38 amazing years of marriage she has selflessly stood by my side through 14 career moves, and now a second diaconate assignment. I know it's never easy to be uprooted, but you continue to do so with a smile. (I know, someday I'll pay, lol)

My dear parish family, my life has been enriched forever because of the love that you have shown to me and my family, and for that I will miss you all deeply. Each of you will have a special place in my heart forever, and please know that you and your intentions will be included in my daily prayers.

Please keep Phyl and me in yours.

**Peace and Blessings,
Anthony**

Malvern Men's Retreat March 10-12



Gentlemen,

Our annual Men of Malvern retreat will be next weekend, March 10-12.

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 written by Joe Conway. Joe has been with our group for several years and has captured the essence of Malvern in this letter. Please take a moment to read the letter enclosed in the attached link:

<http://catholicstarherald.org/the-unexpected-benefits-of-being-on-retreat/>.

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. **Prosit, Joe**

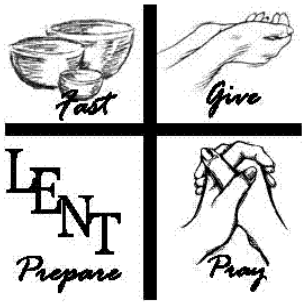
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Paul VI High School News

Paul VI High School 7th Grade Practice HSPT is being offered on Saturday, April 1st. This full-length practice test is helpful in preparing students for the High School Placement Test taken in the fall of 8th grade. (The HSPT is the scholarship vehicle used by many private high schools, including Paul VI.) Reservations are required, space is limited. For more information, or to reserve a desk, please visit the **ADMISSIONS EVENTS** page on our website, www.pvihs.org

Paul VI High School Coffee, Tea, and Tours will be held on Saturday, April 1st. Two convenient morning tour times are offered, ideal for families who are interested in Paul VI, or parents whose students are taking the 7th Grade Practice HSPT. Reservations appreciated, all are welcome. For more information, or to make a reservation, please visit our website, www.pvihs.org, on the **ADMISSIONS EVENTS** tab.

Paul VI High School – 7th Grade Eagle Days are now available! Seventh grade students are invited to spend a day as a Paul VI Eagle. For more information and to make a reservation, please visit the **EAGLE FOR A DAY** page on our website, www.pvihs.org.



LENT 2017

“Open My Eyes, Lord”



Lent: Did you know...?

The season of Lent was originally a time of intense prayer and study for those who were to be baptized for the first time and join the Church community at the Easter Vigil. Because these new members were to be received into the living Body of Christ, the whole community was called to preparation. Today, Lent is a time of fasting, almsgiving and prayer in preparation for the Paschal Mystery (the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Christ).

The season of Lent is a journey in which we are called to walk with Christ through his suffering. Almsgiving calls us to compassion for our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate and in feeding the hungry and clothing the naked we are Christ to one another in our time. The number forty is representative of the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert battling the temptations that could keep him from his earthly ministry. We, too, battle our temptations throughout the season of Lent; a season marked by self-examination and repentance. Fasting reminds us of our need for Christ -- our hunger and thirst also represents Christ's suffering in the desert and calls to mind how empty we would be without him.

The deep purple color that fills the Church during Lent symbolizes Christ's suffering and death but, because purple is also the color of royalty, it foreshadows Christ's kingship and resurrection. At Easter, the liturgical color changes to white to represent Christ's victory over death and the hope that one day, we will all share in his resurrection at the heavenly banquet!

3/5/17	Sunday	First Sunday of Lent
3/7/17	Tuesday	Rosary 7:00pm followed by Reflection “What is the New Evangelization?”
3/10/17	Friday	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm (Mary theme)
3/12/17	Sunday	Second Sunday of Lent
3/14/17	Tuesday	Rosary 7:00pm followed by Reflection “Who is Called to Evangelize?”
3/17/17	Friday	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
3/19/17	Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent
3/21/17	Tuesday	Rosary 7:00pm followed by Reflection “Why the Call to Evangelize is So Urgent”
3/24/17	Friday	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm (Peace & Justice theme)
3/26/17	Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
3/28/17	Tuesday	Rosary 7:00pm followed by Reflection
3/31/17	Friday	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
4/2/17	Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Lent
4/4/17	Tuesday	Penance Service at 7:30pm following the Rosary at 7:00pm
4/7/17	Friday	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
4/9/17	Sunday	Passion Sunday – Mass 9:00am and 10:30am
4/13/17	Thursday	Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00pm -Blessed Sacrament Reposed in the Parish Center until 11:00pm
4/14/17	Friday	Good Friday -Reading of the Psalms from Noon to 2:45pm -Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion 3:00pm
4/15/17	Saturday	Holy Saturday -Rehearsal for Easter Vigil 9:00am, Blessing of Food at Noon, Easter Vigil 8:00pm
4/16/17	Sunday	Easter Sunday – Mass 9:00am and 10:30am