

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

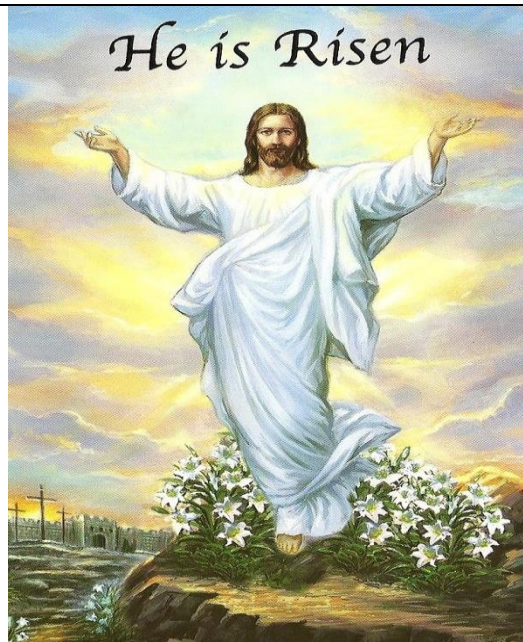
Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

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.*

April 1, 2018 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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 2019 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	April 1, 2018 (Easter Sunday) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
MONDAY 9:00am	April 2, 2018 Grace Young r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood
TUESDAY 9:00am	April 3, 2018 For the Good Intentions of Vanessa Vanderborght
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	April 4, 2018 George Sulligan r/b Mary McCarthy
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	April 5, 2018 Louise Pigliacelli (Birthday Remembrance) r/b Her Husband, Frank
FRIDAY 9:00am	April 6, 2018 (First Friday Adoration) Raymond Mazzola r/b Nick Picciano
SATURDAY 4:30pm	April 7, 2018 Harry Mayer, Jr. r/b Alex Rende
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	April 8, 2018 (Divine Mercy Sunday) Joseph & Florence McHugh r/b The McHugh Family Rev. Arthur T. Anderson r/b Mrs. Priscilla Handy & Family



**The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of
Louise Pigliacelli**

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.

Offertory Figures for March 24/25 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on March 23.

2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,405

Special Collections / Envelopes:

- April 1: "Easter Donation" (St. Stephen)
 - April 22: "Catholic Home Missions" (Diocese)
 - May 10: "Ascension Thursday" (St. Stephen)
- (Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)

2018 House of Charity y-t-d \$14,325 (29.8%)
2018 House of Charity Goal \$48,018

Thank you to the 52 families that have given generously thus far. If you have not pledged as yet, extra pledge cards are available in the rectory office and church vestibule.



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:

Joseph & Dolores Afilani, Raymond Amatrufo, Jr., Eleanor Becker, Barbie Brown, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Lina Ciarrocchi, Edmund Ciccicone, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Carol Cranmer, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Biagio Dinoto, Michael DiVito, Patricia Domer, Bernice Evans, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Angela Gallecchio, 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, Gene Leone, Sam & Nancy Loperfido, Michael Lopez, Joann Lunsford, Ken Maminski, Mary Ellen Mayer, William Mayer, Stella McCarthy, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Rosemary Murray, Florence O'Connor, Margie Ogden, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Linda Petrilli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Dean & Mary Russell, John S., Helen Setzer, Joan Siperavage, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Keri Ann Taxis, Rick Taylor, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Mary Vивиello, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for April 7/8

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: A. Knight, A. Rende, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, E. Nolte
Lectors: J. Gerst, P. Nolte

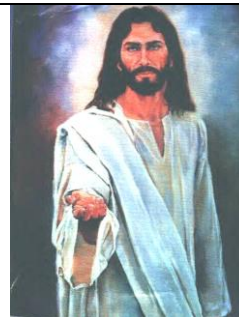
Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: L. Monaco, M. Monaco, R. Davis, R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, D. Heck

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: S. Underwood, T. Angstman, M. Meloni, W. Delfin
Lectors: M. Turan, TBD
CLOW: J. Messina

A SPECIAL INVITATION



"O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine."

First Friday Adoration April 6, 2018

"A Genius conceives a masterpiece... He is delighted with it; he will realize it by every possible means and at the cost of any sacrifice.

He is dominated by his masterpiece; he sees it continually.

Well, (in like manner) fix your mind on our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament and ponder on his love."

Saint Peter Julian Eymard

**RSVP to Rosemarie Leone
@ 856-662-0035.**

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 4/2-Monday-9:00am Mass, Rectory Closed
- 4/3-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 4/4-Wednesday-9am Mass
- 4/5-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 4/6-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 4/7-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 4/8-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

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 in the Fall

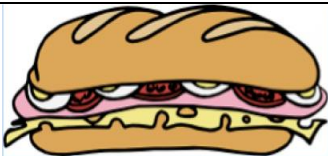
Thursday Night Discussion Club

Continues April 5th @ 7pm in the RECTORY.

We'll be discussing Prof. William R. Cook's "The Catholic Church: A History"



All Are Welcome to Join Us!



**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 April 7 & 8.

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 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.

Choir – New Members Welcome!

St. Stephen's Choir, aka Wing-Its, is looking for singers to expand the choir. While all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) are welcomed and encouraged to join, we specifically have a need for altos, tenors, and basses. Choir gathers in the church on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, with rehearsals lasting 60-90 minutes. There is an occasional extra rehearsal as we near Christmas and Easter. **Only three things are required: a love of singing, your presence at rehearsal, and above all, the desire to praise God in song!** If you're interested in joining our group, please see Nancy Werner-Kaiser, Director, or one of the members. Or, just come to the church on Thursday at 7:00pm. **We know you're out there, we hear you singing!**

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 the month of April contact Betty @ 856-662-6928

Reflection on Today's Easter Gospel Reading

John 20:1-9

Mary of Magdala finds that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb.

Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen. She does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Stewardship Reflection for Easter Sunday

“Stewards Think Above”

“Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.” - COLOSSIANS 3:2

On this day we thank God for His Son, Jesus, who died and rose for us. We celebrate and sing “Alleluia.” Let’s try to keep the joy of this Easter season in our hearts throughout the year! As *Stewards* we need to pray daily and listen for how He is calling each of us to joyfully use our gifts to fulfill His salvation plan.

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### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual iRace4Vocations

On **Sunday, April 22, 2018**, join Bishop Sullivan along with priests, religious, our seminarians and many other people from throughout the diocese at Washington Lake Park (626 Hurffville Crosskeys Rd, Sewell, NJ 08080) for our 7<sup>th</sup> annual iRace4Vocations. Bishop Sullivan will celebrate a Mass for Vocations at **1:00pm** followed by our 5k run/1 mile family walk. Come out to pray and race! The day will end with a picnic and family fun. Help us enjoy the day as we raise awareness and offer prayers for an increase in vocations for our diocese. We need our parishioners, all ages, to say yes to this intergenerational day. We need YOU. For more information and to register for the event, visit [camdenpriest.org/irace4vocations/](http://camdenpriest.org/irace4vocations/).

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Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If this year, 2018, you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary of **25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more**, Please join us in celebrating Mass with Bishop Dennis Sullivan on **Sunday, June 10, 2018** .(A light reception will follow in the parish hall.)

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

500 Greentree Road - Glassboro, NJ 08028

Registration forms are available through your local parish.

Deadline is May 18, 2018.

For more information please contact your parish office.

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**Registration is open for**

### Merion Mercy’s Summer Programs!

We have a variety of academic, enrichment and athletic offerings for girls and boys, including our acclaimed pre-eighth grade **Summer Academy** and **High School Placement Test Preparation** course, and our popular (entering) 6th and 7th grade **Jump Start Program**, which focuses on math, language arts, writing and study skills. We also offer fun enrichment programs and sports camps such as Basketball, Volleyball, Art Camp, and Coding, among others. Please visit our website at [www.merion-mercy.com/summerprograms](http://www.merion-mercy.com/summerprograms) to download a full brochure and to register online. For more information, you may also contact Mrs. Barbara Harrison, Director of Summer Programs, at 610-664-6655 Ext. 120 or e-mail her at [bharrison@merion-mercy.com](mailto:bharrison@merion-mercy.com).

# Important Dates Affecting our Parish

**April 2 – April 15, 2018**

Scheduled Open Houses for purchase of Convent's remaining items

**April 16, 2018**

Church driveway to be closed. Use new entrance (Stonegate Drive) per map below.

**April 29, 2018**

Bishop Sullivan Confirmation Mass @ 10:30am followed by Stonegate II Groundbreaking. Bishop Sullivan will also bless our new Crucifix on this date.

