

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Different Histories...

One Faith...

Different Ages...

Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco, Pastor
Permanent Deacon Anthony Cioe
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal
Mrs. Suzanne Underwood, CRE

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



Contact Information

Rectory: (856) 662-9338
Rectory Fax: (856) 662-4679
School: (856) 662-5935
School Fax: (856) 662-6128

Email: eccllesia@comcast.net
Web: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

April 13, 2014 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Friday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm (**Reconciliation 3:45pm-4:15pm**)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd Sunday @ 9:00am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm

Miraculous Medal Novena – Every Thursday after 9am Mass.

Eucharistic Exposition – First Friday from 9:30am-7pm.

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 1 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.

Tribunal Parish Advocate-Dc. Anthony Cioe- (856) 227-2145

Rectory Office Hours-Monday thru Friday 9am-4:30pm
(Closed all Holy Days of Obligation & National Holidays)

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.

Parish Membership – Moving INTO the parish all are asked to register as soon as possible.

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory of changes.

Please consider remembering St. Stephen's in your Will or Estate Planning. There are financial benefits to do so while still alive and, in death, the spiritual reward of helping to continue the Church's mission of preaching Jesus Christ.

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.

Our Parish Family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life.

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 2015 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

MONDAY 9:00am	April 14, 2014 Jessica Falcone r/b Her Grandmother
TUESDAY 9:00am	April 15, 2014 A Special Intention r/b Family
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	April 16, 2014 Bill Buffington r/b His Wife
THURSDAY 7:00pm	April 17, 2014 (Holy Thursday) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
FRIDAY 12pm Noon 3:00pm	April 18, 2014 (Good Friday) Reading of the Psalms until 2:45pm Liturgy of the Word/Veneration of the Cross
SATURDAY 8:00pm	April 19, 2014 (Holy Saturday Easter Vigil) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	April 20, 2014 (Easter Sunday) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased People of the Parish – Living & Deceased

The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Msgr. Joseph F. O'Connell.

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.

April 5/6, 2014 Attendance/Collection	474/	\$6,506
April 6/7, 2013 Comparison	468/	\$5,597
2013-2014 Budgeted Weekly Collection		\$5,588
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average		\$5,221

St. Stephen's Holy Thursday Collection: "The Needy in our Area"

Diocesan Good Friday Collection: "The Holy Land" (see page 4)

St. Stephen's Easter Collection: Your generosity at Easter time is greatly appreciated--this year--more than ever.

2014 House of Charity Appeal

2014 House of Charity y-t-d	\$18,710 (35%)
2014 House of Charity Goal	\$53,295

Let a gift to the House of Charity allow the fire of love to grow in you. Your donation helps ensure that vital programs continue, which not only give financial support but also teaches others how to improve their difficult situations and become more independent.

Thank you to the **85 families** that have given generously thus far.
If you have not pledged as yet, extra pledge cards are available in the lobby of our church outside the Sacristy.



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:

Mary Caruso, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Dot Corbett, Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto, Fred Dickson, Patricia Domer, Diane Fesko, Joe Flacco, Nicole Franklin-Sonnie, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Richard Gentile, Sr., Thomas Holmes Sr., Marie Kaminski, Debra Knapp, Donna Krawchuk, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Marge Leone, Wanda Loperfido, Maureen Lukasiak, Joann Lunsford, Harry & Mary Ellen Mayer, Cecilia McGonigle, Dorothy McPeak, Debbi Morrissey, Esther Nunez, Florence O'Connor, Jennifer Osborn, Savaelina Perez, Betty Picciano, Frank Pigliacelli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Loretta Stayton, Kathleen Stehm, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, John Vindick, Mary Viviello, Anthony Vocale, Dolores VonAlex, Ed Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for April 17,18,19,20

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

* Designates Alternate Server

Holy Thursday, 7:00pm

Altar Servers: K. Fagan, L. Fagan, J. Mack, O. Graff, T. Mason, J. Bui
EM's: J. Fagan, K. Fagan, T. Scavuzzo, T. Modzier, *L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: J. Melfi, P. Cioe

Good Friday, 3:00pm

Altar Servers: E. Mattera, K. Fagan, J. Mack, S. Caban,
S. Surgner, C. Aleszczyk
Lectors: C. Otto, D. Steinmetz

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, 8:00pm

Altar Servers: The Hughes Family, L. Fagan, B. McHugh, C. Hearn
EM's: E. Nolte, T. Modzier, K. Fagan, J. Fagan, V. Thibault
Lectors: D. Heck, M. Turan, C. Otto, P. Nolte, M. Miller, R. Taylor

Easter Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: O. Graff, J. Mack
EM's: R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro, S. Marano, L. McHugh
Lectors: J. Melfi, W. McHugh

Easter Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: O. Albert, S. Surgner
EM's: M. Meloni, P. Cioe, T. Link, T. Scavuzzo, V. Thibault
Lector: C. Aleszczyk, J. Bowman



This year's Paschal Candle has been donated by Mrs. Georgette Rocco in memory of Mr. Fred G. Rocco.

"Stewards Carry His Cross"

"As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named, Simon, this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him "carry his cross". These opportunities aren't usually big events; they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for someone. The key in living *Stewardship* is putting the other person's needs before your own and not expecting anything in return.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

4/14--Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study, 7pm Finance Council
4/15--Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7:30pm RCIA
4/16--Wednesday-9am Mass, NO CCD, 6:30pm Choir
(School closed April 17-27, Rectory closed April 17-April 21)
4/17-Holy Thursday-7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
4/18-Good Friday- Noon-2:45pm Psalms, 3pm Liturgy
4/19-Holy Saturday-9am Vigil Rehearsal, 8:00pm Easter Vigil
4/20-Easter Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

A Message for All the Ladies:



God values you, and _____ has a plan for your life!

Monday Ladies' Bible Study

1-2:30pm in the Stonegate Conference Room.

To Jesus Through Mary Tuesday Night

Rosary 7:00-7:30pm @ Church

Your devotion to the Blessed Mother was expressed by the response to the Knights' "Prayer Pavers to Our Lady".

Continue your devotion – Come pray with us!

"To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Jesus."

Blessed John Paul II, Apostolic Letter on the Rosary

Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue Wednesday, April 30th @ 6:15pm.

(There is NO CCD April 16th & 23rd)

Thursday Night Discussion Club

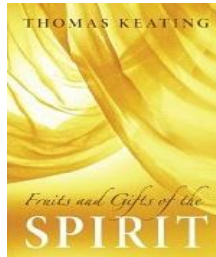
Continues April 24th

at 7pm in the Parish Center.

We are discussing

"Fruits & Gifts of the Spirit"

by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO



First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration

of the Blessed Sacrament will be

Friday, May 2nd, 9:45am-6:45pm.



"The worship given to the Trinity of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...must fill our churches also outside the timetable of Masses...Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation of the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease." -Blessed John Paul II

Saturday 9am Men's Prayer Group

Please join us for our Men's Scripture/Prayer Group. We meet every Saturday morning at 9am for one-half hour in the Parish Center Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.

The Art & Environment Ministry is seeking volunteers to help with the preparation of our church during Holy Week. Perhaps you can find an hour or two to complete your Lenten Mission by volunteering. Please see the sign-up sheets for more information.

Wednesday-April 16th Prepare the Repository (Parish Center) 6:30pm
Friday-April 18th need two men to help drape the crucifix 8:30am

Saturday April 19th-volunteers to restore the parish center and prepare the church for the Easter Vigil 9:30am

Students needing service hours are welcome to join in.

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee is seeking volunteers to help minister to those who've recently lost loved ones in our community of faith. To join this special ministry, please call **Joy Bowman** at 662-4803.

Conversion Adult Workshop

"Following the Call of Christ"

What makes one's life successful? Money? Power? Popularity? Most philosophies of the well-lived life are based on having something, but the Christian perspective is that it is better to be something. In this workshop we will be exploring the conversion of six ordinary biblical figures: Bartimaeus, the Rich Young Man, Matthew, Jonah, the Woman at the Well, and the Journey of the Magi. These stories, presented by Fr. Robert Barron on DVD will be offered in the **Parish Center**, Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, **concluding on April 23 & 30.**

Council & Board Meetings

All at 7pm in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted.

Monday, April 14

Finance Council

Monday, April 28

Pastoral Council

The Knights of Columbus will be having their semi-annual breakfast buffet on **Sunday, April 27**, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at St Cecilia's School Gym. Adults - \$8.00, kids under 12 - \$5.00, families of 4 to 6 - \$25.00. For tickets and information, please call Mike Ciarrocca 856-425-4799.

Prayer Pavers to Our Lady

Congratulations and thank you to Knights Of Columbus, Bishop Eustace Assembly 652 (4th Degree) on purchasing their paver. This brings our grand total to \$15,658.47!! 7 additional pavers have been ordered since completing the walkway. We are preparing our spring update order; if you are considering purchasing a paver, please do so as soon as possible to be included!!! Remember - 60 to 80% (size dependent) of all subsequent orders are profit to the St Stephen Community!!!

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 in the school office, order forms are on our website and in the rectory office.

Info is available @ www.ststephenspennsauken.com

or by calling Michael Ciarrocca at 856-425-4799.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

Prayer requests for the month of April, please contact **Linda** @ 661-8045.

CHRISM MASS 2014

Bishop Sullivan invites the faithful of the diocese to join him and his priests for the Chrism Mass at 3:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at St. Agnes Church/Our Lady of Hope Parish in Blackwood. The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the priesthood and the occasion on which the bishop consecrates the sacred oils used in the sacramental life of the Church. Your presence and prayerful support will be greatly appreciated.

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Good Friday Collection A Pontifical Collection

Christians around the world are united in a special way during Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Our hearts, minds and prayers are also especially aware of the Holy Land.

Our parish, once a year on Good Friday, is called on to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy Land. Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry. For more information, visit www.MyFranciscan.org.

The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy Father. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.

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Pennsauken Fire Department's Annual Memorial & Prayer Service

Sunday, May 4, 2014 @ 1:30pm

Mary, Queen of All Saints, Pennsauken, NJ

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Open Your Heart and Home!

Local Host Families needed for South Korean and Chinese international students attending Camden Catholic High School for the upcoming 2014/2015 school year, tuition paid. They are motivated learners with a wide variety of interests. These F-1 visa students speak English, are fully insured, and have their own pocket money for personal expenses. Host families provide room and board & receive a generous monthly hosting stipend & a fulfilling experience.

Contact Cecelia LaPlaca with Nacel Open Door (www.nacelopendoor.org) at 215-584-7751 or cecelaplaca@gmail.com.

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St. Stephen's 2014 Parish Directory

We hope to have the 2014 Parish Directory ready for distribution sometime in May. The directory is free to the 115 families who participated in the photography sessions last Fall. We will keep you posted as we get updates from LifeTouch.

Pastoral Council Minutes March 31, 2014

Council Members Present:

Joseph Haas, Liz Mc Hugh, Terry Modzier, Earl Nolte, Melanie Lopez, Chris Hearn, Janis Melfi, & Father Rocco.

❖ Opening prayer by Father Rocco at 7PM.

❖ OLD BUSINESS:

School Building Uses:

Discussions are continuing on the purported use of the school building. Once there is finalization as to its use, PPC will bring that information to the parish.

❖ NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Social/ Parish Recognition:

On Saturday, May 10, 2014 there will be a spring social following the 4:30 Mass, to take place in the school auditorium. It will be a catered affair with a disc jockey.

At that time PPC will recognize persons that have been a contributing factor to our St. Stephen community.

Price for a ticket anticipated at \$20 / person. Tickets will be sold at all the Masses and rectory.

More information to follow. Look to the bulletin for updates if any.

❖ Meeting Adjourned @ 8:10 PM

❖ Closing prayer by Father Rocco

❖ Next PPC meeting at the Sr. Bernadette Parish Center on: April 28, 2014@7PM

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Melfi
Secretary of St Stephen's PPC



April 13th: Palm Sunday

Masses at 9am & 10:30am

April 17th: Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

April 18th: Good Friday

Reading of the Psalms from Noon until 2:45pm

Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross,
and Holy Communion at 3:00pm

April 19th: Holy Saturday

Rehearsal for Easter Vigil 9:00am

Blessing of Food at Noon

Easter Vigil 8:00pm

April 20th: Easter Sunday

Masses at 9:00am & 10:30am



DEAR PARISHIONERS,

We wish to extend to you an invitation to our upcoming Spring Social to be held on **SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2014**, following the 4:30 PM mass. This will be a catered affair which will include wine, beer and other non-alcoholic beverages. There will also be a disc jockey for your dancing pleasure. It will take place in the school auditorium. Ticket price is \$20 per person.

The occasion of our social is bittersweet in that in addition to saying hello to spring, we are saying goodbye to our St. Stephen school community. A community of Catholic educators that has been in existence since 1962.

Please join us to honor those who have been an integral part of this history. We will also be honoring some parishioners as part of our annual recognition ceremony.

Take a walk back in time through these halls that have housed so many wonderful memories.

**Your Parish Council President,
Joseph Haas**