

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

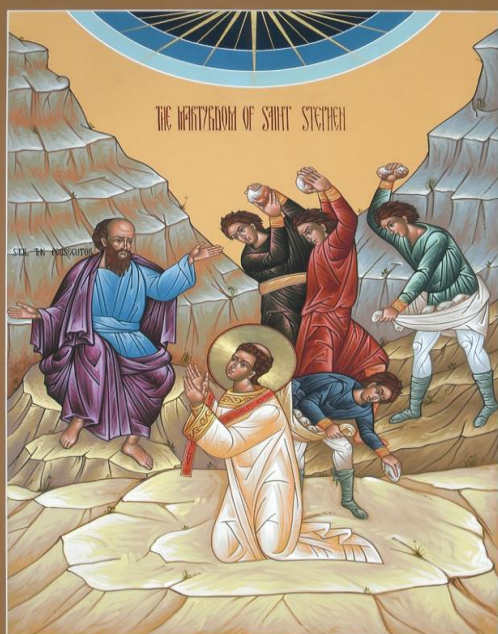
Pastoral Staff

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 15, 2018 – The Third Sunday of Easter

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	April 15, 2018 Harry Mayer, Jr. r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	William Sauer r/b His Family
MONDAY 9:00am	April 16, 2018 Bill Buffington (9 th Anniversary) r/b His Wife
TUESDAY 9:00am	April 17, 2018 For the Healing of Haig Injian r/b Parishioners
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	April 18, 2018 In Thanksgiving and Appreciation for our Religious Education Teachers and Staff
THURSDAY 9:00am/Novena	April 19, 2018 People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
FRIDAY 9:00am	April 20, 2018 Buffington Siblings r/b Sister-in-Law
SATURDAY 4:30pm	April 21, 2018 Frank Schmidt r/b The Pandola Family
SUNDAY 9:00am	April 22, 2018 William & Frances Blumenstein r/b The McHugh Family
10:30am	Glenn Nazarok r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood



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.

April 7/8, 2018 Offertory Collection:	\$4,790
2017-2018 Weekly Offertory Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,407

Special Collections / Envelopes:

April 22: "Catholic Home Missions" (Diocese)

May 10: "Ascension Thursday" (St. Stephen)

(Posted as a courtesy to our 20+ E-Givers)



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 Amatrudo, Jr., Eleanor Becker, Barbie Brown, Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Lina Ciarrocchi, Edmund Ciccarone, 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 Vivillo, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for April 21/22

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, A. Knight, A. Rende, M. Meloni
Lectors: B. Mattia, R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, R. Davis, R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: Jared Rivera, Joan Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: J. Fagan, K. Fagan, W. Delfin, G. Tutwiler, M. Conway
Lector: J. Messina
CLOW: TBD



2018 House of Charity y-t-d \$14,525 (30.2%)
2018 House of Charity Goal \$48,018

Thank you to the 55 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.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 4/16-Monday-9am Mass
- 4/17-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 4/18-Wednesday-9am Mass
- 4/19-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 4/20-Friday-9am Mass
- 4/21-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 4/22-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 19th @ 7pm in the RECTORY.
We'll be discussing Prof. William R. Cook's
"The Catholic Church: A History"



All Are Welcome to Join Us!

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be Friday, May 4: 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.

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

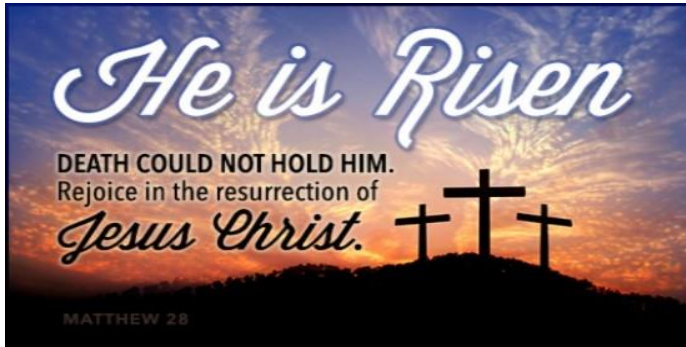
Pavers to form a concrete path from our church to the Blessed Mother are available in 3 sizes: 4"x8" \$100, 8"x8" \$175, and 12"x12" \$500. Samples are available after weekend Masses and order forms are on our website and in the rectory office. If there is a particular place, possibly near a loved one 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



Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Parish of Saint Stephen, I would like to thank you for your generous gift this Easter Season. As I had mentioned in last year's letter, we had hoped to be debt-free by July 1, 2017. This has come to pass and we have exceeded our expectations through the upcoming sale of the Parish Center / Convent scheduled for the end of April or the beginning of May. It is because of your faithful giving that we have been able to reach our goal of being debt-free.

Good News: We have survived the Winter of multiple Nor'Easters!

Better News: We look forward to the beauty of Spring and the warmth of Summer.

Best News: We now have the opportunity to plan our parish's future without the worry of how we're going to pay the next bill.

Your sacrifices have afforded us the ability to continue spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and establishing our new presence in the community of Pennsauken with the expansion of our services to the new residents of the Stonegate II complex.

With a promise of prayer for your intentions, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Handwritten signature of Rev. Daniel M. Rocco

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Thank you

Ride to Mass Needed

My name is John Woods and I am searching for a ride to Mass on Sundays for my mother, Margaret. She lives in Pennsauken, near the intersection of Merchantville Ave & Rt 130. Mom is mobile, lives at home, takes her time when she walks and is a regular attendee at St Stephens. If you think you can help at all please contact me @ 609-306-5163, or jdwppts@verizon.net. Thank you.

Disabled Citizens Donations

The Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations for the disabled citizens in our area after all Masses on April 21 and 22. Your generous support is always appreciated.

You're Invited!

Date: Sunday, April 22nd - 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Location: OLPH Parish-Nolan Hall (Lower Floor of Church)

236 East Main Street, Maple Shade

Lunch will be served

Admission: New baby layette set in a gift bag (sleepers, undershirts, bibs, diapers, wipes, Sizes NB to 12 months)

Hosted by: OLPH Parish Volunteers

Benefitting:

New mothers & infants of Good Counsel Home

To RSVP: Text Kim Gamelli at 856-316-6161

Speak up NOW against

Physician Assisted Suicide in New Jersey.

Assembly Bill A1504 "Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act" (Commonly referred to as "Physician Assisted Suicide") (sponsored by Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli, who represents the 3rd Legislative District in South Jersey) has recently passed through the NJ State Assembly Judiciary Committee. This Bill has unfortunately gotten much support and has great potential to become law if passed by the Legislature, due to the Governor's office being receptive to sign such a law. Assembly Bill A1504 would permit people with terminal illnesses to take their own lives, making New Jersey one of seven states that have legalized the practice of physician assisted suicide. This practice leaves those suffering with depression, physical and mental disabilities, and those on the economic and social fringes most vulnerable and at risk to be the victims of this law. As Catholics we are called upon to advocate for and defend life in all its' stages - including the end of life - and preserve the rights and dignity of our most vulnerable citizens. We must speak up against Bill A1504 on medical, social, economic, and ethical grounds, in addition to the moral grounds on which we find this Bill unacceptable. Now is the time to contact your NJ state assemblymen, state senators and other elected officials, and voice your opposition to Assembly Bill A1504 - the legalization of "Physician Assisted Suicide". This Bill needs to be stopped NOW, before it goes any further.

Important Dates Affecting our Parish

April 9 – 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.

