

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

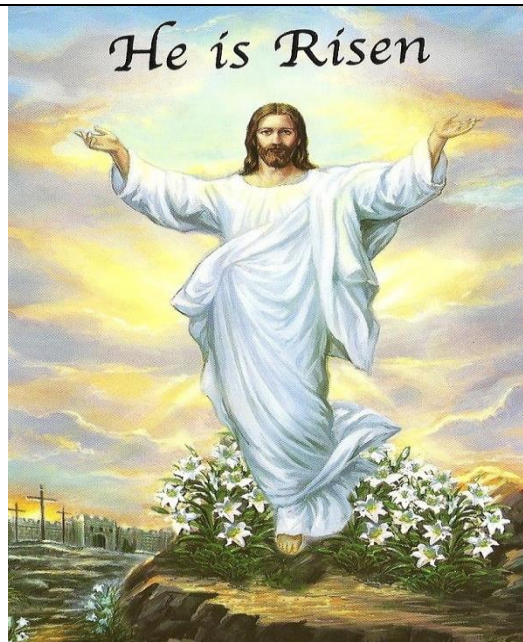
## Pastoral Staff

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) 662-9339

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

Parish Email  
[ecclesia@comcast.net](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

Parish Website  
[StStephensPennsauken.com](http://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.*

## *Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 21, 2019*

**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 2020 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:00am 10:30am	<b>April 21, 2019 (Easter Sunday)</b> People of the Parish – Living & Deceased People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>MONDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>April 22, 2019</b> Dean Otto r/b Edward & Bette Clark
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>April 23, 2019</b> People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>April 24, 2019</b> For the Healing of George Martins r/b The Rocco Family
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9:00am/Novena	<b>April 25, 2019</b> Bill Kohler r/b Mary Jane Salmonsens
<b>FRIDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>April 26, 2019</b> In Honor of Linda Rocco's 70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday r/b The Rocco Family
<b>SATURDAY</b> 4:30pm	<b>April 27, 2019</b> In Honor of Joseph & Jeanne Gerst's 50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary r/b The Gerst Family
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:00am 10:30am	<b>April 28, 2019 (Divine Mercy Sunday)</b> Rosina Midili r/b Madeline Costanza Alan Nastasi r/b Maryann Bufanio Walter Kittel r/b Rick & Bernice Taylor Glenn Nazarok r/b Bill & Suzanne Underwood

	<b>The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of <i>The Unborn Children</i></b>
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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 April 13/14 will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on 4/12/19.

**2018-2019 Weekly Offertory Target: \$4,600**  
**Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,301**

Next Special Collection / Envelope:  
**July 7: "Holy Father/Peter's Pence"**

## Remember Our Sick

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:**

Dee Afilani, Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Ted Anderson,  
Mary Bumbalow, Anna Buono, Patrick Carr,  
John Christy, Edmund Ciccarone, Carol Cranmer,  
Fanny DiBenedetto, Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber,  
Pricilla Handy, Donna Kane, Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ,  
Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum, Nancy Loperfido,  
Ken Maminski, Larry Miller, Joy and Ed Morrisson, Sue Ott,  
Rich Passaro, Nancy Sonnie, Callum Steinmetz, Rick Taylor,  
Frances Vocale, Barbara Weingard, Emily Wilson.

### Ministry Schedule for April 27/28

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

EM's: A. Knight, V. Thibault, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora  
Lectors: B. Mattia, R. Taylor

**Sunday, 9:00am**

EM's: L. McHugh, R. Davis, E. Nolte, R. Leone, L. D'Alessandro  
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, P. Nolte

**Sunday, 10:30am**

EM's: T. Urgo, D. Urgo, T. Angstman, M. Meloni,  
Lectors: M. Turan, J. Messina

## Knights of Columbus Yard Sale May 11<sup>th</sup>



K of C Pennsauken Council will sponsor a big flea market Saturday, 5/11/19 at St. Cecelia School parking lot, Westfield Ave. & 49th St. from 8 AM to 2 PM, rain date May 25. To rent a space or donate goods for charity, call Lonnie at 662-6049.

### ***This Week @ St. Stephen Parish***

4/22-Monday-9am Mass, Rectory Closed  
4/23-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary  
4/24-Wednesday-9am Mass, NO CCD  
4/25-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion  
4/26-Friday-9am Mass  
4/27-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
4/28-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

### ***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

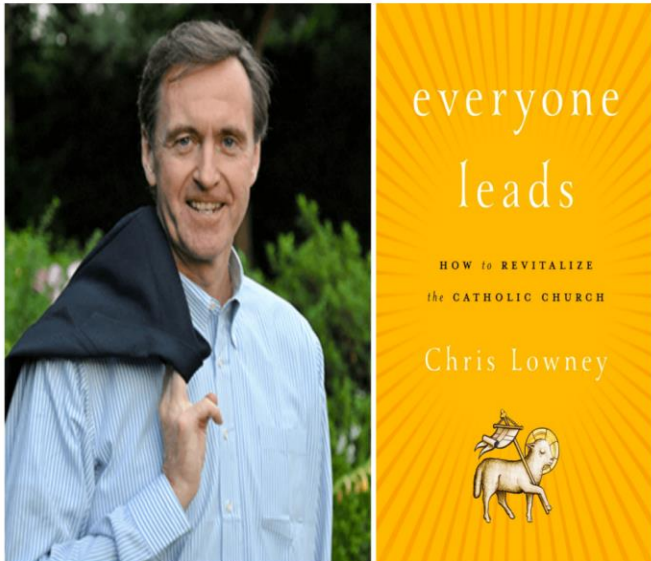
### ***Wednesday Night CCD***

**Closing Mass: May 1<sup>st</sup> @ 6:15pm.**

### ***Thursday Night Discussion Club***

**Continues April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm.**

**We'll be discussing:**



### **STONEGATE II Hotline**

If you are interested in filling out an application for the new Stonegate II apartments, you may call (856) 342-4187 and leave your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER. A Diocesan Housing representative will then return your call with additional instructions & info.

### ***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](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com) to set up your account.

### ***Children's Liturgy of the Word***



### **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 Music Ministry cordially invites you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. Choir gathers in the church 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](mailto: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 **Lois @ 856-665-1221.**



**Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass**

If this year, 2019, you are celebrating a milestone Wedding Anniversary of 25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more, please join us in celebrating Mass with Bishop Sullivan on

**Sunday, June 16, 2019 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish**

**591 New Jersey Avenue**

**Absecon, NJ 08201-2424**

*(A light reception will follow in the parish hall.)*

Registration forms are available in the Rectory.

**Deadline is May 6, 2019.**

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**Diaconate Vocations: Where Love Becomes Service**

If you are a man age 30 to 55 discerning God's call to serve the Church in the Diocese of Camden as a Permanent Deacon, and want to learn more about the diaconate formation pro-gram you are invited to a

**Meet and Greet with the Deacon Candidates**

**Saturday, May 18, 2019**

**9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Diaconate Center**

**15 N. East Avenue, Vineland**

**(former Sacred Heart High School 2nd floor)**

The day will begin with Morning Prayer, followed by breakfast fare, there will be a brief presentation by the deacon candidates with an opportunity to talk one on one with the men in formation and the recently ordained deacons, to learn first-hand about their journey. The day will conclude with holy hour and benediction and light lunch. Registration is required to provide sufficient seating and food. If married your wives are invited and encouraged to attend.

For more information and to register call 856-583-2858 or email [linda.decosta@camdendiocese.org](mailto:linda.decosta@camdendiocese.org).

**Kindly register no later than May 10, 2019.**

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**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Like to rekindle the excitement, passion, and romance from your honeymoon? 1,500,000 couples in over 92 countries already have. They experienced a worldwide marriage encounter weekend. Now it's your turn. The next weekend is **Oct 25-27, 2019.**

**Call 609-741-8012 for information or email [applications@wwme-southjersey.org](mailto:applications@wwme-southjersey.org).**

**Visit our website: [wwme-southjersey.org](http://wwme-southjersey.org).**

**Mass of Remembrance & Healing**

**will be celebrated by Monsignor Michael Mannion & Monsignor Peter Joyce on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at Church of the Resurrection in Marmora** for those who have suffered the loss of a child of any age through miscarriage, still birth, abortion, SIDS, illness, overdose, suicide or any untimely death. We encourage and welcome all members of the family and friends affected by the loss of this beloved child to join in this mass of celebration for the precious life that touched ours briefly yet stays in our hearts forever! **(Please bring a picture or special remembrance of your child. Roses will be available for those who have lost their child before birth.)** For more information, please call: Betty at 609-425-3553 or email at [elizpearce@comcast.net](mailto:elizpearce@comcast.net)

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**Our Lady of Perpetual Help School** encourages you to consider our school for your child's education. Registration is now open for September 2019. Transportation is provided for Pennsauken residents.

Please contact Mrs. Cynthia Smith, Principal to schedule a tour or for more information. (856) 779-7526 or [principal@OLPHparish.com](mailto:principal@OLPHparish.com).

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**St. John Paul II Chapter Blood Drive Knights of Columbus Blood Drive**

**Wednesday, May 22nd**

**12:30 - 6:15 PM**

**350 Crystal Lake Avenue, Haddonfield, NJ**

To make an appointment visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

Enter sponsor code: **k of c haddon twp**;

Or--e-mail [johnbuttil1952@netzero.com](mailto:johnbuttil1952@netzero.com)

Or, Call 856-547-7096.

**Save the Date...Save a Life!**

# 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.