

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

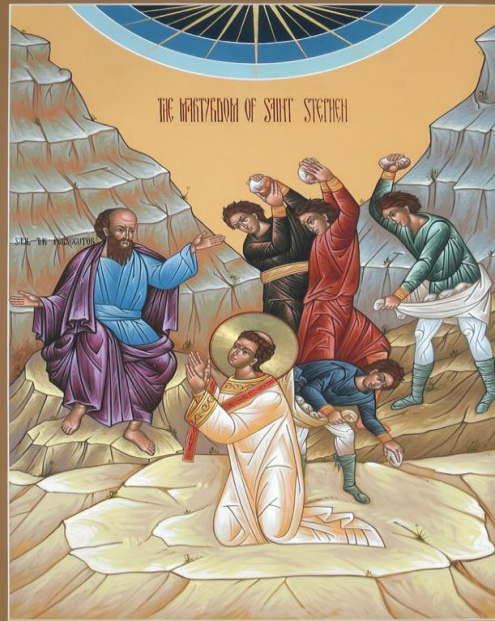
Pastoral Staff

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 30, 2017 – 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.

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	April 30, 2017
9:00am	Michael Szalagiewicz r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
10:30am	Raymond Steele r/b M/M Jerry Frank Pietro Faiola r/b St. Stephen's Choir
MONDAY	May 1, 2017
9:00am	James Maggioncalda (Birthday Remembrance) r/b The Appleby Family
TUESDAY	May 2, 2017
9:00am	Jean Gugliotta r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
WEDNESDAY	May 3, 2017
9:00am	Edward Polansky r/b People of the Parish
THURSDAY	May 4, 2017
9:00am/Novena	Pietro Faiola r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
FRIDAY	May 5, 2017 (First Friday Adoration)
9:00am	Matthew King r/b Nick Picciano
SATURDAY	May 6, 2017
4:30pm	Anthony Kalvaitis r/b His Wife, Rose Kalvaitis
SUNDAY	May 7, 2017
9:00am	Angelina Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri
10:30am	Jacqueline Catino r/b Her Loving Husband, Carl James Maggioncalda r/b Linda & Skip Denz



The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of
Richard Gentile, Sr.

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 22/23, 2017 Offertory Collection: \$4,879
2016-2017 Weekly Offertory Collection Target: \$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,688

Next Special Collection:

May 28th: "Catholic Communications" (Diocese)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

House of Charity-Bishop's Annual Appeal

2017 House of Charity y-t-d \$17,495 (36.4%)
2017 House of Charity Goal \$48,018

Thank you to the 82 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:

Dolores Afilani, Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Eleanor Becker,
Anna Buono, Jackie Cardwell, Edmund Ciccarone,
Yolanda Colafrancesco, Jenny Cowan, John Coyle, Carol Cranmer,
Joe DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Doris Denuel, Fanny DiBenedetto,
Fred Dickson, Joseph DiFrank, Biagio Dinoto, 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,
Linda Petrilli, Rosemarie Rosolia, Patricia Ruhl, Dean & Mary Russell,
Helen Setzer, Nancy Sonnie, Steven Stepanavage, Rick Taylor,
Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia,
Margaret Trifaro, Mary Viviello, Frances Vocale, Doreen Warble,
Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

Ministry Schedule for May 6/7

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Server: TBD

EM's: A. Knight, A. Rende, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora

Lectors: J. Melfi, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Server: TBD

EM's: L. Monaco, M. Monaco, R. Davis, M. Bufanio, R. Leone

Lectors: Joan Rivera, P. Nolte

Sunday, 10:30am

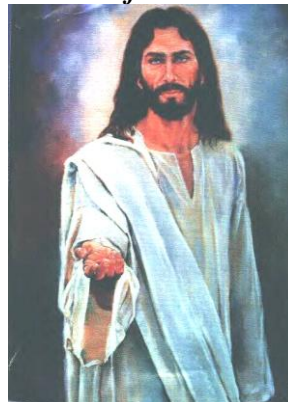
Altar Servers: TBD

EM's: M. Meloni, M. Conway, T. Angstman, T. Scavuzzo, W. Delfin

Lectors: J. Messina, M. Turan

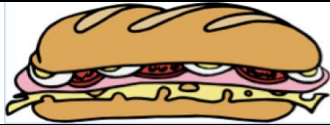
A SPECIAL INVITATION

Just for You!



First Friday Adoration May 5, 2017

Take some time.
Be quiet for 15 minutes or so.
Pull all your attention together,
and see Him before
the eyes of your mind on
the roads of Galilee,
on the Cross, or standing
by the empty tomb.
Pray in a way that you have
never prayed before.
Come, let us adore
Him in silence.
Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R.
RSVP to Rosemarie Leone
@ 856-662-0035.



**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 **May 6/7**. For info call 856-227-4980.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 5/1-Monday-9am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 5/2-Tuesday-9am Mass, 5pm Confirmation, 7pm Rosary
- 5/3-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 5/4-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Choir, 7pm Discussion Club
- 5/5-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 5/6-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 5/7-Sunday-9am Mass/First Communion/May Crowning, 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*

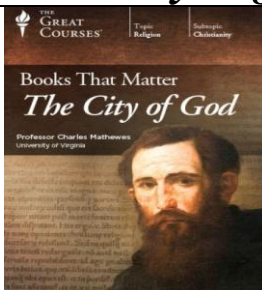
Tuesday Night Rosary

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 May 3rd at 6:15pm.

Thursday Night Discussion Club



Will continue
May 4th @ 7pm in the
Sr. Bernadette Parish Center
with
Prof. Charles Mathewes'
"Books That Matter-
The City of God"

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.

Parish Library

The Parish Library is now open in the Parish Center for all your Spring 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

Thank You to St. Stephen's Choir for purchasing a Paver!

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 May contact
Diane @ 856-308-8224.

Knights Flea Market May 13th

The Knights of Columbus will be having their semi-annual flea market on Saturday, May 13, (rain date May 27) from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm at St Cecilia's School parking lot. Spaces are available.

**For further information, please call
Lonnie Monaco at 856 662-6049.**

~~~~~

### **Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading**

*Luke 24:13-35*

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them.

Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

## **DIOCESE OF CAMDEN Office of Child and Youth Protection May CAP Schedule**

*"We can be sure that we love God's children when we love God and do what He has commanded." 1 John 5:2*

The Office of Child and Youth Protection is announcing CAP (Child Assault Prevention) sessions. CAP is the safe environment training program for adults who have regular contact with minors. Attendance is required in order to comply with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The policy of the Diocese of Camden is that adults will attend CAP once every five years.

CAP 1 teaches attendees to recognize child abuse and neglect and how to report to the proper authorities. Adults are taught that children have the right to be safe, strong and free. CAP 1 is for new volunteers and employees.

CAP 2 is called CAP's Bullying Prevention Program and is a workshop addressing bullying awareness and bullying prevention. Cyber-bullying is also presented.

CAP 3 is called Cyber-Empowerment and is a workshop which promotes adults understanding of cyber activity of youth while teaching them realistic ways to help children keep their own rights and guard the rights of others in the cyber-sphere. Each presentation is 90 minutes.

Adults who are new employees or volunteers should attend CAP 1 before attending CAP 2 or CAP 3. After five years, adults have the option of attending CAP 1, 2 or 3 when they renew their CAP.

The following sessions will be offered in May 2017:

### **CAP Phase 1**

**Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>--7PM** Holy Eucharist Parish Center  
344 Kresson Rd. Cherry Hill

**Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>--7PM** St Gianna Beretta Molla Parish  
1421 New Rd. Northfield

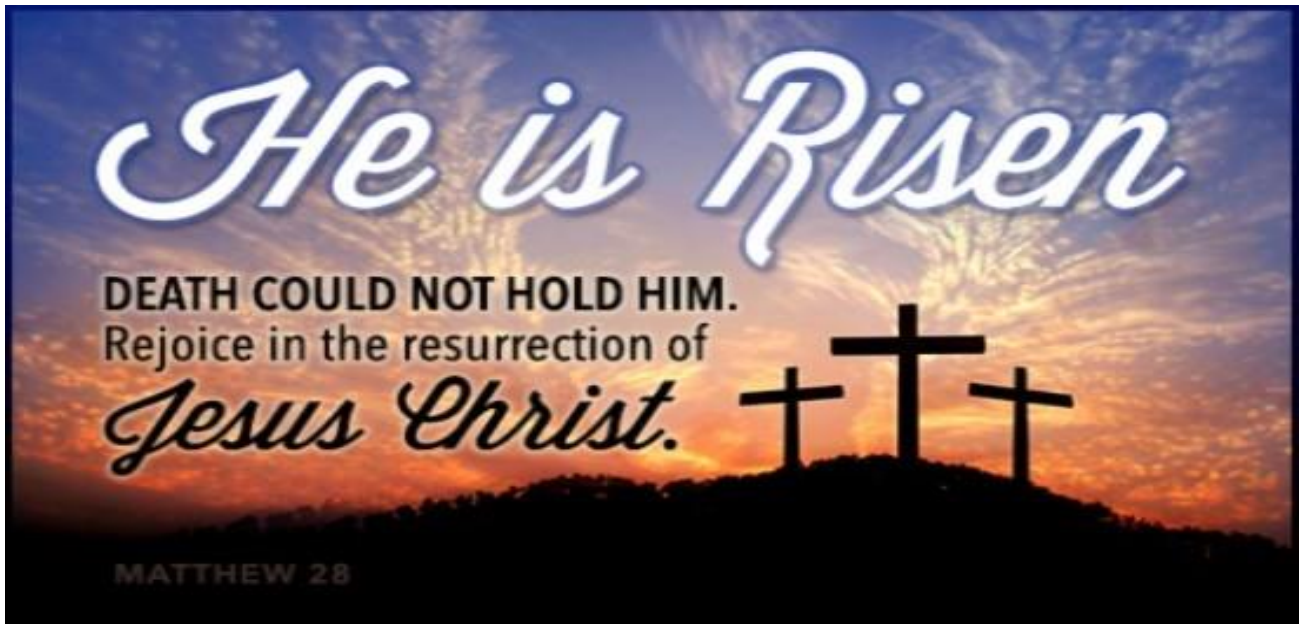
### **CAP Phase 3**

**Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>--7PM** Holy Eucharist Parish Center  
344 Kresson Rd. Cherry Hill

To attend one of these classes, please call the CAP REGISTRATION LINE at the Office of Child and Youth Protection: (856)583-6165, or contact Maryellen Schell at [maryellen.schell@camdendiocese.org](mailto:maryellen.schell@camdendiocese.org). Please leave your name and the session date you plan to attend. You will not receive a call back. We ask that you register at least five days before the session you would like to attend.

The CAP schedule, location, phone numbers and directions may be found on the Diocesan website [www.camdendiocese.org/cyp](http://www.camdendiocese.org/cyp).

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER  
PLEASE CALL THE LOCATION DIRECTLY**



**Dear Parishioners,**

On behalf of the Parish of Saint Stephen, I would like to thank you for your generous gift this Easter Season. It is because of your faithful giving that we have been able to persevere these last 3 difficult years. Your sacrifices have afforded us the ability to continue spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ, make ends meet, and avoid increasing our school's debt. If everything goes smoothly according to plan, we will be debt-free by July 1, 2017.

**Good News:** On April 5<sup>th</sup> we heard that the Stonegate II project had been approved by the Bishop, the Board of Consultors, and Pennsauken Township.

**Better News:** On May 2<sup>nd</sup> Diocesan Housing will be submitting their proposal for State and Federal funding. So, with all that said, perhaps the Second Coming is not that far away! **BE PREPARED!**

**Best News:** You've stuck with us through thick & thin because you are people of HOPE who never stopped believing.

With a promise of prayer for your intentions, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Daniel M. Rocco".

**Reverend Daniel M. Rocco**  
Pastor