

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

## ***Pastoral Staff***

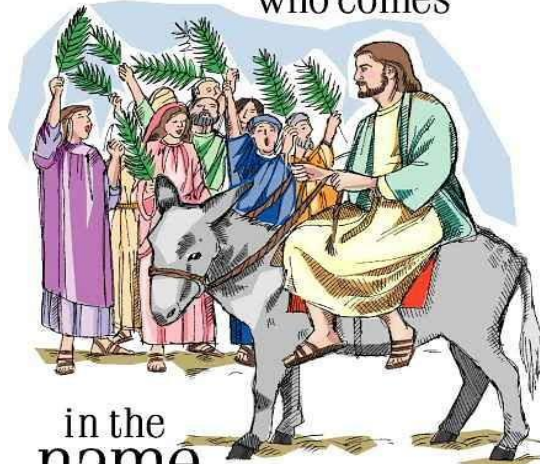
**Reverend Daniel M. Rocco**  
Pastor

**Mrs. Suzanne Underwood**  
Coordinator of  
Religious Education

**Parish Trustees**  
Rose Marie Davis  
Keith Knight

**Rectory Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
9:00am-4:30pm

“Blessed is the king  
who comes



in the  
name  
of the Lord!”

L u k e 1 9 : 3 8

## ***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](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

**Parish Website:**  
[www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://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 9, 2017 – Palm Sunday of the Passion 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.

Required Preparation is 1 class, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ Noon.

Baptism – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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".

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>April 9, 2017</b>
9:00am	Joseph & Florence McHugh r/b The McHugh Family
10:30am	Raymond Steele r/b M/M Louis Sytsma Leonard Aleszczyk r/b M/M Thomas McHugh
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>April 10, 2017</b>
9:00am	Peter Faiola r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Leone
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>April 11, 2017</b>
9:00am	Pietro Faiola r/b Jack & Maryanne Merritt
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>April 12, 2017</b>
9:00am	Bill Buffington (8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary April 16 <sup>th</sup> ) r/b His Wife
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>April 13, 2017 (Holy Thursday)</b>
7:00pm	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>April 14, 2017 (Good Friday)</b>
12pm Noon	Reading of the Psalms until 2:45pm
3:00pm	Liturgy of the Word/Veneration of the Cross
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>April 15, 2017 (Holy Saturday)</b>
8:00pm	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>April 16, 2017 (Easter Sunday)</b>
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
10:30am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased



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 1 / 2, 2017 Offertory Collection:	\$4,974
2016-2017 Weekly Offertory Collection Target:	\$4,600
Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving:	\$4,646

Special Collections:

- April 13<sup>th</sup>: "The Needy in Our Area" (St. Stephen)
- April 14<sup>th</sup>: "Holy Land/Good Friday" (Diocese)
- April 16<sup>th</sup>: "Easter Collection" (St. Stephen)

## House of Charity-Bishop's Annual Appeal

2017 House of Charity y-t-d	\$15,685 (32.7%)
2017 House of Charity Goal	\$48,018

Thank you to the 74 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.

# 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:**

- Dolores Afilani, Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Eleanor Becker, Bernadette Bierbach, 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, 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 Vivliello, Doreen Warble, Lily Warble, Arlene Webb, Barbara Weingard.

## Ministry Schedule for April 13,14,15,16

**Holy Thursday, 7:00pm**

**Altar Servers:** Q. Nguyen, M. & Mi. Conway, C. Nicdao, M. & Ma. Daniels  
**EM's:** K. Fagan, M. Meloni, R. Davis, M. Monaco, T. Scavuzzo  
**Lectors:** Joan Rivera, J. Melfi

**Good Friday, 3:00pm**

**Altar Servers:** M. & Mi. Conway, J. Bui, M. & Ma. Daniels, S. Surgner  
**Lectors:** M. Miller, P. Nolte

**Holy Saturday, 8:00pm**

**Altar Servers:** B. McHugh, Q. Nguyen, K. Fagan, Ma. & M. Daniels, J. Bui  
**EM's:** E. Nolte, K. Fagan, J. Fagan, R. Davis  
**Lectors:** D. Heck, M. Turan, P. Nolte, B. Mattia, M. Miller, D. Steinmetz

**Easter Sunday, 9:00am**

**Altar Server:** Q. Nguyen  
**EM's:** R. Leone, R. Davis, J. Rosario, L. Rosario, E. Nolte  
**Lectors:** J. Melfi, P. Nolte

**Easter Sunday, 10:30am**

**Altar Servers:** TBD  
**EM's:** W. Delfin, M. Meloni, L. D'Alessandro, R. Davis, T. Scavuzzo  
**Lector:** R. Aleszczyk



*This year's Paschal Candle has been donated by Mrs. Georgette Rocco In Memory of Mr. Fred G. Rocco.*

The Parish Library will be closed Easter Weekend.

The Rectory will be closed from Holy Thursday through Easter Monday and reopen on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

- 4/10-Monday-9am Mass, 11am Ladies Bible Study
- 4/11-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 4/12-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Classes
- 4/13-Holy Thursday-7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 4/14-Good Friday- Noon-2:45pm Psalms, 3pm Liturgy/Veneration
- 4/15-Holy Saturday-9am Vigil Rehearsal, 8pm Easter Vigil
- 4/16-Easter Sunday-9am Mass & 10:30am Mass



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*

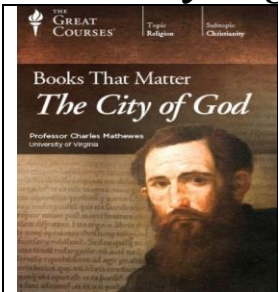
### *Tuesday Night Rosary*

#### **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 April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm.

### *Thursday Night Discussion Club*



Will continue  
**April 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm** in the  
Sr. Bernadette Parish Center  
with  
Prof. Charles Mathewes'  
**"Books That Matter-  
The City of God"**

### *First Friday Adoration*

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be  
**Friday, May 5, 2017**  
**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](http://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*

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  
for the month of April contact  
**Bernadette @ 609-220-6359**



## 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 [MyFranciscan.org/good-friday](http://MyFranciscan.org/good-friday). The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy Father. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.

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## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Prepare for Easter in a special way this year. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God. You don't need it - you **DESERVE** a Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next weekends are **April 21-23** and **Oct 20-22, 2017**. For more information call 609-741-8012 or email [applications@wwme-southjersey.org](mailto:applications@wwme-southjersey.org). Visit our website [wwme-southjersey.org](http://wwme-southjersey.org).

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## Camden Catholic High School Hall of Fame Ceremony

Saturday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m.

at CCHS (300 Cuthbert Road, Cherry Hill, 08002)

Proceeds benefit the Hall of Fame Scholarship for CCHS students. Visit [www.camdenatholic.org/halloffame](http://www.camdenatholic.org/halloffame) or call 856-663-2247 ext. 130 for tickets.

Emerald Hall of Fame for Academics and Arts: entertainment agent Thomas Escott Lizzio '58, pediatric nurse practitioner and researcher Julia Bilodeau Purdy '78 and respected physician Dr. John Tedeschi '56. 1887 Special Recognition: Corporal John Michael Reid '65, USMC (posthumous) and the Sisters of Mercy, who founded Camden Catholic High School and remained an integral part of its growth for the past 129 years. Green & White Hall of Fame for Athletics: leading scorer in Irish girls basketball history Rashidat Junaid '06, track and field star Andy Mancini '63, Irish boys basketball standout Karl Sartor '83, Irish wrestling great Bobby Stinson '02 and the legendary state championship 1993 Irish girls swim team.

## Holy Week Mass – Cemeteries

We encourage our families to visit our cemeteries and mausoleums and pray for their dearly departed loved ones and all souls who have gone before us. We invite you to celebrate Holy Week with us in our chapel mausoleums. Mass will be held on **Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**. This includes the mausoleums at Calvary Cemetery in Cherry Hill, New St. Mary Cemetery in Bellmawr, Sacred Heart Cemetery in Vineland, All Saints Cemetery in Newfield and Holy Cross Cemetery in Mays Landing. Mass schedules for the year are listed on our website at [SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org](http://SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org). Wishing you many blessings during this most Holy Season.

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## CHRISM MASS 2017

Bishop Sullivan invites the faithful of the diocese to join him and his priests for the Chrism Mass at 4:00 P.M. on **Tuesday, April 11, 2017** at St. Agnes Church/Our Lady of Hope Parish in Blackwood.

The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the priesthood and the occasion at 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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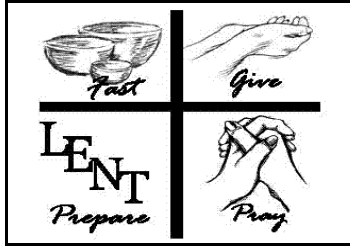
## iRace4Vocations

On **Sunday, April 30, 2017**, join Bishop Sullivan along with priests, religious, our seminarians and many other people from throughout the diocese at Williamstown High/Middle School (561 Clayton Rd, Williamstown, NJ 08094) for our 6th 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 in this calendar year (01/01/17. Through 12/31/17), you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary of 25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more of marriage, please join us in celebrating on **Sunday, June 18, at 3:00 p.m.** Mass in Glassboro, at Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish. Bishop Sullivan will be the celebrant. A light reception will follow in the parish hall. Registration forms are available at all parish offices. **Registration deadline is May 26, 2017.** For more information please contact the parish office at 856-662-9338.



# Holy Week

## “Open My Eyes, Lord”



4/9/17	Sunday	<b>Passion Sunday</b> – Mass 9:00am and 10:30am
4/13/17	Thursday	<b>Holy Thursday</b> – Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00pm -Blessed Sacrament Reposed in the Parish Center until 11:00pm
4/14/17	Friday	<b>Good Friday</b> - Reading of the Psalms from Noon to 2:45pm -Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion 3:00pm
4/15/17	Saturday	<b>Holy Saturday</b> -Rehearsal for Easter Vigil 9:00am, Blessing of Food at Noon, Easter Vigil 8:00pm
4/16/17	Sunday	<b>Easter Sunday</b> – Mass 9:00am and 10:30am

## Answering Your Questions About the Catholic Church’s Teaching on Cremation (Parts 4-6 of a 6-part series)

Can I Have A Funeral Mass If I Choose To Be Cremated?	Additional Frequently Asked Questions	What Acceptable Options Are Available?
<p>While it is still preferred for the body to be present for the Funeral Mass, in 1997 special permission was granted for the United States allowing each diocesan bishop to permit the celebration of Funeral Masses in the presence of cremated remains. The body is preferred because it was the body which felt the waters of Baptism, was marked with the oil of salvation and nourished by the Bread of Life.</p> <p>Ideally, your loved one’s cremated remains should be buried immediately following cremation and the funeral liturgies.</p> <p><i>“The body forcefully brings to mind our belief that our human bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead. When the rites of the Order of Christian Funerals are fully celebrated they ritualize the journey from life through death to the fullness of God.”</i> (OCF 412)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Can I scatter or divide cremated remains?</i></li> <li>• <i>Can I combine cremated remains of multiple individuals together?</i></li> <li>• <i>Can I have cremated remains preserved in memorabilia such as jewelry or paper weights?</i></li> </ul> <p>Since the human body was the temple of the Holy Spirit during life, was fed at the Eucharistic table, and will share in the bodily Resurrection, contemporary cultural practices like scattering the cremated remains over water or from the air or keeping the cremated remains at home are not considered reverent forms of disposition that the Church requires.</p> <p>Such practices can lead to your loved one’s remains being lost in transition and possibly being treated disrespectfully by being “tossed out” as we unclutter our lives or clean out homes that belong to deceased friends and family.</p>	<p><b>GROUND BURIAL</b></p> <p>Cremated remains can be buried in a small grave designated for such burials, or in some cases, added to an existing family grave or lot.</p> <p><b>GRANITE NICHES</b></p> <p>Niches are offered at many of our cemeteries which are small granite compartments, similar to crypts, but sized to contain an urn.</p> <p><b>GLASS NICHES</b></p> <p>Niches are also available in glass so that you may continue to appreciate the beauty of the urn you selected.</p> <p><b>MAUSOLEUM</b></p> <p>Similar to the addition of cremated remains to a family grave, they can be added to a family crypt in one of our mausoleums.</p> <p>Each cemetery has different offerings which should be explored prior to making final arrangements.</p>