

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

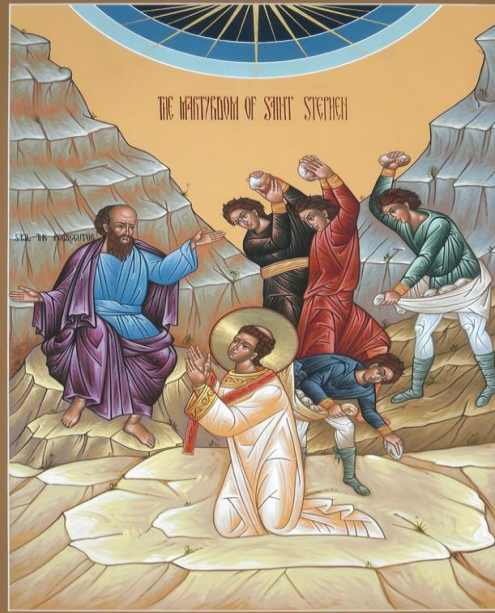
Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco
Pastor

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Parish Trustees
Keith Knight
Earl Nolte

Rectory Summer Hours
Monday–Thursday 9am-4:30pm
Friday 9:30am-2:00pm
(Through August 30)



Contact Info

Rectory Phone
(856) 662-9338

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

Parish Email
ecclesia@comcast.net

Parish Website
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.*

The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 25, 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".

SUNDAY August 25, 2019
 9:00am Diane Fleming r/b Terry Modzier
 10:30am Alexander Delfin and Nestor & Fermina Nicdao
 r/b The Delfin & Nicdao Families
 Pascuala Cotto r/b Her Daughter, Esther Nunez

MONDAY August 26, 2019
 9:00am Salvatore Messina
 r/b Mike Ciarrocca & Renee Napoli

TUESDAY August 27, 2019
 9:00am People of the Parish – Living & Deceased

WEDNESDAY August 28, 2019
 9:00am Pascuala Cotto r/b Her Daughter, Esther Nunez

THURSDAY August 29, 2019
 9:00am/Novena Hank Midura r/b People of the Parish

FRIDAY August 30, 2019
 9:00am For Father David Klein on His New Assignment
 r/b People of the Parish

SATURDAY August 31, 2019
 4:30pm Victor Gerst, Sr. r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst

SUNDAY September 1, 2019
 9:00am Timothy England r/b The McHugh Family
 10:30am Edward Lukasiewicz (Birthday Remembrance)
 r/b Debra Gagnier
 Salvatore Messina
 r/b Immaculate Conception Council 3512



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.

August 17/18 Offertory Collection: **\$3,837**
 2019-2020 Weekly Offertory Target: **\$4,500**
 Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: **\$3,853**

Next Special Collection: September 29 – "Pro Life"

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.



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, Ted Anderson, Ralph Baylor, Mary Bumbalow,
 Anna Buono, Patrick Carr, John Christy, Edmund Ciccarone,
 Athan Criaris, Dave Croge, Fanny DiBenedetto,
 Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy, Ronald Heck,
 Wayne Hocking, Donna Kane, James Kelly,
 Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum,
 Nancy Loperfido, Ken Maminski, Larry Miller,
 Joy and Ed Morrisson, Yvonne Mulhern, Rich Passaro,
 Dean & Mary Russell, Nancy Sonnie, Rick Taylor,
 Peter P. Tepper, Adelaide Travia, Frances Vocale,
 Barbara Weingard, Tom Weingard, Emily Wilson.

Ministry Schedule-August 31/Sept. 1

Saturday, 4:30pm

EM's: V. Thibault, R. Davis, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora

Lectors: J. Gerst, B. Mattia

Sunday, 9:00am

EM's: J. Rosario, L. Rosario, M. Conway, E. Nolte, L. McHugh

Lectors: Joan Rivera, Jared Rivera

Sunday, 10:30am

EM's: J. Messina, G. Tutwiler, T. Angstman, T. Scavuzzo, W. Delfin

Lector: M. McHugh



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Registration for the 2019-2020

Wednesday CCD Classes is underway!

Registration forms may be found in the rectory, church vestibule, and on our website. The fee is \$135 per family (\$10 late fee after Labor Day).

Opening Mass will be celebrated on

Wednesday, September 11th at 6:15pm.

ANYONE NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

The Missionary Discipleship Committee is sponsoring a volunteer program to give people who need it a free ride to church as often as needed. If interested, please call (856) 662-9339, Ext. 6.

Rectory Office Summer Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 9:00am – 4:30pm
Friday: 9:30am – 2:00pm



This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

8/26-Monday-9am Mass
8/27-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
8/28-Wednesday-9am Mass
8/29-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena
8/30-Friday-9am Mass
8/31-Saturday-3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
9/1--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 Classes

Will Resume in September

Thursday Night Discussion Club

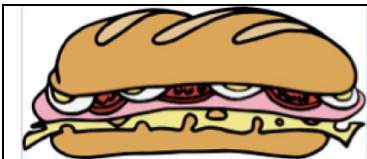
Will Resume in September

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **Friday, Sept. 6 - 9:45am-7:00pm.**



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 **September 7 & 8.** For info call 856-227-4980.

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 to set up your account.



CHILDREN'S Liturgy of the Word

Will Resume in September

Choir – New Members Welcome!

St. Stephen's Music Ministry cordially invites you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. Our Choir will begin to gather in the church this Fall 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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests in the month of August contact **Maryann @ 856-333-6525.**



VITALity
Catholic Healthcare Services

Celebrating Life to the Fullest

**A Special Mass for
Nonagenarians and Centenarians**



We invite all Nonagenarians (90 years and beyond) and Centenarians (100 years and beyond) and their families, friends and caregivers to join us for a special Mass to recognize this milestone of life of 90 years and beyond. Mass will be followed by a light reception and fellowship.

**Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 3pm
Annunciation Church (St. Joachim Parish)
601 West Browning Road, Bellmawr, NJ**

To attend please RSVP by September 6th
Anne Marie Pirillo at 856-583-6121
or annemarie.pirillo@camdendiocese.org

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**Something New and Exciting  
“The Wild Goose”**

Discovering a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit.  
An inspiring video series by Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR.  
**All are welcome.**

Come watch a video and join in a small group discussion. You'll be glad you did! Attend as many sessions as you can. No registration necessary and no cost. Hosted by New Life Charismatic Prayer Group from St. Rose of Lima Parish, Haddon Heights, NJ.

Your choice:

**St. Vincent Pallotti Chapel, 901 Hopkins Rd,  
Haddon Township, NJ 8033**

Mon. Mornings - Sept. 9 to Oct. 28 - 10:30am-11:30am  
Or

**Holy Savior Church,  
50 Emerald Ave, Haddon Township, NJ 08108**  
Wed. Evenings - Sept. 11 to Oct. 30 - 7:00pm-8:00pm

**For more information,**  
contact Sue: 856-745-1550 or [cswheeler45@gmail.com](mailto:cswheeler45@gmail.com)  
Why the wild goose? See what it is all about at:  
[thewildgooseisloose.com](http://thewildgooseisloose.com)



**First Ever  
Polish American Festival**



Benefitting St. Peter Parish

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 10:00 PM



Place: St. Peter Pastors' Hall

Cost: \$40/ Ticket

Entertainment to include music by “Polkadelphia,”

Janosik Polish Dance Ensemble and

Guest Appearance by the Aqua String Band

Polish Food  Beer & Wine  Polka Dancing  
and TONS of FUN!

Tickets will be on sale beginning August 24, 2019  
after the 5 PM Mass and will be sold after all weekend Masses  
(7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM, 7:00 PM)  
up to and including September 21, 2019

For further information or questions,  
please contact Bobbie @ 856-662-7577.

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**GOOD COUNSEL'S
13TH ANNUAL BANQUET**

**Thursday, September 26, 6:00-9:00pm
LUCIEN'S MANOR, 81 W White Horse Pk, Berlin, NJ**

YOU are invited to attend our Annual Fund Raising Banquet to benefit the homeless, pregnant mothers and babies of our South Jersey Home. Our keynote speakers are **Joe & Ashley Garecht**, “*Standing up for Life, one Baby, one Mother, one Clinic at a Time*”. Come and hear one of the many success stories of a Good Counsel mom and how, through your financial support, she now has hope for her future.

Reservations are required. Please contact Michael Phelps at michael_phelps@goodcounselhomes.org or call 609.221.5603 or visit www.goodcounselhomes.org/sj. Ask friends to join you and we will reserve a table of 10-12 just for you! The event is free, but opportunities to give will be presented during the evening. Program sponsorships are also available. Come celebrate the miracles of our Riverside home with us!



SOUTH JERSEY'S LARGEST

**MEN'S SPIRITUALITY
CONFERENCE**

Anchored in Christ

WWW.MANUPSOUTHJERSEY.COM



Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 13:22-30

People will come from north and south, east and west, and take their place in the Kingdom of God.

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God.

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendents back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.