

# St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109

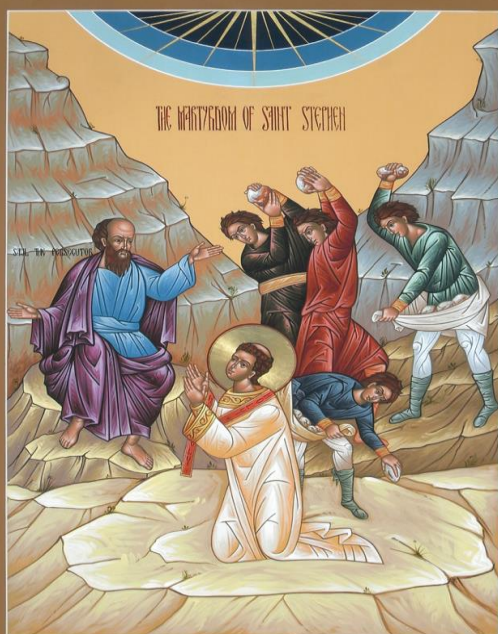
## *Pastoral Staff*

**Reverend Daniel M. Rocco**  
Pastor

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

**Parish Trustees**  
Rose Marie Davis  
Keith Knight

**Rectory Office Hours**  
Monday–Friday 9am-4:30pm  
*Closed All Holy Days of Obligation  
and Holidays except Veterans Day*



## *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.*

***The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 9, 2018***

**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".

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>September 9, 2018</b>
9:00am	Marie C. Miller r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst
10:30am	Joseph B. Vogdes r/b Agnes & Jim Madden Lillian Creedon r/b Mary Jane & Andy Salmonsens
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>September 10, 2018</b>
9:00am	People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>September 11, 2018</b>
9:00am	All Victims of 9-11 r/b People of the Parish
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>September 12, 2018</b>
9:00am	Prayers for Those Who Have No One to Pray for Them
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>September 13, 2018</b>
9:00am/Novena	Prayers for Phaolo and Anna r/b A Friend
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>September 14, 2018</b>
9:00am	Pascuala Cotto r/b Her Daughter, Esther Nunez
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>September 15, 2018</b>
4:30pm	Joseph Allen (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup> ) r/b Barb & Ed Weingard
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>September 16, 2018</b>
9:00am	Joseph B. Vogdes r/b The Haas Family
10:30am	Pascuala Cotto r/b Her Daughter, Esther Nunez



**The Sanctuary Candle this week is  
In Memory of  
All Victims of 9-11**

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.

**September 1/2, 2018 Offertory Collection: \$4,373**  
**2018-2019 Weekly Offertory Target: \$4,600**  
**Year-To-Date Weekly Average w/ E-Giving: \$4,038**

Upcoming Special Collections / Envelopes:

**September 9: "Catholic University" (Diocese)**

**October 7: "Pro-Life" (Diocese)**

**October 21: "World Mission Sunday" (Diocese)**

*(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:**

Raymond Amatrudo, Jr., Alice Jean Baylor,  
 Anna Buono, Edmund Ciccarone, Carol Cranmer,  
 Joseph Gerst, Pat Gruber, Pricilla Handy,  
 Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ, Sandra Lippi, Katelyn Lum,  
 Sam & Nancy Loperfido, Ken Maminski, Rich Passaro,  
 Andy Salmonsens, Nancy Sonnie, Callum Steinmetz,  
 Rick Taylor, Frances Vocale, Barbara Weingard.

## Ministry Schedule for September 15/16

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**EM's:** T. Scavuzzo, C. Pandola, A. Cirullo, Sr. Eleanora, L. D'Alessandro  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, B. Mattia

**Sunday, 9:00am**

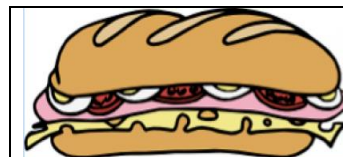
**EM's:** E. Nolte, R. Leone, T. Modzier, L. D'Alessandro  
**Lectors:** Joan Rivera, P. Nolte

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**EM's:** K. Fagan, J. Fagan, T. Urgo, D. Urgo, S. Underwood  
**Lector:** D. Heck

## Military Bible Sticks

The **Knights of Columbus** will be accepting donations after all Masses on **September 22 and 23** to raise money to purchase bible sticks for our military personnel all over the world. This will be the third year we have participated in this ongoing campaign, which has raised enough money to provide nearly one million bible sticks. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



**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 15 & 16**.

**For info call 856-227-4980.**

591-StStephen

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

- 9/10-Monday-9am Mass
- 9/11-Tues.-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7pm Liturgy Board
- 9/12-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD Mass
- 9/13-Thurs.-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion Club
- 9/14-Friday-9am Mass
- 9/15-Saturday-3:45pm Confessions, 4:30pm Mass
- 9/16-Catechetical 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***  
**Opening Mass this Wednesday @ 6:15pm**

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).

***Thursday Night Discussion Club***

**Begins this Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.**

We'll be discussing:  
**"The Catholic Theological Union Lecture Series: Rediscovering Vatican II"**

***First Friday Adoration***

The next Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be  
**Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:45am-7:00pm.**



***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***

**Will Resume Later in September**

***Music Ministry Notes***

The St. Stephen Music Ministry would like to thank you for all of the support and encouragement that you offer us each year. We especially want to offer our gratitude to Father Rocco for his leadership and inspiration. The Adult Choir will be taking their summer break, but will be back the weekend after Labor Day. We will still provide music for all of our liturgies and we ask you to, please, welcome a few "guest cantors/musicians" this summer. As always, we invite you to consider joining our Music Ministry family. If you want to share your talents, please contact Mrs. Nancy Werner-Kaiser through the Rectory Office. Thanks again, and see you in September.

**Mrs. Nancy Werner-Kaiser, Music Ministry Director**

***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).

***RCIA Ministry***

**Interested in Becoming Catholic?**

**RCIA begins soon.** Don't let another year go by without inquiring into the Catholic faith, catching up on missed sacraments, resolving issues in your relationship with the Church and refreshing your faith. **For more information, call Loretta Steinmetz at 856-227-4980.**

***St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You***



**We are here to pray for you.**

For Prayer Requests in the month of  
**September contact Betty:**  
**856-662-6928.**

# Paul VI High School Events

*Are you ready to be a Paul VI Eagle? We're ready to help you soar! Paul VI High School is ready for you! Please join us this fall for Open House, our scholarship test, and more!*

**Paul VI Scholarship Test** will be conducted at Paul VI, on **Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>**. Paul VI High School annually awards academic scholarships to incoming freshmen. To enter the scholarship process, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students must take the HSPT at Paul VI on October 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information, and to register for the test, please visit our website, [www.pvihs.org/Admissions](http://www.pvihs.org/Admissions).

**Paul VI presents Tours & Touchdowns-** This season's dates are **Friday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, and Friday Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>**. Arrive at the PVI football gate by 6 o'clock for a student-guided tour of our beautiful facility, and stay for Friday night football under the lights. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations are appreciated. For more information, please visit our website, [www.pvihs.org/Admissions](http://www.pvihs.org/Admissions).

**Paul VI Eagle-for-a-Day** visits are available for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students throughout the fall admissions season. To see the schedule of available dates, and to make a reservation, please visit [www.pvihs.org/Admissions](http://www.pvihs.org/Admissions). Experience a day in the life of a Paul VI Eagle!

**Paul VI High School Open House** will be held at 6:30 PM, Thursday, **November 15<sup>th</sup>**. Middle school students and their families are invited to meet our faculty, coaches and students, enjoy special performances by our performing arts groups, and see our beautiful school. Reservations are appreciated. For more information, please visit our website, [www.pvihs.org/Admissions](http://www.pvihs.org/Admissions).

Questions may be directed to Mrs. Kathleen Stewart, Paul VI Director of Admissions, [kstewart@pvihs.org](mailto:kstewart@pvihs.org)

## 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 & information.

## Home Health Aide Available

**Sadie at 856-979-3155** is looking to work as a home health aide, with many years of experience and a list of references. Reliable, respectful, caring and professional.

# Camden Catholic High School Events

## Camden Catholic 70+ Year Alumni Mass & Brunch for Classes 1943 and Earlier

Monday, **September 24** at 8:15 a.m. at Camden Catholic High School (300 Cuthbert Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002). All CCHS alumni who graduated in the year 1943 or earlier are invited to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy during an all-school Mass with students, followed by a reunion brunch. Each alumnus may bring a guest. RSVP: Jennifer Van Es 856-663-2247 ext. 133 or email [Jennifer.vanes@camdencatholic.org](mailto:Jennifer.vanes@camdencatholic.org).

## Designer Bag Bingo: October 12

Pisa Dining Hall @ CCHS. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. First game begins at 7 p.m. \$25 in advance. \$35 at the door. Purchase tickets [www.camdencatholic.org](http://www.camdencatholic.org) or email [noemi.merenyi@camdencatholic.org](mailto:noemi.merenyi@camdencatholic.org) to reserve tickets. Tickets include 10 games and 50/50. One purse winner each game! And door prizes! One special purse will be raffled off. Bring your own appetizers and refreshments.

## Camden Catholic High School Open House

Thursday, **October 25** at 6:30 p.m. Learn how we empower today's students to find their purpose through academics, arts and spirituality. Meet our faculty, students, coaches and administration, tour the campus, and learn more about our "Strong Ties. Inspiring Journeys."

**RSVP online:** [www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents](http://www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents).

## Camden Catholic High School Scholarship & High School Placement Test

Saturday, **November 3** at 8:30 a.m. Pre-Register online [www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents](http://www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents). Students interested in competing for Merit and Arts Scholarships *must* take the test at Camden Catholic.

**Irish Experience Guest Days** for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are being scheduled at Camden Catholic High School. Experience the tradition, feel the passion, catch the spirit of being a student at CCHS, the only school in South Jersey with a Leadership Academy.

Select your day at:

[www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents](http://www.camdencatholic.org/admissionsevents)

or contact Janet Indelicato to schedule:

[janet.indelicato@camdencatholic.org](mailto:janet.indelicato@camdencatholic.org)

or 856-663-2247 ext. 136.

## A Catholic, pro-life maternity home

in Riverside is looking for compassionate, dedicated, hard-working staff. Positions include House Manager and the ideal candidate would have experience in managing people. One does not have to have direct human services experience, but would have an ability to work well with all kinds of people in challenging situations. **Interested candidates should apply online at [www.GoodCounselHomes.org](http://www.GoodCounselHomes.org) and also email a resume to [cbell@goodcounselhomes.org](mailto:cbell@goodcounselhomes.org).**



## Reflection on Today's Gospel Reading

*Mark 7:31-37*

**Jesus restores a man's hearing and speech.**

Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today's reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."