

St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Different Ages...

Different Histories...

One Faith!

Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel M. Rocco, Pastor
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally
Permanent Deacon Anthony Cioe
Sister Bernadette Mary Leahy, SSJ
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal

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



Contact Information

Rectory: (856) 662-9338
Rectory Fax: (856) 662-4679
Convent: (856) 665-5227
School: (856) 662-5935
School Fax: (856) 662-6128

Email: ecclesia@comcast.net
Web: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

January 1, 2012 – The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Friday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm (**Reconciliation 3:45pm-4:15pm**)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd Sunday @ 9:00am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm – 7:00pm Vigil

Miraculous Medal Novena – Every Thursday after 9am Mass.

Eucharistic Exposition – First Friday from 9:30am-7pm.

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 1 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.

Tribunal Parish Advocate-Deacon Anthony Cioe-227-2145

Rectory Office Hours-Monday thru Friday 9am-4:30pm
(Rectory is closed all Holy Days & National Holidays)

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.

Parish Membership – Moving INTO the parish all are asked to register as soon as possible.

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory of changes.

Please consider remembering St. Stephen's in your Will or Estate Planning. There are financial benefits to do so while still alive and, in death, the spiritual reward of helping to continue the Church's mission of preaching Jesus Christ.

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.

Our Parish Family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life.



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 2013 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

MONDAY 9:00am	January 2, 2012 Louise M. Pigliacelli (2 nd Anniversary) r/b Husband, Frank
TUESDAY 9:00am	January 3, 2012 William Huhn (Birthday Remembrance) r/b Pam & Duane Heck
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	January 4, 2012 Roy Bryne r/b Arlene LaFreda
THURSDAY 9:00am+Novena	January 5, 2012 Anthony Gugliotta r/b M/M Charles Gugliotta
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 6, 2012 (First Friday Adoration) People of the Parish – Living & Deceased
SATURDAY 4:30pm	January 7, 2012 Sam Magro r/b The Pandola Family
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	January 8, 2012 (The Epiphany of the Lord) Sr. Baptista McShane, SSJ r/b Joseph & Jeanne Gerst Mary Jo Stedrak r/b Family Vincenza Faiola r/b Sr. Eleanor & Family Marion Meloni r/b Rocco & Mary Ann Toci

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of Msgr. J. Francis Flaherty.***

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.

December 17/18, 2011 Attendance/Collection	738/	\$6,464
December 18/19, 2010 Comparison	690/	\$6,928
Budgeted Weekly Collection:		\$5,769
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:		\$5,606

Christmas Offertory Figures will be posted in the January 8th issue as this bulletin was required for submission on December 21st.

Upcoming Special Collections:

January 8, 2012
"The Needy in our Surrounding Area"

January 22, 2012
"Mission Membership Sunday"



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:

Rose Alessandrini, Victor Ambruso, Joe & Dolly Angelastro, Evelyn Capocetta, Yolanda Colafrancesco, Dot Corbett, Patricia DeLorenzo, Esther DeMarco, Marie DiFrank, Patricia Domer, Diane Fesko, Joe Flacco, Joanna Galdo, Richard Gentile, Jr., Thomas Holmes Sr., Rita Insley, Frances Kay, Donna Krawchuk, Sandy Lepo, Wanda Loperfido, Joann Lunsford, Vincent Marchese, Harry Mayer, Dorothy McPeak, Marie Melchiorre, Michael & Family, Debbi Morrissey, Freda Novak, Jennifer Osborn, Grace Pandola, Edith Parrissi, Cassandra Pendleton, Frank Pigliacelli, Declan Roberts, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Kathleen Stehm, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Shannon Teuber Myles, Lillian Tomarchio, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Gloria Vendetti, John Vindick, Anthony Vocale, Rita Weingard.
If you know that someone on the above sick list is no longer in need of prayers, please contact the rectory office at 662-9338, ext.6 so that we may remove their name. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule for January 7/8

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: D. Surgner, T. Mason, M. Hicks
EM's: P. Antonelli, J. Heininger, L. Heininger, T. Angstman
Lectors: P. Palazzo, R. Taylor

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: S. Caban, B. McHugh, C. Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, R. Davis, R. Leone, L. McHugh
Lectors: J. Gerst, L. Sperduto

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: C. Otto, R. Arroliga, H. Atchison
EM's: J. Bowman, P. Cioe, W. Delfin, T. Link
Lectors: C. Otto, L. Fagan

COMING NEXT WEEKEND

We, at St. Stephen's will begin a new tradition for the Epiphany of the Lord!

Just as the 3 Wise Men presented gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to Baby Jesus, we will have a 2nd collection and present our gifts to the needy in our surrounding area.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

- 1/2-Monday-9am Mass, Rectory & School closed
- 1/3-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 1/4-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD
- 1/5-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Discussion & Rosary Makers
- 1/6-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 1/7-Sat-9am Men's Group, 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 1/8-Sunday-9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

Monday Afternoon Bible Study

Will resume Monday January 9, 2012 in the Stonegate building from 1:00 to 2:30 PM

Tuesday Night Rosary

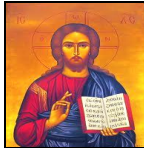
Please join us every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the church in response to Our Lady of Fatima's request to pray the rosary for peace in the world.

Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Will resume January 4, 2012 from 6:15-7:30pm

Thursday Night Discussion Club

7pm in the Rectory



Fr. Rocco's Christology Course Topics:

- 1/5/12: Iconoclastic Controversy – Part 1
- 1/12/12: Iconoclastic Controversy – Part 2

First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be Friday, January 6th, 9:30am-7pm.



St. Stephen's Prayer Line: Belongs to You

If you need someone to pray for you, you are at the right place. Contact Bernice @ 662-4641 for January requests.

"You answered me when I called to you; with your strength you strengthened me." Psalms 138:3

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee is seeking volunteers to help minister to those who've recently lost loved ones in our community of faith. To join this special ministry, please call Joy Bowman at 662-4803.

Men's Prayer Group

Please join us for our Men's Scripture/Prayer Group. We meet every Saturday morning at 9am for one-half hour in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.

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 665-8393. Anyone who would like to make a donation for a tree to honor a deceased loved one or would like to join the A & E Ministry may call Maria at the number above.

Board & Council Meetings

(Unless otherwise noted, Wednesdays @ 7pm in the Rectory)

- January 11 Finance Council
- January 18 Pastoral Council
- January 25 Liturgy Board

RCIA Ministry:

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

- Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?
- Have you been away from the church...and have now returned, but want to know more?
- Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism; Confirmation; and Eucharist?
- Have you joined us from a different background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

Please contact Father Daniel Rocco at (856) 662-9338 or Loretta Steinmetz, RCIA Team Leader at (856) 227-4627 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.



Here is a sample listing of what is in-stock:

RETAILER	AMT	%age	Profit/card
Wal-Mart	\$25	2%	.50
Target	\$25	2%	.50
Toys 'R Us	\$20	1.5%	.30
Bath and Body Works	\$10	13%	1.30
Bed/Bath & Beyond/Christmas			
Tree Shops	\$25	7%	1.75
Boston Market	\$10	16%	1.60
Best Buy	\$25	3%	.75
Dick's Sporting Goods	\$25	8%	2.00
Learning Express			
(@ Wegman's Plaza)	\$10/20	10%	2.00
Disney	\$25	2%	.50
Gap/Old Navy	\$25	14%	3.50
Olive Garden/			
Red Lobster	\$25	9%	2.25
AMC Movies	\$25	7%	1.75
AMC Movies	\$9.50	16%	1.52

In-stock scrip is available after Mass and in the Rectory all week. Special orders are placed each week and available by the end of the week. To place an order simply fill out the order form (available at the table, online, at rectory or school) and return it to the school. For a full list of what is available please stop by the Scrip table after Mass or you may look online @ glscrip.com. For any questions please contact the Rectory or you may call Katy Fagan at 662-5908. Buy Scrip before you buy!



Saint Stephen SCHOOL

Developing scholars, leaders and friends in faith

(Week of Jan. 1st – Jan. 7th, 2012)
Welcome Back! (school starts Tues. Jan. 3rd)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



SANTA’S SECRET HELPERS - The students and faculty of St. Stephen School raised over \$800 for the “Santa’s Secret Helpers” project run by our Student Council in December. This collection enabled several families to have a “merrier” Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project!


GOT BULLDOG? 

ALUMNI COMMITTEE – St. Stephen alumni are forming a committee to organize our 50th school anniversary to be celebrated during the 2012-2013 school year. They would like to meet during January and are looking for other alumni or alumni parents to be part of this committee. If you are interested please contact Ally Meloni @ allysonmeloni@gmail.com or the Advancement Office at: advancement@ststephenspennsauken.com.


PTO NEWS!

The PTO would like to thank everyone that supported the “Breakfast with Santa” held Sunday, Dec. 18th in the gym. It was a delicious breakfast (catered by Troy’s) enjoyed by all!

Upcoming Events

- 1) **Saturday, Jan. 21st** – The PTO will be holding a family *Spaghetti Dinner* night on Saturday, Jan. 21st immediately following the 4:30pm Mass in the gym. Stay tuned for more details!
- 2)  **Disney Raffle** – The raffle for the Disney trip will begin in January, 2012. Tickets will be \$1 each. *More details soon!*
- 3) **Wednesday, Feb. 8th** – Come join us for a St. Stephen “**Spirit Day**” from 11:00am–11:00pm. We will receive a portion of the profits from anything served during that time as long as you show the server your flyer (*flyers will be available in January*). Good News! You may use Pizzeria Uno scrip to pay for your meal. We will have this available in stock in \$25 denominations beginning the middle of January either after Mass or you may send in an order through school. At 13% profit we earn \$3.25 for each \$25 gift card sold!



Basketball Games

- Jan. 3rd** – Girl’s BB vs. Gloucester Catholic @ Home
JV @ 6:15 pm followed by Varsity @ 7:30pm
- Jan. 4th** – Girl’s BB vs. St. Peter – AWAY
JV @ 6:45 pm followed by Varsity @ 8:15pm
- Jan. 5th** – Boy’s BB vs. JPII @ Home
JV @ 6:30pm followed by Varsity

Any alumni information to share? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Katy Fagan in our Advancement Office (856-662-5935) or email: advancement@ststephenspennsauken.com.

The SSJ Mission Corps

Ever thought about volunteering for a year?
Interested in making a difference in our world?

The SSJ Mission Corps is a yearlong volunteer program in the city of Philadelphia sponsored by the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Volunteers are invited to live in community with fellow volunteers and open themselves to God, as they work for justice and reach out to meet the needs of the poor and marginalized. The tagline for the program is “One Year to Change a Life,” which encourages women to not only work for change in the lives of others but also their own life. The SSJ Mission Corps is for **women, ages 21-35**, looking to dedicate a **year** of their life to working for the mission of the Gospel and the Sisters of Saint Joseph in our world. During the year, volunteers focus on 4 core values: Justice, Simple Living, Spirituality, and Community. The program runs from August to June. For more information or questions, please contact:

Colleen O’Grady, Director SSJ Mission Corps
ssjmissioncorps@gmail.com
<http://ssjphila.org/SSJMissionCorp2.html>
215-248-7235

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*Young Adult Priesthood Discernment Group*  
**Could God be calling you  
to the priesthood?**

If you are currently a senior in high school, college student or in the professional world (up to 39 years old), the Office of Vocations, Diocese of Camden, can help you discern and pray with others who are also considering the priesthood.

Consider Joining us at:  
**Our Lady of Peace Parish Offices**  
32 Carrol Avenue in Williamstown, NJ 08094

Meetings are at 2:00 P.M.:  
**Sunday, January 22, 2012, Sunday, February 19, 2012,**  
**Sunday, March 18, 2012 Sunday, April 29, 2012,**  
**Sunday, June 3, 2012**

*For further information, contact:*  
**Diocese of Camden Office of Vocations**  
**Phone: (856) 583-2858**

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Suscipe Saturdays
Open to all High School Males

Suscipe Saturdays invites young men in high school to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Christ in order to better discern God’s call for their lives. Meetings are from 10am-1pm at St. Peter’s Parish Senior Center in Merchantville: January 14, February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12 & June 9.

For further information, contact:
Diocese of Camden Office of Vocations
Phone: (856) 583-2858

Finance Council Meeting Notes - Wednesday, December 14, 2011

In Attendance: Fr. Daniel Rocco, Deacon Anthony Cioe, Kathy Boyer, Keith Knight, Lonnie Monaco, and Craig Otto

Fr. Rocco opened the meeting at 7:35 PM with a reading from the parish's Theology of the Body series.

Parish Finances: Members of the Finance Committee reviewed the parish financial statements, including the balance sheet as of 11/30/11, the profit and loss statement for the months of July through November 2011, and the general ledger for the month of November. ⇒*Income:* Ordinary income for July through November 2011 was \$123,494, 3.7% lower than projected in the budget and 5.3% below receipts for the same period last year. Ordinary income represents collections taken at weekend and holy day Masses. Income from gifts and offerings received for baptisms, weddings and funerals totaled \$13,923 during July through November 2011. This figure represents an increase over the amount projected in the budget. Parish raffle income was \$16,655 before expenses. After expenses of \$ 9,119 (i.e. payout to winners, raffle license, and postage), the parish realized a net income of \$7,536 from the raffle. ⇒*Operating Expenses:* During the months of July through November 2011, the parish spent less than the amounts projected in the budget and less than outlays for the same five-month period in 2010 for a number of our major budget categories. School subsidy payments for July through November have been 12.9% lower than last year. Of particular note, the parish spent \$3,910 (24.7%) less for utilities during July through November 2011 than the amount projected in the budget and \$2,823 (19.1%) less than what we paid during the same period last year. Although spending on maintenance of our buildings and grounds is running 8.5% over our budget projections, outlays during the past five months have been 2.3% lower than during the same five-month period last year. *Assets and Liabilities:* As of 11/30/11, the parish had \$105,046.42 in operating, scrip, stipend, maintenance, and reserve accounts, as well as an additional \$30,841 in the Msgr. O'Connell Scholarship Fund (which we may not use for ordinary parish expenses). The parish is current with all of its obligations, including school subsidy, as well as assessment, insurance, and Star Herald payments to the Diocese.

School Finances: Fr. Rocco provided a brief update on school finances. He indicated that the School Finance Committee is working diligently to control costs and stay within budget. He also reported that the timing of SMART tuition payments has improved this year. Registration has begun for the next school year. Keith Knight provided a brief report on fundraising activities.

Convent Boiler Replacement:

Members of the Finance Council reviewed proposals received from three sources (Fitzpatrick and Company, Hutchinson Mechanical Services, and McAllister) for replacement of the existing oil-fired convent boiler with a high-efficiency natural gas-fired unit. Fr. Rocco indicated that he had sent copies of the proposals to the Diocese for review by appropriate personnel there, including an expert in the Buildings Department. We expect to receive an additional proposal from a fourth contractor – Ryan. Once the Diocese reviews the proposals and gives us permission to go ahead with the project, we will determine which course of action will fit within our budget.

Convent Status:

For over a year, discussions involving St. Stephen Parish, the Diocese of Camden, and the Sisters of St. Joseph have been underway concerning the status of the Convent. On Monday, 12/12/11, representatives from the Diocese of Camden met with the leadership of the Sisters of St. Joseph. As of 12/14/11, the Diocese had not yet made contact with Fr. Rocco concerning the outcome of this discussion.

Miscellaneous:

- Fr. Rocco described several recent discussions about requests for donations to the Pennsauken Emergency Relief Assistance Fund (PERA). Fr. Rocco and the members of the Finance Council agreed that any special collections taken up during the weekend Masses have to be carefully scheduled so as not to conflict with the dedicated collections (e.g., Holy Father and Retired Religious) mandated by the Diocese of Camden. At this time, St. Stephen will schedule special collections dedicated to the needy families in our local community for Epiphany and Holy Thursday.

Fr. Rocco closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:55 PM.

The next Finance Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, 1/11/11 at 7pm in the Rectory basement meeting room.

Respectfully submitted, Craig A. Otto
12/16/11