

St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Pastoral Staff

Reverend Vincent Orum, A.J., Administrator
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally
Permanent Deacon Raymond Ellis
Sister Bernadette Mary Leahy, S.S.J.

Parish Contact Information

Rectory: (856) 662-9338 Fax: (856) 662-4679
Convent: (856) 665-5227 School: (856) 662-5935
Email: ecclesia@comcast.net
Website: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

January 25, 2009 – Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd Sunday @ 10:30am

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.

Reconciliation – Saturday from 3:45pm-4:15pm

Seasonal Services are announced in bulletin.

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist

Call Rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

Marriage – arrangements must be made with a priest.

Only individually registered parishioners of one year or more are eligible to be married here. This includes anyone still living at home with parents who should register individually.

Rectory Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9am-4:30pm

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 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 the church 10 minutes prior to Mass and identify yourselves to one of the Ushers. Please note that where there is no intention listed, the Mass is offered for the Universal Church.

Table with 2 columns: Day/Time and Date/Intention. Rows include Monday (Jan 26), Tuesday (Jan 27), Wednesday (Jan 28), Thursday (Jan 29), Friday (Jan 30), Saturday (Jan 31), and Sunday (Feb 1).

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.

Table with 2 columns: Attendance/Collection and Amount. Rows show Jan 17/18 (559 / \$5,145), Jan 19/20 (590 / \$6,232), Budgeted Weekly Collection (\$7,200), and Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average (\$5,605).

Automatic E-Giving

St. Stephen Parish is providing Electronic Giving, or eGiving, as a simple, secure and convenient method for making contributions. The eGiving option is being used by churches throughout the country and works similar to online bill paying. You may logon to www.StStephensPennaauken.com to set up your account.



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:

- List of names to pray for: Rose Alessandrone, Dolly Angelastro, Patricia Booth, Marion Borreggine, Vincent Buondonno, Dominic Caruso, Dorothy Coyle, Marge Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Robert Gottschall, Jean Heller, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Nancy Loperfido, Vincent Marchese, Marie Melchiorre, Elena Melfi, Jennifer Osborn, Edith Parrissi, Rita Picciano, Leonard Rebilas, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Mary Jo Stedrak, Mary Terzini, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom, Harry Wilson.

Ministry Schedule for Jan. 31/Feb. 1

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. Sullivan, K. Hulsey, R. Garofalo
EM's: C & A Pandola, Sr. Eleanora, P. Petronis, T. Mattera
Lectors: S. Stehm, P. Krohn

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: K. Starts, M & C Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, A. DiGiacomo, S. Mufalli, The Monaco's
Lectors: M. Miller, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: C. Otto, R & C Aleszczyk
EM's: W. Delfin, M. Novoa, L. D'Alessandro, The Fagans
Lectors: The Links

Next Special Diocesan 2nd Collection:
January 25, 2009 - "Membership Sunday"

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline (856) 581-7980

Stewardship Reflection

Stewards Follow

Jesus said to them, "Come after me; I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1:17)

Jesus calls all Christians to follow Him. By being good stewards, we can follow the path to God uniquely identified for each of us.

This Week @ St. Stephen's

1/26-Monday-9am Mass, 7:15pm RCIA
 1/27-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
 1/28-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD
 1/29-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15pm Youth Music, 7:15pm Choir
 1/30-Friday-9am Mass
 1/31-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,
 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 2/1-Sunday-Masses: 9am & 10:30am

Altar Flower Donations

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass, please contact Maria Haas @ 665-8393.

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.

St. Stephen's Prayer Line

The Prayer Line belongs to you.

If you need someone to pray for you, you are at the right place. Contact Linda @ 661-8045 for January requests.

St. Stephen's Rosary Makers

Meets every 1st & 3rd Thursday @ 7pm at Stonegate.

Men of St. Stephen's

Please join us for our Men's Scripture/Prayer Group. We meet every Saturday morning at 8am for one-half hour. The first meeting each month will be held at the Merchantville Diner on Centre Street. The remaining meetings will be held in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Hope to see you on February 7th at the Diner. More Info: Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.

Class of '91 Alumni Alert!

St. Stephen's Class of '91 is requesting any information you may have regarding the whereabouts of our classmates as we would like to put together a reunion. Please contact Irene Krasovetz at 609-707-9770 or ikrasovetz@yahoo.com.



Catholic School's Week

Sunday, January 25th – Children's Mass 10:30am, Open House and Pancake Breakfast from 9am-1pm
Monday, January 26th – Essay contest and letters of appreciation to those who serve our community.
Tuesday, January 27th – Career Day.
Wednesday, January 28th – Special Persons Lunch and the Blue and White Basketball Game (Girls vs. Boys)
Thursday, January 29th – Mystery Teacher Day
Friday, January 30th – Fun Day Friday

Every student will recite the Rosary every morning.

Music Ministry Notes:

from Nancy Werner-Kaiser, Music Director

-The Youth Music Ministry is in rehearsal every Thursday at 6:15. Please join this dynamic group of young people.
 -Our Adult Choir is always on the lookout for new talent. Come to our regular Thursday rehearsals at 7:15 and join us in song as we praise our God!!!

St Stephen's Young Adult Ministry, ages 21-40

Faith Sharing - A reflection and discussion on the upcoming week's Gospel, Friday, February 13 at 7:00. Location to be announced, call Rose at 856-663-9342 for details.

Take-Out and a Movie – Saturday, February 28th at 6:30, Location to be announced, call JD at 856-316-2598 for details.

Upcoming feature presentations include February - "Evan Almighty"

For more information on the St. Stephen's Young Adult Ministry contact us at saintstephens_yam@yahoo.com.

MARRIAGE HELP

Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based program to help marriages that are stressed or in trouble. Retrouvaille has helped countless married couples in all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. Retrouvaille can help your marriage too. The next program will be held at St. Joseph in the Hills Malvern Retreat Center, Malvern, PA on **February 13-15, 2009**. For more information call 1-800-470-2230 or 302-832-8044 All calls are confidential. Visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

Lourdes Wellness Center

Visualization & Meditation
Evening for Young Adults

“Care of Body, Mind & Spirit: All God’s Gifts”
Saturday, January 31 from 7-8:30pm
Registration/Arrival Time is 6:45pm

Donation / Love Offering

Join us for a Young Adult Retreat focusing on our whole person as God’s gift. This retreat will have a special emphasis on positive ways to focus the mind with visualization and meditation practice. Light refreshments will be served. **Please register at least one week in advance to prevent program cancellations.**

Presenter: Sr. Ruthann T. O’Mara, SSJ

General Info & Registration: (856) 869-3125

Lourdes Spirituality Center at The Little Portion
1049 Haddon Avenue, 2nd Floor (steps) Collingswood, NJ
www.lourdeswellnesscenter.org



Monte Carlo Night

at St. Stephen School, Saturday March 7th
Doors Open at 6:30 - Gaming Starts at 7:15



Donation: \$40 per person
Includes Dinner, Beer, Wine, Soda and
\$40 in Casino Gambling Chips

Gambling Chips will be cashed for prizes
in the form of Chinese Auction Baskets

For Ticket Reservations, please call:
Anna North @ 856-324-0701

To make a prize donation, contribution or to Volunteer
in any capacity (including as a dealer), please call
Tom McHugh @ 856-608-6542

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A weekly continuing series)

PART ONE - THE PROFESSION OF FAITH
SECTION 2-The Profession of the Christian Faith

IV. THE IMPLICATIONS OF FAITH IN ONE GOD

222 Believing in God, the only One, and loving him with all our being has enormous consequences for our whole life.

223 *It means coming to know God's greatness and majesty:* "Behold, God is great, and we know him not."⁴⁶ Therefore, we must "serve God first".⁴⁷

224 *It means living in thanksgiving:* if God is the only One, everything we are and have comes from him: "What have you that you did not receive?"⁴⁸ "What shall I render to the LORD for all his bounty to me?"⁴⁹

225 *It means knowing the unity and true dignity of all men:* everyone is made in the image and likeness of God.⁵⁰

226 *It means making good use of created things:* faith in God, the only One, leads us to use everything that is not God only insofar as it brings us closer to him, and to detach ourselves from it insofar as it turns us away from him:

My Lord and my God, take from me everything that distances me from you.

My Lord and my God, give me everything that brings me closer to you.

My Lord and my God, detach me from myself to give my all to you.⁵¹

227 *It means trusting God in every circumstance,* even in adversity. A prayer of St. Teresa of Jesus wonderfully expresses this trust:

Let nothing trouble you / Let nothing frighten you

Everything passes / God never changes

Patience / Obtains all

Whoever has God / Wants for nothing

God alone is enough.⁵²

IN BRIEF

228 "Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God is one LORD. . ." (Dt 6:4; Mk 12:29). "The supreme being must be unique, without equal. . . If God is not one, he is not God" (Tertullian, *Adv. Marc.*, 1, 3, 5: PL 2, 274).

229 Faith in God leads us to turn to him alone as our first origin and our ultimate goal, and neither to prefer anything to him nor to substitute anything for him.

230 Even when he reveals himself, God remains a mystery beyond words: "If you understood him, it would not be God" (St. Augustine, *Sermo* 52, 6, 16: PL 38, 360 and *Sermo* 117, 3, 5: PL 38, 663).

231 The God of our faith has revealed himself as HE WHO IS; and he has made himself known as "abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (*Ex* 34:6). God's very being is Truth and Love.

Office of the Bishop - Diocese of Camden

January 2009

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As Catholic citizens, we are committed to upholding the dignity of human life across the entire life span, for those not yet born, the newborn, the elderly and infirm, the terminally ill, and every stage in between. In doing so, we give particular attention to defending the rights of the unborn, who are especially vulnerable. While our concern for human rights and the dignity of human life for those already born is also crucial, this concern is rendered moot if we do not place first concern on the right of that person to be born.

Unfortunately, as a new presidential administration begins and the new Congress convenes, many hard-fought protections obtained in recent years to protect the unborn will be subject to attack and reversal. The new administration and many members of Congress are seeking to expand "abortion rights" by making abortion a federal entitlement that the government must fund and promote through the "Freedom of Choice Act," commonly known as FOCA.

The new administration and members of the new Congress have vowed to make passage of this legislation a priority in the years ahead, a priority that actually would expand *Roe v. Wade* and reverse even modest limits on abortion. The Freedom of Choice Act, the most radical and divisive pro-abortion bill ever introduced in Congress, would create a "fundamental right" to abortion that government could not limit but would have to support. FOCA would overturn many existing and widely supported policies, including laws protecting parental involvement and conscience rights and those preventing the barbaric "partialbirth" abortion and taxpayer funding of abortion. FOCA is extreme and immoral legislation.

Given our concern for the dignity of human life, every Catholic citizen has the grave obligation to oppose FOCA and any law that attacks human life and to promote the few protections that currently exist to protect the unborn. As such, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in cooperation with state bishops' conferences, including the New Jersey Catholic Conference, and our diocesan Respect Life offices, are working to raise awareness about FOCA and the efforts now underway to erode protections for the unborn. As part of this effort, a national postcard campaign later this month will send a forceful message to Congress that we will not tolerate new attacks on the unborn and will work to oppose any laws and policies that would harm the unborn.

During the weekend of **January 24-January 25**, postcards will be available in each parish of the Diocese of Camden. Each postcard strip has three cards, one for your U.S. Representative and two for your U.S. Senators. I am urging you to sign the postcards, address them to your Senators and U.S. Representative (see below) and mail them at your earliest convenience.

U.S. SENATORS The Honorable Frank Lautenberg The Honorable Robert Menendez	U.S. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES (Choose one based on your district) The Honorable Robert E. Andrews (Congressional District 1) The Honorable Frank A. LoBiondo (Congressional District 2) The Honorable John Adler (Congressional District 3)
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I also encourage you to visit www.camdendiocese.org to find out more about the campaign to oppose FOCA and other threats to human life. With this effort and your prayerful support, we can give strong witness to our unshakable convictions regarding the inviolability and God-given dignity of human life.

May God continue to guide you and bless you.
Fraternally,

Most Reverend Joseph A. Galante, D.D., J.C.D.
Bishop of Camden