

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 29, 2012 – The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 January 30, 2012 Richard Pacholski r/b His Wife, Lucille
TUESDAY January 31, 2012 In Thanksgiving to the Arts & Environment Ministry
WEDNESDAY February 1, 2012 John V. Meyer r/b Family
THURSDAY February 2, 2012 In Thanksgiving for All St. Stephen's Volunteers
FRIDAY February 3, 2012 (First Friday Adoration) People of the Parish - Living & Deceased
SATURDAY February 4, 2012 Ruth M. McManus r/b The Knight Family
SUNDAY February 5, 2012 Sam Magro r/b The McHugh Family
10:30am Thomas & Anna Sullivan r/b The Sullivan Family
Marion Meloni r/b Edith Alessi
Eileen Murphy r/b M/M Jim Higgins
Russell Lodge r/b The Haas Family

The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Richard Pacholski.

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 4 columns: Date, Attendance/Collection, Comparison, Budgeted/Actual Weekly Collection. Rows include January 21/22, 2012 and January 22/23, 2011.

Next Special Collection:

February 12, 2012: "Winter Fuel Offering"

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.StStephensPennsauken.com to set up your account or you may pick up a form in the rectory.



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 Alessandroni, Victor Ambruso, Joe & Dolly Angelastro, Evelyn Capocetta, Mary Caruso, 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, 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 Penttleton, 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.

Ministry Schedule for February 4/5

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. North, M. North, K. Sullivan
EM's: B. Taylor, J. Heining, L. Heining, *alternate P. Petronis
Lectors: R. Taylor, P. Palazzo

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: I. Rosario, B. McHugh, C. Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, L. Monaco, M. Monaco, N. Schmidt
Lectors: L. Sperduto, J. Gerst

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: H. Atchison, K. Fagan, M. Ciarrocca
EM's: K. Fagan, J. Fagan, T. Link, J. Bowman
Lectors: C. Otto, L. Fagan

Stewardship Reflection

"Stewards Not Anxious"

"I should like you to be free of anxieties." (1 Corinthians 7:32a)

How many anxieties do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about attaining ever more material possessions? Yet, God tells us that only the hand that is open to give can also be open to receive His peace and joy. A heart or a hand clenched in anxiety and greed is not Stewardship and can never truly receive anything.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

1/30--Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study
 1/31--Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
 2/1--Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:15pm CCD
 2/2--Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Rosary Makers,
 7pm Discussion Club, 7:15pm Choir
 2/3--First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
 2/4--Saturday-9am Men's Group, 3:45pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 2/5--Sunday-RCIA, 9am Mass, 10:30am Mass

Monday Afternoon Bible Study

In the Stonegate building from 1:00 to 2:30 PM
 Any questions, please call Eileen at (856) 662-8046
 or email me at heides@comcast.net.
 Please feel free to join us!

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.

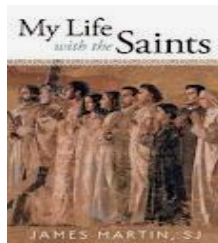
Wednesday Night CCD Classes

Continue February 1, 2012 from 6:15-7:30pm

Thursday Night

Discussion Club

7pm in the Rectory
 Beginning February 2, 2012,
 the Book Club will be reading
 Fr. James Martin, SJ's
 "My Life With The Saints".



First Friday Adoration

The next Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be Friday, February 3rd, 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 Bernadette @ 854-2928 for February 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)

February 8	Finance Council
February 15	Pastoral Council
February 22	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.

SCRIP News!

Please consider a New Year's resolution to buy more Scrip! Here are just some of the in-stock retailers we carry besides the various food stores. They include:

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
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 January 29-Feb. 4th, 2012
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!**



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK – Some of our events this week include:

- Share our Faith** - 9 am Sunday Mass with fellowship afterward for school families and parishioners in the school, Living Rosary
- Share our Academics** - Knowledge Bowl, Learning games, Teacher swap, Book Fair and Celebrity Bingo!
- Share our Service** – “Patriotic America” 1) Students may dress in their patriotic red, white and blue 2) They will write letters to our soldiers. 3) On Thursday night we will be holding a Social Studies/Language Arts Fair for all grades from 6:30-8pm. Families and friends may view the students’ work on display throughout the school.
- Special Person Lunch** - On Friday, students invite their “special person” to share their lunch and their school and Book Fair with them.

SPELLING BEES – 1) Congratulations to two of our 8th graders, Ashley Schmid and Henry Morris, who placed in the top 10 at the **K of C 41st Annual Spelling Bee** held on Sat. Jan. 14th. 2) Congratulations to 3 of our 4th & 5th graders who competed in the **GFWC Junior Women’s Club of Merchantville Annual Community Spelling Bee** held Sat., Jan. 21st at Pennsauken High School. Margherita Ciarrocca (Gr. 5) placed in the Final 6, Darren Parker (Gr. 4) placed 3rd and Matthew Wheeler (Gr. 5) took 1st place overall and will now advance to the next level. Way to go students and CONGRATULATIONS!

**OPEN HOUSE for 2012-2013
Tuesday, Feb. 7th - 9:00-11:00 am
Come Visit Us!**

PTO Upcoming Events

- 1) Disney Raffle** – You have the opportunity to win a Disney trip for a family of 4 for only \$1! The PTO will be selling tickets for \$1 each for this raffle and will continue selling them until just after Easter. The winning ticket will be pulled at the April 28th Mickey’s Backyard BBQ! Tickets will be available through the school. For any questions please call Barb Hertline @ (609-352-7556).
- 2) Pizzeria Uno** – Come join us for a **St. Stephen “Spirit Day”** on Wed., Feb. 8th at Pizzeria Uno, Maple Shade from 11:00am–11:00pm. We will receive a portion of the profits from anything served during that time as long as you present the St. Stephen flyer. (see Scrip table for flyer)
Good News! Pizzeria Uno scrip may be used to pay for your meal. Gift cards will be available through the PTO or after all Masses or may be ordered! At 12% profit we earn \$3 on every \$25 gift card sold!
- 3) Save the Date!** – **Sunday, April 15th Fashion Show**

ALUMNI NEWS 1) John Madden (Class of 2008) will be playing the lead in the upcoming Paul VI High School musical “Into the Woods” this February. 2) Andrew Randisi (Class of 2008) has just been awarded a full academic scholarship to Drexel University where he will begin his studies in the fall. Congratulations to both of our graduates, we wish them tremendous success!

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@ststephenspensauken.com.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass April 15th

The Wedding Anniversary Mass is a special Mass celebrated by the Bishop to honor couples celebrating 25, 50 and above years of marriage. Each couple is greeted and blessed by the Bishop and given a certificate acknowledging their special day. The date is:

**Sunday, April 15, 2012 at 3 PM
Our Lady of Hope Parish, Blackwood**

Registration forms are available in the rectory.
For more information, please call 856-583-6132

Lourdes Wellness Center

900 Haddon Avenue - Collingswood, NJ 08108
(856) 869-3198 - www.lourdeswellnesscenter.org

Meeting Christ in Prayer

An 8-Week Life-Enriching experience based on the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius:

- Enrich your prayer life & learn new ways of praying
- Meet Christ anew through Scripture & reflection
- Experience prayer based on Ignatius of Loyola’s spiritual exercises
- Feel new ways of support in the Christian life
- Become more aware of God’s presence in daily life

Meeting Christ in Prayer is an engaging 8-week guided prayer experience for 10 participants. Using guided exercises, persons will pray and reflect for 30 minutes each day between weekly meetings.

Every Tuesday—Feb. 7 thru Mar. 27 from 10:00-11:30am

If interested, please contact facilitator,
Sr. Ruthann T. O’Mara, SSJ
856-869-3198

Engaged Encounter Weekends

Faith & Family Life Formation announces the dates and registration information for the upcoming Engaged Encounter Weekends:

March 16-18, 2012

June 8-10, 2012

August 10-12, 2012

November 9-11, 2012

More information may be found on the Diocese of Camden website at http://www.camdendiocese.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=801&Itemid=636.

Choose the orange “View All” button to register.
For additional questions, please contact the office by phone at 856 583-6132 or email at MarriagePrep@camdendiocese.org.

Theology of the Body Lived in the Communion of Persons

Session 18:
January 29, 2012



Theme of the Week:
**We believe He came
down from heaven.**

Story of the week:

While walking through the woods, a man fell into a deep, dark pit. He tried and tried, but just couldn't climb out. Confucius came along. He saw the man in the pit, and said, "Poor fellow, if only you listened to me you never would have fallen into that pit." And Confucius went on his way. Buddha came along. He saw the man in the pit, and said, "Poor fellow, if you'll just come up here, I'll show you the way to enlightenment." Then Jesus came along. He saw the man in the pit and said, "Poor fellow!" Then he jumped into the pit and lifted him out.

An explanation of the weekly theme:

Our God comes among us, what an awesome thought! Look up at the sky some dark and starry night and think about just how huge the universe is! It is larger than we can imagine, yet our God came down to us. Last week we learned the "why": "for us men and for our salvation."

Imagine a God who literally "gets his hands dirty" by taking on human form! What incredible love and what incredible humility! Jesus hungered and thirsted, was cold and tired, he laughed and he cried as we do.

We can only get a glimpse at God's humility and his humanity by reading John's Gospel. "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth."

In Jesus Christ we see "God made visible," and so we can be in love with the God we cannot see. The Psalmist asks: "What are humans that you are mindful of them, mere mortals that you care for them?" The Word made flesh comes down, and salvation history shows us that he certainly did "jump into the pit" to redeem us!

General question: Did you pray this week that you would experience God through the people in your life?

Family question: What action can we take when we see our brothers and sisters in need?

Children's question: When did you give someone a "hand up" or be with them in a difficult time of their life? Did someone ever do this for you?

Come, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.