

# St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



## Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel Rocco, Pastor  
Reverend Thomas Kiely, In-Residence  
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally  
Sister Bernadette Mary Leahy, SSJ  
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal  
Mrs. Adeline Gramlich, CRE

## Parish Contact Information

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

Email: [ecclesia@comcast.net](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

Website: [www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com)

## January 31, 2010 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Mass Schedule

**Daily:** Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

#### Weekend Obligation:

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

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

**Children's Liturgy:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ Noon.

Baptism – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month @ Noon.

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

**Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist** –

**Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in 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.

**Rectory 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.

The 2011 Mass Intentions Book is now available for Masses within 1 year, i.e. if you come into the Rectory on Feb. 2, you may book a Mass thru 2/2/11.

<b>MONDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 1, 2010</b> Joseph Pepe r/b George Chapman
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 2, 2010</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 3, 2010</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9:00am+Novena	<b>February 4, 2010</b> Mary Rotondo (Birthday Remembrance) r/b Family
<b>FRIDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>February 5, 2010 (Adoration until 7pm)</b> Howard & Clara Buffington r/b Daughter-in-Law
<b>SATURDAY</b> 9:00am 4:30pm	<b>February 6, 2010</b> Good Intentions of the People of the Parish Louise Pigliacelli r/b Arthur & Marie Ruccolo
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:00am  10:30am	<b>February 7, 2010</b> Andrew Ott r/b Joe & Florence McHugh Lillian Mote r/b Her Daughter, Sister Krista  Ralph Cavallo r/b Wife & Children Maria Fanelle r/b Daughter

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Mary Rotondo.***

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.

<b>Jan. 23/24, 2010 Attendance/Collection</b>	<b>627/\$6,212</b>
<b>Jan. 24/25, 2009 Attendance/Collection</b>	<b>841/\$5,572</b>
<b>Budgeted Weekly Collection:</b>	<b>\$6,154</b>
<b>Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:</b>	<b>\$5,647</b>

***2009 Tax Statements Available***

Tax Statements for 2009 Family Contributions are now available. Please call the Rectory at 662-9338, ext. 6 to have your information sent out.

***Next Diocesan Special 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:***  
February 17, 2010: "Church in Europe" (Ash Wednesday)



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 Ackerman, Rose Alessandroni, Dolly Angelastro, Vincent Buondonno, Evelyn Capocetta, Dorothy Coyle, Margaret Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Thomas Holmes Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Patricia James, Donna Krawchuk, Robert Leone, Nancy Loperfido, Katherine Maggioncalda, Vincent Marchese, Marie Melchiorre, Elena Melfi, John Meyer, Jennifer Osborn, Edith Parrissi, Cassandra Pendleton, Rita Picciano, Jean Rooney, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Mary Jo Stedrak, Julian Terzini, Mary Terzini, Lillian Tomarchio, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, John Von Alex, Rita Weingard, Jean Wenstrom.**

***Ministry Schedule for February 6/7***  
(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**Altar Servers:** K. Sullivan, M. Hobbs, M. North  
**EM's:** T. Veneziani, L. Garofalo, A. Knight, M. Meloni  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, P. Krohn

**Sunday, 9:00am**

**Altar Servers:** M. DiRico, K. Starts, W. McHugh  
**EM's:** L. Rosario, S. Marano, R. Leone, M. Miller, N. Schmidt  
**Lectors:** J. Gerst, L. Sperduto

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**Altar Servers:** D. Saranchak, R&C Aleszczyk  
**EM's:** P. Krohn, T. Link, L. Solano, The Fagans  
**Lectors:** The Links

***Anointing of the Sick***

Anointing of the Sick will be available in the Chapel after the 4:30pm Mass on Saturdays for those who are ill and/or facing surgery. **Prior notification is necessary** by calling the Rectory at 662-9338 ext. 6, Monday thru Friday.

We also ask that you call the rectory if you know of anyone who is sick or homebound. We will then arrange a visit.



## This Week @ St. Stephen's

2/1-Monday-9am Mass, 7:15pm RCIA  
 2/2-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary  
 2/3-Wednesday-9am Mass, **NO CCD**  
 2/4-Thursday-9am Mass, 6:15 Youth Music,  
 7pm Rosary Makers, 7:15pm Choir  
 2/5-**First Friday**- 9am Mass, **Adoration until 7pm**  
 2/6-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,  
 3:45 Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
 2/7-Sunday-Masses at 9am & 10:30am

### Art & Environment Ministry

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass may contact Maria Haas at 665-8393. Anyone who would like to make a donation for a tree to honor a deceased love one or would like to join the A & E Ministry may call Maria at the number listed above.

### 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 Bernice @ 662-4641 for February requests.

**"Therefore I tell you, all that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours." -Mark 11:24**

### New Women's Bible Study

St. Stephen's is beginning a new Women's Bible Study Group. If you are interested, please call Eileen Heides at 662-8046 or Email Eileen at heides@comcast.net. A meeting will be scheduled to decide which day and time of the week will be most convenient for this new women's study group to meet.

### Ministry of Greeting & Hospitality

Anyone interested in joining the Ministry of Greeters, those who welcome parishioners and visitors to Mass every Sunday, are asked to call Mary Ann Meloni at 488-6143.

### 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 in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.

### Men's Retreat March 12-14

**Gentlemen:** You are invited to Saint Joseph's In The Hills in Malvern Pa. for a 42-hour retreat. Our retreat will begin on Friday evening March 12 and conclude with Sunday morning Mass March 14. During this retreat you will have the opportunity to rest, focus on issues that are important to you, pray, celebrate the Eucharist with friends.

For more information visit [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com) or contact

**Joe Fagan (c) 609-471-0753, (h) 662-5908,  
 jfagan1982@comcast.net**

## First Friday Adoration



**This Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> is the First Friday of the Month. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin after the 9am Mass and continue until 7pm.**

### St. Stephen's Rosary Makers

You are cordially invited to join The Rosary Makers in their quest to make and distribute rosaries to missions throughout the world. The group meets at 7:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month in Stonegate's meeting room. If you have been a member in the past, this would be a great time to rejoin.

All new members are welcome! This could be some time for yourself, and the chance to meet new people while helping to show your devotion to Mary, our Mother, and the Mother of our Savior. **Please consider giving two hours a month for such a wonderful cause.**

January 30 and 31, 2010

### Stewardship Reflection

*"Stewards less pompous, More Giving"*

**"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated,"** (1 Corinthians 13:4)

Are you jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given you? Are you pompous? Do you seek to acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these human weaknesses. Yet as stewards we are called to love God above all other things – striving always to be less jealous, less pompous and more giving.

### Blood Drive Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on President's Day, February 15, 2010, at St Stephen's School from 1 pm to 7 pm. Sign-up sheets will be available in the back of the church after all Masses beginning on Saturday, February 6, or you can contact the rectory.





## Catholic Schools Week Schedule of Events

Each class is asked to decorate their door. (Classes with 2 doors will decorate front door of room). The decorations should be in keeping with the theme for Catholic Schools Week:

### Catholic Schools:

**Dividends for Life - Faith, Knowledge, Discipline, Morals.**

*Doors should be completed for Sunday, January 31st.*

### SUNDAY

Opening Mass followed by **Pancake Breakfast 9am-1pm**  
Invention Convention in gym

### MONDAY

1: 15PM Recitation of the Rosary-Mysteries of Light-in Church  
Each decade will be lead by a teacher. Another teacher will carry up a candle and place it in front of a picture of the mystery. Students will view the slide show from Middle States reception.

### TUESDAY

1:30PM Volleyball between Faculty & 8th Grade Students.

### WEDNESDAY

"Denim Dress Down" Day for Students  
Students may wear jeans and Uggs if they want. There will be a dress code for the jeans. Math Games for Parents at Night.

### THURSDAY

Special Person Luncheon from 11:30-1:00  
St. Stephen Knowledge Bowl for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 in gym. Students from prek4 through 5th grade will play board games in classrooms.

#### Classes are paired as follows:

Prek4 and grade 5

Kindergarten and grade 3

Grades 1, 2 and 4

### FRIDAY

9:00am First Friday Mass prepared by students grades 4 & 7  
10:30AM Students will receive Icee and play bingo over p.a.  
Noon dismissal

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**St. Stephen's Girl Scout Troop 30951**, will be selling Girl Scout cookies at the weekend Masses, **January 30 / 31.**

Thank you for your support!

## St. Stephen School

### News from the Sixth Grade

It was a busy week for St. Stephen's sixth grade class!! In Religion class the students began reading and discussing Old Testament prophets who spoke the word of God and spread his message to the people of Israel. Earthquakes and plate tectonics were the focus in Science class. In light of recent events in Haiti, the students now have a better understanding of the cause and effect of earthquakes. The sixth grade class has been working on poetry in Language Arts Class, identifying parts of poems, rhyme scheme, and sensory images. The students can't wait to see whose work will be displayed in the "Poetry Spot" in the classroom. In the world of Math, Mrs. Austin has been teaching the students how to add and subtract integers. In Mrs. Chase's Social Studies class, students just finished a chapter on Ancient Greece. The highlight of the lesson was the students' creation of their own mythological skits featuring gods such as Arachne and Echo.

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### Congratulations & Thank You!

Congratulations to **John Messina** on his being accepted by Bishop Galante into the Aspirancy Phase of the Diaconate for our Diocese.

We also wish to thank **Deacon Raymond Ellis**, now retired, on his many years of faithful service here at St. Stephen's and the Diocese of Camden.

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### Young Adult Ministry

St. Stephen's Young Adult Ministry, ages 21-40, has begun its **Faith and Tradition Series** on Monday nights in the rectory meeting room. Please arrive at 7:15. Presentation is from 7:30-8:30. Join us for either a reflection on the upcoming week's Gospel or a presentation on a saint of the church.

#### Upcoming schedule

February 8 - Scripture sharing (Luke 6:17, 20-26)

February 22 - "Saints of the Sacred Heart"

presented by Sr. Ruthann O'Mara

February 27 - Movie Night - "Song of Bernadette"

(Not held at the rectory, location TBD)

**Please contact Rose at 856.663.9342 for more information**

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### Faith Formation for Children with Special Needs

All parents and caregivers of children with special needs are invited to attend a meeting on **Thursday evening, February 4, 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Community of Christ Our Light**. The meeting will be held in Resurrection Catholic School, located behind the church. The purpose of this meeting is for parents and caregivers to share their concerns, hopes and dreams regarding the faith formation of their children in the Catholic Church. Representatives from the Religious Education Special Needs Committee from the Diocese of Camden will be present to listen, brainstorm and plan for the future.

For more information or to register for this meeting please contact

**Sister Bonnie McMenamin, SSJ**

at [bmcmenamin@camdendiocese.org](mailto:bmcmenamin@camdendiocese.org) or 856-583-6111.

## ***St. Stephen Parish Pastoral Council Minutes - January 20, 2010***

**Members Present:** Fr. Dan Rocco, Joe Haas, Chris Hearn, Liz McHugh, Joey Scavuzzo, Ryan McCann, and Terry Modzier.

**Ex Officio members:** Sr. Bernadette Leahy SSI, Sr. Ruthann O' Mara SSJ, and Pat Higgins.

- Opening prayer by Fr. Dan Rocco
- Meeting called to order by Joe Haas at 7:05 pm
- Minutes Read and Approved by Committee members.

- **Old Business:**

Surveys - Review of the statistical data. Initial aspects extracted from survey to be focused on at this time are: Liturgical components, Youth and Young Adult ministries, and Social gatherings for the parish family. These areas will foster the spiritual growth of the parish and promote cohesiveness within.

- **New Business:**

-Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Focus: Assisting our parishioners on our journey to a closer relationship with Jesus; Act as advisor to Fr. Rocco; Be involved with all the ministries; Identify with St. Stephen as our role model, and how that can assist us as a Parish, as we grow in Faith; Identify ourselves to the parishioners and encourage open communication with all parish members; Encourage parishioners to bring any concerns or questions to the PPC so they may be addressed and/or resolved therefore averting a potential problem at a later date; Reach out to members of the parish, both active and inactive, to establish connections that will build up our church to a strong, vibrant component of the Body of Christ.

-Discussion on the attributes of St. Stephen and how to incorporate his traits into the daily lives of the parishioners; Many suggestions were offered on methods of sharing information about St. Stephen, such as write-ups in the weekly bulletin, on our web site, or as displays in the church lobby. No definitive decision reached. Of importance is to demonstrate to the parishioners how they are already like St. Stephen in many ways.

-St. Ruthann is working to reorganize the Pastoral Ministries, and will share information on the new "Spiritual Life Committee" at the next PPC meeting. Once this task is completed, cross membership between committees will be established.

-St. Vincent De Paul Society: Any interested parties will be referred to St. Peter's church at this time. Sr. Ruthann will contact previous chairpersons for further information. Of note: Per Fr. Rocco, St. Vincent De Paul society is a National Organization which operates with local chapters.

-Joe Haas opened a discussion with the hope of moving the parish toward healing. Fr. Rocco suggested an Open House / Town Meeting forum in which the parish would share ideas, focus on our strengths, and establish a path on which we can all move forward. Sr. Ruthann voiced concern about too much emphasis on the past, this led to the discussion on the future direction of council and electing new members, possibly as soon as May 2010.

-Synergy between the Church and School: School Board works under the direction of Mrs. Higgins (Principal), who reports to the Pastor, Fr. Rocco. Current school board is being reorganized and Mrs. Higgins is in the process of selecting new school board members. The focus on each selection is the expertise they can bring to the board.

-Fundraisers: Promote fundraising in terms of supporting our parish mission and giving towards St. Stephen's future. Items discussed: Yard Sale and Raffle as the two major events for the Church. Currently there is no activity scheduled for the church; the school is working on "The Night at the Races" and the "Joe Corbi" pizza sale. The possibility of resuming the sale of Script was mentioned, as this was seen as somewhat profitable.

-There will be a "Welcome" reception for Fr. Daniel Rocco on both Saturday February 13th after the 4:30 pm mass and Sunday February 14th after the 10:30 am mass in the school hall. Light refreshments will be served. Please stop in and give Fr. Rocco your personal welcome! The contact people for Saturday are Sr. Ruthann and Mrs. Higgins while for Sunday it will be Liz McHugh, Chris Hearn, and Terry Modzier.

-Appreciation Dinner: The date of April 17, 2010 was selected. Further details will be discussed at the next meeting.

**\*\*Additions from previous meeting minutes\*\***

\*- Procedures for Pastoral Council: Meetings will be on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the rectory basement. A one page summary of the minutes from each meeting is to appear in the parish bulletin the following Sunday.

\*- Youth Mass: Fr. Chuck, Chaplain at Camden Catholic High School, is interested in saying a Youth Mass on Sunday evening at 7:30 pm. There are many details to be settled before this can be scheduled. Additional information to follow.

- Meeting adjourned @ 9:20 pm. Closing prayer by Fr. Rocco
- Next PPC meeting **TUESDAY February 16, 2010 at 7:30 pm** after the Rosary, in the Rectory meeting room.