

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: eccllesia@comcast.net
Website: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

January 4, 2009 – The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

MONDAY 9:00am	January 5, 2009 Communion Service
TUESDAY 9:00am	January 6, 2009 Communion Service
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	January 7, 2009 Communion Service
THURSDAY 9:00am	January 8, 2009 Communion Service
FRIDAY 9:00am	January 9, 2009 Alexander Capps r/b Eileen Fuzer
SATURDAY 9:00am 4:30pm	January 10, 2009 Good Intentions of the People of the Parish Henry & Helen Goldberg r/b Mary DeMarco Joseph Siano r/b Fanny DiBenedetto
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	January 11, 2009 Doris Ryan r/b Kevin & Rosemary Walsh Karl Stewart r/b Jan Stewart & Family Grace Moffett r/b Frank & Margo Salerno Joseph Siano r/b Victor & Trina Altadonna

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in
Memory of Drew Desmond.***

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.

**Please Note: The Mass Intentions for January 5-8
will be honored the next week, January 12-16.
We will have Communion Services January 5-8.**

Attendance/Collection Dec. 20/21, 2008	756 / \$4,745
Attendance/Collection Dec. 22/23, 2007	561 / \$6,479
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$7,200
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,607

Christmas Offertory & Dec. 27/28 figures were not available at "press time" as this issue was submitted on Dec. 23, 2008.

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



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:

Dolly Angelastro, Patricia Booth, Marion Borreggine, Vincent Buondonno, Dominic Caruso, Dorothy Coyle, Marge Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, John Fitzpatrick, Joe Flacco, Robert Gottschall, Jean Heller, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, 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 January 10/11

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. Hulsey, M. Hobbs, R. Garofalo
EM's: S. Eisenhardt, M. Baratta, P. Antonelli, The Monaco's
Lectors: The Busch's

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: M & C Hearn, H. Atchison
EM's: S. Marano, L. McHugh, T. Modzier, The Sapienza's
Lectors: M. McHugh, L. Modzier

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: The Coars
EM's: T. Link, J. Messina, M. Meloni, The Tutwilers
Lectors: C. Otto, K. Jakubowski

January 11th bulletin deadline: **January 5th @ Noon**

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

CAP Session January 12, 2009

The Office of Safe Environment for Children, Youth and Adults is arranging several more CAP sessions.

The CAP (Child Assault Prevention Program) sessions are part of the Diocese of Camden's program of prevention under the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

The next session will be offered on Monday, January 12, 2009, 7:00 PM, St. Peter, Merchantville, Lower Church.

To attend this class, please call the CAP registration line in the Office of Safe Environment for Children, Youth and Adults at (856) 583-6165

Lourdes Wellness Center: New Spirituality Programs Join us this Winter for Spirit Alive!

Going Deeper: Introduction to Spiritual Direction
Tuesday, January 6th @ 7pm – FREE

Experiencing God’s Great Love Series
Thursdays, Jan. 8, 22 & 29 @ 7pm - \$10

Saturday Evenings for Young Adults: Ages 21-40

Care for Body, Mind and Spirit: All God’s Gifts
Saturday, January 31st from 7-8:30pm – Free Will Offering

Presenter: Sr. Ruthann T. O’Mara, SSJ

Please come 5 minutes prior to the time.
Please register at least one week in advance
to prevent program cancellations.

General Info & Registration: (856) 869-3125
Lourdes Spirituality Center at The Little Portion
1049 Haddon Avenue, 2nd Floor (steps) Collingswood, NJ
www.lourdeswellnesscenter.org

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### Camden Catholic’s

## “Teams for Turf” Fundraiser

Camden Catholic High School will host a “Teams for Turf” Fundraiser on **Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-10pm** at Pinsetters Bar & Bowl located at 7111 Maple Avenue in Pennsauken. All proceeds from the event will benefit the school’s recently announced “Fields for the Future Campaign”, which consists of the installation of a turf field at the school and re-grading of existing playing fields. Tickets for the January 18<sup>th</sup> fundraiser are \$25 and can be purchased by calling the school at (856) 663-CCHS or by contacting Linda @ [sxerri@aol.com](mailto:sxerri@aol.com). This is a 21 and over event.

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Seeking Volunteers

Moorestown Visiting Nurses & Hospice is seeking caring and compassionate volunteers to visit terminally ill patients in their home or care facility. Training is provided and volunteers can give as little or as much time as they wish. Volunteers are also needed for office work, community outreach, and bereavement. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator by calling (856) 552-1300. We look forward to hearing from you!

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A weekly continuing series)

PART ONE - THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

SECTION 2-The Profession of the Christian Faith

CHAPTER 1 – I Believe in God the Father

ARTICLE 1 - "I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH"

The living God

205 God calls Moses from the midst of a bush that burns without being consumed: "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."⁹ God is the God of the fathers, the One who had called and guided the patriarchs in their wanderings. He is the faithful and compassionate God who remembers them and his promises; he comes to free their descendants from slavery. He is the God who, from beyond space and time, can do this and wills to do it, the God who will put his almighty power to work for this plan. "I Am who I Am"

Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you', and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'. . . this is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."¹⁰

206 In revealing his mysterious name, YHWH ("I AM HE WHO IS", "I AM WHO AM" or "I AM WHO I AM"), God says who he is and by what name he is to be called. This divine name is mysterious just as God is mystery. It is at once a name revealed and something like the refusal of a name, and hence it better expresses God as what he is - infinitely above everything that we can understand or say: he is the "hidden God", his name is ineffable, and he is the God who makes himself close to men.¹¹

207 By revealing his name God at the same time reveals his faithfulness which is from everlasting to everlasting, valid for the past ("I am the God of your father"), as for the future ("I will be with you").¹² God, who reveals his name as "I AM", reveals himself as the God who is always there, present to his people in order to save them.

208 Faced with God's fascinating and mysterious presence, man discovers his own insignificance. Before the burning bush, Moses takes off his sandals and veils his face in the presence of God's holiness.¹³ Before the glory of the thrice-holy God, Isaiah cries out: "Woe is me! I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips."¹⁴ Before the divine signs wrought by Jesus, Peter exclaims: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."¹⁵ But because God is holy, he can forgive the man who realizes that he is a sinner before him: "I will not execute my fierce anger. . . for I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst."¹⁶ The apostle John says likewise: "We shall. . . reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything."¹⁷

209 Out of respect for the holiness of God, the people of Israel do not pronounce his name. In the reading of Sacred Scripture, the revealed name (YHWH) is replaced by the divine title "LORD" (in Hebrew *Adonai*, in Greek *Kyrios*). It is under this title that the divinity of Jesus will be acclaimed: "Jesus is LORD."

From the Desk of Father Vincent Orum, AJ - Administrator

The Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth and the Christian Family in the Modern World – Part II of II

In answer to all these growing and rapid profound changes that increasingly threatens the Institution of marriage and family life, Pope John Paul II calls for all the baptized to recognize the Values of our faith proclaimed by the revealed Word of God that can help to inform the conscience of man in understanding the place of marriage, sexuality and the dignity of the human person: **“Illuminated by the faith that gives her an understanding of all the truth concerning the great value of marriage and the family and their deepest meaning, the Church once again feels the pressing need to proclaim the Gospel, that is the "good news," to all people without exception, in particular to all those who are called to marriage and are preparing for it, to all married couples and parents in the world.**

The Church is deeply convinced that only by the acceptance of the Gospel are the hopes that man legitimately places in marriage and in the family capable of being fulfilled.

Willed by God in the very act of creation,(3) marriage and the family are interiorly ordained to fulfillment in Christ(4) and have need of His graces in order to be healed from the wounds of sin(5) and restored to their "beginning,"(6) that is, to full understanding and the full realization of God's plan.

At a moment of history in which the family is the object of numerous forces that seek to destroy it or in some way to deform it, and aware that the well-being of society and her own good are intimately tied to the good of the family, (7) the Church perceives in a more urgent and compelling way her mission of proclaiming to all people the plan of God for marriage and the family, ensuring their full vitality and human and Christian development, and thus contributing to the renewal of society and of the People of God.”

As part of what constitutes marriage and family life, John Paul connects the gift of Children as an answer to becoming co-creators with God! It's the outcome of an amazing act of selfless Love as opposed to selfish love! Hear what he says, **“In its most profound reality, love is essentially a gift; and conjugal love, while leading the spouses to the reciprocal "knowledge" which makes them "one flesh,"(35) does not end with the couple, because it makes them capable of the greatest possible gift, the gift by which they become cooperators with God for giving life to a new human person. Thus the couple, while giving themselves to one another, give not just themselves but also the reality of children, who are a living reflection of their love, a permanent sign of conjugal unity and a living and inseparable synthesis of their being a father and a mother.**

When they become parents, spouses receive from God the gift of a new responsibility. Their parental love is called to become for the children the visible sign of the very love of God, "from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named."

As the Pope outline the ever growing and rapid changes that seems to increasingly threaten the institution of marriage and family life, it seems to me that humanity is drifting more closely to the era of **“The Garden of Eden”** when man(Adam and Eve) wanted to affirm his/her autonomous exercise of freedom and make choices against God's directives.Gen3 .1-24.The fallen man in the Genesis account precisely abused the exercise of freedom and wanted total autonomy from God's laws and an interpretation of the objective truth that suits his/her likings as expressed in the words of the tempter- The serpent. The result out of that as we know was disharmony and disconnect not only between man and God, but man and man; man and creation and man and self!

May the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph encourage all of us the Baptized to respect the values family life and the Institution of marriage as willed by God and gratuitously given to us!