

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

October 12, 2008 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm

Sunday – 9:00am & 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 of month @ 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 **October 13, 2008** (Rectory Closed Columbus Day)
9:00am

TUESDAY **October 14, 2008**
9:00am

WEDNESDAY **October 15, 2008**
9:00am

THURSDAY **October 16, 2008 (Novena to follow)**
9:00am Anne Doran r/b Fred & Anna Vicario

FRIDAY **October 17, 2008**
9:00am Frances Shea r/b Son Walter

SATURDAY **October 18, 2008**
9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
4:30pm Ermelinda Pepa r/b Robert Pepa
 Edward Farmer r/b Jennie Farmer

SUNDAY **October 19, 2008**
9:00am John F. Peberdy r/b Gerry Kozempel
 Frank Stella r/b Wife Helen

10:30am John O'Connor r/b Matt & Pat Petronis

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in
Memory of Msgr. Joseph O'Connell.***

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.

Mass Attendance October 4/5, 2008	491
Mass Attendance October 6/7, 2007	562
Offertory Collection Oct. 4/5, 2008:	\$6,136.04
Comparison October 6/7, 2007:	\$7,747.00
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$7,200.00
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,873.24

Thank you for your generous donation of
\$712 for the Respect Life Collection October 4/5

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.**



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, Tom DiBenedetto, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, Jennie Farmer, John Fitzpatrick, Joe Flacco, Robert Gottschall, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Eleanor McBride, Marie Melchiorre, Elena Melfi, Jennifer Osborn, Chris Picciano, Rita Picciano, Leonard Rebilas, Rosemarie Rosolia, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Joe Siano, Mary Jo Stedrak, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom.

Ministry Schedule for October 18/19

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. Sullivan, E. Stemetzki
EM's: A. Knight, T. Scavuzzo, T. Veneziani, The Monaco's
Lectors: P. Tryson, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: E. Corbett, G. Schwankert
EM's: S. Marano, J. Rosario, S. Mufalli, A. DiGiacomo, N. Schmidt
Lectors: L. Sperduto, D. Heck

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: P. Luthman, S & S Rosa
EM's: J. Messina, L. Picknally, A. Mulholland, J. Fagan, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: The Luthmans

October 19th bulletin deadline: October 14th @ Noon

Next Special 2nd Collection:

October 19th: "Mission Sunday"

On **Monday, October 13th** we will observe
Columbus Day, a National Holiday.
The Rectory and all Diocesan Offices will be closed.

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

CCD Program Needs

Our CCD Program is still in need of **Teachers, Subs and Aides**. If you feel a calling to this wonderful Ministry, please call Adeline Gramlich, CRE at (856) 662-9338.

This Week @ St. Stephen's

10/13-Monday-9am Mass, Rectory Closed Columbus Day, No RCIA
10/14-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7:30pm PTA & Ministries
10/15-Wednesday-9am Mass, No CCD
10/16-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Rosary Makers, 7:15pm Choir
10/17-Friday-9am Mass
10/18-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, **8am Yard Sale**, 9am Mass,
3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
10/19-Sunday-Masses @ 9am & 10:30am

All Ministries Meeting Oct. 14th

Beginning with the 7pm Rosary, all Ministry members from the **EM's, Lectors, Ushers and Music** will meet and then gather at Stonegate at 7:30pm to discuss Ministry roles & goals.

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## ***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 Mary Sharon @ 662-6049 for October requests.

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St. Stephen's Rosary Makers

We now meet every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month @ 7pm at Stonegate.

Our next meeting will be held on October 16th.

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## ***Giant Yard Sale II***

The Fundraising Committee will sponsor another Giant Parish Yard Sale 8 A.M. **Saturday, October 18, 2008**, rain date 10/25/08. To donate goods, please bring them to St. Stephen's Thursday evening, 10/16 or Friday, 10/17. Items are not being accepted at the rectory this year.

We need a **hoard** of people to set up and run the sale from Thursday evening through Saturday, 10/18. To get on the list of volunteers, please call 227-4980.

## ***Baked Goods for the Yard Sale***

Volunteers are needed to donate baked goods for this year's Yard Sale. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby of the church and you may contact **Linda Gruber @ 665-7369** for more info.

## ***Leader Needed***

The Fundraising Committee needs someone to lead them in the next parish raffle. With the understanding that the committee will give its full support in helping out with the raffle, if you would like to head it up, please call 227-4980.

## ***ART & ENVIRONMENT FUNDRAISER:***

St. Stephen's Art & Environment is planning a new Nativity scene for the Christmas Liturgical season. In order for us to achieve our goal we are asking for your support on **Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**, with our **Dining to Donate -Applebee's fundraiser**. Applebee's will donate 10% of your bill to St. Stephen's A&E Ministry. This is an **ALL DAY** event. If your schedule has you too busy to dine in, by all means check the website to order **Carside to Go**.

**WHEN:** Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**WHERE:** Cherry Hill Applebee's, 108 Haddonfield Rd.

**TIME:** Lunch, Dinner or Carside to Go

([www.applebees.com](http://www.applebees.com)) to check out the daily menu.

## **TWO THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

You must **patronize the Applebee's at 108 Haddonfield Rd. in Cherry Hill** and you must **present the flyer** that will be distributed in the bulletin the weekend of Oct24<sup>th</sup>, school folders, entrance of Stonegate and in the back of the church. We would appreciate you taking extra flyers and encourage support from your family, friends and co-workers.

*Thank you for all your support on this awesome project.*

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St Stephen's Young Adult Ministry

Upcoming Events

St Stephen's YAM, ages 21-40, will be meeting every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month.

* The 2nd Friday will be a reflection and discussion on the upcoming weeks Gospel.

The meeting starts at 7:00 in the Stonegate Conference Room.

* On the 4th Friday, YAM will be hosting a movie night followed by a discussion.

The group will gather in the Stonegate Main room at 6:30 for light refreshments. The movie starts at 7:00. Stonegate residents are welcomed to attend.

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## ***St. Stephen's BookMates!***

The BookMates interfaith literacy program is coming to St. Stephen School and we need your help! If you are available to read for one hour each week during the school day with young St. Stephen students or would like more information about the program, please contact **Julie Silver, BookMates Program Coordinator, at (856) 751-9500, ext. 143**. BookMates is a social justice project of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey and the Catholic Jewish Commission.

## 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 Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at the Diner. More Info: **Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.**

## Knights' Breakfast October 19<sup>th</sup>

The Knights of Columbus will have their Breakfast Buffet @ **St. Stephen's on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.** Prices are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Tickets will be available at the door.

## Mass of Anointing & Healing

Saturday, October 25, 2008 at 10:30am

St. Cecilia Church, 48<sup>th</sup> & Camden Ave., Pennsauken  
Lunch to Follow - RSVP to (856) 662-5008

## Holiday Show – Casino Trip to Tropicana

November 11, 2008 - \$45 per person

Package includes \$20 in coins, the show: "Songs of the Season", buffet and bus transportation. Deposit is required when making reservation. **Contact Maraianna @ 663-5599.**

## Around the Diocese

### Mass of Remembrance November 5, 2008

Bishop Joseph Galante will be celebrating a special Mass of Remembrance at the St. Pius X Chapel, 1840 Peter Cheesemen Rd. Blackwood, NJ on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:05pm for the priests who have died in the past year:

**Rev. John Byrnes, Msgr. John Clark,  
Msgr. Thomas Guenther, Rev. Thomas Jarka,  
Msgr. Joseph O'Connell, Rev. Paul Onufer,  
Msgr. James Rynne and Deacon Frank Vargo.**

*All parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass.*

### Volunteers Needed

**Volunteers are needed** to assist parishioners in preparing petitions for Church annulments. No previous experience is required, training will be provided by the Diocese of Camden Tribunal Staff.

Classes will be held at the St. Pius X Retreat House in Blackwood, NJ on the following Tuesdays:

**January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2009 from 7-9pm.**

Please call the Tribunal at (856) 583-6162 to register.

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

*(A weekly continuing series)*

### Section One, "I Believe-We Believe"

*Chapter 3: Man's Response to God*

#### Mary – "Blessed is she who believed"

**148** The Virgin Mary most perfectly embodies the obedience of faith. By faith Mary welcomes the tidings and promise brought by the angel Gabriel, believing that "with God nothing will be impossible" and so giving her assent: "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be [done] to me according to your word."<sup>12</sup> Elizabeth greeted her: "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."<sup>13</sup> It is for this faith that all generations have called Mary blessed.<sup>14</sup> **149** Throughout her life and until her last ordeal<sup>15</sup> when Jesus her son died on the cross, Mary's faith never wavered. She never ceased to believe in the fulfillment of God's word. And so the Church venerates in Mary the purest realization of faith.

#### II. "I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED"<sup>16</sup>

##### To believe in God alone

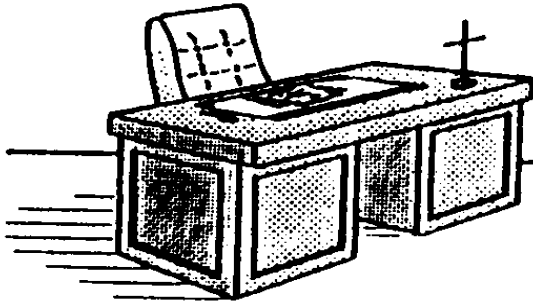
**150** Faith is first of all a personal adherence of man to God. At the same time, and inseparably, it is a *free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed.* As personal adherence to God and assent to his truth, Christian faith differs from our faith in any human person. It is right and just to entrust oneself wholly to God and to believe absolutely what he says. It would be futile and false to place such faith in a creature.<sup>17</sup>

##### To believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God

**151** For a Christian, believing in God cannot be separated from believing in the One he sent, his "beloved Son", in whom the Father is "well pleased"; God tells us to listen to him.<sup>18</sup> The Lord himself said to his disciples: "Believe in God, believe also in me."<sup>19</sup> We can believe in Jesus Christ because he is himself God, the Word made flesh: "No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known."<sup>20</sup> Because he "has seen the Father", Jesus Christ is the only one who knows him and can reveal him.<sup>21</sup>

##### To believe in the Holy Spirit

**152** One cannot believe in Jesus Christ without sharing in his Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who reveals to men who Jesus is. For "no one can say "Jesus is Lord", except by the Holy Spirit",<sup>22</sup> who "searches everything, even the depths of God. . No one comprehends the thoughts of God, except the Spirit of God."<sup>23</sup> Only God knows God completely: we believe in the Holy Spirit because he is God. *The Church never ceases to proclaim her faith in one only God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*



*From the Desk of  
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

From Monday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 up to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 about 253 Bishops are gathering in Rome at the invitation of Pope Benedict for the Synod to reflect on the importance of the Scriptures/Bible in the life of the Christian faithful. The Theme of the Synod is, **“The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church”**.

Speaking about the Global financial crisis, the Pope observed that, “the only solid reality is the Word of God” since as he said, “with the collapse of big banks we see that money disappears, is nothing and all these things that appear real are in fact of secondary importance”.

The Pope warns that we should not only center our lives on “things that are visible, such as career, money” but allow the Word of God to lead and guide us.

While the Synod is carrying on, Pope Benedict and other 1,200 people from different faith and world religions will participate in reading the different parts of the Bible broadcast on a Giant Television at the Vatican.

As the Synod is in progress, we need to ask ourselves as to how often we give time to reflect on the Scriptures/Word of God (Bible)! Many times we are proud and excited to quote the number of books and authors we have read; can we also feel the same for the Bible?

Saint Jerome, a devoted monk and ascetic who wrote commentaries on and authored the Latin translation of the Bible known as “the Vulgate”, once said **”ignoratio Scripturarum ignoratio Christi est”**: **“Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ”**.

Would we allow ourselves to be knowledgeable of secular realities and become ignorant of eternal wisdom? Is Jesus not the Wisdom from above and the “Goodness” to which we are called to strive? How can we allow ourselves to be ignorant of Him?

In his encyclical entitled, **“The Splendor of Truth”**, Pope John Paul II using the encounter between the Rich Young Man and Jesus (Mt.19:16 ff) to explain that the yearning or thirst for doing what is good as expressed in his question: **“Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?”** is the yearning and thirst of every humanity. Pope John Paul II proposes that Jesus is “the Truth” and “the Goodness” for what is good.

We can encounter the truth about our lives, the good, and the happiness we yearn to pursue only when we heed to the voice of God in Jesus through the Scriptures.

The famous passage of the Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 4:12-13, sums up the importance of the Scriptures/Word of God (Bible) in our lives:

**“Indeed, the Word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart. No creature is concealed from him, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account.”**

*Heb.4:12-13*

Finally, as we begin the month of October, we should be reminded that the Church dedicates this month for praying the Rosary. Again the Rosary is a beautiful way of praying and reading the Scriptures as we go through the Fifteen Mysteries. **“Oh, that today you would hear his voice: Harden not your hearts.”***“Hb.4:7*