

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 19, 2008 – 29th 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 20, 2008**
9:00am Mateo Oler r/b Veronica Deighan & Family
- TUESDAY** **October 21, 2008**
9:00am
- WEDNESDAY** **October 22, 2008**
9:00am Justin Ford r/b John Meyer
- THURSDAY** **October 23, 2008 (Novena to follow)**
9:00am
- FRIDAY** **October 24, 2008**
9:00am
- SATURDAY** **October 25, 2008**
9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
4:30pm Robert Bruner r/b Kathy Boyer
 Anthony Picciano r/b Nick & Betty
- SUNDAY** **October 26, 2008**
9:00am Helen & Art Huesser r/b Jane Grey
 Angela Fleck r/b Daughter Kathy
- 10:30am John O'Connor r/b Our Eucharistic Ministers

The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Ida Petulla.

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 11/12, 2008	533
Mass Attendance October 13/14, 2007	571
Offertory Collection Oct. 11/12, 2008:	\$5,155.00
Comparison October 13/14, 2007:	\$6,226.67
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$7,200.00
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,825.35

Thank you for your generous donation of
\$1,225 for the Star Herald Collection October 11/12

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, 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 25/26

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: S. Vance, M. Hobbs
EM's: T. Mattera, P. Krohn, T. Angstman, The Heiningers
Lectors: M. Vance, C. Mattera

Sunday, 9:00am

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

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: The Coars
EM's: M. Coar, G. Tutwiler, L. Solano, M. Meloni, C. Otto
Lectors: V. Tutwiler, M. Coar

October 26th bulletin deadline: October 20th @ Noon

Next Special 2nd Collection:

October 26th: "Hurricane Relief"

(Bishop's recent request, there is no envelope-see page 4)

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline (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

10/20-Monday-9am Mass, 7:15pm RCIA
 10/21-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
 10/22-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD
 10/23-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7:15pm Choir
 10/24-Friday-9am Mass
 10/25-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,
 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 10/26-Sunday-Masses @ 9am & 10:30am

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.

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 November 6th.

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. 1st at the Diner. More Info: Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.

St. Stephen's BookMates!

The BookMates interfaith literacy program is well underway at 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY ADULT TEAM LEADERS

There is a need for the formation of an adult youth ministry team at St. Stephen Parish. The adult team would be responsible for the parish youth ministry program for grades six through high school. Any parishioner who would like to be considered for this team, please call Sr. Ruthann at Saint Stephen Convent anytime during the month of October.

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. 28th, 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. 28th, 2008

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

TIME: Lunch, Dinner or Carside to Go

(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 Oct24th, 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.

ST. STEPHEN'S PTA

2008 CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

St. Stephen's PTA is hosting their annual Christmas Festival on Saturday, November 22nd from 2:00pm until 8:00pm and on Sunday, November 23rd from 9:00am until 2:00pm.

Bring the family there's something for everyone. Crafts, Chinese Auction, Incredible Homemade Food and our Wonderful Bake Table. To make our Christmas Festival complete Santa Claus will also be on hand for pictures with everyone. So come and start the holiday season with the St. Stephen's family.

CRAFTERS/VENDORS ARE WANTED

If you are interested please contact Betsy Mason at 856-910-0205 or email elizmason@comcast.net

St Stephen's Young Adult Ministry

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.

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.

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Hurricane Relief

Special Collection October 26th

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As you know, communities along the Gulf Coast were devastated last month by Hurricanes Gustav & Ike. More than 2 million people were without power because of Ike. It may take months before power is restored and rebuilding will take years. Catholic Charities USA has disaster response teams in place in 29 Texas counties and 42 parishes in Louisiana that were declared disaster areas. The combined hurricanes and tropical storms so far has exceeded the damage Hurricane Katrina inflicted on New Orleans in 2005, but donations for relief efforts this time so far have fallen well short of the response to Katrina.

With this in mind, I am asking the parishioners of the Diocese of Camden to lend your financial support to Catholic Charities' relief effort. This collection will help in:

- Opening one-stop distribution sites where families can access food, water, ice, hygiene kits, or other items.
- Serving thousands of hot meals to hurricane victims living in remote areas of Louisiana and sending truckloads of food and other supplies to impacted areas.
- Offering gas cards and other aid to help stranded evacuees return home.
- Offering crisis counseling
- Continuing damage assessment to identify ongoing needs.
- Providing information about available services and counseling to returning evacuees in New Orleans.

For more information on Catholic Charities USA's recovery efforts and how your contribution will help, see www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org.

Thank you for your prayerful concern for our sisters and brothers in the Gulf region and for the support you will provide through this important collection.

May God continue to guide you and bless you.

Fraternally,

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

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 5th at 12:05pm for the priests who have died in the past year:

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

All parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A weekly continuing series)

Section One, "I Believe-We Believe"

Chapter 3: Man's Response to God

III. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF FAITH

Faith is a grace

153 When St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus declared to him that this revelation did not come "from flesh and blood", but from "my Father who is in heaven".²⁴ *Faith is a gift of God, a supernatural virtue infused by him.* "Before this faith can be exercised, man must have the grace of God to move and assist him; he must have the interior helps of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and converts it to God, who opens the eyes of the mind and 'makes it easy for all to accept and believe the truth.'²⁵

Faith is a human act

154 Believing is possible only by grace and the interior helps of the Holy Spirit. But it is no less true that believing is an authentically human act. Trusting in God and cleaving to the truths he has revealed is contrary neither to human freedom nor to human reason. Even in human relations it is not contrary to our dignity to believe what other persons tell us about themselves and their intentions, or to trust their promises (for example, when a man and a woman marry) to share a communion of life with one another. If this is so, still less is it contrary to our dignity to "yield by faith the full submission of . . . intellect and will to God who reveals",²⁶ and to share in an interior communion with him.

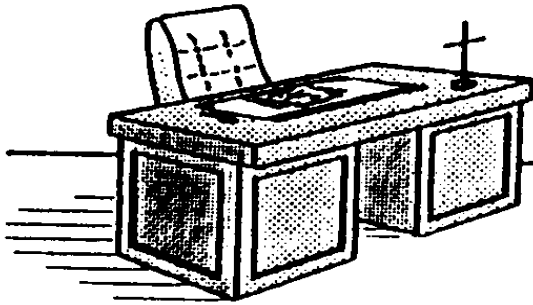
155 In faith, the human intellect and will cooperate with divine grace: "Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace."²⁷

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Dr. Devlin on Religion & Politics

Tuesday, October 28, 2008 @ 7:30pm
St. Andrew the Apostle Church
120 United States Ave., Gibbsboro, NJ

Religion & Politics & World Religions are a major concern as the presidential election approaches. All are invited to join **Msgr. Joseph Devlin, PhD.** (Religion Professor at LaSalle University) for his discussion of this timely topic. Dr. Devlin is known for his lively, stimulating and always thought provoking analysis of religious issues.



*From the Desk of
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

Dear Parishioners of St. Stephen,

**Many of you have been asking Fr. Benedict about his life and background since his coming here. I thought it would be good to have him introduce himself through the Bulletin. Find below his life story.
-Fr. Vince**

I am Fr. Benedict Onegiu, AJ an African priest from the order the Apostles of Jesus. I was born in a small village called Zeu Lorr which is found in the highland west of River Nile on the 21st October 1964. Greetings from my family and Parishioners from Pakwach Parish, Uganda.

I attended Postulancy in Moroto Uganda from 1984 and later joined the Major Seminary in Kenya where I was ordained a priest on the 28th August 1993.

My working experience has been in the Eastern part of Africa: Kenya as a parochial vicar Machakos Diocese, Makindu Parish and as an Assistant Rector in one of our minor seminaries in Kenya respectively. I also worked in Tanzania in the Archdiocese of Dar es Salam at Christ the King Parish Tabata. At present I have been working in my home Country Uganda and in the Diocese of Nebbi, Pakwach Parish where Vince and I come from. There is something unique about this parish; it was at this point that the Comboni missionaries from Italy first set foot on our native land in 1910. In two years time we will be celebrating 100 years since the Catholic faith had root in our diocese. Fr. Vince and I feel proud that we are a fruit of this great work of evangelization of these great missionaries who worked tirelessly to bring the word of God to the jungle of Africa where they had to sacrifice their lives for the Gospel. They lived at a time when there were no cars, no good houses no telephones and many other luxuries we are enjoying today, they trusted in Divine providence. Like them, we the Apostles of Jesus in Uganda and else where are keeping the faith alive despite the fact that like any other places and parishes in Africa, we have to evangelize through the bare minimum and wants of the basic necessities like shelter, food, water, Sanitations, medicine etc.

I take this time to thank the Christians of St. Stephen for the reception I got when I came to this parish. I got to know about St. Stephen Parish through your administrator Fr. Vincent. Father is a longtime friend. Vincent and I knew one another since high school where we applied together in 1982 to join Moroto Seminary and since then we have been good friends. I came to St. Stephen at his invitation in my life where within a short period of time I lost four of my family members: three of my brothers and my sister, the last born in the family. All these people left orphans under my care and the care of my aging parents. As the only boy left in the family I had to take some of this responsibility. It has been very difficult for me as priest and above all, a missionary, as my work entails leaving your native land. Through my friends like Fr. Vince and other well-wishers, I have been able to render support to my parents, nieces and nephews.

The first thing that struck me when I arrived in this country is how blessed you are with so much! I was taken up by the high tech, number of cars, good housing electricity, paved roads everywhere including the lawns. It's an experience I will live to remember and tell when I get back home because there is a fundamental contrast with the life style in my country and village.

Finally I would like to thank the Christians of St. Stephen for the wonderful family picnic where the different nuclear families gathered together to form the great family of God and finally crowning it with the celebration of the Eucharist. All was fantastic for me. The experience I never had before. Thank you my dear Christians for the wonderful organization. May we always remain a family of God whose centrality is the Eucharist.