

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

November 2, 2008 – All Souls Day

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** **November 3, 2008**
9:00am Anna Dippolito r/b Family
- TUESDAY** **November 4, 2008 (Election Day)**
9:00am Eleanor McBride r/b Fr. Vincent Orum, AJ
- WEDNESDAY** **November 5, 2008**
9:00am Cora & John Lehocky r/b The Leahy Family
- THURSDAY** **November 6, 2008 (Novena to follow)**
9:00am Magdalene Ozelle r/b Fr. Vincent Orum, AJ
- FRIDAY** **November 7, 2008 (First Friday)**
9:00am Eleanor McBride r/b Dawn Riley
- SATURDAY** **November 8, 2008**
9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
4:30pm John O'Connor r/b Marie Kaminski & Family
 Eleanor McBride r/b Ed & Betsy McBride
- SUNDAY** **November 9, 2008**
9:00am Deceased Members of the Pennestri Family
 r/b Jim Pennestri
 Cecilia James r/b The Schmidt Family
- 10:30am Thomas DiBenedetto r/b M/M David Ardire

The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Barbara Fallon.

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.

Attendance/Collection Oct. 25/26, 2008	511 / \$5,531
Attendance/Collection Oct. 27/28, 2007	569 / \$6,308
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$7,200
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,761

Thank you for your generous donation of \$440 for the "Hurricane Relief" collection October 25/26

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, 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, Edith Parrissi, Chris Picciano, Rita Picciano, Leonard Rebilas, Rosemarie Rosolia, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Joe Siano, Mary Jo Stedrak, Thomas Sullivan, Sr. Sr. Ann Thomas, SSJ, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom.**

Ministry Schedule for November 8/9

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. Sullivan, E. Stemetzki
EM's: T. Angstman, A. Knight, M. Baratta, The Heiningers
Lectors: P. Tryson, M. Turan

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: W. McHugh, M & C Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, L. McHugh, L. Rosario, The Sapienza's
Lectors: D. Heck, L. Sperduto

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: D. Saranchak, R & C Aleszczyk
EM's: M. Meloni, J. Messina, T. Link, G. Tutwiler, L. Solano
Lectors: C. Otto, M. Miller

Attention Lectors: Your 2009 Lector Workbooks are now available for pickup in the Sacristy.

November 9th bulletin deadline:
November 3rd @ Noon

Next Special 2nd Collection:
November 23rd - "Human Development"

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

11/3-Monday-9am Mass, 7pm Fundraising Mtg., 7:15pm RCIA
11/4-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
11/5-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD
11/6-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7pm Rosary-Makers, 7:15pm Choir
11/7-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
11/8-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,
3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
11/9-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 Diane @ 308-8224 for November requests.

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### ***St. Stephen's Rosary Makers***

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

Our next meeting will be held on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

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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 December 6th at the Diner. More Info: Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.

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### ***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.

### ***Altar Flower Donations***

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass, please contact Maria Haas @ 665-8393.

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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

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### ***CELEBRATING MULTICULTURALISM***

Friday, December 5, 2008 @ 7 p.m.

"God of a thousand faces, help us also to acknowledge You are worshipped in many languages, in different songs and rhythms of life from our own."

The honor of your presence is requested at an evening that celebrates our diversity as a Christian community. Please join us as an active participant to express our uniqueness in Christ through prayer, music and food.

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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.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

This Friday, November 7th is the First Friday of the Month. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin after the 9am Mass and conclude at 7pm.

New Parish Trustees

I am happy to announce to you the New Lay Trustees for our Parish: **Craig Otto and Lonnie Monaco**. I welcome you both to serve the parish in your new roles and responsibilities.

My deepest appreciation and gratitude go to **Rose Davis and Keith Knight** for their dedicated service as Lay Trustees and members of Finance Council.

I thank **Rich McKean** for his committed service as President of Pastoral Council. Rich asked to be relieved from his role as the President of the current Pastoral Council.

-Fr. Vince

Supporting Marriage

Recognizing the societal implications of legislative and judicial efforts to redefine marriage, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the New Jersey Catholic Conference, the Knights of Columbus and others have worked to support strong marriages and to defend marriage publicly as the union of one man and one woman.

A brief video, "One Man and One Woman: Marriage and the Common Good", produced by the New Jersey Catholic Conference, is available on the diocesan website at www.camdendiocese.org. A link to this video is also available on the homepage of our church's website.

The U.S. bishops' National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage, begun in 2004, has as its main purpose the strengthening of marriages-see <http://www.usccb.org/laity/marriage/npim.shtml>. A major outreach of the Initiative has been a "For Your Marriage" campaign. This campaign includes public service messages and a website (www.foryourmarriage.org) offering information and help to engaged and married couples.

Finally, the U.S. bishops' 2003 statement on marriage, "Between Man and Women", is available at <http://www.usccb.org/bishops/manandwoman.shtml>.

Camden Catholic Open House

Thursday, November 6, 2008

Sign-in: 6:30pm Program: 7-9pm

CCHS Alumni Mass

Sunday, November 9, 2008 @ 10am

CCHS Auditorium

Honoring all graduates, especially those who are veterans.

Breakfast reception to follow

RSVP to (856) 663-2247, ext. 114

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

The freedom of faith

160 To be human, "man's response to God by faith must be free, and... therefore nobody is to be forced to embrace the faith against his will. The act of faith is of its very nature a free act."³⁹ "God calls men to serve him in spirit and in truth. Consequently they are bound to him in conscience, but not coerced... This fact received its fullest manifestation in Christ Jesus."⁴⁰ Indeed, Christ invited people to faith and conversion, but never coerced them. "For he bore witness to the truth but refused to use force to impose it on those who spoke against it. His kingdom... grows by the love with which Christ, lifted up on the cross, draws men to himself."⁴¹

The necessity of faith

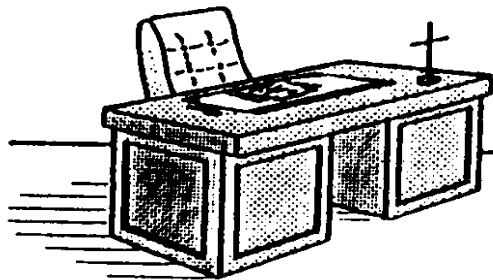
161 Believing in Jesus Christ and in the One who sent him for our salvation is necessary for obtaining that salvation.⁴² "Since "without faith it is impossible to please [God]" and to attain to the fellowship of his sons, therefore without faith no one has ever attained justification, nor will anyone obtain eternal life 'But he who endures to the end.'"⁴³

Perseverance in faith

162 Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to man. We can lose this priceless gift, as St. Paul indicated to St. Timothy: "Wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith."⁴⁴ To live, grow and persevere in the faith until the end we must nourish it with the word of God; we must beg the Lord to increase our faith;⁴⁵ it must be "working through charity," abounding in hope, and rooted in the faith of the Church.⁴⁶



Election Day – Tuesday, November 4, 2008
Your vote is your voice-- speak up!



*From the Desk of
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

Dear Parishioners of Saint Stephen's,

We have just begun the month of November, which is traditionally dedicated to offering Masses and prayers for our departed relatives and friends. During this month, we are encouraged to offer flowers and visit the Cemeteries to pray and keep the memory of our loved ones alive.

As we continue to pray for them we need to remind ourselves that it's about eight weeks to begin the New Year 2009. We thank God for the many blessings bestowed on us; and, as a Parish family, to be appreciative of the fact that the diocese has defined us as a **"Stand-Alone"** Parish amidst the changes in the reconfiguration process. What a great gift from God our Father to us at Saint Stephen's!

While we express our gratitude to God and the diocesan authority, the challenge to be a dynamic, vibrant parish is enormous to each and every one of us. It's the responsibility of each and every one of us to be committed and devoted to the course of becoming a dynamic and vibrant community in which the love of Jesus Christ is manifested through our zeal and enthusiasm for being a community configured around the Word of God and Sacraments. Our families and ministries must place the Word of God and the Sacraments at the center of our activities.

I feel honored to be trusted with the mantle as your Spiritual leader to charter the course of our community towards this challenging task of becoming Vibrant and Dynamic. In view of this, I have decided after a prayerful consideration and consultation to visit each one of your families beginning in December to get to know you better, share my pastoral vision for the Parish and also to offer each one of you the opportunity to express your hopes, concerns and to listen to your needs and observations.

I take The Gospel of Mark 6:7-13 as my inspiration in this undertaking:

"He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick--no food, no sack, no money in their belts. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave from there. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them." Mk.6:7-13.

It will also be a great opportunity for me to bless you and your homes as we enter into the New Year 2009.

Furthermore, there is a greater need to re-organize our existing Pastoral and Finance Councils as we begin the New Year. By the method and principle of Discernment, I will present to you the new members of Parish Pastoral and Finance Council November 15th, 2008. We shall solicit the assistance from the **"Good Leaders, Good Shepherds"** program in which I am a candidate to help charter our councils towards the vision of the Parish and their roles and functions so as to be an effective team with high performance. I encourage you to listen to the voice of God and allow the Holy Spirit to lead you into discerning how best each one of us can offer ourselves to the greater course of Saint Stephen's as a dynamic, vibrant parish by our Stewardship spirit: time, talents and treasure.

I have every hope in the Blessed Mother, Saints Joseph and Stephen that the good works we have begun, God will bring it to completion and all, **"AD MAJOREM GLORIAM DEI"(FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD).**

Thank you for your willingness to take the challenge head-on and be what we are called to be! May God bless you.