

# 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](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com)

## November 23, 2008 – Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

### Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

#### Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's/Youth Mass: 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

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 24, 2008 9:00am Grace Moffett r/b Family
TUESDAY November 25, 2008 9:00am For All Souls Day Intentions
WEDNESDAY November 26, 2008 (7pm Thanksgiving Vigil) 9:00am Irma Mae Streb r/b Fred & Anna Vicario 7:00pm For All Souls Day Intentions
Thanksgiving November 27, 2008 (Novena to follow) 9:00am For All Souls Day Intentions
FRIDAY November 28, 2008 9:00am For All Souls Day Intentions
SATURDAY November 29, 2008 9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish 4:30pm John O'Connor r/b The Heller Family Tony LaRocco r/b M/M Alfonso Catalani Fran Sullivan r/b The Sullivan Family
SUNDAY November 30, 2008 9:00am Grandparents Tomaselli & D'Andrea r/b Adele & Tony 10:30am Tom DiBenedetto r/b Robert & Anna Ryan Grace Moffett r/b Joe McDonnell

The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Our All Souls Intentions.

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.

Table with 2 columns: Attendance/Collection Nov. 15/16, 2008 (661 / \$5,659), Nov. 17/18, 2007 (588 / \$5,699), Budgeted Weekly Collection (\$7,200), Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average (\$5,684).

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.

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, Ida Carfagno, 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, Harry Wilson.

Ministry Schedule for November 26/29/30

Wednesday, 7:00pm (Thanksgiving Vigil)

Altar Servers: TBA. EM's: T. Modzier, L. Solano, L. McHugh, A. Knight, M. Meloni Lectors: R. Taylor, M. Turan

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: E. Mattera, K. Sullivan EM's: Sr. Eleanora, T. Mattera, P. Petronis, T. Veneziani, T. Angsman Lectors: The Busch's

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: H. Atchison, G. Schwankert, E. Corbett EM's: S. Marano, P. Krohn, J. Rosario, R. Davis, S. Mufalli Lectors: M. Miller, D. Steinmetz

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: K & K Bowman, R. Buchholz EM's: T. Scavuzzo, B. Buffington, J. Messina, L. Picknally, T. Link Lectors: The Links

Nov. 30th bulletin deadline: Past Due Nov. 20th Dec. 7th bulletin deadline: Dec. 1st @ Noon

Next Special 2nd Collection: Dec. 14th - "Religious Retirement"

CCD Program Needs

Our CCD Program is still in need of 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***

11/24-Monday-9am Mass, No RCIA, 7pm P & F Councils  
11/25-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary  
11/26-Wednesday-9am Mass, A & E decor, No CCD, 7pm Vigil  
11/27-Thanksgiving-9am Mass/Novena, School/Rectory closed  
11/28-Friday-9am Mass, School/Rectory closed  
11/29-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass, 9:30am A&E,  
3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
11/30-Sunday-Masses @ 9am & 10:30am

### ***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.

### ***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.

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

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

Our next meeting will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### ***St Stephen's Young Adult Ministry***

St Stephen's YAM, ages 21-40, is currently 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.

### ***Pastoral & Finance Councils***

**Joint Meeting Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm  
Stonegate Meeting Room**

**Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am-11:30am  
"Working As A Team" - Stonegate Meeting Room  
*presented by*  
Tom McGuire of Good Leaders, Good Shepherds**

A senior sales executive with proven leadership and team building skills and extensive experience in designing, implementing and executing business plans and initiatives, **Thomas McGuire** has developed four sales start-up organizations including Richardson-Vicks and Novartis Nutrition. Additionally, Mr. McGuire has coached countless senior-level executives for major organizations through such challenges as delegation, collaboration and communications. Mr. McGuire served as the Vice President for Sales of Novartis Consumer Health, Inc. for 18 years until being named Senior Vice President for Business Planning and Development. Mr. McGuire holds an Executive Masters of Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management.

### ***Our Lord Jesus Christ the King***

The crown that is represented on the altar today is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations. Today's Mass establishes the titles from Christ's royalty over men: Christ is God, the Creator of the universe and hence wields a supreme power over all things; Christ is our Redeemer, he purchased us by His precious Blood, and made us His property and possession; Christ is Head of the Church, "holding in all things the primacy; God bestowed upon Christ the nations of the world as His special possession and dominion.

### ***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. **For further information, please call Mary Sue Link @ (856) 854-7120.**

## Thanksgiving Liturgy Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>

On Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm, we will celebrate our annual **Thanksgiving Liturgy**. This regular event in our parish over many years is a wonderful experience of prayer, singing and celebrating all for which we have to thank Almighty God. All are welcome to bring in a loaf of bread to be blessed as a way of extending the blessing of the Eucharist to your Thanksgiving tables.

### 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 6<sup>th</sup> at the Diner. **More Info: Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.**

### PTA GIFT CARD PROGRAM

The St. Stephen PTA Gift Card program is in full swing for this holiday season and orders will be received until **Thursday, December 4th**. Should you need another form please feel free to stop by the school or pick one up in the back of church. For any questions please contact Katy Fagan @ 662-5908 or [katyfagan@comcast.net](mailto:katyfagan@comcast.net).

### 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.

### Camden Catholic High School

#### FAFSA Workshop

CCHS is sponsoring a Financial Aid Workshop on Tuesday evening, **November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm** in the cafeteria. A financial aid official will assist parents/students in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form for college.

**St. Peter's, Merchantville** is hosting a play on **November 29th at 6 PM** on the life of **Blessed Teresa of Calcutta** being held in the church auditorium. The women doing the play performed at Sydney, Australia to the World Youth Group this summer. The tickets are \$10 Adult, \$5 Children under 10. This cost includes a light meal with performance immediately following. Call Barbara DeFranco 665-2579 or Joan Decker 663-7418 for tickets.

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A weekly continuing series)

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

### Chapter 3: Man's Response to God

### Article 2: We Believe

#### II. THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH

**170** We do not believe in formulas, but in those realities they express, which faith allows us to touch. "The believer's act [of faith] does not terminate in the propositions, but in the realities [which they express]."<sup>56</sup> All the same, we do approach these realities with the help of formulations of the faith which permit us to express the faith and to hand it on, to celebrate it in community, to assimilate and live on it more and more.

**171** The Church, "the pillar and bulwark of the truth", faithfully guards "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints". She guards the memory of Christ's words; it is she who from generation to generation hands on the apostles' confession of faith.<sup>57</sup> As a mother who teaches her children to speak and so to understand and communicate, the Church our Mother teaches us the language of faith in order to introduce us to the understanding and the life of faith.

#### III. ONLY ONE FAITH

**172** Through the centuries, in so many languages, cultures, peoples and nations, the Church has constantly confessed this one faith, received from the one Lord, transmitted by one Baptism, and grounded in the conviction that all people have only one God and Father.<sup>58</sup> St. Irenaeus of Lyons, a witness of this faith, declared:

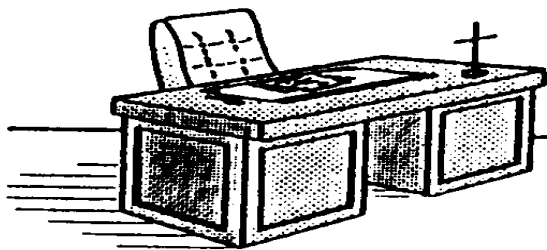
**173** "Indeed, the Church, though scattered throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, having received the faith from the apostles and their disciples. . . guards [this preaching and faith] with care, as dwelling in but a single house, and similarly believes as if having but one soul and a single heart, and preaches, teaches and hands on this faith with a unanimous voice, as if possessing only one mouth."<sup>59</sup>

**174** "For though languages differ throughout the world, the content of the Tradition is one and the same. The Churches established in Germany have no other faith or Tradition, nor do those of the Iberians, nor those of the Celts, nor those of the East, of Egypt, of Libya, nor those established at the center of the world. . ."<sup>60</sup> The Church's message "is true and solid, in which one and the same way of salvation appears throughout the whole world."<sup>61</sup>

**175** "We guard with care the faith that we have received from the Church, for without ceasing, under the action of God's Spirit, this deposit of great price, as if in an excellent vessel, is constantly being renewed and causes the very vessel that contains it to be renewed."<sup>62</sup>

### St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Gibbsboro

will hold an "Advent Evening of Reflection" on Wednesday, **December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:30-8:30pm**. Join the "Singing Padres" back by popular request in seasonal prayers and songs. Refreshments will be served and free will donations accepted. Call (856) 784-8501 for more information.



*From the Desk of  
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

## ***THE EUCHARIST AND THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATION***

As we celebrate Thanksgiving Day this weekend, allow me to remind ourselves the importance of getting time to offer one of the greatest acts of thanksgiving for us as Christians, **“The Eucharist”**. We are offering a Vigil Mass with the Blessing of the Bread at 7pm on Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday at 9am.

It’s good and wonderful to be with family and friends and enjoy the turkey, gravy and some holiday cheer--- after all the opportunity avails itself once a year! However, have we asked ourselves: **why give thanks? What for? To whom are we giving thanks? As Christians what way(s) would be ideal in giving thanks to the One we consider the reason for our being?**

The ideal way of giving thanks is through the Eucharistic Celebration. Have you ever known that **the Eucharist** in actual fact refers to **Thanksgiving**?

As used by the New Testament writers and the Septuagint, the word Eucharist derived from the Greek word **“EUKARISTIA”** which etymologically means **“EU”** for **Well** + **“KHARIS”** for **“Favor”** or **“Grace”**. From this the Biblical writers of the Septuagint and NT derive the verb **“EUKHARISTEO”** in reference to **“Giving Thanks.”**

It’s however important not to confuse the understanding of this term with the Sacrament of the Eucharist in General.

The Eucharist as a Sacrament refers to the sublime act of God’s saving mystery through the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the redemption of humanity. We must note as the Catechism of the Catholic Church acknowledges that as a Sacrament of the Eucharist, it has an **“inexhaustible richness expressed in the different names attributed to it”** out of which **“Thanksgiving”** is one of them” Cfr. CCC 1328. The sacrament of the Eucharist is also known as: The Lord’s Supper, the breaking of the Bread, The Eucharist Assembly, The Memorial, The Holy Sacrifice, The Holy And Divine Liturgy, The Sacred Mysteries, The Holy Communion and The Holy Mass.

Cfr CCC1328-1332.

As a thanksgiving, the Catechism of the Catholic Church NO.1359-1361 describes it thus:

**“The Eucharist, the sacrament of our salvation accomplished by Christ on the cross, is also a sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for the work of creation. In the Eucharistic sacrifice the whole of creation loved by God is presented to the Father through the death and the resurrection of Christ. Through Christ the church can offer the sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for all that God has made good, beautiful, and just in creation and in humanity.**

**The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the church expresses her gratitude to God for all the benefits, for all that He has accomplished through creation, redemption, and sanctification. Eucharist means first of all “thanksgiving.”**

**The Eucharist is also the sacrifice of praise by which the church sings the glory of God in the name of all creation. This sacrifice of praise is possible only through Christ: he unites the faithful to his person, to his praise, and to his intercession, so that the sacrifice of praise to the Father is offered through Christ and with him, to be accepted in him.”**

Vatican II has described the family as “The domestic Church” and so our families cannot afford justice to God by ignoring the greatest act of **Thanksgiving**, THE EUCHARIST on **Thanksgiving Day!** We shall be liken to the parables of the ten lepers where the Lord wondered why only one leper came back to give God thanks for the cure while the nine were not to be seen! –*Luke 17:11-19*