

# 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)

## February 8, 2009 – Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

#### Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm  
Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 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.

Table with 2 columns: Day and Intention. Rows include Monday (Feb 9), Tuesday (Feb 10), Wednesday (Feb 11), Thursday (Feb 12), Friday (Feb 13), Saturday (Feb 14), and Sunday (Feb 15) with various intentions and times.

Note: The Children's Mass, normally the 3rd Sunday, has been changed to February 22nd this month due to holiday weekend the 15th.

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.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Attendance/Collection Jan. 31/1, 2009 (689 / \$6,683), Attendance/Collection Feb. 2/3, 2008 (609 / \$7,183), Budgeted Weekly Collection (\$7,200), and Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average (\$5,639).

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:

- List of names: Rose Alessandrone, Dolly Angelastro, Patricia Booth, Marion Borreggine, Vincent Buondonno, Dominic Caruso, Dorothy Coyle, Marge Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Robert Gottschall, Jean Heller, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Nancy Loperfido, Vincent Marchese, 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 February 14/15

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: K. Hulseley, K. Sullivan, E. Stemetzki
EM's: S. Eisenhardt, C & A Pandola, The Monaco's
Lectors: R. McKean, A. Yeager

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: W. McHugh, M & C Hearn
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, G. Tutwiler, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: TBA.

The above schedule may also be found in our online bulletin, online monthly schedule and the sacristy.

Next Special 2nd Collection: February 15, 2009 - "Heating Fuel Assistance"

Calling All Ushers!

St. Stephen's has a great need for ushers, especially at the 10:30am Mass. Anyone interested in being an usher (this includes men, women or youth) is asked to call the rectory office. Thank you.

Stewardship Reflection

Stewardship Prayer

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed." (Mark 1:35)
Jesus lived a life of Stewardship, serving others through preaching and healing. When he goes off to pray in a deserted place, he shows us the important role our prayer life has in acquiring the strength needed for our Stewardship way of life.

## ***This Week @ St. Stephen's***

2/9-Monday-9am Mass, **7pm Joint Finance Mtg.** of current / previous Finance Council members, 7:15pm RCIA  
 2/10-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary, 7:30pm PTA  
 2/11-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD  
 2/12-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15pm Youth Music, 7:15pm Choir  
 2/13-Friday-9am Mass  
 2/14-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass, 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
 2/15-Sunday-Masses: 9am & 10:30am,  
**11:30am Open Parish Meeting in Church w/ Finance Council**

## ***Heartfelt Thanks***

Thank you all so much for your well-wishing and prayers during my recent illness. God Bless you all.

Sincerely,

**Nancy Loperfido**

~~~~~

## ***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 Sharon @ 397-6810 for February requests.**

~~~~~

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

Meets every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7pm at Stonegate.

~~~~~

## ***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 February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Diner. **More Info: Joe Fagan @ 662-5908.**

~~~~~

## ***Gentlemen: Time Out!***

Tough times? Could you use God's help? Gentlemen, you are invited to take time to relax and energize yourselves at a weekend retreat at St. Joseph's in the Hills in Malvern, PA. The retreat begins Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and concludes at 11am on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Why should you go?

- 1. Time with God away from hectic daily schedule**
- 2. Perspective**
- 3. Find new purpose**
- 4. Improve your prayer life**
- 5. Relax with Friends**

For more info call Joe Fagan @ 662-5908 or visit [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com).

## ***St Stephen's Young Adult Ministry, ages 21-40***

**Faith Sharing** - A reflection and discussion on the upcoming week's Gospel, Friday, February 13 at 7:00. Location to be announced, call Rose at 856-663-9342 for details.

**Take-Out and a Movie** - Saturday, February 28th at 6:30, Location to be announced, call JD at 856-316-2598 for details.

Upcoming feature for February - "**Evan Almighty**"  
**For more information** on the St. Stephen's Young Adult Ministry contact us at [saintstephens\\_yam@yahoo.com](mailto:saintstephens_yam@yahoo.com).

## ***Special Lenten Series - "Your are not an accident!"***

Even before the universe was created, God had you in mind, and planned you for his purpose" The St. Stephen's Young Adult Ministry, ages 21-40, will begin a special Lenten series based on the popular book "The Purpose Driven Life". **The group will gather at church every Friday during lent at 7pm starting on February 27th to attend the stations-of-the-cross and then move to another location to participate in group sharing from 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Please RSVP to Rose at 856.663.9342 by February 16th.** Participants will need to make arrangements to pick up materials. A \$10 book fee is required, made payable at the first meeting. The first 7 short chapters will need to be read prior to the first meeting for discussion on February 27.

~~~~~

## ***Celebrate the Wedding of Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Social Teaching, and Operation Rice Bowl Saturday, February 21, 2009***

Presenter: **Mr Dennis Fisher**, Program Officer and Educator, Catholic Relief Services The Romero Center - 2907 Federal St., Camden, NJ. **Agenda:**

9:00am - Coffee, Bagels, Juice

9:30am - Prayer / Welcome

9:45am-11:20am - Presentation / Discussion, Mr Dennis Fisher

11:20am -11:30am - Remarks / Closing Prayer

.For those who want to learn more about the mission of Catholic Relief Services, the challenge of our Catholic Social Teachings, the power of Operation Rice Bowl

- and how all these are connected to the mission of Jesus, His Church, and you. **Please call Larry DiPaul (856-964-9777), if you plan to attend, or for more information.**

# Monte Carlo Night

at St. Stephen School, Saturday March 7th  
Doors Open at 6:30 - Gaming Starts at 7:15



**Donation: \$40 per person**  
**Includes Dinner, Beer, Wine, Soda and**  
**\$40 in Casino Gambling Chips**

Gambling Chips will be cashed for prizes  
in the form of Chinese Auction Baskets

For Ticket Reservations, please call:  
**Anna North @ 856-324-0701**

To make a prize donation, contribution or to Volunteer  
in any capacity (including as a dealer), please call  
**Tom McHugh @ 856-608-6542**

## ~~~~~ **Peace & Justice Gathering Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**

On Saturday February 14, The Sacred Heart Peace Community is hosting its Annual Gathering for Peace and Justice, a daylong event to be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Camden. The theme of this year's Gathering is "**Where Do You Stand? Creative Peacemaking in a Changing World.**" The Gathering will shine a light on the artist in all of us as we invite you to imagine our world as a place of just peace.

We are also offering a workshop designed especially for teachers, youth ministers, counselors and parents-**The Conscience Curriculum for Catholic Youth.** The Peace Community has been working closely with the Diocesan Office of Social Justice Ministries, on this exciting initiative to bring Catholic teachings on the morality of war and formation of conscience into the mainstream of education and lifelong faith formation.

The Gathering for Peace and Justice starts at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm on Saturday, February 14. Check-in and welcome is from 8:30 to 9:00 in the Sacred Heart Church cafeteria. Admission is free and includes lunch and morning and afternoon workshops.

**A very special closing talk with Michael Doyle**, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, in his 40<sup>th</sup> year in Camden, on his monthly love letters from Camden to the world.

For more information contact Pat Johnston at [pmj123@comcast.net](mailto:pmj123@comcast.net) or 609-220-3999.

## 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

#### Paragraph 2: The Father

### II. THE REVELATION OF GOD AS TRINITY

#### The Father revealed by the Son

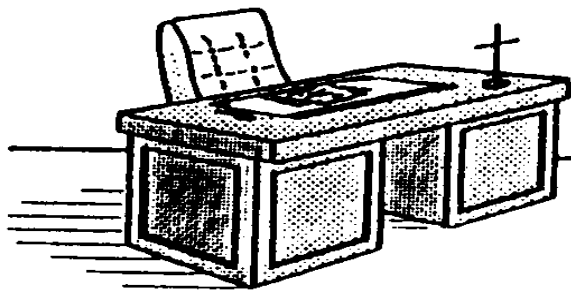
**238** Many religions invoke God as "Father". The deity is often considered the "father of gods and of men". In Israel, God is called "Father" inasmuch as he is Creator of the world.<sup>59</sup> Even more, God is Father because of the covenant and the gift of the law to Israel, "his first-born son".<sup>60</sup> God is also called the Father of the king of Israel. Most especially he is "the Father of the poor", of the orphaned and the widowed, who are under his loving protection.<sup>61</sup>

**239** By calling God "Father", the language of faith indicates two main things: that God is the first origin of everything and transcendent authority; and that he is at the same time goodness and loving care for all his children. God's parental tenderness can also be expressed by the image of motherhood,<sup>62</sup> which emphasizes God's immanence, the intimacy between Creator and creature. The language of faith thus draws on the human experience of parents, who are in a way the first representatives of God for man. But this experience also tells us that human parents are fallible and can disfigure the face of fatherhood and motherhood. We ought therefore to recall that God transcends the human distinction between the sexes. He is neither man nor woman: he is God. He also transcends human fatherhood and motherhood, although he is their origin and standard.<sup>63</sup> no one is father as God is Father.

**240** Jesus revealed that God is Father in an unheard-of sense: he is Father not only in being Creator; he is eternally Father in relation to his only Son, who is eternally Son only in relation to his Father: "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."<sup>64</sup>

**241** For this reason the apostles confess Jesus to be the Word: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; as "the image of the invisible God"; as the "radiance of the glory of God and the very stamp of his nature".<sup>65</sup>

**242** Following this apostolic tradition, the Church confessed at the first ecumenical council at Nicaea (325) that the Son is "consubstantial" with the Father, that is, one only God with him.<sup>66</sup> The second ecumenical council, held at Constantinople in 381, kept this expression in its formulation of the Nicene Creed and confessed "the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father".<sup>67</sup>



From the Desk of  
Father Vincent Orum, AJ

## “TIME IS MONEY!”

“Time is money,” is what we have been told and we commonly hear! But how precious is time and why so precious? In his book entitled, “Stewardship, A Parish Handbook”, C. Justin Clements writing about time has this to say,

*“What is dearer to us than our time? Not diamonds, not gold, not stocks and bonds, and certainly not money, which we never seem to have enough of anyway! Not even parents, children, or friends can be counted as more important because without our time, we would not be able to enjoy and love them”*

He further argues that as we grow older we become protective of our time because we become increasingly aware of the limited amount of earthly time we can still enjoy around.

On a more religious level Justin observes that,

*“As people of faith, we believe that time is simply a way to measure God’s great gift of life. Furthermore, as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are aware of our obligation to be good stewards of our time and, indeed, of all the blessings God has bestowed on us. Among other things, this means giving back to God in gratitude, a portion of our time to help build God’s kingdom on earth.”*

It seems to me that Justin’s arguments to a greater degree lay down to us some of the reasons why and how time is so precious and important to us!

Coming from Africa, that has a more different perspective and value attached to time, one of the things I had to adjust to as a young missionary in the United States was how much people value their time! I recognized how punctual people were for their appointments, Mass schedules and other activities. I was at first surprised to see how at the end of Mass people would rush out and the church would quickly become empty! I was always conscious to make a seven to ten-minute homily, lest I get an empty church the following Sunday!

I learned this the hard way when one time I had a fifteen-minute homily and before I could finish telling people to begin the Creed, half of the church was already standing! I realized that this was not Africa where the priests enjoyed the liberty of twenty-five to thirty-five-plus minutes for their homily and the fact that Mass took even two hours! This was something different!

Here people come thirty minutes earlier and leave either immediately or three minutes after the functions unlike in Africa where they came one hour late and stayed as long as you needed them and they are in no rush!

I one time got the shock of my life about ‘time’ when my pastor and I were going for a priest’s funeral and we were three minutes late and he told me, “Vince! We cannot join the procession. It’s very embarrassing .We are late!” We turned around and left and I am like, “Are you kidding me! Just three minutes late?”

I realized that I was not in Africa where time was more relational-oriented. In other words, time is not essentially the measure of activities but relationship is! I can always have and create time for relational purposes and doesn’t matter how much time it takes to have create relationship and bond!

So, here am I torn between two different worldviews of time as I go to Africa and also minister here in the States. How about your experience of time? Do you value time and respect other people’s time? How punctual or late are you for anything, including Mass?