

St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Pastoral Staff

Reverend Daniel Rocco, Pastor
Reverend Thomas Kiely, In-Residence
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally
Sister Bernadette Mary Leahy, SSJ
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal
Mrs. Adeline Gramlich, CRE

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

March 28, 2010 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm (**Confessions 3:45pm-4:15pm**)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd 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, 2nd Sunday @ Noon.

Baptism – 3rd Sunday of month @ Noon.

Reconciliation – Saturday from 3:45pm-4:15pm

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist –

Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in the Chapel.

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory Monday-Friday. Also call the Rectory if someone is sick or housebound.

Marriage – arrangements must be made with a priest 1 year in advance. Only individually registered parishioners of one year or more are eligible to be married here and includes anyone still living at home with parents who should register individually.

Rectory 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.

Effective March 28th per Diocesan Policy:

One (1) Mass Intention limit per Mass except for 10:30am on Sunday, which now has a maximum of four (4) intentions.

The 2011 Mass Book is open for intentions within one (1) year of "today".

MONDAY 9:00am	March 29, 2010 Vincent Buondonno r/b Family
TUESDAY 9:00am	March 30, 2010 Dolores Glander r/b Family
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	March 31, 2010 Stephen Papaycik r/b Joe & Marie Haas
THURSDAY 7:00pm	April 1, 2010 (Holy Thursday) Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
FRIDAY Noon-2:45pm 3:00pm	April 2, 2010 (Good Friday) Reading of the Psalms Liturgical Service
SATURDAY 8:00pm	April 3, 2010 (Holy Saturday Vigil) Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 9:00am	April 4, 2010 (Easter Sunday) Louis & Josephine Buondonno r/b Daughter Rose Marie
10:30am	Louise Pigliacelli r/b M/M Joseph Spina Deceased Members of the Rocks Family r/b Family Michael Pietrafesa r/b St. Joseph's Class of 1955 Richard Pacholski r/b Wife Lucille & Family

**The Sanctuary Candle this week is
In Memory of Janice Caruso Koss.**

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.

March 20/21, 2010 Attendance/Collection	711/ \$5,657
March 21/22, 2009 Attendance/Collection	550/ \$5,892
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$6,154
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,670

Next Special Second Collections:

- March 28, 2010: "Star Herald"
- April 2, 2010: "Holy Land Sanctuary" (Good Friday)
- April 4, 2010: "Easter Collection"



2010 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D \$15,110 (29%)
2010 House of Charity Goal \$52,250



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:

- Rose Ackerman, Rose Alessandroni, Dolly Angelastro, Evelyn Capocetta, Dorothy Coyle, Margaret Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, Thomas Holmes Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Bonnie Leone, Sandy Lepo, Katherine Maggioncalda, Vincent Marchese, Marlene Matteo, Harry Mayer, Dorothy McPeak, Marie Melchiorre, John Meyer, Jennifer Osborn, Edith Parrissi, Cassandra Pendleton, Rita Picciano, Jean Rooney, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Mary Jo Stedrak, Steven Stepanavage, Julian Terzini, Mary Terzini, Lillian Tomarchio, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, John Von Alex, Rita Weingard, Jean Wenstrom.**

Ministry Schedule for April 1-4

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

Holy Thursday, 7:00pm

Altar Servers: C. Otto, R. Garofalo, C&R Aleszczyk, L&K Fagan
EM's: P. Krohn, A. Knight, T. Scavuzzo, The Pandola's
Lectors: C. Otto, M. Link

Good Friday, 3:00pm

Altar Servers: W. McHugh, C. Hearn, K. Starts, T. Mason, D. Saranchak, M. North
EM's: TBA.
Lectors: P. Palazzo, R. Taylor

Holy Saturday, 8:00pm

Altar Servers: K. Hulse, The Bowmans, K. Sullivan, The Coars
EM's: R. Davis, Sr. Eleanora, J. Messina, The Heiningers
Lectors: D. Heck, C. Otto, J. Ziegler, R. Taylor, K. Link, M. Link

Easter Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: K. Starts, M. DiRico, C. Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, L. McHugh, T. Modzier, The Monaco's
Lectors: L. Sperduto, J. Gerst

Easter Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: C&R Aleszczyk, H. Atchison
EM's: W. Delfin, T. Link, G. Tutwiler, M. Meloni, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: P. Krohn, J. Jakubowski

Bereavement Committee News

The Bereavement Committee is seeking volunteers to help minister to those who've recently lost loved ones. If you would like to join this ministry, please call **Joy Bowman at (856) 662-4803**. Thank you.

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick will be available in the Chapel after the 4:30pm Mass on Saturdays for those who are ill and/or facing surgery. **Prior notification is necessary** by calling the Rectory at 662-9338 ext. 6, Monday thru Friday. We also ask that you call the rectory if you know of anyone who is sick or homebound.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

3/29-Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Women's Bible Study @ Stonegate,
3/30-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
3/31-Wednesday-9am Mass, Noon Dismissal for School, NO CCD
4/1-HolyThursday-7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
4/2-Good Friday-Noon-2:45pm Psalm Reading, 3pm Liturgical Service
4/3-Holy Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Easter Vigil Practice,
8pm Easter Vigil
4/4-Easter Sunday-Masses at 9am & 10:30am



Every Monday @ 1pm – Stonegate Conference Room

All ladies of the parish are welcome, please bring your Bible if you have one. Call Eileen Heide at 662-8046 or Email heides@comcast.net for further info.

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**Art & Environment News**

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass may contact Maria Haas at 665-8393. Anyone who would like to make a donation for a tree to honor a deceased love one or would like to join the A & E Ministry may call Maria at the number above.

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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.

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**St. Stephen's Rosary Makers**

You are cordially invited to join **The Rosary Makers** in their quest to make and distribute rosaries to missions throughout the world. The group meets at 7:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month in Stonegate's meeting room. If you have been a member in the past, this would be a great time to rejoin. All new members are welcome! This could be some time for yourself, and the chance to meet new people while helping to show your devotion to Mary, our Mother, and the Mother of our Savior. **Please consider giving two hours a month for such a wonderful cause.**

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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 March requests.

Contact Diane @ 308-8224 for April requests.

"Therefore I tell you, all that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours." -Mark 11:24

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**Ministry of Greeting & Hospitality**

Anyone interested in joining the Ministry of Greeters, those who welcome parishioners and visitors to Mass every Sunday, is asked to call Mary Ann Meloni at 488-6143.

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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 in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. **Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.**



Holy Thursday, April 1, 2010
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00pm.
Repository Visit until Midnight

Good Friday, April 2, 2010
Reading of the Psalms, Noon-2:45pm
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 3, 2010
Easter Vigil Mass: 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010
Masses: 9:00am & 10:30 am

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**Attention Altar Servers**

All Altar Servers, above and beyond the 6 who are scheduled, are invited to participate in the processions for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the service or Mass chosen.

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Holy Week and Easter Closings

Our School will dismiss at Noon on Wednesday, March 31st and reopen on Monday, April 12th.

The Rectory will be closed from Holy Thursday, April 1st thru Easter Monday, April 5th and reopen on Tuesday, April 6th.

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**First Annual Spring Social!**

**April 17<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm - ? in the School Gym**

Come for an evening of enjoyment and camaraderie in appreciation of the parishioners of St. Stephen's Church and School. **Invitation is open to ANY and ALL adults 21 years of age or older.** There will be dinner, wine and beer available, BYOB at your preference, DJ and dancing. Tickets are \$15 per person OR \$25 per couple. This is not a fundraiser, but a chance for all to meet and celebrate St. Stephen's family. Tickets are available after all weekend Masses in church and at the Rectory and School during the week, now thru April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**One lucky parishioner will go home with an LCD Wide screen TV set!**



### News from the Fifth Grade!

As we prepare our hearts for the Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter, we have been following the Way of the Cross to better understand Jesus' death and rising to new life. Many of the fifth graders had the opportunity to participate in St. Stephen Parish's Stations of the Cross as readers and choir members. We have been praying for all those who were in the RICA program, especially one of our students, Michael Taylor and his family, as they will be baptized into the Catholic Faith at the Easter Vigil.

The fifth grade just finished reading Christopher Curtis' The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963 about a close-knit family who takes a car trip from Michigan to visit their grandmother. The story is full of humorous events along the way; however, once in Birmingham the main character, Kenny, is traumatized when he witnesses a church that was fire-bombed. The family bonds together to help Kenny recover in this warm-hearted story.

We have just begun reading The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate Di Camillo. This heart-warming tale of friendship and love is about a China rabbit who is a birthday gift to a young girl. The class is looking forward to finding out how and why Edward Tulane's journey is considered "miraculous."

In social studies, the fifth grade is learning how our "Founding Fathers" created our Constitution and the purpose of the Bill of Rights. In science, they are learning about physical and chemical changes and look forward to a trip to the Franklin Institute in May.

### Young Adult Ministry

St. Stephen's Young Adult Ministry, ages 21-40, will begin it's **Faith and Tradition Series** on Monday nights in the rectory meeting room. Please arrive at 7:15. Presentation is from 7:30-8:30. Join us for either a reflection on the upcoming week's Gospel or a presentation on a saint of the church.

#### Upcoming schedule:

- April 12 - Scripture - John 21:1-19
- April 24 - Movie Night - "The Shawshank Redemption"  
(Not held at the rectory, location TBD)
- April 26 - Saint Presentation - St. Faustina
- May 22 - Movie Night - "The Miracle of Fatima"  
(Not held at the rectory, location TBD)

Please contact Rose at 856.663.9342 for more information.

### Stewardship Reflection

**"But he replied, 'I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me.'"**-Luke 22:34  
This Holy Week let us reflect upon how often we deny that we know Jesus by the ways that we decide to use our time, our talent and our treasure.

### CCD Classes Update

There are no CCD classes the next 2 weeks: March 31 & April 7.  
Classes will resume on Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Advanced Directives: Power and Peace

They say that there are only two sure things in life: death and taxes. April 15<sup>th</sup> is fast approaching with the tax deadline, and April 16<sup>th</sup> is National Healthcare Decisions Day. Most Americans do not have an advanced directive for their medical care or a medical power of attorney so that someone can make decisions for them if they are unable. Having both of these is a great gift to yourself and to your family. **Please join us at Christ our Light, 402 N. Kings Highway, Cherry Hill on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm in the auditorium at Resurrection School for an entire program on advanced planning.** The program includes presentations on advanced directives from legal and medical standpoints, Catholic funeral practices and funeral options. The program is free and open to anyone, but reservations are required so we have enough documents and refreshments on hand for everyone. To reserve your place, please call the parish office at 856-667-2440 x. 327 or reply by e-mail to [parishoffice@christourlight.net](mailto:parishoffice@christourlight.net).

### Is your marriage tearing you apart?

If there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are frustrated, hurt or angry with each other, if you are considering separation or divorce, Retrouvaille can help. Retrouvaille is a French word meaning "rediscovery" and it helps couples put the pieces back together and rebuild loving relationships. It begins with a weekend experience in which husbands and wives are helped to re-establish communication and to gain new insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. **The next program will be held at the Malvern Retreat Center in Malvern, PA on April 9-11, 2010.** You will be asked to make a donation to cover the expenses of lodging, food and materials, but no couple is ever denied the chance to heal and renew their marriage because they are facing financial difficulties. For more information or to register for the weekend, you can call 800-470-2230 or visit the web site [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

### Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If in this calendar year (01/01/10 through 12/31/10) you are celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary, 50th Wedding Anniversary, or more than 50 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating on **Sunday, April 25, 2010, at 3:00 pm** Mass (light reception following) at St. Agnes Parish, 701 Little Gloucester Road, Blackwood, NJ 08012. Please call 856-583-6164 for further information.

### Energy Bill Assistance

Are you and your family being squeezed by these tough economic times? The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and New Jersey SHARES programs can help with your energy bill. To find out which of these programs will best meet your needs, call **1-800-510-3102** Monday thru Saturday, or visit [www.pseg.com/help](http://www.pseg.com/help) to learn more and where to apply.

## *Parish Pastoral Council Minutes - March 15, 2010*

**Members Present:** Fr. Daniel Rocco, Joe Haas, Chris Hearn, Liz McHugh, Joey Scavuzzo, and Terry Modzier.

**Ex Officio members:** Sr. Bernadette Leahy SSJ, Sr. Ruthann O' Mara SSJ,

- Opening prayer by Fr. Dan Rocco
- Meeting called to order by Joe Haas at 7:05 pm
- Minutes Read and Approved by Committee members.

- **Old Business:**

**Delegation of Ministries** - Review of the St. Stephen Parish Organizational Chart, by Sr. Ruthann, as was published 3/14/10 in the Parish Bulletin. The chart will be available on the parish web site in the very near future. Additional information regarding the Pastoral Ministries will be available after the "Working Retreat" on Saturday March 20, 2010.

**Fundraisers** - Fr. Rocco reviewed information gathered and presented by Katy Fagan, who is heading the committee working on this project. The purpose of this ongoing fundraiser is to help pay our school subsidy. Many aspects were discussed, such as: security, how and when to place and pick up orders (Orders can be placed / filled at the weekend Masses, through the school's "Brown Envelope", and at the Rectory), some of the available markets (Pathmark, Acme, and Shoprite) / retailers (CVS and Dunkin Donuts), and the actual manpower needed for selling Scrip at the weekend Masses, accepting orders through school, church, the Rectory, and Stonegate. The goal is to have a presentation ready to share at the "Spring Social" on April 17th. It is the hope that as many people will utilize this program, which is considered a "Win - Win" for all involved, as possible. There is no actual cost for the user, and the church / school will directly benefit with each order sold.

**Youth Mass** - Fr. Rocco has sent Fr. Chuck a letter and is awaiting a reply to coordinate a meeting time to work out the multiple logistics in having a Youth Mass.

**Appreciation Dinner** - The name has been changed to "1st Annual Spring Social and Appreciation Dinner". Date: April 17th 2010, Cost \$15.00 per ticket and 2 for \$25.00. A limited number of tickets will be sold, no ticket sales at the door. As a bonus, those purchasing a ticket and attending the Social will be entered into a drawing for a Flat-Screen Television. Joey Scavuzzo reported on the menu, which is from H & H Deli / Catering. Wine and Beer will be provided and there is a BYOB option. Parishioner Will Delfin will provide music.

This is not a fundraiser event for the parish. The cost of the ticket does not fully cover the costs of the evening; the parish will be covering the difference. The sole purposes of the Social is for everyone, age 21 and above, to come and share a meal, enjoy conversation, and dancing with each other.

**Of Note:** This event was changed from strictly an "Appreciation Dinner" in order to be more inclusive and open to all who wish to attend. There are many people at St. Stephen's, both obvious and behind the scenes, who deserve appreciation and recognition. The Pastoral Council, as the group hosting this event, did not wish to exclude anyone, however unintentional, therefore the event is as stated above, open to all 21 years of age and above.

- **New Business:**

**Assessment of Parish Surveys** - Joe Haas has completed the arduous task of compiling the Survey results. Each Council member received a copy to review, and then report back at the next meeting on which items are the most pressing to implement. The Survey results will be placed on our web site in the future.

**Finance Report** - Report of the Finance Council meeting from 3/10/10. The minutes will be in the church bulletin this Sunday.

**Informational Packet** - Joe Haas raised the question of St. Stephen's having an "Informational Packet" where any and all information about the parish and its' services would be found. As an example Joe has a folder of heavy weight paper that would be durable and information could be printed on all sides of the folder. Additionally there would be pages in the pockets also. Further information to be gathered and then the topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Memorial Remembrances** - Discussion on the ability of the parishioners to buy some type of memorial item, in honor of family / friend; i.e., plaque for the end of a certain pew. Information to be gathered and topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Pastoral Council Membership** - Discussion on how the membership is to be increased. Encourage the parishioners to nominate someone they feel will work diligently for the good of the parish. Once the nominees reviewed, then the top five will be placed on a ballot, in the pews, and voted on. This topic will be discussed more in depth at next meeting.

- Meeting adjourned @ 8:55 pm.
- Closing prayer by Fr. Rocco
- Next PPC meeting: Wednesday 4/14/2010 at 7:00pm in the Rectory Basement Meeting room.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Modzier