

# St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



## Pastoral Staff

Reverend Vincent Orum, A.J., Administrator  
Reverend Thomas Kiely, In-Residence  
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally  
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: [eccllesia@comcast.net](mailto:eccllesia@comcast.net)

Website: [www.StStephensPennsauken.com](http://www.StStephensPennsauken.com)

## March 29, 2009 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

### 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.

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>March 30, 2009</b>
9:00am	
<b>7:00pm</b>	
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>March 31, 2009</b>
9:00am	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>April 1, 2009</b>
9:00am	
<b>7:00pm</b>	
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>April 2, 2009 (Followed by Novena)</b>
9:00am	Angelina Pennestri r/b Mary Lee
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>April 3, 2009 (First Friday of the Month)</b>
9:00am	Mass of Thanksgiving r/b Alfreda Novak
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>April 4, 2009</b>
9:00am	Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
4:30pm	Arnold Black r/b Mrs. Higgins and the Staff & Students of St. Stephen School Rose Veramonti r/b Rick & Bernice Taylor
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>April 5, 2009 (Palm Sunday)</b>
9:00am	Theresa Eisenhardt r/b Family Joseph Schmidt r/b Ed & Nancy Schmidt
10:30am	James Cummings, Sr. r/b Margaret Cummings Ralph Cavallo r/b Wife & Children

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of George S. Figueroa, Sr.***

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.

<b>Attendance/Collection March 21/22, 2009</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>\$5,892</b>
<b>March 22/23, 2008</b>	<b>(Easter)</b>	
<b>Budgeted Weekly Collection:</b>		<b>\$6,923</b>
<b>Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$5,702</b>
<b>March 22/23 Catholic Relief Collection:</b>		<b>\$ 643</b>
<b>March 22/23 Star Herald Collection:</b>		<b>\$ 655</b>

<b>2009 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D</b>	<b>\$14,945 (28%)</b>
<b>2009 House of Charity Goal</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>

***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](http://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:*

**Rose Alessandrone, Dolly Angelastro, Patricia Booth, Marion Borreggine, Vincent Buondonno, Dominic Caruso, Dorothy Coyle, Marge Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, Joe Flacco, John Heining, Jr., Jean Heller, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Robert Leone, 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.**

***Ministry Schedule for April 4/5***

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**Altar Servers:** K. Sullivan, K. Hulsey, T. Mason  
**EM's:** S. Eisenhardt, P. Petronis, A. Knight, The Pandola's  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, P. Krohn

**Sunday, 9:00am**

**Altar Servers:** W. McHugh, S. Morales, P. Luthman  
**EM's:** S. Marano, L. McHugh, T. Modzier, The Monaco's  
**Lectors:** L. Modzier, M. McHugh

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**Altar Servers:** R&C Aleszczyk  
**EM's:** W. Delfin, T. Link, B. Buffington, The Fagans  
**Lectors:** The Links

*Next Special Diocesan 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:  
April 26, 2009 – "Home Mission"*

***Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament***

Will begin after the 9am Mass this Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and continue until the 7pm Stations.

***Good Friday Soup Night***

Our Annual Soup Night has been rescheduled to **Good Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-7pm in the School Lunchroom.** Signup sheets are available in the lobby of the church.

***Thank You Mr. Joseph Snipas***

We're very grateful to Mr. Joseph Snipas for his continued generous support of our parish and his recent donation that allowed us to purchase two gold-plated Ciborium and an Incenser with an Incenser Boat. The Incenser is beautifully engraved in honor of Mr. Snipas' donation.

**St. Vincent de Paul Helpline (856) 581-7980**

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

3/30-Monday-9am Mass, **7pm Mass**, 7:15pm RCIA  
 3/31-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary  
 4/1-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD, **7pm Mass**,  
**7:30pm Sr. Ruthann Presentation "So Great a Love"**  
 4/2-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15pm Youth Music, 7:15pm Choir  
 7pm Fundraising, 7pm Rosary Makers  
 4/3-Friday-9am Mass, **Adoration until 7pm Stations**, 7:30pm YAM  
 4/4-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group Retreat, 9am Mass,  
 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
 4/5-Sunday-Masses: 9am & 10:30am

### ***Stations of the Cross Themes***

4-3 Traditional Stations  
 4-10 NO EVENING STATIONS (Good Friday)

### ***Easter Flower Donations***

Your **Easter Flower donations** are not only used for the Easter Season but are also used to beautify the altar during the entire Liturgical Year. 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 Connie @ 662-3819 for April requests.**

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

Meets every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7pm at Stonegate.  
 NEW MEMBERS are welcome this Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>!

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

#### **The Young Adult Faith & Film Series –**

Saturday Nights at 6:30, location to be determined

Upcoming Presentations include:

**April 25th - The Bucket List**

**May 23rd - A Time for Miracles: Story of Mother Seton**

The evening will include dinner and a short discussion period following the film.

**Please call JD at 856.316.2598 for information.**

### ***Holy Week Preparations***

There is a scheduled practice on Wednesday April 1st at 7:30 PM for all lectors who will be reading for Palm Sunday

There is a scheduled practice on Sunday April 5th following 10:30 Mass for all lectors who will be reading on Good Friday and at the Easter Vigil Mass.

**On Palm Sunday**, to Honor the sacrifice of Jesus, let your red be a sign that you are a pilgrim beginning the journey of holiness through Holy Week to the Glory of the Resurrection.  
**Please try to wear something red.**

### ***Welcome Youth of St. Stephen's!***

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade thru 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Please join us on **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30pm** for a Pizza & Conversation Get-Together in the Rectory Meeting Room.

For further info, email [eccllesia@comcast.net](mailto:eccllesia@comcast.net).

### ***Our Heartfelt Thanks***

The **Pastoral Council** would like to thank everyone who helped welcome **Father Tom Kiely** to St. Stephen's. The desserts were delicious, the attendance was impressive and all your help was truly appreciated. Thanks for showing Fr. Tom what is great about St. Stephen's.

### ***Retreat for the Men of St. Stephen's***

**Fr. Tom Kiely** will direct a retreat for men on the topic of "Who Am I?" on **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** from 8:45am-11am in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Rectory Meeting Room. Please RSVP to Joe Fagan @ 662-5908 by April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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.**

### ***YOUNG ADULT INVITATION***

Many young adults (18-40) are looking for ways to make the world a better place. Often, they find themselves looking for jobs with meaning, relationships that challenge them, or they may just want to continue the kind of faith community they encountered while in college or high school—liturgically uplifting, service oriented, welcoming, and seeking faith-based justice in the world.

I am writing to personally invite you to prayerfully consider being a part of a small faith-sharing group of Young Adults whose focus will be talking about and doing faith-based social justice work. This group will be different from other Young Adult groups in that it will specifically focus on justice issues.

**PLEASE CONTACT ME IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE PART IN!**  
[mikeg@romero-center.org](mailto:mikeg@romero-center.org) or 856-964-9777

**Our recently departed Parishioners:**



***In Loving Memory of Margaret English  
1926-2009***



***In Loving Memory of Albert Massi, Sr.  
1920-2009***



***In Loving Memory of Angelina Pennestri  
1930-2009***

***N.J. FamilyCare & FamilyCare Advantage:  
Affordable, Quality Health Coverage is Available***

NJ FamilyCare provides quality, free, or low cost health coverage for uninsured children 18 and younger and low-income parents. Although many children are enrolled in Family Care, there are an estimated 280,000 children who are eligible but not enrolled. A mandate for all NJ children 18 and younger to have health insurance coverage goes into effect July 2009.

The 2009 Cover the Uninsured Week Campaign (March 22-28) provides the opportunity to spread the word about NJ FamilyCare. If your family income, or another family's income, falls within certain ranges (e.g. \$6,432 per month for a family of 4), your children may be eligible for NJ FamilyCare. If your family income is above the limit, you may still be able to get affordable health insurance for your children through the New Jersey FamilyCare Advantage program. If you are a parent, you may also be eligible for free or low-cost healthcare coverage through NJ FamilyCare.

To find out if you are eligible, or for more information, call or visit: 1-800-791-0710 [www.njfamilycare.org](http://www.njfamilycare.org) TTY 1-800-701-0720 (multilingual operators) (Apply on line) (For hearing impaired)

***St. Stephen's RCIA Ministry***



**Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?**

**Have you been away from the church...and have now returned, but want to know more?**

**Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism; Confirmation; and Eucharist?**

**Have you joined us from a different background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church?**

If any of the above questions apply to you, we would love to help you in your journey! Or, if you know of anyone who could answer YES to any of these questions, perhaps you should extend an invitation to them!

Please contact Father Vincent Orum at (856) 662-9338 or Loretta Steinmetz, RCIA Team Leader at (856) 227-4627 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

***Some Thoughts on Matrimony***

*Be Friends*

*Communicate / Talk*

*Never go to bed angry*

*Always listen*

*Encourage one another*

***RESPECT one another's need for privacy and space***

*Enjoy one another's company*

*Forgive*

*Be courteous and considerate:*

*If you are going to be late -Call*

*Someone once said they felt their marriage was an oasis (retreat/sanctuary) Good feeling*

*Don't hold grudges*

*Spend time to yourselves:*

*with small children you can setup date nights*

*Have fun together -LAUGH*

***Be committed to each other-Respect each other***

*Be obligated to one another*

***(you both have an obligation to one another)***

*Parent together*

*Plan little surprises for one another*

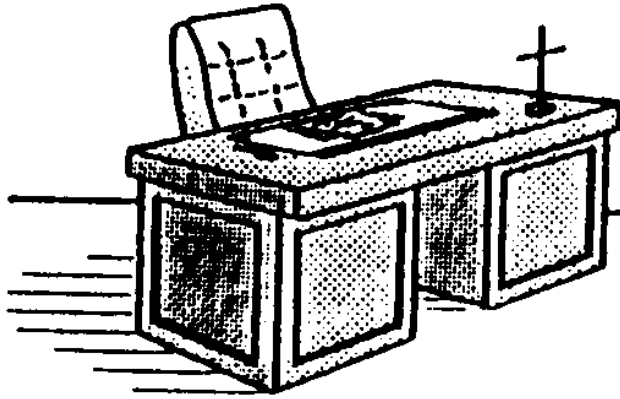
***Compliment one another -Say "I love you"***

*Show kindness in little ways; such as*

*Never take one another for granted*

*Cook a favorite meal together*

***MATRIMONY IS ONE OF THE 7 SACRAMENTS***



*From the Desk of  
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

## *The Importance of Celebrating the Easter Triduum*

Next weekend will mark the beginning of Holy Week as we celebrate Palm Sunday. Since many of us are used to the obligations to attend Sunday Masses, the celebration of most of the feasts and Solemnity of importance, including Holy Week, at times fall short of being observed for various reasons. Of course, reasons are reasons and can be justified for different legitimate purposes and none of us can question the intentions except God, who knows us best at the deepest level of our Being-Conscience/intentions!

For this, I have always marveled at the wisdom of our Lord in his concluding remark when speaking about storing treasures in heaven in Mathew 6:19- 21:

**“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”** Could our Lord be referring to intentions, reasons and motivations here?

Anyway, why is it so important for us to celebrate Holy Week? The importance of Holy Week can be understood when we get to know the role Liturgy plays in our calling as a church among other activities in the Church.

Although the other activities of the Church’s life are important, the Liturgy we celebrate is of paramount importance! It’s the treasure once discovered, our hearts ought to be there. It is well explained in the Documents of Vatican II concerning Liturgy whereby Vatican II tells us that **“the Liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the fountain from which all her powers flow.”** SSC No.10.

Furthermore, the Vatican II Council fathers observed that,

**“The Liturgy is thus the outstanding means by which the faithful can express in their lives, and manifest to others the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true Church.”** SSC No.2.

In our Liturgical celebrations throughout the year, we journey through the fulfillment of God’s redemptive activities in Jesus beginning from his birth, suffering, Death, resurrection, Pentecost and his second coming. During Holy Week and Easter Sunday, we relive this great act of Jesus in its entirety and it’s so important that we as a church find it worthwhile participating unless for a grave reason beyond our means!

The General Norms for the Liturgical year and Calendar speaking about Triduum observe:

**“Christ redeemed us all and gave a perfect glory to God principally through his paschal Mystery: dying he destroyed our death, rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter triduum of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year.**

**The Easter triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper, reaches it’s high point in the Easter Vigil and closes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.”**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church beautifully summarizes it: **“Easter is not simply one feast among others, but ‘the feast of Feasts,’ the ‘Solemnity of Solemnities,’ just as the Eucharist is the ‘Sacrament of Sacraments’(the Great Sacrament).”** CCC. No 1169