

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

Website: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

April 12, 2009 – Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of the Lord

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:30pm

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

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 9:00am	April 13, 2009 Robert Gottschall r/b Tom Ward
TUESDAY 9:00am	April 14, 2009 Jessica Falcone r/b Grandparents
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	April 15, 2009 Marion Camarota r/b Diocese of Camden Health Services Division
THURSDAY 9:00am	April 16, 2009 (Novena to follow) Michael A. Racobaldo r/b The Starts Family
FRIDAY 9:00am	April 17, 2009 Anna DeBellis r/b Anthony Antonelli
SATURDAY 9:00am 4:30pm	April 18, 2009 John T. Leahy r/b The Leahy Family Lucretia Paolino r/b Loving Daughters Paul P. McCarthy, Sr. r/b M/M Joseph Borreggine
SUNDAY 9:00am	April 19, 2009 (Divine Mercy Sunday) Helen & Harry Selser r/b Family Theresa Eisenhardt r/b Family
10:30am	Arnold Black r/b Loni & Larry Davis John Catrino r/b The Coffey Family

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in
Memory of Laura Rentz.***

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.

April 4/5 & Easter Offertory figures will be posted in next week's bulletin as this issue was submitted on April 2nd.

Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$6,923
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$5,681

2009 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D	\$18,595 (34%)
2009 House of Charity Goal	\$55,000

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.StStephensPennaauken.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 Heininger, 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, Emilio Terzini, Julian Terzini, Mary Terzini, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom.

Ministry Schedule for April 18/19

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: E. Mattera, E. Stemetzki, K. Sullivan
EM's: L. Garofalo, P. Antonelli, P. Krohn, The Heiningers
Lectors: R. McKean, A. Yeager

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: E. Corbett, T. Mason, G. Schwankert
EM's: S. Marano, J. Rosario, T. Modzier, The Sapienza's
Lectors: J. Gerst, L. Sperduto

Sunday, 10:30am (NO Children's Liturgy in April)

Altar Servers: C. Otto, R & C Aleszczyk
EM's: C. Otto, W. Delfin, L. Solano, A. Mulholland, L. D'Alessandro
Lectors: M. Turan, J. Messina

*Next Special 2nd Collection:
April 26, 2009 – "Home Mission"*

***RCIA Presentations
At all Masses next weekend, April 18/19***

Opportunities for Unemployed Parishioners
If you are currently unemployed during these difficult times, we have earning opportunities at St. Stephen's in the areas of maintenance and grounds. Please call the rectory at 662-9338 if you are interested.

Service Hours Available

On Tuesday, April 14th any youth needing service hours may report to the rectory at 10am with, if possible, a big shovel and a hand shovel. Rain date: Wednesday the 15th. If interested, call Mr. Costner at (609) 313-1550.

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

This Week @ St. Stephen's

4/13-Monday-9am Mass, Rectory Closed, NO RCIA
4/14-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
4/15-Wednesday-9am Mass, NO CCD, **2010 Mass Book Available**
4/16-Thursday-9am Mass
4/17-Friday-9am Mass
4/18-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass
3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass (RCIA Presentation)
4/19-Sunday-Masses: 9am & 10:30am (RCIA Presentation)

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.

Plants, plants, plants! After Easter, please don't discard your Easter plants—we'll re-plant them on our church grounds! Any plants may be dropped off at the rectory from 9am-4:30pm.

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 1st & 3rd 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 in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Info: Joe Fagan-662-5908.

Crocheters/Knitters

Crocheted or knitted squares (7" wide x 9" long) are needed for the ongoing "Warm-up America" program.

The squares are joined to make afghans that are given to various charitable organizations--Ronald McDonald House, Shelters, Crossroads, and the Military Support Group of New Jersey and Pennsylvania for our enlisted personnel at medical sites overseas and stateside.

For more information, call Betty McWilliams @ 665-3202.

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.

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 or 856-964-9777

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).

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

If this year, (January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009) you are celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary, 50th Wedding Anniversary, or more than 50 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating on:

Sunday, May 17, 2009 with 3:00 pm Mass
(light reception following)

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
591 New Jersey Avenue, Absecon

Please call 856-583-6118 for further information.



Diocesan Biblical Institute

The Diocese of Camden's Biblical Institute will begin new Bible Study Groups in April, 2009. The Biblical Institute offers an in-depth and unique opportunity to explore the beauty and wonder of Sacred Scripture. By increasing our knowledge and experience of God's Word, we are drawn into a deeper relationship with our loving God. Learning is facilitated through a "hands on" process, which integrates Bible study, personal reflection, and application to daily life. The new classes will meet each week from 7:00 -9:00 p.m. at the following parishes:

- Annunciation, Bellmawr: School Library**
Starting Monday, April 20, 2009
- Holy Family, Sewell: Parish Center**
Starting Wednesday, April 22, 2009
- St. Andrew, Gibbsboro: Parish Center**
Starting Wednesday, April 22, 2009
- Handicap Accessible**

For more information, please contact Dr. Frank Blee, Office of Evangelization and Adult Faith Formation, Diocese of Camden, at (856) 583-6105. To register, please contact Diane Scafidi, Diocese of Camden, at (856) 583-6129.



5th Annual "Golf at the Beach"

Join us for the 5th annual *Golf at the Beach* to benefit the **retired Sisters of Saint Joseph** of Philadelphia, PA to be held at the Seaview Marriott Resort & Spa in Galloway, NJ on Monday, May 11, 2009. Tee-off is 8:30am, rain or shine. The day of golf includes continental breakfast, BBQ lunch, door prizes and great gifts. For more information, call Sr. Elizabeth Ferguson, SSJ at (800) 482-6510. Sponsorships are available, visit www.ssjphila.org/golf.html.

Stewardship Reflection

Thankful Stewards

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose love endures forever." (Psalm 118:1)

We thank God for His Son Jesus, who died and arose for us. We celebrate and sing "Alleluia". But how do we live the responsibility of our Stewardship all year, showing our gratitude to the Lord who spread out His arms on the cross to save us and show us the way to salvation.

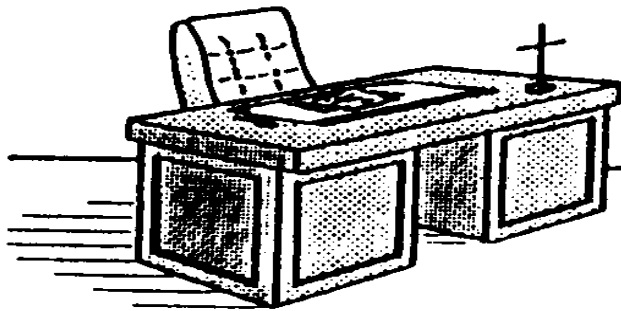


A TRIBUTE TO USHERS

*In my parish one Sunday
A thought occurred to me
That numerous are the tasks performed
By the Ushers' Society
These quiet handymen of God
Are faithful all year round:
Passing collection plates and baskets,
Pleased when seats are found,
Issuing bulletins, envelopes, palm,
Opening windows and doors -
Whenever assistance is needed,
It's the ushers who tackle the chores,
And even they go on their thankless way,
Up and down all the aisles,
While over the years, as hair turns gray,
Their steps have stretched into miles.
But I'm sure there must be a special place -
Perhaps with a golden aisle,
Where angels usher these kindly men,
To the throne of God and His smile,
So give them a grin or a greeting,
A nod or a word or two,
Remember, in serving Jesus,
They still have thoughts for you.
Anonymous.*



Pennsauken Alliance for the Performing Arts
presents a special holiday screening of
"Jesus Christ Superstar"
Monday, April 13, 2009 @ 7pm
Pennsauken Country Club
3800 Haddonfield Road, Pennsauken, NJ
Admission is free - Donations accepted
Refreshments will be served
Additional info at (856) 317-9052



*From the Desk of
Father Vincent Orum, AJ*

Alleluia! He is Risen!

Cordial Greetings from the staff of Saint Stephen's! We wish you a happy celebration of Easter and all the Blessings from our Risen Lord!

Have you ever wondered why Easter seems to fall at springtime? I have! And I have been meditating on this lately! Can we learn anything from the Wisdom of God?

As I have been reflecting on this, I am amazed at the Divine wisdom of God that the Celebration of our Lord's resurrection falls at springtime. It seems to me that it's such a perfect timing that we can learn from Mother Nature the reality of resurrection for us human beings created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27).

In Corinthians 15:20 we read that, "...**Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep,**" and Saint Paul continues to say that, "...**since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits;**".

Saint Paul presents Jesus Christ's resurrection as a prelude for each one of us. Just like Christ Jesus, we who believe in him will be raised to newness of life. The coming to life of Jesus at Easter and at springtime seems to me like a perfect timing for both man and nature! Imagine after the fall, when every leaf on the plant is gone, Life seems to have faded out of every living plant while even animals hibernate due to the cold weather. Mankind is not spared either since most of the outdoors games and activities cease to take place until spring and summer.

For one visiting the country for the first time, I felt like "The death of Life during fall and winter! The leafless plants seemed so dead and dull!

Yet with spring, we again see new leaves **springing up** to life, the sound of birds, and children, young and old back on the street either riding bicycles or running on foot and the beauty of the flowers in their different colors are just confirmations of new life springing up again!

Well then, if God can make Mother Nature to work in this perfect order and rhythm of Death and life to plants through the seasons of fall, winter and spring, why wouldn't he do the same for humanity created in his image and likeness? Why would he make it impossible for us to experience new life as in nature?

Does that sound reasonable and similar to new life in Jesus with the resurrection? Hear what Saint Paul argues, **"But if Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then neither has Christ been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then empty too is our preaching; empty too, your faith. Then we are also false witnesses to God, because we testified against God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins. Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all."** *Corinthians 15:12-19.*

As we celebrate this Easter, let us recall how much God has loved us and given us home of a new life in Jesus. Just a thought!