

# 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: [ecclesia@comcast.net](mailto:ecclesia@comcast.net)

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

## April 26, 2009 – Third Sunday of Easter

### 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.

- MONDAY** April 27, 2009  
9:00am Angela Fleck r/b Daughter Kathy
- TUESDAY** April 28, 2009  
9:00am Good Intentions of Mike Cody Dees r/b Grandmother
- WEDNESDAY** April 29, 2009  
9:00am Fran Sullivan r/b The Sullivan Family
- THURSDAY** April 30, 2009 (Novena to follow)  
9:00am Renato DiMedio r/b Mrs. Ralph Cavallo
- FRIDAY** May 1, 2009 (First Friday, Adoration until 7pm)  
9:00am Mass of Thanksgiving r/b Alfreda Novak Paul P. McCarthy, Sr. r/b The Fagan Family
- SATURDAY** May 2, 2009  
9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish  
4:30pm Joseph Siano r/b Josephine Schaber Frank Caruso r/b Edith Bielinski
- SUNDAY** May 3, 2009  
9:00am Michael Szalagiewicz r/b Jeanne & Joseph Gerst Theresa Eisenhardt r/b Family  
  
10:30am James Cummings, Sr. r/b Margaret Cummings Arnold Black r/b Mrs. Petronis & Family

***The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Frank Caruso.***

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>Easter Collection, 2009 (final update)</b>	<b>\$14,646</b>
<b>Easter Collection, 2008</b>	<b>\$15,136</b>
<b>April 18/19, 2009 Attendance/Collection</b>	<b>568 / \$4,918</b>
<b>April 19/20, 2008 Attendance/Collection</b>	<b>569 / \$5,714</b>
<b>Budgeted Weekly Collection:</b>	<b>\$6,923</b>
<b>Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:</b>	<b>\$5,715</b>
<b>2009 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D</b>	<b>\$21,945 (40%)</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.

**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:*

- 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, John Meyer, 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 May 2/3***

**Saturday, 4:30pm**

**Altar Servers:** K. Sullivan, E. Stemetzki, E. Mattera  
**EM's:** The Pandola's, P. Krohn, P. Antonelli, Sr. Eleanora  
**Lectors:** R. Taylor, P. Palazzo

**Sunday, 9:00am**

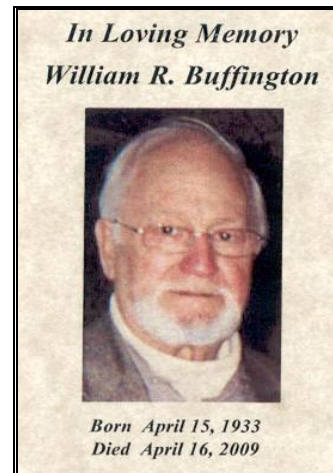
**Altar Servers:** M & C Hearn, S. Morales  
**EM's:** S. Marano, S. Mufalli, The Monaco's  
**Lectors:** D. Heck, J. Messina

**Sunday, 10:30am**

**Altar Servers:** R & C Aleszczyk, D. Saranchak  
**EM's:** W. Delfin, M. Novoa, L. D'Alessandro, The Fagans  
**Lectors:** The Links

*Next Special Diocesan 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:*  
**May 17, 2009 – "Catholic Communications"**

***First Friday Adoration, May 1<sup>st</sup>***  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin after the 9am Mass and continue until 7pm.



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

4/27-Monday-9am Mass, 7:15pm RCIA  
4/28-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary  
4/29-Wednesday-9am Mass, 6:30pm CCD  
4/30-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15 Youth Music, 7:15 Choir  
5/1- First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm, School Noon dismissal  
5/2-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,  
3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass  
5/3-Sunday-Masses at 9am & 10:30am

### ***Art & Environment Thank You***

A special thank you to all the Art & Environment ministry members who brought their talent and gently laid their hands on our church during Lent and Holy Week. Also, thank you to parishioner Ellen O'Donnell and students, George Probasco, Dominic Moon, Shick Kim, Tyler Miller and Jade DiMattia for joining us on our church cleanup day. Anyone interested in joining the Art & Environment ministry, please contact Maria Haas 665-8393.

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!** 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 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 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 Presentation:

**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).

# GIANT YARD SALE III

This year's Giant Yard Sale will be on October 3, 2009. We are again seeking whatever things you don't want that have any value, except that we cannot take any clothing or toys. If you want to volunteer to help or have things to donate, please call 482-6882 or 662-9338.

## 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 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.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Golf at the Beach"

Join us for the 5<sup>th</sup> 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.ssiphila.org/golf.html](http://www.ssiphila.org/golf.html).

## ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES

The 2nd annual ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES prayer event is scheduled to take place on Friday (May 1st), Saturday (May 2nd), and Sunday (May 3rd), 2009. A person wanting to be a participant will pray at least one Rosary on any of the three days for the following intention: For an end to the surgical and non-surgical killing of unborn human persons. This multinational pro-life prayer event is being coordinated by the Saint Michael the Archangel Organization. People planning on participating in the ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES prayer event are encouraged to register at [www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org](http://www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org) or a person may let his/her intention be known by writing to: Saint Michael the Archangel Organization, P. O. Box 41257, Memphis, TN 38174. Parishes, schools, organizations, etc. are welcome to register many Rosaries at the same time.

## PHS '69 Looking for Classmates!

The Pennsauken High School's Class of '69 is now working on a 40th Reunion to be held in the fall of 2009. We are searching for classmates every way we can think of. Many of us have signed onto Facebook.com and are having fun catching up after all these years. We would love to hear from you too!! If you know anyone from the Class of 1969, please let them know we're looking for them. Ask them to contact Fran (Sellers) Reichert @ [flreichert@earthlink.net](mailto:flreichert@earthlink.net), 1 (719) 594, 6796, or look me up on facebook. We're hoping for a great turnout.

# GIANT RAFFLE III



St. Stephen's Annual 50/50 Raffle is a major parish fundraiser. There are 16 prizes and someone is going to hit the jackpot! All parishioners have received 5 tickets to sell. Please put your returns in the collection basket at Mass in an envelope marked "Raffle" or leave them off at the rectory. More tickets are available at the rectory or by calling 662-9338. The drawing will be on June 14, 2009.

## Diocesan Jubilee Mass May 5<sup>th</sup>

Bishop Joseph Galante will be the principal celebrant at a special Mass honoring priests in the Diocese of Camden who will celebrate a special jubilee this year. The Jubilee Mass for our Priests will be held on:

**Tuesday evening, May 5, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at**  
**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church,**  
**591 New Jersey Avenue, Absecon**

All the people of the diocese are invited to attend this special Mass. Come and celebrate with the priests of our diocese. We celebrate the following Jubilarians...

### 25 years

Rev. James O. Dabrowski  
Rev. Edward F. Heintzelman  
Rev. Timothy L. Hubbs  
Rev. Robert B. Matysik

### 40 Years

Rev. John A. Del Duca  
Rev. Ronald S. Falotico  
Rev. Robert J. Gregorio  
Rev. Frederick G. Link  
Rev. Richard J. Lodge  
Rev. Msgr. Robert T. McDermott  
Rev. William F. Moore  
Rev. Edward F. Sobolewski  
Rev. John J. Tumosa

### 50 Years

Rev. Msgr. John A. Clarke  
Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Doyle  
Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Kennedy  
Rev. John C. Killeen

### 60 Years

Rev. Msgr. Eugene J. Kernan  
Rev. Msgr. William F. Poyatt  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Stoerlein

*From the Desk of Father Vincent Orum, A.J.*

## ***The Centrality and the Primacy of the Eucharist in Our Life as the Baptized!***

This weekend as a Parish family, we celebrate together the welcoming to the Eucharistic table for the first time our CCD kids, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. It's a time we are offered the opportunity to remind ourselves as a community the importance and centrality of the Eucharist in our life as the baptized, especially in a Society in which the negligence and disrespect to the Blessed Sacrament is not lacking.

Indeed many today argue and question why we are obligated to attend Sunday celebration of the Masses while one can still pray in the recess of one's heart or house to God and fulfill the vital relationship with God? Many do not see the need for private or communal Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and even wonder why bother to attend some weekday Masses? Yet, the obligation to attend Sunday is attached to the importance the Eucharist plays in the life of any baptized and in our economy of Salvation.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church rightly points out that, **“the Eucharist is the sum and summary of our faith: Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking.” CCC 1327.**

We should understand that at Mass when we celebrate the Eucharist, we continue the one and only sacrifice of Jesus on Mount Calvary that reconciled humanity with God. What other prayer(s) can be greater than that sacrificial gift and prayer that Jesus offered on our behalf?

As the Catechism states, **“At the Last Supper, on the night he was betrayed, our Savior instituted the Eucharist sacrifice of his Body and Blood. This he did in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages until he should come again, and so to entrust to his beloved Spouse, the Church, a memorial of his death and resurrection: a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a Paschal banquet in which Christ is consumed, the mind is filled with Grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us.” CCC 1323**

This sacrifice on the cross is perpetuated through the actions of the ordained priests when by the prayer of Consecration of the Bread and Wine, the elements are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ Jesus. No other form of prayer can substitute the primacy of the Eucharist in the life of the faithful, even though it's not a surprise to come across arguments in favor of personal prayers and devotions over the Eucharist/Mass! It's not uncommon in our church today where committees, associations and ministries are more concerned with their activities, holding prayer sessions, meetings and games while Mass is going on! It's a clear shift of priority and a misguided understanding of our true sense of purpose and calling in Baptism.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, quoting the document of Vatican II on the Church No.47 says, **“The Eucharist is the Source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.” CCC 1324**

In other words, all that we do in ministries, associations and committee must help us to have profound love for the Eucharist, or rather, the celebration of the Mass. It's not a good and healthy sign of a vital, dynamic church where the pews are virtually empty whether it is on a Sunday, weekday or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Greater participation and Increased love of the Eucharist is a sure sign of an ecclesial community alive in Christ just like the first post-resurrected community in Acts 2:42, **“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.”** Again in Verse 46, **“Everyday they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to the breaking bread in their homes.”** And what wonders God worked for them! Cfr. Acts 2:42-47//Acts 4:32-35.

We as a community should consider the primacy of the Eucharist in our lives and ask ourselves how frequent we feel enthused to receiving it! Just as we long for the quenching of our physical thirst and hunger for food, we need to hunger for the bread of eternal life. Why? Because our call in baptism can only make sense and meaning when we truly become part and parcel of the Eucharistic community as we celebrate the Eucharistic banquet prepared by the Lord.

As the Catechism states, **“The holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation. Those who have been raised to the dignity of the royal Priesthood by Baptism and configured more deeply to Christ by Confirmation, participate with the whole community in the Lord's own sacrifice by means of the Eucharist.” CCC1322.**

While we wish our newly communicants and their family God's blessings, let us remind ourselves of the privilege and favor given to us to share in the heavenly banquet by frequently receiving our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and giving our utmost respect, and adoration befitting his Holy Name!

We should remember that, **“the Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of that communion in the divine life and that unity of the people of God by which the Church is kept in being. It is the culmination both of God's action sanctifying the world in Christ and of the worship men offer to Christ and through him to the father in the Holy Spirit.” CCC 1325.**

Furthermore, **“by the Eucharistic celebration we already unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy and anticipate eternal life, when God will be all in all.” CCC1326.**

So, whenever we come to church or miss the opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist we should ask ourselves: **What are we doing? Or what are we missing? How are we disposed?**