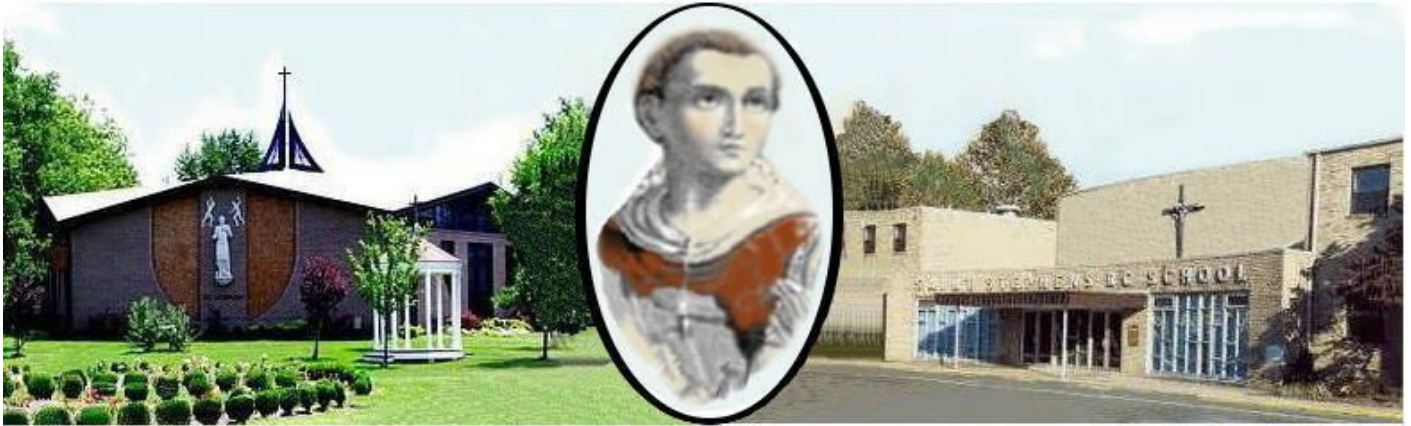


St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



May 23, 2010 – Pentecost Sunday

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday thru Friday – 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

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

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Children's Liturgy: 3rd Sunday @ 9:00am

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.

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".

Table with columns for Day, Date, and Intention. Rows include Monday through Sunday with names and times.

The Sanctuary Candle this week is In Memory of Our Deceased Military.

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 financial data: May 15/16, 2010 Attendance/Collection 565/ \$5,845; May 16/17, 2009 Attendance/Collection 575/ \$6,580; May 15/16 Catholic Communications Collection \$ 549; Budgeted Weekly Collection: \$6,154; Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average: \$5,709

Next Diocesan Second Collection: June 13, 2010: "Brazilian Mission"

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.



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, Victor Ambruso, Dolly Angelastro, Evelyn Capaldi, Evelyn Capocetta, Dorothy Coyle, Margaret Cummings, Patricia DeLorenzo, 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, Dolores McCollum, Dorothy McPeak, Marie Melchiorre, John Meyer, Mark Newell, Jennifer Osborn, Edith Parrissi, Cassandra Pendtleton, Rita Picciano, Jean Rooney, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Steven Stepanavage, Mary Terzini, Lillian Tomarchio, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Helen Villanueva, Anthony Vocale, Rita Weingard.

If you know that someone on the above sick list is no longer in need of prayers, please contact the rectory office at 662-9338, ext.6 so that we can remove their name. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule for May 29/30

(Monthly Schedules are also posted on our website)

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: R. Garofalo, E. Mattered, K. Sullivan
EM's: The Sapienza's, T. Angstman, L. Heining, T. Veneziani
Lectors: J. Heining, P. Tryson

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: C. Hearn, K. Starts, M. DiRico
EM's: S. Marano, R. Leone, L. McHugh, T. Modzier, R. Davis
Lectors: M. Corbett, M. Miller

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: D. Saranchak, The Bowmans
EM's: M. Meloni, G. Tutwiler, T. Link, C. Otto, M. Miller
Lectors: M. Turan, M. Link

Assisted Listening Devices now available!



Our sound system now supports individual assisted listening devices. These devices are available to individuals who have trouble hearing during Mass. An earpiece is connected to a small, easy to operate, portable receiver, which allows for greater clarity of the spoken word. The devices can be used wherever you sit during Mass, you have control over your own volume level and you are welcome to use your personal earphone/plug with the device (1/8" plug), or you may purchase a set from us for \$2. Think of days-gone-by transistor radios and how easy they were to operate - one wheel controls both power and volume! Please see an usher at least 15 minutes before Mass to reserve one of the four (4) units we have available in the Sacristy.

This Week @ St. Stephen Parish

5/24-Monday-9am Mass, 1pm Bible Study, 7pm Liturgy Board
5/25-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
5/26-Wednesday-9am Mass
5/27-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 6:15pm Youth Music, 7:15pm Choir
5/28-Friday-9am Mass, School Closed, 6pm Wedding Rehearsal
5/29-Sat-8am Men's Prayer Group, 2pm Wedding, 3:45 Confessions,
4:30pm Mass, 6pm Wedding Rehearsal
5/30-Sunday-Masses 9am & 10:30am, 2pm Wedding



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 heidese@comcast.net for further info.

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.

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 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 1st and 3rd 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.**

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 Betty @ 662-6928 for May 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

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.

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.**

Congratulations to Deacon Al

On his having completed his **5th Masters Degree!!!** This one was on **Church History**. We will have a big celebration if he ever gets to half a dozen!



2010 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D \$42,460 (81%)

2010 House of Charity Goal \$52,250

Let a gift to the House of Charity allow the fire of love to grow in you. Your donation helps ensure that vital programs continue, which not only give financial support but also teaches others how to improve their difficult situations and become more independent. **Thank you to all who have given so generously thus far this year. If you have not pledged as yet, extra pledge cards are available in the lobby of our church.**

CCD REGISTRATION

Registration is underway for next Fall and the fee remains at \$125 per family (**\$115 if registered by June 30, \$135 for late registrations after Sept. 8**). Registration forms are available in the rectory and online on our church website's CCD page.

The NEW TIME schedule on Wednesday nights for next year's classes will be 6:15pm-7:30pm.

Knights' Flea Market June 5th

The Knights of Columbus will be having their Spring Flea Market at **Mary Queen of All Saints** (formerly St Cecilia's) schoolyard on Saturday, June 5, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. For table rentals, donations, or other information, please call Lonnie at 856 662-6049.

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 special ministry, please call **Joy Bowman** at (856) 662-4803. Thank you.

In-ground Lawn Sprinkler Parts

We have 100 feet of plastic water tubing, 4 pop-up spray nozzles and a battery-operated timer.

New, never used, asking \$50.

Call the rectory at 662-9338, ext 6 if interested.

Stonegate Bus Trip June 15th!

Destination: The **Showboat Casino** in Atlantic City

Cost: \$25 (with \$25 in slot bonus dollars returned!)

Call Marion at 663-5599 to reserve a spot.

Music Ministry Notes

Calling all Musicians and Singers of all ages!!!!

We are in the process of developing new musical groups at St. Stephen and you are invited to an **informational meeting on Thursday evening, June 10th at 6:15pm.** God has blessed our parish with so many talented people. Won't you consider sharing your talents with your parish family??? We will be discussing the formation of a music ensemble, as well as the youth choir. Please join us for more information. See you on the 10th. *Nancy Werner-Kaiser (Music Director)*

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**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 Daniel Rocco 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).**

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CATHOLIC MEN:

Do You Have the Gifts to Serve Christ as a Deacon?

Do you participate actively in leading church ministries?

Do you see in yourself the gifts needed for helping others?

Are you drawn to pray and listen to the Word of God?

If you can answer these questions with a confident "yes", perhaps you should learn more about the deacon's ministry in the Catholic Church. Consider attending the following informational session:

**Thursday June 10, 2010 from 7-9pm
St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center
1840 Peter Cheeseman Road
Blackwood, NJ 08012**

Please call Stephanie in the Diaconate Office at 856-583-2858 to let us know if you (and your wife) are planning to attend. More information is available at www.CamdenDiocese.org, click on "The Diocese" tab, then select "Clergy and Religious", the "Permanent Diaconate".



Kindergarten News!

PJs and slippers were the uniform of the day on Friday, as the boys and girls in kindergarten, as well as first and second grade, had "fun day". We enjoyed pizza, popcorn, snacks and drinks during the day as we painted banks and spent the afternoon "at the movies".

We recently traveled to Liberty Science Center in north Jersey, but we never left the classroom! We took a virtual field trip to learn about keeping our air clean. We had travelled all the way to Florida to visit the Clearwater Marine Aquarium a few months ago. We saw a dolphin named Winterwho lost her tail and was given prosthesis. We love traveling by using our computer!

Parlez-vous francais? In kindergarten we do. We can say hello, count to 7 and ask how you are feeling. Pretty soon we will have mastered how to say the Sign of the Cross in French.

We are looking forward to the end of the school year.

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## Youth Enjoying Service!!!

**The St. Stephen's Youth Group** is here to help our Senior neighbors! If you need assistance with weeding, raking or planting your garden this year, please call on us to help! Leave your name and phone number with Cindy at the Rectory (856) 662-9338, ext. 6 and we will set up a time to help.

**St. Stephen's Youth Group** would like to thank our Parishioners for helping us to collect **\$380 which was donated to the Pennsauken Emergency Relief Assistance Fund (PERA).** Once again, the generous parish of St. Stephen came together to help our neighbors in Pennsauken get through difficult financial times.

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Many Faces in God's House

Pentecost Sunday - May 23, 2010

Many times in the Bible, the Lord tells the people to welcome the foreigner. The Law of Israel protects the foreigner, the liturgy of Israel welcomes the foreigner to pray in the Temple, the prophets of Israel envision all the nations of the world coming to the mountain of the Lord, and the Christian vision in the book of Revelation sees a crowd too numerous to count from all the nations of the world in front of the throne of the Lamb.

Pentecost is a celebration of God's law, God's liturgy, God's vision and God's future, all of which welcome the foreigner.

St Stephen Parish Finance Council Meeting --- Wednesday, 5/11/10

In Attendance: Fr. Daniel Rocco, Kathy Boyer, Keith Knight, Lonnie Monaco, Craig Otto and Gary Sapienza

Fr. Rocco opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 PM.

Meeting Notes: We reviewed the minutes from our meeting on 4/27/10. No changes were made.

Church and School Financial Reports: Profit and loss statements were reviewed for both church and school covering the current fiscal year through April, as well as church and school balance sheets and aging summaries for the end of April 2010. Several questions were raised concerning items listed in the church general ledger for the month of April. It was noted that funds from a \$5,000 restricted gift to the parish would be used as "seed money" to initially fund the new scrip fundraising program. These funds will eventually be paid back to the church from scrip program profits. Repairs made to Sister Bernadette's car were made and the insurance payment was received. Keith reported that Sister's old car has been sold.

Church and School Budgets for 2010-2011: The school budget has been signed and submitted to the Diocese. To date, no questions or concerns have been returned to us. We have received the instruction package for the church budget from the Diocese. Tony and Susan will meet in the near future to begin preparing the church budget for submittal to the Diocese.

Capital Improvements and Maintenance: Work continues in defining and prioritizing the capital improvement and maintenance needs of both church and school. Rita Vogt has agreed to provide assistance with writing specifications. One item high on our priority list should be used as a test to see how the process will work and include detailed written specifications and bids received from multiple sources. In addition, all in attendance agreed on the advisability of conducting a full capital needs assessment for the church.

School Board Update: The School Board met on 5/5/10. Members discussed a suggestion to establish a general scholarship fund. The intent of such a fund would be to provide assistance to those with demonstrated financial need, as well as recognize the accomplishments and talents of students in the upper grades. There was general agreement to move ahead with this proposal. Other business centered on organizing the Board, with Jack Mattera selected as Board President and all officer positions filled. Various committees were established and committee chairs and members were named.

Long-Term Planning: Father Rocco provided a briefing on his exploration of possible future uses of the Convent and Rectory with the long-term goal of minimizing the cost to the parish of maintaining these facilities.

Miscellaneous Items:

- Fr. Rocco reported that a new Diocesan policy directs parishes to keep only enough cash in their regular operating accounts to cover one month's expenses. All funds in excess of that amount should be transferred to the parish's revolving reserve account with the Diocese.
- Due to the current state of Diocesan finances, there may be a move to convert outstanding parish and school debts owed to the Diocese into a loan on which 4% interest would be charged. If this should happen, parishes like St. Stephen which have outstanding balances owed to the Diocese (in our case outstanding school debt) would be negatively impacted.
- The parish has been contacted by an insurance company in connection with the extensive damage caused to one of the school's first floor classrooms in the fall of 2008. As a result, a payment of approximately \$25,000 may be coming to the parish in the near future. Father Rocco proposed and the Finance Council agreed that we earmark these funds for two purposes: first to repay the \$9,160 debt the church owes the Diocese from some years ago for lay pensions; and to transfer \$14,000 to the school to cover the remainder of the cost of repairs and upgrades completed during the summer of 2009.
- The front windows of the school will be replaced using funds donated for that purpose.

Fr. Rocco concluded the meeting with prayer at 9:00 PM.

The next Finance Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6/9/10 at 7 PM in the Rectory basement meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Otto
5/12/10