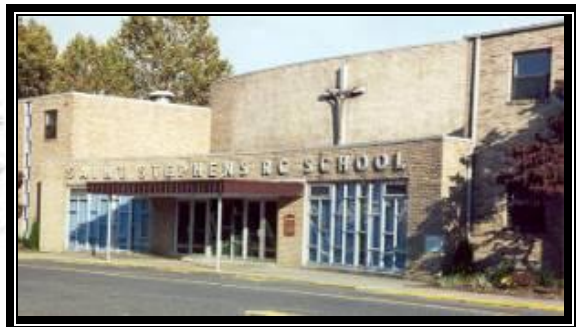


St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Parish Clergy & Religious

Reverend Vincent Orum, A.J., Administrator
Deacon Raymond Ellis ~ 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

May 25, 2008 – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Mass Schedule:

Daily: Monday thru Saturday – 9:00am
Saturday – 4:30pm --- Sunday – 9:00am, 10:30am & 4:30pm
Youth Mass: 3rd Sunday of every month @ 4:30pm
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 of month @ 1pm.
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
Expanded hours Monday, Tuesday & Thursday until 7:00pm.

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 Priest will generally offer that Mass for the Universal Church.

- MONDAY May 26, 2008 (Memorial Day) 9:00am
TUESDAY May 27, 2008 9:00am Good Intentions of Mother's Day
WEDNESDAY May 28, 2008 9:00am Good Intentions of Mother's Day
THURSDAY May 29, 2008 (Novena to follow) 9:00am People of the Parish
FRIDAY May 30, 2008 9:00am Good Intentions of Mother's Day
SATURDAY May 31, 2008 9:00am Dan Conway r/b Family 4:30pm Mass of Thanksgiving in Honor of St. Stephen Parish r/b Sam, Nancy & Catherine
SUNDAY June 1, 2008 9:00am Catherine & Philip Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri 10:30am Barbara Fallon r/b Her Children Catherine Magee r/b Family Thelma & Wally Baker r/b Loving Daughter, Elaine 4:30pm Rose Daemer r/b The Scavuzzo Family

The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Nicola Pompeano.

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.

Offertory Collection May 17/18, 2008: \$6,412.53
Budgeted Weekly Collection: \$7,200.00
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average: \$6,492.68

House of Charity information: (856) 583-6128
House of Charity: YTD: \$49,990 (91% of \$55,000 Goal)

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 log on to our church website at 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:

- Dolly Angelastro, Marion Borreggine, Vincent Buondonno, Dominic Caruso, Mary Chandler, Dorothy Coyle, Marge Cummings, Esther DeMarco, Tom DiBenedetto, Jessie Dixon, Patricia Domer, Jennie Farmer, John Fitzpatrick, Joe Flacco, Robert Gottschall, Mary Gunderson, Thomas Holmes, Sr., Jim Hutton, Rita Insley, Donna Krawchuk, Mary McNulty, John McPeak, Marie Melchiorre, Elena Melfi, Jennifer Osborn, Chris Picciano, Rita Picciano, Rosemarie Rosolia, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Mary Jo Stedrak, Frances Sullivan, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom.

Youth Ministry logo and text: Next 3 Young Adult Masses: June 15, July 20 & August 17 All 3rd Sundays @ 4:30pm Info: Tery Mattera (856) 488-6357

Ministry Schedule for May 31/June 1

Saturday, 4:30pm
Altar Servers: E. Stemetzki, L. Miller, N. Marchione
EM's: J. Messina, T. Angstman, A. Knight, The Monaco's
Lectors: TBA.

Sunday, 9:00am
Altar Servers: S. Morales, M & C Hearn
EM's: L. McHugh, S. Marano, N. Schmidt, The Sapienza's
Lectors: TBA.

Sunday, 10:30am
Altar Servers: S. Rosa, G. Schwankert, E. Corbett
EM's: T. Link, L. Picknally, B. Buffington, The Tutwilers
Lectors: TBA.

Sunday, 4:30pm
Altar Servers: S. Vance, P. Sapienza
EM's: T. Scavuzzo, The Klecko's
Lectors: TBA.

Next Special 2nd Collection:
June 8, 2008: "Brazilian Mission"

June 1st bulletin deadline: May 27th @ Noon

St. Vincent de Paul Hotline (856) 581-7980
New Playground Hotline (609) 238-9471



50/50 Summer Cash Raffle

Congratulations to: **The Gerst Family and Terry Carr** – new members of the Ten Tall Club - on selling ten or more tickets. They have each received one Free ticket!

Reminder: Please make every effort to sell your raffle tickets, we have not hit our halfway mark in sales as yet and time is short. Return all sold ticket stubs and donations to the rectory or place in collection basket at any Mass, mark envelope "Raffle". **For more info call Rita Vogt (856) 662-9464 or Anthony Leone (609) 405-8247.** Thank you.

WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL, Saturday, June 7, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Music, snacks and libation for your pleasure. Come make this an evening to remember, a gathering of old and new friends of the parish. Only \$10.00 per person. The 50/50 drawing will be held at 9:30 pm. **For more info call Rita Vogt (856) 662-9464 or Anthony Leone (609) 405-8247.**

This Week @ St. Stephen's

- 5/26-Monday-9am Mass, Rectory/School Closed Memorial Day
- 5/27-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 5/28-Wednesday-9am Mass, 7pm Young Adult Planning Mtg.
- 5/29-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7:15pm Choir
- 5/30-Friday-9am Mass
- 5/31-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass, 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 6/1-Sunday-Masses @ 9am, 10:30am & 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. One of the most powerful prayers available to us is the Rosary. **We are requesting that each Ministry in our parish take one Tuesday evening during May,** and pray the Rosary with other parishioners.

Tuesday May 27th -Art & Environment & Music Ministry

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 Bernice @ 662-4641 for the month of May.

Jesus replied,

"What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Giant Yard Sale II

The Fundraising Committee will sponsor another Giant Parish Yard Sale on **October 4, 2008.** Pickups of donated stuff will begin in June. Please begin setting aside things you want to get rid of and feel free to call us now at 665-0173 to get on the pickup list.

Thanks to Our Dedicated Ladies

We wish to thank **Catherine Broome, Lucille Buffington, Linda Gruber** and **Ann DiGiacomo** who are ironing our church linens for **Dot Coyle** who is recuperating from hip surgery.

A Heartfelt Thank You...

To the Art & Environment Committee members for helping to host the A&E table at the Ministry Fair. Also, to everyone who helped prepare the church for Pentecost and came out for the Buildings and Grounds Spring clean-up... job well done. Anyone interested in joining A&E are welcomed to attend a committee meeting on May 28th, in the Rectory at 6:30pm.

Maria Haas, Chairperson
665-8393

Clean-up Day Appreciation

A special thanks to all that helped clean up the campus on Saturday May 17th. If you missed this great opportunity to serve (and work on your tan), watch for next month's Clean-up date. I'd like to thank A&J Landscaping for their donation of mulch.

–**Joey Scavuzzo, Buildings & Grounds**

CCD NEWS

To allow for the ordering of new books, the deadline for CCD registration for the 2008-09 year will be July 31, 2008.

Tuition will remain at \$125 per family. Any new registrants must bring their baptismal certificate. Also, anyone interested in being a teacher or CCD aide may call the rectory at 662-9338.

Mrs. Adeline Gramlich, CRE

Expanded Rectory Hours

We are now open until 7pm during the week for your "after work" convenience for Mass Cards (feel free to call first to assure a volunteer is here). We are still short 1 volunteer for **Wednesday.** If interested, you may call Jim @ 662-9338.

Memorial Day Closings

On Monday, May 26th we will observe Memorial Day, a national holiday. The School & Rectory will be closed.

Cyclone Disaster Relief Efforts

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is supporting the relief efforts of Caritas Internationalis in **Myanmar** in response to the devastation caused by **Cyclone Nargis.** CRS is the official humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church. To donate, please call 1-877-HELP-CRS (1-877-425-7277), donate online at www.crs.org or send a check to Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203-7090. Memo line: Southeast Asia Natural Disaster. For more information contact Jennifer Dyer, Diocesan Director for CRS, at (856) 342-4107.

SPIRIT ALIVE AT LOURDES: TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

Presenter: Sr. Ruthann T. O'Mara, SSJ
Tuesdays: June 3, 17, 24 and July 1 - Time: 12:30 PM

RELAXATION PRACTICE IN NATURE

Come to one or all of the above sessions and relax in the meditation garden at the Little Portion. Relaxation Session will include: deep breath practice, muscle relaxation and meditation.

Tuesday: June 3 (only)

Time: 5:30 PM OR 7 PM

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER AND MEDITATION

This session will explore several different definitions of prayer, a mindfulness practice and a walking meditation

Tuesdays: June 17, 24 and July 1

Time: 5:30 PM OR 7:00 PM

WALK WITH THE MYSTICS

Befriend one or all of three ordinary soul guides:
Francis of Assisi,

Clare of Assisi and/or Julian of Norwich ~ good companions for your

spiritual journey! Short input, meditation garden experience and group conversation. Bring a friend!

June 17: Francis of Assisi

June 24: Clare of Assisi

July 1: Julian of Norwich

SPIRIT ALIVE AT LOURDES: SUMMER THURSDAYS

Thursdays: June 5, 19, and 26:

Time: 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

GARDEN MEDITATIONS

Take this one-hour from your busy day to slow down and enter into a slower pace. Group meditation followed by personal prayer time in the Little Portion Meditation Garden will enhance your spiritual experience.

Where: Lourdes Wellness Center, Little Portion, 1049 Haddon Ave., Collingswood, NJ
(opposite the 1st Colonial National Bank, 2nd floor)

All Programs: one hour

Donation: \$10.00 per session

Pre-register with Celeste at: 856-869-3125 asap

Stewardship Reflection

“Stewards Give to the Poor From Their Heart”

“The needy will never be lacking in the land; that is why I command you to open your hand to your poor and needy kinsman in your country.” -Deuteronomy 15:11

Stewards ask God for wisdom to understand that their treasure here on earth is a gift from Him. Knowing this in your heart will change your life forever. God does not want your money. He wants your heart. For from your heart you will joyfully open your hand to your poor.

Father's Day Spiritual Bouquet

Can you believe it? Father's Day is fast approaching! What better way to honor our fathers who have been a blessing to us in so many ways by offering them the opportunity to share in the spiritual benefits offered during Masses celebrated in observance of Father's Day.

Please use the Spiritual Bouquet envelope and send it back to the Parish Office with your donation and the name of the special father. The envelope will be placed on the Altar and your Dad will be remembered at the Masses during the month of June. **-Father Vince**

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A weekly continuing series)

Part 1, The Profession of Faith

Section 1, “I Believe” – “We Believe”

Chapter 2, “God Comes to Meet Man”

50 By natural reason man can know God with certainty, on the basis of his works. But there is another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers: the order of divine Revelation.¹ Through an utterly free decision, God has revealed himself and given himself to man. This he does by revealing the mystery, his plan of loving goodness, formed from all eternity in Christ, for the benefit of all men. God has fully revealed this plan by sending us his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

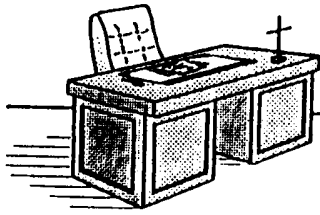
Article 1, The Revelation of God

I. God Reveals His "PLAN OF LOVING GOODNESS"

51 "It pleased God, in his goodness and wisdom, to reveal himself and to make known the mystery of his will. His will was that men should have access to the Father, through Christ, the Word made flesh, in the Holy Spirit, and thus become sharers in the divine nature."²

52 God, who "dwells in unapproachable light", wants to communicate his own divine life to the men he freely created, in order to adopt them as his sons in his only-begotten Son.³ By revealing himself God wishes to make them capable of responding to him, and of knowing him and of loving him far beyond their own natural capacity.

53 The divine plan of Revelation is realized simultaneously "by deeds and words which are intrinsically bound up with each other"⁴ and shed light on each another. It involves a specific divine pedagogy: God communicates himself to man gradually. He prepares him to welcome by stages the supernatural Revelation that is to culminate in the person and mission of the incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.



From the Desk of
Father Vincent Orum, AJ

BLESSED MOTHER AS A MODEL OF CHRISTIAN PARENTING

One of the few biblical texts on the life of Jesus as a child found in Luke's Gospel commonly known as "Infant Narrative" by the Biblical Scholars presents the role of Mary as a mother. The entire Chapter two of Luke describes Mary's care and concern for the child Jesus and more particularly her attitude as a devout Jew. In verses 15-19, the Shepherds visit Mary and the child Jesus and tell her of the Angel's message and Luke notes that, **"Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."**

The account of presentation as found in verses 22-40 and the finding of the child Jesus in the Temple (41-52) again alludes to Mary's significant role in her child's life as a devout, committed and responsible Jew. She knew that she had to take her child into the temple as required by the law of Moses in Exodus 13, 2:12 and 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Numbers 3:47-48 but more precisely respecting the wishes of her son to remain in the Lord's house: **"Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Lk 2:49.** Again Luke concludes that, **"and his mother kept all these things in her heart."** Lk 2:51

Parents today have a lot to learn about their responsibility as first educators of faith to their children like Mary to Jesus! There is a growing tendency among many parents to abdicate their commitment as promised at the time of baptism for their children to bring them into the upkeep of their faith.

There is no wonder that even though many parents are enthusiastic about educating their children in Catholic schools, the follow up of their Christian upbringing at home through cherished Christian family traditions leave a lot to be desired! What messages do Christian parents give their children when on weekdays they are fired up to bring them into Catholic Schools for a Catholic upbringing, but care less to attend with their children the Sunday and Holydays of obligation?

In Mathew 19:14 Jesus says, **"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."** When parents disregard their responsibility of bringing children to church or even practice the faith, it's a direct action against the exhortation of the Lord to let the children come to him and denial of the basic promise a parent made at the time of Baptism!

We must remember the warning of Jesus about misleading children in Mathew 18:6-8, **"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of things that cause sin! Such things must come, but woe to the one through whom they come!"**

I want to conclude with a quotation from the exhortation letter by Pope John Paul II on family life (*familiaris consortio*) November 22nd, 1981 no 36: **"The task of giving education is rooted in the primary vocation of married couples to participate in God's creative activity: by begetting in love and for love a new person who has within himself or herself the vocation to growth and development, parents by that very fact take on the task of helping that person effectively to live a fully human life. As the Second Vatican Council recalled, "since parents have conferred life on their children, they have a most solemn obligation to educate their offspring. Hence, parents must be acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their children. Their role as educators is so decisive that scarcely anything can compensate for their failure in it. For it devolves on parents to create a family atmosphere so animated with love and reverence for God and others that a well-rounded personal and social development will be fostered among the children. Hence, the family is the first school of those social virtues which every society needs."**

The right and duty of parents to give education is essential, since it is connected with the transmission of human life; it is original and primary with regard to the educational role of others, on account of the uniqueness of the loving relationship between parents and children; and it is irreplaceable and inalienable, and therefore incapable of being entirely delegated to others or usurped by others."

