

St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Parish Clergy & Religious

Reverend Vincent Orum, A.J., Administrator
Deacon Ernest Picknally
Deacon Raymond Ellis
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: ecclisia@comcast.net
Website: www.StStephensPennsauken.com

June 1, 2008 – 9th Sunday of Ordinary Time

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 June 2, 2008**
9:00am For the Good Intentions of Michael Dees r/b Grandmother
- TUESDAY June 3, 2008**
9:00am
- WEDNESDAY June 4, 2008**
9:00am Charles Horn (2nd Anniversary) r/b His Sister Evelyn & Son-in-Law Chuck
- THURSDAY June 5, 2008 (Novena to follow)**
9:00am Anna Dippolito r/b Family
- FRIDAY June 6, 2008 (First Friday of the Month)**
9:00am Florence Marchione r/b Brian & Kathy Protich
- SATURDAY June 7, 2008**
9:00am
4:30pm God's Blessings on Merged & Closed Parishes of our Diocese r/b Sam, Nancy & Catherine Thelma & Wally Baker r/b Loving Daughter, Elaine
- SUNDAY June 8, 2008 (10:30am is Graduation Mass)**
9:00am People of the Parish
10:30am Msgr. Joe O'Connell r/b The Scavuzzo Family Joanne Olshan r/b Jim & Janice Rotondo
4:30pm Frances Shea r/b The Riviello Family

The Sanctuary Candle this week is in Memory of Kenneth Miccarelli.

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 24/25, 2008:	\$6,017.40
Comparison May 26/27, 2007	\$5,743.90
Budgeted Weekly Collection:	\$7,200.00
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:	\$6,482.77

House of Charity information: (856) 583-6128

House of Charity: YTD: \$51,630 (94% 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 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:

- 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.**

	<p><i>Next 3 Young Adult Masses:</i> June 15, July 20 & August 17 All 3rd Sundays @ 4:30pm</p> <p><i>Info: Tery Mattered (856) 488-6357</i></p>
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Ministry Schedule for June 7/8

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: E. Mattered, T. Miller, R. Garofalo
EM's: T. Veneziani, M. Baratta, P. Antonelli, The Heiningers
Lectors: P. Palazzo, C. Mattered

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: D. Massie, C. Rosario, C. Hearn
EM's: S. Marano, R. Davis, J. Rosario, R. Leone, K. Layton
Lectors: D. Steinmetz, J. Robinson

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: L. Fagan, C & R Aleszczyk
EM's: C. Otto, L. Solano, L. D'Alessandro, The Fagans
Lectors: C. Otto, M. Link

Sunday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: W. McHugh, E. Pandola
EM's: M. Novoa, P. Petronis, D. Caruso
Lectors: The McHughs

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

June 8th bulletin deadline: June 2nd @ Noon

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



50/50 Summer Cash Raffle

Congratulations to the newest members of the Ten Tall Club on selling ten or more tickets:

- Sr. Bernadette M. Leahy
- Gallichio Family
- Haas Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Dan Steinmetz
- Rita Vogt
- Mrs. Alfedra Novak

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

- 6/2-Monday-9am Mass
- 6/3-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
- 6/4-Wednesday-9am Mass
- 6/5-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena, 7:15pm Choir
- 6/6-First Friday-9am Mass, Adoration until 7pm
- 6/7-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass, 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
- 6/8-Sunday-Masses @ 9am, 10:30am (Grads) & 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 Maryann @ 235-1423 for the month of June.

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.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEES

Sister Ruthann will meet with all the Chairpersons for the Spiritual Life Committees after any one of the Masses Saturday, **June 21st or Sunday, June 22nd**. Meeting Place: Side Chapel in the church after Mass.

Stewardship Reflection

"Stewards Plan Their Giving"

"Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share, thus accumulating a treasure and good foundation for the future, so as to win the life that is true life."

-I Timothy 6:18-19

We are constantly encouraged to plan our lives. Plan for a career. Plan for vacation. Plan your retirement. There is nothing wrong with this as it is a rather good stewardship. However, failing to plan to use one's giving and to do good works is to fail in a major matter of finding true life.

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.

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.

Bishop Eustace Summer Advantage

Bishop Eustace Prep will run its annual summer advantage enrichment program in English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Computers. The Eustace Summer Advantage is for students who have successfully completed 6th, 7th & 8th grades. We will hold two sessions: June 23 to July 10 and July 14 to July 31. The program runs from 9:00am to 1:45pm and the cost is \$560 per session. For more information, contact the program director, Mr. Joseph Marquart @ (856) 662-2160, x238.

591-StStephen

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

This Friday, **June 6th** is the First Friday of the Month. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin after the 9am Mass and continue until 7pm.

Pastoral Council News

You are all invited to visit the Parish website to review the minutes of our recent Pastoral Council meeting as well the minutes of previous meetings. This gives you a good glimpse of the issues with which we are currently deliberating as well as exciting ideas for opportunities in the near future. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 7:00pm at Stonegate**. As always, your are invited to attend.

Kudos to the Ministry Fair Committee for a well planned and organized event. Thanks to the Ministry chairpersons and their members for all of their efforts. However, attendance from the Parish in general was disappointing as was the turn out for the Parish cleanup on May 17th. Much was accomplished at both events and my disappointment is not a criticism but merely an observation. It is not too late for you to become involved, to serve in some way and contribute to our vibrancy. See the sign-up sheet in the Church lobby.

Are we, as a Parish community, content to trudge on in familiar, rutted pathways that may no longer lead us where we want to or need to go? Should our goals be blandness and mediocrity? Should we walk together, where others have not walked, with our Faith first and foremost to lead our way?

See you at the 50/50 Raffle Wine & Cheese social on June 7th. Still time to sell those raffle tickets!

Rich McKean
Pastoral Council President

Word of Life Bulletin Briefs

Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbor is the holiest object presented to your senses. If he is your Christian neighbor, he is holy in almost the same way, for in him also Christ ... the glorifier and the glorified, Glory Himself, is truly hidden.

-C.S. Lewis
"The Weight of Glory"

Divorce and abortion are, of course, different choices, at times made in difficult and dramatic circumstances.

They often give rise to traumas and are a source of profound suffering for the people who make them. They leave wounds that mark life indelibly. The Church has the primary duty to approach [such] people with love and delicacy, with kindness and maternal concern, in order to announce the merciful closeness of God and Jesus Christ. Yes, the gospel of love and of life is also always the gospel of mercy.

-Pope Benedict XVI
Address to the International Congress
"Oil on the Wounds"
April 5, 2008

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)

II. The Stages of Revelation

In the beginning God makes Himself known

54 "God, who creates and conserves all things by his Word, provides men with constant evidence of himself in created realities. And furthermore, wishing to open up the way to heavenly salvation - he manifested himself to our first parents from the very beginning."⁶ He invited them to intimate communion with himself and clothed them with resplendent grace and justice.

55 This revelation was not broken off by our first parents' sin. "After the fall, [God] buoyed them up with the hope of salvation, by promising redemption; and he has never ceased to show his solicitude for the human race. For he wishes to give eternal life to all those who seek salvation by patience in well-doing."⁷

Even when he disobeyed you and lost your friendship you did not abandon him to the power of death. . . Again and again you offered a covenant to man.⁸

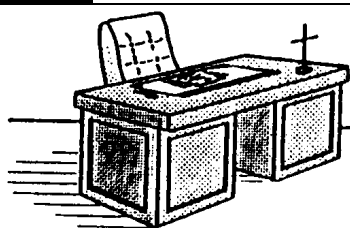
The Covenant with Noah

56 After the unity of the human race was shattered by sin God at once sought to save humanity part by part. The covenant with Noah after the flood gives expression to the principle of the divine economy toward the "nations", in other words, towards men grouped "in their lands, each with [its] own language, by their families, in their nations".⁹

57 This state of division into many nations is at once cosmic, social and religious. It is intended to limit the pride of fallen humanity¹⁰ united only in its perverse ambition to forge its own unity as at Babel.¹¹ But, because of sin, both polytheism and the idolatry of the nation and of its rulers constantly threaten this provisional economy with the perversion of paganism.¹²

58 The covenant with Noah remains in force during the times of the Gentiles, until the universal proclamation of the Gospel.¹³ The Bible venerates several great figures among the Gentiles: Abel the just, the king-priest Melchisedek - a figure of Christ - and the upright "Noah, Daniel, and Job".¹⁴ Scripture thus expresses the heights of sanctity that can be reached by those who live according to the covenant of Noah, waiting for Christ to "gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad".¹⁵

591-StStephen



*From the Desk of
Deacon Ernest Picknally*

The Sacred Heart of Jesus

The month of June has been set aside by the Church to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On Friday this past week, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart. Many of you probably participate in the First Friday devotions to the Sacred Heart.

One might ask, why do we single out the Heart and not the head or the whole body of Jesus for our special devotion? After all, the heart is just another organ in our body, although one of the most important for without a beating heart our entire body ceases to function. From ancient times, the heart has been considered the seat of our thoughts, our emotions, our feelings, our love, even our very being. We often see the heart symbol take the place of the word "love".

The heart can also be the place from which personal sins come forth. In Matthew's Gospel, we hear Jesus telling the crowds who were accustomed to the Jewish dietary restrictions that it wasn't what they put into their mouths which defiled them, but what came out of their mouths from their hearts that mattered; that it was from the heart that many sins originated. (Mt. 15:18).

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we see the perfect love that God has for man. Devotion to the Sacred Heart was mentioned by some spiritual writers as early as 900 years ago and probably existed before that. But popular devotion to the Sacred Heart began a little over 300 years ago when a French nun, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, who was very prayerful and practiced penance, had several visions and in one of them Jesus showed her His Heart with a crown of thorns, encircled by flames and topped by a cross --- the image we see today in pictures and statues. Jesus told her to practice devotion to His Sacred Heart and teach others to do so. He did this to bring men and women to love Him and to give to all humans the riches of His love and mercy.

As happens with so many saints who have been blessed by God with special appearances, St. Margaret Mary was disbelieved at first, but after her superiors and others examined into it, it began to be accepted and spread. A little more than 100 years after her death, Pope Pius V approved the devotion to the Sacred Heart and granted indulgences to those who practiced it. Even before that, however, attempts were made to have a special feast day in honor of the Sacred Heart but it wasn't until 1765 that a number of churches were permitted to celebrate this feast and in 1856 the whole world was given permission to celebrate this feast day. Under Pope Leo XIII, in 1889, the feast day was raised to a solemnity as it is today. Margaret Mary Alacoque was declared a saint by Pope Benedict XV in 1920.

What is this devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus? Is it veneration as we have for the Blessed Mother or the many saints? No, this is truly adoration and worship as we have for the Blessed Sacrament because we adore Jesus' Heart which is an integral part of and inseparable from Him. It is part of His human nature and united to His divine nature. As mentioned above, the heart is considered the source of our emotions, feelings, etc. So, when we worship the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are worshipping the pure love of God for us and we are called to love Him with all our heart in return. As St. John instructs us in his first letter, "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." (1 John 4:16)

