

St. Stephen Parish

6300 Browning Road - Pennsauken, NJ 08109



Pastoral Staff

Reverend Vincent Orum, AJ, Administrator
Reverend Thomas Kiely, In-Residence
Permanent Deacon Ernest Picknally
Sister Bernadette Mary Leahy, SSJ
Mrs. Patricia Higgins, Principal
Mrs. Adeline Gramlich, CRE

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

June 21, 2009 – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 Summer Hours - Monday thru Thursday 9am-4:30pm

Friday 9am-Noon (thru Sept. 4)

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 June 22, 2009 (Presider: Fr. Godfrey)
9:00am Doris Thompson r/b Sr. Bernadette Leahy, SSJ

TUESDAY June 23, 2009 (Presider: Fr. Tom)
9:00am Arnold Black & Susan Fitzpatrick r/b Family

WEDNESDAY June 24, 2009 (Presider: Fr. Godfrey)
9:00am Matthew Marchione r/b Family

THURSDAY June 25, 2009 (Presider: Fr. Godfrey)
9:00am + Novena Good Intentions of Cody Dees r/b Grandmother

FRIDAY June 26, 2009 (Presider: Fr. Tom)
9:00am Bill Buffington r/b The Leon Palo Family

SATURDAY June 27, 2009
9:00am Good Intentions of the People of the Parish
(Presider: Fr. Tom)

4:30pm Patricia Casper-Drewek r/b Catherine, Nancy & Sam
Bill Buffington r/b The Pandola Family
(Presider: Fr. Godfrey)

SUNDAY June 28, 2009
9:00am Norman & Phyllis Pennestri r/b Jim Pennestri
Kelly Huerta r/b The McHugh Family
(Presider: Fr. Godfrey)

10:30am Robert Gottschall r/b Sam & Nancy Loperfido
Irene & Jack Jennings r/b John & Marie Kerwick
(Presider: Fr. Godfrey)

***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.

June 13/14, 2009 Attendance/Collection	580 /	\$4,762
June 14/15, 2008 Attendance/Collection	521 /	\$5,928
Budgeted Weekly Collection:		\$6,923
Actual Y-T-D Weekly Average:		\$5,713

Our chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is currently in need of a Chairperson for that ministry. If you are interested, kindly call the rectory at 662-9338.

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 Alessandroni, 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., 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, Frank & Louise Pigliacelli, Leonard Rebilas, Jean Rooney, Rosemarie Rosolia, Raphael Rubin, William Sauer, Carmella Scrivani, Mary Jo Stedrak, Emilio Terzini, Julian Terzini, Mary Terzini, Lillian Tomarchio, Daniel Topper, Adelaide Travia, Margaret Trifaro, Anthony Vocale, Jean Wenstrom.

Ministry Schedule for June 27/28

(Monthly schedules are available online on our church website)

Saturday, 4:30pm

Altar Servers: T. Mason, E. Mattera
EM's: A. Knight, L. Heininger, The Pandola's
Lectors: J. Messina, P. Krohn

Sunday, 9:00am

Altar Servers: K. Starts, G. Schwankert, E. Corbett
EM's: S. Marano, N. Schmidt, S. Mufalli, R. Davis
Lectors: The Zieglers

Sunday, 10:30am

Altar Servers: The Coars
EM's: L. Solano, T. Scavuzzo, The Fagans
Lectors: J. Scavuzzo, C. Otto

Weekly Bulletin Deadline: **Monday @ Noon**
Full-page 1-sided Bulletin Inserts: **10 days before (Friday, 10am)**

Next Special^{2nd} Collection:
August 9, 2009: "Air Conditioning Fund"



2009 House of Charity Appeal Y-T-D	\$34,891 (64%)
2009 House of Charity Goal	\$55,000
Total Number of Family Pledges:	142
Average Pledge per Family:	\$246

Our New Class of Altar Servers!

We are now recruiting new altar servers for summer training. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server (grades 3-8), please call the rectory at 662-9338.

This Week @ St. Stephen's

6/22-Monday-9am Mass
 6/23-Tuesday-9am Mass, 7pm Rosary
 6/24-Wednesday-9am Mass
 6/25-Thursday-9am Mass/Novena
 6/26- Friday-9am Mass, **Rectory closes @ Noon** (Summer Fridays)
 6/27-Saturday-8am Men's Prayer Group, 9am Mass,
 3:45-4:15pm Confession, 4:30pm Mass
 6/28-Sunday-Masses at 9am & 10:30am

Lost & Found Alert

Lost a **bracelet** recently? Call Dennis at (856) 745-3162.

Art & Environment Ministry

Anyone interested in donating flowers for the altar to mark an **Anniversary, Christening or Memorial Mass**, please contact Maria Haas at 665-8393. **All are welcome to join the A&E ministry by calling 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 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 June 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

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 info, call Betty McWilliams @ 665-3202.**



On March 16th, Pope Benedict XVI announced that the Church will celebrate a Year of the Priest beginning June 19, 2009 and concluding June 19, 2010. He named **Saint John Vianney** as the patron of this year. As a parish, we want to be a part of this celebration in a meaningful way. We believe this jubilee year is a wonderful opportunity to recognize and to honor all the priests in the Church and in our diocese, who touch and transform our lives, who bring us Christ in the holy sacraments, and who act in His place now on this earth. When was the last time you let the priest(s) in your life know how much their service and sacrifice has meant to you and to your family? We also hope that the year helps to foster an increase in vocations to the priesthood.

Shortly each family in our parish will have an opportunity to pray for a particular priest in our diocese. We will also begin reciting a Prayer for Vocations at our liturgies. Since St. John Vianney is the patron for this celebration year, we will provide you with information about this saint and a list of suggested readings for adults and children. There will a Novena to St. John from July 27th to Aug. 4th.

We will announce any other events in conjunction with this jubilee year as plans are finalized Please join us in making this a special one as we honor our priests and pray for vocations.

St. Stephen's Liturgy Committee

Service Hours Available

Anyone in need of service hours is asked to call the rectory at 662-9338. **Project: TLC for our rose garden!**

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.**

2 Stonegate Bus Trips!

Tuesday, June 23, 2009 to Philadelphia Park Casino

Leave Stonegate at 10:45am,depart Casino at 3:45pm

\$18 per person includes \$10 in playcards, \$3 toward food.

Deposit required, call Marianna @ 663-5599 to reserve!

Wednesday, July 15 to Tropicana Casino in Atlantic City

Leave Stonegate at 10am, depart Casino at 5:30pm

\$45 per person includes \$20 in coins,

the show "Fame" and buffet!

Deposit required, call Marianna @ 663-5599 to reserve!

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.

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*Mark your Calendars!*

**Parish Picnic, Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Parish Appreciation Dinner, Sat. November 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Anyone wishing to assist this planning committee is asked to call Liz McHugh at 486-4787.*

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2010 CCD Registration is Underway!

The fee remains at \$125 per family.

\$10 discount if registered by June 30, 2009

\$10 late fee if registered after September 9, 2009

Registration forms are available at the rectory and on our parish website. We are also in search of additional teachers, substitutes and teacher's aides. Please call Adeline Gramlich at 662-9338 if you are interested in joining our CCD Team!

Attention all 6th graders who will be 7th Graders this Sept:

Our program of studies for Confirmation will be starting this Fall. This is a 2-year program.

Confirmation will be held in the 8th Grade.

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**N.H.M. News**

Thank you for your support of the residents of Cooper River West with your prayers and donations of religious articles in the box in the church vestibule.

Parishioners are needed to join us on Wednesdays from 10am to Noon to bring the residents from their rooms to the Mass/Prayer Service. Eucharistic Ministers are also encouraged to serve at the Nursing Home. Prayerfully consider volunteering for **one Wednesday a month**. Call or Email us for more info:

**Lonnie & Mary Sharon – (856) 662-6049**

[Monacofamily4@comcast.net](mailto:Monacofamily4@comcast.net)

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Dressing in God's House

As we approach the forthcoming summer months of uncomfortable heat, let us please be mindful of our appearance in church. We generally leave an air-conditioned house, are transported in an air-conditioned car and end our journey in our air-conditioned church to worship as a parish family. Let us be careful not to be mistaken for a shore-destined vacationer!

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**Rectory Summer Office Hours**

Effective now thru Sept. 4, 2009,

the Rectory Summer Office Hours are

**Monday thru Thursday: 9:00am-4:30pm**

**Friday: 9:00am - Noon**

## Congratulations to the 2009 50/50 Raffle Winners!

|                        |         |                  |       |
|------------------------|---------|------------------|-------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize  | \$6,000 | Rosolia Family   | #3735 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize  | 720     | Dan Steinmetz    | #0388 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize  | 720     | Fran Conway      | #2609 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 720     | Pat Dunn         | #3120 |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 720     | Charles McDaniel | #1368 |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 720     | Dennis Rooney    | #5258 |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 240     | Edith Alessi     | #0174 |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 240     | Maria Mikros     | #1392 |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Prize  | 240     | Pat Pickering    | #0750 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Jennifer Gerst   | #3532 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Helen Villanueva | #4025 |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Bill Miller      | #1912 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Angelina Arena   | #2374 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Marc Miller      | #3982 |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Wayne Monsees    | #5265 |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Prize | 240     | Pat Petronis     | #1715 |

**The dollar amounts above are approximate, pending a final count of the income, expenses and State taxes.**

Thank you to all who participated in our Raffle!

A special thank you to the Fundraising Committee for all their hard work and effort to make our raffle a success.

**Our church's approximate net profit was \$12,000.00**

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Beginning Today

O good and gracious God, beginning today I will give you thanks and praise for all that has been.

Beginning today, I will appreciate the present moment as never before. With gratitude in my heart, I will see all things as your astonishing gift of providence and Love.

Beginning today, I will thank you for the many blessings You have given to us, most especially the gift of your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who gives Himself completely to us every day in the Eucharist.

Beginning today, I will stand up and be counted among your sons and daughters of faith.

Beginning today, I will do my part to make of your church on earth the Kingdom of Love and Compassion Your Son wills it to be. Bless my parish of St. Stephen today and everyday.

Thank You for calling me to be a part of your holy household. With your Love and your grace, may your will for us as a parish be fulfilled. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen

591-StStephen

Pastoral Reflection on our Call to Christian Discipleship

1.1. My Brothers and Sisters in Christ, allow me to begin my reflections with a quotation from the first letter of John which I find very touching in regards to what the Lord has done in my personal life as I strive to preach the Word of God and make known God's plans for us in Jesus:

"What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life--for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us--what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing this so that our joy may be complete."

I used this very quotation in 2001 when I wrote a pastoral letter to the Parishioners of Orussi Parish in Nebbi Diocese, Uganda where I was their pastor for four years. What prompted me was the experience of God's power that accompanied the four of us priests working in that Parish as we carried the evangelization in the entire neighborhood. We saw great signs and wonders as we witnessed physical healings, obedience of Mother Nature to our intercessions, and a multitude of conversions taking place within the 2 years of intense pastoral activity in the Parish! I realized then how God is so present and powerfully alive in our midst as we get ourselves involved in ministry. I realized then that our agenda is but "the Word of Life--Jesus Christ whom in his name I come to serve you in the Parish of Saint Stephen's.

It's because of Him that I make this letter to encourage one another in faith so that we can allow our faith to produce fruit mindful of what James wrote:

"What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ...so faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works. Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. You believe that God is one. You do well. Even demons believe that and tremble. Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? James 2:14-26

James' admonition and warning is very relevant to us today. It seems to me that the idea of faith accompanied by good works indeed calls us to a spirituality of being good stewards of God's gift. It calls to mind our attitude of being grateful and returning back to God the gift of our talents or creativity, time and treasure! Yet, in today's society and in our church there are increasing numbers of nominal Christians. It's not a rare phenomenon to find many disengaged baptized Catholics, some of whom even attend Sundays periodically. Is it not a reality that we have those who do not like to be bothered with any other activity, ministry in the church? How many people get involved with their church apart from Sunday obligations without feeling that too much is being asked of them?

James continues to say that ***"For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead"*** **James 2:26**. There is no justification whatever on our part when we fail to allow our faith to be accompanied by good works. Each one of us, in many ways, can count our blessings that God has bestowed upon us. Among the many blessings, we can glory in the gift of life, family, peace, abundance of natural resources, food etc. As someone said, "It is only in America that people hunt on a full stomach." We are blessed in this Country with abundance even as we are facing the onslaught of economic recessions and loss of jobs in comparisons to other Continents in the world! *(to be continued next week)*