

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road – Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Reverend Jose Manjakunnel

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Suzanne Underwood

Rel. Ed Classes – Wednesdays
6:15m – 7:30 pm

Parish Trustees

Rose Marie Davis
Earl Nolte

NEW Rectory Office Hours

Mon., Tues. and Thurs.
9:00am-4:00pm

Wednesday 9:30am-1:30pm

Friday 9:45am-2:00pm



Contact Info

Website:

www.ststephenpenssauken.com

Rectory Phone

(856) 662-9338

Emergencies

(856) 332-1476

(Accidents, Death or Dying)

Parish Email

ecclesia@comcast.net

Parish Secretary

Cherryl L. Summers

Parish Bookkeeper

Susan Maugeri

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.

Epiphany of Our Lord – January 8, 2023

Daily Mass: Monday thru Friday - 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

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

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm

Miraculous Medal Novena: Thursday after 9am Mass.

Eucharistic Exposition: Weekdays before the 9AM Mass
from 8:00AM – 9:00 AM

Parish Membership: Moving INTO the parish all are asked to register as soon as possible.

Moving WITHIN or OUT – kindly notify rectory.

Anointing of the Sick/Eucharist –

Upon request after the 4:30pm Mass in the Chapel.

Prior notification is necessary by calling the rectory. Also call the rectory if someone is sick or housebound. A Priest should be called if death is imminent.

Sponsors: Must be a Confirmed Catholic of at least 16 years of age in good standing and active. If married, must have been married in the Catholic Church.

Baptism: Call the Rectory for arrangements.

Funerals: Arrangements must be made directly with a Funeral Home after notifying the Parish.

Funeral planning brochures are available in the Rectory Office.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made with a priest one 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.

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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

One (1) Mass Intention limit per Mass except for 10:30am on Sunday which now has a maximum of four (4) intentions.

The 2022 Mass Book is open for intentions through December 31.

2023 Mass Book is open for intentions within one year of "today".

SUNDAY January 8, 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

9:00am James Pennestri r/b Edward & DonnaMarie Cabnet
10:30am Alan Britton r/b Diane & Ed
Walter Kittel r/b wife, Fran
Jennie & Arthur Catino, In Loving Memory
Sons Henry & Carl

MONDAY January 9, 2023
Dorothy A. Cerone r/b Michael Santeramo

TUESDAY January 10, 2023
9:00am In Loving Memory of Rick Taylor
r/b his wife & family

WEDNESDAY January 11, 2023
9:00am Norma Sayers r/b James F. Mullen, Jr.

THURSDAY January 12, 2023
9:00am Frances B. Lupinetti r/b People of the Parish

FRIDAY January 13, 2023
9:00am Norma Sayers r/b Edward Heinemsn

SATURDAY January 14, 2023
4:30pm Theobald M. Mignone r/b Donald Mignone

SUNDAY January 15, 2023
9:00am Paul Buondonno r/b sister
10:30am Louis & Josephine Buondonno r/b daughter

The Sanctuary Candle this week In Loving Memory of

**My uncle,
James Pennestri**



If you would like to contribute to the burning of a Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one, please call the parish office. Offering is \$10.00. Mass intentions are \$15.

Sanctuary Candle available – June 4

Masses available

*Weekends in January –
Sunday - 10:30 AM - 22,29*

To schedule mass intentions please call or stop by the parish office



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:

- Marie Allen, Ted Anderson, Paul Bonewicz,
- Lucille Buffington, Gloria Camarote,
- John Christy, Melissa Connelly,
- Athan Criaris, Dorothea Dodds, Rob Gerold,
- Joseph & Jeanne Gerst, Pat Gruber, Priscilla Handy,
- Ronald Heck, Wayne Hocking,
- Donna Kane, Rosemarie Leonardo, Sondra Lippi,
- Katelyn Lum, Nancy Loperfido, Cassidy Lovett,
- Frances Lipinetti, Ken Maminski, Anthony Midili,
- John Moffett, Ken Morris, Joy & Ed Morrisson,
- Yvonne Mulhern, Sarah Murawski, Bobby & Dee Phillips,
- Richard Pilla, Rey Rivera, Anita Rachubinski,
- Vincent Rossi, Dean & Mary Russell, Jean Henning Rutter,
- Louise Siciliano, Nancy Sonnie, Bill Spicher, Bob Soper,
- Cass Soper, Francis Soper, Peggy Tepper, Adelaide Travia,
- Michael Trost, Ronnie & Heather Upshaw, Rita Vogt,
- Maria Nhan T Vu, Barbara Weingard, Tom Weingard

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### A Special Thank You

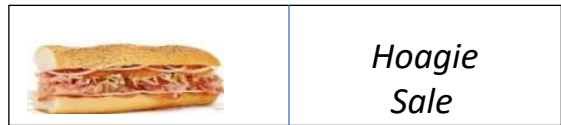
A special thank you to our Religious Ed teachers who give so much of their time, talent and love to our students.

You truly do God's work.

Suzanne

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Knights of Columbus



As a charity fundraiser, our Knights of Columbus Council will be selling fresh hoagies after all Masses the weekend of **January 7 – 8, 2023**. For information call 609-922-4349.

Dear Parishioners,

During the next few weeks we will be reflecting on the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit, namely, **Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control.**

Since these **nine fruits of the Holy Spirit** are closely associated with our lives, kindly take some time to read the article on each topic as it appears in the bulletin.

Thank you

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| <u>WEEKLY COLLECTION</u> |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| December 24-25           |                  |
| Cash/Envelope            | \$ 3,494.        |
| Christmas Collection     | \$ 5,207.        |
| <u>Online Giving</u>     | <u>\$ 707.</u>   |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$ 9,408.</b> |

| <u>WEEKLY COLLECTION</u> |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| December 31 – January 1  |                 |
| Cash/Envelope            | \$3,958.        |
| Christmas Collection     | \$ 400.         |
| <u>Online Giving</u>     | <u>\$ 603.</u>  |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$4,961.</b> |

## Automatic E-Giving

St. Stephen Parish continues to provide electronic giving, or E-Giving, as a simple, secure & convenient method for making contributions. E-Giving 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. If you are away or unable to attend weekend Mass, please continue to support our parish through E-Giving. Your sacrifice is greatly appreciated.

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St. Stephen's Prayer Line Belongs to You



We are here to pray for you.

For Prayer Requests in January
contact Bernice
@ 856-662-4641

St. Stephen Parish Music Ministry Notes



The Music Ministry is particularly awed by the beautiful music that has been written by countless, talented musicians, who express the wonder of the Birth of Christ through their compositions. This year we are focusing on several new hymns that present, through music and lyrics, the journey that leads Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, and the wonder of Jesus' first breath, as He begins the journey to fulfill the promise of His Father. We also will be singing our, and we hope your favorites. We also hope that our music helps you to move Through Advent with a sense of anticipation and prayerfulness. Thank you to all who were able to be with us for the Evening of Carols and Santa. The schedule for the Christmas Masses is posted un the bulletin. Please come early on Christmas Eve, as the Choir will begin Caroling at 9:30 PM, just a half hour before the 10:00 PM Mass. Remember, you are always welcome to join our musical family. Please contact the rectory or speak with one of our music ministers Blessed Christmas to all of you. Thank you so much for your support of our ministry.

Nancy Werner-Kaiser
Music Director

THE TRAIN (Journey of Life)

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents,
and we believed they always traveled at our side,
however, at some station our parents will step down
from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train,
and they will be significant – siblings, friends,
children, and even the love of our life.

Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum.
Others will go so unnoticed that we will not realize
that they vacated their seats.

This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy,
expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells.
Success consists of having a good relationship with
all passengers – requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is:
We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down.
So, we must live in the best way – love, forgive, and
offer the best of who we are.

It is important to do this because when the times comes for us to step down and
Leave our seat empty – we should leave behind memories for those who will continue to travel
on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey for 2023 on the train of life. Gather success and give lots of love.
Most importantly, thank God for the journey!

I thank you for being one of the passengers on our train.

I am sharing this little poem with you. It sums up our life in this world and it offers food for
thought for the year that just began.

Once again, I wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year 2023!

Fr. Jose

NINE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

PATIENCE

- Patience can be one of the most challenging fruits of the Spirit to cultivate. For most people, patience can be difficult in certain circumstances. Whether it is waiting in doctors' office past your appointment time, sitting in traffic or trying to get the kids to do their chores, patience is sometimes hard to come by.
- But really who has patience? All of us have been told at some point in our lives just be patient. When we are exhausted or worried, finding patience is probably the last thing on our minds, but it should really be the first. Losing patience is not an answer to the problem. Patience comes from a position of power. Parents exercise patience over children, teachers exercise patience over students. A person may have the ability to take revenge or cause trouble, but patience brings self-restraint and careful thinking. The opposite of patience is agitation, discouragement, a desire for revenge.
- When everything is going our way, it is easy to demonstrate patience. The Bible, however, praises patience as a fruit of the Holy Spirit which should be produced by all the followers of Christ. God is patient with all of us. Abraham patiently waited for the will of God in his life. The story of the prodigal son is a wonderful example of God's patience with us. None of us has ever come closer to exhibiting patience like God. The word patient is mentioned 70 times in the Bible. We are told in Psalm 37:7 "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." Ask God for the patience that is needed to get you through all the struggle, pain and trials of your daily lives.
- Patience does not develop overnight. God's power and goodness are crucial to development of patience. St. James encourages us to know that trials are His way of perfecting our patience.
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- How do we display the patience that is the Characteristic of Christ? The next time you are in a traffic jam, betrayed by a friend, or mocked for your faith, how will you respond? Take it easy. Finally, the best place where we can exercise our patience is home. Parents must treat your children with love and patience and children must love your parents especially the elderly parents with patience and kindness. Do not treat them as nuisance.

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