

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



**TEACHING WITH
AUTHORITY**

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.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 29, 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 2023 Mass book is open for intentions through December 31. 2024 Mass Book is open for intentions within one year of "today".

SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	January 29, 2023 Anthony Fanelli r/b Terry Marlin Ramon Gregorio r/b Family
MONDAY 9:00am	January 30, 2023 Communion Service
TUESDAY 9:00am	January 31, 2023 Communion Service
WEDNESDAY 9:00am	February 1, 2023 Communion Service.
THURSDAY 9:00am	February 2, 2023 Communion Service
FRIDAY 9:00am	February 3, 2023 Dorothy A. Cerone r/b Michael Santeramo Biagio DiNoto - birthday Remembrance r/b his wife
SATURDAY 4:30pm	February 4, 2023 Norma Sayers r/b Bethann Joniec
SUNDAY 9:00am 10:30am	February 5, 2023 Gloria Vendetti r/b husband, Anthony Dianna Lubitz r/b mother

The Sanctuary Candle this week For Healing of

Amelia & Branson



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 18, 25

Masses available

Weekends in February – 10:30 AM

5, 19, 26

Weekends in March – 10:30 AM – 5,12,19,26

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,
Ken Maminski, Anthony Midili,
John Moffett, Ken Morris, Joy & Ed Morrisson,
Yvonne Mulhern, Sarah Murawski, Eddie Oliveras, Sr.
The Perez Family, 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, Lillian Weingard
Tom Weingard

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The Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center in the Cramer Hill section of Camden, offer English classes to our immigrant sisters and brothers. The Sisters are inviting you to participate in this ministry of teaching English. We are inviting adult volunteers to be present to our neighbors and share their love of the English language for 1 1/2 hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15-10:45 or evenings from 6:30 – 8:00. If you have a desire to make a difference in someone's life, are patient and have a sense of humor, please call Sister Clarisa at 856-338-8220 ext 102.

Thank you for considering this ministry.

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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1st Friday Adoration

FEBRUARY 3, 2023

immediately following the 9:00 AM Mass
until 12 Noon.

There is a Polish proverb that says, "You become the One you befriend."

Spending time in Adoration draws us into intimacy with Jesus. And as we get closer to Him, He gives us the wisdom and strength to serve His Church and the people He has placed in our lives.

Take a good look at your routine and find a way to include Adoration in your life. You will truly become the One you befriend.

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**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**January 21 – 22**

|                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Cash/Envelope</b>        | <b>\$3,440.</b>       |
| <b><u>Online Giving</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 743.</u></b> |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$4,183.</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 February
contact Diane
@ 856-308-8224

St. Stephen Parish
Music Ministry Notes
Winter 2023



As we enter the new year, we do so thanking God for all the blessings that he has bestowed on all of us. The members of the Music Ministry are especially grateful for the opportunity to share their music with our parish. In that spirit, we are actively seeking new members for our ministry. If you have always wanted to be a part of the music that supports and enhances the celebration of the Mass, and other liturgies, now is the time for you to choose to join us. There are many ways to contact us; speak with one of the music ministers, call the rectory office, speak with Fr. Jose, or send an email to nmwk1@hotmail.com. Please allow the Holy Spirit to inspire you and make this the year that you become a member of our Music Ministry family.

Nancy Werner-Kaiser
Music Director

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today's reading is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew's Gospel. The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God.

We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls "blessed" and "happy" are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. This Gospel is one of reversals. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

"Blessed" is sometimes translated as *happy*, *fortunate*, or *avored*. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favor is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. This news might have been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God.

GENEROSITY

- One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is generosity. Generosity is the state of the heart, not of one's wallet. This point is well illustrated in the story of the poor widow and the rich people in the gospel. Generosity is the quality of being kind and unselfish especially as it pertains to sharing money and other valuables with others. It is often said that the United States of America is a generous nation full of generous people. That is true. According to "Giving USA" charitable giving totaled 471.44 billion in 2020 despite the Covid pandemic which caused huge economic losses.
- It inspires me to see individuals live in the spirit of generosity, giving so much of themselves to help the good causes in which they believe. We are called to be generous. **"To whom much is given, much will be required of them (Lk: 12:48).** Generosity is unselfishness and expresses itself in sharing. It is extended to all, family and friends. God is the provider of all things. He is gracious and loves to bless His children. God's generosity is evidenced all around us. Our God is a lavish, generous and bountiful God who loves to give gifts to His children.
- When we look at His creation, we can catch a glimpse of God's overflowing lavish nature. God created this beautiful planet that is especially suited to sustain us and provide for our needs and pleasures. He supplies us with color, light, sound, air and the ability to taste and enjoy, hear, appreciate and be satisfied.
- Above all, God demonstrated His generosity when He offered His Son on the Cross as a sacrifice to atone for our sins. The gift of Jesus to sinful mankind was the ultimate act of generosity. As God is being generous, we are to be generous. Generosity can be manifested in many ways. We can give our time, our talents, our material resources, our hospitality and our friendship.

God challenges us to be generous because He wants us to receive the blessings that come from it. Jesus said, **"Give and it will be given to you."** For with the measure you give, it will be measured out to you. In our generosity, we are not to expect repayment of any kind. Our reward will come from the Lord, in His way and in His time.

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