

St. Stephen Parish

6306 Browning Road – Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Reverend Jose Manjakunnel
email: manjajose@gmail.com

Coordinator of Religious Education

Bill Mattia

(c) 856-685-9311

email: bdmattia@verizon.net
Rel. Ed Classes – Wednesdays

6:15pm – 7:30 pm

Parish Trustees

Rose Marie Davis

Earl Nolte

Rectory Office Hours

Mon., Tues., and Thurs.

9:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm

Friday 9:30am-12:30pm



He is Risen

Contact Info

Website:

www.ststephenpennsauken.com

Rectory Phone

(856) 662-9338

(856) 662-9339

Emergencies

(856) 332-1476

(Accidents, Death or Dying)

Parish Email

ststephenpen@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Donna M. Betz

Parish Bookkeeper

Susan Maugeri

Music Ministry Director

Nancy Gianfortune Werner

(c) 609-234-3766

email: nmwk1@hotmail.com

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.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord- April 5, 2026

Daily Mass: Monday thru Friday - 9:00am

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday – 4:00pm (*Reconciliation 3:15pm-3:45pm*)

Sunday – 9:00am & 10:30am

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

Miraculous Medal Novena: Thursday after 9AM Mass.

1st Friday Adoration: following the 9AM Mass for one hour.

Recitation of the Rosary: every Tuesday-7pm in the Church. ALL ARE WELCOME.

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 4:00pm 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 Communion.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mass Intentions: limit 2 per daily Mass and Saturday Vigil Mass; one for 9:00am Sunday Mass; 10:30am Sunday Mass-a maximum of four (4) intentions.

The 2026 Mass book is open for intentions through December 31, 2026. Mass Book is open for intentions within one year of "today".

SUNDAY April 5, 2026 +Resurrection of our Lord+ 9:00am Dennis Michael Fabritis r/b Angel

10:30am Eleanor Carter r/b Rich & Joanne DiBraccio

MONDAY April 6, 2026

9:00am NO MASS

TUESDAY April 7, 2026

9:00am Joseph & Elena Melfi r/b their Daughter

WEDNESDAY April 8, 2026

9:00am Norma Sayers r/b her Husband

THURSDAY April 9, 2026

9:00am Paul&Vincent Buondonno and Robert Golding r/b their Sister

FRIDAY April 10, 2026

9:00am Bill Underwood r/b his Wife

SATURDAY April 11, 2026

4:00pm Terrence Carr r/b Keith & Anne Knight

SUNDAY April 12, 2026 + Divine Mercy Sunday +

9:00am Roberto Bruno r/b Edith Bruno

10:30am The People of the Parish

The Sanctuary Candle this Week In Memory of

People of the Parish



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. Mass intentions are \$15.

Sanctuary Candle available - April - 12, 26/ May 17, 24

Mass Intentions Available:

Weekdays in April - 7,8,9,10,13,14,15,16,17,20,21,22,23,24

Weekends - April - Sat 4:00 - 11, 18,25/ May 2,9,16,23,30

May - Sun 9:00 - 17/ July 19,

April - Sun 10:30 - 12,19,26/ May 3,10,17,24

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:

- Ted Anderson, Sandra Bacon, Paul Bonewicz, Albert Brearey, Kathy Brown, Gloria Comarate, John Christy, Melissa Connelly, Peg Crimlis, Michael Davis, Henry Dickerson, Roseann DiGiovanni Stacy & Francine Eisenmann, Rob Gerold, Jeanne Gerst, Gerard Gruber, Pat Gruber, Priscilla Handy, Ronald Heck, Wayne Hocking, Reilly Joseph, Donna Kane, Gary Korus, Janet Lang, Jeanne Carroll Lawer, Rosemarie Leonardo, Sondra Lippi, Katelyn Lum, Cassidy Lovett, John Messina, Anthony Midili, Frank Miller, John Moffett, Joy & Ed Morrisson, Yvonne Mulhern, Sarah Murawski, Eddie Oliveras, Sr., Trudy Painter, The Perez Family, Bobby & Dee Phillips, Anita Rachubinski, Pat Riccardi, Rey Rivera, Vincent Rossi, Dean & Mary Russell, Jean Henning Rutter, Frank & Betty Schlegel, Louise Siciliano, Nancy Sonnie, Bill Spicher, Cass Soper, Bob Soper, Francis Soper, Peggy Tepper, Michael Trost, Heather Upshaw, Rita Vogt, Cathy Volpe, Maria Nhan T Vu, Barbara Weingard, Charles Weingard, Ed Weingard, Lillian Weingard, Tom Weingard, Jasper Whitney

ANYONE TURNED 73?

"Since turning 73, I found out that I needed to participate in the RMD (Required Minimal Distribution), of our retirement funds, and I had to pay tax on these distributions, but I could offset some taxes by designating some RMD to charities. So I recommend anyone who can, to designate some RMD to St. Stephen Church"

A Parishioner - donated \$350.

REMINDER!

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for supporting the Star Herald. When you make donations, please make check payable to ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Memo: Star Herald.

Thank You!

Report Sexual Abuse

An independent, toll free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the N.J. Division of Child Protection and Permanency and Law Enforcement.

For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, call:

1-800-964-6588

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is in need of a ride to church, please contact Sal Marano at 609-792-2291. If you can provide a ride to others, we would appreciate you contacting Sal as well.

Thank You!

SPECIAL THANKS!

The St. Stephen Choir expresses their heartfelt thanks to Mr. Richard Sayers, who gifted our beautiful robes and stoles! Richard donated in memory of his beloved wife, Norma. Every time we wear our robes, we'll remember Richard, Norma, and all of St. Stephen Parish – we are truly blessed to sing fully with you for our God!



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Stewards Grateful

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” COLOSSIANS 3:2

Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you because of your stewardship. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted. Don't let earthly things become a god before God. This is also the first commandment – I am the Lord your God, you shall not have any strange gods before me.

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 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 please contact April – Bernice – 856-662-4641



St. Stephen Parish Music Ministry Notes Spring 2026

Spring is a time of renewal and rebirth. More importantly, that is what Easter is all about. Jesus Christ dies and rises for us so that we can be renewed and reborn. Our Music Ministry Family knows that we are blessed by our Risen Lord to be a part of the ministry at St. Stephen Parish. It is our privilege to provide the music for our many liturgical celebrations. We especially enjoy the music of Lent and Easter. To have the opportunity to lift our voices to thank God for His unending love for us is a gift that each of us treasures. As members of the congregation, we appreciate your support of our ministry. This year we are especially grateful to Mr. Rich Sayers, who serves our parish as an Usher, and who generously gifted the St. Stephen Choir with beautiful robes and stoles. Rich donated the robes in loving memory of his wife, Norma, who loved to sing, especially at the celebration of the Mass. Every time we wear our robes, we'll remember that our ministry is blessed to sing for our God. We want to serve our parishioners in whatever way we can. As always, we welcome you to join us. Ours is a special ministry family and we would be pleased to have you with us. He is Risen, Alleluia! Nancy G. Werner Music Director

SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL - 2026

Dearly Beloved Parish Family,

With heartfelt appreciation, I extend my sincere gratitude to you for participating in the 2025 SJCMA appeal. Because of your overwhelming support, we reached the goal and received back **\$4,890**, which is 10% of the goal. This achievement is a true sign of your faith, generosity and commitment to the ministries that serve so many throughout our diocese.

The theme of this year's appeal is ***"Ministries of Mercy"*** as Bishop Williams mentioned in his letter. Through this appeal, our gifts become hope of the poor and homeless, assistance for struggling families, formation for seminarians, retired religious, support for our Catholic schools, and countless ministries that reach the most vulnerable among us. Your faithful giving ensures that the mission of Christ continues to flourish in South Jersey.

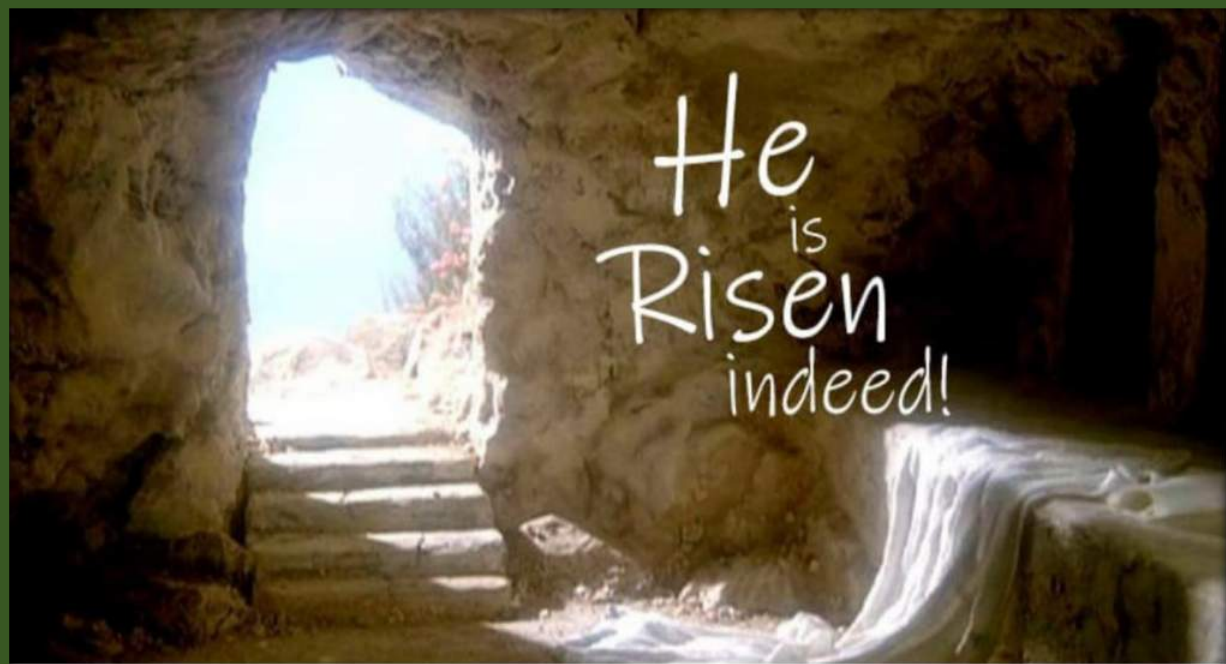
As we begin the 2026 Appeal, I ask every household in our parish to prayerfully consider making a gift within your capacity. **This year's parish goal is \$38,000.** I will be deeply proud of our parish community and of every individual who will choose to share their blessings to reach the goal. No gift is too small when it is offered with love. Together, we can share our blessings and make a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters.

May the Lord bless your kindness and multiply the blessings you so freely share.

**If you have any questions, feel free to contact our parish office or
Mr. Tom McHugh, parish coordinator of SJCMA.**

Email: Thomas.j.mchugh@outlook.com Phone: 856-296-2331

Fr. Jose



Easter is the heart of our Christian faith. On this day we celebrate the victory of life over death, hope over despair, and light over darkness. The resurrection of Jesus is not simply an event that happened long ago; it is a living reality that continues to transform our lives today. When the women went to the tomb early in the morning, they expected to find death and sorrow. Instead, they encountered an empty tomb and the joyful message: "He is not here; He has risen." In that moment, fear was replaced by hope, and grief was transformed into joy. This is the message of Easter for each of us.

In our own lives we often experience moments of darkness, times of struggle, uncertainty, and loss. Yet Easter reminds us that God can bring new life even from what seems hopeless. The resurrection assures us that suffering and death do not have the final word. God's love is stronger. Let us allow the light of Easter to enter the places we keep hidden. Easter also invites us to live as people of the resurrection. We are called to carry the light of Christ into our families, our communities, and our world. Through acts of kindness, forgiveness, compassion, and faith, we become witnesses to the new life that Christ has given us. As we celebrate this joyful season, may the risen Lord fill our hearts with peace, renew our faith, strengthen our hope and fill your days with peace. And may we share the joy of Easter with everyone we meet. Alleluia.

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
HAPPY EASTER TO ALL

Fr. Jose

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