

I'm Chuck Esposito. I'm happy to begin serving as St. Stephen's priest. I grew up in Penn Hills. My husband, John Ferraro, grew up in Sharpsburg where his father was the chief of police; he's the director of sales for a Chicago-based food manufacturer. I'm the oldest of three children. My sister Julie Madera and my brother-in-law Marland have three daughters; I really enjoy being their uncle. They have a company that manufactures displays used by many organizations around the country. My brother Jay Esposito has a tree removal business; he's kind of a local celebrity because of how hard he works. His girlfriend Monte Stone is an administrative assistant in Carlow University's School of Nursing. We were raised with worship as a part of every Sunday and holiday and I'm dreaming of helping the mission of St. Stephen's to be more and more known and enjoyed within and beyond the Wilksburg community.

I grew up enjoying the traditional Southern Italian cooking of my dad's family. My favorite food to this day is the Neapolitan-style baked artichokes my grandmother usually included in our Sunday and holiday feasts at her house. I like all types of food, though, and I'm almost always drinking iced tea with whatever I'm eating. When I can, I enjoy playing tennis. One of my still unfulfilled dreams is to learn to play jazz piano. I felt God calling me to the priesthood many years ago. I was ordained a deacon in 1998. After completing my M.Div. at the University of St. Mary of the Lake I was ordained a priest in 1999. I completed my S.T.L. degree there in 2002. I thoroughly enjoy studying theology. My favorite theologians include: John Milbank and Hans Urs von Balthasar.

My favorite hymn is "The Church's Mission," especially when it's sung to the Abbot's "Leigh" tune, but I like all kinds of music. For fun, dancing or while driving I like the 1980s music of my high school years. In the evening especially I like to listen to the 1960s jazz music my dad taught me to appreciate. My favorite voices include: Ella Fitzgerald, Sting, Seal, and Annie Lennox.

My mom was born and raised in New Kensington and my dad was born and raised in New Castle. They met in college at Duquesne University. My mom was a nurse and administrator at the Children's Institute in Squirrel Hill, and then at Children's Hospital. My dad was an elementary teacher in the City of Pittsburgh Public Schools at Weil School in the Hill District.

I was blessed to experience many cultures and diverse human experiences since my early childhood. The young people where my mom worked often had different ways of being mobile than mine; the young people where my dad worked were mostly African-American. I was their son and I was welcome to be their friend. They blessed me with a rich understanding of how being diverse increases the quality of the human experience. I have tried to spend my life continuing the good things that began in my early childhood. I dove into studying Spanish and chose it as my college major. Then I had the opportunity to live in Italy for my entire fourth year of college. I have cultivated my skill with languages and I'm fluent in both Italian and Spanish. I feel God calling me to connect my facility with Spanish to an evangelization effort between the Latino community and the Episcopal Church that will lead to Eucharistic celebrations in Spanish.

I hope this helps you to know me a little better. I look forward to learning more about you also. Let's bring our personality, our background and all our gifts and talents to the endeavor of strengthening the community of St. Stephen's. Let's celebrate the diversity within and all around us. Let's all be ourselves and, while growing on our journey of faith, fully enjoying what we can be together.