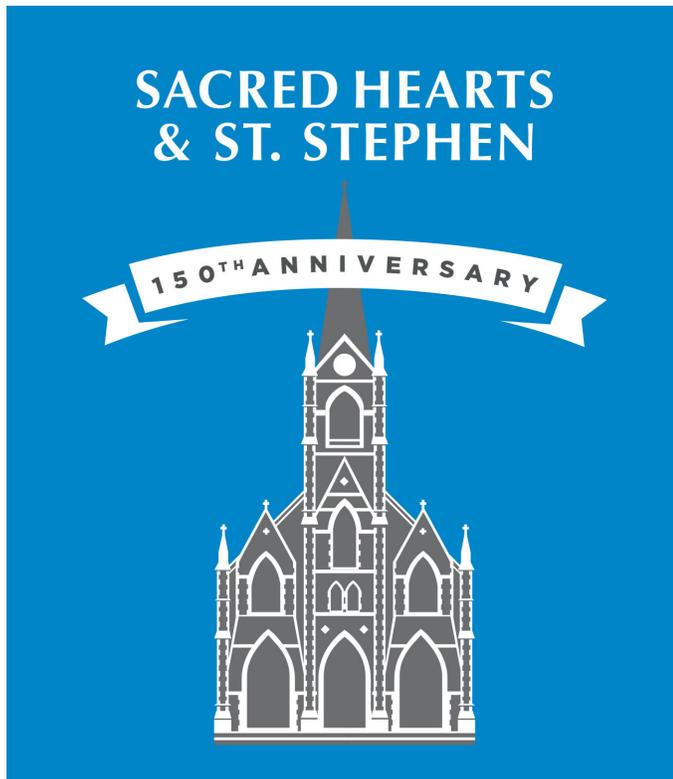

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



St. Stephen's – Founded 1866
Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Founded 1882

MASSES ON SUNDAYS:

8:00 AM 10:00 AM & 11:45 AM
5:30 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Monday 12:00 Noon
Tuesday thru Friday 8:30 AM Sat. 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4:45 P.M. as well as By Appointment.

**For Holiday and Special Mass Schedules, please call
the Rectory and press extension number 4 for specific**

Rectory: 108 Carroll Street

Brooklyn, N.Y 11231

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718-260-9233 fax

REV. MSGR. GUY A. MASSIE

Pastor

REV. VICTOR KOFI ASHIAGBOR

Associate

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

Director of Faith Formation

Religious Education

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

EVELYN TROESTER DEGRAF

Choir Director

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Administrator

LAURA RAMIREZ-GALEAS

Youth Minister

ANDREW DI MANSO

Sacristan

MICHAEL J. ENG

DONALD J. GLOCKNER, JR.

Parish Trustees and Advisors

BAPTISMS:

To prepare for the sacrament of Baptism, parents and godparents should plan to attend the 10:00 AM Mass on the second Sunday of the month followed by a Baptismal preparation meeting. Parents must come to the Parish Office with a copy of the birth certificate one month before your planned Baptism.

SICK CALLS:

Please call and arrange for the sacrament of anointing whenever anyone is seriously ill.

MARRIAGES:

Please call the rectory at least 6 months ahead for an appointment with a Priest.

ON LINE & CREDIT CARD GIVING: WWW.PARISH-GIVING.ORG.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Office closed Sunday

No evening hours at the present time.

**IF YOU WISH TO SEE A PRIEST, PLEASE TELEPHONE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
PLEASE REMEMBER SACRED HEART & ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.**

MASSES for the WEEK



DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

MON. MONDAY 22, 2016
 Noon Kenneth Pagan, Sr.
 BY: Friends of Firefighters,
 His Family & Friends

TUE. FEBRUARY 23, 2016
 8:30 Jacqueline Cohen
 Noon Vivian Cutrupi Aiello
 BY: Daniel & Alexandra Murphy

WED. FEBRUARY 24, 2016
 8:30 Happy Birthday Francesca Forte
 Noon Vincent J. Favorito
 BY: Family

THURS. FEBRUARY 25, 2016
 8:30 Rina Columbo
 BY: Louis Pepe & Joseph Cerato
 Noon Brett Smiley
 BY: Mike & Laura Eng & Family

FRI. FEBRUARY 26, 2016
 8:30 Jennie Laudani
 BY: The Reca Family
 Noon Sebastiano & Gaetana Platania
 BY: Mrs. Dora Zanzonico & Family
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

SAT. FEBRUARY 27, 2016
 8:30 Dr. Frank J. Zodda
 BY: His Children, Carolyn & John
 5:30 PM Carmine Graziani
 BY: Children, Grandchildren &
 Great Grandchildren

SUN FEBRUARY 28, 2016
 8:00 Julia Cuevas
 BY: Daughter & GrandDaughter
 10:00 Santa & Phil Castro
 BY: Loving Children & Grandchildren
 11:45 Pietro Alcaras
 BY: Tina & Nick Cinalli

Monday

Feb. 22nd Mass at Noon
 Feb. 22nd Rosarians Meeting @ 7:30 PM
 Rectory Hall

Tuesday

Feb. 23rd Mass at 8:30 AM
 Feb. 23rd Noon Mass

Wednesday

Feb 24th Mass at 8:30 AM
 Feb. 24th Noon Mass
 Feb 24th AA Meeting @ 7:00 PM
 Rectory Hall
 Feb.24th Children Choir Practice
 @ 5:45 PM
 Feb 24th Adult Choir Practice
 @ 6:45 PM

Thursday

Feb. 25th Mass at 8:30 AM
 Feb.25th Mass at Noon
 Feb. 25th K of C Council Meeting
 @ 7:30 PM Cabrini Hall

Friday

Feb 26th Mass at 8:30 AM
 Feb 26th Mass Noon
 Feb 26th Boy Scouts Mtg.
 @ 6:30 PM Cabrini Hall
 Feb 26th Stations of the Cross
 @ 7:00 PM

Saturday

Feb 27th Mass at 8:30 AM
 Feb 27th Confessions 4:45 PM
 Feb 27th AA Meeting @ 5:15 PM
 Rectory Hall
 Feb 27th Mass at 5:30 PM

Sunday

Feb 28th Mass at 8:00 AM
 Feb 28th Mass at 10:00 AM Family Mass
 Feb 28th Mass at 11:45 AM
 Feb 28th Generations of Faith Meeting
 @ 1:30 PM Rectory Hall

Sick Relatives & Friends

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish and community who are ill, hospitalized or in nursing home care, most especially:

Jonelle Bernardo,	Mario Austi
Raj Sandu,	Matthew Ruggiero
Michelle Laquercia	Antoinette DiBuglione,
Dolly Vergona,	Gladys Zodda
Angelo Vergona	Valerie Pace
Maria Carmen Morial	John Nigro
Judith Miller	Alissa Aquino
Michele Morea	Mary Tarsio
Carol DeMairo	Anthony Gambardella
Denise Deacomanolis	Rachel Valenti
Salvatore Gianino	Judith Latalladi
Irene Balen	Rosemary Love



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of February 21, 2016 has been donated

In Memory of
RAYMOND TORRES

Requested by: **Maureen Cantone**

SAVE THE DATES

- Stations of the Cross, Friday, February 19th at 7:00 PM
- Stations of the Cross with St. Paul's Episcopal Church-Friday, February 26, @ 7:00 PM
- 24 Hours for the Lord: Eucharistic Adoration & Reconciliation, Friday, March 5th (details to follow)
 - Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 11th @ 7:00 PM
- Day of Recollection: Discipleship & The Scandal of the Cross, Sat. March 12th (details to follow)
 - Common Call to Discipleship: Vespers at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sun. March 13th @ 4:00 PM
 - Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 18th @ 7:00 PM



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of February 21, 2016 have been donated

In Memory of
LOUIS VALENTINO, JR.

Requested by: **Sylvia & Louise**

ADORATION AND SILENCE IN CHRIST'S PRESENCE CHRISTO THERAPY

What is adoration? Why adore the Blessed Sacrament? What does it mean to Adore the Blessed Sacrament?

We as Catholics believe that Christ Jesus is really and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We believe that at the consecration at Mass, the bread and wine is changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus. This means that the Jesus who was born in Bethlehem, lived in Nazareth, preached in the land of Israel, the Jesus who was crucified on Calvary in Jerusalem and rose from the dead out of the tomb, is truly really present here in the Eucharist. We believe that the bread and the wine presented at the preparation of the gifts at Mass, through the working of the Holy Spirit present in the congregation and in the priest because of his ordination through the Eucharistic prayer, is changed into the Body and Blood of the Risen Christ. This is a great mystery. Yet if we believe that Jesus is present at Mass and that we encounter Jesus in this sacrament in a unique and wonderful way, I would never absent myself from Mass without a good reason. In the tabernacle in Church or in the Chapel, we reserve or keep the consecrated hosts which were not received during Mass. While reserved for the sick and dying, so the sacrament can be brought to them, the presence of these consecrated hosts give a place for deeper prayer and reflection on this great mystery of the Eucharist.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which is the real presence of Christ among us, gives us the place and the time to be in silence before the Lord Jesus. It is a place to come for peace of mind. It is the place to de-stress from our overly busy lives. It is the place to come and sit before the Lord to pour our hearts to him not unlike so many who sought him out in his own day as we read in the gospel. It is the place to simply give thanks, to enjoy the presence of the Lord. It is the place to allow God to look at us, to contemplate us, to enjoy the Divine Presence. Please join us for Adoration.

Adoration is every Saturday from 4 PM to 5:15 PM and First Fridays of the month from 7:15 AM to 8:30 AM and from 11:00 AM to noon time. Those who may not be able to attend Mass due to work obligations can at least pray for a time before the Lord. Come, be healed, experience peace and be refreshed.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND ADORATION

Please join us as we pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday Evenings of Lent @ 7:00 PM. Please join us for Adoration of the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament every Saturday from 4-5:15 PM

Stations of the Cross with St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Friday, February 26th @ 7:00 PM.



**A
NOTE
FROM
OUR
PASTOR**

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Dear Parish Community:

The Second Sunday in Lent presents us with the story of the Transfiguration of the Lord. This event is a major epiphany in the New Testament. Many would say that it is a proclamation of the Easter Faith of the Church. This event illustrates the post Easter preaching of the community. In this event, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Law (Torah) represented by the presence of Moses and the fulfillment of the Prophets represented by the presence of Elijah. While the New Testament invites us to answer the profound question: "Who is Jesus?" the Transfiguration presents us with the Father witnessing to the identity of Jesus.

CHRIST IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER!

Jesus, who we meet in the Transfiguration and the Jesus we meet in the Passion and the Jesus we encounter in the Easter Gospel are all the same Jesus. The Transfiguration tells us that the Body of Christ destroyed in the death of the cross will be made glorious. It tells that the disfiguring horror of suffering will be changed for the better. If the personal Body of Christ will triumph over suffering and death, the Church, known as the Body of Christ now disfigured by sin, scandal and division, will be transfigured. The Church will one day be made into the faithful people of God healed of all wounds. This is our hope based on Christ Jesus.

There are many lessons which can be drawn from this event. For our purposes, I would say that the lesson is change. With the grace of God, we can all change for the better. There are parts of our lives with which we may struggle. We may be in need of working on behaviors which ultimately disfigure us. We may be wounded in areas of our lives which are difficult to address, heal and grow through. There may be events in our past that we find ugly or embarrassing. We may be living through a particularly unpleasant situation at the moment. We may be terribly disappointed in ourselves or in those who we love. We may feel betrayed by someone close to us. We may know we need a change of heart, yet we do not know how this will happen. The Transfiguration tells us that with Christ, with the proper help, with humility and with the grace to seek the help, change for the better is possible and despair has no home where faith lives. Our daily Mass chapel which is located behind the statue of Mary and to the right of the Altar in Church, is called the Chapel of the Transfiguration. The reason for this dedication is that the Gospel proclaimed and lived, the Eucharist celebrated and lived has the power to change us for the better. In this chapel, there is an icon of the Transfiguration. Come visit the Lord present in this chapel, enjoy Christ's presence and allow Christ to see through you, to open your heart and to change you.

For all who strive to grow in the life of the Spirit, keep in mind we are in the struggle together. We assist each other through our mutual prayers, our witness to the faith and our good example.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

VEILING THE STATUES FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS IN LENT

This year, we will cover all images in church with a violet cloth. Many of us of a certain age are familiar with this practice. We will be returning to this practice not for nostalgic reasons, but rather to help us center our thoughts on the redemption won for us by Christ in His Passion, Death and Resurrection. The images not veiling are The Stations of the Cross, thus the center of our prayer life for this period of time will be The Passion and Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The statues will all be uncovered during the Gloria at the Easter Vigil.

Reflection on the reception of Communion under both species

Part 3

Holy Sacrifice....Holy Communion...

Each Sunday at Mass, just as we are invited to participate in Christ's sacrificial love, we are also called to enter into communion with Him, as we partake of His sacred Body and precious Blood. The first letter to the Corinthians continues: "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (10:18). When we consume the Bread of life, we are brought into communion, not only with the living God but with one another, all those with whom we worship at the table of the Lord. This sign of being nourished at the one table is powerful; it reminds us that we are, and challenges us to really be, one in Christ. Responding to the invitation to share in the Blood of Christ can be particularly helpful in awakening in us this experience of communion. On the purely natural level, there is something significant about being related by blood. There's the old saying "blood is thicker than water," and we all know people who call themselves blood brothers or sisters, who have made a serious commitment to one another, sometimes even with the symbolic exchange of blood. As we receive the Blood of Christ, we are compelled to see one another as family, spiritually united as brothers and sisters in Christ.

2015 TAX STATEMENTS

Tax statements reflecting your contributions to our parish for the 2015 Fiscal Year are now available. These statements are not automatically sent to all parishioners. Should you wish to receive a statement, kindly call the Rectory Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and speak to Rose Marie Foglia. Kindly have your envelope number available when making this request as well as verification of your current mailing address. Thank you!

Lent a time to:

REMEMBER, REFLECT, RECONCILE, RENEW RESURRECTION

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. Lent is a six week period of preparation for the great feast of Easter. The focus of Lent is our conversation of heart to the Lord. This life long process is highlighted at this season as a preparation for the celebration of the Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Since it is through the Death and Resurrection of the Lord that Jesus accomplished our redemption, EASTER is the foundation of our faith.

Lent is also the last six weeks of preparation of catechumens that is those preparing for the reception of the sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. While those preparing for the reception of these sacraments are to focus more clearly on their spiritual readiness, we who are already baptized are invited to focus on our baptismal promises. While the newly baptized will take their promises for the first time, we are asked to renew our promises and commitment to the Lord at the celebration of Easter. To help us concentrate on our commitment to the Lord Jesus, we are asked to pray, to give to charity and to fast. The focal point of these activities is Christ. These activities are aimed at centering us in the Lord Jesus.

WHERE ARE YOU? ASKED GOD TO ADAM.

This question is essential to consider in this Lenten Season. Where are you in relationship to God? Where are you in relationship to others? Where are you in relationship to yourself? God is forever searching for us. The Lord is seeking us out to share himself, his mercy and his love with us. Where are we?

To assist all of us in answering these challenging questions on this, our Lenten Journey, the following is a copy of our promises made at Baptism. Do you reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children? Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin? Do you reject Satan, the father of sin and the prince of darkness? In short, do you reject everything which is against the Gospel of the Lord Jesus? Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, Our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting? As we consider these questions, we might want to ask ourselves do I have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus in the context of the Sacraments, the Holy Scripture, the Church? Is my religious practice just cultural, traditional? Do I want my religious practice to grow into a deep relationship with the Lord Jesus? Can I confess my heart and innermost being that Jesus is Lord? Do I really reject evil? Do I really accept the Gospel? Do I really want to let go of hurts, anger and grudges? Where do I need to grow? We are all in this struggle together. Everyone reading this message is in the struggle to grow more deeply in the faith by keeping our eyes focused on Christ.

INFORMATION SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

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718-596-7750

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SOFTWARE

Microsoft Publisher® 2002

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TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 1 PM

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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