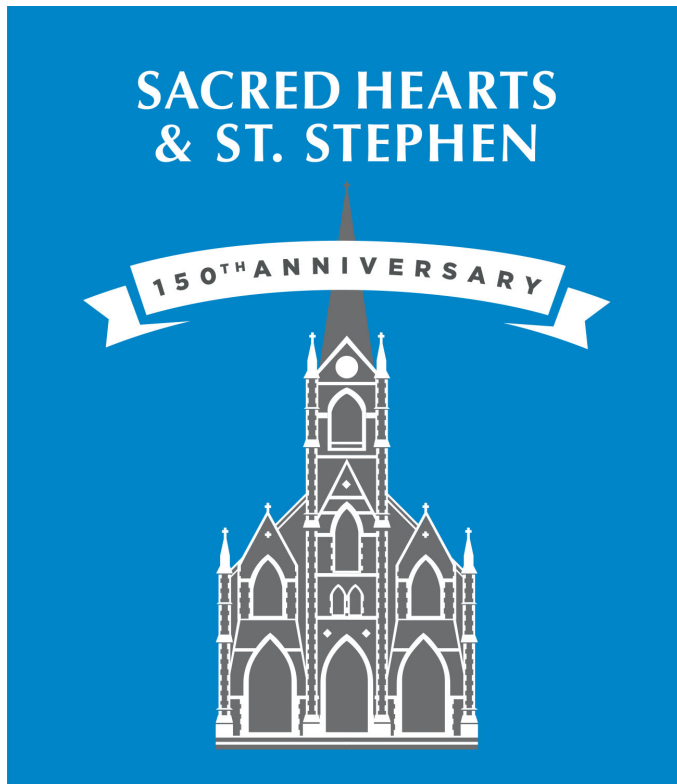

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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

718-596-7750 tel

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.**

MASSSES for the WEEK



DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

MON. MONDAY 29, 2016
Noon Terry Nola
BY: Lucy D'Ambrosio

TUE. MARCH 1, 2016
8:30 Joyce Sisto
Noon John Joseph Iacono
BY: The Reca Family

WED. MARCH 2, 2016
8:30 Joyce Sisto
Noon For the Intentions of
Geneieve & Joseph Locasio
BY: Dorothy Pacella

THURS. MARCH 3, 2016
8:30 Larry Scotto
BY: Family
Noon Deborah Boucher
BY: Uncle Richie & Aunt Susie

FRI. MARCH 4, 2016
8:30 Lia Cerato
BY: Louis Pepe & Son Joseph Cerato
Noon Felice & Anna Tesoriero & Children
BY: Loving Family
7:00 PM Suffering & Death of Christ
Eucharistic Adoration

SAT. MARCH 5, 2016
8:30 Fr. Vincent Termine
5:30 PM Loving Parents
Domenica & Anthony Pellicano
BY: Daughter Rita

SUN MARCH 6, 2016
8:00 Holy Spirit for the Parish
10:00 Dominic, Jenny & Michael Scotto
BY: Vinny & Anna Scotto
11:45 Pietro Reca
BY: Loving Family

Monday
 Feb. 29th Mass at Noon
 Feb. 29th Finance Committee Meeting
 @ 7:00 PM Parish House

Tuesday
 March 1st Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 1st Noon Mass
 March 1st First Penance Service
 (Practice) @ 7:00 PM Church
 March 1st Parish Council Meeting
 @ 7:00 PM Parish House

Wednesday
 March 2nd Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 2nd Noon Mass
 March 2nd Religious Ed Session 17
 @ 3:45 PM Cabrini Hall
 March 2nd Children's Choir Practice
 @ 5:45 PM Church
 March 2nd Adult Choir Practice
 @ 6:45 PM Church
 March 2nd AA Meeting @ 7:00 PM
 Rectory Hall

Thursday
 March 3rd Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 3rd Mass at Noon

Friday
 March 4th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 4th Mass Noon
 March 4th Exposition of
 The Blessed Sacrament @ 12:30 PM
 March 4th Boy Scouts Mtg.
 @ 6:30 PM Cabrini Hall
 March 4th Suffering & Death of Christ
 Eucharistic Adoration @ 7:00 PM Church

Saturday
 March 5th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 5th Organic Farm Market
 @ 9:00 AM Rectory Hall
 March 5th First Penance Service
 @ 10:30 AM Church
 March 5th Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 for Children @ 12:00 PM Church
 March 5th Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 @ 1:00 PM
 March 5th Confessions 4:45 PM
 March 5th AA Meeting @ 5:15 PM
 Rectory Hall
 March 5th Mass at 5:30 PM

Sunday
 March 6th Mass at 8:00 AM
 March 6th Mass at 10:00 AM
 March 6th Religious Ed 11:10 AM
 March 6th Mass at 11:45 AM

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 28, 2016 has been donated

In Memory of
HENRY STELLA

Requested by: **The Patti & Manus Family**

SAVE THE DATES

- **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

HOLY ROSARY SOCIETY, O.L OF LORETTO KNIGHTS & COLUMBIETTES

ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Our Annual Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 13, 2016 in the Rectory Hall following the 10:00 AM Mass. All are welcome. Please call Michele Ruggiero-Sheehan 718 852-0613 or Veronica Lubrano 718 852-8826 for reservations. The cost is \$20.00. Hope to see you there!.

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:

NOW is the time. LENT is the time to Remember, to Reflect, to Reconcile, to Renew and come to Resurrection. What is our delay? For what are we waiting? What is causing us to procrastinate? Time is growing short. This may be our last Lent. The Third Sunday in Lent presents us with an urgency to repent, make amends and grow in the Spirit. In the Gospel reading we are presented with some current events in the life of Jesus. A tower had fallen killing a number of people in the town of Siloam. The event made the news of the day. There was also a terrible injustice done by Pilate to a number of Galileans. (Galilee is the region to the north which encompasses Nazareth.) As a result of these events, many people lost their lives suddenly. In Jesus' day, many believed (incorrectly, according to Jesus,) that these victims were sinners. Jesus uses these unexpected fatal events to invite us to look at the fragility of life and realize that none of us knows when or how we will die. In our own day we can recall the 9/11 attack, aircraft tragedies, accidents, acts of violence all of which proved fatal for many people. Therefore, since life is so fragile, we need to set ourselves right with God. If you need to address issues with The Lord, do it now. Be reconciled through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you need to make peace with someone, do it now. The longer you wait, the more difficult it is. If you need to express love or gratitude to someone, do it now. None of us knows how long we may have.

Lent and springtime is a time of planting, growing and weeding, clearing and new life. In the second part of the Gospel, Jesus gives us the parable about a fruitless tree. The owner of the vineyard notices that the tree did not produce fruit. He decides to cut it down. The gardener intercedes saying he will nourish the tree and perhaps it will come to life. If the tree does not produce after a year, it will be destroyed. The gardener in the story is a metaphor for Christ, who intercedes for us and makes excuses to give us more time but in the end, we all will appear in front of God.

During Lent, we route our bad habits and plant new and good habits. It is time to uproot sin and plant the seeds that will yield the Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, peace, joy, kindness, patience, self-control, faithfulness, goodness. (Gal 5). It is time to ask for the gifts of the Spirit, wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and reverence for God. Now is the time to do these things. The second reading from First Corinthians, tells us how God chose the people of Israel, saved them from slavery and in the end, many did not listen nor remain faithful. Paul tells us to take nothing for granted. Faith and commitment is a call to constant growth. We cannot put this off. None of us knows if this is the last Lent. For what are you wishing? What has to be addressed in your life? Get moving, time may be shorter than you think!

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.

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!

THANK YOU

We wish to thank the Knights of Columbus for their donation of \$200.00 to our Parish. This donation is a result of a successful Nite at the Races. We appreciate their generosity to this great parish. Thank you one and all for supporting this event!

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.

REFLECTION ON THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION UNDER BOTH SPECIES...PART 4

In previous weeks, we've reflected on the Precious Blood as an efficacious sign, one that speaks to us of the sacrifice of Christ and our redemption, and also of our oneness as sisters and brothers who share in this redemption. Although when we receive Communion only under the form of bread, we don't receive the "whole Christ," and the fullness of the grace of the sacrament, still in each sacred Eucharistic encounter, there is something to be learned, a message that is enhanced by the significance of the Cup. Which is why the Latin Church, since the Second Vatican Council, has reintroduced the reception of Communion under both species:"...so that the fullness of the sign may be made more clearly evident to the faithful in the course of the Eucharistic banquet, lay members of Christ's faithful, too, are admitted to communion under both kinds."

The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that there is no forgiveness without the shedding of the blood (9:22), and at each Mass we recall that it is by the shedding of Christ's blood, that we can be freely forgiven. Partaking of the Precious Blood brings this truth home to us in a distinct and profound way. As St. Ambrose reflected, "For as often as we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord. If we proclaim the Lord's death, we proclaim the forgiveness of sins. If, as often as his Blood is poured out, it is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. I should always receive it, so that it may always forgive my sins. Because I always sin, I should always have a remedy."

INFORMATION SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

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718-596-7750

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Rose Marie Foglia

SOFTWARE

Microsoft Publisher® 2002

Adobe Acrobat 8.0®

Windows XP Home® SP3

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HP® Laserjet 1320

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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