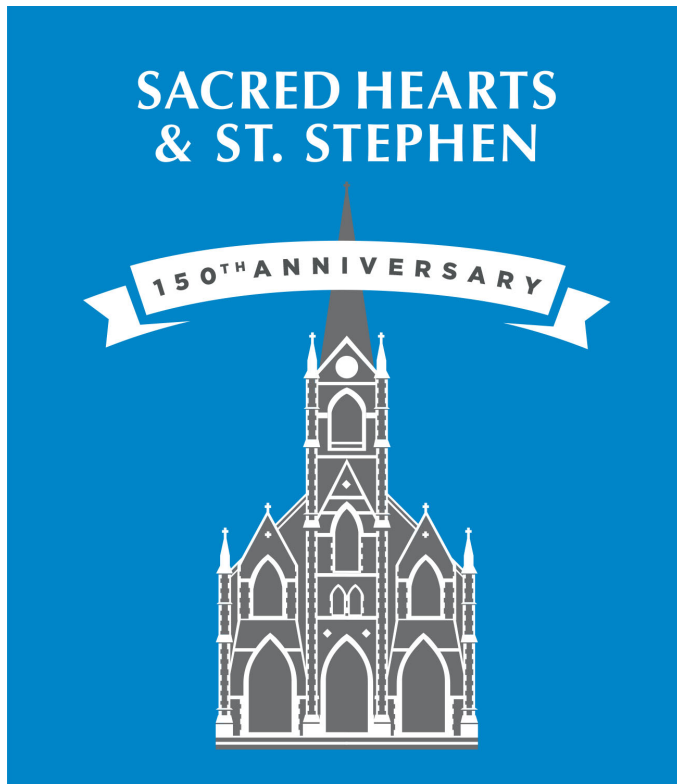

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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. MARCH 14, 2016
Noon Luisa Dellaporte & All Deceased Members of The Dellaporte Family
BY: Catherine

TUE. MARCH 15, 2016
8:30 David William Hankin
BY: M/M Carmine Balsamo
Noon Anthony Polito
BY: Wife Rosemary & Family

WED. MARCH 16, 2016
8:30 Francesca Pira
BY: The Reca Family
Noon Lorianne Sgro Zodda
BY: Her Parents, Carolyn & John

THURS. MARCH 17, 2016
8:30 Giorgio Buono
BY: Concetta Scotto
Noon George & Rita Heyer
BY: Loving Family

FRI. MARCH 18, 2016
8:30 Holy Cross
Noon Lucia Borrometi
BY: The Conti Family
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

SAT. MARCH 19, 2016
8:30 Pietro Reca
BY: Wife, Children & Grandchildren
5:30 PM Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni
BY: Loving Family

SUN MARCH 20, 2016
8:00 Nicole, Steve, Angelo & Anthony Vergona
BY: Loving Family
10:00 Alfred Pipitone
BY: Mom & Dad
11:45 Anthony Polito & All Deceased Members of the Polito & DeLosa Family
BY: Loving Family

Monday
 March 14th Mass at Noon
 March 14th Spotlight Discussion
 (Must have seen Movie to attend)
 @ 7:00 PM Parish House

Tuesday
 March 15th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 15th Noon Mass
 March 15th Rebuilt Workshop
 @ 7:00 PM Rectory Hall
 March 15th K of C Meeting
 @ 8:00 PM Cabrini Hall

Wednesday
 March 16th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 16th Noon Mass
 March 16th Religious Ed
 @ 3:45 PM Cabrini Hall
 March 16th Children's Choir Practice
 @ 5:45 PM Church
 March 16th St. Joseph's Table
 @ 6:30 PM Cabrini Hall
 March 16th Adult Choir Practice
 @ 6:45 PM Church
 March 16th AA Meeting @ 7:00 PM
 Rectory Hall

Thursday
 March 17th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 17th Mass at Noon

Friday
 March 18th Subway Info Handout
 @ 7:00 AM Carroll St.
 March 18th Mass at 8:30 AM
 March 18th Mass Noon
 March 18th Boy Scouts Mtg.
 @ 6:30 PM Cabrini Hall
 March 18th AA Meeting
 @ 6:30 PM Rectory Hall
 March 18th Stations of the Cross
 @ 7:00 PM Church

Saturday
PALM SATURDAY
 March 19th Mass at 8:30 St. Joseph
 March 19th Brunch with Easter Bunny
 @ 11:00 AM Rectory Hall
 March 19th Confessions 4:45 PM
 March 19th Mass at 5:30 PM
 March 19th AA Meeting
 @ 6:00 PM Rectory Hall

Sunday
PALM SUNDAY
 March 20th Mass at 8:00 AM
 March 20th Palm Procession
 @ 9:40 AM Meet at 1st Place & Court Street
 @ 9:50 AM Process to SHSS Church
 March 20th Mass at 10:00 AM
 March 20th 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 | Irene Balen |
| 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 |
| Rosemary Love | Lottie Illiano |
| Lucy D'Ambrosi Nolan | |



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of March 13, 2016 has been donated

In Loving Memory of **FRANCESCA FORTE**

Requested by:
The Patti & Manus Family

SAVE THE DATES

- **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**

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

Please remember to remit your offering for Easter Flowers. In order for the names to be printed in our annual Flower Memorial Booklet, these offerings must be received no later than Monday, March 21st. We ask that you kindly print or write the names clearly to avoid misspelling. The offering is \$25.00 per flower offering. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this great parish.

TO ALL

The Jewish People and the Passion narratives present us with a need for a pastoral note: The Passion Narratives in no way justifies anti-Semitism nor any persecution of the Jews of our day or any other day. Keeping with the Teachings of the Catholic Church as explained at Vatican II in the document Nostra Aetate (In our Time), I remind you that writing of the Passion is not story of trial as we would know it. The Passion is a theological and Catechaitcal document. These events were written after the Passion and reflect a time period which was not contemporary with the Passion but with later history when The Jewish Community of Jerusalem was dividing between those who accepted Jesus and those who did not. This divide caused families and friendships to split apart. I ask you to be mindful of the quote below from Vatican II.

As we hear and meditate on the Passion/Death and Resurrection of Christ during the next few weeks, I ask all to keep in mind that these events are the founding events of our faith. Please remember the following:

"Even though the Jewish authorities and those who followed their lead pressed for the death of Christ, neither all Jews indiscriminate at that time, nor Jews today can be charged with the crimes committed during his passion. It is true that the Church is the new people of God, yet the Jews should not be spoken of as rejected or accused as if this followed from the Holy Scriptures. Consequently, all must take care, lest in catechizing or preaching the Word of God, they teach anything which is not in accord with the truth of the Gospel message or the spirit of Christ. Indeed the Church proves every form of persecution against whomsoever it may be directed. Remembering then her common heritage with the Jews and moved not by any political consideration, but solely by religious motivation of Christian charity, she (the Church) deplores all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism leveled at anytime or from any source against the Jews. The Church always held and continues to hold that Christ out of love freely underwent suffering and death because of the sins of all men, so that all might attain salvation. It is the duty of the Church, therefore, in her preaching to proclaim the cross of Christ as a sign of God's universal love and source of all grace. (Nostra Aetate 28 October 1965 Vatican II Document)

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 This devotion is for all people.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

The Rosary will be prayed in our Chapel every Sunday during Lent after the 10:00 AM Mass. All are welcome, please join us.



**A
NOTE
FROM
OUR
PASTOR**

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Dear Parish Community:

New Life in Christ is the theme of the readings for this the Fifth Sunday in Lent. Do we want this new life in Christ? Do we allow others to change and have a new life? In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the prophet tells us that God is doing something new. God is creating new life. In the second reading, Paul is reflecting on his own conversion to the faith. He tells us that in light of Christ Jesus, that those things he valued previous to his conversion have become rubbish. In the Gospel, a woman's life is spared and returned to her with the instruction that she should avoid sinning in the future. If she wills, she can be created anew.

"I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish that I may gain Christ be found in him." For Paul, Christ is everything. Paul's life has completely changed for the better because of Christ. So, as Lent now turns into Holy Week, how has your life changed because of your faith in Christ? Does Christ really make a difference in your life or is Christ simply another list of what you need to do and not do? In light of Christ's love, can we love? In light of Christ's forgiving, can we forgive? In light of Christ who loved us, can we will the good of others and ourselves as well? Have you met the Lord this Lenten Season?

Our life in the Spirit can at times become dry, lifeless and routine. We can go to Mass and attempt to pray, and even administer to others, yet we feel a spiritual lifeless. Can we hear and see the possibilities that through this spiritually dead season, new life may be coming into us? In the first reading, the desert can bloom. Our lives can change for the best if we want and cooperate with the grace being given us.

In the Gospel, the woman's life may have been difficult. Can she change? Is it possible for her to regain respect? According to the Gospel, the answer is yes. Will her neighbors allow her to change? Will they remind her of her fault? Will they encourage her in her progress? So it is with us. Many have made errors and mistakes which have caused them to be ashamed. Many have even condemned themselves without mercy. Can life change for the better? Can there be new life? There is no sin so grave and no secret so dark that the light of The Risen Lord cannot heal. We too can be instruments of healing for many fragile and broken people. Who among us is not broken? Who among us does not need healing? Who among us is not in recovery?

Let us accept as fact that God loves us. Let us accept as fact that through our time of healing, God will be with us. Let us hear the voice of Christ calling us out of our self made tombs.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

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!

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 6

In the celebration of the sacred liturgy, we've been invited back to "full, conscious and active participation." This includes reception of the Eucharist under both species, a response to Jesus' command to "take, eat...take, drink." We're offered an opportunity to ponder the deep and distinct realities communicated to us in the Real Presence, presented to us under the forms of bread and wine—sacred meat...spiritual nourishment...cleansing sacrifice...family bonds...selfless love. It's been offered, so how do we respond? As we approach the altar of the Lord, proclaiming the profound "Amen..Yes, I believe" do we partake of the Precious Blood, or do we not respond to that sacred sign that speaks to us, turn our heads, and walk on past? If so, why? It's time to consider that the one shared cup asks too much of us. It's one thing to share the sacred body, neatly presented in individual hosts, but a shared cup? Understandably, for some of us it's a stumbling block. It seems unsanitary, and takes the whole idea of communion a little too far. But isn't that exactly what Jesus is showing us in the Holy Eucharist, that He's willing to go just a little too far—to put it mildly...to become one with us, to draw us up and into the life of the Trinity. When we reflect on what Jesus bore to accomplish this great gift for us, we might conclude that it's worth the "risk" to welcome him in any way and all the ways he offers Himself to us.

INFORMATION SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

PHONE

718-596-7750

CONTACT PERSON

Rose Marie Foglia

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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