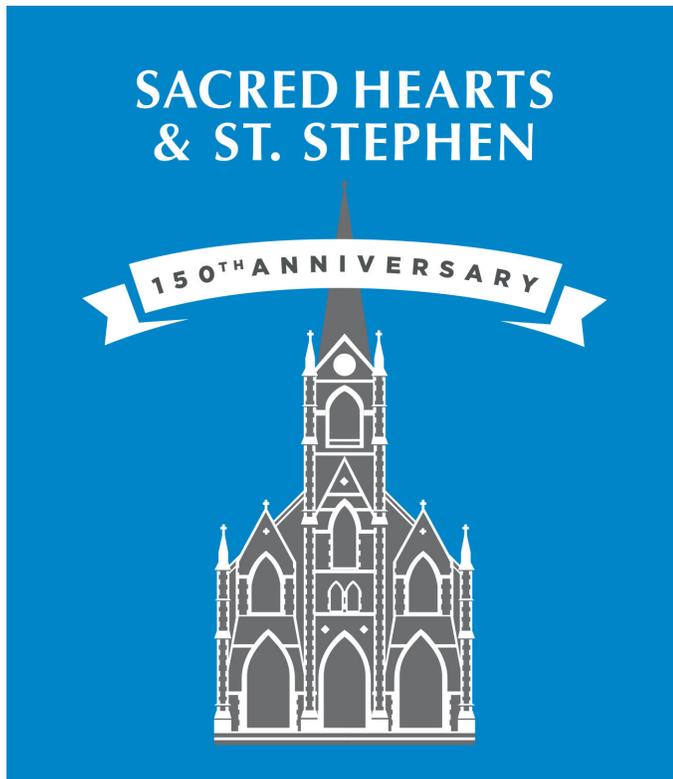


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# **SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH**

**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.

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## **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.**

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# MASSSES for the WEEK



## DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

**MON. MARCH 21, 2016**

Noon Louis Trani  
BY: Marie Trani

**TUE. MARCH 22, 2016**

8:30 John Vincent Verderame  
BY: Loving Family

Noon For The Intentions of  
Stephanie & Kevin Ramsden  
BY: Dorothy Pacella

**WED. MARCH 23, 2016**

8:30 Josephine Patti  
BY: Loving Family

Noon Joseph F. Sgro  
BY: Her Children, Grandchildren &  
Great Grandchildren

**THURS. MARCH 24, 2016-HOLY THURSDAY**

8:30 Morning Prayer  
8:00 PM Solemn Celebration of  
The Lord's Last Supper  
9:45 PM Adoration & Vigil Main Church

**FRI. MARCH 25, 2016 GOOD FRIDAY**

8:30 Morning Prayer  
1:30 PM Stations of The Cross  
3:00 PM Passion of Christ  
7:00 PM Solemn Procession through Streets  
9:00 PM Passion Service (Italian) Church

**SAT. MARCH 26, 2016 HOLY SATURDAY**

8:30 Prayer Service  
8:00 PM Easter Vigil

**SUN MARCH 27, 2016 EASTER SUNDAY**

10:00 AM Easter Novena Mass  
11:45 AM Easter Novena Mass

Monday **RECONCILIATION MONDAY**

March 21st Mass at Noon  
March 21st 4-6 PM & 7-9 PM  
Confessions Church  
March 21st Rosarian Meeting  
@ 7:30 PM Rectory Hall

Tuesday

March 22nd Mass at 8:30 AM  
March 22nd Noon Mass

Wednesday

March 23rd Mass at 8:30 AM  
March 23rd Noon Mass  
March 23rd Youth Choir Practice  
@ 5 PM Church  
March 23rd Children's Choir Practice  
@ 5:45 PM Church  
March 23rd Adult Choir Practice  
@ 6:45 PM Church  
March 23rd AA Meeting @ 7:00 PM  
Rectory Hall

Thursday

**HOLY THURSDAY**

March 24th Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM  
March 24th K of C Council Mtg.  
@ 7:30 PM Cabrini Hall  
March 24th Mass of The Lords' Last Supper  
@ 8:00 PM Church  
March 24th Adoration & Vigil  
@ 9:45 PM Church

Friday

**GOOD FRIDAY**

March 25th Morning Prayer @ 8:30 AM  
March 25th Stations of the Cross  
@ 1:30 PM Church  
March 25th The Lord's Passion  
@ 3:00 PM Church  
March 25th AA Meeting  
@ 6:30 PM Rectory Hall  
March 25th Solemn Procession through Streets  
@ 7:00 PM From Church  
March 25th Passion Service (Italian)  
@ 9:00 PM Church

Saturday

**HOLY SATURDAY**

March 26th Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM  
March 26th Church Easter Decorations  
@ 11: 00-3:00 PM Church  
March 25th AA Meeting  
@ 6:00 PM Rectory Hall  
March 25th Easter Vigil @ 8:00 PM Church

Sunday

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**NO 8:00 AM MASS THIS DAY**

March 27th Easter Novena Mass at 10:00 AM  
March 27th Easter Novena 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 20, 2016 has been donated

In Loving Memory of

**GINO MASSI**

Requested by:

**The Gessler Family**

## 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,

Why is this called **HOLY WEEK**?

Holy Week is the week proceeding Easter. It is the week which celebrates the recreation of the world. Just as the first week of creation recalled in Genesis brought the universe into existence, Holy Week remembers the recreation of a new world redeemed by Christ. The Passion of the Lord most clearly shows us that God, moved by his love, has poured himself out on our behalf. This is called **Kenosis** or the emptying of God out of love for us. This outpouring of God is seen throughout salvation history. In the story of creation, God breathes on the waters, thus pouring out his Spirit or life in the world. This outpouring of God is most perfectly seen in the Incarnation of God among us through Christ Jesus. The life of Jesus is one of self-giving and outpouring. He does this through his teaching, His miracles and most clearly, in his passion and death. Jesus is faithful to his ministry and to his divine identity. Where Adam and Eve, who in the Book of Genesis are not faithful to God, Jesus is faithful and thus redeems their unfaithfulness. Adam represents every man and Eve represents every woman. Together they represent all humanity. Thus Holy Week is a time to meditate and realize how God has loved us. Why would God sacrifice himself for us?

The week begins with Passion (Palm) Sunday. Passion Sunday begins with the Blessing of the Palms. The Procession of the Palms around the church recalls the entrance of Jesus into the City of Jerusalem. The Palm branch signifies victory. It is the ancient equivalent of a “ticker-tape” parade. The carrying of the Palm following the Cross is a promise to follow Christ faithfully. In Iconography, martyrs are often shown holding a Palm branch as a sign of their victory over the suffering and death of Christ. Palms are often brought to the graves of those we love. The Palm in the cemetery is a sign of one who believes in the Resurrection of Christ and of victory over death. It is the hope of all Christians that we too will enter into Christ’s victory over death. Palm is in some cultures also a sign of peace and reconciliation. If one has had a falling out with someone, the offering of Palm was a sign of reconciliation prior to Easter.

The Liturgy of Holy Thursday is in the evening. While every celebration of the Eucharist celebrates the supper of the Lord, Mass on Holy Thursday recalls the events of the night before Jesus died in a special way. The Institution of the Holy Eucharist, the Institution of the Priesthood, the Washing of the Feet and the Procession with the Eucharist to a place of repose and adoration are the high points of the Liturgy. The Eucharist is Christ who is poured out for us. Notice the self giving of Christ and pouring out of the Blood of Christ at communion time. The Washing of the feet is pouring out in service to others. The command to “Do this in memory of me” commands the Apostles to celebrate the Eucharist and to serve as Christ served by a self pouring out. What is the response to the gift of God’s self to us? We should be awe struck. Silence, adoration, thankfulness lead us to adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Liturgy of Good Friday is solemn. If Holy Thursday points to the sacramental outpouring of the Lord, then Friday points to the graphic emptying of Christ. Christ gives us his life, body, blood and spirit. He faces the cruelty of death, betrayal, pain, abandonment and humiliation. The Passion Narrative tells it all. It illustrates the words of the prologue of the Gospel of John; “The Word was made Flesh,” and the great Kenosis hymn found in Philippians 2 “Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God did not regard equality with God, something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself.” The Good Friday Liturgy shows that Christ, the innocent, has taken on the sins of the world and redeemed us. Christ in the words of St. Paul became sin for us to redeem us. In light of the Death of Christ, we stand in awe and profound silence. For God in Christ loved us while we were sinners and died for us. What more can be said in light of the Crucified Lord?

Holy Saturday is a day of great silence in the Church. Mass is not celebrated. Sacraments are not celebrated. The Blessed Sacrament is not reserved in Church. We are called to face the meaning of the death of Christ in our lives. In the face of such love, how can anyone remain unmoved? The Liturgy of the Easter Vigil begins at night, with the kindling of the New Fire and the Easter Proclamation: “Rejoice heavenly powers...” The Easter Liturgy and the Easter Season announce the Resurrection of Christ. Our world is redeemed in the shedding of the Blood of Christ. For those who believe in Christ, good always triumphs, truth always wins the day, life is victorious over death. The celebration of the Eucharist, which has not been celebrated since Thursday night, the replacing of the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle, the Easter Gospel announcing the Resurrection of Christ, the renewal of our baptismal promises, are some of the high points of the Liturgy of Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

## PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday celebrates Christ's victory over sin and death. The Liturgy of Palm Sunday sets the tone for Holy Week. The Blessing of the Palm invites us to welcome Christ into our lives and to wave him on to victory over our lives. The Palm or the green branches is a sign of victory. As the Mass begins, we sing out Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. The Palm should be waved during the procession. Palm which we may retain in our home will be a constant reminder to us that we proclaimed Christ to be King of our lives. The practice of placing Palm on the graves of our loved ones comes from the fact that palm is a sign of victory over death. By placing the palm on the grave, we are reaffirming our belief in the Resurrection of Christ and ultimately our own resurrection from the dead.

The tone of the Liturgy changes as we hear the Passion of the Lord. The Passion is not an account of a trial, but rather a statement of faith in Christ. The Passion and Resurrection narratives are the cornerstones of our faith and our identity as Christians. The sufferings of Christ go beyond description. In the face of such cruelty, Christ remains faithful to his mission and to his message. Through his suffering, Christ is merciful, loving and never returns hatred for hatred. As you listen to the Passion, try to ask yourself some questions: What is the meaning of this Passion for me? What does it mean for us as a church? With whom in the passion do I most identify in the narrative? Since all of us will listen to the words of the Passion, all of us will hear this narrative differently. Depending on where our respective lives are at this present moment, the Passion will speak to you. If you are facing betrayal, hurt, fear, a longing for deliverance, a need for hope, disappointment, hopelessness, inconsolable grief, mental or emotional exhaustion, listen to this powerful story of hope and victory.

Perhaps our Prayer for Holy Week which we can say many times a day wherever we are should be:

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.*

*A Blessed Holy Week to you  
Msgr. Guy A. Massie*

## REFLECTION ON THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION UNDER BOTH SPECIES

### PART 7

Passion Sunday...A celebration that begins with Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem quickly turns to the commemoration of his suffering and death. We remember his agony, first the sweating, then the shedding of blood, the blood of Jesus that cleanses us from all sin (1 John 1:7). It's a fitting time to make the decision to approach the cup of blessing, whether we've done it a thousand times, or never before. To come "face to face" with the Precious Blood—the Blood that atones, cleanses and redeems, the Blood that intercedes, sanctifies and sustains, the blood through which we have access to the throne of grace—is an opportunity to be seized, savored and safeguarded. "This is the blood of the covenant which God has enjoined upon you" (Hebrews 9:20). "Take...and drink."

**INFORMATION SHEET**

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Rose Marie Foglia

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

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