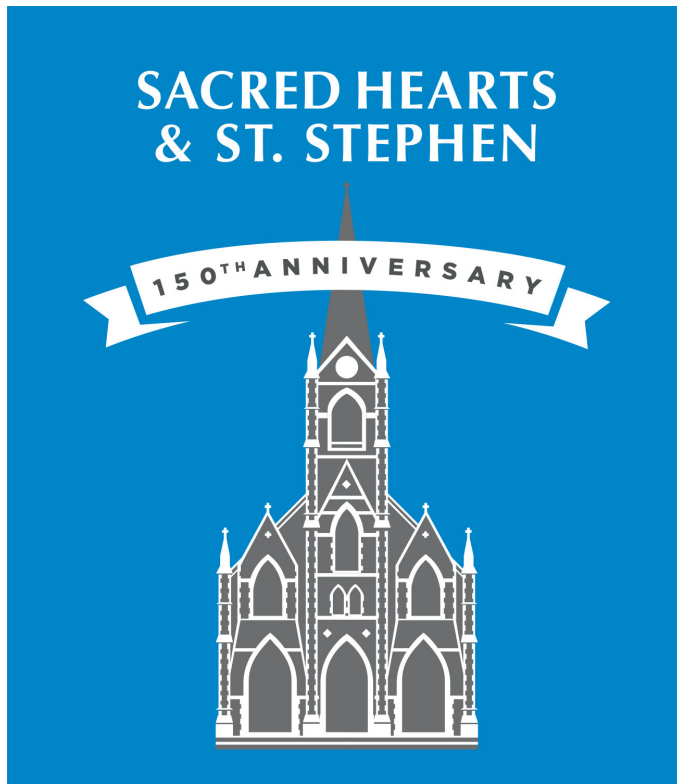


---

# **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 & 12:00 NOON  
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**

***Administration***

**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



## Morning Prayer

As I start my day today God, I ask you to forgive any past sins I have committed against You. I want to start my day fresh with my heart and mind renewed. I thank You for blessing me with another wonderful day of life. Thank You for watching over and protecting all my loved ones. And no matter how I feel today, I am thankful that I am alive, strong healthy, blessed and a child of the most high God. I will live the life your created me to live. A life of happiness, filled with hope, love, peace and joy. I thank You for everything through Him who gives me strength ( Philippians 4-13)

## THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION- THE SACRAMENT OF MERCY

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday from 4:15 to 5:00 PM. This is an important Sacrament in which we experience the Mercy of God. Who should come to confession? Everyone should come to this sacrament. Why should we come? We should come if we are interested in growing in discipleship. No one is perfect. Neither the priest, the pope nor the bishop, not even are you. Confession is self accusatory without explanations. It is a place where we face ourselves and our motives, not only for doing evil, but even our motives for doing good. Are all our good acts other centered or may they too be self centered? It is in discussing the state of our Spirit that we can get back on track. Who should go to Eucharist? Those who are seeking to follow Christ. Those who are struggling to follow the Gospel even with occasional falls and errors. Those whose heart is going towards Christ on Christ's terms not their own. Who should not go to communion? Those who are aware of grave and serious sin which has not been confessed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation should refrain from the Eucharist until they have spoken to the priest of the state of their life. Never be afraid to approach the priest with whom you can relate. Situations which may be embarrassing, off color, of sexual nature, of criminal nature, the priest is there for forgiveness and healing. He has heard it all previously. The good thing is, he forgets. Remember no one is perfect. We, including the priest, all struggle, even with ourselves, to live the Gospel. So, come and be forgiven, be filled with Grace and keep moving to a deeper relationship with the Lord.

MON. AUGUST 15, 2016

ASSUMPTION

8:30 Louisa Dellaporte & All  
Deceased Members of  
The Dellaporte Family  
BY: Catherine

Noon Madonna di Assunta  
BY: Melania Lubrano

7:00 PM Andrew & Catherine Gallo &  
In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother  
BY: Anna Gallo &  
Bridget Mc Cormick  
\*\*This is an Outdoor Mass\*\*

TUE. AUGUST 16, 2016

8:30 Lucia & Domenic Piro  
BY: Piro Grandchildren

WED AUGUST 17, 2016

8:30 Anna Liguori  
Birthday Remembrance  
BY: Loving Son &  
The Liguori Family

THURS. AUGUST 18, 2016

8:30 Alfred Pipitone  
Birthday Blessings  
BY: Mom & Dad

FRI. AUGUST 19, 2016

8:30 Lena & Domenic Luciani  
BY: Scotto Family

SAT. AUGUST 20, 2016

8:30 Linda Dickinson  
BY: Caroline Gubitosi & Family

5:30 PM Robert Palmieri  
Birthday Remembrance  
BY: Loving Wife Rose & Daughters

SUN AUG 14, 2016

8:00 In Honor of the Holy Spirit for the  
People of the Parish

10:00 Concetta Foglia  
BY: Rose Marie

Noon: Dr. Maria Musarella & All Deceased  
Members of the Musarella, Cangemi Family &  
Nestor Taboada  
BY: Antoinette Musarella

# 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          |
| Brad Hatry,          | 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        | Palma Caminiti       |
| Carol DeMairo        | Anthony Gambardella  |
| Denise Deacomanolis  | Rachel Valenti       |
| Salvatore Gianino    | Judith Latalladi     |
| Rosemary Love        | Lisa VanTassel       |
| Lucy D'Ambrosi Nolan | Eileen Giannotta     |
| Richie Boyle         | Dominick Aiello, Jr. |
| Kathleen Gunderson   | Rosa Maria Santos    |
|                      | Gloria Heyer         |



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of

August 14, 2016 has been donated  
In Loving Memory of

**ANTHONY MATARAZZO**

Requested by:

**The LoPorto, Eng & Kaplan Families**

The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of  
August 14, 2016 have been  
donated



In Memory of

**JEAN DI SALVO**

**BY: M/M Carmine Balsamo**

## CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

You are cordially invited to a Gala celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of St. Stephen Catholic Church on

Sunday, November 13, 2016.

4:00 PM Cocktails—5:00 PM Dinner  
El Caribe Country Club  
5945 Strickland Avenue  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

\$135.00 Per Person

\$65.00 for Children Ages 3 to 10

Reservation Deadline is 10/14/16  
150@SacredHearts-StStephen.com

Or call

718 596-7750

**\*\*\*Tickets are now on sale  
at the Rectory!\*\*\***

Journal Ads are available.

For more information e-mail  
info@sacredhearts-ststephen.com

Our 150th Anniversary Mass  
Celebrated by

Most Rev. Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio  
Will be held on  
Sunday,  
December 18, 2016  
@ 10:00 AM

We ask that you save the above dates for these momentous occasions in the life of our Parish.  
Join your Parish Family in celebration and fellowship!

# From the Pastor



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

“Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus....” Hebrews 12:1”

Dear Parish Family:

The Liturgy of the Word for this week is best understood by fixing our focus on the above quoted phrase, “Let us fix our eyes on Jesus.” Jesus is the Word of God. In the first reading from the Book of The Prophet Jeremiah, we learn that Jeremiah has been thrown into an empty cistern or well and has landed in the mud where he almost died. The reason for such a cruel act against him was he dared to speak the truth to people in power. In the Gospel, we read an unusual text. We are told that Jesus has not come to bring peace, but division. He has come to force us to choose between him and even members of our own family. Wow, this is a rough message. In the second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, we are told to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who suffered, died and rose again. What does this reading mean? How do they affect us?

This Gospel may sound strange to us. Most of us have created an image of the sweet Jesus, the cuddly Jesus. Many of us create a Gospel we can like, one to which we can relate on our own terms. Many of the images of Jesus present in our imagination have little if anything to do with the image of Jesus we get in the sacred text. Many of us create our own Catholicism which may not be true. The Jesus of the Gospel is compassionate and merciful but he is also demanding, up front, direct and correcting. The Jesus of the Gospel is to the point about forgiveness, justice, mercy and the demands he makes on his would be disciples.

Jesus never promised we would not suffer or have conflict. Jesus never said that if you do all I tell you, you will never endure hardship and pain. While Jesus may be a source of internal peace, it is oftentimes not peace without conflict. Jesus did tell us that those who follow him would meet with suffering. This suffering may take the form of being misunderstood, being wrongly judged, being severely criticized and in some cases, being murdered. He also promised to remain with us through it all. He promised the consolation of the Holy Spirit which is the knowledge that we acted in accordance with the Gospel even if this caused us pain.

So, where does this leave us? The Gospel reading for today alludes to the situation which faced the early Christians. In many cases, families were split among those who accepted Jesus and those who did not. Even the religious institution of the day was split over the issue of Jesus. Jesus is a person who calls us to make a conscious decision about him. One cannot be ambivalent when it comes to Jesus. You either accept him completely or you reject him. Jesus either is the one he says he is or he is not. If you accept Jesus, than one must make a conscious decision to try to imitate his attitudes, follow his teaching, accept the fact that you need redemption, seek a personal relationship with Christ in the context of the Eucharist, the community and sacred text. If you accept Jesus, than the Eucharist, especially on Sunday, is part and parcel of life. In fact, for one who accepts Jesus, one could not live without the Eucharist. The disciple of Christ grows in forgiveness and acts of mercy, not in violence, retribution or anger

Msgr. Guy A Massie



Dear Parish Family:

On August 15th, we celebrate the Great Feast of the Assumption of Mary. -We celebrate the memory of Mary because of her vocation of giving flesh to the Word of God in the Mystery of the Incarnation of God among us, who is Christ Jesus. Today the Church celebrates the great feast of the Assumption of Mary. This is an ancient celebration found in many Christian communities. The Greek, Antiochian and many other Orthodox Churches celebrate the Sleep of Mary, the Lutheran and the Episcopal Communities celebrate the memory of Mary. Therefore, this is a good day to celebrate Mary ecumenically. The reason the Church celebrates the memory of Mary with various feasts and solemnities is because of the great mystery of the Incarnation of God among us in Jesus. Thus the reason for our veneration and love for Mary, is Jesus.

The Feast of the Assumption, while celebrating the taking of Mary to heaven, we are also celebrating Christ. By recalling the Resurrection of Christ and the Assumption of Mary, we too are calling to mind the great promise of our own resurrection from the dead and life of the world to come. The second reading from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians speaks of our promised resurrection. If Christ is risen from the dead, so we will rise from the dead. Mary is seen as the first of the Disciples of Christ. She, as disciple and first member of the Church, is raised from the dead because of her faithfulness to the Gospel. Just as Mary has been raised, we also will be raised from the dead. We profess the belief in our own resurrection every time we profess the Creed, we say: "We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

While the Assumption of Mary is a great event, scripture and tradition tell us of the assumption of Elijah found in 2Kings 2;11-12. The gift of assumption into heaven was reserved for exceptionally holy people. Mary's vocation is singular. She is the woman who gave humanity to the Word of God. We know the Word of God as Jesus. Thus, because of her vocation as Mother of God, she is also recognized as Mother of the Church and Mother to all the disciples of Christ. Her vocation in accomplishing the Incarnation is remembered everyday when we pray the Angelus. As a reminder of the Incarnation, Churches rang bells in the morning and in the evening.

The Gospel gives us the great Marian Canticle, the Magnificate. In this prayer, Mary praises God for the gift of Mercy shown to God's people throughout the ages. This prayer expresses Mary's gratitude to God for her singular vocation which is her role among us. This prayer is said everyday by all who pray the Divine Office, ordained, religious and lay. Read this canticle, memorize it and make it part of your heart. Use it to praise and thank God for all you have received. Do you believe in your own resurrection from the dead?

The celebration of the Assumption invites us to reflect on the great mystery of the Resurrection of Christ, our own future resurrection and the vocation of every disciple to give flesh to the Word of God by living in thought, word and deed, the faith we profess. Perhaps we can remember that every act of mercy, every kindness, every word of truth we utter, every act of service we render is a way of giving flesh to the Word of God.

Rev. Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

**PHONE**

718-596-7750

**CONTACT PERSON**

Rose Marie Foglia

**SOFTWARE**

Microsoft Publisher® 2002

Adobe Acrobat 8.0®

Windows XP Home® SP3

**PRINTER**

HP® Laserjet 1320

**NUMBER OF PAGES SENT**

Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

**SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION**

August 14, 2016

**TRANSMISSION TIME**

Wednesday 1 PM

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

!