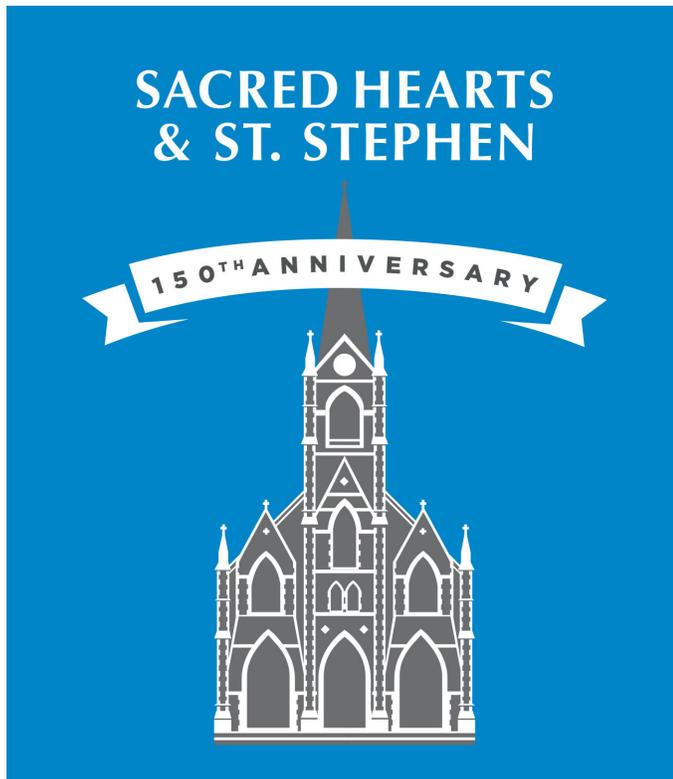

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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



Please remember to use your weekly envelopes as a registered parishioner. Thank you!

- MON. AUGUST 8, 2016
Noon Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni
BY: Loving Family

- TUE. AUGUST 9, 2016
8:30 Ralph Wager
BY: Loving Family

- WED AUGUST 10, 2016
8:30 Rev. Simon Joseph
BY: Carolyn & John Zodda

- THURS. AUGUST 11, 2016
8:30 Caterina Deserio
BY: Her Sister Anna

- FRI. AUGUST 12, 2016
8:30 Filomena Scotto
BY: Children

- SAT. AUGUST 13, 2016
8:30 Fiorinda & Giovanni Romano
BY: Daughter Caroline & Family
5:30 PM Gino Masi
BY: Friends

- SUN AUG 14, 2016
8:00 In Honor of The Holy Spirit
For the People of the Parish
10:00 Deceased Members of
The Azzarelli Family
BY: Cousin Louis Pepe
Noon: Vincent Porcelli
BY: Mom, Guido & Roseann

SENIOR HOUSING

Applications for Catholic Charities Pierrepont Senior Housing are now available at the Rectory Office. Completed applications must be sent to the P. O. Box listed on the application and must be postmarked no later than Saturday, August 13th. Applicants may not submit more than one application per household. If you are interested in filing an application, kindly contact the Rectory Office at 718 596-7750 and speak with either Msgr. Guy A. Massie or Rose Marie Foglia. Should you require assistance in completing an application, help is available and this information will be provided to you at the time you request an application for housing. Remember, the application must be postmarked no later than August 13th.

Prayer for Stress and Anxiety

Dear Lord, you know the difficult things I am dealing with. You know how my mind won't let me stop thinking about everything. I feel stressed and so unsettled. I'm worried about what is going to happen. Please take my burdens and the "what ifs" from me. Help me to focus my thoughts on you and not worry about what could happen. Please help me to take one day at a time. Please lead and guide me and take control of this situation. Please give me your wisdom and fill me with your peace. In the name of Jesus I ask these things. Amen

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 7, 2016 has been donated
In Loving Memory of
JOSEPHINE RUSSO

Requested by:
The Patti & Manus Family



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of
August 7, 2016 have been donated

In Memory of
JOSEPH CAPPIELLO
BY: The Muino Family

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



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Dear Parish Family:

What is Faith? What does Faith do? How do people of faith behave? Is there a difference between faith and religion? How is faith passed on? Where does faith grow? What affect does it have on us? In today's second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, the author states in the opening line: "Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." The rest of the reading speaks to us about people who had faith and how that faith influenced their respective lives.

The opening line of the second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews reads; "Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" is important for what it says and what it does not say. Faith is not a feeling. Faith is not an emotion which is swayed by our moods. Faith is not a ritual or a religious practice. Faith may be linked to a deep and abiding relation with the Mystery who we call God. Chapter eleven from the Letter to the Hebrews from which we take our portion today, speaks to us about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and others who lived by faith. Faith for our ancestors, whether our ancestors be our parents or our grandparents or our biblical characters is based on a relationship which they had with God. They trusted the Divine Providence not seeing, not knowing exactly what lay in front of them. They trusted the Mystery who they called God. Faith for them was a relationship both personal and communal.

What is faith for you? What is faith for us? Does faith mean that all will go well to our liking? I can only answer these questions for myself. Faith to me is a relationship based on trust in Christ Jesus. Faith is a deep personal relationship with Christ in the context of the Eucharist, the Sacred Text, the Community. It is a relationship and a conviction which in some way knows that Christ is present and with us. It is a relationship which grows with every change in life. There are various degrees of faith. Faith means acceptance and understanding of the faith of our community as it is expressed in the Creeds and the teachings of the Catholic Church which finds its foundation on the apostles.

Faith in action is Love. Faith in Christ moves us to act for the sake of Christ. Faith in Christ is the motivating force for acts of mercy, charity, kindness and the living out of the Gospel. Faith is a guide in making moral decisions and choosing between right and wrong. Faith does not depend on my mood or feeling. Even when I do not feel like praying or participating in Mass, faith moves me beyond the feeling to the conviction that God is and Eucharist and prayer are life lines to my spiritual well being.

It is faith which gives life to our rituals, holidays and celebrations. Faith is celebrated and lived through our religious behavior, yet it is faith that gives life to religion. Without faith these holidays and celebrations are just cultural experiences. While culture can be a conduit to growing in the faith, it is faith in the heart that gives events deep spiritual meaning.

Faith means that when we walk in darkness of suffering, spiritual dryness, a feeling of aloneness, that we will come through this period changed for the better. Faith gives us hope. Faith gives us the patience to suffer for the love of others. Faith believes that for every Cross in our lives, we will experience a Resurrection either in eternity or here and now. Faith means that all the seasons of our lives belong to God and through all the ups and downs we experience, we will grow ever closer to the Lord.

So, what is faith for you? Can we define faith? Is faith beyond explanation? How do you speak about Faith to and with your children?

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

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718-596-7750

CONTACT PERSON

Rose Marie Foglia

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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