
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN

*St. Stephen's – Founded 1866
Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Founded 1882*

MASSES ON SUNDAYS:

8:00 AM 10:00 AM & 12 NOON
5:30 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Monday 12:00 Noon
Tues. through 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 details.

Rectory: 108 Carroll Street

Brooklyn, N.Y 11231

718-596-7750 tel

718-260-9233 fax

REV. MSGR. GUY A. MASSIE

Pastor

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

Director of Faith Formation

Religious Education

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Administration

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

EVELYN TROESTER DEGRAF

Choir Director

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.

WELCOME:

Adults who are interested in learning more about or joining the Catholic Faith please call the rectory. Adults who have not completed the sacraments of initiation (Eucharist and/or Confirmation) please call the rectory.

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**



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

O Come, all ye faithful, come and be a part of our SHSS Family Christmas Celebration! **CHILDREN**, grade Pre-K thru 7 you're invited...to reenact the Christmas story at the 4:30 Family Mass on Christmas Eve and/or at our CCD Sunday Assembly on 12/17.

The miraculous events surrounding the birth of Jesus will be presented by the children of our parish during the 4:30PM Christmas Eve Mass as they play the parts of our Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, the angels, shepherds, wise men and even the animals in the stable!

Rehearsals will be held on Sundays, December 10th and December 17th (Dress Rehearsal!) following the 10:00 AM Mass in Rectory Hall.

To sign up or for more information, contact Suzanne at migigliotti@aol.com or call the Faith Formation Office at 718 596-7750 Ext. 20.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection for 12/03	\$ 4,467.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$ 14,325.00
Difference:	-\$9,858.00

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

PERSONAL PRAYER INTENTION MASS

The next Personal Prayer Intention Mass will be held on Thursday, December 28th @ 8:30 AM. Please fill out a mass intention card located in the back of our church.

- MON. DECEMBER 11, 2017**
Noon Millie Milea
BY: RoseMary, LouAnn & Michael
- TUE. DECEMBER 12, 2017**
8:30 Deceased of The Pellicano Family
BY: Rita
- WED DECEMBER 13, 2017**
8:30 In Thanksgiving for the intercession of St. Lucy
BY: Scotto Family
- THURS. DECEMBER 14, 2017**
8:30 Ralph Collantonio
BY: Loving Family
- FRI. DECEMBER 15, 2017**
8:30 Elizabeth Lo Porto
BY: Francesca Reca
- SAT. DECEMBER 16, 2017**
8:30 Deceased Members of
The Piro & Senese Family
BY: Children & Grandchildren
5:30 PM Domenico Dellaporte and all
Deceased Members of
The Dellaporte Family
BY Catherine
- SUN DECEMBER 18, 2017**
8:00 Denise Diacomenolis
10:00 Biaggio Lubrano
BY: Wife, Children &
Grandchildren
12:00 Richard O'Leary
BY: The Napoli Family

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,	Gloria Heyer
Angelo Vergona	Richie Boyle-Moriale
Judith Miller	Alissa Aquino
Michele Morea	Palma Caminiti
Carol DeMairo	Anthony Gambardella
Rachel Valenti	Anthony Caruvana
Salvatore Gianino	Judith Latalladi
Rosemary Love	Lisa Van
Eileen Giannotta	Dominick Aiello, Jr.
Roe Gambardella	Elizabeth Foley
Kathleen Gunderson	Paul Girard
Ann Curcuru	Dora Zanzonico
Angelina Campasano	Andrew Favorito
Lamar McNabb	Anna Maria Marino
Carol Montelbano	Rev. Michael A. Carrano
John Scotto	

The Sanctuary Lamps for the week
of
December 10th have
been donated
In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH LO PORTO
By: **The Fontana Family**



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Altar Bread & Wine for the week of
December 10th has been donated
In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH COSTAGLIOLA
BY: **Loving Wife Laura**



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ADVENT 2017

Advent 2017 began on December 3rd. The word advent means to come. Thus the Liturgical season of Advent invites us to focus our attention on the two comings of Christ. From now until December 17th, the sacred text of the season focus on the coming of Christ at the end of time. The first two weeks have as their goal the focus on the Kingdom of God. This time period accents the line from the Creed which says "we believe in the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come." The readings refer to this second coming as a time of judgment and the final victory of good over evil. The language of Advent is filled with words such as: longing, waiting, expecting, looking forward to, making up a dreaming and looking for the Kingdom of God. Liturgical Prayer during Advent expresses the longing for the completion of the coming of the Kingdom of God among us. Although Jesus has redeemed us and initiated God's Reign, we are still waiting to experience the fullness of the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom for which we long is to be marked by peace, reconciliation, healing, the end of war and the beginning of goodness for all. As evidenced by the crime rate, the continued war in the Middle East, the persecution of people of goodwill, the raise in racism, polarization of people, the rise in hatred, the Kingdom, while in the hearts of many, has not yet fully arrived. Advent prays for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom, longs for the kingdom and encourages all people to live and work towards the kingdom of God by living lives of love, justice, mercy and peace. It is for this we pray in the Our Father, "Your Kingdom come."

Advent is a call to prepare the way of the Lord. Reconciliation and penance is the perfect way to prepare for the Coming of the Lord although Advent is not a penitential season. Advent is a season of hope. For what are you hoping? Knowing our hopes helps us to realize what is not actualized in our lives. What is your wish at this time? Some wish that their problems will cease. Some are longing just to be. Some wish they knew what direction their lives should take. Some are longing for healing of their health issues. Some are longing for reconciliation with a loved one. Some are trying to manage anger issues. Some are longing for fulfillment. Some are longing to know that their lives matter. Whatever the hope is, whatever the longing is, it speaks to us of an unfulfilled longing. Do not dull these feelings. Do not run and turn on Christmas music to feel better. Rather, let your heart seek for what it truly wants. Our hearts are longing for communion with the Lord. Face yourself and face God in this season of Hope. We are reminded that each of our desires is another way of longing for Jesus in our lives. Only God can satisfy us. Only God can give our lives meaning. Only the Lord is our peace. Only in Christ do we have the Kingdom of God. In the end, we all long for God, who can fulfill all our hopes.

Blessed Advent.
Come to Know the Lord again for the first time.

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

“Lord let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation” Ps 85

Today, the Second Sunday of Advent, the message of the Prophet Isaiah is hope and consolation. St. Peter in the second reading tells us to be ready to meet the Lord through living a life of faithfulness to the Gospel. In the Gospel of St. Mark, we hear John the Baptist telling us to prepare the way for the Lord through repentance.

For me, I believe the readings are held together by the above quoted responsorial psalm, “ Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation.” Seeing, light, manifesting, showing are important Advent and Christmas themes. In the Incarnation of God among us in Jesus, we see God in the humanity of Jesus. There is a human longing to see the light of truth, to see justice and even to see a time of peace. Thus, the responsorial psalm Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation.”

In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, there is longing to see the consolation of God. There is a longing to experience healing. The people to whom this passage is addressed are the exiles. The grandparents and the parents of these exiles were forced out of their homes and homeland to live in Babylon. The exile period (586BC-538 BC) in the bible was a trying time for the Israelites. They were to live for three generations outside of their land. Many born in exile had not the experience of the land of Israel. They heard the stories of their parents and grandparents of the land from which they were forcibly taken. These people of the exile were separated from all that was familiar to them. They were separated from home, country and even God. Isaiah gives them a message of hope. He promises them their time in exile is almost completed. They will come home. He alludes to a road or a highway over which they will come and arrive back in their own land. They will be healed.

How do we hear this story today? Who among us is separated from us even if they are standing next to you? How many feel separated from their families, friends and at times even themselves? Separation need not only be geographical. Separation can be psychological, spiritual, social or emotional. How many are separated from the Catholic Church for whatever reason? How many are at odds with God? How many cannot relate to what we are doing here today? How many are separated from God thinking God is angry with them? How many have suffered loss which has broken their spirits as well as their hearts? How many have suffered mistreatment by society, or family members or even worse, by someone who they loved and trusted? How many need consolation and comfort? How many may need just to tell their story?

Isaiah is told by God to “Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.” Who may God be telling you to comfort? With whom may God be telling you to have more patience and more understanding? “Lord, show us your kindness and grant us your salvation,” says the psalm. If we the believers do not show comfort, compassion and a willingness for peace, then those who need these things will not experience the love of God. The Incarnation taught us that in Jesus God works through our humanity for our humanity. God therefore works through the humanity of the disciple showing his mercy and consolation. So, let us show each other God through our words and actions.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

CONCERT AT LINCOLN CENTER

The Spirit of Christmas Concert at Lincoln Center will take place on Monday, 12/18/17. Dinner at 5:00 PM at Marco Polo Restaurant. Concert 8:00 PM, includes roundtrip bus.

This year's concert will feature Alfio, Charlie Romo, Danny Rodriguez, Broadway Stars from Wicked and the SHSS Children's Choir. Cost is \$125.00 Per Person. Reservations may be made at the Rectory or by filling out a form which can be found at the entrance of the Church. Actual tickets will be given to you as you board the bus the evening of the concert.

HEARTSHARE

Our Annual Heartshare Christmas Giving Tree is located in the back of our church. Please take an ornament for a gift. Kindly note all items (new and unwrapped) must be returned the weekends of December 9th and 10th and December 16th and 17th. Please comply with these dates as it is difficult for Heartshare to make a second visit at this busy time. God Bless all of you and your families in this Blessed Season.

DECORATIONS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Please submit your donation by 12/18 to be printed in the Annual Christmas Memorial Booklet
\$25.00 Christmas Tree Light Sponsor (equivalent to one 75' garland of two boxes of tree lights)

\$50.00 Poinsettia Sponsor (equivalent to two 10" poinsettia plants)

\$100.00 Christmas Wreath Sponsor (equivalent to two Wreaths or one 40" wreath hung on the church columns)

\$150.00 Christmas Tree Sponsor (equivalent to three fresh evergreen trees or half of the purchase of an artificial tree)

If you receive monthly envelopes, an envelope for this donation is contained therein. All others, envelopes and forms for memorials may be found in the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS WREATH, POINSETTIA PLANTS AND ORNAMENT SALE

The members of The Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Men's Fellowship will be selling Christmas Wreaths, Poinsettia Plants and Ornaments the weekend of December 9th and 10th and December 16th and 17th. This was a very successful program last year and we look forward to it being successful again this year.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH TO
PUERTO RICO

On Sunday, December 17th, our newly confirmed will be at the doors of the Church to collect recreational items to send to the young people of Puerto Rico for Christmas. Please watch for more information next weekend.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Start the year off with a good read and lively conversation! Please join our next meeting on Monday January 8th at 7:00 PM in the Parish House where we will be discussing Year of Wonder by Geraldine Brooks. New members are welcome!

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

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS