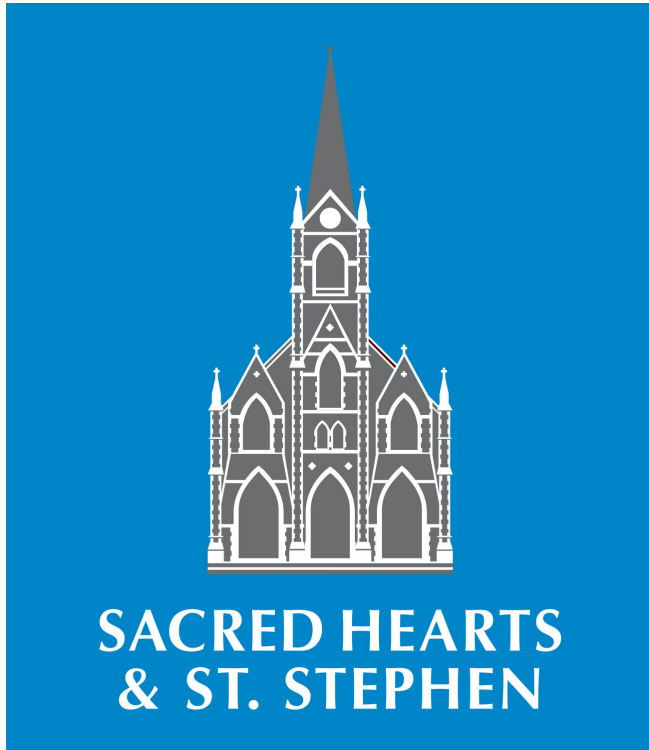

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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 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

REV. DARIUSZ P. STRZELECKI

Parochial Vicar

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

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection for 4/22	\$ 3,023.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$ 14,325.00
Difference:	-\$11,302.00

** Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks



We are continuing our class about Technology for Seniors. Meetings are held every Tuesday during the month of May as follows:

5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29

@ 4:30 PM in

Rectory Hall. All are welcome!

Bring your cell phone, tablet and/or computer.

MOTHER'S DAY BABY SHOWER

We are accepting baby shower gift donations to be distributed by the Sisters of Life to mothers who bravely choose life under difficult circumstances. Suggested items are: Diapers, wipes, blankets, outfits, onesies, sleepers, hats, socks, booties and bottles. This is not an all inclusive list. Your ideas are welcome. All baby items **MUST BE NEW!** You may also donate maternity clothes and gift cards. Please donate the gifts unwrapped in bags or gift bags and leave them at the Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the left of the altar. Please donate by Mother's Day, May 8th. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support of this event.

- MON. APRIL 30, 2018**
Noon Domenico & Amalia Mignano
- TUE. MAY 1, 2018**
8:30 Rocco Massie & Violet Massie
- WED MAY 2, 2018**
8:30 Personal Prayer Intention Mass
- THURS. MAY 3, 2018**
8:30 Leona Zagami
Birthday Remembrance (Deceased)
BY: Loving Family
- FRI. MAY 4, 2018**
8:30 Joseph Patti
- SAT. MAY 5, 2018**
8:30 Fanny Arroyo
BY: Dora Zanzonico & Family
5:30 PM Nurses' Mass
- SUN MAY 6, 2018**
8:00 AM Anna Ruggiero
BY Loving Family
10:00 Antonio & Enrichetta Colandrea
BY: Daughter, Melania Lubrano
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
12:00 Alice Gabriel
BY: The Feliciano 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 |
| Judith DeArmen | John N igro |
| Judith Miller | Alicsa Aquino |
| Palma Caminiti | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | John Scotto |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Carol Montelbano | Rev. Michael A. Carrano |

BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club meeting will be on Monday, May 7th at 7:00 PM in the Parish House. We will be discussing **JEWEL** by Bret Lott. All are welcome!



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HOUSE BLELSSING 2018

If anyone is interested in having his or her house blessed, please sign up on the list at the back of the church.

Msgr. Guy Massie,

Father Dariusz and Deacon Prezemek are available to come to your house and bless it.

ECUMENICAL CONCERT

Join us as we pray together in anticipation of the Feast of Pentecost with music provided by the choirs of various Christian communities including Interdenominational, Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Greek and Melkite. Save the date of Friday, May 18th @ 7:30 PM at Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Church. The musical program for the evening is a retrospective for the Easter Season, following-via music & narration—the journey from Holy Thursday through Pentecost. All are welcome!

Annual Memorial Candles



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If you wish to remember a loved one or have a particular devotion to one of the saints, annual memorial candles are available at the rectory. All candles may have a plaque with the inscription of your choice written on it. The cost for the candle is \$100.00 per year (with a one time \$10.00 charge for the plaque). If you are interested, please contact the Rectory Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9-5 and speak with Rose Marie Foglia. We will be happy to assist you and answer any questions you may have.

BISHOP'S APPEAL

On April 28th and April 29th we will ask everyone to consider making a gift to the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal at all of our Masses. If 50 parishioners pledge \$150.00 each to the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal, we will exceed our goal! The 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the daily work of our Church throughout Brooklyn and Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone by supporting the following ministries:

- Catholic Charities; Hospital, College and Prison Chaplains; Diocesan Vocations Office; Catholic Migration Services; Parish Assistance Program; Office of Faith Formation; Bishop Muguvero Residence for infirmed clergy; Futures in Education Scholarship Foundation*

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Community:

I wish a Blessed and Happy Fifth Sunday of Easter to everyone. Today we are told that Christ is the Vine and we are the Branches. This is a rich symbol telling us that we who are baptized and in communion with the Eucharist draw our spiritual life from Christ. It is also a way of saying that without being in union with Christ, we have no life in us. The believer draws his/her life from Christ. Without Christ we cannot do nothing good or wholesome. There are three points in this Gospel: Life in Christ, Pruning by Christ and Growth in Christ. The disciple of Christ should expect all three to take place at different times.

Life in Christ means that we the believer and would be disciple draw life from our union with Christ especially in the Eucharist. It is in the Eucharist that we who receive the Body and Blood of Christ become the Body of Christ which is the Church and we personally are called to be the Eucharist for others in service to others in memory of Christ. Just as vines carry water and nutrients to the leaves of the vine helping the vine to produce grapes, so the Eucharist through the Holy Spirit produces in us the life of Christ. It is then Christ who lives in us, through us and with us forming us into the Church.

Pruning by Christ means that Christ in order to insure the growth of the vine must cut away what is drawing life away from the vine. This can be a difficult process for the vine and clearly for us. Just as a vine dresser removes excess leaves and dying branches from a vine in an attempt to stimulate further growth often though cutting away what is not necessary, so our life in the Spirit may experience a time of cutting away of excesses. Our prayer life must change as our life changes. As a child, we prayed as a child. As an adult who has experienced life, we pray from a life of joy and pain, gain and loss, ambiguity and certainty. Many people emphasize emotional feelings about the closeness to God they feel when they pray. Others speak of the fervor or inspiration they feel when praying or at Mass or when engaged in spiritual pursuit. While these feelings are real and are given by the Holy Spirit, they are not to be emphasized or sought. Here is a quote from a great Saint and life in the Spirit—St. Therese of Lisieux, she writes; “Everything is a grace...Everything is the direct effect of our Father’s love; difficulties, contradictions, humiliations, all the soul’s miseries, burdens, needs, everything because through them the soul learns humility, realizes its weakness. Everything is God’s gift. Whatever be the character of life or its unexpected events...to the heart that loves, all is well.” Prayer can be dry, difficult, and seemingly distant from God. Prayer can lack feeling except the conviction that God is. Prayer can be filled with doubts and struggles. These experiences prune our souls. These experiences simplify our prayer life removing all non excess and focus on the Lord. The lessons we learn at these times helps our spirit to grow in the Lord. It is these times that our soul is prepared to produce much fruit.

Growth in Christ is our constant goal. We grow in Christ through our spiritual trials. We know we have grown in Christ when we realize our need for forgiveness and our need to be forgiving. We know we have grown in Christ when we know our sins and realize that all we have, any spiritual growth or insight we have comes through the Holy Spirit in God’s mercy. We know that we have grown in Christ when our prayer life is simple, direct and has few words except those words found in scripture. We know we have grown in Christ when we, without question, trust Divine Providence especially in times of great ambiguity. We know we have grown in Christ when we are joy-filled even in times of stress. Living lovingly (that is willing the good for the other) living with hope, living peacefully, living with kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, chastity, patience, generosity, gentleness and self control are signs that we are growing in Christ. These fruits come with many time of pruning.

Yes, Christ is the Vine and we are the Branches and it is only in Christ that we can do any good for ourselves, others or the world. If you want Joy, live in Communion with Christ and in union with the Eucharist.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

In the coming weeks, we'll be welcoming 42 of our young parishioners to the Table of the Lord for the first time. Please pray for them and their families, that the Eucharist will be a continual source of spiritual strength and grace in their lives...

Saturday, April 29th 12 Noon Mass

Angelina DeMaio

Sunday, May 6th, 10:00 AM Mass

**Alida Bennett
Tara Fuentes
Audrey Lafferty
Emma Latinelli
Mia Ledesma
Lyla Rose Valentino
Sophia Zoog**

**Alexander Cantwell
Crescenzo Caporilli
Sean Zacharias LeBron-Rivera
Brandon Serrano
Justin Serrano
Tomasz Smith
Kevin Wacker
Jaxon Weber
Dominic Yampolsky**

Sunday, May 20th 10:00 AM Mass

**Raven Casanova Santiago
Catherine Goldschmid
Emma Goldschmid
Clover Graves
Isabella Lubrano
Addison Marshall
Katarina Noye Lozada
Toni Marie Oliveri
Mackenzi Owens
Gemma Smith
Gabriella Tresko**

**William Harrison Cayten
John Chester
Aedan Danetti
Noah Gutierrez
Gregory LaRosa
Mateo Nrecaj
Andrew Oakes
John Oakes
Justin Renta
Mack Roberts
Johnny Rouse
Nicholas Wasserman**



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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Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS