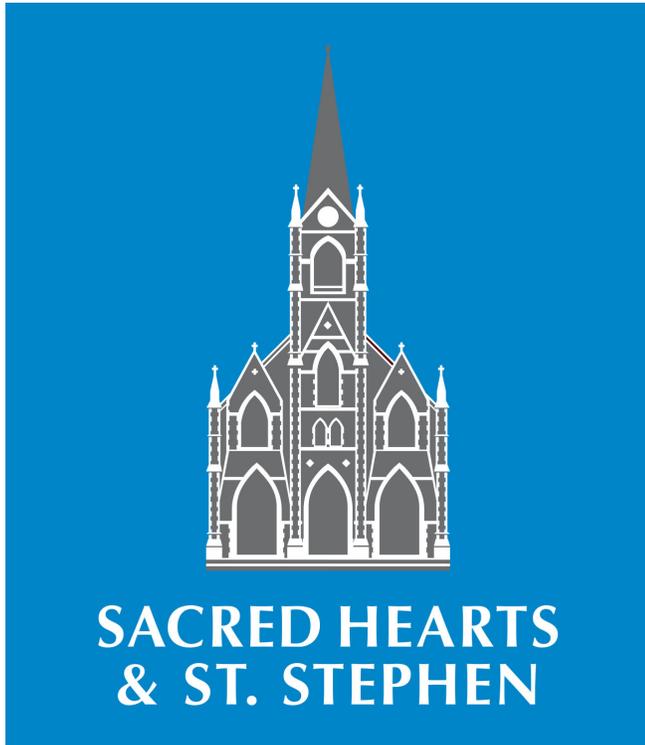


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# **SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH**

**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 & 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.

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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

- MON. MAY 7, 2018**  
 Noon For the People of the Parish
- TUE. MAY 8, 2018**  
 8:30 Ralph Wager  
 BY: The Reca Family
- WED MAY 9, 2018**  
 8:30 Marion Billotto  
 BY: Camille & Anthony
- THURS. MAY 10, 2018-Ascension Thursday**  
 8:30 Alfred Pipitone  
 BY: Mom & Dad  
 Noon Rosemary Rowley  
 BY: Kathryn & Dana Parentini  
 7:00 PM Maureen Cantone  
 BY: Rose Marie Foglia
- FRI. MAY 11, 2018**  
 8:30 Filomena Scotto  
 BY: Children
- SAT. MAY 12, 2018**  
 8:30 Sal Platania  
 BY: Dora Zanzonico & Family  
 5:30 PM Mothers' Day Remembrance
- SUN MAY 13, 2018**  
 8:00 AM Mothers' Day Remembrance  
 10:00 Mothers' Day Remembrance  
 12:00 Mothers' Day Remembrance

**SHSS Parish Has Talent**

Thank you to Mr. James Lake and Dr. Evelyn Troester-De Graff and to all who participated in the Choir Fun Night. Thank you to the children and the young people who worked so diligently and performed so well. Thank you to our Adult Choir and to our soloists who sang from their hearts. Thank you for an entertaining, fun and uplifting evening. Thank you to all who came and supported our Music Ministry. Thank you to all those who made this night possible especially to those who set up and broke down and cleaned up. Thank you Anthony Troiano and Mr. Willie.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Sunday Collection for 4/29	\$ 3,103.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$ 14,325.00
Difference:	-\$11,222.00

\*\*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:

5/8,5/15,5/22,5/29  
 @ 4:30 PM in

Rectory Hall. All are welcome!  
 Bring your cell phone, tablet and/or computer.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION**

Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 10 AM Mass will take a brief hiatus during the month of May, as we celebrate First Communion and Mother's Day. It won't be gone for the summer quite yet, though, as we'll resume on Sunday, June 3rd. In the meantime, we're asking all families whose children participate in the Liturgy of the Word for Children to provide contact information so we can offer resources for use at home or at Mass. Please take a minute to stop by the table at the rear of the church and use the sign up sheet you'll find there. Thanks!

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE**

Thank you to all those generous individuals who have made a pledge to the 2018 ACA and the parish team who spoke at the Masses and also helped distribute and collect materials last weekend. At our In-Pew drive last weekend, we collected \$13,387 in pledges and one-time gifts for the ACA for this year on behalf of our Parish. As long as all pledges are fulfilled by those who made them, \$31,565 will be used to help the ministries of the Church throughout Brooklyn and Queens and \$10,085 will come back directly to SHSS for our needs. If you have not made a contribution and would like to, you may use the envelopes located at the entrance of the Church or donate online at Annual Catholic Appeal.org.

# 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	Alissa 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

## THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST

What does this mean? Why is this a Holy Day? How does this day relate to Easter? In the Creed we say "He (Christ) ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father..." To understand the meaning of the Ascension, we must again return to our belief in God as a Trinity. This means that God is: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We must also look at our belief in the Incarnation of God among us as experienced in Jesus. The mystery of the Incarnation covers all that Jesus did and said. The Incarnation means that God, who is beyond all words, transcended beyond us taken on our humanity, God the invisible one becomes visible in the humanity of Jesus. While God created our humanity for us, God becomes one with us not only in spirit, but in body. God becomes one with us by using our humanity to reveal himself to us. God in Jesus teaches us what it means to be human. God in the humanity of Jesus moves among us, cures our illness, forgives our sins, feels compassion for the suffering. Jesus in our humanity remains absolutely faithful to his mission and ultimately redeems our sins through his Passion and Death and Resurrection. It is in his humanity that Jesus redeems us. Pope Benedict wrote "The meaning of the Ascension expresses our belief that in Christ the humanity that we all share has entered into the inner life of God in a new and hitherto unheard of way. It means that man has found an everlasting place in God. It would be a mistake to interpret the Ascension as a temporary absence of Christ from the world. Rather, we go to heaven to the extent that we go to Jesus Christ and enter into him. Heaven is a person: Jesus himself is what we call heaven." How do we go to Jesus? The presence of Jesus has passed into the Sacraments especially the Eucharist. The presence of Christ is found in the Church. By the church I mean the baptized and those who feed on the Eucharist. The presence of Christ is found in the Sacred Text we read. It is Christ now made present by the Holy Spirit that we today experience Christ and heaven.

## 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!



The Sanctuary Lamps  
for the week of

May 6th have been donated

In Loving Memory of  
**BRIDGET SCANNAVINO**

BY: Maria Caria



Bread & Wine for the week of  
May 6th has been donated

In Loving Memory of  
**ANGELO VERGONA**

BY: Louise Orsino

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Our Lady of Loretto #595 Knights of Columbus will once again give away three \$500.00 scholarships through *The Kimberly Geritano Scholarship Program* to children attending a Catholic School. Any child in Grade 1 through 12 is eligible. The application fee is \$10.00 which will be applied to the Scholarship Fund. The application forms will be handed out in the back of the church following every mass this weekend by the members of the Knights of Columbus. The winners will be picked following the noon mass on June 24th. Thank you for supporting the Knights of Columbus.

# From the Pastor

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## LIVE JESUS

Dear Parish Family,

If you go to Bay Ridge you will find on Ridge Boulevard between 89th and 92nd Street, the Monastery of the Visitation Sisters. At the entrance to the monastery you will see a sign on which is written "LIVE JESUS." This is the motto and mission of the order of the Visitation Sisters. Today's readings echo this motto. What does this motto mean? Is it a prayer? How do we make the name of Jesus our goal?

In today's readings, we are presented with a clear direction from Jesus himself. He states that the condition for loving him is to keep his commands. We are told to keep, obey, hear and follow the words of Christ. This message is found clearly in the second reading from 1John 4:7-10 and in the Gospel which comes from John 15:9-17. The command of Jesus or in Hebrew the Mitzvot of Jesus is "Love one another as I have loved you." We have heard this command so often, I wonder if we hear it any more or if we know what it means. What does this command mean? Is there a difference between liking and loving? Do you have to like to love? What is the goal of love? Is this a command to be carried out now or is it something to work towards or both? The questions abound. The command remains, "Love one another as I have loved you." The command remains the measure of our love for Jesus.

The word love in our society has many meanings. In English, we have only one word for love and the degree of that love is learned from the sentence. So, I love my family, I love my wife/husband, I love my children, I love my friends and neighbors use the same word "Love" but each meaning of the word "Love" differs in each sentence. The Love of which the Gospel, the second reading for the scriptures means to will the effective good for the other. It is devoid of liking, devoid of personal emotion, it is the willing of the good for the other because this is what God wishes for us and what Jesus wishes us to do. This is not an easy demand. It is only with the grace of God that we can love in this way. Yet, the condition to LIVE JESUS commands us to will the good for others. Out of this command to love, comes our willingness to work for peace, joy, light, truth, understanding, justice and mercy, etc. Think of the Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi. It is an example of how to follow the command to love and how to LIVE JESUS.

To follow Jesus is a challenge. To LIVE JESUS is a goal against which we can examine our conscience. This command to will the good for others applies to everyone including those who we do not like, those we find difficult and challenging and even our enemies. This willing the good for others is universal and inclusive. This willing the good does not always make us happy. Sometimes, willing the good demands us to be firm, set boundaries, correct and even intervene in the life of another person for that persons own good. Love is not easy. Many times the loving person will suffer from push back. Think of the parent who corrects and sets limits on a child. That child sometimes kicks up a fuss. Think of the child who is willing the good for the senior citizen parent who must make difficult decisions for the good of the parent. Think of the resistance that child gets from the parent. Think of how many react to being told that certain issues must be addressed in our lives if we are going to live together in this marriage, or family. For the sake of love, many have died and many have suffered, not for doing bad things, but for carrying out the good. Think of how many saints and regular people who have given their lives for their faith. Think of the many who have forgiven others for terrible wrongs committed against them. Think of the freedom that comes from such forgiveness. As St. Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians, "Love is not self-centered, it seeks the good of the other." To LIVE JESUS we must follow the example of Christ and always find new ways, new understandings of how to love. Love is not self-centered it is always other centered. How do we hear this command? Is fulfilling this command possible in the New York society of today where so many of us are so concerned about our own success, position and comfort?

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

**Sunday, May 6th, 10:00 AM Mass**

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

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

**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  
Mia Ledesma**

**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**

**WELCOME TO ALL**

**Today, we welcome our children to the Eucharist. We welcome the families and friends of our children. We welcome you who are from other parishes, we welcome you if you are not Catholic. We welcome you if you are a member of another faith community or if you are a member of a faith community. We welcome you if you believe or if you do not believe. We welcome you wherever you are coming from. Welcome to the spiritual journey you are making. Please pray with us, please pray for the children and their families.**

**While I do welcome you to pray with us, at this time I can only offer the reception of the Holy Eucharist to Catholics. However, if you wish to approach the priest or the deacon for a blessing at communion time, please simply cross your heart with your arms and the priest will know to give you a blessing. I thank you for understanding and respecting our beliefs.**

**Msgr. Guy A. Massie**

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

**PHONE**

718-596-7750

**CONTACT PERSON**

Rose Marie Foglia

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