
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/Business Manager

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

MON. APRIL 8, 2019
Noon For The People of the Parish

TUE. APRIL 9, 2019
8:30 Luciano & Mary Bellocchio
BY: The Reca Family

WED APRIL 10, 2019
8:30 Salvatore Pellecchia
Birthday Remembrance
BY: Rose Palmieri & Daughters

THURS. APRIL 11, 2019
8:30 Vincent Favorito
BY: His Family

FRI. APRIL 12, 2019
8:30 Holy Cross for the Parish
7:00 Stations of the Cross

SAT. APRIL 13, 2019
8:30 Sara, Vincenza, Jo Jo & Angelina Azzarelli
BY: Carmela Di Rosa
5:30 Deceased Members of The Azzarelli Family
BY: Cousin Lou Pepe & Joe Cerato

SUN APRIL 14, 2019
8:00 AM Alfred Pipitone
BY: Mom & Dad
10:00 Marie Gambardella
BY: Rose Marie Foglia
Noon Lee Andrew Hirsch
BY: Mom



The Sanctuary Lamps for the Week of April 7th have been donated
In Memory of
MARCIA JEAN LOUIS
BY: Chris Taylor

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 3/31	\$ 3,512.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$10,813 .00

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

On Line Giving for the
 Month of March totaled \$ 3,273.06

40 DAYS OF CANS FOR 40 DAYS OF LENT

The Bishop Thomas V. Daily Council #17000 Knights of Columbus is coordinating a food drive for Lent—"40 Days of Cans for 40 Days of Lent." The canned food that will be collected will be donated to the food pantry at the Movement Pentecostal Christian Church on Summit Street. Donations of canned food will be collected beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through every weekend during Lent. Donations boxes will be placed in the rear of the church.

Vivat Jesus!
 Louis Pepe, Grand Knight
 Knights of Columbus #17000



Bread & Wine for the week of April 7, 2019 has been donated
 In Loving Memory of
ANTONINO DI NIERI
 BY: Carolyn & John

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2019

PARISH GOAL: \$32,306.00
RAISED: \$ 6,030.00

The 2019 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 Mugavero Residence for infirmed clergy, Futures in Education Scholarship Foundation.

Please remain assured that your gift to the *Annual Catholic Appeal cannot be used in the settlement of abuse claims or for anything other than their above listed intended purpose.*

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 Nigro |
| Judith Miller | Alissa Aquino |
| Diane Barchuk | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Rev. Michael Carrano | Anthony Turco |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Carol Montelbano | Gina Salta |
| Anthony Manfre | Celeste Internicola |
| Emma Huckerby | Louis Janicke |
| Louann Gambardella | Robert Janicke |
| Dominick Piro | Dominick Aiello |
| Erica Concino | Bernadette Janicke |
| Mary Therese Pugliese | Mark Carles |

Louis Pepe

MUSIC NEWS

Many thanks to the Bellantuono family for the recent donation of the lovely wooden music stand, so well-suited to the church décor. Thank you!

Choir News: all three choirs are now preparing for the great liturgies of Holy Week, which contain some of the loveliest music of the year. We hope you will be there with us!

Notes from the Organist: I'm often asked about our church's pipe organ, and so would like to continue here with a description of its current condition. Our magnificent old instrument still sounds every week, but just barely. It's approaching 70 years old, and due to the wear and tear of age, dust and water damage, it has developed many ailments: keys that won't connect to pipes that won't sound, cracks and leaks that howl, whistle and hiss. The organist must take care not to use certain sounds, not to play certain notes, to avoid standard combinations of tones which simply don't work right now. What we hear each Sunday is a mere shadow of what our pipe organ once was. Most organ music is completely unplayable in this condition, and even our beloved hymns have to use sound combinations that would normally be considered unacceptable-often sounding either anemic, strident or cloying. As detailed in recent articles, it's a large and complicated instrument, so repairs of these ailments is not easily accomplished. But we are nearing a point where something will have to be done. More on this next week.....

UPS AND DOWNS

After 2 1/2 years since beginning our church elevator project, on Friday, February 22nd, the NYC Buildings Department certified our church elevator for regular use. This is a great moment in the history of our parish as we make our worship and community space accessible to all who wish to worship regardless of their physical abilities. However, we have not yet completed our project. The installation of the automated door openers at the Hicks Street side and in the church have been ordered and are scheduled to be installed in the next 3 weeks. New signs for each floor and the outside of the building have been ordered and will be installed soon. Lastly, the marble wall covering in the lobby of the church and finishing paint around each of the landings must also be finished. At this time, it is once again appropriate to thank in a special way our architects Baxt Ingui Architects, P.C. who have donated of their services to this project including their project management staff. Remember that it is our support of the Generations of Faith Capital Campaign which has allowed this work to be done. We still need your financial support in order to complete all aspects of this project. Parish donors have already paid \$581,665 of the \$783,765 pledged to the campaign. If you have made a pledge to Generations of Faith please continue to make your payments allowing us to fully fund our parish elevator. We look forward to updating you further in the days ahead.

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND

EASTER

Thurs.	4/18	8:30 AM
		Morning Prayer
	4/18	Last Supper 7:00 PM
Friday	4/19	8:30 AM
		Morning Prayer
Friday	4/19	3:00 PM
		Passion of the Lord
Friday	4/19	7:00 PM
		Procession
Saturday	4/20	8:30 AM
		Morning Prayer
Saturday	4/20	8:00 PM Easter Vigil
Sunday	4/21	10:00AM Easter Mass
Sunday	4/21	12:00 PM Easter Mass

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today is the Fifth Sunday in Lent and the last Sunday prior to Holy Week. The readings call us to recognize the gift of mercy, which is not earned nor deserved, but given to us by God because of God's graciousness. The responsorial psalm invites us to sing: "The Lord has done great things for us; and we are filled with joy." The great thing the Lord has done for us is to show us mercy.

The gospel for today is one of the most popular gospel stories. The gospel tells us about the woman caught in the act of adultery. So many people remember the great line: "Let the one without sin cast the first stone." Let's look more closely at this story. What is the message of the gospel? The message is mercy. Show to others the mercy you yourself want. The woman did commit a sinful act. She is not exonerated nor is she excused from the act. She, according to Law, can be stoned. Jesus never says what she did was right or not serious, he tells her to go now and sin no more. Thus, even Jesus recognized her sin but he extends mercy to her. This mercy is given, not earned. This mercy is not deserved. This mercy is given by God's graciousness.

With Holy Week so close, this story of the woman caught in the act of adultery may also be seen from the perspective of the story of salvation. The people of Israel were seen as the spouse of God. Israel's relationship with God known as the covenant was often spoken of in nuptial terms by the prophets such as Hosea and Ezekiel. Oftentimes the leaders, the kings of Israel were not faithful to the covenant and therefore the prophets likened this sin to adultery. The major sin which Israel seems to have fallen into was idolatry. Idolatry was seen as an act of adultery to God. So, in some ways, this woman represents the shattered historical relationship between God and God's people. Yet God extends mercy to his people. It will be to heal this unfaithfulness that Christ will give his life.

How can we understand this Gospel? What lesson can we take from this story? As Israel was seen as the spouse of God, so too, the Church is seen as the spouse of Christ. The church has not always been faithful to the covenant. Throughout history we have had leadership, as well as lay people acting unfaithfully towards the gospel. This recent scandal is an example of its sinfulness. The church, in many areas of its life, has been unfaithful. We are a sinful church. On the other hand, many have been faithful to the Lord. Yet, no one is so perfect as not to need mercy. All of us need the mercy of God and all of us need to extend mercy to each other. Remember, mercy is not earned, it is not deserved. It is given for healing and conversion. In the second reading, St. Paul tells us: "I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus is my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having my righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ." In short, Paul sees his life saved because of God's gracious mercy. Today, sinners though we are, are offered a chance to be made anew in the sacraments and in celebration of our faith. Can we accept the mercy of God? Can we share the mercy with others, who like ourselves, do not deserve it and can we sing with the women caught in adultery: "The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy?"

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

Engaging the Mind during Lent

LENTEN VESPERS 4:00 PM IN THE MAIN CHURCH

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

April 7th

Engaging the Soul During Lent

Stations of the Cross

April 12th Stations in the Ignatian spirituality

Eucharistic Adoration

.....All orders and degrees of the faithful

April 9th For the intentions of those in tribulation

April 15th for the intentions of

.....those in public office

.....the Church

TO ALL

The Jewish People and the Passion narratives present us with a need for a pastoral note. The Passion Narratives in no way justifies anti-Semitism nor any persecution of the Jews of our day or any other day. Keeping with the Teachings of the Catholic Church as explained at Vatican II in the document *Nostra Aetate* (In Our Time), I remind you that writing of the Passion is not story of trial as we would know it. The Passion is a theological and Catechaitcal document. These events were written after the Passion and reflect a time period which was not contemporary with the Passion but with later history when The Jewish Community of Jerusalem was dividing between those who accepted Jesus and those who did not. This divide caused families and friendships to split apart. I ask you to be mindful of the quote below from Vatican II. As we hear and meditate on the Passion/Death and Resurrection of Christ during the next few weeks, I ask all to keep in mind that these events are the founding events of our faith. Please remember the following:

Even though the Jewish authorities and those who followed their lead pressed for the death of Christ, neither all Jews indiscriminate at that time, nor Jews today can be charged with the crimes committed during his passion. It is true that the Church is the new people of God, yet the Jews should not be spoken of as rejected or accused as if this followed from the Holy Scriptures. Consequently, all must take care lest in catechizing or preaching the Word of God, they teach anything which is not in accord with the truth of the Gospel message or the spirit of Christ. Indeed the Church proves every form of persecution against whomever it may be directed. Remembering then her common heritage with the Jews and moved not by any political consideration, but solely by religious motivation of Christian clarity, she (the Church) deplores all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism leveled at anytime or from any source against the Jews. The Church always held and continues to hold that Christ out of love freely underwent suffering and death because of the sins of all men, so that all might attain salvation. It is the duty of the Church, therefore, in her preaching to proclaim the cross of Christ as a sign of God's universal love and source of all grace. (*Nostra Aetate* 28 October 1965 Vatican II Document)

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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