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# **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:**

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

**MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:**

Monday 8:30 AM  
Tues. through Sat. 8:30 AM

**Adoration:** First Friday each month @ 7:15 AM

**CONFESSIONS:**

Saturdays 3:45– 4:30 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. CLETUS FORSON

**Parochial Vicar**

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

**Director of Faith Formation**

**Religious Education**

JOHN HEYER, II

**Pastoral Associate**

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

**Administrator/Business Manager**

JAMES LAKE

**Parish Organist**

JENNIFER WU

**Choir Director**

EVELYN TROESTER DEGRAF

**Choir Director Emerita**

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.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/SHSS**

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 5:00 (Closed for Lunch from 1-2) Friday 9:00 to 3:00 Saturday 9:00 to 1:00  
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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**MON. DECEMBER 7, 2020**  
 8:30 Natalie, Michael & Robert Manus  
 BY: Michael, Lou Anne & Arthur Manus

**TUE. DECEMBER 8, 2020**  
 8:30 Phil & Kathleen Foley  
 BY: Their Daughter Mary  
 Noon Ralph & Antoinette DBuglione  
 BY: Carolyn & Al

**WED. DECEMBER 9, 2020**  
 8:30 Deceased Members of  
 The Marchetti & Dellaporte Families  
 BY: Catherine

**THURS. DECEMBER 10, 2020**  
 8:30 Fr. Patrick Burns  
 Fr. Timothy Hirten

**FRI. DECEMBER 11, 2020**  
 8:30 Ralph & Theresa Colantonio  
 BY: Sister Angie

**SAT. DECEMBER 12, 2020**  
 8:30 Our Lady of Guadalupe  
 5:00 PM Vito & Carmelina Di Turi  
 BY: Marie & Frank Gaudio

**SUN. DECEMBER 13, 2020**  
 8:30 All People of the Parish  
 10:00 Frank, Lottie & Janet Illiano  
 BY: The Illiano Family  
 Noon All Deceased Members of  
 The Dellaporte Family  
 BY: Catherine

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Sunday Collection 11/29	\$ 1,324.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,940.00
Total Sunday 11/29	\$ 4,264.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 10,061.00
**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks	

**Financial Stewardship**

For those who are financially able to continue to support the parish during this time, we encourage you to sign up for e-giving so that we may be able to continue the ministry of the church during this critical time.

**Parish Religious Education & Catholic Schools**

Regular parish CCD classes held on Sundays and Wednesdays are postponed for the time being. Likewise, all activities related to our children’s faith-formation program such as the Sunday 7th grade seminar, Stations of the Cross practices, Confirmation mentoring sessions, and Child Lures training are also postponed for the time being.

The health of all the faithful of the parish is of utmost concern, so let us continue to pray to the Lord who is a healer to protect us and bring about quickly an end to this present crisis through the intercession of His Mother Mary under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

# 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,     | Helena Rolla        |
| Brad Hatry            | Louis Pepe          |
| Michelle Laquercia    | Irene Balen         |
| Dolly Vergona,        | Gloria Heyer        |
| Judith DeArmen        | John Nigro          |
| Judith Miller         | Alissa Aquino       |
| Diane Barchuk         | Addy Wardrope       |
| Carol DeMairo         | Anthony Gambardella |
| Anthony Tilocca       | Anthony Turco       |
| Roe Gambardella       | Elizabeth Foley     |
| Ann Curcuru           | Dora Zanzonico      |
| Lamar McNabb          | Louis D'Angelo      |
| Carol Montelbano      | Gina Salta          |
| Anthony Manfre        | Celeste Internicola |
| Emma Huckerby         | Kristin Quail       |
| Louann Gambardella    | Robert Janicke      |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr.  | Mark Carles         |
| Erica Concino         | Bernadette Janicke  |
| Mary Therese Pugliese | Evan Marra          |
| Hector Jimenez        | Darren Munio        |

## REACH OUT

**During this difficult time, please take a moment to check on your neighbor, the elderly and the shut in to see how they are doing. Perhaps they may need an item from the grocery store, or someone to pick up their prescriptions, anything we are able to do for them would be appreciated. Sometimes all they need is conversation and that simply requires a phone call. These are unprecedented times and we are all in this together. Take some of the free time you may have to sit in prayer for all the world.**

## CHANGE IN MASS TIME

**KINDLY NOTE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, THE 8:00 AM MASS ON SUNDAY WILL NOW BE CELEBRATED AT 8:30 AM. THIS WILL CONTINUE INTO THE NEW YEAR AS WELL.**



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

In Memory of  
**JOSEPH & TARA COSTAGLIOLA**  
BY: Michael & Lou Anne Manus

## HEARTSHARE TOY DRIVE

Due to Covid 19, HeartShare has announced they will be doing the collection of items differently this year. If you wish to write a check and mail it in, please do so by writing a check out to HeartShare Human Services and send it to HeartShare Human Services of New York, Attention Mario Principato, 12 Metrotech Center, 29th Floor, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 or go to the [www.heartshare.org/](http://www.heartshare.org/) and in the upper right corner, you will find a donate button. Once on the donate page, choose the tab indicating Donation Destination where there will be an option for Holiday 2020. Should you have any questions regarding this process, kindly direct them to Mario Principato at 718 422-3213. Thank you for your kindness and generosity to those in need, especially this year. God Bless You!!

# 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 our 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 a longing to see the consolation of God. There is a longing to experience healing. The people to whom this message 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 exilic period (586BC-516BC) in the bible was a trying time for the Israelites. They were forced 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 felt separated from 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? 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 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 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

## **THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

On Tuesday, December 8th we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. God so loved us that God entered our world. He does so out of love for us not because we merited his coming to us by our righteous behavior. In fact he came to us because we are in need of God's help, Mary is the instrument through whom God would enter the world. Mary is the vessel who through the Holy Spirit would make the Incarnation of God among us possible.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is highly misunderstood by many Catholics. The feast celebrates the conception of Mary. It is not the conception of Jesus. Advent is a time for preparation. The feast tells us that God prepared Mary from the first moments of her existence to be the instrument through whom the Incarnation of God would take place. Marian devotion has been often criticized. Yet, when it is placed in the proper perspective, Marian Devotion announces the person of Christ Jesus. Mary is venerated by Catholics and Eastern Orthodox traditions because of her role in the Incarnation of God among us in the person of Jesus. All devotion to Mary must lead us to Christ. We believe in God who became one with us in all things but sin.

Masses for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be December 8th at 8:30 AM and Noon. To honor Mary in a special way on this day, please bring flowers to the altar of Mary on the left side of the church. You will find vases with water into which you may place your flowers.

### **THE SCRIPTURES OF ADVENT**

We believe that Jesus the Christ has come. We believe that Jesus is God's Word made flesh and we believe that Jesus is the image of the invisible God. We believe that Jesus has not only begun the Kingdom of God on earth, but that Jesus is the Kingdom of God. While we believe this we also continue to pray for the Kingdom of God to come every time we pray the Lord's Prayer. Thus, while the Kingdom is here, it is not complete. We want Jesus to come again and bring the Kingdom to fulfillment. What do we mean by the Kingdom of God? We mean when God may rule the earth. We mean when all hatred stops, when there is harmony among humanity, the cosmos and total reconciliation with God for all people of good will. We wait even to this day for this Kingdom to come.

### **HOW TO HEAR THE ADVENT READINGS**

Listen to the readings again for the first time. Listen to the readings in our time. Listen to the readings with our recent experience of the Covid and with our longing to have this virus gone. Listen to the readings in light of the many financial problems faced by many. Hear these readings in light of our hopes for health and well being. Listen to them in light of the social discontent in our city. Listen to the readings in light of your own yearnings for better times to come.

The readings reflect this waiting. In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah we can almost hear and feel the frustration, longing and even anger of the writer as he pours out his heart. Longing, waiting, expecting, looking forward to, making up a dream sheet can be ways to understand the meaning of Advent. Many of us experience a need for fulfillment. Many have a need for inner peace and contentment. Many of us want our problems to cease. Some long just to be. Many are longing for an end to ambiguity in

their lives. Health issues, job issues and sudden changes seem to highlight many of human dreams and needs at this time. Some of us are just unhappy longing for a life that used to be when we were in a different place. Instead of masking all these issues in the jingle bells and parties and pretending happiness, why not take these feelings to prayer in this Advent Season. Why not make your discontent and longing prayer.

### **THE PEOPLE OF ADVENT**

The people we will meet in the Advent texts are well known to us. We will meet Isaiah who is the major prophet of the season, although not the only prophet. Isaiah will speak to us about our longings and our absence of fulfillment but also about hope. St. Paul will speak to us of the last things and point us to the coming of Jesus again at the end of time. John the Baptist will articulate our need for salvation from sin and from ourselves, our narcissism and point out Jesus who is the answer to life's questions and struggles. Mary is the major person whose life is turned upside down and waits for God again in her life. Not only does this great mother wait for the birth of Jesus, she waits also to understand God's great plan of salvation. This is the Mother who is our Advent companion. She will point us to Christ. She will pray for us and we will go to Jesus through her.

I wish you a great Advent Season and Blessed New Liturgical Year 2021.

**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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Wednesday 1 PM

**KINDLY SEND ONLY 100 ‘  
BULLETINS. THANK YOU!  
STAY SAFE!**