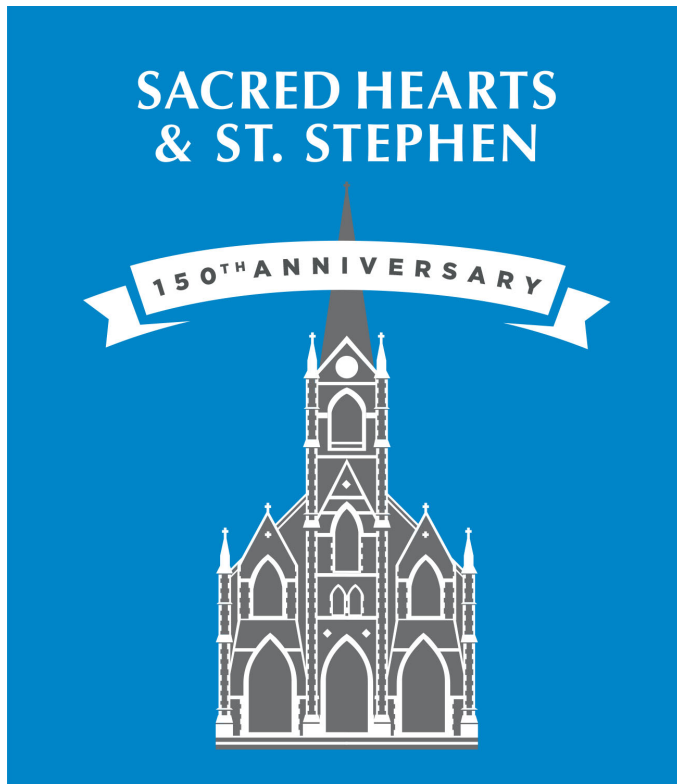

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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 & 12:00 NOON
5:30 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Monday 12:00 Noon
Tuesday thru Friday 8:30 AM 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**

Rectory: 108 Carroll Street

Brooklyn, N.Y 11231

718-596-7750 tel

718-260-9233 fax

REV. MSGR. GUY A. MASSIE

Pastor

REV. VICTOR KOFI ASHIAGBOR

Associate

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

Director of Faith Formation

Religious Education

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

EVELYN TROESTER DEGRAF

Choir Director

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Administration

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

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. SEPTEMBER 19, 2016**
Noon Santo & Carmella Savoca
BY: The Troiano Family
- TUE. SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**
8:30 Carmine Graziani
BY: Daughter Teresa
- WED SEPTEMBER 21, 2016**
8:30 For Blessings for the
Beginning of The School Year
- THURS. SEPTEMBER 22, 2016**
8:30 Dominick, Fortunata &
Augustine DiCoscia
BY: DiCoscia Family
- FRI. SEPTEMBER 23, 2016**
8:30 Francesca Forte
- SAT. SEPTEMBER 24, 2016**
8:30 Ralph Colantonio
BY: Loving Family
5:30 PM Lee Andrew Hirsch
BY: Mom
- SUN SEPTEMBER 25, 2016**
8:00 Holy Spirit for the
People of the Parish
10:00 Sr. Barbara Leonardo, MSSH
BY: The Troiano Family
Noon: Giovanna & Luigi Barrera
BY: Loving Family

HOLY HOUR

Holy Hour every Saturday afternoon @ 4-5:15 PM. Come adore, pray and contemplate. Allow our Lord to contemplate you to see through you to heal you and to uplift you. Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

THANK YOU LORD

For this wonderful and amazing morning. For your word of Hope which gives us strength. For your love that makes our life meaningful. For your Peace that gives us comfort. For your Grace that renews and restores our life. We give You Praise in Jesus' name. Amen!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION THE SACRAMENT OF MERCY

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. This is an important Sacrament in which we experience the Mercy of God. Who should come to confession? Everyone should come to this sacrament. Why should we come? We should come if we are interested in growing in discipleship. No one is perfect. Neither the priest, the pope nor the bishop, not even are you. Confession is self accusatory without explanations. It is a place where we face ourselves and our motives for doing good. Are all our good acts other centered or may they too be self-centered? It is in discussing the state of our Spirit that we can get back on track. Who should go to Eucharist? Those who are seeking to follow Christ. Those who are struggling to follow the Gospel even with occasional falls and errors. Those whose heart is going towards Christ on Christ's terms not their own. Who should not go to communion? Those who are aware of grave and serious sin which has not been confessed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation spoken to the priest of the state of their life. Never be afraid to approach the priest with whom you can relate. Situations which may be embarrassing, off color, of sexual nature, of criminal nature, the priest is there for forgiveness and healing. He has heard it all previously. The good thing is, he forgets. Remember, no one is perfect. We, including the priest, all struggle, even with ourselves, to live the Gospel. So, come and be forgiven, be filled with Grace and keep moving to a deeper relationship with the Lord.

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 |
| Maria Carmen Morial | John Nigro |
| Judith Miller | Alissa Aquino |
| Michele Morea | Palma Caminiti |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Denise Deacomanolis | Rachel Valenti |
| Salvatore Gianino | Judith Latalladi |
| Rosemary Love | Lisa Van Tassel |
| Lucy D'Ambrosi Nolan | Eileen Giannotta |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Roe Gambardella |
| Kathleen Gunderson | Rosa Maria Santos |
| Donald Jackson | Paul Girard |



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of

September 18, 2016 has been donated

In Loving Memory of
My Brother

"Ciro" Jerry Geritano

Requested by:

Angela



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of

September 18, 2016 have been donated

In Loving Memory of
**DOMINICK, FORTUNATA &
AUGUSTINE DICOSCIA**

BY: The DiCoscia Family

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

You are cordially invited to a Gala celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of St. Stephen Catholic Church on

Sunday, November 13, 2016.

4:00 PM Cocktails—5:00 PM Dinner

El Caribe Country Club

5945 Strickland Avenue

Brooklyn, N.Y.

\$135.00 Per Person

\$65.00 for Children Ages 3 to 10

Reservation Deadline is 10/14/16

150@SacredHearts-StStephen.com

Or call

718 596-7750

*****Tickets are now on sale
at the Rectory!*****

Journal Ads are available.
For more information e-mail
info@sacredhearts-ststephen.com

Our 150th Anniversary Mass
Celebrated by

Most Rev. Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio

Will be held on

Sunday,

December 18, 2016

@ 10:00 AM

We ask that you save the above dates for these momentous occasions in the life of our Parish.

Join your Parish Family in celebration and fellowship!

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family:

Imagine if our energy was directed to doing good, to finding solutions to problems, to addressing issues which can improve our quality of life. Imagine if we used our energy to create a positive environment where relationships could grow, productivity increase and respect for the person is enhanced. In today's first reading and Gospel, we are invited to direct our energies and resources towards the continuous building up of the Kingdom of God.

In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos, we are told that one's relationship with God must be lived out in just and right relationships with others. Amos is addressing those who are wealthy. He is critical of their selfish greed. He is also critical of their worship. He accuses these greedy people of wanting to cut short their holy days so they could return to their daily business and continue to ignore the poor and destitute in their midst. Notice that Amos does not criticize their wealth but rather their greed. They ignored doing good for others. Rather, they used their wealth for themselves. Had they used their resources for the building up of the people, they would have been greatly blessed.

In the Gospel, we are presented with a rather interesting parable of a wicked servant. The servant proved to be most creative and resourceful with his master's money. While the servant was dishonest, he saved himself. Jesus does not praise the servant's dishonesty but rather his resourcefulness. Jesus remarks that those who are worldly and unscrupulous are more energetic in pursuing their plans than those who are working for the Kingdom of God. If energies and the resources of the unscrupulous were redirected to doing good, the world would be a better place.

How can we understand this parable? Resources can be seen as money, time or talents. During Lent, I suggested that would it not be a good idea if people went to Mass every day? While many did come, some said: "Oh, Mass is too early to get to during the week." I suggested the possibility of voluntary fasting which would be a personal commitment with a donation to a soup kitchen at the end of the fast. The response was: "that is too difficult." However, I met those same people running early in the day and others going to the gym in the morning. I learned that those who said that fasting was too much, to be dieting. I discovered that those who could not come to the Stations of the Cross did find time to go to Atlantic City. When asked to increase a weekly donation to five, ten or twenty dollars, it was seen as too much, but the same people were betting on numbers and playing lotto.

This is the point of the parable. We are more likely to be more energetic and more likely to give of ourselves to worldly pursuits than to building up the Kingdom of God. Imagine if all our energies were redirected to doing what God has asked of us what a world this would be? If this is true, why is it true? What is it about human psyche that allows for this behavior which seeks first what we want and then maybe what God may want?

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

SHARE THE LIGHT OF FAITH

Jesus calls all of us to share the Good News with others. As parents and godparents, we make a commitment at baptism to foster the great gift of faith in our children. The SHSS Children's Faith Formation program ("CCD") is privileged to share in this work as we focus on how the light of faith guides us to" *Celebrate as the Family of God.*"

We invite you to **REGISTER NOW** for our 2016-17 program. Weekly sessions are held Sundays beginning at 10:00 Mass, followed by instruction until 12:30 PM in Cabrini Hall. There is also limited availability for grades 1-5 on Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:00 PM. Contact Nancy Arkin at 718 596-7750 or narkin1960@gmail.com for more information or to make an appointment to register. Returning families should have received a re-registration packet in the mail. Please return the forms as soon as possible. We look forward to sharing this journey of faith with you!

The Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Choral Ensembles

All ensembles meet on Wednesdays in the Church starting September 14th.

Contact James Lake or Evelyn Troester DeGraf

Email: music@sacredhearts-ststephen.com

Adults- Enhancing the celebration of Mass and other special occasions with traditional hymns, sacred choral concert repertoire and new compositions, this mixed adult ensemble provides a space for personal musical and vocal growth, as well as collaborative music making and community building. **All levels are welcome!**

6:45 PM 8:15 PM

Youth- For ages 10-18, this selective group of engaged and interested young singers focuses on advanced music-making, singing in harmony, singing solos in performances, learning vocal technique and musical expression, and taking on leadership roles for their younger colleagues in the children's choir. Audition required.

5 PM 6:30 PM

Children- For the youngest voices in our parish and beyond, there is the beloved SHSS Children's Choir. Girls and Boys, age 6-12, learn the joy of singing in a group and making great music together through both playful and performance-based experiences. **5:45 PM-6:30 PM.**

AN HONOR

The Parish of Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen is being honored by the Citizens of Pozzallo Club on Sunday October 16th at the El Caribe Country Club. We thank the Society for choosing our Church and are grateful for their kindness and generosity to our Parish. Tickets for this event are available at the Pozzallo Club.

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

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

September 18, 2016

TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 1 PM

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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