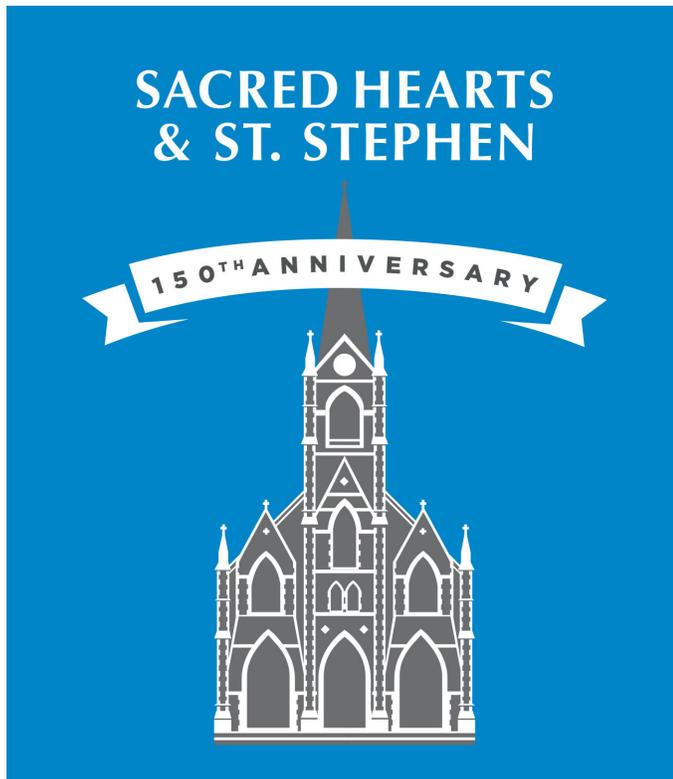

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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**



GREAT PARTY! GREAT PICNIC! **GREAT PARISH!**

Thank you to all who so diligently worked to make our Parish Picnic-Party a great success on this past Sunday. Thank you to all who participated in this great 150th Anniversary event. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family activities. Such events continue to make us a strong parish family

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

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.

- MON. SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**
Noon St. Michael the Archangel
- TUE. SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**
8:30 Michael Deacomanolis
- WED SEPTEMBER 28, 2016**
8:30 Joseph Foglia
- THURS. SEPTEMBER 29, 2016**
8:30 Pasquale Scotto
BY: His Children
- FRI. SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**
8:30 Francesca Forte
BY: Teresa & Family
- SAT. OCTOBER 1, 2016**
8:30 Gladys Mary Zodda
BY: Andrew Di Manso
5:30 PM Maria & Vita Colella
BY: Children
- SUN OCTOBER 2, 2016**
8:00 Mary Moringllo
BY: Anthony Guardascione &
Jo Ann Martino
10:00 Jean & Alfonse Cipaldo
BY: Daughters, Angela & Debra
Noon: In Thanksgiving for the
Intercession of All the Saints
BY: Clara Stella

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 25, 2016 has been donated

In Memory of
KAI NAM ENG

Requested by:
Diane & Roe



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of
September 25, 2016 have been
donated

In Loving Memory of
VINCENT MUSACCHIA

BY: Lou Ann & Michael Manus

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:

I confess to Almighty God...that I have greatly sinned in....what I have done and what I have failed to do..." so begins one of the penitential rites as we begin the celebration of the Eucharist." How many of us confess sins of omission? How many of us reflect on the good I could have done and failed to do?

Today, the twenty sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we continue with our theme of discipleship. Not all believers are disciples. While all disciples are believers not all disciples are apostles. Yet, all are called to follow the Gospel. Discipleship calls us to constant conversion of heart. Discipleship calls us to continuous spiritual self reflection and growth in the Lord.

In the Gospel today we meet two people who are characters in a parable today by Jesus. We meet Lazarus a beggar and we meet an unnamed rich man. Time is an element in the reading. We are told that while God may be always merciful, the time for us to choose our behavior is limited. The plight of Lazarus is a painful and lonely one. His pitiful state could move us to compassion for him. Yet, while we may be moved to compassion, the rich man was not moved at all. It is for this reason that the rich man finds himself in Gehenna after death. The rich man was not condemned because he committed a wrong but rather because he failed at doing good. His sins are sins of omission, not commission.

What may have prevented him from seeing the opportunity to do good? From the text we are told that Lazarus was outside this rich man's door. How could the rich man have missed Lazarus? A clue to answering this question may be found in the first reading from Amos. Amos is a prophet who we met in last week's first reading. Prophets are people who seek to speak the truth to people in power. Prophets question the status quo and the taking for granted of human experience. Amos, in this text for today, is critical of his wealthy countrymen who are ignoring the sufferings of their fellow countrymen. They seem wrapped in their own self needs and luxury. The suffering of the people to the north was too far away for them to be concerned. They were lulled into self satisfaction, selfishness and self-centeredness.

In the Gospel, the rich man, even after death, fails to see why he is not in the bosom of Abraham as is Lazarus. He fails to recognize his sin of omission. He only sees Lazarus as one who was to serve his needs. Where does this leave us? The rich man is blind to the presence of Lazarus. How could the rich man not have seen Lazarus? He stepped over him every day. What had blinded the rich man? There are many answers to these questions. Among those answers are: The rich man is blinded by his self-centeredness. The rich man's world is only about him and he sees others as serving his needs not others as people. The rich man may be a religious man, we have no idea, yet if he is, he is blind to the command of the Torah which couples love for God with love for neighbor. The rich man had material wealth which could have been shared and used to relieve the suffering of Lazarus, however, he could not see further than his own needs.

We all suffer some form of blindness. Who do we not see? Who do we see yet choose to ignore? How often could we have said the right words, defended the integrity of another or advocated for another and did not? How often do we remain purposefully blind to our own behavioral flaws? In our day, we have our eyes glued to our telephones, we are blind to people in front of us, to traffic and the world around us. Is technological blindness a symptom of our inner blindness as well?

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

BLESSING OF ANIMALS IN HONOR OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
OCTOBER 2ND @ 1:30 PM AT
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL
LOCATED ON CARROLL AND CLINTON STREETS

Dear Friends of the Animal Kingdom:

We reminded our Pastoral Staff that our feast day was quickly approaching. St. Francis recognized us as God's creatures. He saw that we played an important role in the history of salvation. Jesus was born in a stable with animals around him. Mary and Joseph road on a donkey. Jesus road upon a donkey into Jerusalem. Jesus used the image of birds and sheep in his parables. Noah gathered our ancestors into the Ark. Jesus is called the Lamb of God. Animals were an important part in worship.

Today I invite you to ask your human companions to bring you for a special blessing.

Your Feline Friends,
Ambrose, Felicity, Blackie and Alpha
Our Feline Parish House Companions

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

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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