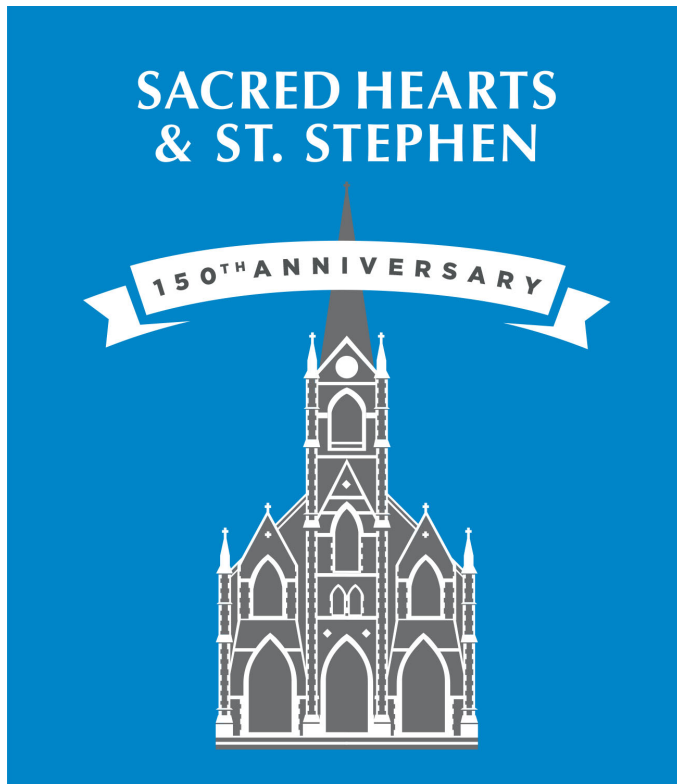


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# **SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH**

**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 & 12:00 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

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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. OCTOBER 17, 2016**  
Noon Debbie Boucher  
BY: Carol & Vinny Richards
- TUE. OCTOBER 18, 2016**  
8:30 Antonio & Enrichetta Colendrea  
BY: Daughter Giuseppina Coppola
- WED OCTOBER 19, 2016**  
8:30 In Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Estela Zamora  
BY: Marlene Buenaobra
- THURS. OCTOBER 20, 2016**  
8:30 Carmine Graziani  
BY: Daughter Teresa
- FRI. OCTOBER 21, 2016**  
8:30 Deceased Members of The Pellicano Family  
BY: Rita
- SAT. OCTOBER 22, 2016**  
8:30 Gladys Mary Zodda  
BY: The Delgado Family  
5:30 PM Frank & Lottie Illiano  
BY: Loving Family
- SUN OCTOBER 23, 2016**  
8:00 In Honor of the Holy Spirit for the People of the Parish  
10:00 Alfred Pipitone  
BY: Mom & Dad  
Noon: Michael Iacono  
BY: Marisa & Joe Ringston

## UPS AND DOWNS ELEVATOR NEWS

Our architects have begun the processes of applying for New York City Building's Department approvals for the church elevator which we are able to have installed thanks to the generosity of those donors who committed to the Generations of Faith Campaign. Look forward to weekly updates here in the bulletin informing you of the progress being made to make our church accessible to all.

## WHAT IS A DEANERY? WHAT IS A DEAN?

Deaneries are similar to clusters in many ways, but the hope of Bishop DiMarzio is that the Deaneries might be able to serve the local parishes and the diocese in additional ways that the clusters could not. The single biggest difference between a deanery and a cluster is the Dean. A Dean is a priest from the local area, appointed by the Bishop, to serve as the Bishop's representative in that local area (deanery). The Bishop has created 22 deaneries and has appointed 22 deans. The Dean is responsible for looking with a wide vision at the situation of the entire region and encouraging other parish leaders to look at the wider region as well. The Diocese has just gone through a reconfiguration process that attempted to identify and address many temporal and pastoral concerns. The dean will continue to monitor such situations and work with the other pastors and parish leaders to keep the plans on course. The Dean will still be responsible for calling together parish staff and clergy to work together on a deanery level to share pastoral plans, dialogue about changes in the wider neighborhood and propose plans to increase our collaboration with one another. In addition, the Dean is asked to support the priests in the deanery. This includes being attentive to clergy who may be ill or elderly, but may also include the spiritual support of all clergy. With the recent parish mergers come more complex assignments for pastors. Couple this with the decrease in the number of priests in general and the need for a local Dean to support priests in their assignments becomes more apparent and more urgent. The Dean will also meet directly with Bishop DiMarzio, both individually and as a group, to share with the Bishop the situation on the local level and to assist him in serving the parishes more effectively. Also, there remains a Vicar for Brooklyn and a Vicar for Queens, who are priests assigned by the Bishop to oversee the administration of the Church across entire boroughs. The Deans will work closely with the Vicars to implement plans to strengthen the Church and ensure that all priests are supported, parish staffs work together and the laity are continually informed and called into greater leadership and participation.

# 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            |
| Eileen Giannotta     | Donald Jackson      |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Roe Gambardella     |
| Kathleen Gunderson   | Paul Girard         |
| Ann Curcuru          | Angelina Campasano  |



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of October 16, 2016 has been donated

In Memory of **SYLVIA BELLO**

Requested by:  
**M/M Joseph Zagami**



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of October 16, 2016 have been donated

In Loving Memory of  
**THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF  
THE FOGLIA FAMILY**  
BY: Lou Anne & 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,

**“When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the face of the earth?”**

This is a haunting question. It seems that Jesus thinks he might not find faith on the face of the earth when he returns. Such a quote started me thinking. Why Jesus would ask such a question. What is belief? What is faith? What do we believe? Why do we believe? Why do others not believe? What has contributed to belief? What has contributed to not believing? A way to address such a dilemma may be to ask such questions as: why do we believe? For what reasons did former believers reject their faith? In our day, there seems to be a growing number of those who no longer believe. This is far beyond being separated from the Church. These have given up believing completely. Many of these have been raised as Catholics or in at least religious families of various confessions of faith. Those who have left their religious beliefs no longer have their children baptized, arrange funerals for their dead or even try to pass on any semblance of the faith, however many do have a commitment to social justice, charity, the arts, the environment and morality, sometimes to a greater degree than those who claim membership in a faith community. How is the believer to understand this?

Perhaps we can begin this discussion with four questions: 1: What does one mean by the word “God?” 2. How does behavior or witness of those who believe affect your understanding of God? 3. Does reason make room for mystery and 4. If God, why is there evil? One’s perception of God is important. I believe one’s perception of God affects one’s expectations of God. So, if your image is that God is an old man with a crown on his head in the heavens sitting on a cloud controlling the universe, then God is recognized as the cause of all the good and is blamed for all the evil in the world. If your image of God is biblical, then God is the great I AM in whom all the creation finds meaning and all creation, including ourselves, continue to exist. If our perception of God is a verb as well as a personal pronoun, then it is from God that all meaning proceeds. If God is I AM, then it is from God that all love, truth, mercy, justice and all good proceeds. It is these attributes of God which take up their dwelling deep in us. God is invisible yet these behaviors make God visible. These attributes were most visible in Christ Jesus who is the WORD of God made visible. The WORD of truth, justice, mercy, goodness, justice and love took flesh in Jesus. Jesus for us is the face of God.

Disciples, to a greater degree and believers, are called to live the goodness they profess in their belief, therefore, when a person who professes faith, yet his or her actions and attitudes are not in agreement with the goodness, mercy, truth and love that God is, the non-believer or those searching for faith, are oftentimes put off. The greatest evangelization is life lived by faithful example, not by words.

God is the Mystery in whom we ground our very existence. When we speak about Mystery, we do not mean a mystery which can be solved, but rather one that needs to be experienced. If God is a mystery, we too are formed in the image of God are mysterious even to ourselves. Do you understand yourself completely? Do you understand your children completely? We love knowledge and learning and being smart. These are good traits. We always need to learn, yet the most intelligent among us realize that there are mysteries as reasonable as they are, may be beyond understanding. God reaches beyond reason, yet belief in God is reasonable.

If God exists, why is there evil? This is a common question. Evil is a mystery. How, in the face of goodness, do people choose evil? This is a deep question, however, God created us with free will. My choices in life do affect others. If I am a violent person, my violence can hurt you. If I am a manufacturer and pollute the environment, we can all be negatively affected. Many in our world choose to reject justice, goodness, truth and love. Oftentimes many who are striving to live loving lives or those seeking justice and those seeking truth suffer at the hands of persecutors. Did not the same thing happen to Jesus? Jesus is the Incarnation of all love, mercy, truth, justice, yet he suffers for his faithful witness. In Jesus, par excellence, it looks as though all goodness is defeated by evil. Yet it is the Resurrection of Jesus that confirms these behaviors as being true ways to live one’s life. So, for all those who are scandalized by evil and the apparent absence of God, they need to look to the Cross of Christ and the Resurrection of Christ and see love, mercy, truth and justice triumph. Perhaps faith will be found on the earth if we can all be impelled by the love of Christ to recognize the mysterious presence of the Divine in ourselves and others.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**OPENING OF THE MASS BOOK**  
**FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2017**  
**JANUARY THROUGH JUNE**

The Mass Book for the first six months of 2017, January through June, will open on Saturday, October 29th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Rectory Hall. Everyone is asked to kindly abide by and respect the process. Numbers given outside **WILL NOT** be honored!! You will be assigned a number as you enter the Rectory Hall. You must come in person, unfortunately telephone requests cannot be taken. **If you are obtaining intentions for others, these masses will be included as part of your allowance.**

As you know, there are only 52 Saturdays and Sundays a year and the request for Saturday/Sunday Masses, exceeds the number of Saturday/Sunday Masses. Every individual may request **ONE** Saturday/Sunday Mass and two weekday masses at the opening of the Mass book. After the book has been opened **ONE WEEK**, if one wishes to come to the Rectory to request additional intentions, they are most welcome to do so. This means: suppose Mr. and Mrs. X come to request mass intentions, Mr. X may request three intentions **ONE** of which can be on a Saturday/Sunday and two of which will be on weekdays. Mrs. X can do the same. She too can have three mass intentions. **ONE** for Saturday/Sunday and two for weekdays. Thus the couple can have a total of six mass intentions at the opening of the book. It is hoped that all of us will exercise charity and compassion for others who, like oneself, may wish to request mass intentions for loved ones. It would be uncharitable for a family to circumvent our policy by staging five or six people requesting a mass on Saturday/Sunday for the same intention, thus excluding others.

While we all have days and times which we may want, that day and time may not be available, thus we will need to have alternate days and times. Let us remember that the focus of our Mass intentions is for the one for whom we are praying, not for the one requesting the mass. It helps when we are able to get the time and day we need to be charitable and considerate of others whose intentions are as important as our own. We must also remember that none of us is entitled to a time and day. All requests will be answered to the best of our ability. Masses being too early or too late or not on the day we requested is not a reason for not requesting a mass. Let us remember the focus of our request.

Keeping in mind the focus of our request, we call your attention to the following:

- The requestors name (the one making the intention for the Mass) need not be printed in our bulletin or announced from the pulpit. When the mass intention is booked, we will take the requestor's name for our records, but this need not be printed in our bulletin or announced from the pulpit. This is an option you can partake of however, it is not necessary. Remember, the focus is on the person or intention of the Mass, not the requesting party.
- Oftentimes we wish to remember the occasion of a birthday, anniversary, years since passing, etc. as well as a nickname for the person the mass intention is for. This information is not needed and should not be part of the Mass intention, therefore, only the baptismal name of the person for whom the mass intention is requested is needed. We need not know your personal reasons for your mass request.

What does it mean to request a mass be offered for our loved ones or in thanksgiving for a particular intention? Requesting a mass means that the community pray in a particular way for someone or an intention at the community mass. The church prays for all the dead and all the living at every mass, every day in every Church throughout the world. When you make a mass intention, you are asking the local community to pray in a particular way for someone who is prayed for everyday universally. The mass belongs to everyone.. The mass is our universal prayer. The celebration of the Eucharist makes the Passion, Death and Resurrection present to us sacramentally every day. Our faith tells us that this sacrifice is of benefit to the living as well as to the dead.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**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**

October 16, 2016

**TRANSMISSION TIME**

Wednesday 1 PM

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

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