
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 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

REV. VICTOR KOFI ASHIAGBOR

Associate

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

Director of Faith Formation

Religious Education

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Administration

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. AUGUST 7, 2017**
Noon In Honor of the Holy Spirit
for The People of the Parish
- TUE. AUGUST 8, 2017**
8:30 Guy Di Manso
BY: Constance & Bruce O'Leary
- WED AUGUST 9, 2017**
8:30 Mary Ortato
BY: Son, Joseph
- THURS. AUGUST 10, 2017**
8:30 Rev. Simon Joseph
BY: Carolyn & John Zodda
- FRI. AUGUST 11, 2017**
8:30 Francesca Napolentano
BY: Joe & Joann Bruno
- SAT. AUGUST 12, 2017**
8:30 Anthony Scotto (Deceased)
Anniversary Remembrance
BY: Wife, Maureen
5:30 PM Vincent Porcelli
BY: Mom, Guido & RoseAnn
- SUN AUGUST 13, 2017**
8:00 Bridget Scannavino
BY: Friends
10:00 Rev. Simon Joseph
BY: The Altar Servers
12:00 Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni
BY: Their Family

UPS AND DOWNS

We are happy to announce that construction will begin on the Church Elevator this week! The selected contractor, MLZ Construction, Inc. has submitted all necessary paperwork to the Diocese and has been approved on all levels. During construction, we anticipate limited use of some portions of the church around the construction, especially the Hicks Street portion of the vestibule, a section of the choir loft and Hicks Street entrance of Cabrini Hall. We are grateful to be able to begin this construction so soon after conducting the Generations of Faith Campaign which is funding it, however we have only received \$300,000 of the \$700,000 pledged from donors as of July. We thank those who have been fulfilling their pledges and ask that you continue to do so. Without your donations, this project would not be possible.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As followers of Jesus, one of our primary tasks is to share the Good News with others. This is especially important for those of us who are parents, called at our child's baptism to share the light of faith with them to help them to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Faith Formation Program here at SHSS is privileged to be part of this spiritual formation. Now is the time to provide for your child's religious formation this fall.

- For those already enrolled in the program, re-registration forms were mailed in June. In order to allow us to order materials and organize classes effectively, we ask that you update all necessary information and return the form as soon as possible. If you haven't received a form, please call Nancy Arkin in the Parish Office or email narkin1960@gmail.com.
- If you prefer to re-register in person, if you have a child who will be attending for the first time, or have any questions or concerns, please call 718 596-7750 for assistance or to make an appointment.

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-Moriale |
| Judith Miller | Alicia Aquino |
| Michele Morea | Palma Caminiti |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Rachel Valenti | Anthony Caruvana |
| Salvatore Gianino | Judith Latalladi |
| Rosemary Love | Lisa Van |
| Eileen Giannotta | Janet Illiano |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Roe Gambardella |
| Kathleen Gunderson | Paul Girard |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Angelina Campasano | Andrew Favorito |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Elizabeth Lo Porto | Carol Montalbano |
| Rev. Michael A. Carrano | Elizabeth Foley |



The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of August 6th have been donated
In Memory of
GUY DI MANSO
BY: Louise Orsino



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of August 6th has been donated in memory of
PETER LEPORE
BY: Phyllis & Linda

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection for 7/31/17	\$3,450.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$ 14,325.00
Difference:	\$-10,875.00

** Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks



SAVE THE DATE!

On Sunday, September 17th, SHSS will hold a Parish Picnic beginning at 1:00 PM in the Church Yard. Come join the fun!



Personal Prayer Intention Mass will be held on Friday, August 18th @ 8:30 AM. Please fill out a card located in the back of the Church and place it in the prayer intention basket.

THANKS TO ALL

To the Pastor & Parishioners of SHSS:
Letter of Gratitude from Fr. Michael Joy Akposu
Beloved in Christ:

On behalf of the Bishop and the people of Ho Diocese (Ghana) and on my own behalf, I write to express our gratitude to you for the love and generosity which you have shown through your donations and words of encouragement. And to me in particular, for the warm welcome you gave during my visit to your Church for the Mission Appeal. I am very grateful.

May God graciously replenish and reward you individually and collectively.

Please do remember me in your prayers too as I do for you. Thank you once again.

I Remain,
God bless you,
Yours in the service of Christ,
Rev. Fr. Michael Joy Akposu

Through your continued generosity, a total of \$1,293.00 was sent to Fr. Joy for the Mission in Ghana.
Thank you one and all!

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Community:

While today is the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, it is also the great Feast of the Transfiguration. The Feast Day is always on August 6th. The gospel tells us about the Transfiguration of the Lord. This important event is the summation of our Easter Faith. The Transfiguration proclaims Jesus to be the fulfillment of the hopes and expectations of the Hebrew Prophets, represented by the figure of Elijah. The Transfiguration also proclaims that Jesus is the Way to God. Therefore, Jesus is seen as the fulfillment of the hope of the Torah represented by the figure of Moses. In this event, the disciples get a glimpse into the presence of the Divine nature of Jesus shining through his humanity.

Notice the appearance of Jesus is changed and Peter, James and John are overwhelmed by the event. On Good Friday, Jesus' appearance will change and the disciples will again be overwhelmed. In the sufferings and death of Jesus, the divinity of Jesus seems to be eclipsed. Yet the divinity and humanity of Jesus remain forever united even when it is difficult to see. The Cross is the disfiguration of Christ. The Cross speaks to us about the disfiguration of our humanity caused by sin. The Transfiguration speaks to us about humanity's call to be the divine image in the world. The call is to transcend our sinfulness each day and in being transfigured into the glory of God. To sin is not human, it is inhuman because we are made to reflect the Divine image. The more we listen to the Gospel and follow Christ, the clearer the Image of God will be in us.

The Transfiguration and Us.

Listening is a key element in today's Liturgy. The more we listen to the Gospel, the more we can be transformed into the image of Christ. Listening is more than hearing. To listen means hearing the message, being open to the message and acting upon the message. While the Transformation is a Christ Event, it is also an event which involves the body of Christ. We the church, are the body of Christ. Baptism immerses us into Christ. Through the Eucharist, we more perfectly become the Body of Christ. We as disciples are both human and spiritual. While we are redeemed through Christ, we are in a constant process of conversion. At times, we suffer physically and spiritually because of our human fragility. Sometimes it is even difficult to see our deeply spiritual side.

The Church is both human and divine. At times it is faithful and at times, due to human fragility, it is sinful and weak. At times the divine life, the Church, is obscured from view. There are events in our past history and in our present moments of the church which illustrate the sinfulness of the Church. Scandals, corruption, the unfaithfulness of some of the clergy, religious and laity are signs of our collective sinfulness of the church of Christ. At other times, the clergy, people and bishops have been outstandingly faithful, some even dying for the faith. There are times when the Church universally has been a strong witness to the Gospel, to preservation of life and a staunch defender of the dignity of all people. When the Church is faithful to the Gospel, the image of Christ is more easily seen.

The Transfiguration tells us that Christ will shine forth from us and in the church, if not completely now, then in the future. The Transfiguration is our ideal and goal. Through our cooperation with the Holy Spirit, we who struggle with our sinfulness, our bad habits and our faults, will one day triumph. Christ will rise in us and in the body of the Church. The road to Transfiguration is listening to the Word of God, continuous conversation with Christ, giving up all that works against Christ, taking up the cross to change and lifting all up to the mercy of God.

You are My Beloved.

In the Gospel the Voice from Heaven says of Jesus; You are my Beloved Son, listen to him...." this is meant for Jesus and for all who are baptized into Jesus. It is meant for all the Church and us as individuals. You are a beloved daughter or son of God because you share in and participate in the redemption accomplished by Christ. If we are the children of God then we must listen to the Word and live according to the Word. Do we listen? Really? Or are we too busy to listen? Do we resist listening? Do we simply hear and not listen? Listening to the Gospel can perfect the image of Christ in us. It can help us to see this divine image in others, even those we consider sinners.

Msg. Guy A. Massie

**FEAR OF TRANSFORMATION
FROM THE ESSENE BOOK OF DAYS BY DANAAAN PARRY**

Sometimes I feel that my life is a series of trapeze swings. I'm either hanging on to a trapeze bar swinging along or, for a few moments in my life, I'm hurtling across space in between trapeze bars.

Most of the time, I spend my life hanging on for dear life to my trapeze-bar-of-the-moment. It carries me along a certain steady rate of swing and I have the feeling that I'm in control of my life. I know most of the right questions and even some of the right answers. But once in a while, as I merrily (or not so merrily) swing along, I look ahead of me into the distance and what do I see? I see another trapeze bar swinging toward me. It's empty, and I know, in that place that knows, that this new trapeze bar has my name on it. It is my next step, my growth, my aliveness going to get me. In my heart-of-hearts I know that for me to grow, I must release my grip on the present, well known bar to move to the new one.

Each time it happens to me, I hope (no, I pray) that I won't have to grab the new one. But in my knowing place I know that I must totally release my grasp on my old bar, and or some moment in time hurtle across space before I can grab onto the new bar. Each time I am filled with terror. It doesn't matter that in all my previous hurtles across the void of unknowing, I have always made it. Each time I am afraid I will miss, that I will be crushed on the unseen rocks in the bottomless chasm between the bars. But I do it anyway. Perhaps this is the essence of what the mystics call the faith experience. No guarantees, no net, no insurance policy, but you do it anyway because somehow, to keep hanging onto that old bar is no longer on the list of alternatives. And so for an eternity that can last a microsecond or a thousand lifetimes, I soar across the dark void of "the past is gone, the future is not yet here." It's called transition. I have come to believe that it is the only place that real change occurs. I mean real change, not the pseudo-change that only lasts until the next time my old buttons get punched.

I have noticed that, in our culture, this transition zone is looked upon as a "no-thing", a no-place between places. Sure the old trapeze-bar was real, and that new one coming towards me, I hope that's real too. But the void in between? That's just a scary, confusing, disorienting "nowhere" that must be gotten through as fast as unconsciously as possible. What a waste! I have a sneaking suspicion that the transition zone is the only real thing and the bars are illusions we dream up to avoid, where the real change, the real growth occurs for us. Whether or not my hunch is true, it remains that the transition zones in our lives are incredibly rich places. They should be honored, even savored. Yes, with all the pain and fear and feelings of being out-of-control that can (but not necessarily) accompany transitions, they are still the most alive, most growth-filled, passionate, expansive moments in our lives.

And so, transformation of fear may have nothing to do with making fear go away, but rather with giving ourselves permission to "hang-out" in the transition between trapeze bars. Transforming our need to grab that new bar, any bar, is allowing ourselves to dwell in the only place where change really happens. It can be terrifying. It can also be enlightening, in the true sense of the word. Hurtling through the void, we just may learn how to fly.

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

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HP® Laserjet 1320

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS