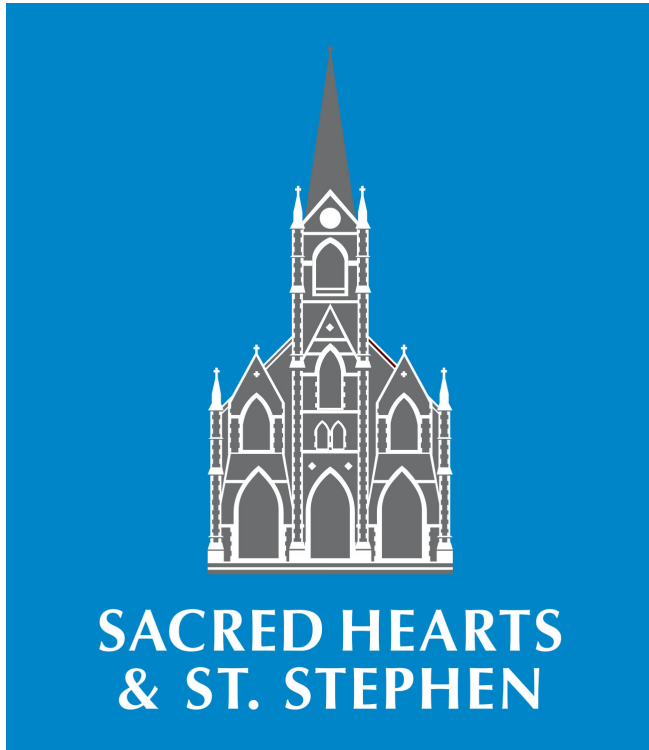

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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

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

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection for 2/18	\$ 2,848.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$ 14,325.00
Difference:	-\$11,477.00

** Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

UPS AND DOWNS

Last week the temporary construction wall was removed from the entrance of the church revealing the section of the lobby where the elevator shaft has been installed. There are many new additions in these areas of the lobby including new lighting, handrails and a counter with a sink which will make weekly hospitality much easier for our volunteers. Our contractor will now be plastering the remaining two sections of the lobby so that he can paint everything at once. Likewise, most of the work in Cabrini Hall has been completed and the new entrance doors at Hicks Street have been installed. Our Religious Education program has begun to slowly return to Cabrini Hall once again as well as other parish organizations. Final approvals for the elevator apparatus are expected hopefully this month so that installation of the elevator can move forward allowing for 100% completion of the project thanks to your commitment to Generations of Faith.

- MON. FEBRUARY 26, 2018**
 Noon Louis Valentino, Jr.
- TUE. FEBRUARY 27, 2018**
 8:30 Dr. Frank J. Zodda
 BY: His Children, Carolyn & John
- WED FEBRUARY 28, 2018**
 8:30 Danny & Carmella Pipitone
- THURS. MARCH 1, 2018**
 8:30 Rita Pellicano
- FRI. MARCH 2, 2018**
 8:30 Victoria Hunt
 BY Laura & Michael Eng & Family
 7:00PM Stations of the Cross for Social Justice
- SAT. MARCH 3, 2018**
 8:30 Basilio & Rose Lamaestra
 4:00/5:15 Eucharistic Adoration For
 The Poor & Vulnerable
 5:30 PM Vito & Maria Colella
 BY: Children
- SUN MARCH 4, 2018**
 8:00 Antonio Massa
 BY: Family
 10:00 Lia & Joseph Cerato
 BY: Cerato & Andruzzi Family
 12:00 Robert Caminiti
 BY: Lois & Anthony Tilocca

We are continuing our class about Technology for Seniors. Meetings are held every Tuesday as follows: (February 27) @ 4:30 PM in Rectory Hall. All are welcome!



Bring your cell phone, tablet and/or computer.

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART HEALTH MONTH KNOW YOUR NUMBERS YOUR GOALS SHOULD BE:

<u>Blood Pressure</u>	<u>Blood Glucose</u>
Optimal at 120/80 & no higher than 140/90	Less than 100 for fasting value
<u>Total Cholesterol</u>	<u>Body Mass Index (BM)</u>
Less than 200	Less than 25 for women & men
<u>LDL Cholesterol</u>	<u>Waist Circumference</u>
Less than 100 or Less than 70	Less than 35" for women Less than 40" for men
If you have other risk factors	
<u>HDL Cholesterol</u>	<u>Daily Exercise</u>
More than 60 optimal Less than 50 a risk for Woman, Less than 40 A risk for men	More than 30 minutes is ideal, but you should strive for at least 20 minutes
<u>Triglycerides</u>	<u>Cigarettes Per Day</u>
Less than 150	Zero and no secondhand smoke (more important for women)

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 | Alissa Aquino |
| Michele Morea | Palma Caminiti |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Eileen Giannotta | Dominick Aiello, Jr. |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Kathleen Gunderson | Paul Girard |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Carol Montelbano | Rev. Michael A. Carrano |
| John Scotto | Addy Wardrope |

BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club meeting will be on Monday, March 12th @ 7:00 PM in the Parish House. We will be discussing **NOBODY'S FOOL** by Robert Russo. All are welcome!

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope
- Fast from worries and have trust in God
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

REPENTANCE, RECONCILIATION, RECOLLECTION, REFLECTION, RENEWAL, RESURRECTION

THE GREAT AND HOLY SEASON OF LENT.

This is a season which invites us to self examination before the Lord. Lent is both a journey to a deeper personal conversion to the Lord as well as a call to us as the community of the Church towards a deeper conversion to the Gospel of Christ. As a community, the Church universal reminds us that fasting, Almsgiving (charity) and Prayer are three columns of this season of grace. As a Catholic Community united throughout the world, we will abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. As a Catholic community united with the Church throughout the world, we will fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by eating only one main meal. These regulations are applied to all ages 14 to 59. These regulations are minimal. We encourage all to fast and practice self denial at this time so as to meditate on the great things God has done for us through the Life, Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. (Some may be unable to fast for health reasons. We encourage those who cannot fast to practice another act of self denial as would be in keeping with their situation.)

DO NOT TRIVIALIZE THIS SEASON, RATHER MAKE A TIME OF TRUE INTROSPECTION. Lent is a time for REPENTANCE, RECONCILIATION, RECOLLECTION, REFLECTION, RENEWAL, RESURRECTION.

What in your life do you need to change? What bad habits do you need to address? What behaviors in your life enhance your relationships with the Lord and others and what behaviors hinder those relationships? Who do you need to forgive? From whom do you need to ask forgiveness? To whom have you been unjust? Do you love the Lord Jesus enough to ask for the grace to truly change?

Fasting helps us to self deny in a culture which needs instant gratification. Fasting and using the money saved from buying favorite foods which we have given up can be used to donate to a charity.

Prayer places us always in God's presence. Prayer unites us with the Lord. Prayer need not have words. It can be a silence in the Divine Presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Prayer can be a reflection on the Scripture reading. Prayer can just be a call for mercy. Too many words in prayer can be distracting. **LENT IS A GREAT SEASON FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY. MAY IT BE THAT FOR ALL OF US. PLEASE CONSULT THE BULLETIN FOR PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES HERE AT SHSS.** (Readings, Stations of the Cross, Adoration, Reconciliation times)

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today, the Second Sunday in Lent, the readings invite us to consider the topics of trust and faith. Do we trust in the glory that is now hidden from our eyes? Can we trust God? Is it reasonable to believe? In the first reading from the Book of Genesis we meet Abraham. Abraham, as you remember is called our father in faith because God revealed himself to him and he believed. In the Book of Genesis we learn that God promised to make Abraham a great nation. When God called Abraham, Abraham was already old. God promised that even in his old age, he would have a son. Abraham believed God. The promise of a son takes a long while to fulfill, but it does happen. God made good on his promise. Isaac is born even though Abraham's wife Sarah was elderly. Isaac understandably is Abraham's pride and joy. Isaac was the sign that Abraham had a future. He has a son who would be his heir.

In today's readings the unthinkable happens. God puts Abraham to a test. God requests that Abraham sacrifice his only son. Imagine, just imagine the reaction of Abraham. How can this be? God promised that I would have a son? God promised that my descendants would be a great nation. How can God allow this to happen? Was there something greater at stake here which Abraham did not yet see?

In the Gospel we read about the Transfiguration. This is a mysterious revelation. Peter, James and John witness an event in the life of Jesus in which the curtain between our world and the divine seems to open for a brief moment. The disciples see the glory of Christ. The event has Paschal overtones. They realize that Jesus is the one to whom the Law, represented by Moses and the prophets, represented by Elijah are awaiting. These are the very same apostles who will see the disfiguration of Jesus in his Passion and Death. Imagine their confusion, their questions and their disillusionment. How can the glory of the Transfigured Christ become the horror of the disfigured Christ on the cross? How can this happen? Why did this happen? Why would God allow such a thing to happen? This Jesus is the one who they believed they loved, who made promises of everlasting life to them. What happened? Was there something that the apostles were missing?

How often have you heard the story? How often have you experienced a moment when all seems lost? How often may you have felt disappointed by God? Do these questions sound familiar? This man was so good to everyone and yet he comes down with a cancer. My son was so young and he dies. Why? Why not me, not him? We did everything right. We followed the rules. We were honest. We attended Mass, said our prayers. We prayed for protection and what happened? We feel that God is not on our side. Have we missed something?

Abraham, the apostles and even us do miss something. We miss the hidden glory. Abraham was put to the test. God knew Abraham's faith, but did Abraham know his faith? Could he trust? The apostles on the Friday Jesus died had their faith tested. They could not see beyond the cross to the redemption the cross accomplished. We too, when faced with setback, disappointed, innocent suffering, need to keep in mind that somehow God is accomplishing our redemption. We need to remind ourselves and each other that for every cross there is a resurrection. We come to Mass to celebrate the Eucharist, to be reminded of the resurrection of Christ and to help each other see the glory of God in our midst.

Rev. Msgr. Guy A. Massie

LENT at Sacred Hearts-St. Stephen

Engaging the Mind during Lent

Why do Catholics Do That?

(30 minute discussions at 11:15AM over three Sundays in the Main Church)

The Meaning and Structure of the Mass-**February 25** with John Heyer

Decoding Symbols of Scripture and Sacraments-**March 4** with Msgr. Massie

The Church Calendar as the Image of Christ's Life-**March 18** with Nancy Arkin

Engaging the Soul During Lent

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7PM in the Church

March 2
Stations for **Social Justice**

March 9
Stations re-enacted by the **Children** of the Parish

March 16
Contemporary Prayer Service centered on
The Passion according to Mark

March 23
Stations for those facing **Grief and Loss**

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturdays from 4:00-5:15 PM in the
Church

March 3
For the Intentions of the **Poor & Vulnerable**

March 10
Adoration with **Children**

March 17
For the Intentions of those who seek **Healing**

March 24
For the Intentions of those facing **Grief & Loss**

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

This week begins the 2018 *Annual Catholic Appeal*. We thank all who have participated with a gift to the 2017 Appeal and ask that everyone prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2018 Appeal.

The work and services made possible through your donations to the *Annual Catholic Appeal* help people in Brooklyn and Queens in ways that no one parish can alone.

We encourage all to watch the brief 2018 ACA Video online at: CFBQ.org/ACAVideo.

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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Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

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February 25, 2018

TRANSMISSION TIME

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS