

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN

St. Stephen's – Founded 1866
Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Founded 1882

MASSES ON SUNDAYS:

8:30 AM 10:00 AM & 12 NOON

5:00 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Monday 8:30 AM

Tues. through Sat. 8:30 AM

Adoration: First Friday each month @ 7:15 AM

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 3:45– 4:30 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. CLETUS FORSON

Parochial Vicar

REV. NGOZI

Prison Chaplain (In Residence)

MR. EDWIN RIVERA

Deacon

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

Director of Faith Formation

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Business Manager

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

JENNIFER WU

Choir Director

EVELYN TROESTER DEGRAF

Choir Director Emerita

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.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/SHSS

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 5:00 (Closed for Lunch from 1-2) Friday 9:00 to 2:00 Saturday 9:00 to 1:00

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.**

Mass Intentions For The Week

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MON. DECEMBER 20, 2021
8:30 Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni
BY: Loving Family

TUE. DECEMBER 21, 2021
8:30 Philip Olivieri
BY: Wife Marlene & Children

WED DECEMBER 22, 2021
8:30 Andrew DiCostanzo
BY: Anna Scotto

THURS. DECEMBER 23, 2021
8:30 Domenico & Luisa Dallaporte
BY: Catherine & Family

FRI. DECEMBER 24, 2021
8:30 Gertrude Zagarella
BY: Daughter Gertrude
4:30 Family Christmas Mass
Midnight Christmas Midnight Mass

SAT. DECEMBER 25, 2021
9:30 Christmas Day Mass
11:00 AM Christmas Day Mass

SUN DECEMBER 26, 2021
8:30 John Vincent Verderame
BY: Mom & Dad
10:00 Christina Egan
BY: Karen Browne
Noon Peter J. DeCesare, Sr.
BY: Daughter Allison DeCesare Laffey

BOOK CLUB

Start 2022 with a good book! Please join us on Monday, January 3rd @ 7:00 PM in the Parish House for an informal discussion about PACHINKO by Min Jin Lee. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be on February 7th. We will be discussing FRESH WATER FOR FLOWERS by Valerie Perrin.

All are Welcome!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Sunday Collection 12/05 \$ 2,175.00
*Envelopes & cash
On Line Donations \$ 2,880.50
Total Sunday 12/05 \$ 5,055.50
Annual Weekly Expenses** \$14,325.00
Difference: \$ 9,269.50

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks



The 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission of our parish and the daily work of the Church in Brooklyn

and Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone by supporting the following ministries:

- Catholic Youth Ministry Initiative
- Catholic Charities
- Hospital, College & Prison Chaplains
- Diocesan Vocations Office
- Catholic Migration Services
- Office of Faith Formation
- Bishop Mugavero Residence for infirmed clergy
- Futures in Education Scholarship Foundation

All donations made to the ACA above our Parish Goal are returned directly back to our parish for operations and improvements.



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Bread & Wine for the week of

December 19th
has been donated
In Memory of
**JOSEPH, CONCETTA &
FRANK FOGLIA**
BY: Rose Marie Foglia



Pray For

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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, | Helena Rolla |
| Brad Hatry | Gertrude Zagarella |
| Michelle Laquercia | Irene Balen |
| Judith DeArmen | John Nigro |
| Judith Miller | Agnes Scolaro |
| Diane Barchuk | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Anthony Tilocca | Anthony Turco |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Louis D'Angelo |
| Carol Montelbano | Gina Salta |
| Anthony Manfre | Celeste Internicola |
| Emma Huckerby | Kristin Quail |
| Louann Gambardella | Robert Janicke |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Mark Carles |
| Erica Concino | Bernadette Janicke |
| Susan Hannan | Evan Marra |
| Hector Jimenez | Darren Munio |
| Abigail Memmesheimer | Sophia Rotunno |
| Philip Saraceno | Vittorio Di Turi |
| Maria Anjelica Patino Laquercia | Nina Carulli |



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Our Church is open each Wednesday from noon until 2:00 PM for private prayer. You are encouraged to stop by for this quiet time with the Lord.

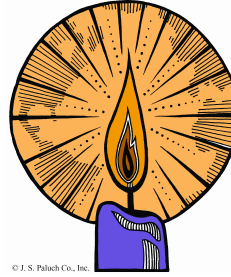
We hope to see you there!



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2021
ADVENT FOOD DRIVE
SUN, 11/28-SUN. 12/19
The Bishop Thomas V. Daily Council #17000
Knights of Columbus is

coordinating a food drive for Advent. The canned food that will be collected will be donated to the food pantry at St. John's Bread & Life. Donations of canned food will be collected at Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Church during weekends in Advent. Donation boxes will be placed in the rear of the church.



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If you wish to remember a loved one or have a devotion to a particular saint, annual memorial candles are available at the Rectory. These candles remain lit

for one year at a cost of \$100.00 per year (first time cost is \$110.00 to cover the expense of the plaque) They can be placed by any Saint in our Church and a personalized plaque with the inscription of your choice may be affixed to the candle. If you are interested or have any questions regarding these candles, please call the Rectory and speak to Rose Marie Foglia, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We will be happy to help you.

COME HOME FOR ADVENT

HOLY HOUR-EVENING PRAYER

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TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM

12/21

HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE

Let us Deck the Halls of Our Hearts in Preparation of the Birth of Christ and His Expectant Return

From the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

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Today is the Fourth and last Sunday of Advent. The readings prepare us for the visit of the One who will show us how to live the will of God. (“I come to do your will O God”) Jesus comes to redeem us and to show us how to live. He comes to us with values and norms which God wills us to follow. The will of God is found in acts of mercy, forgiveness, love, justice, peace, kindness, protecting the helpless and the poor.

In the first reading we meet the Prophet Micah. He tells of the coming of the humble birth of the Messiah who will come to shepherd his people not with swords or with power but with peace and firmness.

In the second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews we read that Jesus’ sacrifice surpasses the sacrifices of the Old Covenant because he sacrificed himself for the will of God. Jesus’ passion and death is a result of his faithfulness to his mission. The Law or the “Halacha” the way to walk was given to Moses. If the Law was obeyed, it was a way to the Kingdom of God. Throughout the history of salvation there were times when the Israelites obeyed the law and there were times when the Israelites disobeyed the Law. It was the prophets who time and again had to call the people back to obeying the Law. Jesus obeys the Law of Moses. Jesus is faithful to the Law and even gives the Law a proper interpretation. Even when faced with death and persecution, Jesus remains faithful to the Law. The mission of Christ is to establish the Kingdom of God by following the will of God. This Kingdom is here and alive in the hearts of all who willingly follow the Gospel and in some cases suffer for the Gospel.

The Gospel tells us about the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. The story of the Visitation is filled with new life. Look carefully at the text. Elizabeth represents the Hebrew Scriptures. These texts are filled with hope and trust that God will save his people. Mary is young. She represents the New Testament. She carries in her the WORD INCARNATE. This incarnation will institute a new relationship between Israel and God and God and all humanity. John, the son of Elizabeth who we know as John the Baptist represents New Life. Notice the reaction of John in the womb of Elizabeth. He leaps with joy at the presence of the Word made Flesh in Mary. John is a child of new hope.

So as Christmas and the Christmas Season approaches we are reminded of the closeness of God to us in Christ especially in the Eucharist. Where are you? Do you see the possibilities of a new life for yourself? Do you see a chance to deepen your relationship with Christ in this moment? Look at the story of Christmas and Easter. Both start in darkness. Easter actually begins in the dark, damp, dank tomb. How does one celebrate new life in the tomb? Yet, look at life. We love to see kids enjoy Christmas. They remind us of carefree days of our childhood. Yet, Christmas is for all of us. We are all dealing with issues. We have family stuff going on. We have health worries. We have disappointments, setbacks and the temptation to give up our efforts to make our respective worlds better. Some of us are dealing with marital issues and children issues. Some of us are stuck in resentment, anger and hurt. These things make up the shadows of life. These things are the darkness of our lives. We all have them. Now either we can stand on the sidelines and have a secular Christmas with a meal, a party, a gathering of the family, the opening of gifts or we allow our hearts to accept this Christ who is the light of the world and the light of our lives and change for the better. The Hebrew Texts taught us that only God can save us in every aspect of our lives. Only God can give us hope, save us from ourselves, our sins, our narcissism, our sadness our regrets and our disappointments and regrets. You can either try to be happy with a fake smile for Christmas or you can be joy-filled knowing that even in the darkness God is present with all the help you need. New life or the same old, it is our choice.

Merry Christmas.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

