
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:

8:00 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

- MON. DECEMBER 3, 2018**
Noon Sylvia Bello
BY: A Friend

- TUE. DECEMBER 4, 2018**
8:30 Peter Bello
BY: Catherine Dellaporte

- WED DECEMBER 5, 2018**
8:30 Nancy Mulligan

- THURS. DECEMBER 6, 2018**
8:30 Peter Bello
BY: Melania Lubrano

- FRI. DECEMBER 7, 2018**
8:30 Carmine Graziani
BY: Daughter Teresa

- SAT. DECEMBER 8, 2018**
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
8:30 Immaculate Conception for the Parish
Noon Antoinette & Ralph DiBuglione
BY: Carolyn & Alan
5:30 Anna Schiano-Moriello
BY: Rose Marie Foglia

- SUN DECEMBER 9, 2018**
8:00 AM For The People of the Parish
10:00 Anthony Mazze
BY: Wife, Children & Grandchildren
Noon Joseph & John Cloonan
BY: Benny & Maria Cataldo

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 11/25	\$ 2,795.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$11,530.00
** Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks	
On Line Giving for the	
Month of October totaled \$2,474.79	



Bread & Wine for the week of 12/2/18 has been donated In Loving Memory of **UMBERTO & FILOMENA PERUFFO** BY: Children



Sanctuary Lamps for the week of 12/2/18 have been donated In Loving Memory of **JEROME "GIGI" ORSINO** By: Diane Valentino

MORNING PRAYER

JOIN US FOR MORNING PRAYER EVERY MORNING AT 8:00 AM-MONDAY TO SATURDAY AND 7:30 AM ON SUNDAY.

Morning prayer is prayed in Transfiguration Chapel every day. Please do join us. Morning prayer consists of praying two Psalms, two canticles, a short reading and intercessions. The Morning prayer and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are part of the official prayer of the whole Church. The Morning prayer is different from day to day. We have books which we will guide you in using.

ADORATION OF THE LORD AND THE EUCHARIST IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO GET SOME PEACE IN YOUR DAY. JOIN US FOR ADORATION EVERY MONDAY FROM 11-12 IN THE TRANSFIGURATION CHAPEL SPEND QUIET TIME WITH THE LORD. IT CAN DE-STRESS YOUR DAY.



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TOY DRIVE

St. Stephen's Men's Fellowship's Annual Toy Drive to benefit The Children of Ghana, Father Cletus' and

Fr. Victor's parish's in Ghana, will begin on Sunday 12/2/18. Please only **NEW UNWRAPPED** Toys! Thank you!



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CHRISTMAS FLOWER AND WREATH SALE

St. Stephen's Men's Fellowship will once again have their annual Christmas Poinsettia, Wreath, centerpiece, greens and ornaments sale to begin on Saturday December 1st. These pieces are beautifully decorated and prices are great. We invite you to check them out!

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 |
| Judith DeArmen | John Nigro |
| Judith Miller | Alissa Aquino |
| Diane Barchuk | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Anthony Turco |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Carol Montalbano | |
| Rev. Michael A. Carrano | |
| Anthony Manfre | Theresa Colantonio |
| Emma Huckerby | Louis Janicke |
| Louann Gambardella | Robert Janicke |
| Celeste Internicola | Gina Salta |

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORNER

THE WINTER CSA IS BACK AT SHSS IN DECEMBER

Did you know that you can sign up for direct-from-the-organic-farm local vegetables, provisions and eggs and pick them up right here at Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen church? Our CSA (community supported agriculture) farm is Garden of Eve in Riverhead, Long Island. Farmers Eve and Chris Wallbrecht donate fruit and vegetables year round to feed our rectory and donate the extras for SHSS to distribute to the needy. Parishioner Karma Martell runs the effort. We invite you to join and support the CSA and enjoy a variety of fresh items all winter long! To sign up go to www.gardenofefefarm.com and click on CSA. This will take you to a page to join. You will see SHSS listed as a pick up point.

UPS AND DOWNS

We invite you to take a look at the recently installed elevator doors in the vestibule of the church. Doors are also now being installed at the Hicks Street entrance and in Cabrini Hall. The installation of the elevator is 90% complete and we are awaiting a replacement part to finish installation and request inspection from the NYC Department of Buildings. While the installation is completed, the contractor is placing finishing touches on the walls around each set of elevator doors in addition to many other finishes required by the Building Department. One such requirement was the installation of an elevator shaft vent which has been installed conspicuously on the outside façade of the church facing Hicks Street. Other improvements which will complete the project will include the installation of automated door openers on the exterior Hicks Street doors and the doors leading into the church at the elevator and proper signage letting people know where the elevator is. Remember that it is your support of the Generations of Faith Campaign which has allowed this work to be done. We have currently received \$495,794 of the \$783,765 pledged to the campaign. While it is true that we have received over 60% of the pledged amount, due to the money that was first allocated to the Diocese, we have only received 48% of the money needed to complete our elevator project. If you have made a pledge to Generations of Faith, please continue to make your payments allowing us to fully fund our parish elevator. For those who may have made a pledge but are behind in your payments and unable to fulfill your pledge, please consider calling the Catholic Foundation for Brooklyn and Queens and lowering your pledge to something that works with your budget. We look forward to setting a date to bless the completed elevator once all aspects of the project are finalized.



Tickets for New Year's Eve 2019 are now available for our Cabrini Hall Celebration. \$80. for Adults, \$35 for children ages 6-15.

Please e-mail Valerie Westhoff at vwesthoff@aol.com if you are interested.

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Community,

Happy and Blessed New Liturgical Year 2019! Today is the First Sunday of Advent. The Church begins a new year. Advent means “coming.” Thus our theme for the season is the Coming of the Kingdom of God and the Coming of God to us through the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity who is Jesus.

The liturgical color for the season is violet. While there is a call for preparing for the coming of God in our lives through penance, the season’s primary accent point to joyful expectation is that God will fulfill God’s promises. Waiting is the activity of the season. We all wait at one time or another. Waiting can be done with joy, frustration, acceptance or resentment. Waiting for God to act we are assured that God will keep his promise even if it takes time.

There are two parts to Advent. From today to December 17th, the focus point of the season is the second coming of Christ, the arrival of the Kingdom of God, end of the world as we know it and establishment of the Reign of God. The second part of the season opens on December 17th and is focused on the Incarnation of God among us in Christ Jesus. In fact it is Jesus who is the Kingdom of God among us. The Kingdom of God among us will be characterized by peace.

The first reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah sets the theme for the season. In this text we read “In those days, in that time, I will raise up David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land.” The promise of one who will come to do what is right. This seems to refer to the messiah, who will reverse the direction of the world for the better. Jeremiah gives us hope that God has not forgotten his promise. God will be faithful. This is a message of hope for all people of good will who long for a better world. Today we face a Church riddled by scandal, disappointment, anger and for many, disgust. Who does not yearn for a church which will be reformed, purified and faithful? Who among us does not worry about our country which is torn by violence, struck by mass shootings, divided on most issues and saddled with a government in disarray? Do we not look forward to days of peace and security? Who of us have not experienced the feeling that God is absent from us especially when all seems to be confused and upset? Jeremiah gives us a message of hope that God has not forgotten us.

In the Gospel, we are reminded that the end of time is closer than when we first believed. The Christian view of history is a spiral. While we are circular in our yearly celebrations of the Mystery of Christ Jesus, we are moving through time. We see history as a spiral. We began with the Incarnation of Jesus and will end with the return of Jesus which is closer now than it was when Christianity first began. Christ is the Alpha (the beginning) and the Omega (the end) of our history. We are moving to our Omega point which is the return of Christ as our judge.

The first letter to the Thessalonians, St. Paul prays “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all...so as to strengthen your hearts to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Paul tells how to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Therefore, whatever behaviors our attitudes are contrary to the Gospel or to the mind of Christ must change. This then is how we prepare to meet the Lord either at Christmas or at the end of our lives or everyday of our lives. How do you prepare to meet God? How do you know the time of your own end? The Gospel tells us that the Lord may return at the time we least expect. In short, be prepared. Will the world end? Do worlds end? Look around, how many times have worlds ended for you? How many times has new life began? Are these not signs of the final ending and the final new beginning?

“We believe in the Resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come.” (the Creed)

Come Lord Jesus set us free.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

On Saturday, December 8th, we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. God so loved us that God entered our world. He does so out of love for us not because we merited his coming to us by our righteous behavior. In fact, he came to us because we are in need of God's help. Mary is the instrument through whom God would enter the world. Mary is the vessel who through the Holy Spirit would make the Incarnation of God among us possible.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is highly misunderstood by many Catholics. The feast celebrates the conception of Mary. It is not the conception of Jesus. Advent is a time for preparation. The feast tells us that God prepared Mary from the first moments of her existence to be the instrument through whom the Incarnation of God would take place. Marian devotion has been often criticized. Yet, when it is placed in the proper perspective, Marian Devotion announces the person of Christ Jesus. Mary is venerated by Catholics and Eastern Orthodox traditions because of her role in the Incarnation of God among us in the person of Jesus. All devotion to Mary must lead us to Christ. We believe in God who became one with us in all things. Mass on Saturday, December 8th will be at 8:30 and noon. THE SATURDAY EVENING MASS IS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOT FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. YOU MUST GO TO MASS ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

Please bring a flower to place at the image of Mary during the preparation time during Mass.

A new Liturgical year 2019 begins today. This New Year gives us all an opportunity to start anew, to grow more deeply in the faith, and to build a closer relationship with the Lord in new ways.

THE GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE

This New Liturgical Year is the year of St. Luke. This means that most of the Sunday Gospels will come from St. Luke's Gospel. We have a three year cycle of scripture. The cycles are A Year during which time we read the Gospel of St. Matthew, B Year during which time we read the Gospel of Mark and C year during which time we read the Gospel of St. Luke. The Gospel of St. John is read every year. It is dispersed throughout the Liturgical year. It is mostly read during Lent and Easter Seasons. During the coming year, most of the Sunday Gospels will come from the Gospel of St. Luke.

Points of Interest in the Gospel of St. Luke

The Gospel of St. Luke is sacred text that underscores the work of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of Jesus. Since the Gospel also emphasizes prayer, we will hear more about the prayer life of Jesus and his disciples. It is from this Gospel that we learn the Canticle of Zachariah prayed at Morning Prayer, the Canticle of Mary prayed at Evening Prayer and the Canticle of Simon prayed at Night Prayer. Women are more frequently mentioned in the Gospel of St. Luke. It is not surprising that the familiar stories of the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Presentation, the visit of the women to the tomb and many other portions which highlight the presence of women in the life of Jesus come from St. Luke. It is only from Luke that we learn that women assisted Jesus and his disciples financially.

The Gospel of St. Luke is the only text in the Bible written by a Gentile. It is possible that Luke was a convert brought into the Christian Community by St. Paul. If the Gospel writer is the same Luke to whom Paul refers to in his letters, then we know that Luke was a doctor. His Gospel writing shows the mercy of Jesus. Jesus is often shown healing the sick and forgiving sinners. It is from this Gospel we learn the story of the Prodigal Son, the good thief and many others.

The Gospel of St. Luke has a universal appeal. The genealogy of Jesus is traced to Adam, the first human being. In Matthew, who was concerned with establishing the Jewish background of Jesus, starts his genealogy of Jesus with Abraham. In the Gospel of Luke, the gentiles are often highlighted for their faith. It is the centurion who proclaims Jesus as the Son of God on Calvary, it is the Roman centurion who places faith in the word of Jesus and experiences the healing of his servant. The parables found in Luke underscore the theme that those who one expected to be of faith in the message of Jesus do not and those least likely to accept Christ come to faith.

The Gospel has a justice agenda as well as an evangelical theme. While the Romans accepted Judaism as a religion in the empire and allowed it to be practiced, Luke wanted the same recognition for Christianity. Luke, therefore, presents Christianity as a continuation of Judaism. Thus, the Temple of Jerusalem and the City of Jerusalem figure into the Divine plan. For Luke, the message of Christ will come from Jerusalem and go to the whole world.

Read the Gospel with the Church this year. Pray the Gospel and try to recognize these areas of the Gospel I have tried to highlight for you.

“Were not our hearts on fire as he explained the scriptures to us?”

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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