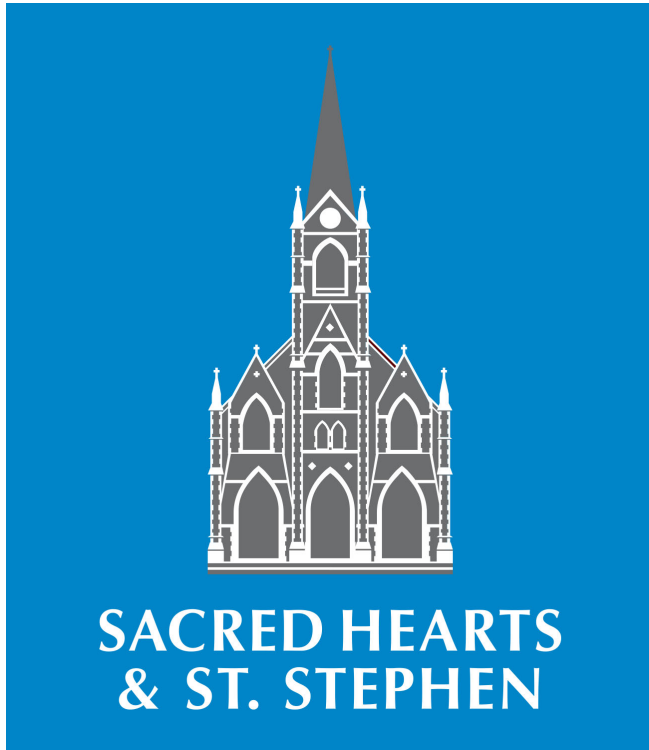

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH

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
5:00 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Monday 12:00 Noon
Tues. through Sat. 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4:00 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

Administrator/Business Manager

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

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 3:00 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.

MASSSES for the WEEK

- MON. FEBRUARY 3, 2020**
 Noon Natalie Schlaifer
 BY: Carolyn & Alan Johnson
- TUE. FEBRUARY 4, 2020**
 8:30 Caterina Deserio
 BY: Her Sister Anna
- WED FEBRUARY 5, 2020**
 8:30 For All Breast Cancer Patients
 & Survivors
- THURS. FEBRUARY 6, 2020**
 8:30 Personal Prayer Intentions
- FRI. FEBRUARY 7, 2020**
 8:30 Carmine Graziani
 BY Daughter Theresa
- SAT. FEBRUARY 8, 2020**
 8:30 Andrew, Carmela & Guy DiManso
 5:00 Nicholas Jasiel
 BY: Anna & Carmine Balsamo
- SUN FEBRUARY 9, 2020**
 8:00 Rosemarie & Frank Dellaporte &
 Jenny &Ciro Oliviero
 10:00 Maria & Saverio Fiorentino
 Noon Josephine Naccarato
 BY: Antoinette Musarella

40 DAYS OF CANS FOR
40 DAYS OF LENT

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends:
 As we approach Lent 2020, please reflect on this:*Follow me, I will show you the way.....*
 Once again, the Bishop Thomas V. Daily council #1700 Knights of Columbus is coordinating a food drive for Lent. The canned food that will be collected will be donated to the **St. John's Bread & Life Program** food pantry. Donations of canned food will be collected at SHSS (125 Summit St.) beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through every weekend during Lent. Donation boxes will be placed in the rear of the church. **Please help us help others.** *Follow me I will show you the way.*

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 1/26	\$ 3,025.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 1,780.00
Total Sunday 1/26	\$ 4,805.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,520.00
**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks	

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

This coming Pentecost Weekend, 24 of our young parishioners will receive The Sacrament of Confirmation. This past Sunday at our Enrollment Mass, individual parishioners pledged to pray for these candidates, that their faith in Jesus will grow, and that they will be open to the power and the presence of his Spirit in their lives. We encourage everyone to join in these prayers for our young people.

- Viva Acrabascio Tristen Cabareri**
Victor Campanile Kaitlyn Caruso
Ella Chester Gianna Coffaro
Victoria D'Avino Laura DePaolo
Mia DePaolo Jenna Geritano
Caleigh Guevarra Larry Hotaling
Kalista Iacono Gianna Irizarry
Olivia Majesky Brianna Malpasso
Joseph Mannari II Ava Randazzo
Alyssa Russo Sienna Seeger
Marcello Smith Alexandra Varano
Sebastian Vitali

BOOK CLUB

Please join us on Monday, February 3rd @7:00 PM in the Parish House for an informal discussion about THE INVISIBLE BRIDGE by Julie Orringer. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be on March 2nd. We will be discussing WATCHING YOU by Lisa Jewell. All are welcome

Sick Relatives & Friends

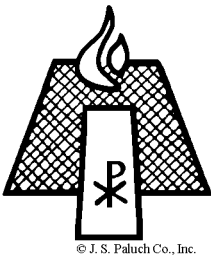
Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish and community who are ill, hospitalized or in nursing home care, most especially:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Jonelle Bernardo, | Mario Austi |
| Brad Hatry | Louis Pepe |
| Michelle Laqueria | Irene Balen |
| Dolly Vergona, | Gloria Heyer |
| Judith DeArmen | John Nigro |
| Judith Miller | Alissa Aquino |
| Diane Barchuk | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Anthony Tilocca | Anthony Turco |
| Roe Gambardella | Elizabeth Foley |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Anna Maria Marino |
| Carol Montelbano | Gina Salta |
| Anthony Manfre | Celeste Internicola |
| Emma Huckerby | Louis Janicke |
| Louann Gambardella | Robert Janicke |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Mark Carles |
| Erica Concino | Bernadette Janicke |
| Mary Therese Pugliese | Lucille Gaudino |
| Louis D'Angelo | |



Bread & Wine for the week of
Feb. 2nd

LOUIS YOU ARE MISSED
Love: Mom, Chief & Family



Sanctuary Lamps for the week
of Feb 2nd

LOUIS YOU ARE LOVED
Love: Mom, Chief & Family

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Pope Francis has designated this 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time as the “*Sunday of the Word of God*.” Through this celebration, the Church reminds us that she “has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord’s Body. She never ceases to present to the faithful the bread of life, taken from the one table of God’s Word and Christ’s Body.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 103) We are encouraged to allow God’s word to nourish us by regular reading of the sacred text. As a parish, we will use the season of Lent together in small Scripture/Faith sharing groups, asking God to deepen our appreciation, understanding and spiritual nourishment as we break open His Word together. More details to follow!

ANOINTING MASS

February 11th is the Feast of Our Lady’s appearance to St. Bernadette at Lourdes. This day has been proclaimed by the Roman Catholic Church as the Day for all the Sick. Bishop Di Marzio has asked each parish to anoint all the sick during one Liturgy. We will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick on February 8th within the 5:00 PM Mass. The Sacrament of the Sick is for those who are suffering any illness, those preparing for surgery and those who have been diagnosed with serious illness. This anointing is the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick. It is not the Sacrament of the dying. The Sacrament of the dying is the Eucharist.

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today marks forty days since Christmas. Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple in Jerusalem. While we concluded the Christmas Season on January 12th, today we are given another opportunity to consider another Epiphany theme. Today there are many themes in the text to consider. One such theme is the revealing of Christ to those faithful people who have hoped for redemption. This theme is illustrated by the presence of Zachariah and Anna. Another theme is to remind us that Jesus, Mary and Joseph are believing, faithful and observant Jews. The theme of evangelization or proclamation is seen in Anna's address to all who are looking for redemption. Another theme is found in Zachariah's prophecy addressed to Mary concerning the suffering both Jesus and she would endure.

Similar to the Epiphanies of the arrival of the Magi, the Baptism of the Lord and the Wedding Feast at Cana, Jesus is revealed to Zachariah and Anna who represent for us all who look forward to the redemption of Israel. Zachariah and Anna represent all who filled with faith believed that God would act to save his people from all forms of oppression. This oppression encompasses physical, religious and spiritual oppression. In the presentation of the Christ Child to them, we see God's faithfulness to his promise made in the first reading by the Prophet Malachi 3:1-4, "...and suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek." Jesus is a second temple Jew. He worshiped not in the Temple built by Solomon but rather in the one which was constructed by Nehemiah and Ezra after the exile (586BC-538BC) The Second Temple period (530BC-70AD). We believe that Jesus is God incarnate. Thus, in the Feast of the Presentation, we see God's promise to appear in the Temple fulfilled.

In the second reading for today from the Letter to the Hebrews, we are reminded of the great mystery of the Incarnation. This mystery is something we never tire of celebrating nor can we exhaust words and ways of speaking about this great event. In his humanity, Christ shares with us suffering, limitations, human happiness, etc. We are also reminded that God becomes human in a specific time, place and among a specific people. Jesus is Jewish. His mother is Jewish, Joseph is Jewish. Jesus has a bris (circumcision) and he is made part of the Covenant with the Jewish people. Jesus will pray and teach in the synagogue. He will live and die as a Jew. Today's feast is another indication of his Jewish identity. There seems to be two Jewish roots to this feast. The first is "Pidyon Ha Ben," or the redemption of the first born son. This ritual is based on Exodus 13:13. It is a reminder of the Exodus event. The second has to do with the ritual purification of a woman after childbirth thus returning her to the worshipping community which has its roots in Leviticus 12. This purification is ritual purity due to the blood letting after birth not a purification from sin.

The prophetic theme of today's feast is evident in the words of Zachariah to Mary. Zachariah indicates the sufferings of Christ and the pain that Mary his mother will suffer due to the ministry of Christ. Christ will be a sign of contradiction. The humanity of God in Christ will be a cause of both redemption and misunderstanding. The sufferings of Christ will be due to his faithfulness to his mission. Ultimately, it is the faithfulness of Christ which redeems our unfaithfulness.

Anna the prophetess proclaims this Child to all who would listen. Anna is evangelizing. As Mary and Joseph present Jesus to the Temple, Anna presents him to us. This is a call to our need to evangelize. Who presents Christ to the world today? The presentation of Christ to the world must be done by those who believe in him. We do this by our sharing of the faith, our acceptance and appreciations of others, our welcoming disposition, our speaking of the truth always with love, our acts of mercy. Today calls us to present Christ to the world.

It is all of us who are the image of Christ to each other and the world.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

PRAY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

During this time of the year we are invited to pray for the unity of all Christians of every denomination. Sadly, Christianity has experienced brokenness. This shattering of Christianity has become a scandal to the non-Christian World. It has hindered the preaching of the Gospel especially in mission lands. If we cannot reconcile our own differences, how can we be a light for the world? I have in my priestly ministry worked among Christians of various communities working towards a greater understanding among us. Perhaps we can remember every Sunday when we pray the Lord's Prayer before communion that other Christians in other Christian and non Christian communities are praying this same prayer and unite our thoughts with them and ask for Christian Unity. The second reading today seems to direct us to this intention.

The followers of Christ are called to be the light of the world. Christians are called to be united in faith. Paul addresses the issue of unity among the members of the Church in Corinth. In today's second reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, the apostle urges the Corinthians to preserve the unity of faith. It seems that at the time of the writing of this letter, factions among the people were devastating. These factions may have been based on one's relationship to a particular leader in the community. Therefore one was saying he/she belonged to Paul because Paul had baptized him/her. Another claimed importance because Peter had baptized him/her. Still others claimed a place of honor because Apollo has brought them into the faith. Paul warns against this behavior because it undermines the unity of faith we have in Christ Jesus. He directly reminds the Corinthians that Christ is the center not Paul, Peter or Apollo. He states that they were baptized into Christ Jesus not into Paul, Peter or Apollo.

This letter is a reminder to all of us that while we may like a particular Bishop, pope or priest, it is Christ and the gospel which matter not the priest, Bishop or pope. While it is true some clergy have a personality which we may like and find easy to understand, we cannot make idols of our favorite clergy persons. Such behavior may even prevent us from hearing the more challenging parts of the gospel which we may need to hear. Thus, it is not me, Fr. Cletus, Fr. Long or even the Bishop or Pope Francis who is the message. It is Christ Jesus. The head of the Church is Christ. With him the Church will succeed in every situation. It is for Christ and Christ alone that we exist, move and have our being. The parish, the Catholic School, the Parish activity all exists for the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ Jesus. With Christ all is possible. Without Christ all our plans and everything fails.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

INFORMATION SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

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718-596-7750

CONTACT PERSON

Rose Marie Foglia

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