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# **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

**Adoration:** Monday @ 11:00 AM  
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***

MRS. NANCY ARKIN

***Director of Faith Formation***

***Religious Education***

JOHN HEYER, II

***Pastoral Associate***

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

**Administrator/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.

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**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.**

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# MASSSES for the WEEK

**MON.** April 20, 2020  
**Noon** Agatina, Concetto & Rosetta Conti  
 BY: The Conti Family

**TUE.** APRIL 21, 2020  
**8:30** Carmine Graziani  
 BY: Daughter Theresa

**WED** APRIL 22, 2020  
**8:30** Anna, Antonio, Ralph & Theresa Colantonio  
 BY: Loving Family

**THURS.** APRIL 23, 2020  
**8:30** Stephen Vergona & All Deceased of The Vergona & Polizzi Family  
 BY: Loving Family

**FRI.** APRIL 24, 2020  
**8:30** Anna Marie Leone  
 BY: Joseph & Michelle Mazzacuve

**SAT.** APRIL 25, 2020  
**8:30** For The People of The Parish  
**5:00** Rocco & Robert Caminiti  
 BY: Loving Family

**SUN** APRIL 26, 2020  
**8:00** Mildred Sonnick  
 BY: Loving Family  
**10:00** St. Michael Society  
 BY: The Society  
**Noon** Madonna dei Maracoli  
 BY: Devotees

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 3/29	\$ 1,770.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,655.00
Total Sunday 3/29	\$ 4,425.00
Annual Weekly Expenses **	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,900.00
**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks	

## Financial Stewardship

For those who are financially able to continue to support the parish during this time, we encourage you to sign up for e-giving so that we may be able to continue the ministry of the church during this critical time.

## Parish Religious Education & Catholic Schools

Regular parish CCD classes held on Sundays and Wednesdays are postponed for the time being. Likewise, all activities related to our children's faith-formation program such as the Sunday 7th grade seminar, Stations of the Cross practices, Confirmation mentoring sessions, and Child Lures training are also postponed for the time being.

The health of all the faithful of the parish is of utmost concern, so let us continue to pray to the Lord who is a healer to protect us and bring about quickly an end to this present crisis through the intercession of His Mother Mary under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

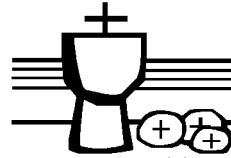
# Sick Relatives & Friends

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,     | Helena Rolla        |
| Brad Hatry            | Louis Pepe          |
| Michelle Laquercia    | 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          | 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  |
| Mary Therese Pugliese |                     |

## REACH OUT

**During this difficult time, please take a moment to check on your neighbor, the elderly and the shut in to see how they are doing. Perhaps they may need an item from the grocery store, or someone to pick up their prescriptions, anything we are able to do for them would be appreciated. Sometimes all they need is conversation and that simply requires a phone call. These are unprecedented times and we are all in this together. Take some of the free time you may have to sit in prayer for all the world.**



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Bread & Wine for the week of April 19th, 2020 has been donated In Loving Memory of **UNCLE JOHNNY**

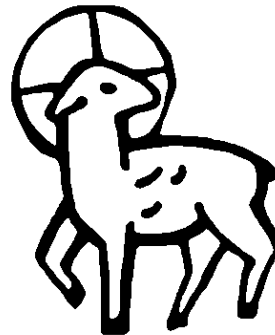
By: Frank, Anne, Nicholas & Lucas



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The Sanctuary Lamps for the week of April 19th have been donated

In Loving Memory of **STEPHEN VERGONA**  
BY: Loving Family



**He has been raised!**

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# From the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter.. Easter is too big to be contained in one day. The Easter celebration which started on Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Supper of the Lord led us to Good Friday which in turn led us to Easter and the Resurrection. Easter Sunday led us to the eight days of Easter called the Octave of Easter which concludes today. Notice that all the activity read gospels this past week actually took place on one day, Easter Sunday. Today part of our gospel is taking place on the evening of that first Easter. The second part of the gospel is taking place one week after the Resurrection of Christ which would be today.

Let us use our imagination in our praying these texts this week. Let us imagine the feelings of the apostles who meet in the upper room. Let us consider Peter who was close to Jesus. Peter truly had his heart in the right place but did not follow through. Professing his love for Jesus at the Last Supper, nevertheless, Peter denies knowing Jesus three times. Peter was not there for his friend. He leaves Jesus alone. What did Peter feel like on that Sunday morning? Did he visit the places of the trial of Jesus and the street where Jesus carried his cross? Did he weep because had he stayed he may have been able to defend Jesus or at least been there for support? How could he face Mary the mother of Jesus after having denied Jesus? What was his emotional state? What about Andrew who had been the first called, he even introduced Peter to Jesus, yet he too abandoned Jesus? What about all the guilt the others felt? How did John the faithful disciple feel about the other ten apostles? Did he say “where were you?” What happened to you? How did they feel about Judas who betrayed Jesus? Did they realize all of them in some way except for John betrayed Jesus? Then there is Thomas who could not believe. He could not get past what had happened to Jesus. Perhaps they were angry with Jesus too. How could he have left them in this state? Now they too could be seen as criminals in the eyes of the Romans. The apostles were in a bad way.

Into this mess of human emotions comes Jesus. They are overcome. Jesus knowing all things greets them with the word “Shalom” Peace. He proves he is alive although changed. He gives them the Holy Spirit telling them they can forgive sins of those who are repentant or they can retain sins of those who are not repentant. All of the apostles in that room need forgiveness and spiritual rehabilitation. They all needed the mercy of God. All of the Apostles were wounded in some way. It is Thomas who accentuates the need that they all had. It was in the wounds of Christ that they were healed. Thomas touches the wounds and his faith is healed. All the apostles had to look not only on the wounds of Christ, but their own in order to be healed.

The Sunday after Easter has been designated by St. John Paul II as Divine Mercy Sunday. Thomas in the gospel is healed by touching the wounds of Christ. Christ redeems us through his passion. It is in facing our wounded nature both as a community and as individuals that we can find healing. Seeing our wounded nature can be painful. Healing that nature can be difficult, yet Christ is our hope and strength that even the worse of sins can be forgiven and healed. Mercy is a word which comes from Latin. It is Misericordia. This word means to suffer pain in one’s heart for another. In asking God for mercy, we are asking God to have suffering in his heart for us. Likewise we are asked by God to have pain in our hearts for the pain of others. Mercy is active, it does what it can to relieve the sufferings of others through prayer and actions. (Corporal and spiritual works of mercy) There are people who feel that their lives are so mixed up or that they have sinned most grievously that forgiveness or reconciliation for them is impossible. Today the readings remind us that is not true. Mercy is available. Lives can change for the better. We are individuals and we as the body of the church are always in need of mercy. No one is so perfect as not to need mercy either from God or from each other. Today Divine Mercy Sunday forgive someone with whom you are angry. Mercy is given to us to be shared among us. In light of all that has happened to us with this virus, what is really important?

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**TO ALL**

The Jewish People and the Passion narratives present us with a need for a pastoral note. The Passion Narratives in no way justifies anti-Semitism nor any persecution of the Jews of our day or any other day. Keeping with the Teachings of the Catholic Church as explained at Vatican II in the document *Nostra Aetate* ( In Our Time), I remind you that writing of the Passion is not story of trial as we would know it. The Passion is a theological and Catechaitcal document. These events were written after the Passion and reflect a time period which was not contemporary with the Passion but with later history when The Jewish Community of Jerusalem was dividing between those who accepted Jesus and those who did not. This divide caused families and friendships to split apart. I ask you to be mindful of the quote below from Vatican II. As we hear and meditate on the Passion/Death and Resurrection of Christ during the next few weeks, I ask all to keep in mind that these events are the founding events of our faith. Please remember the following:

Even though the Jewish authorities and those who followed their lead pressed for the death of Christ, neither all Jews indiscriminate at that time, nor Jews today can be charged with the crimes committed during his passion. It is true that the Church is the new people of God, yet the Jews should not be spoken of as rejected or accused as if this followed from the Holy Scriptures. Consequently, all must take care lest in catechizing or preaching the Word of God, they teach anything which is not in accord with the truth of the Gospel message or the spirit of Christ. Indeed the Church proves every form of persecution against whomever it may be directed. Remembering then her common heritage with the Jews and moved not by any political consideration, but solely by religious motivation of Christian clarity, she (the Church) deplores all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism leveled at anytime or from any source against the Jews. The Church always held and continues to hold that Christ out of love freely underwent suffering and death because of the sins of all men, so that all might attain salvation. It is the duty of the Church, therefore, in her preaching to proclaim the cross of Christ as a sign of God's universal love and source of all grace. (*Nostra Aetate* 28 October 1965 Vatican II Document)

**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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April 19, 2020

**TRANSMISSION TIME**

Wednesday 1 PM

**KINDLY SEND ONLY 100 ‘  
BULLETINS. THANK YOU!  
STAY SAFE!**