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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:**

8:30 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***

**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. FEBRUARY 1, 2021**  
 8:30 Souls in Purgatory  
 BY: Devotee
- TUE. FEBRUARY 2, 2021**  
 8:30 Rosemarie & Frank Dellaporte &  
 Jenny & Ciro Oliviero
- WED FEBRUARY 3, 2021**  
 8:30 For All Breast Cancer  
 Patients & Survivors
- THURS. FEBRUARY 4, 2021**  
 8:30 Saverio De Felice, Jr.  
 Anniversary Remembrance
- FRI. FEBRUARY 5, 2021**  
 8:30 Martha Cimmino  
 BY: Rose Marie Foglia
- SAT. FEBRUARY 6, 2021**  
 8:30 Josephine Rallis  
 BY: Her Brother, Salvatore  
 5:00 PM Health of Family  
 BY: Illiano Family
- SUN FEBRUARY 7, 2021**  
 8:30 Veronica (Ronnie) Lubrano  
 BY: M/M Anthony Bombolino  
 10:00 Anna Marie Leone  
 BY: The Russo Family  
 Noon Joseph & Jean Bivona  
 BY: Fran & Destiny Bivona

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 1/24	\$ 1,962.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 3,103.00
Total Sunday 1/24	\$ 5,065.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,260.00
***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.

## CRIME PREVENTION FOR SENIORS

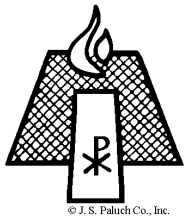
### Basic Safety Tips

- ◇ While walking, try to do so in groups and in well lit areas. Try to stay on main streets with other pedestrians around you.
- ◇ When walking, if someone attempts to snatch your pocketbook, let go of it. It can be replaced.
- ◇ When you are driven home, ask the driver to wait until you are safely inside your residence.
- ◇ If someone bumps into you while shopping or walking in a crowd, be aware that this action might be related to a pickpocket.
- ◇ Have your keys in hand as you approach your home. This will allow you to unlock the door without delay.
- ◇ Always carry identification and have a list of your medication with doctor's contact information with you at all times. Also carry a list of medications and food that you are allergic to.

# 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 | Evan Marra          |
| Hector Jimenez        | Darren Munio        |



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## BREAD & WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS



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The 2021 Dedication Books for Bread & Wine and Sanctuary Lamp memorials are now open. These dedications are for one week, Sunday to Sunday, and are \$30.00 each.

For more information, please call the Rectory and speak with Rose Marie Foglia, our Business Manager.

### FEBRUARY IS AMERICAN HEART MONTH

Traditionally the month of February focuses on prevention and treatment of heart disease and related heart conditions. This February we are going to focus on “**the mind-heart-body connection**” with easy daily practices to open our minds to our heart, and our heart to our mind.

The mind heart-body connection influences how we react to everyday emotions. Our thoughts and actions impact how we feel and how our heart and body respond. Emotional thoughts of happiness or sadness, being content or stressed, relaxed or scared, causes our heart to beat too fast or too slow, and our body to react by our muscles getting tense or we fight or run. High blood pressure, elevated heart rates, high/low sugar levels lead to illness and disease. Positive thoughts and emotions have happy health benefits by reducing stress, anxiety and lowering blood pressure and sugar levels.

**Remember, the mind controls the body, and the body reacts to the mind, so let us.....**

“**BE MINDFUL**” to keep your heart healthy with harmony and peace.

- Pray, think ask, pray again. Speak how you feel and give it up to God.
- Before responding...stop, drop your shoulders and breathe slowly and deeply.
- Before reacting...be still, breathe, focus, think safety and positivity.
- Be aware of negative thoughts...replace it with a prayer, a song and positivity.
- Feel like crying..go ahead and have a good cry!
- Set an intention and goal of positive thoughts and actions.
- Feeling down, volunteer, write a letter, keep a journal, help a friend or a stranger!
- Check your blood pressure.
- Check your heart rate.
- Laugh, Dance and get moving!

Planning a food menu? Food shopping? Dining out? Look for the familiar American Heart Association symbol on packing or menu.

Do you know your risk for heart disease/ Visit [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) to evaluate your risk and always consult your health care provider!

**Be Well, Stay Safe, Spread Kindness & God Bless us everyone! Peace, Sondra, RN**

# From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The unifying theme of the readings seems to be summed up in the responsorial psalm: "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." In a word, the theme is to listen. This is a challenging theme in our society. In the first reading from the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses speaks about the coming of a future prophet. Prophets announce the Word of God to their people who need to listen to them. The prophets acted as the conscience of the people. Prophets pointed out God's presence in their contemporary circumstances and they told consequences of not listening to the voice of God. Listening to the prophetic words was essential. In the Gospel, Jesus is not only the bearer of the Word of God, Jesus is the WORD of God incarnate. While the prophets taught about the Word of God, Jesus who is the WORD of God speaks with authority. For both Jesus and the prophets, it is the Word of God which matters. The Word needs a listening heart.

How do we hear the Word of God? Listening and reading the scriptures in the context of the church, listening to reflections on the readings in homilies and church teachings and being silent as we meditate on the Sacred text. We do all these things from where our lives are here and now. If you are sick you will hear the Word differently from a person who is well. If you are going through a stressful period, you will hear the word differently from someone who is at peace. If you are mourning the loss of a loved one, you will hear the Word differently than if you are having a child. The unique thing is that when the Word speaks to you, you know it. You just know it. I cannot explain it. The Word of God has the power to change our lives for the better.

In the Gospel today, we see one of the affects of the Word of God in action that is the expelling of a demon. The power of this Word of Jesus heals and expels the evil which held a man in bondage. So, have you seen any demons lately? What do demons look like? How do you know their around? Do you know any demons by name?

I am sure these questions seem strange as we begin to reflect on the Gospel for this Sunday but demons do exist. Demons create obstacles to our spiritual life. They cause static in our spiritual lives. In the Rite of Baptism, we are asked: Do you renounce sin, the glamour of evil and Satan? These renunciations mean exactly what they say. We are called to renounce everything that is contrary to the Gospel or what may lead us away from following the Lord. Demons always separate us from God, from ourselves and from each other. Demons, however, are given power by us who cooperate with them.

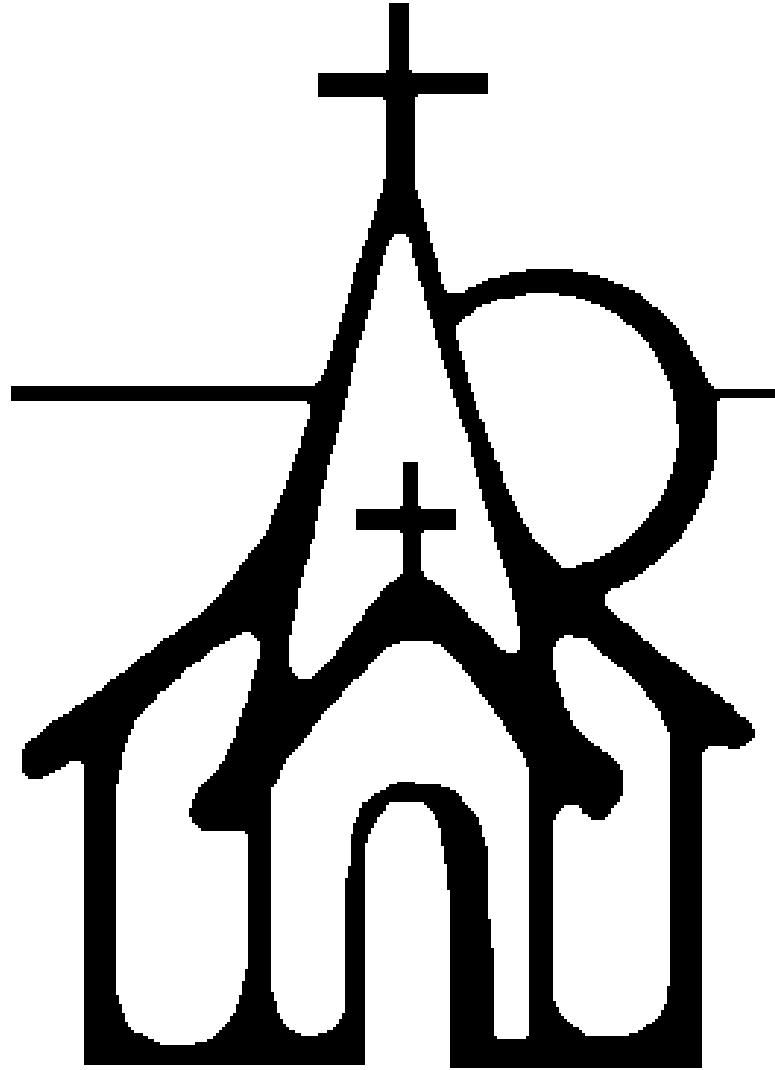
In the Gospel today, Jesus expels these spiritual pests. These demons which may cause us problems, come in all varieties. The fear demon causes us not to trust God's providence. The fear demon tells us that we are to be afraid of not having, not getting, of not being remembered or not being recognized. The fear demon which paralyzes us so much that we fear helping ourselves to seek healing. There is the demon of anger which traps us into cynicism. We become incapable of seeing anything or anyone as being sincere and good. This demon causes us a great deal of disruption in our spiritual and social lives. There is also the demon of jealousy. This demon can destroy families, communities, workplaces and individuals. Some other behaviors which cause us separation from God and others are addictions such as over drinking, gambling, and pornography. Now these behaviors can be psychologically driven. They also have social and moral consequences. These behaviors need to be treated and healed through professional help and grace.

To Listen to the Word of God, allows us to be reflective and come to name our demons. Once admitted, we can, with the help of the grace of God, expel our demons. We need to listen to ourselves. We need to reflect on our behavior an our words in the light of the Gospel. Such behavior leads us to conversion.

Evil does exist in the world. Evil is anything which drives us away from God, from our true self and from others. While powerful and alluring, evil is not equal to God. Evil can only have power over us if we allow it to have control over us. To free us from its grasp, we need the saving grace of Christ. In Christ all evil is conquered. If you are enduring any of these demons, call out to the Lord especially in the Eucharist. Seek guidance and healing is possible.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

**I AM THE CHURCH, YOU ARE THE CHURCH  
WE ARE THE CHURCH TOGETHER!**



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**BY WORKING TOGETHER WITH OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE, WE HAVE BUILT A  
SPIRIT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AT  
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN CHURCH.**

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!**