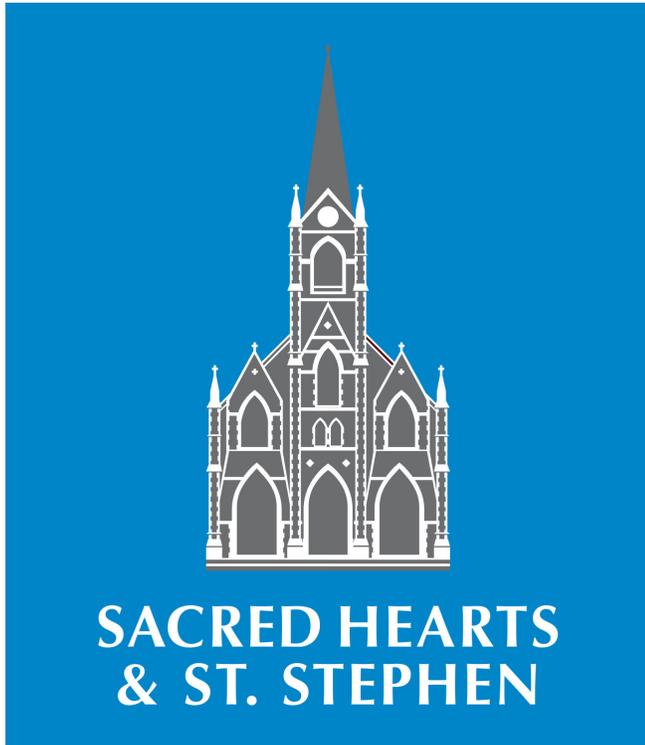


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# **SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH**

**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](http://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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- MON. FEBRUARY 22, 2021**  
 8:30 Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni  
 BY: Loving Family
- TUE. FEBRUARY 23, 2021**  
 8:30 Dr. Frank & Gladys Zodda  
 BY: Children, Carolyn & John
- WED FEBRUARY 24, 2021**  
 8:30 AM Anthony Russo  
 BY: The Russo Family
- THURS. FEBRUARY 25, 2021**  
 8:30 Rina Columbo  
 BY: Cerato & Andruzzi Families
- FRI. FEBRUARY 26, 2021**  
 8:30 Louis Valentino, Jr.  
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
- SAT. FEBRUARY 27, 2021**  
 8:30 Vincent Favorito  
 BY: His Family  
 5:00 PM Cecelia Mugno  
 BY: Husband, Louis Mugno
- SUN FEBRUARY 28, 2021**  
 8:30 Danny & Carmella Pipitone  
 10:00 Frank Adinolfi  
 BY: George & Josephine Maggiore  
 Noon Natalina Scala  
 BY: The Reca & Heyer Families

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Sunday Collection 2/14	\$ 1,773.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,803.00
Total Sunday 2/14	\$ 4,576.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,749.00
**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

John Esposito

## CORRECTION OF ERROR IN LAST'S WEEK'S BULLETIN



Bread & Wine for the week of  
February 14th has been donated  
In Loving Memory of  
**VERONICA "RONNIE" LUBRANO**  
BY: Carolyn & John Zodda



Bread & Wine for the week of  
February 21st has been donated  
In Loving Memory of  
**FRANK & ELIZABETH LO PORTO**  
By: Children & Grandchildren

## 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

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Dear Parish Community:

“ We adore you O Christ and we Bless you because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world”

The First Sunday in Lent invites us to focus on our personal relationship with God. This personal relationship needs to be lived out in the context of the Eucharist, the sacred text, tradition and in the community of the Church. While our relationship with Christ is personal, it is not solitary. We are always to see ourselves in relationship with community. Each Sunday the first reading taken from the Hebrew Scriptures will speak to us about the covenant relationship we have with God. A covenant is a relationship. For us this is more than a contract, it means both sides are invited to give all that it takes to be faithful to the relationship. At Mass we hear about the New Covenant. Ultimately the New Covenant is Jesus. In Jesus, in his life, suffering and death, we see graphically what faithfulness to the relationship between God and humanity means.

The Covenant we have with God is Jesus. In Jesus, humanity and divinity meet. Each of us enters into this relationship with God through Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism. Each of us keeps this Baptismal relationship alive in the sacrament of the Eucharist. The guideposts of our covenant relationship with God are stated in our baptismal promises. During Lent we are invited to re-examine these promises so that we may better renew them at Easter, correct our shortcomings in fulfilling them and recommitting ourselves to Christ and his mission. To assist us in our Lenten self examination, I invite you to look at, read and study these promises: Do you reject sin (everything contrary to the Gospel) so as to live in the freedom of children of God? Do you reject the glamour of evil and refuse to be mastered by sin? Do you reject Satan, the father of sin and the prince of darkness? Do you believe in God the Father almighty, the creator of Heaven and Earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried and rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

The following are some questions to consider while reflecting on these promises. In our world today, what does it mean to reject evil and sin? What is evil? How does one reject it? How does one recognize sin in one's life? What does it mean to believe in God? What does it mean to believe in Jesus? How does one believe? What is required? What does the communion of Saints mean? What do we mean by the resurrection of the body? What do we mean by the Holy Catholic Church? Each Sunday we will try to address these questions and recognize them in the selected Sunday Scripture.

I wish you a blessed and spiritually uplifting Lenten Season.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

## LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Lent is a great season of hope. It is the time of the year that the earth itself is preparing for new life. Lent is a call to renewal: renewal of our spirits, our lives and our very being.

The practices of Lent are motivated by renewal and hope. Fasting and abstaining from food is an ancient Lenten practice. Fasting is found in many Christian and non-Christian communities for both spiritual growth and social justice awareness. Fasting means not eating. This can be done in many ways. One may fast from eating in between meals. One may fast from eating a particular food for a period of time. For example, one may fast on bread or sweets, etc. The fasting need not be a painful experience. The purpose of the self denial is to remind you that Christ gave up his life willing for you. This fasting that you are doing is to gently remind you of this article of our faith. Secondly, fasting can help the poor. The money saved from fasting which you otherwise might spend can be given to the poor or given to help someone else.

To help you with Fasting and Abstinence, the Catholic Church requires all age 14 and over not to eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent. This is to remind us of the death of Christ on a Friday. Those ages from 14 to 59 are asked to fast on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. This means that one may only eat one main meal. Good Friday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence.

While fasting is commendable and should be done, I also urge you to do positive acts for Lent. This is a season which invites us to make room for God in our busy lives. It is a time to pray in new ways. I may suggest that you pray the Stations of the Cross perhaps two stations a week until Easter. While focusing on the suffering of Christ, ask yourself where you may be in this particular station. For example, the first station Jesus is condemned to death. For a meditation, think of acceptance of things and situations which we cannot change. How difficult acceptance of loss or change can be. Another meditation: have you or someone you know suffered an injustice? Has someone you know been condemned to death due to a cancer or a terrible sickness which is unfair? If so then you have found your prayer for this first station of the Cross.

I suggest reading Sacred Text. Perhaps read the Lenten Gospels proclaimed each day at mass during Lent. This will keep you in line with the praying Church. As you read, ask yourself where am I in this Gospel? What stands out in this Gospel for me? Sit with the Gospel for ten minutes a day. It will be a great experience. I highly recommend that you join the Parish on the days we have **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**. The Blessed Sacrament is the real presence of Christ with us. I ask you take time to sit in silence in the presence of the Lord. Allow this mysterious and wonderful sacrament to contemplate you and you contemplate the Lord. Allowing this Adoration of the Sacrament will make celebration of the Eucharist more meaningful. Allow this time to be a time of growth for your Spirit.

I wish you a fruitful Lenten Season.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie