

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:

8:30 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

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.

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.**

Mass Intentions For The Week



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- MON. MARCH 15, 2021**
8:30 Rose & Pasquale Masotto
BY: Son Salvatore
- TUE. MARCH 16, 2021**
8:30 Lorianne Sgro Zodda
BY: Her Parents Carolyn & John
- WED MARCH 17, 2021**
8:30 AM Ancestors of McInerney & Foley Families
BY: Tom & Mary & Family
- THURS. MARCH 18, 2021**
8:30 Lucia Borrrometi
BY: The Conti Family
- FRI. MARCH 19, 2021**
8:30 Vitantonio & Maria Gaudioso
BY: Marie & Frank Gaudioso
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
- SAT. MARCH 20, 2021**
8:30 Luigi Barerra
BY: Tina & Nick
5:00 PM In Honor of St. Joseph
- SUN MARCH 21, 2021**
8:30 Jay Sisto
10:00 Frances Galea
BY: Anthony Troiano & Family
Noon Pietro Reca
BY: Family



FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Sunday Collection 3/07	\$ 4,448.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 4,298.00
Total Sunday 3/07	\$ 8,746.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ \$5,579.00

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

** Please note that Envelopes & Cash have a one time donation of \$ 2,250.00 and on line has a one time donation of \$2,000.00

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.



Annual Catholic Appeal 2021
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

The 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission

of our parish and the daily work of the Church in Brooklyn and Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone by supporting the following ministries:

- Catholic Youth Ministry Initiative
- Catholic Charities
- Hospital, College & Prison Chaplains
- Diocesan Vocations Office
- Catholic Migration Services
- Office of Faith Formation
- Bishop Mugavero Residence for infirmed clergy
- Futures in Education Scholarship Foundation

All donations made to the ACA above our Parish Goal are returned directly back to our parish for operations and improvements.



Pray For

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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 | Alicia 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 | |



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Bread & Wine for the week of March 14th has been donated

In Loving Memory of

FRANK ADINOLFI

BY: Michael & LouAnne Manus



You're Invited

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Please join us on Monday, 4/12 @7:00PM in the Parish House for an informal discussion about THE MERCIES by Kiran

Millwood Hargrave. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be on May 3rd. We will be discussing MERCY HOUSE by Alena Dillon. All are welcome.

MARCH..IN LIKEA LION
OUT LIKE A LAMB?

In the United States March brings awareness of a few health battles that we must battle like "lions" with the proper awareness, diagnosis and treatment, for our health to be gentle as a "lamb." This March let us focus on the safety and bring awareness to :

- Brain injury
- ◇Adults and children should be properly fitted for helmets.
- ◇Buckle up for safety in all moving vehicles.
- Poison Awareness
- ◇Check for expiration dates on all medication and foods.
- ◇Lock cabinets and doors where you store poisonous cleaners and bio-hazardous material.
- ◇Locate and post the poison control numbers on your fridge and in your phones for humans and animals.
- National Sleep Awareness
- ◇Take a nap!
- ◇Go to bed at the same time each night and wake up the same time each day.
- ◇Rest in between
- ◇Set the temperature to be cool in the bedroom (promotes sleep)
- ◇Shut the TV, turn on calm music
- ◇Leave your cell phone in another room

Specific Days of Awareness

- Kick Butt Day on Friday March 19th
- ◇Great day to stop smoking! Ask a friend or family member to join in support!
- ◇Do not be shy, prayer helps!
- ◇Reach out for support!
- <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/smoking-nyc-qa.html>
- Call 866-NY-QUITS (866-697-8487)
- American Diabetes Alert Day March 23rd
- ◇Know your A1C and fasting glucose levels
- ◇Exchange white for brown in bread, flour, pasta
- <https://www.diabetesfoodhub.org/articles/budget-friendly-meal-plan-and-tips.html>
- <https://www.diabetes.org/>
- <https://diabetes.org/newsroom/press-release/COVID-19-brings-crisis-of-access-for-millions-living-with-diabetes>

In closing, let us remember March 1 marks one year since the first US diagnosis of COVID-19.

This March came upon us...wet, windy and weeping and my prayer is for March to go out as Sunny Spring!

Sondra Rivera, RN

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family:

**“The Lord God then called to the man and asked: Where are you?”
(Genesis 3:9)**

“Our hands are restless until they come to rest in you.” “O Lord” (St. Augustine)

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. The scriptures are more a story of God’s longing for a relationship with us rather than our longing for a relationship with God. In the Book of Genesis 3:9 we read: “The Lord God called to the man asking: “Where are you?” This one line sets the theme for the entire Biblical story. The theme of Covenant (relationship) continues. Today the first reading from II Chronicles reminds us of God’s constant love and God’s faithfulness to his people even when they ignored the covenant and were unfaithful. In the second reading from St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians we are told that God is rich in mercy. Paul reminds us that our redemption is the result of God’s graciousness toward us not a reward for our faithfulness as if we earned our redemption. God is faithful to us even when we are not faithful to him. In the Gospel from St. John we are reminded: “God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son.” The responsorial psalms urge us to remember God’s faithfulness.

Perhaps we can liken God’s covenantal relationship to humanity and to us as that of the love of a parent. The parent loves his/her child. The love is unconditional. The parent wills the good for the child. While the love for the child is unconditional, approval for everything the child does is not always present. The parent may love the child but disapprove of the child’s behavior. The child has done nothing to earn the love of the parent, the love is given. Approval has to be won. In the first reading, God loved his people but wanderings and unfaithfulness to the covenant caused them to suffer from the nations around them. Their neglect of the covenant caused them to be less than they were called to be. Their errors caused God suffering in the sense that a parent suffers when their children suffer, even if the suffering is the fault of the child. The suffering of the parents whose child becomes involved in crime or drugs is an example. The parent will do anything to help the child. The parent is present even if the child rejects the parent. In the same way, God through the prophets, calls his people back.

What is it that alludes us from God? For what are we searching? Could we be looking for our own identity? Could we be searching for security in a very insecure world? Are we wanting to exert our independence? Are we searching for some meaning in our lives that goes beyond our everyday life? Are we in need to be told that we are loved? Do we need to know that our lives matter in the lives of others? Are we searching for relief from stress? Are we looking for inner peace? Do we feel unfulfilled? Do we seek to answer these feelings and questions by developing habits which dull our senses such as drinking, gambling, drugs, pornography, consumerism, binging on food or television and other outrageous behaviors? Is there emptiness in our hearts that we may sometimes feel and ignore? The answer to all of this is found in a quote:

“ Our hearts are restless until they come to rest in you O Lord” (St. Augustine)

The Spiritual life is lived between God’s calling to us “where are you?” and our response” Our heart is restless until they come to rest in you O Lord.”

Msgr. Guy A. Massie



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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