

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

REV. NGOZI
Prison Chaplain (In Residence)

MRS. NANCY ARKIN
Director of Faith Formation

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.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Sunday Collection 4/25	\$ 1,389.00*
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,443.00
Total Sunday 4/25	\$ 3,832.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$10,493.00

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks
**

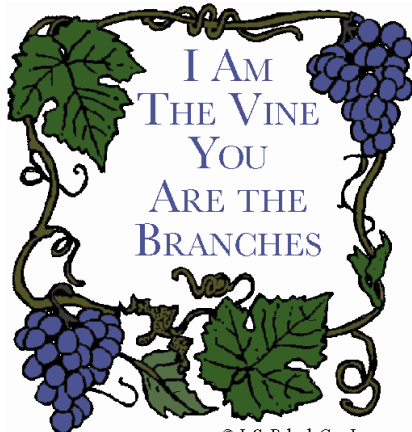
MON.	MAY 3, 2021
8:30	Violet/Rocco Massie
TUE.	MAY 4, 2021
8:30	Paulette Silveri BY: Lucy Paulino
WED	MAY 5, 2021
8:30	Anne "Babe" Iacono BY: The Gambardella Family
THURS.	MAY 6, 2021
8:30	Stella Magdalena BY: Her Family
FRI.	MAY 7, 2021
8:30	Martha Cimmino BY: Laura & Michael Eng & Family
SAT.	MAY 8, 2021
8:30	In Honor of St. Michael the Archangel For the Protection and Guidance of All Police BY: Lorraine Zanzonico
5:00 PM	Mothers' Day Remembrance
SUN	MAY 9, 2021
8:30	Mothers' Day Remembrance
10:00	Mothers' Day Remembrance
Noon	Mothers; Day Remembrance



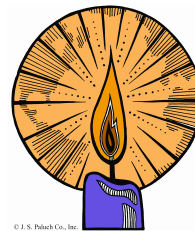
The 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission of our parish and the daily work of the Church in Brooklyn and Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone by supporting the following ministries:

- 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.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Sanctuary Lamps for the week of May 2nd have been donated In Memory of ANNE "BABE" IACONO BY: John Selvaggio & Family



Pray For

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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 | RoseMary Lamaestra |
| 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 | Abigail Memmesheimer |

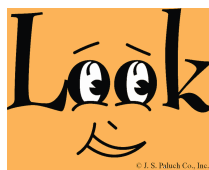


© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Bread & Wine for the week of May 2nd has been donated

In Loving Memory of ANNE "BABE" IACONO

BY: Fran Balzano & Family



© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

MOTHER & FATHER'S DAY BABY SHOWER

We are having a Mother & Father's Day baby shower with donations going to the Sisters of Life. Mother's Day is May 9th and Father's Day is June 20th so you can make a donation between now and June 20th. As we did last year, if you wish to make a donation, please send it directly to St. Andrew's Church, Sisters of Life, 20 Cardinal Hayes Place, NYC 10007. This year the Sisters are in need of diapers, wipes, onesies, booties, baby lotion, shampoo, children's bibles. Other suggestions are other baby clothing such as sleepers, hats and outfits, bottles and blankets. All baby items must be new. Maternity clothing is also very helpful as are Uber gift cards for medical appointments, especially in light of the pandemic. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

MAY FOR MARY!

LET US PRAY TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS TO ALL GOD'S CHILDREN!

As May is the month of Mary our Mother, we celebrate all Mothers who have healed our bumps and bruises and gave us comfort beyond measure with infinite love and joy (and an occasional stern arm).

May enters with many joyful celebrations and health awareness events. Let us focus on our health so we can continue to welcome Spring and enjoy all May's celebrations!

In the month of May we celebrate Florence Nightingale's birthday (May 12th 1820) and all nurses.

Let us continue our physical and mental focus by going for a walk with "Mom" or have a nice long talk with "Mom" or even get up and dance with "Mom" and maybe even a karaoke challenge with "Mom" and her favorite tunes.

Build a bird house, plant flowers, tell some corny Mom jokes and ask about your birth story again.

For me, I am going to celebrating "Ma" in many of these ways with my daughters born of my heart and soul and continue to honor all the mothers who cannot be here on earth but are forever close in my heart.

Let us remember that May is the month of awareness for:

- High Blood Pressure Education: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov.health-topics/education-and-awareness/high-blood-pressure>
- Arthritis: <https://www.arthritis.org/>
- Asthma and Allergy: <https://www.aafa.org/asthma-and-allergy-awareness-month>
- ALS awareness: <http://www.alsa.org/>
- Better Hearing and Speech: <https://www.asha.org/> & <https://www.asha.org/bhsm/>
- Better Sleep Month: <https://bettersleep.org/>
- Bike Month and Bike to Work Day: <https://bikleague.org/bikemonth>
- National Institute On Minority Health and Health Disparities www.healthandfitnessmonth.org.
- Food Allergy Awareness <https://www.foodallergyawareness.org/>
- Health Vision Month (Global) <https://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/healthyvisionmonth>.
- Hepatitis Awareness: <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hepawarenessabcs.htm>

Be it our Mom in heaven, Mom on earth, Mom who is our mother's Mother, our Aunts, our friends, by birth, by heart, by soul, by chance, we celebrate them ALL!

Many blessings for this month of May to one and ALL!

Sondra Rivera, RN

From the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

“I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit because without me, you can do nothing.”

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

I wish you a Happy and Blessed Fifth Sunday of Easter. As we journey through the Easter Season, the readings today remind us of what God can do through those who believe in the Risen Christ. Christ is present in the community of the Church through the Holy Spirit. In the first reading we are told about Saul who we will come to know as Paul. Saul who is now converted to the Lord is proclaiming the faith he once sought to destroy. This great change can only happen through the grace of the Risen Christ in the community. The second reading from the First Letter of John reminds us that if we are believers in Christ then we need to keep his commandments. The commandment of Christ is we love each other through our good deeds and truth. In the Gospel we are reminded to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. It is only with Christ can we grow in the Spirit, that we can love and that we can keep the command of Christ.

The life of the Risen Christ surging through us forms us into the community or the church. In the first reading we discover that it is only after Barnabas introduces Saul that the fear of Saul the former persecutor begins to subside. Why did Barnabas trust Saul? Perhaps because they saw Barnabas as a man filled with the Holy Spirit and he lived his faith. What was the genesis of the great change in Saul? Perhaps it was the life of Christ moving in and through him which the community recognized. Let us relate this first reading to the second reading from the Letter of St. John. It seems that the first reading is an illustration of the directions in the second reading. The second reading urges us to live the gospel message in truth and in good deeds. It is community living the gospel in truth and good deeds which we see happening in the first reading. The assembly is living out its life as the Vine of Christ.

Where are we in these texts? We cannot be church, we cannot be disciple, we cannot be believer unless we are united to Christ. Christ is the Vine and we are the branches. The life that is in Christ follows from Christ through us for the up-building of the community as well as our own spiritual life. We are asked to love through our deeds and truth. What does this love mean? Is it emotional? Do I have to like everyone? Is not this kind of soft theology? Love means effectively willing the good of the other. The reason we effectively will the good of the other is because we are followers of Jesus who taught us that to effectively will the good of the other is the will of God. We do not love because we like a person or because we are looking for a reward. We love because we are followers of Jesus. We do not love because the other deserves our kindness or love, or because we are obligated in some way to the person. We love not because of who a person is but because of who we are. We are followers of Jesus. This love which the disciple of Jesus is called to show has nothing to do with emotions, feelings or personal interest. The love we are striving for is the love called agape. This love is pure love for God because we believe that God has loved us, we in turn love God and because of our love for God, we love or will the good for the other. In short, the love of Christ impels us to do the same.

The love of which the gospel speaks has nothing to do with the one who is showing the kindness. Rather, the one receiving the kindness is the one upon which attention is placed. The love of which the gospel speaks invites us to die to ourselves for the good of the other. The agape or effectively willing the good for the other or love can be found when we do an act of charity for another or for a group anonymously. The love of which the gospel speaks is seen in the teacher who gives of him or herself to help a struggling child to read or to learn mathematics without counting the hours or looking for recognition. The agape of the gospel can be seen in those who courageously give of themselves to a cause for justice for the poor and the under-privileged expecting nothing in return except the satisfaction that they gave all they had for another. So, even if the love is rejected, the bearer of the love remains willing the good of the other. This agape has nothing to do with reciprocity. The love is given expecting nothing in return. Since the love of which Jesus speaks is seen when the giver of the kindness or the love is not the center of the good deed, this love is connected to the Cross and dying to oneself. Notice in the gospel that the Cross and the glorification of Jesus are connected. The love of which the gospel speaks invites the disciple to serve for the sake of Christ, not for the sake of the disciple. The disciple cannot practice this love unless the life of Christ is surging through his/her spirit for Christ is the vine and we are the branches and with him we can do all things. Without him we can do nothing.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

The Window

Author Unknown

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation, etc.

Every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods when his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color of the rainbow. Grand old trees graced the landscape and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the band, he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days and weeks passed.

One morning the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone.

Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. Finally he would have the joy of seeing it for himself. He strained to slowly turn to look outside the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall.

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said "perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Epilogue: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy despite our own situation. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy. Today is a gift that's why it is called the PRESENT.