

# **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 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*

**REV. NGOZI**

*Prison Chaplain (In Residence)*

**MR. EDWIN RIVERA**

*Deacon*

**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.

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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 2:00 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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# Mass Intentions For The Week

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- MON. NOVEMBER 8, 2021**  
8:30 In Honor of St. Michael
- TUE. NOVEMBER 9, 2021**  
8:30 Salvatore & Maria Grazia DiFilippo  
BY: The Reca Family
- WED NOVEMBER 10, 2021**  
8:30 Deceased Members of  
The Di Rosa Family  
BY: Carmela Di Rosa
- THURS. NOVEMBER 11, 2021**  
8:30 Vergona & Polizzi Family  
BY: Loving Family
- FRI. NOVEMBER 12, 2021**  
8:30 Parents, Angela & Antonio Caria  
& All Deceased Members of  
The Caria Family  
BY: Marie Caria
- SAT. NOVEMBER 13, 2021**  
8:30 Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni  
BY Loving Family  
5:00 PM Francesca Martell  
BY: Margaret Giorgine
- SUN NOVEMBER 14, 2021**  
8:30 Philip & Santa Castro  
BY: Loving Family  
10:00 Pozzallo Members, Living & Deceased  
BY: The Pozzallo Society  
Noon Elisa Puglise  
BY: Her Loving Family

We invite you to join us for morning prayer each day in our church at 8:00 AM. Begin your day praising God and thanking him for the blessings he has bestowed on you!

All are welcome.

We hope to see you there!



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## FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Sunday Collection 10/31	\$ 1,083.00
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,962.50
Total Sunday 10/31	\$ 4,495.50
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,829.50

\*\*Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

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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.



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Bread & Wine for the week of November 7th has

been donated

In Memory of

**DOLLY VERGONA**

**BY: Ann Mortillaro**



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                      | Gertrude Zagarella  |
| Michelle Laquercia              | Irene Balen         |
| Judith DeArmen                  | John Nigro          |
| Judith Miller                   | Agnes Scolaro       |
| 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  |
| Susan Hannan                    | Evan Marra          |
| Hector Jimenez                  | Darren Munio        |
| Abigail Memmesheimer            | Sophia Rotunno      |
| Philip Saraceno                 | Vittorio Di Turi    |
| Maria Anjelica Patino Laquercia | Nina Carulli        |



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**BOOK CLUB**  
Please join us on **Monday, November 8th @ 7:00 PM in the Parish House.**

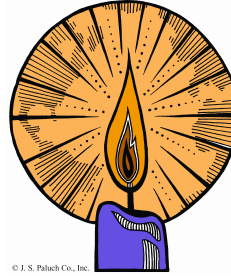
**We will be discussing**  
**An Invisible Thread by Laura Schroff.**  
**All are welcome!**



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**Our Church is open each Wednesday from noon until 2:00 PM for private prayer. You are encouraged to stop by for this quiet time with the Lord.**

**We hope to see you there!**



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**If you wish to remember a loved one or have a devotion to a particular saint, annual memorial candles are available at the Rectory. These candles remain lit**

**for one year at a cost of \$100.00 per year ( first time cost is \$110.00 to cover the expense of the plaque) They can be placed by any Saint in our Church and a personalized plaque with the inscription of your choice may be affixed to the candle. If you are interested or have any questions regarding these candles, please call the Rectory and speak to Rose Marie Foglia, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We will be happy to help you.**

*COME HOME FOR ADVENT*

*HOLY HOUR-EVENING PRAYER*

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*TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM*

*11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21*

*HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE*

*Let us Deck the Halls of Our Hearts in Preparation of the Birth of Christ and His Expectant Return*

# From the Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

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Today's readings show Jesus' praise for the humble and his despising of hypocrisy.

Jesus in the Gospel reading for the past few weeks has presented us with his agenda. Jesus has turned the tables on the secular world. Jesus has shown who he believes to be important in the world. He has shown the attitudes of which he approves. In doing so, he has upset the status quo of his time and of our time. In today's first reading and Gospel, the image of the widow is held up to us. Widows along with orphaned children were symbols of poverty. Both the widow and the orphaned were dependent on the mercy of others to care for them. Widows did not collect pensions or social security. If their husbands could not provide for them, if their families could not take care of them, they were at the mercy of the community.

In the Gospel, it is the widow who is the heroine of the story. Similar to the story about Bartemaus, the blind man whose cries come to the ear of Jesus in the midst of the noise of the crowd, so too the keen eye of Jesus notices this poor widow making a contribution to the temple. It is the faithfulness, goodness, kindness, compassion lived out in the people considered unimportant by the power structures who Jesus sees and accepts. In the first reading, the heroine is the widow of Zarephath who places her faith in the words of Elijah the prophet who is commended by Jesus. According to Jesus, greatness was found in those who serve not in those being served. It is those who give of themselves quietly without seeking recognition for their good deeds that Jesus notices.

The two widows who Jesus praises stand out in sharp contrast to the religious leadership of the day. The scribes were educated, respected and trusted by the people. Scribes often assisted widows manage their property or their expenses. Many served the widows honestly, some on the other hand pretended their religious piety in order to gain the trust of the widows. These men treated widows dishonestly. Such behavior is called hypocrisy. When the internal piety is not reflected, the external behavior is called hypocrisy.

It is possible that the story called the Widow's Mite may be misnamed. A mite is a small amount. The widow gave all she could. This is what she could afford. Therefore, for her it was a great amount. Those on the other hand who could have given more, really only gave a mite or a small amount. Those who could give had little faith. The poor widow who trusted God gave a great amount. She gave in faith that God would provide for her. The wealthy really gave a mite because they could have given more. Their external behavior did not reflect their self acclaimed internal piety. They presented themselves as faith-filled people but in reality they were not trusting God.

In the beginning of the Gospel, Jesus is critical of religious clericalism. Some of the leaders of the religious communities of his time dressed so that they could be recognized and given places of honor. Their clothing separated them from the average person. The clothing and the attitude of some of the religious leaders communicated what some may call "holier than thou attitude." We are facing a similar situation with clergy today. Some priests and seminarians and even some bishops are carrying themselves in a very clerical way. This behavior of wearing cassocks, capes and berettas is intended to set the cleric apart from us. Their attire communicates their own perceived power and distinction as though they were holy. No one knows who is holy but God. Clerical attire is to communicate availability for service not of power or self righteousness. It is this very behavior that today's Gospel criticizes. All of us lay persons and clerics are walking the pilgrim's way to holiness and no one has yet arrived. All of us are sinners and all need God's mercy. Clericalism is another word for entitlement which in the church can be hurtful. Well, if you are a cleric or a priest and you are offended by this statement, we can talk.

I ask you to consider the following questions; Where do you picture yourself in these readings? Are you one of the apostles listening to Jesus? Are you the widow who is at the mercy of those around her for constant help? Would you have found Jesus to be too challenging of the status quo of his time? Do you sympathize with the established religious point of view of the scribes? What is your definition of hypocrisy? What would you have liked to discuss with Jesus with regard to this story? Why do we do the good that we do?

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

## **FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH**

### **Communion, Participation and Mission**

1. The Church of God is convoked in Synod. The path entitled “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission solemnly opened on the 9th –10th of October in Rome and on the following 17th of October in each particular Church. One fundamental stage will be the celebration of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod or Bishops in October 2023 which will be followed by the implementation phase that will again involve the particular Churches (cf. EC. Arts. 19-21) With this convocation, Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission. “It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.” This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church’s “renewal” proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission. Our “journeying together” is, in fact, what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God.
2. A basic question prompts and guides us: How does this “journeying together,” which takes place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one), allow the Church to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the mission entrusted to Her; and what steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church? Addressing this question together requires listening to the Holy Spirit, who like the wind “blows where it wills; you can hear the sound it makes; but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes” (Jm 3:8), remaining open to the surprises that the Spirit will certainly prepare for us along the way. Thus, a dynamism is activated that allows us to begin to reap some of the fruits of a synodal conversion, which will progressively mature. These objectives of great importance for the quality of ecclesial life and for accomplishing the mission of evangelization, in which we all participate by virtue of our Baptism and Confirmation. Here, we will indicate the main objectives, which decline synodality as the form, the style and the structure of the Church
  - Recalling how the Spirit has guided the Church’s journey through history and, today, calls us to be, together, witnesses of God’s love;
  - Living a participative and inclusive ecclesial process that offers everyone—especially those for various reasons find themselves on the margins—the opportunity to express themselves and to be heard in order to contribute to the edification of the People of God;
  - Recognizing and appreciating the wealth and the variety of the gifts and charisms that the Spirit liberally bestows for the good of the community and the benefit of the entire human family.
  - Exploring participatory ways of exercising responsibility in the proclamation of the Gospel and in the effort to build a more beautiful and habitable world.
  - Examining how responsibility and power are lived in the Church as well as the structures by which they are managed, bringing to light and trying to convert prejudices and distorted practices that are not rooted in the Gospel.
  - Accrediting the Christian community as a credible subject and reliable partner in paths of social dialogue, healing, reconciliation, inclusion and participation, the reconstruction of democracy, the promotion of fraternity and social friendship;
  - Regenerating relationships among members of Christian communities as well as between communities and social groups, e.g. communities of believers of other denominations and religions, civil society organizations, popular movements, etc.
  - Fostering the appreciation and appropriation of the fruits of recent synodal experiences on the universal, regional, national and local levels.