

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. MICHELE D. TWOMEY

Director of Faith Formation

JOHN HEYER, II

Pastoral Associate

ROSE MARIE FOGLIA

Business Manager

JAMES LAKE

Parish Organist

JENNIFER WU

Choir Director

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

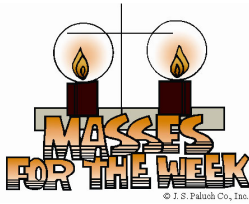
RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 5:00 (Closed for Lunch from 1-2) Friday 9:00 to 2:00 Saturday 9:00 to 1:00

Office closed Sunday

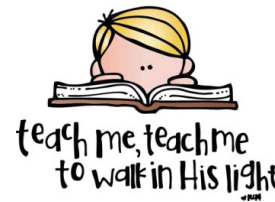
No evening hours at the present time.

**IF YOU WISH TO SEE A PRIEST, PLEASE TELEPHONE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
PLEASE REMEMBER SACRED HEART & ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.**



<u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>		
Sunday Collection 11/27	\$1,028.00	
*Envelopes & cash		
On Line Donations	\$ 2,282.50	
Total Sunday 11/27	\$ 3,310.50	
Annual Weekly Exp-enses*	\$14,325.00	
Difference:	\$11,014..50	
**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks		

Volunteers Needed. Will you join us?



Here at SHSS, we are blessed to share the privilege of sharing our rich Catholic faith and traditions with the youth of the parish. We need

more laborers in the vineyard to help teach, assist, prepare crafts, be monitors during class, assist at Grade Masses, and prepare refreshments, and we need prayer warriors. If you can help in some way or give one Sunday a month, we welcome your assistance. Contact Michele Twomey at 718-596-7750 or email mtwomey.shss@gmail.com to help.



Bread & Wine for the week of December 4th has been donated

In Loving Memory of
**ANTOINETTE & RALPH
DIBUGLIONE**

Remembering you both on your wedding anniversary

BY: Carolyn & Alan Johnson



Please note that there will be no Book Club meeting in December. We will resume meeting in the New Year. Please join us on Monday, Jan. 2nd @7 PM in the

Parish House for an informal discussion about *The Phonebook at the Edge of the World* by Laura Messina. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be Feb. 6th. We will be discussing *The Family Upstairs* by Lisa Jewell. All are welcome.

Hope to see you there.

MON. DECEMBER 5, 2022
8:30 Vincent & Sophie Pennisi
BY: Connie, Guy, MaryAnn, Joe & Larry

TUE. DECEMBER 6, 2022
8:30 Vincent Sventora
BY: Wife

WED DECEMBER 7, 2022
8:30 Michael Bombolino
BY: Mom & Dad

THURS. DECEMBER 8, 2022
8:30 Deceased Members of The Manus & Patti Family
BY: Michael & LouAnne Manus

Noon In Honor of The Blessed Virgin Mary for The People of The Parish

FRI. DECEMBER 9, 2022
8:30 Ralph & Theresa Colantonio
BY: Sister Angie

SAT. DECEMBER 10, 2022
8:30 Buddy Scotto
BY Tina & Nick Cinalli
5:00 Carmelo DeMaio
BY: Loving Family

SUN DECEMBER 11, 2022
8:30 Mary Lazzati
BY: Her Family

10:00 Joseph, Concetta & Frank Foglia
BY: Rose Marie Foglia

Noon Joseph Chesnicka
BY: Chesnicka & Deliso Family

Sanctuary Lamps for the week of December 4th have been donated

In Loving Memory of
ANTOINETTE & RALPH DIBUGLIONE

Remembering you both on your Wedding Anniversary

BY: Carolyn & Alan Johnson



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 |
| Santina Garbellotto | John Nigro |
| Lois Tilocca | Salvatore Salerno |
| Diane Barchuk | Addy Wardrope |
| Carol DeMairo | Anthony Gambardella |
| Anthony Tilocca | Anthony Turco |
| Elizabeth Foley | Cathy De Marino |
| Ann Curcuru | Dora Zanzonico |
| Lamar McNabb | Louis D'Angelo |
| Carol Montelbano | Julia Magno |
| Anthony Manfre | Celeste Internicola |
| Emma Huckerby | Kristin Quail |
| Joan Di Tucci | Sarina Mukhi |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Mark Carles |
| Erica Concino | MaryAnn Kinczel |
| Susan Hannan | Evan Marra |
| Hector Jimenez | Darren Munio |
| Abigail Memmesheimer | Sophia Rotunno |
| Philip Saraceno | Salvatore Aleo |
| Maria Anjelica Patino Laquercia | |
| Paul & Leona Pensabene | Frances Marra |
| Michael Ostrowski | Regina Ventura Giulietti |
| | John Primavera |

MASS SCHEDULE FOR ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 9:30 AM
Saturday Evenings @ 4:00 PM
Sundays @ 10:00 AM

Please continue to keep Fr. Cashman in your prayers as he is still recovering. Msgr. Massie and Fr. Cletus are covering for him during this process.

THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION DECEMBER 8, 2022

This week, on Thursday, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Masses for the Feast are at 8:30 AM and Noon. To celebrate this feast, we ask all people to bring a flower which you will bring up in the offertory procession and deposit in vases which will be placed in front of the statue of Mary on the left side of the Church.

What does this Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrate? What does it mean? Why is it celebrated in Advent? The feast celebrates Mary's conception in the womb of St. Anne. The feast is concerned with the preparation of Mary for singular vocation that of being the woman who would give flesh to the invisible God in the great mystery of the Incarnation. This feast is celebrated in Advent because Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the mystery of the Incarnation. We are all preparing the way of the Lord. We are all asked to make room for God in our lives. So too Mary is a sign of the great preparation. The Feast has nothing to do with the conception of Jesus as many Catholics mistakenly believe. Join us in honoring Mary this week and bring a flower.



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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!

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Community,

Today, the Second Sunday in Advent, presents us with Isaiah the Prophet, John the Baptist, two important prophets and Paul. Isaiah is from the Hebrew texts and John from the New Testament. All three men bring us a great message of hope and unity. Hope finds its basis in faith in God's Divine Providence. In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, we are given the wonderful picture of peace and unity. The reading tells us that the Spirit of God will grant gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel and strength. The reading points to a time when natural enemies will actually be friends. The reading expresses the desire of the Prophet for this day of peace and unity. He believes that this peace and unity is possible even if it sounds far fetched. The reason for his hope is his faith that God will bring about this Kingdom of peace.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that the Hebrew Scriptures which were written long before the dawn of Christianity was meant to give hope. Paul encourages the Romans to endurance in harmony or in unity with each other. He later mentions the welcome of the gentiles into the community, thus affecting a greater unity among the Romans. Therefore, if we look at the first reading in light of Romans 15:4-9, we can see the great message of hope and unity. In the Gospel, John the Baptist calls us to repentance because the Kingdom of God is at hand. This is a message of hope. The arrival of the Kingdom of God is a fulfillment of hope. The fact that John is calling us to change means we still have the time to make things right. This is a message of hope. Reconciliation between God and humanity and between each of us is a great sign of hope and unity.

Hope is an essential for life in the Spirit of God. Hope is born of faith in the Divine Providence of God. The object of one's hope is not seen. However, we believe that the object will happen. In the first reading from Isaiah, the real situation was dyer. This passage was probably written between 735BCE and 715BCE. The Israelites were experiencing internal division. The Southern Kingdom had separated from the Northern Kingdom. Isaiah had begged King Ahaz not to make an alliance with the King of Assyria, however Ahaz feared an invasion from other forces outside of Israel. Against the advice and pleading of Isaiah, Ahaz aligned himself with Assyria. This resulted in the loss of all the Northern Kingdom to the Assyrian Empire 721 BCE.

Isaiah was marginalized and ignored by the King. The situation in his land seemed without hope. Yet, Isaiah proclaims a message of great hope in this passage. He sees the prospect of peace and harmony as a promise from God. Many of us can take a great lesson from these readings. Many are facing illness and medical tests which sometimes come back to us with less than hope filled news. Some are without work. Many cannot pay essential bills. Some of us are facing sudden changes in our respective lives which are creating a whole set of personal problems. Many of us are stressed out. Some of us are sad. Some of us are even struggling with depression. Look at these readings. Many are stressed by the current problems faced by the Church. Some are stressed by the problems facing our country and our city. Can we have hope that God is present?

In our day we are witnessing many divisions in society. Some places there is divide between people because of race, color, economic background, religion, orientation. We are even divided by our political views. Some are even separated from our inner selves. We are not at peace in our hearts. We are satisfied but we do not know what we truly want. Sometimes hearts are divided from our minds. Sometimes we are inwardly divided between what we must do and what we want to do. Is this right? God comes to gather us into his Kingdom not to scatter us. In fact, the word "devil" means one who divides. Unity brings hope, recognition of human dignity and human worth. Unity helps us all to sing God's praises together in different ways with different words but united. Can we have hope in God's Divine Providence working through us? Can we incarnate the words of Christ and work towards a greater unity of our family, workplace and neighborhood?

Even if you do not see the sun it does not mean the sun is not shining. If God seems absent this does not mean he is not present. Let us be still and know that God is. This may bring us hope and peace. Let's choose to be hope filled rather than angry, negative or resentful. Hope will bring us to a place of peace.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie



LITURGICAL NOTES AND SUGGESTIONS

Perhaps we can view the Liturgical Seasons as spiral rather than a circle. In this way, we may more readily hear the same readings for the first time again. Advent, as does Lent invites us to hear the readings again for the first time. The readings and the season may be familiar to you, however, you and I have changed. As a result, we hear the readings differently from the last time we heard these texts.

We begin the Gospel of Saint Matthew today. The first way to be prepared to meet the Lord whenever he arrives either at the end of time or in our personal meeting with the Lord in death is to seek to meet the Lord in the Eucharist, in the sacred text and in each other. An important way to meet the Lord is in service and acts of mercy to those in need. Those in need are considered the poor. Poverty does not always refer to our financial status. Recognizing the Lord in the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the prisoners, the sick, the innocent child, the unborn, the dying, the battered, the victim of persecution, the victim of torture, the down and out, the immigrant, the lonely and in ourselves is a good preparation to welcoming the Lord. Advent is a time of preparation. If we want to be prepared to meet the Lord in heaven or at the second coming, than we need to recognize Christ here and now in our city, parish, family, workplace and wherever we gather.

Blessed Liturgical Year 2023