

**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**

**ROSEMARY POLITO**

*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**

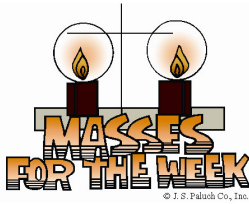
Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 5:00 (Closed for Lunch from 1-2) Friday 9:00 to 2:00 Saturday 9:00 to 1:00

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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- MON. FEBRUARY 27, 2023**  
 8:30 Dr. Frank J. Zodda & Gladys Zodda  
 BY: Children, Carolyn & John
- TUE. FEBRUARY 28, 2023**  
 8:30 John & Rose Groccia  
 BY: Loving Family
- WED. MARCH 1, 2023**  
 8:30 Carmine & Raffella Graziano  
 BY: Daughter Teresa
- THURS. MARCH 2, 2023**  
 8:30 Joseph Trovato  
 BY: Lenny & Jo Ann
- FRI. MARCH 3, 2023**  
 8:30 All Deceased Members of  
 The Lo Porto & Eng Family  
 BY: Laura & Michael Eng  
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
- SAT. MARCH 4 2023**  
 8:30 Lia & Joseph Cerato  
 BY: Cerato & Andruzzi Families  
 5:00 PM Alfonse & Jean Cipaldo  
 BY: Daughters Angela & Debra
- SUN. MARCH 5, 2023**  
 8:30 Amanda Pitaro  
 BY: Michael & LouAnne Manus  
 10:00 Joseph Penello  
 Noon Kathleen Moran  
 BY: Rosa Bellatuono

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**



Sunday Collection 2/19	\$2,387.00
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 3,057.50
Total Sunday 2/19	\$ 5,444.50
Annual Weekly Expenses*	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 8,880.50

\*\*Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks



**CATECHISTS NEEDED**  
*Are you available to give some of your time to the planting and growing of our wonderful Catholic faith in the hearts and minds of the young people in our parish?*

*We are blessed with a growing enrollment!  
 We need Catechists for this year and planning for next year to meet the growing need.*

*Thank you, God!*

*Training is provided, and scheduling is flexible.  
 We are also in need of Special Education Teachers who would be willing to share their talents for small groups or one-to-one catechetical instruction. Spread the word and ask a friend.*

*Please call the rectory if interested at  
 718-596-7750 or email Michele at*

[mtwomey.shss@gmail.com](mailto:mtwomey.shss@gmail.com).

Please join us on Tuesday, March. 7th  
 @7 PM in the Parish House. We will be discussing



*Walking with Ghosts*  
 by Gabriel Byrne.  
 For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be April 4th. We will be

discussing *All About Me* by Mel Brooks. Please note our meeting day has changed to the first Tuesday of each month.

All are welcome.

Hope to see you there.



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 Laqueria              | 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 Laqueria |                     |
| Paul & Leona Pensabene         | Frances Marra       |
| Michael Ostrowski              | John Primavera      |
| Kathy Parasimo                 | Butch Montevvecchi  |



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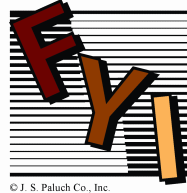
**YOUR CHOIR NEEDS YOU!**

All adults are invited to join our Parish Choir for the spring season. The adults' choir begins on March 1st. The Sacred Heart Children's

Choir is already in progress and still accepting new members. Choirs meet in the church on Wednesdays: Children at 5:45 and Adults (starting on March 1st) at 7:00 PM.

Now is the perfect time to join the Choirs. Visit the organ loft to speak with Jim or Jen or sign up by email to SHSSmusic@gmail.com. Singing together builds friendships, faith, confidence, poise, a love of music and so many good things.

**Come sing with us!**

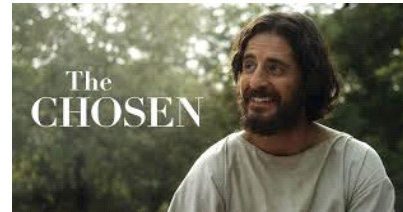


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**Our Church is open each Wednesday from noon until 2:00 PM for private prayer. You are encouraged to stop by for**

**this quiet time with the Lord.**

**We hope to see you there!**



*Join us for Soup, A Movie & Discussion*  
*Monday Evenings During Lent*  
*2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 & 4/2*

6:30 PM Holy Family Center

Movie *CHOSEN, Season One*

This Lent we are invited to turn our hearts back to Jesus. Why not come together with fellow parishioners to share an evening to break bread, watch a movie and participate in shared discussion about each episode's theme and lesson.

The movie THE CHOSEN follows Jesus as he calls his disciples, shares with the needy, heals the sick and offers the greatest sacrifice of all time, Himself for our salvation.

# From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,  
**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

As we enter this great season of Lent we are called again to walk closer to the Lord. It is time to come to know Christ in the depths of our being. It is a time not to punish ourselves for our failures but rather a time to be immersed in our Baptismal Promises in which we promised to follow the Lord. Lent is a time to come home to truth about God and ourselves. The ministry of Christ was to defeat the power of evil in all of its manifestations.

This Sunday of Lent readies us for the struggle with evil as we read about the Temptations of Christ. Temptations are part of everyone's life. Temptations present us with half-truths and the promise of happiness for the moment. Key to avoiding temptation is to love God more than the temptation. To love Jesus more than the temptation. Remember the love of Christ impels us to disdain all that Christ disdains and to do all that Christ has commanded us to do. In the Gospel the devil represents all evil. The devil is the great divider. Where God seeks unity, the devil seeks to separate us from God and others. The devil is the source of untruths and half-truths. Avoid evil at all costs.

The story of the Temptation of Christ serves to instruct us in the reality that when we resolve to do something which is good, wholesome and holy, we will be tempted not to keep the resolution. Temptation comes to all of us. Temptations come in very attractive ways and oftentimes presents us with half-truths. Temptations always seem reasonable. So, let us look at an example. You have resolved to go to Mass every day of Lent. This is a good thing. Now comes a day when the weather is not good. It is too cold to go out or there is too much work to do at the office at this time and I cannot take a lunch break. The temptation not to go sounds reasonable. After all, one day of not going isn't going to hurt, right? I will go the next day. Yes, but we forgot there is a sacrifice we are making. So we may have to brave the weather, stay later at work.

Beware of these great temptations.

1. The temptations to be someone you are not. To present ourselves in ways that are not true. To act in such a way that we lead others to think wrongly about who we are. This happens when we are trying to impress others or we are struggling with our own self-acceptance. Who are you really? The first reading today directs us to remember who you are. You are Catholic, you have a relationship with God and you are loved by God and many other people. You have great self-worth which is given you by God.

2. The temptation to immediate satisfaction. I want what I want and I want it now. This is universal. Oftentimes we surround ourselves with things, we buy things to make us happy and to make us feel good all the while running away from our problems and things which need to be addressed. What do you really want? Many of us are always moving from one thing to the next. Some rarely stay with one job or stay in one place long enough to settle down. Even their spirits never seem satisfied.

3. The temptation for power. This also is universal. Everyone needs to be in charge of something in order to feel important. There is a need to be in control of others, of ourselves and our surroundings. This quest for power is found everywhere. For example, how often do we hold the power of knowledge over others. I know something you do not know and that gives me the power. It is found in the workplace, at home and in the halls of government. The temptations to power are found in the community, in the parish, in the church. This temptation affects everyone. There is even a temptation to do the right thing for the wrong reasons. In dealing with temptations and self-examination of our motivations keep in mind that the devil or the tempter is always a liar.

**Christ conquered all evil. Have a blessed Lent and remember Christ wins all the time.**

**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 abstinence 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, or 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 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 of spent can be given to the poor or given to help someone else.

To help you with Fasting and Abstinence, the Catholic Church requires all aged 14 and over not to eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent. This is to remind us of the death of Jesus on a Friday. Those aged 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 also do positive acts for Lent. This is a season which invites us to make room for God in our busy lives. It is 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 sufferings 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 to take this time to sit in the presence of the Lord. Allow this mysterious and wonderful sacrament to contemplate and you contemplate the Lord. Allow this to be a time of Growth for your Spirit.

I wish you a fruitful Lenten Season.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie



**INFORMATION SHEET**

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen #875400

**PHONE**

718-596-7750

**CONTACT PERSON**

Rose Marie Foglia

**SOFTWARE**

Microsoft Publisher® 2002

Adobe Acrobat 8.0®

Windows XP Home® SP3

**PRINTER**

HP® Laserjet 1320

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Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 6

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February 26, 2023

**TRANSMISSION TIME**

Wednesday 1 PM

**KINDLY SEND ONLY 175 ‘  
BULLETINS. THANK YOU!  
STAY SAFE!**