

**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](http://WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/SHSS)**

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

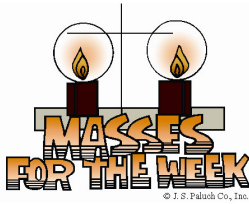
Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 5:00 (Closed for Lunch from 1-2) Friday 9:00 to 2:00 Saturday 9:00 to 1:00

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. MARCH 13, 2023**  
 8:30 Luigi Barrera  
 BY: Loving Family
- TUE. MARCH 14, 2023**  
 8:30 Sister Barbara Leonardo &  
 Rev. Msgr. Anthony S. Danna  
 BY: Louis Pepe & Joe Cerato  
 7:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration & Prayer
- WED MARCH 15, 2023**  
 8:30 Concetta Battista Scotto  
 BY: Nieces & Nephews
- THURS. MARCH 16, 2023**  
 8:30 Lorianne Sgro Zodda  
 BY: Her Parents, Carolyn & John
- FRI. MARCH 17, 2023**  
 8:30 Amato, Meckaluk Families  
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
- SAT. MARCH 18 2023**  
 8:30 Lucia Borrometi  
 BY: The Conti Family  
 5:00 PM William Meehan  
 BY: The McGrath Family
- SUN MARCH 19, 2023**  
 8:30 For The People of the Parish  
 10:00 Pietro Reca  
 BY: The Reca Family  
 Noon Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni  
 BY: Loving Family



**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**



Sunday Collection 3/5	\$2,637.00
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 2,239.50
Total Sunday 3/5	\$ 4,876.50
Annual Weekly Expenses*	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 9,448.50

\*\*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, April 4th @ 7 PM in the Parish House. We will be discussing *All About Me*

by Mel Brooks. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be May 2nd. We will be discussing *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

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,  
 Brad Hatry  
 Michelle Laquercia  
 Santina Garbellotto  
 Salvatore Salerno  
 Diane Barchuk  
 Carol DeMairo  
 Anthony Tilocca  
 Elizabeth Foley  
 Ann Curcuru  
 Lamar McNabb  
 Carol Montelbano  
 Anthony Manfre  
 Emma Huckerby  
 Dominick Aiello, Jr.  
 Erica Concino  
 Susan Hannan  
 Hector Jimenez  
 Sophia Rotunno  
 Philip Saraceno  
 Maria Anjelica Patino Laquercia  
 Michael Ostrowski  
 Butch Montevecchi

Sarina Mukhi  
 Gertrude Zagarella  
 Irene Balen  
 John Nigro  
 John Primavera  
 Addy Wardrope  
 Anthony Gambardella  
 Anthony Turco  
 Cathy De Marino  
 Dora Zanzonico  
 Louis D'Angelo  
 Julia Magno  
 Celeste Internicola  
 Kristin Quail  
 Mark Carles  
 MaryAnn Kinczel  
 Evan Marra  
 Darren Munio  
 Frances Marra  
 Salvatore Aleo  
 Kathy Parasimo

**YOUR CHOIR NEEDS YOU!**



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All adults are invited to join our Parish Choir for the spring season. The adults' choir began 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!

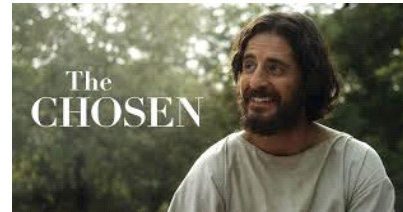


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**Our Church is open each Wednesday from noon until 2:00 PM for private prayer. You are encouraged to stop by for**

**this quiet time with the Lord.**

**We hope to see you there!**



*Join us for Soup, A Movie & Discussion*

*Monday Evenings During Lent  
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.

**Dear Parish Family,**

**Who is this mysterious unnamed woman we meet in the Gospel today?**

**Who is this mysterious woman? There are many answers to this question. She is a symbol for all who are searching for change, who long for something greater or who are on the verge of despair. She is the symbol of all those who may feel outside the religious community which she was born into due to the circumstances of life. She is the sign of a used and abused woman who cannot face her neighbors out of embarrassment. She may be the sign of those who have made a mistake in life. She may be a person who has regrets of the unwise relationships she has had. She is the symbol of those who may be searching for acceptance and peace in her life. She is the sign of those whose spirituality is dry and arid. She is the sign of all those who feel that God would never even look upon her. She is the sign of so many of us who perhaps are angry with life in general and have settled for what is less than what could have been. She may be a person who has little faith and trust in the religious institutions of her time. There are many of us who may feel the same way. She may be a person who is truly disgusted with hypocritical religious leaders who have no understanding of the complexities of life and who lack kindness.**

**She meets Jesus and her life begins to change. Faith is a relationship with God in Christ Jesus. For most of us who are Catholic, we are more concerned with getting obligations fulfilled, getting Mass out of the way but many of us have no relationship with Christ. We just have religious regulations to fulfill. It is only when we meet Christ in the scriptures and in the Eucharist and recognize ourselves in the Gospel stories that Jesus becomes a true relationship and our hearts and attitudes can change for the better. Who is Christ in your life? Are you Catholic by birth or by choice or by both?**

**When was the last time you spoke to someone about Jesus and your faith in him? We are invited to convert from non-reflective religious behaviors to a living celebration of our faith in Christ Jesus.**

**Rev. 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