

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.

ON LINE & CREDIT CARD GIVING: WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/SHSS

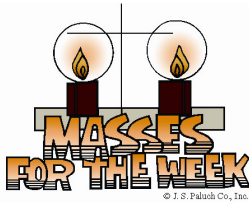
RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

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.**



- MON. APRIL 17, 2023**
8:30 Josephine & Giuseppe Borrometi
BY: Carmela Di Rosa

- TUE. APRIL 18, 2023**
8:30 Carmela Teresa Ruggiero
BY: The Members of Faith Formation & Michele Twomey

- WED APRIL 19, 2023**
8:30 Connie, Ernie & Joey Missoni
BY: Loving Family

- THURS. APRIL 20, 2023**
8:30 Agatina, Concetto & Rosetta Conti
BY: Conti Family

- FRI. APRIL 21, 2023**
8:30 Raffaella Graziani
BY: The Eng Family

- SAT. APRIL 22, 2023**
8:30 Giovanna Barrera
BY: Loving Family
5:00 PM Raffaella Graziani
BY: Rose Marie Foglia

- SUN APRIL 23, 2023**
8:30 Sammi Uribe-Dominguez
BY: Senora Martha De Valencia
10:00 St. Michael Society**
BY: The Society
Noon Madonna dei Maracoli**
BY: The Society

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Sunday Collection 4/9	\$6,585.00
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$ 3,197.50
Total Sunday 4/9	\$ 9,782.50
Annual Weekly Expenses*	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$ 4,542.50

**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



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Bread & Wine for the week of April 16th has been donated

**In Loving Memory of
Angie Conenna
BY: Carolyn & John Zodda**

**** BOTH SOCIETIES TO USE CABRINI HALL FOR A SOCIAL AFTER THEIR RESPECTIVE MASSES.**



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, | Sarina Mukhi |
| Brad Hatry | Gertrude Zagarella |
| Michelle Laquercia | Irene Balen |
| Santina Garbellotto | John Nigro |
| Salvatore Salerno | John Primavera |
| 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 |
| Dominick Aiello, Jr. | Mark Carles |
| Erica Concino | MaryAnn Kinczel |
| Susan Hannan | Evan Marra |
| Hector Jimenez | Darren Munio |
| Sophia Rotunno | Frances Marra |
| Philip Saraceno | Salvatore Aleo |
| Maria Anjelica Patino Laquercia | |
| Michael Ostrowski | Kathy Parasimo |
| Butch Montevacchi | |



**Ghana Outreach Program
Fundraiser 2023
"All for Love" Raffle**

THANK YOU to all who so generously contributed to the Ghana Outreach Raffle "All for Love" during Lent. Your donations will fund the installation of a Well to provide clean water for 3,000 students in a local school in Ghana. More details will follow in the coming weeks providing total collected by raffles and the children's donations. The Winners of the Raffle Baskets are...
Basket #1- "Hop To It!"- The Campbell Family
Basket #2- "No Whining"- Mr. Ameroso
Basket #3- "Yours, Mine & Ours" – A. Bennici
Basket #4- "Fountain of Youth" – Annemarie (no last name given)
All winners have been contacted.



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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!



The CHOSEN, Season 2
Monday Evenings beginning
April 17th
6:30 p.m.
Holy Family Center
ALL ARE WELCOME

Join us on a Monday evening to watch the next season of ***The CHOSEN***, share our faith and insights, and enjoy light refreshments together. It is a wonderful time to come together to learn, grow and be inspired by one another.

From the Pastor

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ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN ALLELUIA!

Dear Parish Family,

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter. This day is also known as the eighth day of Easter or the Octave of Easter. This entire week which we just completed was called Easter Week. The liturgies of this past week were all Easter Liturgies. The Gospel readings for each day actually all took place on Easter Sunday. The Paschal Mystery of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ are too big to be contained in one day. The Church celebrates Easter Sunday for eight days. Today we conclude our Easter Octave celebration and the Easter Season now begins. Each Sunday of the Easter Season will have an Easter theme, however, we must keep in mind that every Sunday of the year is a Paschal Celebration. We come together on Sunday because of the great events of Easter.

Today we conclude our Easter Octave with the celebration of Divine Mercy. Listen carefully to the readings. The apostles are gathered in the upper room. They are a sorry lot. They are filled with worry. They are feeling guilty over their abandoning Jesus in his hour of greatest need. They are probably filled with grief over his death. They saw Jesus as their friend and their teacher. Jesus had changed their lives. They may have been angry with Judas for having betrayed Jesus. They may even have been angry with Jesus thinking that they were duped into following him and his message. Now, because of their association with Jesus, they could be considered criminals. In short, they are a wounded, hurt and suffering community.

Now focus on Thomas. He separates himself from the community. He goes off by himself and grieves the loss of Jesus. He is hurt, he is angry and he does not believe any good can happen again. Thomas is wounded. He is isolated from the others in his thoughts, feelings and even his beliefs.

Now, focus on Jesus. Jesus entered the upper room. Resurrection does not mean resuscitation. Resurrection means risen in the body but changed. It means spirit filled. It means that while Jesus is recognizable, he is changed. While the life of Jesus prior to the resurrection seemed to focus on his humanity, the life of Jesus after resurrection focuses on his divinity. Jesus is recognized by his apostles as being the same Jesus they knew but he is changed. Notice that Jesus comes to them and grants them peace. He does not mention their unfaithfulness. He knows how they feel. Jesus not only gives his life for them, he now breathes the Holy Spirit upon them. Jesus breathes new life into his apostles in a similar way that God breathes life into Adam. (Genesis 2:7) Jesus breathes Spirit into his apostles like the Prophet Ezekiel spoke the Word of God over the dry bones of Israel giving them new life (Ezekiel 37) Notice that Jesus shows his wounds on his body to the wounded body of apostles. It is through the wounds of Jesus that we can peer into his divinity. It is from his wounded side and hands that Jesus forgives, bestows mercy and rehabilitates Thomas and all his apostles. At the end of the Gospel passage, we see that mercy triumphs. The apostles will proclaim redemption and salvation in Christ Jesus to the world. The only beatitude in the Gospel of John will be uttered about us. "Blessed are those who have not seen, yet still believe."

Today there are many of us who are wounded. Even the Church, the Body of Christ suffers from wounds. Some of us have long standing issues with the Church leadership. Some of us are angry and hurt enough by scandals of the clergy and the behavior of Catholics to leave the community. Some of us are disappointed in life in general. Some of us are angry with God. Some of us are angry with ourselves. Some of us are or were victims of crime, injustice, hurt and neglect. Some of us have sinned and some of us have made terrible mistakes. All of us are human. All of us are strong and weak at the same time. All of us share both the apostles, John's faithfulness to Christ and Peter's denial of Christ. Some of us have even betrayed both Christ and his Gospel by the way we have lived and acted. Yet today and in this season, we are reminded that mercy is available for all who are sorry and who wish to strive to amend their lives. We are a sinful Church, a sinful priesthood and a sinful weak people. We all need mercy, no one is exempt. No sin is so grave, no tomb so dark and no life so far from the Victory of Christ. If you have been away, come home. If you are here, rejoice in God's Mercy.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie

TO ALL

The Jewish People and the Passion narratives present us with a need for a pastoral note. The Passion Narratives in no way justifies anti-Semitism nor any persecution of the Jews of our day or any other day. Keeping with the Teachings of the Catholic Church as explained at Vatican II in the document Nostra Aetate (In Our Time), I remind you that writing of the Passion is not story of trial as we would know it. The Passion is a theological and Catechaitcal document. These events were written after the Passion and reflect a time period which was not contemporary with the Passion but with later history when The Jewish Community of Jerusalem was dividing between those who accepted Jesus and those who did not. This divide caused families and friendships to split apart. I ask you to be mindful of the quote below from Vatican II. As we hear and meditate on the Passion/Death and Resurrection of Christ during the next few weeks, I ask all to keep in mind that these events are the founding events of our faith. Please remember the following:

Even though the Jewish authorities and those who followed their lead pressed for the death of Christ, neither all Jews indiscriminate at that time, nor Jews today can be charged with the crimes committed during his passion. It is true that the Church is the new people of God, yet the Jews should not be spoken of as rejected or accused as if this followed from the Holy Scriptures. Consequently, all must take care lest in catechizing or preaching the Word of God, they teach anything which is not in accord with the truth of the Gospel message or the spirit of Christ. Indeed the Church proves every form of persecution against whomever it may be directed. Remembering then her common heritage with the Jews and moved not by any political consideration, but solely by religious motivation of Christian clarity, she (the Church) deploras all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism leveled at anytime or from any source against the Jews. The Church always held and continues to hold that Christ out of love freely underwent suffering and death because of the sins of all men, so that all might attain salvation. It is the duty of the Church, therefore, in her preaching to proclaim the cross of Christ as a sign of God's universal love and source of all grace. (Nostra Aetate 28 October 1965 Vatican II Document)