

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

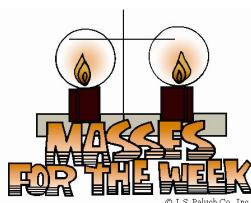
RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

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 10, 2023**
 8:30 Vergona Family
 BY: Loving Family
- TUE.** **APRIL 11, 2023**
 8:30 Mary & Luciano Bellocchio
 BY: The Reca Family
- WED** **APRIL 12, 2023**
 8:30 Elizabeth DeMeglio
 BY: Loving Family
- THURS.** **APRIL 13, 2023**
 8:30 Trudy Frumpf
 BY: Andy Di Manso
- FRI.** **APRIL 14, 2023**
 8:30 Concetta Battista Scotto
 BY: Nieces & Nephews
- SAT.** **APRIL 15, 2023**
 8:30 Joan & Jennifer Passantano
 BY: Louise & Al
- 5:00 PM Philip Olivieri & Carol Jacob
 BY: Marlene Olivieri
- SUN** **APRIL 16, 2023**
 8:30 Anna Ruggiero
 BY: Loving Family
- 10:00 John Edwards
 BY: Loving Family
- Noon Lucia & Dominic Piro
 BY: Rose Marie Foglia

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Sunday Collection 4/2	\$3,238.00
	*Envelopes & cash	
	On Line Donations	\$ 2,569.50
	Total Sunday 3/26	\$ 5,807.50
	Annual Weekly Expenses*	\$14,325.00
	Difference:	\$ 8,517.50

**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.

Please join us on Tuesday, April 11th @ 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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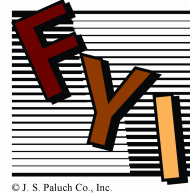
Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish and community who are ill, hospitalized or in nursing home care, most especially:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Jonelle Bernardo, | 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 Montevocchi | |



**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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EASTER, OUR REASON TO HAVE HOPE

ALLELUIA CHRIST HAS RISEN ALLELUIA!

Dear Parish Family,

The message that Christ is Risen has been the hope, the strength and the firm foundation of the Church for the past two thousand years. This is the First of all Sundays of the year. Easter Sunday is the reason why Sunday is our day of worship, our day of rest and our family day. It is the reason why Sunday is different from any other day of the week. Sunday is always our Resurrection Day. It is the celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) that Death and Resurrection of Christ is made present to us at every mass and most especially on Sunday. This is why we celebrate Sunday in a special way.

Today, the Gospel and the Liturgy announce the Resurrection of Christ. In music, in hymns, with the fragrance of flowers and incense with words and actions, we strive to express the Good News which defies words; CHRIST IS RISEN! The Paschal Mystery which means; the suffering, death and Resurrection of Christ, stands at the center of our faith. It is the very foundation of all we are all we preach and all for which we hope. It is because of Easter Sunday that every Sunday is seen as the Lord's Day. It is because of this Sunday that Catholics are obliged to participate at the Sunday Eucharist. Today is seen as the first of all Sundays, the first day of the week the first day of a new order of creation and a new relationship with God. This day, Easter and every Sunday is a day of hope, joy and celebration.

What does this day mean to us? What do we mean when we say Christ is Risen? First and foremost, Easter states death and sin in all of their forms are conquered. Sin is everything that stands against Christ and makes us less human, less the image of God in the world. Christ is the strength of all who struggle against their own sins and the sins of the world. Death is the enemy of humanity and does not have the last word. Death manifested in physical death, spiritual death or forces which seek to undo all acts of life, is defeated. Death and loss which seem eternal, because of Easter is limited. Our loved ones are not lost to nothingness but live differently in the presence of God. Suffering and especially innocent suffering which causes us to ask many questions and even at times to doubt God's Providence, finds meaning and hope when seen in light of the sufferings of Christ.

Easter and the Easter season gives us hope that good will triumph over sin despite persecution, suffering and even death. Easter means that love does win out, that peace triumphs over war and turmoil, that mercy, compassion, faithfulness, hope and joy will continue to be victorious over vengeance, hatred, apathy, betrayal and despair. Easter makes good the promises of the Beatitudes. The celebration of Easter tells us that those who suffer or struggle to be peacemakers will see their goal realized. Easter tells us that those who are persecuted because they seek to righteousness or justice will see their efforts rewarded. Easter tells us that those who show mercy will not be thought of as fools but will receive mercy. Easter is the consolation of all who mourn either for loved ones or over the darkness of the world. Easter tells all who long for God and for all who have dedicated their lives to God that they will see the Face of God. The Resurrection of Christ is the reason and the energy of Christian life.

What does Resurrection mean? When we say that Jesus is Risen, we mean that Jesus has entered into a new existence. Jesus is Risen physically not just spiritually. In the Resurrection all of creation is redeemed and uplifted and all of creation can be used to point us to the invisible reality of God. Every Sunday we profess our belief in the resurrection of the body and life of the world to come. This means that all of us will rise again. We are not just spirits or souls, we are soul and body. Those who disregard the body as not important are gravely mistaken. At the general resurrection, all of creation will enter into the Victory of Christ and we will rise completely, soul and body. Death is not an ending, it is a change.

The greatest message of Easter is hope. We learn in the Easter Gospels that nothing can separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus. Easter is hope for all of us. In every generation we need hope, we need forgiveness, we need healing and we need new life. The Resurrection gives us all these wonderful things.

Blessed Easter and Blessed Easter Season,

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) deplors 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)