

SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C. CHURCH



SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN

St. Stephen's – Founded 1866
Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Founded 1882

MASSES ON SUNDAYS:

8:30 AM 10:15 AM & 12 NOON

5:00 PM on Saturday

MASSES ON WEEKDAYS:

Mon 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. ANTHONY ONWUGBENU
Parochial Vicar

REV. NGOZI

Prison Chaplain (In Residence)

JOHN L. HEYER, II

Deacon & Pastoral Associate

MR. EDWIN RIVERA

Deacon

MRS. MICHELE TWOMEY

Director of Faith Formation

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.

Baptisms are held the 3rd Sunday of the month

@1:30 PM . Please call the Rectory for arrangements.

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.**

Mass Intentions For The Week



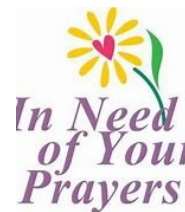
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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 10/15	\$1,712.00
*Envelopes & cash	
On Line Donations	\$2,205.00
Total Sunday 10/15	\$3,917.00
Annual Weekly Expenses**	\$14,325.00
Difference:	\$10,408.00

**Total annual expenses divided by 52 weeks

Please remember in your prayers the members of our Parish who are 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 DeMarino, Ann Curcuru, Lemar McNabb, Carol Montelbano, Julia Magno, Anthony Manfre, Celeste Internicola, Emma Hukerby, 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 Montevecchi, Louann Gambardella, Jack DiCostanzo

- MON. **OCTOBER 23, 2023**
8:30 John Cloonan
BY: Mom, Amy, Joey & Candice

- TUE. **OCTOBER 24, 2023**
8:30 Thomas & Peggy McInerney
BY: Their Family

- WED **OCTOBER 25, 2023**
8:30 Evelyn & John Vaccaro
BY: Rose Marie Foglia

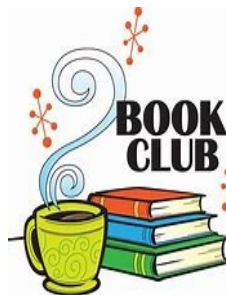
- THURS. **OCTOBER 26, 2023**
8:30 Vincent & Sophie Pennisi

- FRI. **OCTOBER 27, 2023**
8:30 Enrico Dellaportre
Anniversary Remembrance
BY: Catherine & Family

- SAT. **OCTOBER 28, 2023**
8:30 Dolores Arias
BY: Husband, Children & Granddaughter
5:00 PM Albert Horn
BY: Denise Horn

- SUN. **OCTOBER 29, 2023**
8:30AM Alfredo San Juan
BY: Andy DiManso
10:15AM Anthony Polito
BY: Wife, Children & Grandchildren
Noon The People of the Parish

Please join us on Tuesday, 11/14 @ 7:00 PM in the Parish House. We will be discussing The Winter Soldier by Diane Mason.



This will be our last meeting for the year. For

those of you who like to plan ahead, our next meeting will be on 1/9/24. We will be discussing Murder in the Family by Cara Hunt.

All are welcome.

We hope to see you there.



Altar Bread & Wine for the week of 10/21/23 has been donated
In Loving Memory of
FRANCA BARONI
BY: The DiConstanzo Family

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today's Gospel reading is important. While the question revolves around paying taxes to Caesar, the implications of the answer of Jesus are very important for us.

The situation of Jesus.

Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar? To understand this question and to understand the situation in which Jesus finds himself, it is important to understand the text and context of the question. First let us look at the tax situation of the time of Jesus.

During the time of Jesus, Israel was occupied territory by the Romans. The Romans imposed taxes on the people. There were three taxes which Romans imposed: there was a ground tax. This tax required a payment on produce. This tax required the payment of one tenth of grain, one fifth of all oil produce and one fifth of wine produced. This tax was paid in kind and in a money equivalent. The second tax was a form of an income tax. This was one percent of one's income. The third tax was the poll tax. It is this tax which is in question in our reading. The poll tax was probably equal to a bit more than one day's wage. This tax was to be paid by men from the ages of fourteen to sixty five and by women from ages of twelve to sixty five.

The response of the Israelites to the taxes.

Needless to say the people hated the taxes. Now Jesus is in a difficult place. If he says it is unlawful to pay the tax, then he will be denounced to the Romans and be arrested as a seditionist. If he says that he is in favor of the tax, he would be discredited in the eyes of his own people. To solve the dilemma, Jesus requests to see a coin. Jesus asks whose image is this and whose inscription? When he is told Caesars, Jesus gives a great answer: "Then give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

How does this answer help us? Does Jesus answer the question? What is implied by this answer? What belongs to God and what belongs to Caesar? Does not everything ultimately belong to God?

Jesus is the wisdom of God. Jesus lays down a principle for us to consider. He does not make a rule or regulation. So, how are we to follow this principle? As I see it, we have a civic responsibility to our city, state and country to work for the common good by paying taxes, voting and living according to the law of the land. We also have a citizenship to heaven according to St. Paul. We are Catholic, therefore, we have the guidance of our Catholic Tradition, moral instruction of the Church and the faith through which we can form our conscience.

Life issues seems to be paramount. Is life a government issue or a God issue? What is the right to life? How does it differ from the right of birth? Is the care of senior citizens a right to life issue? Is care for the sick a right to life issue? Is Social Security a right or a benefit? Is caring for our veterans a life issue? Is racism a life issue? Is addressing gangs and drugs a life issue? Is terrorism a life issue? Is the right to life the main issue from which all issues seem to stem? Is the environment and the health of the planet a life issue? Is this Covid issue and the administration of countering it a life issue? Is the mask a form of a life issue? Is the safety of our streets a life issue? As a nation formed from immigrants, is our treatment of immigration a life issue? So, these are questions I have and I am sure you also have. So, let's form our conscience on these issues.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie