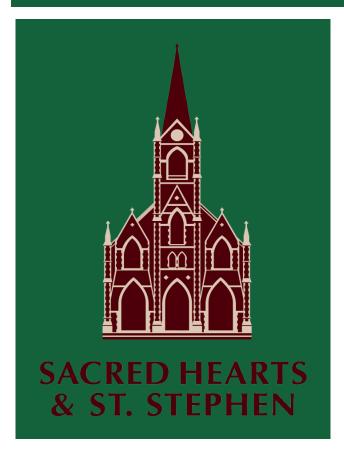
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C.CHURCH



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.



MON. **OCTOBER 9, 2023** 8:30 Alfredo San Juan BY: Rose Marie Foglia

TUE. **OCTOBER 10, 2023** Phil & Kathleen Foley 8:30

BY: Their Family

WED **OCTOBER 11, 2023** 8:30 Francis D'Amico BY: Ann Troiano

THURS. OCTOBER 12,2023 8:30 Giuseppe Coppola

BY: Sister-in-law Veronica Scotto

FRI. OCTOBER 13, 2023 8:30 Luisa Josefina Ravelo

BY: Luisa

SAT. **OCTOBER 14, 2023** 8:30 Luigi & Giovanna Barrera

BY: Loving Family

5:00 PM Ciro "Jerry" Geritano **BY:** Loving Family

SUN. OCTOBER 15, 2023 Francis D'Amico, Jr. 8:30AM

BY: The Troiano Family

10:15AM Mark Yackow

BY: Carolyn & Rose Marie

Noon Victor Russo

BY: Susie & Richie Groccia

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 10/1 \$2,536.00

*Envelopes & cash

On Line Donations \$2,627.00 Total Sunday 10/1 \$5,163.00 Annual Weekly Expenses ** \$14,325.00 \$ 9.162.00 Difference:

**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, In Need Michelle Laquercia, Irene Balen, of Your Santina Garbellotto, John Nigro, **Prayers** 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, Ostrowski, Kathy Parasimo, Butch Montevecchi. Louann Gambardella, **Tack DiCostanzo**



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

All are welcome. We hope to see you there.

From the **Pastor**



Dear Parish Family,

"Lord teach us to number our days that we may gain wisdom of heart." (Ps. 90:12)

Does God's patience come to an end or is our time to cooperate with God limited?

Today's Gospel reading continues the challenging parables addressed to the leadership of the people. Last week the question was: "Why are those who are the most prepared to hear God's word deaf to his word and do those who are least prepared get the message? The prior week we discussed the question: "Does God owe us anything for being faithful?"

In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, we read about the Vineyard of the Lord. For the Prophet Isaiah, the Vineyard of the Lord was his own people. God cared for his people. God sent his Word to his people and, even though God is most faithful to his people, the people do not produce a yield. God intends to destroy the vineyard, yet the gardener intercedes and begs that the vineyard be spared. The gardener promises to care for the vineyard for a limited time in the hope that it will yield. If the vineyard does not produce a crop, the owner can destroy the vineyard. In the Gospel Jesus speaks about tenet farmers who were to care for the vineyard. When the owner tried to obtain his yield of the crops, his messengers are killed.

Parables speak to us in many ways. Some parables employ metaphors, that is, one word stands for something else. Some parables are allegorical in which every aspect of the parable represents something else. All this is done to ultimately teach us a lesson. In today's readings, the vineyard stands for the Israelites of Jesus' time. The vineyard could also stand for the Christian People or the Church. God has appointed leadership over his people and the leaders have failed to cultivate the people to insure a good crop. The crops are symbolic of the people who together with their leaders have failed. The messengers are the prophets who time and time again have addressed the leadership. The leadership and the people ultimately refuse to hear the Prophets. In fact, the messengers were killed. In the end, not only are the messengers rejected, but God himself is rejected by the leadership. Finally, God will give his vineyard to those who will produce a crop. This is referred to by the quote from psalm 118: "The stone rejected by the builder has become the cornerstone." of another people who will yield a good crop.

Most prophets are rejected by those to whom they are sent because they tell the truth. The truth is not welcomed by many because the truth can be painful. The truth can demand a change in lives of those who hear the truth. This can be said for individuals and for institutions. The leadership who heard this parable when Jesus spoke this parable was upset with him. They recognized his message and knew he was right.

What is God trying to tell you through those who love you? Why do we often reject the difficult truth someone who loves us is trying to tell us? What is the Lord trying to tell the Church of our day? Who are the prophetic voices of our day? What truths are we not ready to hear? God may be eternal, we are not. We have a limited time to respond to God's word and invitation. In the end, we decide our own eternal life.

Msgr. Guy A. Massie