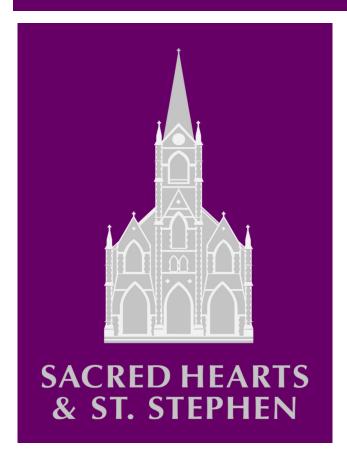
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C.CHURCH WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



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. **JANUARY 8, 2024** Christopher J. Tucci Noon

TUE. **JANUARY 9, 2024** 8:30 Souls in Purgaory BY: Andy Di Manso

IANUARY 10, 2024 WED 8:30 Antonino Conti BY: The Conti Family

THURS. **JANUARY 11,2024** 8:30 **Anthony Massie**

FRI. **JANUARY 12, 2024** 8:30 Michele Massa

BY: The Delgado Family

SAT. **JANUARY 13, 2024** 8:30 Lucia & Angelo Borrometi BY: Carmela Di Rosa

5:00 Louis Valentino, Sr.

SUN. **JANUARY 14, 2024**

8:30 Concetta & Antonino Tesoriero

BY: The Reca Family 10:15 Feast of St. Stephen

Noon Luciana Licari (Living) BY: James & Elsy Sisti

Please join us on Tuesday January 9th @7:00 PM in

the Parish House for an informal discussion about Murder in the Family by Cara Hunt. For those of you who plan ahead, our next meeting will be on February 6th. We will be discussing Surprised by Oxford, A Memoir by Carolyn Weber.

All are welcome.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 12/17 \$2,202.00

*Envelopes & cash

On Line Donatio \$3682.00 \$5,884.00 Total Sunday 12/17 Annual Weekly Expenses ** \$14,325.00

Difference: \$ 8.441.00

**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,

Garbellotto, John Nigro, Salvatore Salerno, John Primavera, Diane Barchuk, Wardrope, Carol DeMairo, Addy Anthony Gambardella, Anthony Tilocca, M Anthony Turco, Elizabeth Foley, Cathy ul DeMarino, Ann Curcuru. Lemar McNabb. Carol Montelbano, Julia Magno, Anthony Manfre. Celeste Internicola, Emma Hukerby,

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

MASS COUNT WEEKEND OF DEC. 11th

5:00 PM 76 8:30 AM 41 10:15 AM 121

NOON 20

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 258

JOURNEY WITH MARY THIS ADVENT

Join us on Thursday afternoons during Advent as we come together to pray and reflect on the key mysteries of Mary's life as presented by Caryll Houselander in her classic book The Reed of God. We will be listening to follow up meditations presented by Abiding Together Podcast on these themes. We will be gathering in the Holy Family Center at 12:30 PM on 1/4. Email Michele @ mtwomey.SHSS@gmail.com for information.

From the Pastor Dear Parish Family,

How do we hear these stories at Christmas? What are we hearing? Do © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. we assume we know the story? Allow me to repeat what I said at the beginning of Advent; "we are hearing the readings again for the first time." The text of the scriptures remains the same, you and I have changed. The dept of our belief may have changed. Faith may be deeper or more shallow. We may be hearing these readings after experiencing loss or sadness. We may be hearing these readings at a time in life when change for the better or worse seems eminent. You may be hearing these texts after having your own child or expecting your own child. How is God showing or not showing himself to you today?

Today is the great feast of the Epiphany. The word Epiphany means to show or to manifest. Today's Feast is more catechetical than historical. This means the story is teaching us about Jesus. The story is addressing the identity of Jesus through the use of symbols. The liturgy recognizes three major epiphanies; the arrival of the Magi, the Baptism of the Lord and Wedding Feast at Cana. In many ways this feast is like a summation of the whole Gospel story. The entire Gospel shows us Christ. The ultimate question which the entire Gospel addresses to us, after telling us about Jesus is "who is Jesus? For the Gospel, Jesus is, the Messiah, the Savior, the Redeemer and above all else, Jesus is God made flesh. If you were asked; who is Jesus, how would you answer?

If the celebration of Christmas was an epiphany to the shepherds and to the people of Israel, than today's feast has a universal theme. Today is the manifestation of Christ to the world. The world is represented by the arrival of the Magi who were seekers of wisdom from nations other than Israel. The gifts presented to the Christ Child tell us that Jesus; is King, represented by the gold, God represented by the frankincense and the suffering servant who would die for people represented by the myrrh,

The mystery of the Incarnation of God among us in the humanity of Jesus is so great an event that words, celebrations, poetry music or art cannot adequately express the complete meaning of this event. In the mystery of the Incarnation we see that humanity can be a vehicle, a carrier, a minister of the divine. God is made present through the human relationships, the Incarnation continues in the Body of Christ also known as the Church. Those in relationship with Christ in his day were encountering and interacting with God. Thus, it is in and through our humanity, baptized into the body of Christ, nourished by the Eucharist, in prayerful conversation with God, anointed by the Holy Spirt that we manifest Christ to the world. It is through our frail humanity that mercy, love, kindness, justice, truth, peace, joy, etc. are carried to our respective worlds of home, work and school. Because of the Incarnation we carry God to a waiting world.

Yes, through the Incarnation, God touches a broken, weak, dirty, sinful, not perfect humanity and brings healing and reconciliation. When believers in the Incarnation live their faith in every circumstance, then Christ is manifested to the world.

Have you ever had an epiphany? Have you ever had a moment when you felt that God is?

How will you show Christ to the world in which you live in today? Will you allow the Incarnation of the Christ to happen in you and through you? Will you be for someone an epiphany of God today? Will you recognize the epiphany of God taking place in your world today?