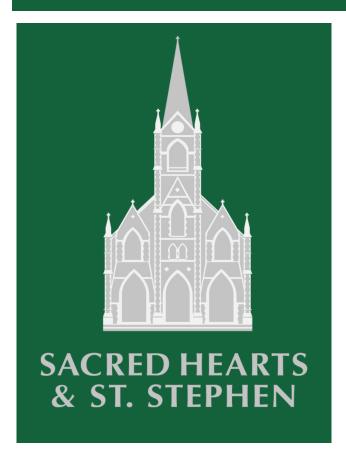
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C.CHURCH WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



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 15, 2024

8:30 Marie Agnese

BY: Her Nieces & Nephews

TUE. JANUARY 16, 2024

8:30 Max Sanzone

BY: Granny's Livestream Friends

WED JANUARY 17, 2024 8:30 Concetta Cataudella

BY: Santo & Josephine Gentile

THURS. JANUARY 18,2024

8:30 Carmine & Raffella Graziani

BY: Teresa Delgado

FRI. JANUARY 19, 2024

8:30 Concetta Gentile

BY: Santo & Josephine Gentile

SAT. JANUARY 20, 2024

8:30 Mary Ortato

5:00

BY: Son Joseph Ortato DeSalvio/Russo Family

BY: Sebastian & Marilena Russo

SUN. JANUARY 22, 2024

8:30 Russell & Marie Mekaluk

10:15 Ann Troiano

BY: The Eng Family

Noon Philip & Santo Castro

BY: Andrew & Carolyn & Family

Please join us on Tuesday February 6th **BOOK** @7:00 PM in the Parish House. CLUB We will be discussing Surprised by Oxford,

A Memoir by Carolyn Weber.
All are welcome.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 1/7 \$2,259.00

*Envelopes & cash

On Line Donatio \$3,122.50
Total Sunday 1/7 \$5,381.50
Annual Weekly Expenses * * \$14.325 (

Annual Weekly Expenses ** \$14,325.00 Difference: \$8.943.50

**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

In Need of Your Prayers

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

MASS COUNT WEEKEND OF JAN. 7TH

5:00 PM 44

8:30 AM 43

10:15 AM 94 NOON 20

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 201



We hope you enjoyed The Little Books that were made available to you for the Advent Season. We wish to thank the following for their generosity in allowing these books to be

made available to you:

Fran Chiarello, Laura Eng, Lou Anne & Michael Manus, Anna Scotto, Diane Vergona

These books are available for the Lenten Season as well. If you wish to contribute towards their cost, please speak with Laura Eng for more details.

From the Pastor

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Dear Parish Family,

Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. As we enter the new year, the gospel and the first reading speak to us of the call to discipleship. We are all called to be disciples of Christ. This call was issued to us at our baptism. A disciple is one who learns from the master teacher. In this case, Christ is the master teacher. The disciple is open to the words of the Christ and seeks to see and follow Christ. In the gospel today Jesus invites the two disciples of John the Baptist to come and see. The disciple wishes not only to know about the Christ, but know the mind and heart of Christ. For the disciple, Christ is alive and active and is a dynamic force in the disciple's life. The disciple finds his or her joy in following Christ. Discipleship is a way of life. One is always in the process of becoming a disciple.

How does one come to know Christ? There are many who know about Christ. There are many who write books about Christ. There are many who even preach about Christ, yet none of these categories is a guaranty that one knows Christ in one's heart. We come to know Christ by reading, studying and praying the sacred scriptures especially the Gospels and the Letters of the New Testament. We come to know the mind and heart of Christ by following and knowing the teachings of the Catholic Church, the writings of the Church Fathers and the writings of the saints. These texts need to be read and more importantly, prayed. We pray the texts by quietly reflecting upon them with questions such as: What in this reading stands out for me? Using our imagination, you might ask yourself such questions as where am I in the text? Am I the person in the text to whom Jesus is speaking? Am I the one in the text who needs a healing? Am I the on looker in the text? Am I a person in the text who is trying to catch a glimpse of Jesus as he passes through the crowd? Am I a Pharisee? Sit with your questions as you speak with the reading in your heart.

In addition to knowing scripture, the Eucharist is indispensable for discipleship. The way to know the mind and heart of Jesus is to receive Eucharist. The Jesus of the gospel is found most perfectly in the Eucharist. I cannot underscore this belief enough. Reflect on the real presence of Christ received in Eucharist dwelling deep within you. Spend time in silence before the Blessed Sacrament or in the chapel. Allow and enjoy being in the sacramental presence of the Lord. Make these visits frequently. Make the connection that receiving this Eucharist, praying in the presence of the Eucharist and hearing the Word of God in sacred text invite you to action. The action is to imitate the Jesus with and for those with whom you live, serve and work. Your prayer and reflection will alert you to the presence of Christ in other people especially the poor, the hurting and the suffering.

You prayer may be silent or you may speak your prayer in your own words from your heart. You may request that the Holy Spirit do great things in you for your sanctification and great things though you for others. However, you may not know the great things God is doing through you nor the gifts of sanctification you are receiving. As St. Paul tell us, be thankful always. Know that as you come to know Jesus, he must increase in yur and you must decrease. The good that you do may not be recognized by others. Your private prayer life should be to you and your confessor or spiritual director. Remember, discipleship is not about what Christ can do for you but rather allowing the Lord to work through you for his kingdom.

The goal of the life of a disciple is to be consumed by the Holy Spirit for the Kingdom of God. This is not easy nor is it a romantic dream. Your conviction and on-going discipleship may invite you to take unpopular stands on issues. It may impel you to put the needs of Christ before those of yourself and our loved ones. In cases, it may even cause you to give up your very life. The disciple lives and dies for Christ.