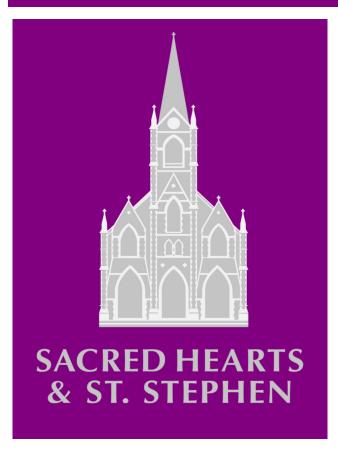
SACRED HEARTS & ST. STEPHEN R.C.CHURCH WWW.SacredHearts-StStephen.com



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.



FEBRUARY 26, 2024 MON. 8:30 Dr. Frank J. Zodda

BY: Children, Grandchildren &

Great Grandchildren

TUE. **FEBRUARY 27, 2024**

8:30 Theresa Petrolino & Cousin Vinny (Living)

BY: Lorraine Zanzonico

WED **FEBRUARY 28, 2024**

8:30 Joan Di Tucci

BY: Rose Marie Foglia

THURS. **FEBRUARY 29,2024**

For The Intentions of Jo Ann Martino 8:30

BY: Lorraine Zanzonico

FRI. MARCH 1, 2024 **Jovce & Jav Sisto** 8:30 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

MARCH 2, 2024 SAT.

8:30 For The People of the Parish 5:00 Alfonse & Jean Cipaldo

BY: Daughters Debra & Angela

MARCH 3, 2024 SUN.

8:30 Antonio & Filomena Massa

BY: Loving Family

10:15 Joseph Trovato

BY: Lenny & Jo Ann

Ann Troiano Noon

BY The Bellantuono Family

Please join us on Tuesday 3/5 in the Parish House @

7:00 PM. We will be discussing The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by BOOK James McBride.

All are welcome!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Collection 2/18 \$1,478.00

*Envelopes & cash

On Line Donatio \$4,090.00 Total Sunday 2/18 \$5,568.00 Annual Weekly Expenses ** \$14,325.00 Difference: \$ 8,757.00

**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, Addy Wardrope, Carol DeMairo, Anthony Gambardella, Anthony Tilocca, Our DeMarino, Ann Curcuru. Lemar McNabb. Carol Montelbano, Julia Prayers 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 Jack DiCostanzo, Edna Lamboy Gambardella,

Madeline Selvaggio-Poldrugovaz

MASS COUNT **WEEKEND OF FEB. 18TH**

5:00 PM 38 8:30 AM 45 96 10:15 AM NOON 40

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 219

LENTEN ACTIVITY:40 ITEMS FOR 40 DAYS

This Lent we are called to increase our efforts to pray ,fast and give to others. We have been invited to participate with Catholic Charities in the above mentioned Lenten activity. Please consider donating an item or two from the list and place in the marked receptacle at the rear of the church by 3/17.

Toiletries (New) Food

Toothbrush Peanut Butter(smsll) **Toothpaste** Spread packets (Jelly)

Soap Crackers

Deodorant (men & women) Granola/Oatmeal bars Comb and hairbrush Personal snacks, (Chips,

Travel size shampoo & lotion nuts, trail mix)

Individual Water bottles

or juice boxes.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Dear Parish Family,

Today, the Second Sunday in Lent, the readings invite us to consider the topics of trust and faithfulness. Do we trust in the glory that is now hidden from our eyes? Can we trust God? Is it reasonable to believe? In the first reading from the Book of Genesis, we meet Abraham. Abraham as you remember is called our father in faith because God revealed himself to him and he believed. In the Book of Genesis, we learn that God promised to make Abraham a great nation. When God called Abraham, Abraham was already old. God promised that even in his old age, he would have a son. Abraham believed God. The promise of a son takes a long while to fulfill but it does happen. God made good on his promise. Isaac is born even though Abraham's wife Sarah was elderly. Isaac understandably is Abraham's pride and joy. Isaac was the sign that Abraham had a future. He has a son who would be his heir.

In today's reading the unthinkable happens. God puts Abraham to a test. God requests that Abraham sacrifice his only son. Imagine, just imagine the reaction of Abraham. How can this be? God promised that I would have a son. God promised that my descendants would be a great nation. How can God allow this to happen? Was there something greater at stake here which Abraham did not yet see?

In the Gospel we read about the Transfiguration. This is a mysterious revelation. Peter, James and John witness an event in the life of Jesus in which the curtain between our world and the divine seems to open for a brief moment. The disciples see the glory of Christ. The event has Paschal overtones. They realize that Jesus is the one to whom the Law, represented by Moses and the prophets, represented by Elijah are awaiting. These are the very same apostles who will see the disfiguration of Jesus in his Passion and Death. Imagine their confusion, their questions and their disillusionment. How can the glory of the Transfigured become the horror of the disfigured on the cross? How can this happen? Why did this happen? Why would God allow such a thing to happen? This Jesus is the one who they believed who they loved, who made promises of everlasting life to them, what happened? Was there something that the apostles were missing?

How often have you heard the story? How often have you experienced a moment when all seems lost? How often may you have felt disappointed by God? Do these questions sound familiar? This man was so good to everyone and yet he comes down with cancer. My son was so young and he dies, why? Why not me, not him? We did everything right, we followed the rules, we were honest, we attended Mass, said our prayers, we prayed for protection and what happened? We feel that God is not on our side. Have we missed something?

Abraham, the apostles and we also do miss something. We miss the hidden glory. Abraham was put to the test. God knew Abraham's faith, but did Abraham know his faith? Could he trust? The apostles on the Friday Jesus died had their faith tested. They could not see beyond the cross to the redemption the cross accomplished. We too, when faced with setback, disappointment, innocent suffering need to keep in mind that somehow God is accomplishing our redemption. We need to remind ourselves and each other that for every cross there is resurrection. We come to Mass to celebrate the Eucharist to be reminded of the Resurrection of Christ and to help each other see the glory of God in our midst.