

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Saturday, December 30:

5:00 Andre Roc Jeudy

Sunday, December 31:

7:00 Ava Rivera
9:00 Beverly Tobin
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Rachel Flagiello
5:00 James J. McVey

Monday, January 1:

7:00 Mary Schalo
9:00 Fr. Raymond Dolan

Tuesday, January 2:

7:00 Peter J. Saldi
9:00 Joseph Brooks Jr.

Wednesday, January 3:

7:00 Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Rosalie Mangione

Thursday, January 4:

7:00 Eleanor Torkelson
9:00 Beverly Tobin

Friday, January 5:

7:00 Charles M. Donohue
9:00 Beverly Tobin

Saturday, January 6

9:00 Anthony Castaldo
5:00 James J. McVey

Sunday, January 7:

7:00 Deceased Members of the Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 William Schmidt
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Maureen Driscoll
5:00 Joseph DiSalvo

Saturday, January 6:

5:00 Frank Ponterio

Pat Foley

Sunday, January 7:

7:00 Efrain Ortiz
9:00 Roy Hansen
11:00 Frank DiSalvo
1:00 Charles Sullivan
5:00 Jack Gordon

Maryanne Gambardella
Ken Wisniewski
John Mooney Sr.
Efrain Ortiz



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Tim Campagna, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Ruth Manieri, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Cpl Justin Campbell, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Barbara Walsh, Christian Pepo, Terrence Gibbons, Jean Forte, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari, Rosemary Regan, Anthony Umana, Barbara Rotondo, Carmela D'Angelo, Mark Herman, Anthony Columbo, Frances Bocignone, Roseanne Viano, Barbara Longo, Linda Powers, Crystal Helewa, Eleanor Cooper, Daniel Juliano, Lizabeth Walsh, Joseph DeMeo, Moira Mackey, Michael DiCostanzo

Due to an early Deadline with the bulletin production company and the Holidays the collections for Sunday December 24th and Christmas will be published next week.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

In *The Hobbit*, by J.R.R. Tolkien, the fictional character Gollum offers a profound riddle:

“This thing all things devours:
Birds, beasts, trees, flowers;
Gnaws iron, bites steel;
Grinds hard stones to meal;
Slays king, ruins town,
And beats high mountain down.”

The answer to the riddle is “time”. On this last day of the calendar year time is on our minds. “Where did the year go?” we ask. I have never met someone of more mature years who has said that time goes slowly. They all seem to say that the opposite is true. My friend’s grandfather was buried several years ago. He was 115 years old when he died. Do you know what he said shortly before he passed? “It went so fast!” This world of time goes quickly. The next world of eternity goes slowly.

St. Boethius spoke of the difference between time and eternity. He said, “The now that flows away makes time, the now that stands still makes eternity.” (*On the Trinity*, IV). St. Thomas Aquinas also spoke of this subject. He said, “Eternity is simultaneously whole. But time has a ‘before’ and ‘after’... Some have founded this difference on the fact that eternity has neither beginning nor an end; whereas time has a beginning and an end. . . Eternity is simultaneously whole; which cannot be applied to time: for eternity is the measure of permanent being; while time is a measure of movement.” (*Summa Theologiae*, I, 10, 4).

The Holy Bible offers a beautiful reflection on the concept of time in the *Book of Ecclesiastes*.

“There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to give birth, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.” (3:1-8).

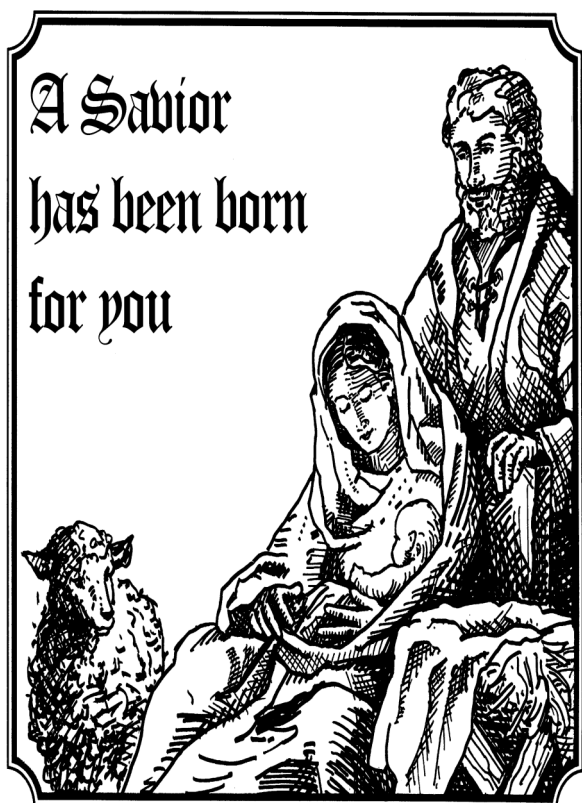
For us faithful Catholics (admittedly *not all that* faithful at times—but faithful) the passage of time is a time of joy. We don’t lament the passage of time. Why not? Because the promises of Jesus that He made to each and every one of us, the children of His Church, make clear that the best is yet to come. The best is yet to come.

Happy New Year!

God Bless You!

Father Eric

The Rectory office will be closed on Monday, January 1st in honor of New Year's Day. This year New Year's Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation so the daily Mass schedule of 7 AM & 9 AM remains in effect. On behalf of Fr. Eric and the entire staff of Sacred Heart we extend our wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Holy New Year!



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ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 6, 2018

5:00 : A. Buscemi, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

Sunday, January 7, 2018:

7:00 M. Postler, K. Postler, B. Daniels

9:00 M. Fernando, M. Crowdell, N. Ehresman

11:00 Matt, Julia and Sean Ahern

1:00 R. Delamasa, B. Freund, T. Smith

5:00 J. Oliveras, J. Orellana, J. Torres

Sacred Heart 2017-2018: If you and your spouse are considering a Private/Catholic school for your children, Sacred Heart is the perfect choice. Sacred Heart School is a West Brighton fixture with a rich history of academic and athletic success. The school currently has an enrollment of 278 students all of who are inspired and educated in the image of God. One hundred percent of our 8th grade graduates are accepted into their high school of choice. Many of our students are awarded high school scholarships, are accepted into advanced/specialized programs and our school has among the highest ELA and Math scores on Staten Island. We place emphasis on technology in the classrooms as our kindergarten—eight grade students have Chromebooks in the classroom. Homework assignments, upcoming events and school news are posted on our school website. Also our basketball, soccer, swimming and golf teams are not only competitive, they win! Sacred Heart also has a Junior National Honor Society as well as drama, art and chess clubs. In addition we offer a free Pre-K and financial assistance is available to students from K-8th grade. If you are interested please contact the school at (718) 442-0347, private tours are available.

St. Joseph Retreat Center Overnight Retreats (St. Joseph Hill Academy)

New Beginnings with God: Friday-Sunday, January 12-14th, \$200 for single, \$400 for double, facilitated by Kathy M. Irr. The weekend will give the participants space to ponder, pray and encounter God. Reflective experiences during retreats will sustain a deeper relationship with God throughout the year.

Lenten Silent Directed Retreat: Friday– Sunday March 2-4th, facilitated by Nanci Bachman and Pat Stephens. As we journey through Lent, we take a pause and this week provides silent time and space to enter into the heart of Jesus. Each day there is Mass, meetings with spiritual directors and time for prayer.

The retreat house is located on the grounds of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Blvd. To reserve a seat or for more information contact Ronnie Keane at (718) 720-1097 or visit SJRetreatCenter.org

Sacred Heart Parish Groups

Bible Study: Our Pastor, Fr. Eric has a weekly bible study group which meets on Saturdays from 1-2 PM in the school's small cafeteria. During the hour The Rosary is recited, Father gives a short bible lecture and there is a brief group discussion. All parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Altar Servers: We are always looking for new boys and girls to become altar servers. If you are in the fifth grade or older, are a practicing Catholic and have received your first Holy Communion you can join. If anyone is interested please contact the Rectory at (718) 442-0058 or simply ask Fr. Eric after Mass. Being a server not only increases one's spiritual experience at Mass but also is a great way to get involved in the parish.

Sacred Heart Youth Group: Sacred Heart currently has a Youth Group for children in grades 6-12. If your child is interested in joining or if you have any questions contact Maria Montouri at (347) 247-2930. The group meets every first and third Monday of the month in the school cafeteria at 7 PM. There is free pizza, drinks and snacks for all who attend the meetings. The group does service projects like clothing and coat drives, eyeglass drives and bake sales as well as fun social activities like movie nights, bowling and laser tag! Also, any student who is currently in need of community service hours can join for an easy way get hours and have some fun at the same time.

Legion of Mary: The Sacred Heart chapter of the Legion of Mary meets weekly (if possible) on Wednesday's at 6:30 PM in the rectory. The meeting lasts roughly one hour and the members pray The Rosary and offer assistance to the Pastor. If you are interested please call Patti Foley at (718) 983-5416. All are welcome

and thanks to all who support The Legion of Mary.

Sacred Heart Choir: The Adult Choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, rehearsals take place at 10:15 AM the Sunday you are scheduled to sing. If any new members who can carry a tune wish to join they do so by simply showing up. Being a member of the choir is a great way to enhance your spiritual experience at Mass. Remember he who sings prays twice!

Youth Activities Council: The Sacred Heart Youth Activities Council is a parish men's club that meets (schedule permitting) on the first Friday evening of the month. Coaches of the various sports teams attend and give an update on recent and upcoming events. Various fundraisers that not only benefit the teams but also the school are planned and discussed. Even if your child has already graduated from the school, you are still encouraged to attend and enjoy the camaraderie. The meeting lasts usually for an hour and afterwards refreshments are served.

Holy Name: The Holy Name Society is one of the oldest and most traditional groups and we are excited to be bringing it back to Sacred Heart. All men of the parish ages 18 and older can join and meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 PM in the school auditorium. Light refreshments are served.

Online Giving: Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving which makes donating quick and easy. This is perfect for our parishioners who take frequent vacations, have a busy weekend schedule or have moved but wish to continue their support of our parish. Just go to the Sacred Heart website, www.sacredheartsi.org and click on the link at the top of the page. Also kindly remember Sacred Heart Church in all your estate and will planning.