

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, January 14:  
5:00 John R. Kubasek

Saturday, January 21st :  
5:00 Bill Jones Theresa Hudik

Sunday, January 15:  
7:00 People of the Parish  
9 :00 Albert Perry  
11:00 Gaetano Buonosante  
1:00 John Buzzard  
5:00 Thomas Murray

Sunday, January 22 :  
7:00 Joan Prenty  
9:00 Sister Ellen Marie Maryanne Gambardella  
11:00 Ken Wisniewski Pat Jezycki  
1:00 Charles Sullivan Dorothy Tarafa  
5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz

Monday, January 16:  
7:00 No 7 AM Mass  
9:00 Donna Kisto



Tuesday, January 17:  
7:00 George Grossman  
9:00 James P. Kelly Jr.

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, Michael Rucci, 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, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari, Richard O'Shea, Crystal Helewa

Wednesday, January 18:  
7:00 Vincent Albulio  
9:00 Renato Capili

Thursday, January 19:  
7:00 Joseph McCarthy  
9:00 Marie D. Carnegie

Friday, January 20:  
7:00 Nancy McVey  
9:00 Robert Morris

**Collections:**  
January 8th..... \$6,691.00  
Catholic Communications.....\$1,144.00

Saturday, January 21:  
9:00 Rocco Morrow  
5:00 Kathleen Mulholland

The Flowers on The Altar are donated by Sarah McDermott in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe and for rain in the southeast.

Sunday, January 22:  
7:00 People of the Parish  
9:00 Al & Sue Amore  
11:00 Mary Romanelli  
1:00 Fred Buzzard  
5:00 Nicholas Manisero

**Online Giving:** Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving which makes donating quick and easy. Just go to the Sacred Heart website, [www.sacredheartsi.org](http://www.sacredheartsi.org), click on the online giving option at the top of the page and follow the link.. This is perfect for our Parishioners who travel, especially during the summer months, and those who have busy weekends but still wish to support our parish.

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

I visited the eighth grade classroom recently at Sacred Heart School. The students had read somewhere that the Catholic Church was deeply at fault for what took place during the Inquisition and so they asked for an explanation. I appealed to a very good book entitled: *Bearing False Witness: Debunking Centuries of Anti-Catholic History* (2016). In this work, the author, Rodney Stark, tells us in his introduction that he did not set out to write such a book, but that in the course of writing several other history books he kept encountering serious distortions rooted in “obvious anti-Catholicism.” Stark is not a Catholic. He did not write the book in defense of the Church. “I wrote it in defense of history,” he said.

The Spanish Inquisition was created in 1478 by the king and queen of Spain: Ferdinand and Isabella. It was charged with ridding the nation of heretics, especially Jews and Muslims who were pretending to be Christians. Not only historians, but novelists, painters, and screenwriters have repeatedly re-created scenes of horrible Inquisitorial sadism, from Edgar Allen Poe’s “The Pit and the Pendulum” (1842) to Dostoyevsky in *The Brothers Karamazov* (1880).

How many victims were there? Estimates range from 10,000 to 3 million. But, as Stark makes clear, “The standard account of the Spanish Inquisition is mostly a pack of lies, invented and spread by English and Dutch propagandists in the sixteenth century during their wars with Spain and repeated ever after ... by malicious or misled historians.” It is not surprising that such lies flourished during Europe’s era of religious wars following the Protestant Revolt. Stark points out that there has been remarkable research on the Inquisition during the last generation. As a result we can be confident, he states, that “In contrast with the secular courts all across Europe, the Spanish Inquisition was a consistent force for justice,

restraint, due process, and enlightenment.”

The careful records of the archives of the Spanish Inquisition indicate that there were 44,674 cases heard between 1540 and 1700. During that time only 826 people were executed, at a time when capital punishment was quite common in society. That amounts to 1.8% of all cases brought to trial. During the subsequent century (1530-1630) the Protestant English averaged 750 hangings per year, many of them for minor thefts. In contrast, the few who were sentenced to death in Spain were usually repeat offenders who would not repent. All of the courts of Europe used torture but the Inquisition used it far less than the other courts.

I concluded the presentation to the eighth graders by saying that as Catholics, we are to humbly assent to the teachings of Jesus Christ that He passes on to us from generation to generation. There is no room for skepticism there. On the other hand, it is important that we employ critical thinking in other areas outside of settled Christian doctrine. When it comes to historians’ attempts to piece together what happened through the centuries we should certainly ask ourselves where certain historical claims are coming from and what is behind the claim. Very often, seriously misled scholars dominate the narrative and the truth lies elsewhere

God Bless You!

Fr. Eric

**Discovering Christ:** Discovering Christ is a seven week experience where all are invited to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ.. The program consists of seven weekly sessions on Sundays at 6:30 with a retreat day on April 1st. The weekly sessions include four components: a meal, prayer time, a video teaching and a small group discussion. We are very excited to bring Discovering Christ to our parish and if you are interested sign up sheets are available in the vestibule of the Church.

### **Catholic Schools “Touring Tuesday”:**

Considering a Catholic School for your child? Interested in learning more about Staten Island Catholic schools serving children in grades Pre K 3, Pre K 4, Free UPK and Kindergarten through Grade 8? Register to visit a Catholic school on Touring Tuesday January 31st from 9-11 AM. In addition our school will be having its “Open House” on Sunday, February 5th from 11 AM-1 PM. Also Our online admission application is now open. For more information, to schedule a tour, apply for admissions or to find out more our financial assistance programs visit [www.buildboldfutures.org](http://www.buildboldfutures.org) or call our bilingual phone at (646) 794-2885. Private tours are available.

**Sacred Heart Pre-K for All:** Come and see the wonderful learning environment and community that our Pre-K for All students experience. We invite all parents to “Touring Tuesday” on January 31st from 9-11 AM and to our “Open House” on Sunday February 5th from 11AM-1PM. The school is located at 301 North Burgher Avenue at can be contacted at 718-442-0347. Those interested can apply online at [Schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline](http://Schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline) or at 718-935-2067. The application period is from January 17th thru February 24th and the online code for Sacred Heart is 31RABJ.

### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

#### **Saturday January 21, 2017:**

5:00 K. Shashaty, K. Shashaty, B. Silva

#### **Sunday, January 22, 2017:**

7:00 J. Esco, S. Baniswal, H. Bond

9:00 J. Lotito, M. Riccardi, A. Basile

11:00 W. Wenzel, T. Smith, A. Buscemi

1:00 B. Freund, M. Ahern, J. Ahern

5:00 C. Basile, K. Postler, B. Daniels

**Staten Island Grandmother’s Club:** The Staten Island Grandmother’s Club Chapter 899 is a local Non Profit Social Club that raises money for sick children on the Island. The club meets on the first Wednesday of every month at The Staaten on Forest Avenue at 11:45 AM for a luncheon. If you are interested in joining or coming to the next luncheon please contact Alana Chanod at (347) 423-1190

**March for Life:** This years March for Life will take place on Friday, January 27th 2017. There will be a 6:30 A.M. Mass celebrated by our pastor, Fr. Eric and the bus will leave immediately afterward. The cost is \$25 a seat and we hope to arrive back on The Island by 10 PM. For those who wish to come payments can be mailed to either Sacred Heart or directly to Jack Gordon. Flyers are available for those interested in the vestibule of The Church.

**Texas Hold’Em Tournament:** The Sacred Heart YAC will be having a Texas Hold’EM Tournament on Friday, January 20th in the school cafeteria with a 7 PM check in time and start time of 8 PM. The first 100 players to register pay \$100 and the fee (space permitting) at the door is \$125. For further information or to register contact either Ed Mooney at 718-442-8896 or Paul Hoey at 917-225-8562.

### **Choir News**

Welcome to the Sacred Heart Choir News. I would like to invite you to join our choirs, The Adult and The Children’s Choir. If you can carry a tune and are willing to sing, you are in! Remember the one who sings prays twice. Our Children’s Choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month and the Adult Choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11 AM Mass. Rehearsals are held at 10:15 AM the same Sunday before Mass. Come let’s praise the Lord together.