

The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 19, 2021

Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - frrapaglia@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciulo

Fr. Soju Varghese

Principal

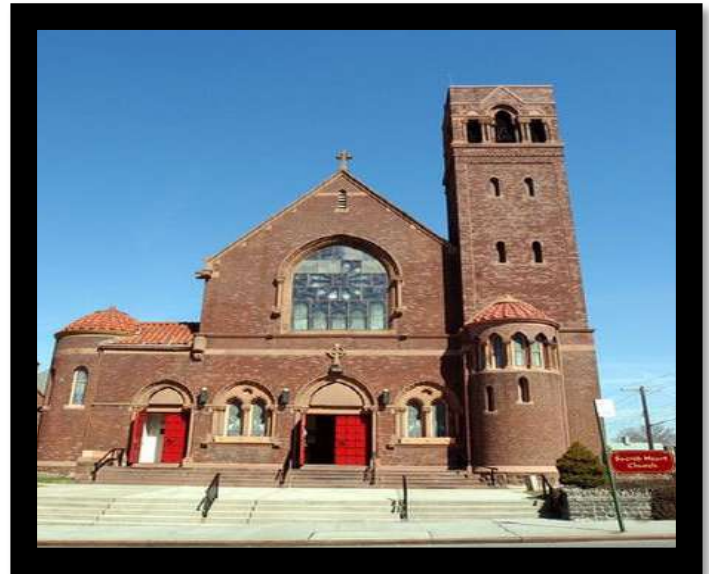
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Francine Rizzuto

Director of Music

Mr. Tom Czarnecki



Masses

The Lord's Day

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sundays 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM, 1:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:30 AM Monday-Saturday

Rosary 9 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confessions

Saturdays - 4:00 to 4:45 PM, Any time upon request

Parish Registration

Please formalize your membership in our parish community by registering at the parish office. We sincerely welcome all new parishioners!

Handicapped Accessible

Office Hours - Sunday 10 AM - 3PM

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

Church open daily until 5 PM (Sundays until 3 PM)

Novena Devotions: Mon & Wed (after daily Mass)

Pro Life Rosary: Tuesday 9 AM

Sick Calls

Anytime, please contact one of the priests at (718) 442-0058.

Baptism

Parents & Godparents should attend a meeting at 3 PM on the second Sunday of the month in the Rectory with Fr. Eric to initiate the Sacrament. For more information please see: www.sacredheartsi.org/worship/sacraments.

Marriages

Couples should contact the rectory at least 6 months before the wedding to arrange the time, banns, and Pre-Cana Conference.

Sponsor Certificate

If you have been asked to be a godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation attend the 9 AM Mass on Sunday and see Sister Barbara immediately after in the church vestibule. Please see the parish website under the Worship/Sacraments link for godparent guidelines.

Websites:

Church Website: - www.sacredheartsi.org

School Website: - www.sacredheartschoolsi.org

Church

718-442-0058

Church Fax

718-816-8006

School

718-442-0347

School Fax

718-442-6978

C.C.D. Office

718-448-1536

ALLELUIA

LK 1:38.



Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

GOSPEL

LK 1:39-45.

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."



Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from Heaven (BOW) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: THE ADVENT OF OUR KING

**THE ADVENT OF OUR KING,
OUR THOUGHTS MUST NOW EMPLOY;
THEN LET US MEET HIM ON THE ROAD
WITH SONGS OF HOLY JOY**

**THE CO-ETERNAL SON,
A MAIDEN'S OFFSPRING SEE;
A SERVANTS FORM CHRIST PUTTETH ON,
TO SET HIS PEOPLE FREE.**

**IN GLORY FROM HIS THRONE,
AGAIN WILL CHRIST DESCEND,
AND SUMMON ALL WHO ARE HIS OWN,
TO JOYS THAT NEVER END.**

A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Three priests in disguise entered the outskirts of a little town in Ireland called Kilrush. They were fleeing for their lives. The British penal laws of the 18th century called for the death of all Catholic priests and also called for the death of those who harbored them. The priests came to a farmhouse. Out of the house came a tall, middle-aged man. When he caught sight of the three men he stopped. It was uncommon to see travelers on that obscure road.

“Well sirs?” he asked, looking at them under thick, bushy brows. “We’ve been traveling all night—toward the port,” said one of the disguised priests. “We thought perhaps your lady wife might spare us some of her meal there, though it’s little money we have.” “No man eats hog’s food in my house. There’s fresh-made bread on the stove, isn’t there Jane?” “Aye, and there is, John Williams,” answered his wife. “Bring the strangers in.”

The eldest priest rolled that name over in his mind. It sounded so familiar. Then it came to him. A priest that he knew spoke gratefully of this Protestant man who flouted the unjust laws and even opened his house to a priest to say Mass. The priests ate gratefully the food that Mrs. Williams placed before them. After the meal, the eldest priest said to their host, “We’re priests.” His two companions were filled with terror. They thought he had taken leave of his senses.

He continued, “A boat is ready to take us to safety. We’re grateful to you for your kindness and to others of our hunted breed.” Mrs. Williams looked at her husband with worry. Were they really priests? Maybe they were soldiers, spies sent to trick her husband. John Williams leaned forward shrewdly. “Talk to me in the Latin of the Mass,” he said. The priest did so. John Williams answered, “I hate the persecutor, whoever he is. Unfair laws were made to be broken. Stay the night with us and leave for your ship at dawn.”

Unfortunately, a solitary horseman across the Shannon River noticed the priests enter the Williams abode. Ben Kox hated priests and he also hated his prosperous neighbor John Williams. Kox was a man filled with envy. He alerted the British soldiers to the home. Soon red jackets and fixed bayonets appeared. Williams turned to the priests and told them to hide in the cornfield. Then there was a knock on the door.

The officer entered. “Let’s see your search warrant,” Williams demanded. “Not needed for priests and rebels,” came the reply. “And what about Protestants and loyal Englishmen like myself?” asked Williams. The officer answered, “If you’re a Protestant and a loyal Englishman you’ll be glad

enough to lay the scum by the heels.”

“No decent Englishman is glad to see injustice done to any man,” said Williams. The soldiers completed their search in disappointment and disgust. The officer eyed Mr. Kox angrily. At dawn the three priests slipped down to the ship and went off to sea, escaping the clutches of the redcoats. Later, at breakfast, John Williams said, “I hate injustice. A man has a right to worship God as his conscience tells him.” Then he turned to his young son and added, “So, fight for that right. And if you must, risk your life for it.” His boy only half understood. He grinned and nodded and pushed another spoonful of oatmeal into his mouth. (Daniel Lord, SJ, *These Tales are True*, 1947, p. 10).

Notwithstanding the great defects of his Protestant religion, John Williams had great courage. Courage is the strength to persevere and endure hardship, danger, and especially fear. What is fear? Fear is a reaction to a threat to our being, the response to a real or perceived danger. Fear is a manifestation of our fundamental instinct of survival.

St. Paul writes: *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . But in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us* (Rom. 8:35, 37). Children of God, our release from fear and anxiety is not found, therefore, in an idea or a technique or a program. No. Our release from fear and anxiety is found in a person: Jesus Christ (blessed be His Name), who has loved us.

The antidote to all fear is Jesus. Fear is lack of inner freedom. Jesus came to call us to freedom. *Do not be afraid*, He says, *I have overcome the world*. (John 16:33). Jesus Christ can free us from every distress. What triggers that freedom is our faith in Him and our trust that His promises to us will be fulfilled. *Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled*. (Luke 1:45).

God bless you!

Father Eric



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Saturday, December 18:

5:00 James Fitzgerald

Sunday, December 19:

7:00 Dick Kennedy & Corinne A. O'Brien
9:00 Dennis M. Peterson (40th Anniversary)
11:00 Rachel & Mildred Vittacco
1:00 Michael Mustillo Jr.

Monday, December 20:

9:30 Nerida Dehoyos

Tuesday, December 21:

9:30 Diane Garzone

Wednesday, December 22:

9:30 Joseph Kennedy & Corinne A. O'Brien

Thursday, December 23:

9:30 George E. Brain (48th Anniversary)

Friday, December 24:

9:30 Louis J. Trombetta
5:00 Deceased Members of The Mackey Family

Saturday, December 25:

12 AM Thomas J. Crane (46th Anniversary)
9:00 Deceased Members of The Mackey Family
11:00 Dolores McFadden
1:00 Rachel Flagiello

Sunday, December 26:

7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Deceased Members of The Maguire Family
11:00 Brendan Hoey
1:00 John Maj

Friday, December 24th:

5:00 PM Jack Gordon
12 AM Frank DiSalvo

Saturday, December 25:

9:00 AM Patricia Jezycki
11:00 AM Vincent O'Grady
1:00 PM Donald Maj

Sunday, December 26:

7:00 AM Joan Prenty
9:00 AM Sr. Barbara
11:00 AM Ken Wisniewski
1:00 PM Donald Maj

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 25:

5:00 PM Jason Suazo

Sunday, December 26:

7:00 Jacob Torres
9:00 Oliver Czarnecki
11:00 Brandon Pak
1:00 Abigail Cruz

Collections:

ATTENDANCE

DUE TO AN EARLY DEADLINE WITH OUR BULLETIN PRODUCTION COMPANY THE COLLECTIONS, ATTENDANCE AND PAS-TOSA RAFFLE WINNER FOR DECEMBER 12TH WILL BE POSTED IN THE DECEMBER 26TH BULLETIN.

Fire Family Donations: The family who lost their home and possessions in a fire would like to thank everyone who donated for their generosity. They have been able to get a new residence and we will continue to keep them in our prayers.

Lector Workbooks: The Lector Workbooks for the 2021-2022 Liturgical Year have arrived and are in the Sacristy. All Lectors are encouraged to take a copy, it is very useful in preparing for your assigned Mass.

Sacred Heart Church **Christmas Schedule 2021**

CONFESSIONS:

Monday, December 20

4:00-8:00 PM

Friday, December 24

3:00-4:30 PM

MASSES:

Sunday, December 19 (4th Sunday of Advent)

7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM

Friday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

9:30 AM (weekday Mass)

5:00 PM (Christmas Family Mass)

Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

12:00 Midnight

9:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM

Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)

9:30 AM (weekday Mass)

5:00 PM (Vigil Mass of the Holy Day)

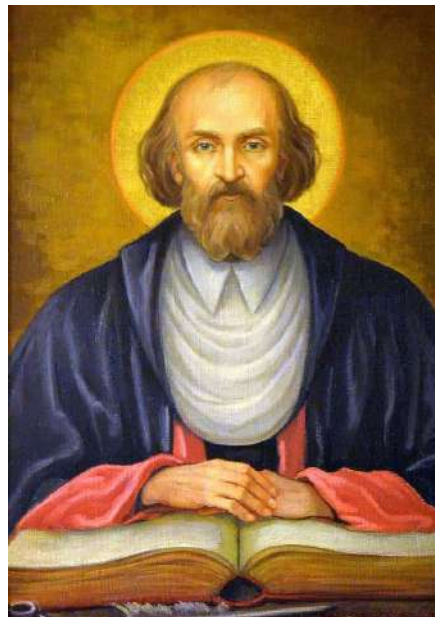
Saturday, January 1 (Mary Mother of God—Not A Holy Day of Obligation)

9:30 AM and 5 PM

SAINT JOHN OF KANTY

FEAST DAY: DECEMBER 23RD

WE ASK FOR THE INTERCESSION OF SAINT JOHN OF KANTY ON BEHALF OF OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS



Sick Relatives & Friends

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